12-31-2023

2023, UMaine News Press Releases

Division of Marketing and Communications

UMaine News Press Releases from Word Press XML export - 2023

Goos Family Studio expands UMaine's ceramics curriculum

03 Jan 2023

As far as art goes, ceramics are exceptionally bulky. Ceramics classes need space for clay, drying shelves, kilns and a variety of glazes. For university art programs, the equipment-heavy ceramics can often fall by the wayside, even if interest is high. Thanks to a generous donation from Sam and Sarah Goos, whose daughter Ariel studied studio art at UMaine and graduated in 2019, UMaine was able to open the Goos Family Studio. The new studio is allowing the ceramics program at UMaine to grow and giving plenty of space for students to be creative. Now that the program's new class, Ceramics II, is wrapping up its first semester in the studio, students in the Department of Art and beyond are already seeing the impact of the gift and what it was able to achieve. Sam and Sarah Goos live in Alton, New Hampshire, where Sam works as a dermatologist and Sarah is a retired attorney. Sam hails from the Augusta, Maine, area, and his parents, Julius and Charlotte, attended UMaine. Ariel Goos followed in her grandparents' footsteps, graduating in 2019 with a degree in studio art. As Ariel was preparing for the end of her UMaine college career, the Gooses decided that they wanted to honor their daughter's graduation — and their family's multi-generational connection to UMaine — through a gift to the department that made Ariel's time at UMaine special. Matt Mullen, University of Maine Foundation philanthropy officer for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said that Sam and Sarah Goos were exceptional donors in many ways. For one, it is rare that parents with no alumni affiliation give a gift of the size that the Gooses wanted to give. The Gooses were also open to whatever the Department of Art needed, and landed on the ceramics studio, despite the fact that Ariel is more of a painter. As the logistical challenges of creating a ceramics studio — during the pandemic, no less — led to additional costs, the Gooses contributed further. "We're delighted to be able to support the Art Department at UMaine with this gift. The Goos Family Studio will serve as a lasting reminder of the opportunities it provided for our family and for future art students for years to come," Sam and Sarah Goos wrote in a statement. The gift also includes an endowment that will continue to financially support the maintenance and upkeep of the studio. Some of the funds were provided by Julius Goos' estate when he passed away in 2020 — and recently from Ariel Goos as she started her life after UMaine. "It was really a vote of confidence in the department," Mullen says. "It says a lot about the family that they were giving something that would come to fruition after their daughter graduated. It's really three generations of giving back to making this happen. It's pretty remarkable." The studio is located in a renovated York Complex building. This semester was the first where students were finally able to take the newly launched upper-level ceramics class in the updated space. John Eden and Constant Albertson, both long-time ceramics instructors at UMaine, say that the new studio is an incredible asset for the program. Previously, UMaine's only ceramics class, Ceramics I, was held in the Sculpture Studio abutting the parking lot for the Collins Center for the Arts. The space was not large enough to accommodate the needs of the ceramics class, much less expand the offerings. "It's infinitely better," Eden says. "Before, tables were so close together that it was difficult to get close enough to help individual students. The new studio makes a fantastic difference." Eden and Albertson can already see the benefits to their students because of the expanded space and expanded offerings. Albertson says that Ceramics II allows students to expand the basic techniques they learned in Ceramics I to be "more sophisticated, more themed based, more conceptually," as well as learning about techniques like firing and developing glazes. "It puts students a step beyond," Albertson says. "It's a very old and ancient way that human beings have explored ideas and we do ultimately have the same brain that we had thousands of years ago. We learn with our hands as much as anything. In a world where people spend more time at computers than making objects with their hands, ceramics offers a relief. It's a way to learn, explore, communicate, and express oneself in a way that human beings have always done." The students can see the benefits, too, as the higher-level ceramics class has allowed them to express their creativity at a different level. Each month, Albertson gives the students a prompt to interpret with their work. Chanthu Millay, an art education major, took the prompt of "solace" to reflect on her experience as a survivor of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. She has sculpted one of the "killing trees" where the regime killed children that now has bracelets hanging from it to represent the lives lost, to which she will add her own bracelet. Below are three faces symbolizing the stages of grief, sadness and eventual peace she has experienced in processing the event. Millay says that after virtual learning, having a physical space to do art has been a game changer for her as an artist. "I'm not big into messes and so when I had to do it at home it was torture," Millay says. "Having ceramics is essential as an artist. I think I've become a better artist by being able to look at materials and space differently, giving me the ability to tackle new situations." Kal Bailey, a third-year student studying studio art, says that they were "immediately on board" when they saw Ceramics II was available. "In other studio art classes, the students tend to already know the material whereas, in ceramics, students often haven't worked with clay before," Bailey says. "It creates a different challenge for them to work through." The studio even benefits students who aren't art majors. Desiree Tanner is a senior studying microbiology and chemistry. She says that she likes to make planters for her houseplants in ceramics class while also getting a creative outlet from her STEM major. "I have done almost every type of art and I can say this one is definitely my favorite," Tanner says. One of the things all the students said that they love the most about the new studio is that it is open 24/7. "Creativity comes at all hours of the day and the night. Being restricted to a couple of hours is really, really hard. I need to be able to come in when I'm feeling that creative moment. Having the studio open like that is really essential," Millay says. Justin Wolff, professor of art history and chair of the Department of Art, said the new studio is helping UMaine's art curriculum become even more well-rounded by providing its students with more skills in three-dimensional art. "Growing the ceramics program allows us to increase their strength in this area," Wolff says. "It gives students much broader training and exposure to different types of making, and not just the conceptual design work of 2D, but the hands-on building and assembling required in three-dimensional art. It gives our students better preparation and greater breadth. The space allows us to grow that curriculum. You can't really ask for more than a gift like that." Plus, ceramics as a discipline is hot right now. Ceramics I counts toward UMaine's art general education requirement, so there is plenty of demand from outside of the department. Wolff says he often fields calls from community members looking to use the studio, and he has to kindly turn them away — right now, the space is only for UMaine classes. "It's a popular course and students really enjoy being in a space that is clean and safe and modern and up-to-date where they can get their hands into the clay and make things that they're proud of," Wolff says.
Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Postponed: Law enforcement training exercises on campus Jan. 6

03 Jan 2023

The Jan. 6 training exercises led by University of Maine Police Department officers in Hannibal Hamlin Hall have been postponed. For more information, contact UMaine PD, 207.581.4040.

The Fish Site notes Bricknell contribution to book about sea lice

03 Jan 2023

The Fish Site noted that Ian Bricknell, professor of aquaculture biology at the University of Maine, is the co-editor of a new book about sea lice biology and control.

PPH, News Center Maine report that UMaine will open PFAS lab

03 Jan 2023

The Portland Press Herald and News Center Maine reported that the University of Maine plans to open a research center this year to test for harmful forever chemicals and guide the science needed to help Maine farmers dealing with contaminated wells, herds and fields."Maine is leading the way on PFAS, but there is so much research to be done. We need to document the scope of the problem, determine its causes, and investigate solutions. To do that, we need testing capacity," said Dean Hannah Carter of the UMaine Cooperative Extension. CentralMaine.com shared the PPH report.

Fogler Library accepting submissions for favorite memories to share

05 Jan 2023

Fogler Library is accepting submissions of favorite memories or stories associated with it to share on its social media. Stories can include lasting bonds formed at the library, favorite activities and spots, amazing services provided and lifelong skills learned there. Submissions can be made online.

BDN cites 2020 economic study about Maine snowmobiling

05 Jan 2023

In an article about Caribou's first snowmobile festival and its prospective economic impact, the Bangor Daily News cited a 2020 University of Maine study titled "The Economic Contribution of Snowmobiling in Maine."

Media highlight Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration

05 Jan 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot, Bangor Daily News and CentralMaine.com highlighted the 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration, co-sponsored by the Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP and the University of Maine Division of Student Life. The breakfast celebration will be held at 8:30 on Monday, Jan. 16, in the Wells Conference Center. Registration can be done online.

Dill speaks to BDN about tick activity in recent winters

05 Jan 2023

Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, spoke with the Bangor Daily News about how warming temperatures have allowed ticks to stay active during the winter months in recent years. "With recent years and these warm winters, it's not unprecedented by any means to be seeing tick activity now," he said. "Unfortunately it's our new normal." WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

PenBay Pilot promotes facilitation training offered by Hutchinson Center

05 Jan 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot promoted a professional development program for facilitation skills offered by the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast from 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on May 5, 19 and June 2. More information about the program can be found online.

Shea speaks with BDN about LPDV research among wild turkeys

05 Jan 2023

Stephanie Shea spoke with the Bangor Daily News about a study she led as a University of Maine Ph.D. student to determine the prevalence of Lymphoproliferative virus (LPDV) among Maine wild turkeys and the factors that can influence their chance of infection. All of the turkeys that tested positive for the virus during the study showed no outward symptoms of it, said Shea, now an assistant diagnostician with University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab. "Every single one of them we tested were asymptomatic but more than half of them had the disease," she said. "Could this pathogen that is obviously circulating have subclinical effects impacting (wild turkey) reproduction and survival?"

Media report on $6.2M in federal funding for UMaine Extension tick lab

05 Jan 2023

News Center Maine and WGME (Channel 13 in Portland) reported on the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab receiving $6.2 million in one-time federal spending as part of the omnibus spending bill approved by Congress and signed by President Joe Biden in December. The funding, which was part of a $53 million package of federal earmarks secured by Maine's congressional delegation for the state's public universities, will allow the lab to undertake the first-of-its-kind statewide tick and tick-borne disease study and conduct outreach to manage and mitigate threats to human health. "I think with this funding, it really allows us to increase the passive surveillance, which is still a part of what we do, and really increase our knowledge of what's happening with ticks in Maine," said lab manager Griffin Dill.

In-service training offered for Certified Crop Advisors Jan. 25–26

06 Jan 2023

A two-day training for agriculture service providers in the Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) program will be held Jan. 25–26 at the Holiday Inn in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Presentations will be made by experts from schools and businesses across New England, including University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Maine Organic Farmers and Growers Association, Northern Tilth, University of New Hampshire Extension, American Farmland Trust, University of Connecticut, University of Massachusetts and University of Vermont. The program will focus on crop and forage production, soil quality, precision agriculture, pest management and more. Visit the event website for a full agenda. Continuing Education Units and Pesticide Applicator Recertification credits have been requested. Registration cost for the two days is $300; $150 for one day. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, contact John Jemison, 207.581.3241; jemison@maine.edu.

Media highlight Garland talk for Belfast Garden Club

06 Jan 2023

The Republican Journal, Penobscot Bay Pilot and Bangor Daily News noted that the Belfast Garden Club will kick off its 2023 speaker series on Jan. 17 with a free talk on pollinator-friendly gardens by Kate Garland, a horticulturist with University of Maine Extension Service. The one-hour public program will be held at the Belfast Free Library and streamed on Zoom. For more information and to register, visit the Belfast Garden Club website.

Ambrook Research features Zhang biochar research

06 Jan 2023

Ambrook Research featured YongJiang "John" Zhang, assistant professor of plant physiology at the University of Maine, and his research on how biochar may be used to improve moisture retention in Maine's wild blueberry fields.

Sporer speaks to WMTW about radicalization

06 Jan 2023

Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology at the University of Maine and researcher for the National Counterterrorism, Innovation, Technology and Education (NCITE) Center, spoke to WMTW-TV (Channel 8 in Portland) about the path to violent extremism in light of a 19-year-old Mainer being accused of attacking an New York police officer on New Year's Eve. Sporer explained that the process of radicalization is complicated, but common factors can include a person being exposed to propaganda and traumatic life events. "All that together can put someone on trajectory towards violent extremism," Sporer said.

Flanagan co-authors dyslexia explainer for MEA magazine

06 Jan 2023

Sara Flanagan, University of Maine assistant professor of special education, and Rachel Brown-Chidsey, assistant professor of special education at the University of Southern Maine, have an article in the new edition of Maine Educator, the magazine of the Maine Education Association, titled "Dyslexia 101: Questions & Answers for Educators." Dyslexia is the most common type of learning disability, impacting about 15 percent of students. The article is in response to a study where teachers said they needed basic information about the condition, how to screen for it and evidence-based interventions.

Socolow pens essay for Slate about Barbara Walters

06 Jan 2023

Michael Socolow, professor of media history at the University of Maine, wrote an article for Slate about the journalistic and cultural impact of Barbara Walters, who died December 30, 2022, at the age of 93. "For all her intrusive questions, her skillful interrogating, her sharp and incisive commentary, Walters' legacy extends far beyond those famous interviews. She provided a model for women to unapologetically pursue their ambition, no matter how often it got them called 'rude,'" Socolow wrote.

Beal speaks to Maine Monitor about 2021 lobster season

In an article about the future of the lobster industry in Eastport, Brian Beal, professor of marine ecology at the University of Maine at Machias, told the Maine Monitor that 2021's record poundage haul might become more of a new norm than the exception, as warm waters make more lobsters proliferate, and do so earlier in the season.

n the UMaine log-in page.

University community invited to share thoughts on steam plant upgrade Oct. 30

27 Oct 2023

The University of Maine is currently formulating plans to update the infrastructure of its Central Steam Plant. To keep the university community fully informed about this project, the UMaine Energy Team is inviting anyone interested to attend a presentation from noon-1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30 in the McIntire Room at Buchanan Alumni House. Attendees will receive an update on the current status of this project. Anyone attending this meeting will have the opportunity to ask questions as part of a Q&A session following the presentation. There is no need to register in advance. The meeting is free and open to the public. The meeting will not be live streamed, but those interested in submitting feedback or asking questions online can find project details, FAQs and contact information at https://umaine.edu/umec/.

More about the steam plant:

Once completed, the UMEC Central Steam Plant addition will provide 100% renewable energy capacity, achieved through its ability to utilize a variety of renewable liquid and gaseous fuels. The UMEC addition is a key component of UMaine's goal to achieve carbon neutrality and will allow the university to drastically reduce its greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels.

Current peak heating operations require the use of two natural gas-fired boilers to meet the campus's need for heat. A third oil-fired boiler is kept in "hot standby mode" during peak season in case one of the lead boilers goes offline. The steam distribution system serves approximately 90 campus buildings through 4.7 miles of underground steam distribution/condensate pipe and 119 steam pits.

The steam plant is essential to the university's daily operations. The UMEC project will ensure that teaching, research, and public service continues uninterrupted at our state's largest research university.

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Guillermo Figueroa-Muñoz: From salmonids in Patagonia to alewives in Maine

06 Jan 2023

Growing up in Chile's Patagonia region, Guillermo Figueroa-Muñoz never imagined he would end up in Orono, Maine, over 6,000 miles away from his hometown of Puerto Cisnes. Thanks to a little luck and hard work, though, the University of Maine Ph.D. student is using the research skills he learned studying fisheries in his home country to research the reintroduction of alewives in Maine's lakes — and learning English while he does so. In graduate school in Chile, Figueroa-Muñoz studied the relationship between invasive salmonids and participated in sampling of salmon escaping from aquaculture facilities in Patagonia. It is a common occurrence — between 2010 and 2020, 5 million salmon escaped from these facilities. Since salmon are not native to the region, they could become invasive in the sensitive ecosystem, threatening freshwater fish populations and traditional livelihoods. While finishing his master's degree at the Universidad de Concepción in Chile, Figueroa-Muñoz worked with Ivan Arismendi, associate professor at Oregon State University's Freshwater Ecology and Conservation Lab. Arismendi knew University of Maine's Christina Murphy from her time doing a Fulbright project in Chile and from her time pursuing a Ph.D. at Oregon State University. "It's a very small word in fisheries," Murphy laughs. Murphy and Joseph Zydlewski, researchers in the U.S. Geological Survey Maine cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and faculty in the Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Conservation Biology, were looking for a Ph.D. student to work on a project about the reintroduction of alewives in freshwater systems in Maine. Alewives were present in Maine's lakes hundreds of years ago, but their historic habitats have changed. The impact of bringing them back to Maine's lakes and streams today — particularly on managed fisheries and recreational opportunities, like landlocked Atlantic salmon fishing — is a topic of great political, social and ecological interest to the state. When Murphy reached out to her network to pass along the job opportunity, Arismendi suggested Figueroa-Muñoz because of his exceptional research skills, experience with similar projects in Chile, publications and grades. There was one catch: Figueroa-Muñoz didn't yet speak fluent English, and this particular project would require a significant amount of communication with stakeholders beyond UMaine. "It has a lot of technical challenges and requirements to interact with people on the ground and be an effective communicator," says Zydlewski. Still, Arismendi encouraged Figueroa-Muñoz to apply for the position. After speaking with their candidate, Murphy and Zydlewski knew that Figueroa-Muñoz was the right choice for the job. "He has experience in research techniques that are really ideally suited for this particular project. His experience in Chile was functionally analogous to the challenges he's taking on here, looking at a fish that is coming from a marine environment into a freshwater system and trying to figure out the ecological roles," Murphy says. Murphy and Zydlewski made an effort to ensure that their new student would have everything he needed to succeed. In addition to conducting research, Figueroa-Muñoz has taken English classes through the Maine Bridge Program. His English speaking skills have improved tremendously since he started. Figueroa-Muñoz credits the instruction of head instructor Erin-Kate Sousa, but Zydleweski says it is as much a "measure of his capacity and his willingness to work." "It's been wonderful to watch him go from really functioning in a rudimentary capacity to someone who has given really clear, concise scientific presentations multiple times," Zydlewski says. "It's part of his education and part of what he's going to take out as his skill set. Frankly, he stepped into the project and he's been phenomenal in it." Murphy and Zydlewski said that Figueroa-Muñoz's passion as a scientist — as well as his knack for bonding with his labmates — has been an asset for the project and for the lab community. "He exemplifies so many of the good qualities of an effective researcher," Zydleweski says. "There's many times where he's been in a meeting and he's said, 'This is my dream.' This is where he wants to be. He wants to gain a skill set and he wants to be a productive and influential person in the field of fisheries science. He wants to be useful and serve the public good. He has all the capacity and intellect as well as having the community skills." Figueroa-Muñoz's co-advisers also believe that their student's achievements in the field and in the community illustrate a vital lesson about equity in science. "He thought the doors were going to be closed and locked because science can be really exclusionary if you don't have the language tools," Murphy says. "I think it just shows how important it is that we don't take our responsibilities lightly as researchers and academics because we have a lot of power to provide opportunities and a responsibility to make sure that we are providing opportunities. If we want to make science a better, more inclusive place, the people who really want to be inside need those doors opened." For his part, Figueroa-Muñoz has been impressed with the resources at UMaine, the state's R1 research university, as well as the support from various government agencies for his research. "We are working with people from the Alewife Interaction Committee, and they are really accepting of my inclusion in this project," he says. Figueroa-Muñoz says that the experience of attending graduate school at the University of Maine — one that wouldn't be possible, he insists, without the support of his wife Maria Rosita Buchoff, who moved to Maine from Chile with him — has been wonderful so far. "This is, like, the best environment for doing research," he says. Still, he does hope to return to Chile after completing his Ph.D. to use all the skills he has learned in his native country. He certainly hasn't forgotten his roots. In the spare moments between perfecting his English, preparing proposals and conducting research in the field, Figueroa-Muñoz recently led an article for the prestigious publication Science about how Chile's new policy allowing artisanal and recreational fishers to capture salmon escaped from aquaculture facilities will help better manage the populations and minimize their environmental impact. "I want to learn as much as possible here and come back to Chile and contribute to study the ecology of freshwater systems in Patagonia in terms of food webs and fish," Figueroa-Muñoz says. "I would like to thank my advisers and my labmates. I'm living my dreams. I'm really proud of being here." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Study explores 'wicked problem' of COVID-19's impact on research and scholarship in higher education

06 Jan 2023

Editor's note: Updated Jan. 10, 2023 The COVID-19 pandemic has been a "wicked problem" for higher education, argue researchers from the University of Maine who recently published a study exploring how the first year of the pandemic affected research activities at the institution. "Wicked problems are complex, nonlinear and unique, with a high likelihood of serious consequences without quick solutions," says Asli Sezen-Barrie, lead author of the study and

an associate professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction at UMaine's College of Education and Human Development. "We view the pandemic as a wicked problem for higher education, because it forced decision-makers to develop urgent and dramatic solutions to prevent viral spread, such as travel restrictions, transition to online teaching and safety measures for labs and classroom facilities," says Sezen-Barrie. As is often the case with wicked problems, Sezen-Barrie and her co-authors say the pandemic amplified challenges that were already present in higher education, including financial instability, inequalities, and social and cultural barriers to creating communities of practice and social connections on a college campus. To better understand the challenges raised or exacerbated by the pandemic, they surveyed more than 400 University of Maine faculty, staff and graduate students about how the first year of living with COVID restrictions affected research activities, productivity, and health and wellness, as well as how pandemic conditions made them think about adaptations to sustain or increase their scholarly work. According to the survey, 78% of participants reported reduced research and scholarship productivity, including 83% of tenure-track faculty and 77% of graduate students. The reasons for reduced productivity included increased work responsibilities, limited access to research fields and inadequate resources. Some specific examples were captured in qualitative survey responses. For example, one faculty member discussed not being able to access K–12 schools, where they were conducting research. "I had a five-year pilot project for a school-based intervention effectively shut down by the pandemic," the faculty member reported. "We were going to run a quasi-experimental evaluation of the project in the schools we partner with after four years of work this year and are now unable to because of the disruption schools have experienced." A graduate student talked about how lack of resources affected their course of study. "I've had to abandon my thesis altogether, for lack of access to research materials, and switch to completing my degree by coursework alone, which has set me back about 18 months," the student said. At the same time, the study asked participants how they adapted to improve or sustain productivity in the face of pandemic restrictions. One theme that the authors note from the survey data was the emergence of new opportunities due to wider adoption of virtual tools. "Scientific conferences going online is a huge boon," said one professor from the Sciences. "Saves TONS of time and money and creates great opportunities for undergrad and grad students to attend whereas they otherwise would be excluded due to the high costs." In terms of health and well-being, nearly a third of survey participants (29%) highlighted mental health issues, including anxiety and fear about the pandemic, burnout/exhaustion and increased stress. One junior faculty member talked about how the pandemic impacted family obligations and led to increased stress when it came to their career aspirations. "It cannot be stated enough how hard it has been getting any research done with a 2- and 4-year-old at home," said the faculty member, identified as a female assistant professor. "It is mentally hard to see colleagues without kids being more productive and just having absolutely no way to get there." Besides Sezen-Barrie, the study's authors include Lisa Carter, Ph.D. student in higher education; Sean Smith, associate professor in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences; Deborah Saber, associate professor of nursing; and Mark Wells, professor of marine sciences. The project was initiated by the Research and Scholarship Committee of the University of Maine's Faculty Senate and received funding from the Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School at UMaine. The authors say their findings suggest that resuming pre-pandemic operations is not a viable option for higher education institutions moving forward. "There's a need to collaboratively develop new sets of guidelines to help researchers and scholars optimize operational responses based on what we have learned from the pandemic conditions," they argue. They also suggest that other colleges and universities undertake similar studies to "provide a basis for comparisons of institutions in varied geographic settings and demographic situations to guide holistic strategies for higher education at a national level." The study was published in the journal Innovative Higher Education and is available online. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension taps former state food safety specialist to fill new associate dean position

06 Jan 2023

State food safety specialist and UMaine alumnus Jason Bolton has been named associate dean at University of Maine Cooperative Extension. This new position will provide leadership for strategic initiatives within the organization and help build capacity to address state needs. The associate dean position marks a new milestone for Extension as the organization aims to bring innovative university research to individuals and industry across Maine, with a focus on workforce development and new digital learning opportunities. Associate Dean Bolton, who officially started Jan. 3, will lead new initiatives for Extension, including a statewide needs assessment, an organizational restructuring, and improved systems for financial planning and reporting. "Dr. Bolton distinguished himself during the national search process with his comprehensive Extension experience, his ideas for building strong internal teams and external partnerships, and his vision for the future," said Associate Provost for Online and Continuing Education and Dean of Cooperative Extension Hannah Carter. "I'm excited for Dr. Bolton to step into this role and I'm confident that Extension, the university and the state will benefit from his thoughtful leadership and dedication." The new associate dean is responsible for the coordination and integration of Extension programs that address timely issues such as: improving the productivity, sustainability and profitability of the state's diverse agriculture and aquaculture industries; promoting a safe, secure and nutritious food supply; increasing environmental stewardship; strengthening positive youth development through 4-H programming; and developing new programs that build individual and community capacities. "I look forward to leading new initiatives, building stronger relationships with staff and stakeholders, and creating new partnerships with the University of Maine System and outside stakeholders," said Bolton. "My goals are to provide all staff with the resources and systems necessary to offer trusted education to the people of Maine, while also helping to establish Extension as one of the best places to work in Maine." This position will serve as a core member of the UMaine Extension leadership team and will be responsible for setting and achieving goals that fulfill Extension's mission and align with the strategic priorities of the university. In addition, the associate dean will serve as the point person for many of Extension's Maine Jobs and Recover Plan projects, as well as recently announced projects funded by the 2023 federal spending bill. Prior to taking on his new role, Bolton served as Extension professor and the state food safety specialist, where he worked with food and beverage companies in Maine and internationally to create food safety plans and develop thermal processes to prevent foodborne illness. Bolton will continue as the area coordinator of Innovation Engineering in the Maine Business School, where he leads a team of faculty that teach courses and programs on systems thinking, idea creation, problem-solving, communication and commercialization. He was also a cooperating faculty member with the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture, where his research focused on food processing and brewing sciences and where he taught courses on commercial brewing and food safety. In his new role, Bolton will continue to serve as program administrator for Extension's aquaculture, food, nutrition and innovation programs. Contact: Hannah Carter, 207.581.3238; hcarter@maine.edu

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Jan. 9

09 Jan 2023

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update for Jan. 9:

- The Shield T3 COVID testing trailer is being moved today.
- Work in Barrows 111 and 113 is scheduled to begin this week.

- Flooring in Hancock Hall is underway; floor replacement in Oak, Hitcher, Patch, South Annex, Aroostook halls is complete.
- Carpet replacement is underway in the Collins Center for the Arts.
- Light pole banners on campus are being replaced.
- Twenty seats in 140 Williams will be replaced.
- Alfond Arena step replacement is complete; final paving will occur in the spring.
- Debris from all of the campus trees that were damaged in the recent wind storm have been removed.
- Oak Hall patio safety repairs have been completed.
- Planetarium warranty roof repairs are being scheduled.
- Annual campus elevator smoke alarm testing is scheduled for February.
- Going out to bid shortly are the Cutler roof replacement project and the Munson Road Phase 7 rebuild.

Maine Policy Matters podcast returns Jan. 17

09 Jan 2023

The Maine Policy Matters podcast will launch its third season on Jan. 17 with an episode about offshore wind development, followed by an episode about the future of Maine's lobster industry on Jan. 30. The premiere episode on Jan. 17 focuses on the Maine Policy Review article "Maine and Offshore Wind Development: Using the Coastal Zone Management Act and Marine Spatial Planning to Influence Projects in Federal Waters" written by Mary Morrissey, J.D. candidate and editor-in-chief of the Ocean and Coastal Law Journal at the University of Maine School of Law. On Jan. 30, Maine Policy Matters will release an episode centered around the Maine Policy Review article by James and Ann Acheson, "What Does the Future Hold for Maine's Lobster Industry?" Eric Miller, research associate at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, will also moderate a panel discussion with Patrice McCarron, executive director of the Maine Lobstermen's Association; Geoff Irvine, director of the Lobster Council of Canada; and Richard Wahle, director of the UMaine Lobster Institute. Maine Policy Matters is a podcast by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. In 2022, the podcast had more than 800 listeners. Subscribe and listen to past episodes on Podbean, Soundcloud, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, IHeart or TuneIn.

Summer University student art contest winner announced

09 Jan 2023

Laura Curioli's artwork, featuring her photography, has been selected as the winning entry in the student art contest sponsored by the University of Maine Division of Lifelong Learning. Her design will be used on this year's Summer University poster and in other promotions. Curioli, who grew up in Eastport and lives in Hampden, is a double major in history and secondary education, with a concentration in social studies. She is expected to graduate in May and plans to further her education at UMaine through the master's program in history. Curioli is currently pursing her second year of research on the history of educational philosophies through the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR). Also at UMaine, she has worked for Auxiliary Enterprises in marketing, and for the Division of Marketing and Communications as a student photographer. The images Curioli created and used to design her concept for the Summer University poster were taken in the state, including at UMaine, Acadia National Park and the Orono Bog Walk. She credits her experience as a student photographer with helping to refine her photography skills. "One of my favorite activities is to explore Maine and document its natural wonders," Curioli says. "My inspiration for this poster was to display many of these wonders, large and small, in a format that represents biology; hence, the hexagonal design. Much like cellular networks are represented in a hexagon form, I wanted this poster to represent the network of Maine's nature. To me, Summer University can be represented by the amazing environment you get to experience in Maine's outdoors in addition to pursuing your education." Summer University registration begins Feb. 1. More information is online.

UMaine Extension 4-H introduces youth to engineering concepts

09 Jan 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is accepting registrations for a special interest club where youth ages 9-18 can explore basic engineering concepts. This online club will be held on Thursdays, Jan. 26–March 2 from 4–5:15 p.m. Required registration closes Jan. 17. The 4-H Engineering Club will introduce basic engineering skills by exploring a different topic each week. Participants will work through a hands-on engineering challenge and will have an opportunity to connect with other 4-H engineers across the state. UMaine Extension 4-H staff will lead the challenges. The club is free and limited to 20 participants. Register by Jan. 17 on the event webpage to receive the link and at-home materials. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.8206 or sarah.sparks@maine.edu. Additional information also is available on the Extension 4-H Virtual Learning webpage.

2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration at UMaine features keynote by three racial justice community leaders

09 Jan 2023

The 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration on Jan. 16, co-sponsored by the Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP and the University of Maine Division of Student Life, will feature a keynote address by two civil rights community leaders, whose efforts led to the successful Juneteenth commemoration in Ellsworth last summer, and a University of Maine graduate student, whose work for social justice has been noted in the central Maine community. The Breakfast Celebration will be held from 8:30–10:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 16 in Wells Conference Center. The keynote address, "Moving Dr. King's Legacy Forward," will be presented by Janine Georgette, a performance and teaching artist for the past 50 years; Jacques H. Newell Taylor, an exercise design specialist; and UMaine graduate student in social work Athena Witham, a public health educator at Bangor Public Health and Community Services. The event also will feature the presentation of the Dorothy Clarke Wilson Peace Writing Prize and live music by Women With Wings. Tickets are $20 for community members, faculty, staff and graduate students; $15 for children under 12. Free admission for UMaine undergraduate students, sponsored by UMaine Student Government. Register online. The snow date is Feb. 20. For more information or to request a disability accommodation, contact Student Life, um.studentlife@maine.edu; 207.581.1406. Out of respect for all people and all religions in attendance, no pork products will be served at this year's breakfast. The Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast is supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund.

Media boost UMaine Extension 4-H engineering program for youths

09 Jan 2023

The Piscataquis Observer, Daily Bulldog, CentralMaine.com, Sun Journal and Turner Publishing shared information about a special interest club hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H where youth ages 9–18 can explore basic engineering concepts. This online club will be held on Thursdays, Jan. 26–March 2 from 4–5:15 p.m. Register by Jan. 17 on the event webpage to receive the link and at-home materials.

Media share in-service training for certified crop advisors

09 Jan 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Daily Bulldog, Morning Ag Clips and Sun Journal shared information about a two-day training for agriculture service providers in the Certified Crop Advisor program, which will feature presentations from University of Maine Cooperative Extension and others. The program will be held Jan. 25–26 at the Holiday Inn in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Visit the event website for a full agenda and to register.

Tasting Table cites UMaine information about cranberries

09 Jan 2023

In an article about the difference between cranberries and lingonberries, Tasting Table cited a bulletin from University of Maine Cooperative Extension, which traces the origins of cranberries back to the bogs or marshes of northeastern America, where Wampanoag People enjoyed them for more than 12,000 years.

WABI speaks to Brewer on two-year anniversary of Capitol riots

09 Jan 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) spoke to Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, on the two-year anniversary of the Jan. 6 riots at the U.S. Capitol. Brewer said that it is important to hold the rioters accountable for their actions, though the country's opinion on the attacks is still divided.

PPH column cites Fernandez talk

09 Jan 2023

In a column about how protecting the soil in Maine's forests can help the state reach its goal to reduce carbon emissions, the Portland Press Herald cited a lecture by Ivan Fernandez, professor of soil science and forest resources at the University of Maine, that explained that forests are among the best ways to store carbon naturally.

Media report on Bolton being named UMaine Extension Associate Dean

09 Jan 2023

Morning Ag Clips, Bangor Daily News and Portland Press Herald reported that Jason Bolton, associate Extension professor and food safety specialist, has been named associate dean at University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Bolton will lead new initiatives for Extension, including a statewide needs assessment, an organizational restructuring, and improved systems for financial planning and reporting. "I look forward to leading new initiatives, building stronger relationships with staff and stakeholders, and creating new partnerships with the University of Maine System and outside stakeholders. My goals are to provide all staff with the resources and systems necessary to offer trusted education to the people of Maine, while also helping to establish Extension as one of the best places to work in Maine," Bolton said.

Brewer featured on Todd Veinotte show discussing House speaker election

09 Jan 2023

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, was featured on Halifax City News' Todd Veinotte Show discussing U.S. politics, specifically about the anniversary of the Jan. 6 Capitol riots and the election of House speaker Kevin McCarthy.

Golet to quantify post-release mortality of giant Atlantic bluefin tuna in New England

09 Jan 2023

Quantifying the number of giant Atlantic bluefin tuna in New England that die after being caught and released is the goal of a new University of Maine-led study. The U.S. Department of Commerce awarded Walt Golet, a University of Maine assistant professor of marine science, more than $210,800 for the project. For their research on the recreational catch-and-release fishery off the New England coast, Golet and his colleagues will calculate the post-release mortality of western Atlantic bluefin tuna that are larger than 73 inches in length — the minimum commercial length. When recreational fishermen catch Atlantic bluefin tuna with rod and reel, it's possible for the fish to experience lethal physical and physiological stress, especially since these fish can stay on the hook for hours at these larger sizes, Golet says. There also have been a growing number of reports observing sharks attacking Atlantic bluefin tuna near vessels while on the line or after they are released. Interest in Atlantic bluefin tuna has skyrocketed in recent years among recreational fishermen, Golet says, with some vessels exceeding a catch-and-release rate of 10 or more commercial-sized fish per day. Outside of a very small early season quota, recreational fishermen are required to release any Atlantic bluefin tuna they catch that are commercial size, but the fate of these fish is unknown. Without data, fishery managers cannot accurately determine how many giant Atlantic bluefin tuna are dying from catch and release in their waters, which hampers their ability to

evaluate stock status, production and economic loss. By using quantitative data to determine the post-release mortality of tuna, the new study from Golet's team will provide more insight into the overall mortality rate in the catch and release fishery off New England, which can help managers devise any necessary mitigation measures that maintain the health of the fish and the fishery. Other researchers involved in the project with Golet include Diego Bernal, a biology professor with the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth; Jeff Kneebone, a research scientist at the New England Aquarium; and Brad McHale, information, reporting and monitoring branch chief of the New England/Mid-Atlantic Division of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Sustainable fisheries. To conduct their research, Golet and his colleagues will ride along on recreational vessels and charter boats and tag every giant Atlantic bluefin tuna the anglers catch. The computerized tags will collect and transmit data for 60 days so the group can determine the fate of each fish. Researchers also will document all catch-and-release conditions, including gear used, hook type and location, fight duration, handling method, general condition of the fish, location and water temperature. Joe DelloRusso, a new Ph.D. student in Golet's lab, will combine all of these findings into a longitudinal survival model that will estimate the post-release mortality rates of the tuna captured and determine the factors that most influenced their fate as part of his dissertation. The results will be shared with the NOAA's High Migratory Species Management Division, which can devise best practices for catching and releasing giant Atlantic bluefin tuna to share with the fishing industry. "Estimating post-release mortality and establishing a set of best practices to minimize it will improve our assessment models, more accurately allocate fishing quotas and ultimately benefit the long-term sustainability of the Atlantic bluefin resource," Golet says. "This benefits stakeholders associated with the Atlantic bluefin tuna fishery and serves to maintain this species' important role in pelagic ecosystems." Golet, who is based out of the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, has helped conserve the western Atlantic bluefin tuna fishery for years by providing regulators updated age, sex, growth and stock composition data. A large component of his research centers around the collection and analysis of biological samples, which are used to improve stock assessments for bluefin tuna and highly migratory species in the Atlantic. His lab routinely samples over 1,200 commercial size Atlantic bluefin fish per season. In addition to his latest collaborative study, Golet has been working on other projects to help reduce uncertainties in western Atlantic bluefin tuna assessment models and develop best practices for handling and supply. Additionally, he leads the Pelagic Ecosystem Research Consortium to enhance the stock assessment, management and sustainability of tuna, swordfish and sharks — all highly migratory species — in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico and runs the Pelagic Fisheries Lab at the UMaine. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMS employee and dependent tuition policy expanded

10 Jan 2023

The University of Maine System employee tuition waiver policy and dependent tuition benefit policy now includes English language courses for the UMS workforce. The policy expansion is part of an effort to generate strong and diverse candidate pools in searches. Concurrently, Maine NGOs and state education and workforce leaders report low English language proficiency as a barrier to workforce development for immigrants moving to the state, including individuals with specialty education and previous work experience. UMaine's Intensive English Institute (IEI) has the capacity to welcome UMS employees in its classes and offer in-person or virtual instruction. It is one of two multilingual learning (MLL) centers in the state offering immersive and extensive academic preparation to English language learners at every level of proficiency. The second MLL center is at the University of Southern Maine. In addition, expanding the employee dependent tuition benefit to include IEI courses will create college access for the dependents of UMS employees. For more information about the IEI courses visit umaine.edu/iei. For more information about IEI courses as part of the employee tuition waiver and dependent tuition benefit, contact um.iei@maine.edu.

News Center Maine features Noren research about scallop farming

10 Jan 2023

In a story about Maine's scallop farming industry, News Center Maine spoke to Christopher Noren, graduate student at the University of Maine Darling Marine Center, about his research into the best ways to grow scallops to farm. Noren said that climate change warming Maine's waters can pose a potential risk to the scallop industry, both wild and farmed "Scallops prefer about 10 to 15 degrees Celsius for growth, but if you get around 22 degrees Celsius, that's when they start to die. …That could be a danger to wild and aquaculture scallops," Noren said.

Hakai Magazine cites Stoll contributions to Philadelphia community-supported fishery

10 Jan 2023

In an article about a community-supported fishery called Fishadelphia in Philadelphia, Hakai Magazine noted that the organization's founder Talia Young's interactions with Joshua Stoll, assistant professor of marine policy at the University of Maine, helped inspire her to establish the group. Stoll previously founded a community-supported fishery in eastern North Carolina called Walking Fish.

BDN interviews Birkel about Bangor's alarming warming this December

10 Jan 2023

Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about the exceptionally warm December in Bangor. "If we look at the larger statewide scales, winters in Maine are warming on average, though there is still variability season to season and month to month. A very warm December fits into that overall pattern we have been observing," Birkel said. WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

Food Service director notes UMaine efforts in Farm to Sea School Institute

10 Jan 2023

In an article about the Farm to Sea School Institute boosting farm-to-school efforts throughout Maine, Food Service Director noted that the program has student ambassadors from the University of Maine, one of the institute's partners, work with students at each participating school to identify and execute a farm-to-school project that takes place alongside the action plan.

WPFO cites UMaine study about snowmobiling

10 Jan 2023

In a story about lack of snowfall causing problems for Maine snowmobilers, WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) cited a 2020 study by the University of Maine that found snowmobiling provided more than $600 million to the state's economy in 2019.

Phys.org features UMaine study about impact of COVID-19 pandemic on research

10 Jan 2023

Phys.org highlighted a study from the University of Maine exploring how the first year of the pandemic affected research activities at the institution. The researchers surveyed more than 400 UMaine faculty, staff and graduate students about how the first year of living with COVID restrictions affected research activities, productivity, and health and wellness, as well as how pandemic conditions made them think about adaptations to sustain or increase their scholarly work. According to the survey, 78% of participants reported reduced research and scholarship productivity, including 83% of tenure-track faculty and 77% of graduate students.

Science features Ortega-Jiménez research about flamingo fluid mechanics

10 Jan 2023

Science featured research led by Victor Ortega-Jiménez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology and biomechanics, showing that flamingos use fluid mechanics to filter food out of muddy waters. Ortega-Jiménez and colleagues from the Georgia Institute of Technology and Kennesaw State University analyzed the wading and feeding behaviors of Chilean flamingos at the Nashville Zoo and tested their ideas with 3D-printed models of flamingo heads. They found the birds stir the water into swirling vortices to pull food within reach; stick their beaks below the surface and "chatter" their mouths open and closed, darting their tongues in and out to create suction; and abruptly lift their heads, causing a swirling "tornado," as Ortega-Jiménez told Science, that sucks food upward toward their mouths. Finally, as the birds walk forward, they skim the water's surface with their bills facing backward, creating swirls of water that concentrate food right at the tip of the beak to swallow.

UMaine senior recognized at Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association convention

10 Jan 2023

University of Maine senior athletic training student Emily Davison took home a pair of honors at the Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association (EATA) convention held Jan. 6-9 in Boston. Davison, of North Waterboro, Maine, took first place in the District 1 Quiz Bowl, a Jeopardy-style competition for students from Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) institutions throughout the eastern U.S. The top three winners will represent their district at the National Athletic Trainers' Association convention. Davison also earned a $3,000 Joseph Abraham Scholarship, named for a long-time EATA secretary/treasurer. The scholarships are given annually to students in entry-level accredited programs and are meant to encourage recipients to continue their education and pursue a career in athletic training. In accordance with new CAATE standards, UMaine's athletic training program is transitioning from an undergraduate degree to a Master of Science in Athletic Training program that will start being offered in fall of 2023.

Spring 2023 COVID-19 testing guidance for UMaine and UMaine Machias communities

10 Jan 2023

This spring, there is no asymptomatic COVID-19 testing at the University of Maine, University of Maine at Machias or other University of Maine System universities. There also is no asymptomatic testing requirement for individuals with a vaccination-exemption. (Note: These requirements may be revised as the COVID-19 pandemic evolves or as public health best practices change or emerge.) University community members on campus who are symptomatic are asked to wear a face covering and get tested for COVID-19. Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should follow CDC isolation guidelines, which currently recommend isolating at home for five days and wearing a face covering for an additional five days. Anyone who tests negative for COVID-19 but is symptomatic is encouraged to contact their primary care physician. Symptomatic students testing negative for COVID-19 are encouraged to contact Cutler Health Center, and continue to wear a face covering until cleared by medical personnel. Access free COVID-19 tests for those living in Maine is online. More information about COVID-19 testing in Maine is online. The site includes information about how MaineCare members and parents of children covered by Cub Care can obtain free at-home test kits at retail pharmacies that accept MaineCare.

Maine Business School has a new major: Business Information Systems and Security Management

11 Jan 2023

The Maine Business School is now offering a new major in Business Information Systems and Security Management (BISSM). This new major prepares students for a fast-growing industry where students are in demand, and employees can earn a six-figure median salary. Recent estimates suggest that jobs for information security analysts will grow by 33% from 2020 to 2030, and information system manager roles are projected to grow by 11% during the same time period. "We're thrilled to be able to meet the needs of employers and offer our students a new major at the Maine Business School," says Interim Executive Dean Jason Harkins. "Recognizing the added value of certifications, we are collaborating with the University of Maine at Augusta to enable MBS students to earn UMA's Information Assurance Certificate as they work toward earning their Business Administration degree." Along with UMA, BISSM students will also have the opportunity to take electives from the University of Southern Maine and the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Business Information Systems began in 2013 as a concentration offering. The change to a full-fledged major came from student demand. "We as faculty heard from our students and recognized the real need for MBS graduates to be trained in how to protect information system assets due to the increasing numbers of information security breaches happening globally," says Matt Graham, Associate Professor of Business Information Systems (BIS). "It's an excellent time for us to turn the BIS concentration into a major that focuses on security management." The BIS concentration saw steady enrollment growth of about 20% each year since its inception. Maine Business School BIS faculty confirmed that Maine businesses need employees trained to spot information security risks and develop ways to minimize these risks. "Our BISSM graduates will be more proficient in emerging technologies in this field," Graham says. "Additionally, this new major is

poised to attract more students to UMaine that want to work in this exciting and growing industry." This new program brings the number of majors at Maine's premier business school to six, including accounting, finance, management, marketing and sport management.

UMaine Extension's family education program receives national recognition as a Blue Ribbon Affiliate

11 Jan 2023

The Maine Families program delivered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension has earned Blue Ribbon Affiliate status, a prestigious endorsement from Parents as Teachers National Center, Inc., (PATNC). The endorsement makes it one of the top-performing home visiting affiliates within the Parents as Teachers' international network. Being named a Blue Ribbon Affiliate affirms that Extension's Maine Families program is a high-quality member of the home visiting field and has implemented the evidence-based Parents as Teachers model with fidelity. While Maine Families is a statewide program, it is delivered in Waldo, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc and parts of Cumberland counties by UMaine Extension. Families in these counties are positively impacted by the program, which includes personalized visits, group connections, developmental and health screens, as well as connections to community resources. This relationship-based program is designed to address public health priorities, and support families with knowledge and resources to prepare kids for a strong start in life and greater success in school. "To earn the Blue Ribbon endorsement, we underwent a rigorous self-study and review process from the national center. The process confirms that we are meeting Parents as Teachers' standards of fidelity and quality," said Melanie Bryan, program manager for Maine Families in Waldo County. "Blue Ribbon Affiliates are exemplary programs, delivering the highest quality services to children and families." Implementation with quality and fidelity is vital in home-visiting programs as it determines a program's effectiveness in accomplishing its original goals and intended outcomes. It also verifies that a program is being implemented as designed. Parents as Teachers' rigorous endorsement process demonstrates an affiliate's accountability and credibility to the community, its funders, elected officials and the partner organizations with which they work. When asked how Maine Families Home Visiting has helped their family, one parent shared: "My visitor made me feel more confident in my abilities as a parent and encouraged [me] that I'm doing a good job. The opportunity to speak to someone about parenting that is outside my family and is both passionate and knowledgeable helps me a lot." Visit the program website for more information about Maine Families in the midcoast area. Parent Program of Mid-Coast Maine, a separate nonprofit organization, provides additional funding and oversight for the Maine Families program serving Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc and parts of Cumberland counties.

Media note UMaine Extension's family education program national recognition

11 Jan 2023

Turner Publishing and the Courier-Gazette noted that the Maine Families program delivered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension has earned Blue Ribbon Affiliate status, a prestigious endorsement from Parents as Teachers National Center Inc. The endorsement makes it one of the top-performing home visiting affiliates within the Parents as Teachers' international network. While Maine Families is a statewide program, it is delivered in Waldo, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc and parts of Cumberland counties by UMaine Extension.

Media report on Talty nomination for national award

11 Jan 2023

The Portland Press Herald, Literary Hub and News Center Maine reported that "Night of the Living Rez" by Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, was named one of three finalists for The Story Prize, which honors American short story collections. Yahoo News shared the PPH report.

Sporer and Glover write op-ed for BDN about need for more action on opioid addiction

11 Jan 2023

Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology at the University of Maine, and Robert Glover, associate professor of political science and honors, wrote an opinion piece for the Bangor Daily News about how Maine governor Janet Mills should take an ambitious approach to address opioid addiction in the state. "With 2023 in its infancy, Mainers are already losing loved ones, neighbors, family members and friends to fatal drug overdose. Will those descendants referenced by Mills be proud if we possessed the means and the popular will, but failed to enact the bold reforms necessary to stop these community members from dying?" wrote Sporer and Glover, who are members of the Maine chapter of the Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Miner featured on NBC News segment about extreme weather in California

11 Jan 2023

Kimberly Miner, research assistant professor at the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, was featured in an NBC News segment about how climate change has fueled recent extreme weather events and flooding in California. "Climate change is warming the whole planet and that includes the atmosphere and the oceans. What that means for us is that the atmosphere is able to hold more moisture, so these storms can be bigger," Miner said.

Maine Monitor features Kopec in article about PFAS

11 Jan 2023

Dianne Kopec, faculty fellow at the University of Maine Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, spoke to the Maine Monitor about PFAS in marine life. Kopec explained that unlike pollutants such as PCBs or DDT, which primarily accumulate within fatty tissue, or mercury, which primarily accumulates in proteins and muscle tissue, PFASs concentrations are highest in the liver, blood and kidneys, and tend to concentrate in wildlife through ingestion of prey and can biomagnify in the food web. "Every contaminant ends up in water … water always flows downhill. It's all moving down to the ocean," Kopec said. Undark, Adventure Journal and Salon shared the Maine Monitor report.

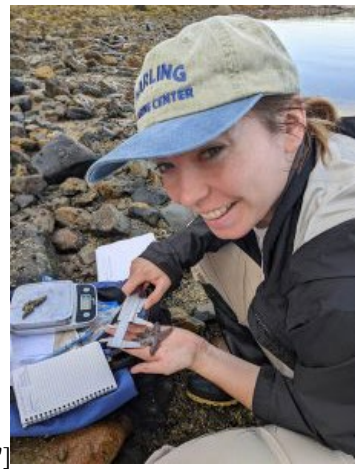
Morneault Appointed as Chair of Maine's Interagency Coordinating Council

11 Jan 2023

Marnie Morneault, a research associate at the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, has been appointed as Chair of Maine's Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC). The ICC is a required component of the early intervention system in every state. The Maine ICC advises and works collaboratively with Child Development Services to provide information, share resources, and identify strategies to help ensure the continued success and improvement of Maine's comprehensive system of early intervention for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. Morneault, who specializes in inclusive care and education, is a 2013 graduate of the New Hampshire Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (NH LEND) Program. She is currently a faculty member for the NH-ME LEND Program: a partnership among the University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability, the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, and the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth.

Sophia Pelletier: Marine ecology on the Maine coast

11 Jan 2023



[caption id="attachment_95179" align="alignright" width="225"] Sophia Pelletier[/caption] In summer 2022, Sophia Pelletier served as an undergraduate research assistant in the lab of professor Heather Leslie, director of the University of Maine Darling Marine Center. Pelletier, who lives in Davis, California, graduated from University of California, Davis with a bachelor's degree in wildlife, fish, and conservation biology. She is now applying to graduate programs in marine ecology. Pelletier wrote about her UMaine experience as an undergraduate at the Darling Marine Center, which allows students from Maine, the nation and the world the opportunity to gain hands-on research experience. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine collaborates on study to explain theory behind electrically driven molecular motors

11 Jan 2023

Like the engines that power almost everything in daily life, the microscopic world contains "motors," organic mechanisms that power tasks like transcribing RNA to DNA, synthesizing ATP and transferring cargo from one place to another in biological cells. Because of their size, these molecular motors don't work like their macro-sized counterparts, and the processes that energize them have been largely inscrutable — until now. A scientist from the University of Maine teamed with researchers from Northwestern University and the California Institute of Technology to make, understand and model an electrically driven artificial molecular motor, a discovery that could lead the way to developing a host of complex synthetic molecular machines. Macroscopic motors — complex ones, like car engines, or simpler ones, like those in blenders — all function in fundamentally the same way: an outside force causes the parts of the motor to move in a particular way, with a well-defined direction. In a car, for example, combusting gas pushes a piston that rotates the crankshaft, which turns the gears that move the vehicle. Smaller motors follow this model less reliably. At microscopic scales, factors that are normally negligible like thermal noise — the tiny disturbances that influence all particles, from electrons to atoms to molecules and beyond — become more significant. Molecules are moving randomly all the time because of a phenomenon called Brownian motion. For this reason, targeting specific, desired movements is extremely difficult. Since the 1990s, scientists have been looking to chemistry, rather than mechanical engineering, to understand molecular motors by taking advantage of the fact that chemical stimulation can change the stability of molecules in such a way that it shepherds their components in a specific sequence and direction. Fraser Stoddart, professor of chemistry at Northwestern University and 2016 Nobel Laureate, led a team that aimed to make a molecular electric motor. They focused on a certain type of molecule with interlocking rings known as catenanes held together by powerful mechanical bonds, so the components could move freely relative to each other without falling apart. In initial tests, a single small ring molecule was interlocked onto a larger ring molecule on which a "pumping cassette," a group of two elements which each impeded the rotation of the smaller ring flanking a switchable binding site that can be turned on and off depending on the charge of the small ring. However, the simple molecule did not display any significant directional motion even when provided with electrical energy to switch the binding site off and on. Dean Astumian, a theorist and professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Maine, collaborated with Stoddart's experimental team to design a new catenane motor: one large ring interlocked with two smaller rings with two binding sites, instead of one. With this design, the researchers predicted that the small rings could move on and off the binding sites with directionality imposed by the repulsion between the two small rings and by the chemical groups in the pumping cassette that impede the movement of the small charged rings, either electrostatically or based on size. These barriers help prevent the rings from moving backward, and the desired forward motion is caused by the random Brownian motion. "With the initial system, Brownian motion was causing the ring to move back and forth, but with no directional preference even when powered by electricity," Astumian says. "The elaboration of the motor to include a second small ring for three rings total introduced electrostatic interactions that selected out certain concerted motions of the two rings that, when powered by electricity, resulted in directional rotation." The group synthesized the three-ring catenane and demonstrated that the electric motor operated through the repeated removal and addition of electrons to the rings (a process known as oxidation and reduction), which changed the electric charge on the rings. Each step resulted in a change of the orientation of the system with respect to the two barriers, which differentially allowed the small rings to pass over one or the other depending on the charge of the ring. A full cycle of oxidation and reduction between the two smaller rings of the molecule leads to the rings completing a 180 degree circumrotation. The motor, in effect, turned — and

reliably, nearly 85% of the time. In order to better understand the details of the energetics by which directed rotation occurs, William Goddard and his colleague Wei-Guang Liu at the California Institute of Technology carried out detailed Quantum Mechanical calculation of the energies of the various states of the motor molecule to confirm the understanding of the mechanism that had been developed. The study and a corresponding news brief were published Jan. 11, 2023, in Nature. The findings both further the understanding of biological molecular motors, and may help to develop synthetic molecular machines that can possibly synthesize molecules that scientists have not yet been able to make with current methods. Other potential applications range from controllable drug delivery to fabricating wearables that amplify the effect of human muscles. Astumian says that the field of developing synthetic molecular machines is "still in its infancy," but "the future is bright" if experimental chemists, theoretical chemical physicists and computational chemists continue to collaborate on research like this. "All of these applications are obviously rather far off at present, but it was only a few decades between the Wright brothers first flight at Kitty Hawk and the first commercial airline, so who knows," Astumian says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

PenBay Pilot boosts UMaine Hutchinson Center exhibit

12 Jan 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot highlighted that the Penobscot Marine Museum has two photography exhibits — "Up River: Selections From The Captain Bill Abbott Collection" and "20 Best" — on display at the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast through May 31. The show is free and open to the public, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday.

Media note proposed funding to UMaine from state budget

12 Jan 2023

In an article about Gov. Janet Mills' proposed $10.3 billion two-year budget, Maine Public and WMTW-TV (Channel 8 in Portland) noted that $41 million would be allocated for state higher education institutions, including the University of Maine.

Media reports on Astumian research about molecular motors

12 Jan 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Chemistry World, Chemical and Engineering News, Science Daily and Innovations Report shared a study that developed a model and deeper understanding of molecular motors which was co-authored by R. Dean Astumian, professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Maine.

Caron-produced films continue to be recognized at U.S., international festivals

12 Jan 2023

Two educational videos produced by University of Maine professor of family relations and human sexuality Sandra Caron recently received honors at a pair of film festivals. "A Recipe for Disaster: Talking About Cooking the Way We Talk About Sex" and "What is THIS? A Film About the Little-Known Clitoris" were each named semi-finalists at the Denver Movie Awards and the Venice Indie Film Festival. Both films, which have received honors at previous film festivals both domestically and abroad, were made by members of peer sexuality-education groups at UMaine that Caron advises. "A Recipe for Disaster" features members of Athletes for Sexual Responsibility and "What is THIS?" was made by members of S.H.A.R.E. (Sexual Health and Reproductive Education). You can watch the videos at the Athletes for Sexual Responsibility and S.H.A.R.E. websites.

Penobscot Marine Museum exhibits two shows at the UMaine Hutchinson Center

13 Jan 2023

Two Penobscot Marine Museum photography exhibits — "Up River: Selections From The Captain Bill Abbott Collection" and "20 Best" — are on display at the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast through May 31. The show is free and open to the public, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. "Up River: Selections From The Captain Bill Abbott Collection" features photographs from the collection of Capt. Bill Abbott, an avid collector of photographs, who, upon his passing in 2014, left the Penobscot Marine Museum his treasured collection, where it is being digitized and preserved. This exhibit highlights a selection of images from his archive. This exhibit was generously funded by lead donor Wayne Hamilton, as well as Mr. and Mrs. E. Vance Bunker, Captain Almer and Linda Dinsmore, Captain David Gelinas, Penobscot Bay & River Pilots Association, Penobscot Bay Tractor Tug Company, Captain Prentice Strong, and Captain Duke Tomlin. "20 Best" features a curated selection of 20 photographs from towns, tiny communities and summer colonies here in Maine. The Penobscot Marine Museum chose the photographs from its archive of more than 140,000 images. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Laura Matthews, hutchinsoncenter@maine.edu. More information about the Hutchinson Center's Fernald Art Gallery is online.

Northeast Cover Crops annual conference will be held in Portland this February

13 Jan 2023

The Northeast Cover Crops Council (NECCC) annual conference will be held on Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Holiday Inn By the Bay in Portland, Maine. The meeting is open to farmers, students, Cooperative Extension agents, crop consultants and other agricultural professionals. This event will feature presentations covering topics related to cover crops. Discussions will include the economic and financial opportunities in cover crops, how to diversify cover crop species, cover crops in vegetable production, the role of cover crops in climate change mitigation and highlights from NECCC and the Precision Sustainable Agriculture (PSA) project. Attendees will be able to take part in a poster presentation where students, researchers and agricultural professionals will share their research. Registration for the conference is $75 for farmers and students; $100 for the public. Financial support is available to eligible registrants. To see the full schedule and to RSVP, visit the event website. Meals will be provided during the conference. Attendees are asked to RSVP online. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.781.6099; jason.lilley@maine.edu.

BDN shares Golet research about Atlantic bluefin tuna

13 Jan 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported on a University of Maine study that aims to quantify the number of giant Atlantic bluefin tuna in New England that die after being caught and released led by Walt Golet, a University of Maine assistant professor of marine science. The U.S. Department of Commerce awarded Golet more than $210,800 for the project.

Nawaz speaks to News Center Maine about extremism

13 Jan 2023

Asif Nawaz, assistant professor of history and international affairs at the University of Maine, spoke to News Center Maine about extremism in light of 19-year-old Mainer attacking three police officers at a New Year's celebration in New York City. Nawaz said the accused's age, isolation, and family dynamic made him a prime target for online extremism groups, and more resources need to be implemented at the local level to intervene and help youth who fall into extremism online. "I am not asking you to empathize with a terrorist. I am saying that in order to curb this home-grown radicalization, we need to have a very, very comprehensive look from the bottom up, not top-down; bottom-up change in which a dialogue needs to happen," Nawaz said.

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Jan. 17

17 Jan 2023

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Jan. 17:

- Snow removal activities continue from Monday's storm.
- Power has been temporarily rerouted at the East substation as a result of the Versant transformer failure last Friday.
- Fire system gas detector maintenance is underway at Hitchener Hall.
- Storm drain system inspection is underway by Fernald Hall.
- University composter repairs are underway.
- Campus street and walkway lighting repairs are ongoing. Please report any lights that are out to Facilities Management Work Control, 581.4400.
- An LED crosswalk light has been ordered for the Rangeley Road crosswalk by the UMaine Police Department.
- Campus light pole banners are being installed on campus.
- Twenty replacement seats for 140 Williams Hall are delayed due to supply chain issues. Arrival is anticipated for possible spring break installation.
- Fogler Library elevator work expected over spring break.
- Collins Center for the Arts carpet replacement is complete.
- Campus elevator smoke testing has been scheduled for the week of Feb. 6.
- Coburn and Holmes halls hotel construction continues.
- Aubert Hall parapet wall work is scheduled for after Commencement.

WABI, BDN report on UMaine rescheduling Martin Luther King Jr. Day breakfast

17 Jan 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and Bangor Daily News noted that the University of Maine's annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration was postponed Monday morning due to the weather. The breakfast is now scheduled for Feb. 20.

Marble speaks to WFVX about Maine Agricultural Trades Show

17 Jan 2023

Tara Marble, 4-H development professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) about the Maine Agricultural Trades Show being held in person for the first time in two years. Marble said that the three-day expo is also a chance to spread awareness about Maine's dwindling population of farmers. "The population of Maine's average farmer is actually getting older, which means there are less people coming into the industry. No one is — sort of — going into the field," Marble said.

Longreads features Talty short story

17 Jan 2023

Longreads featured a story from "Night of the Living Rez" by Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, in a roundup of 10 outstanding stories to read in 2023.

PPH cites UMaine study about climate change and Maine's plowing industry

17 Jan 2023

In an article about the impact of mild winter weather on Maine's snow plowing industry, the Portland Press Herald cited a 2020 report from the University of Maine that says global warming could cause more problems for the plowing industry in coming years.

Ellsworth American, Mount Desert Islander boost Lobster Institute meeting

17 Jan 2023

The Ellsworth American and Mount Desert Islander noted that the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine will hold a Feb. 3–4 meeting in Portland for U.S. and Canada fishermen, managers and researchers. The event will discuss the impacts of regulations on harvesters, impacts on markets, solutions and technology and shifting distributions of marine species in a changing climate. Register online.

CentralMaine.com shares Goos Family Studio story

17 Jan 2023

CentralMaine.com shared a story about the opening of the Goos Family Studio and expansion of the ceramics offerings from the University of Maine Department of Art.

News Center Maine features Maine Home Food Waste Challenge

17 Jan 2023

News Center Maine featured the Maine Home Food Waste Challenge, which challenges Mainers to take a closer look at their habits when it comes to throwing away their food by collecting their waste and surveying how much they're throwing away on a weekly basis. Susanne Lee, faculty fellow at the University of Maine Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, is leading the challenge. “We could see even for our team, we had a lot, still more behavior changes to go through. But such a simple thing of collecting it and having to be face-to-face with it. Could we actually be keeping this as a leftover and eating this tomorrow? Could we actually make something else out of this that might be usable?” Lee said.

UMaine Space announces new seed grant awardees

18 Jan 2023

The UMaine Space Initiative is pleased to announce recipients of a new seed grant program created to encourage innovative and interdisciplinary collaborations that result in rapid planning, team development, and research coordination in supported topical areas. UMaine Space administers an Ideas Lab program for the state of Maine, funded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Maine Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) Ideas Lab, and UMaine’s Office of Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. Selected projects support multidisciplinary and multi-institutional teams convening around a topic relevant to MSGC, space and aerospace research, and the economic vitality of Maine. For consideration, project PIs are required to have prior discussions with program administrators, and participation is limited to participants in the MSGC Ideas Lab program. The Ideas Lab is a program that brings together a diverse group of researchers for a few days to brainstorm and develop innovative approaches for advancing Maine’s involvement in space exploration. Its goal is to identify and support multidisciplinary, team-based R&D and educational projects that align with the priorities of NASA Mission Directorates and MSGC’s priority areas. Associate Vice President for Research Ali Abedi, who leads the UMaine Space Initiative, also manages the Ideas Lab on behalf of MSGC. “Space research is highly interdisciplinary and complex, calling for researchers from various fields to come together. Funded by NASA, Maine Space Grant Consortium, and UMaine Space, these seed grants enable collaborative research on some of these critical problems,” he says. Abedi also serves as director of the Center for Undergraduate Research. Brief summaries of the projects selected in the first two rounds of funding: **Autonomous UAVs for crop monitoring in the state of Maine** Researchers from UMaine include Vikas Dhiman, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, Yongjiang Zhang, assistant professor of applied plant physiology will collaborate with Umesh Hodeghatta, Roux Institute, Northeastern University assistant teaching professor. The goal of this project is to improve techniques for collecting and analyzing data on wild blueberry plant physiology using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). Semi-autonomous UAVs will be used to collect multi-spectral and thermal imagery that can be compared to satellite data on forest and crop health. The project consists of two stages: data collection and registration using autonomous UAVs, and interpretation, analysis, and visualization of the data to evaluate plant physiology. Both stages will be conducted concurrently, with the results of one feeding into the other. While the use of UAVs to collect data on forest canopies is already common, the challenge lies in automating the technology to efficiently cover a designated area. **Bioprinted blueberry plant cells as a multi-use product for long-term space exploration** Collaborators from UMaine include Bashir Khoda, associate professor of mechanical engineering, Doug Currie, associate professor of biological sciences, Justin Lapp, assistant professor of design mechanical engineering, and Yongjiang Zhang, assistant professor of applied plant physiology. The long duration of space exploration presents a challenge in managing radiation risk for astronauts, both inside and outside of habitats and vehicles. One way to mitigate this risk is through the use of shielding and biologically derived antioxidants. Blueberry plant cells, which contain high levels of anthocyanin, offer a potential source of these antioxidants. In this project, a team of four researchers will investigate the potential for using blueberry cells, cultivated at high density through 3D bioprinting, as a source of antioxidants and as radiation shielding layers. The team will identify the plant cell type, develop a bio-ink formulation and bio-printing protocol, determine the properties and model the radiation interaction in bio-printed plant cell structures, and investigate the anthocyanins compound for neuron radiation mitigation. If successful, this project will advance the understanding of factors regulating plant cell differentiation and growth in harsh environments and provide a new option for radiation mitigation on Earth and in space. **Aerospace Science and Technology in Secondary Schools (ASTSS)** Researchers at UMaine Wilhelm Alexander Friess, associate professor of mechanical engineering, Seth Campbell, associate professor of glaciology, Parinaz Rahimzadeh, assistant professor in remote sensing of natural resources, Shawn Laatsch, director of Versant Power Astronomy Center, Yongjiang Zhang, assistant professor of applied plant physiology, and Vikas Dhiman, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering will collaborate with Michael Davis, University of Southern Maine lecturer in mechanical engineering, Barbara Stewart, Bangor High School science department head, and Dan Moore, Southern Maine Community College professor and chair of biological sciences. The Aerospace Science and Technology in Secondary Schools (ASTSS) program is designed to increase interest and knowledge in STEM fields related to aerospace among secondary school students. This is important for addressing the shortage of skilled workers in the aerospace industry and promoting diversity in the field. The ASTSS program uses research-based teaching methods and experiential learning to engage students in exploring the science behind unmanned aerial systems (UAS), also known as drones. Through this program, students will have the opportunity to participate in community-based projects using UAS to address local issues such as agriculture, water quality, and coastal erosion. The ASTSS team will work with the Bangor High School STEM Academy to pilot the program and develop curricular materials for high school students and teachers. The goal is to eventually expand the program to other schools across the country. **Robust lifelong learning to improve the health of aquatic ecosystems** Researchers from UMaine Salimeh Yasaei Sekeh, assistant professor of computer science, and Vikas Dhiman, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, will collaborate with Nima Pahlevan, Science System and Applications (SSAI) at the Terrestrial Information Systems Lab of NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) remote sensing scientist. This project presents a new way to address the problem of harmful algal blooms caused by cyanobacteria, which can harm the quality of water in lakes, rivers, and oceans. Algal blooms are difficult to track because new characteristics, such as

phycocyanin features, are constantly being added. Current deep learning approaches that use hyperspectral images (HSI) are limited to static situations where no new information is added. This project aims to improve the ability to handle new information and to better understand algal blooms by using techniques such as lifelong learning (LL), which allows a system to continue learning and solving new problems as more information becomes available. The project also aims to make the system more robust by protecting it against poor data caused by clouds, sunlight, and other factors. Additionally, the project will work on improving the accuracy of measurements of phycocyanin concentration using HSI and overcoming challenges such as atmospheric effects and instrument noise. **New crops for space exploration** Collaborators from UMaine include Stephanie Burnett, associate professor of horticulture, Jacob Schwab, graduate research assistant, and Mary Ellen Camire, professor of food science and human nutrition. During space travel, particularly for long-term missions, fresh vegetables and herbs grown by astronauts provide more flavor and nutrition than prepackaged food. Most of the work exploring new crops for hydroponic production has focused on commercial greenhouse production. In commercial production, there is much more room to grow crops. Further, the focus of greenhouse food production is on economic efficiency and profitability. This limits the variety of crops grown in commercial hydroponics to a small number of high-value crops, including leafy greens, herbs, tomatoes, and peppers. The goal for space agriculture would be to grow plants for flavor, nutrition, and a varied diet. The goal of this project is to explore new crop options that can be grown hydroponically in a system similar to the one NASA uses to grow leafy greens in space. We plan to evaluate new crops based on their ease of production, availability of dwarf varieties, and taste. The primary goal is to find new crops that can be grown in a hydroponic system in space to provide diversity in astronauts' diets. It is notable, though, that much of the information about the taste and nutrition of fresh vegetables and herbs is measured in plants grown either in the field or in greenhouses. We will grow novel edible crops that are currently not grown in hydroponic greenhouse production or on NASA missions. These crops will include: peas, dwarf kale, and carrots. We plan to assess the texture and color of the plants, as well as the quantity of sugars. **Jumping and landing in extreme conditions: From biological systems to bio-inspired robots** Collaborators from UMaine include Victor M. Ortega-Jimenez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology, and Evan K. Wujcik, assistant professor of chemical engineering. Aerial control of jumping animals has shown that their unique adaptations and body morphing are fundamental for self-righting, as well as for a controlled landing. These skill sets are crucial for survival because they can reduce risks of physical damage during collision and rebound, as well as the response time against predators. In this regard, springtails, which have no wings, are exceptional because they have the ability, after an explosive jump, to recover from an upside-down orientation in less than 20 milliseconds. By adopting a U-shaped posture, these tiny animals control their mid-air posture via an aerodynamic torque. However, it is unknown what effects bad weather, such as turbulence and precipitation, have on the jumping and landing performance of animal jumpers. This research can inform the design of shape-morphing robots, made of flexible polymer-based materials, which could potentially be used for monitoring, sensing, and exploring the surface of other planets, where challenging environmental conditions may make flying systems unreliable. This aligns with the goals of NASA's exploration program. **Decentralized and resource-efficient satellite swarm** Collaborators from UMaine include Prabuddha Chakraborty, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, Salimeh Yasaei-Sekeh, assistant professor of computer science, and Vikas Dhiman, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering. Small satellites, especially nanosatellites, are widely used by NASA to perform a variety of tasks including surveillance, weather monitoring, and asset tracking. Such systems are often centrally controlled (prone to single-point failures) and are forced to operate with limited communication bandwidth, power, storage space, and processing capabilities. Through this project, researchers aim to push innovations in the areas of consensus-based decentralized control systems, domain and application adaptive data compression, and efficient neural network representations for mitigating the mentioned challenges. **AI-Carb: An AI-based high-resolution carbon flux monitoring and simulation platform** Researchers from UMaine Yongjiang Zhang, assistant professor of applied plant physiology, Salimeh Yasaei-Sekeh, assistant professor of computer science, Xinyuan Wei, postdoctoral research associate in forest ecosystem modeling, and Daniel Hayes, the Barbara Wheatland associate professor of geospatial analysis and remote sensing, will collaborate with Peter Nelson, Schoodic Institute forest ecology director. High-resolution carbon flux monitoring is crucial to understand mechanisms regulating ecosystem functioning and dynamics, and to predict their responses to future climate change. However, the tools currently used to monitor carbon flux in ecosystems have limitations that make it difficult to get a complete picture. In this study, researchers propose using a combination of different methods, including leaf measurements, thermal monitoring, machine learning, and hyperspectral imaging, to create a new artificial intelligence (AI) model for monitoring carbon flux at a high resolution. This model will be able to capture both the small-scale processes happening at the level of individual plants and the larger-scale movements of carbon in an ecosystem. It will also be able to simulate how plants and ecosystems might respond to climate change. By using this approach, the authors hope to create a more comprehensive and accurate tool for understanding carbon flux in different types of ecosystems. Founded earlier this year, the University of Maine Space Initiative brings together faculty, administrators, staff, and students to advance Maine's space-based economy and help meet the demand for a highly skilled workforce in space-related research, technology development, and commercialization. The mission of the initiative is to support research and development in space science and engineering through a multidisciplinary approach. This includes the direct participation of non-STEM researchers to provide a unique perspective, supporting the needs of a new and innovative space economy workforce. If you are interested in participating in the MSGC Ideas Lab or for more information about the UMaine Space Initiative, contact Melinda Pelletier or Saul Allen at um.space@maine.edu.

Media boost Mayewski virtual lecture

18 Jan 2023

LongIsland.com and the East End Beacon shared that Paul Mayewski, director of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, will present a free, virtual lecture with the Hamptons Observatory and Suffolk Community College entitled "Journey Into Climate," covering his five decades of expeditions filled with adventure, exploration, discovery and contributions to the understanding of climate change. The presentation will take place Feb. 2, 2023 at 7 p.m. Register online.

Still Water blog highlights UMaine digital curation research

18 Jan 2023

Still Water blog highlighted an analysis from the University of Maine Digital Curation program that shows job postings for professionals who can manage collections of digital heritage and data climbed 130% in 2022.

BDN cites UMaine study in roundup of historical photos of ice

18 Jan 2023

In an article featuring historical photographs of ice conditions in Maine, the Bangor Daily News cited the 2020 Maine's Climate Future report published by the University of Maine, which shows that winter is the state's fastest-warming season. WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

Johnson speaks to WMTW about caring for houseplants in winter

18 Jan 2023

Brett Johnson, sustainable agriculture and horticultural professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was featured on WMTW-TV (ABC 8 in Portland) discussing how to care for houseplants in the winter.

Dumas featured on Talking Food in Maine

18 Jan 2023

Rob Dumas, food science innovation coordinator at the University of Maine, was featured in the series Talking Food in Maine with Cherie Scott at the Lincoln Theater. A video of their conversation is on YouTube.

UMaine launches new master's program in athletic training

19 Jan 2023

The University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development is now offering a Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) degree that prepares students to join the growing allied health profession providing acute care, evaluation, treatment and rehabilitation, as well as prevention from injuries and illness. Students who complete the new master's program will be eligible to sit for the Board of Certification for Athletic Trainers (BOC) national credentialing exam. UMaine has long offered a bachelor's degree in athletic training that allowed graduates to sit for the BOC exam. However, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) recently changed its standards to require all new athletic trainers to have a graduate degree in order to practice. "We're excited to transition our program to the graduate level, so we can continue to prepare athletic training students to become certified professionals," says Robert Lehnhard, director of the School of Kinesiology, Physical Education and Athletic Training at the College of Education and Human Development. "As the state's only NCAA Division I institution, with abundant access to fitness and recreation opportunities in our backyard, UMaine is one of the best environments imaginable to get real-world, hands-on experience in the field." Students in the program will learn at the state-of-the-art Wes Jordan Athletic Training Complex in Lengyel Hall, as well as in diverse field experiences with sports teams, rehabilitation clinics and in other health care settings in Maine and beyond. During their final semester students will complete an immersive clinical education experience that can be done anywhere in the United States, while completing their final courses remotely. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, jobs in athletic training are growing faster than those in other industries. Traditionally, athletic trainers are employed to work with high school, college and professional athletes. As the profession grows, career opportunities include working in industrial or occupational safety, in doctor's offices specializing in sports-medicine and related areas, and with researchers studying body movement and injury prevention and recovery. "We hear from former students all the time about how our undergraduate program gave them the foundation to be successful athletic training practitioners in different settings and working with diverse populations," says MSAT program coordinator Christopher Nightingale, an associate professor of physical education and athletic training. "As we become a graduate program that is still our primary goal, and we hope to give students even more opportunities to succeed after graduation." For undergraduate students interested in athletic training, the College of Education and Human Development is currently developing a 3+2 program that will allow students majoring in kinesiology and physical education with a concentration in exercise science to earn their bachelor's degree and MSAT in five years rather than the traditional six years. More information about the MSAT is online. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Oxford County educators eligible for UMaine scholarship

19 Jan 2023

The University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development has opened a new round of applications for the Susan Hathaway Glines Scholarship for educators who live and work in Oxford County, Maine and are interested in pursuing graduate studies. Established in 2019 with a generous donation to the University of Maine Foundation, the scholarship is named for Glines, a longtime Oxford County educator who benefitted from a scholarship during her time at UMaine, where she earned her degree in 1969. Full- or part-time master's students are eligible for the award, which is renewable and can be applied to tuition, fees, books and materials (including a computer), as well as relevant professional development, conference travel, lodging, fees or other related expenses. Besides living and teaching in Oxford County, educators interested in the scholarship are asked to fill out a short application and submit two letters of reference that speak to their potential to be effective educators or administrators. Applicants do not need to be current students, but they will need to enroll in a master's program at the UMaine College of Education and Human Development prior to receiving the funds. The college offers master's programs in curriculum, assessment and instruction, educational leadership, instructional technology, kinesiology and physical education, literacy education, Master of Arts in Teaching, and special education. Many programs are offered entirely online or can be completed through blended coursework requiring minimal travel to the UMaine campus in Orono. Applications are due March 1. The application form is available at umaine.edu/edhd/graduate/susan-hathaway-glines-scholarship. For more information, contact UMaine College of Education and Human Development associate dean for graduate studies, research and outreach Jim Artesani, arthur.artesani@maine.edu.

PPH cites UMaine offshore wind accomplishments

19 Jan 2023

In an article about the potential for the Gulf of Maine to be used for offshore wind turbines, the Portland Press Herald noted that the University of Maine has pursued a patented floating platform design for offshore wind turbines over the past decade, most recently with its commercial partner, New England Aqua Ventus. Yahoo News and CentralMaine.com shared the PPH report.

MaineBiz notes UMaine partnership with SMCC

19 Jan 2023

MaineBiz reported that Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) is part of an $7 million University of Maine Advanced Manufacturing Center partnership that creates two advanced manufacturing technology training centers.

WABI reports on state legislators' visit to UMaine

19 Jan 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that more than 80 Maine legislators took the bus to school Wednesday for a hands-on look at some of the newest innovations at the University of Maine. The biennial bus tour across Eastern Maine began with a focus on UMaine's workforce development, including the new Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center. "We want to be sure that our legislative colleagues know that the resources here at the University of Maine and across the University of Maine System are really serving the state, and I'm so pleased that we have partners here. Students are heavily involved in all of this work, in everything that the legislators are seeing. We engage undergraduates and graduate students who can then become the workforce of tomorrow," said President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas), WLOX-TV (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi) shared the WABI report.

Book Riot lists Talty book among best of the year

19 Jan 2023

Book Riot listed "Night of the Living Rez" by Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, as one of the best books of 2022 according to Reddit users.

Comins speaks to Reuters about clouds at night

19 Jan 2023

Reuters interviewed Neil Comins, professor of physics at the University of Maine, for an article fact checking false Facebook posts about the clouds and sun at night. Comins explained that clouds, which are miniature liquid droplets suspended in air, are more visible during the day because of "sunlight scatter." At night there is little scattering to illuminate them in space, but light from cities below "does get through the clouds and go into space as fuzzy patches in images taken at night."

Gallandt, Omokinde present about TIDC research

19 Jan 2023

Aaron Gallant, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering and researcher at Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center (TIDC), and graduate research assistant Temitope Omokinde, traveled to Medway Middle School and Schenck High School to provide a live demonstration of a TIDC-sponsored geotechnical engineering project about soil carbonation, a new approach to stabilize weak underground materials for construction. This chemical stabilization method consumes carbon dioxide to precipitate carbonate minerals that bind the soil together. The demonstration was presented in the context of one of the National Academy of Engineering's (NAE) 14 grand challenges — the development of carbon sequestration methods — as well as a problem that students in northern Maine are intimately familiar with, damage to roads as a result of harsh winter frost. Several student volunteers assisted Gallant and Omokinde during these demonstrations. Read the full post on the TIDC website.

UMaine, University of Arkansas researchers collaborate to identify medical foods that lower homocysteine and blood pressure

19 Jan 2023

Ten million individuals in the United States have drug-resistant hypertension, defined as hypertension not effectively managed with three or more antihypertensive drugs, including a diuretic, according to researchers. In a December 2022 editorial in the Journal of Clinical Hypertension, Merrill F. Elias from the University of Maine and Dr. Craig J. Brown from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences advocate for lowering homocysteine as a means of lowering blood pressure and as a tool for better managing of treatment-resistant hypertension. They also identify three FDA-approved medical foods that achieve the goal of a single product, which may be used for lowering homocysteine and stroke risk, and may also further lower blood pressure. Homocysteine is an amino acid with significant toxicity. Vitamins B2, B6, B12 and folate convert homocysteine into more beneficial substances for use in the body. High levels of homocysteine (= 10µmol/L) are observed in persons with deficiencies of these vitamins or inherited impairments of their vitamin metabolism. Untreated, high levels of homocysteine increase the risk for cardiovascular disease, dementia, kidney disease, memory loss and early death. In their editorial, Elias, UMaine professor of psychology and director of the Maine Syracuse Longitudinal Study (MSLS), and Brown, adjunct professor of ophthalmology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, review the literature indicating that administration of vitamin B2, vitamin B6, L-methylfolate, and vitamin B12 lower homocysteine, and the risk of stroke. However, an optimal combination is not specified in the literature for safety and effectiveness, which could be combined into a single pill or capsule. A single pill or capsule is important to patients and physicians who may not be well trained in nutrition or who may not have time to sort through multiple separate vitamins. Moreover, patients taking multiple drugs (e.g., in treatment-resistant hypertension) would be helped if the number of pills to be taken daily could be minimized. The issue has now been addressed in the paper by Elias and Brown in the Journal of Clinical Hypertension: "Medical foods for lowering of homocysteine in hypertensive patients." The researchers identify three FDA-approved medical foods — Metanx, Cerefolin NAC, and Ocufolin — that achieve the goal of a single product, which may be used for lowering homocysteine and stroke risk, and may also further lower blood pressure. Medical Foods are foods specially formulated and intended for the dietary management of a disease that has distinctive nutritional needs that cannot be met by normal diet alone. Metanx, Cerefolin NAC, and Ocufolin are all proven to lower homocysteine. Ocufolin has the most extensive combination of vitamins and antioxidants that play roles in the reduction of blood pressure. Thus, Elias, who is also emeritus cooperating professor in the UMaine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Engineering, and Brown say, physicians and health care providers have prescribable products at hand that can be used to lower homocysteine, stroke risk, and further lower BP. In addition, studies have shown that hypertensive patients receiving extra folate have a 12% reduction in stroke. More information about homocysteine as a risk factor for cardiovascular disease and lowered cognition is available at MedlinePlus, American Journal of Hypertension and Journal of Internal Medicine. Contact: Merrill Elias, mfelias@maine.edu

'Teaching is my calling': Heather Anderson, UMaine alumna and Aroostook County Teacher of the Year

19 Jan 2023

Things have come full circle for Heather Anderson. In the 8th grade, she decided she wanted to become a teacher. Now, almost 30 years later, she's in her second full year as an 8th grade English language arts and social studies teacher at Caribou Community School. "When I was in the 8th grade, I was part of a leadership program that paired middle school students with community service projects. My project involved working in a local kindergarten classroom," says Anderson. "I loved working with the students so much that in high school I continued to volunteer. I knew this is what I wanted to do with my life." She also jumped at other opportunities to work with younger children, such as volunteering with Big Brothers, Big Sisters. "Teaching is my calling," she says. "Once I decided I wanted to be a teacher, I never really doubted it and I've followed my dream ever since." When it came time to go to college, Anderson knew she wanted to major in education. Having grown up in Jay in western Maine, she could have stayed close to home and attended the University of Maine at Farmington. But she opted to attend the flagship University of Maine in Orono instead. "I wanted to learn about and experience more than just how to be a teacher," she says. "At 18 years old, I knew that I needed to grow into being who I was going to be. UMaine was the perfect distance from home and it was big enough that it gave me an opportunity to discover who I was and who I could grow to be." Anderson graduated from UMaine in May 1999 with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a concentration in psychology. In July of that year, she was hired to teach kindergarten at the K–6 Connor Consolidated School in the unorganized territory of Connor, just north of Caribou. "Steve Anderson, the principal at Connor, talked to the administration at the Bangor schools where I was a student teacher," she recalls. "Mr. Anderson asked me to come up to tour the school and offered me the job right on the spot." "Connor was seeking a kindergarten teacher as well as a music teacher, and there were zero applicants for the music position" she adds. "I played piano and even though I wasn't a music teacher, this gave me the edge I needed. So during my first few years, I taught kindergarten in the mornings and then I would team teach with the other teachers to provide music instruction. I learned so much through this experience." Anderson was at Connor Consolidated School for 21 years, teaching everything from kindergarten through 4th grade and eventually becoming the school's teaching principal for five years. Then the COVID-19 pandemic hit. "I was a relatively new teaching principal during the pandemic and it provided an opportunity for me to reflect on where I was at professionally," Anderson says. "I looked at what I was doing and realized I was spending less and less time with kids and more time with paperwork. And I thought to myself, 'This isn't really why I got into education.' At heart, I am a teacher." Out of the blue one day, Anderson ran into her son's favorite teacher from Caribou Community School, Kim Barnes, who told her about an 8th grade opening at the middle school. "That was a sign," says Anderson, who applied for the position and got it, starting her new job in the fall of 2021. Less than a year later, she was nominated for 2022 Aroostook County Teacher of Year by Barnes, who herself was the 2019 Aroostook County Teacher of the Year. Anderson was also a finalist for 2023 Maine Teacher of the Year, a title that eventually went to Casco Bay High School's Matt Bernstein. Still, she's using her year of service as County Teacher of the Year to advocate for students and her fellow teachers, especially surrounding mental health and well-being in schools. "I've seen a fair amount of trauma in my students over the years and I've seen the impact it has on learning and teaching. My concern for my students' mental health has increased since COVID," says Anderson. "I've been able to meet with stakeholders, legislators and people at the Maine Department of Education who have the power to help address it." In her own classroom, Anderson has incorporated social-emotional learning into her regular curriculum. "We do a unit on resilience. Every 8th grader learns the attributes of resilience. For example, how do we persevere or develop flexibility in our thinking?" she says. "So, when we're reading novels or stories, our students are able to recognize those traits and think about how they can apply them to their own lives." Her classes also are working on community service projects, like the one that inspired her to become a teacher. The goal, she hopes, is to spark a similar sense of purpose and passion in her students. "Again, full circle. I really feel like I've come full circle in so many ways," she says. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

UMaine researchers developing new wireless sensors for nuclear facilities

19 Jan 2023

Developing new wireless sensors for monitoring the functionality of nuclear power plant equipment is the goal of a new project within the University of Maine's Frontier Institute for Research in Sensor Technologies (FIRST). The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission awarded $500,000 for creating and testing sensors that can withstand the high temperatures and harsh environments in nuclear facilities. Researchers hope their technology will help plant operators improve safety, reduce maintenance costs, and advance the performance, efficiency and reliability of their facilities. The project is co-led by Mauricio Pereira da Cunha, professor of electrical and computer engineering, and Robert Lad, professor of physics. Other FIRST researchers currently involved in the project include Nicholas Bingham, assistant professor of physics; FIRST scientists Luke Doucette, George Bernhardt and Morton Greenslit; and physics undergraduate student Matthew Woolfolk. The sensors are being developed to target the monitoring of reactors and other equipment in nuclear power plant environments, both on rotating and static components. In such environments, real-time data on parameters such as equipment vibration, operating temperatures, and excessive strain are critically important. "Developing small, compact sensors and sensor systems that can survive the high operating temperatures and radiation fluxes found in these environments will go a long way towards enabling condition-based maintenance in the new fleet of high-temperature reactors," says Pereira da Cunha. "The wireless sensor technology is a key towards achieving lower operating costs through targeted maintenance, as well as increasing the overall safety of operations." Pereira da Cunha, Lad and their colleagues at FIRST have spent decades developing several different aspects of wireless microwave acoustic sensor systems to withstand extreme temperatures and harsh corrosive operational conditions in diverse types of power plants, aerospace facilities and other harsh environment industrial applications. This latest project aims to adapt their sensors for withstanding the intense conditions found within nuclear power plant facilities, which includes exposure to high doses of gamma radiation and neutron fluxes, as well as high temperatures. The team envisions that their new sensors will be able to monitor a type of advanced nuclear power equipment that has garnered more interest in recent years: molten salt reactors. Liquid molten salt serves as both a fuel and coolant in these types of reactors, while traditional models have a separate cooling source from their fixed, solid fuel. There are currently no operational or commercially viable molten salt reactors, as contemporary designs for them are still being developed and tested. Data from wireless sensors will make a big impact on this next generation technology. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Call for nominations for Presidential awards

20 Jan 2023

The 2023 Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award, the new Presidential Innovation Award, the Presidential Public Engagement Achievement Award, the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award, and the Black Bear Award for Extraordinary Impact nomination window is now open. These awards are open to both faculty and staff (see the guidelines for each award). Nomination forms and guidelines are available at umaine.edu/provost/awards-recognitions or by contacting Diane Dunn in the President's Office at 207.581.1774 or diane.dunn@maine.edu. The deadline for nominations is 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 17, 2023.

Media report on missing UMaine bear statue

20 Jan 2023

The Bangor Daily News, WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor), WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor), News Center Maine, the Penobscot Times and Q106.5 FM reported that the University of Maine Police Department is looking for a copper bear statue, valued at $8,000, stolen from the Buchanan Alumni House on Nov. 23, 2022. The statue is two feet by three feet and hollow. WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) Fox News and True Crime Daily cited the BDN report. The New York Post shared the Fox News report.

PenBay Pilot reports on new UMaine master's for athletic training

20 Jan 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot reported that the University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development is now offering a Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) degree. Students who complete the new master's program will be eligible to sit for the Board of Certification for Athletic Trainers (BOC) national credentialing exam. "We're excited to transition our program to the graduate level, so we can continue to prepare athletic training students to become certified professionals. As the state's only NCAA Division I institution, with abundant access to fitness and recreation opportunities in our backyard, UMaine is one of the best environments imaginable to get real-world, hands-on experience in the field," said Robert Lehnhard, director of the School of Kinesiology, Physical Education and Athletic Training at the College of Education and Human Development.

Media report on UMaine offshore wind turbines clearing major federal hurdle

20 Jan 2023

The Portland Press Herald, Maine Public, Associated Press, Recharge News and WFVX-TV (ABC 7/Fox 22 in Portland) reported that the federal government determined that there is no competitive interest in the state's application to lease 9,700 acres on the U.S. continental shelf for a floating offshore wind power research site, which clears the way for the review of Maine's application for a floating array with 10 to 12 turbines featuring patented technology developed by the University of Maine. "We are excited to see this technology and innovation, a decade in the making with the leadership of the state's research university, be able to move forward to the next level," said President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. The site could begin producing power commercially by 2028. CentralMaine.com and Yahoo News shared the PPH report. U.S. News and World Report, WRAL News (Raleigh, North Carolina) and Tulsa World (Tulsa, Oklahoma) shared the AP report.

Runge speaks to AP about the impact of losing marine microorganisms to climate change

20 Jan 2023

Jeff Runge, professor in the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, spoke to the Associated Press about how the growing warmth and saltiness of the Gulf of Maine that is causing a dramatic decrease in the production of phytoplankton will impact marine ecosystems. "There's mounting evidence that it's linked to climate change. It's having all kinds of effects on the system that we're beginning to see," Runge said. The Washington Post, WBUR, Boston.com, Napa Valley Register, Pix 11 (New York, New York), KSNT-TV (Topeka, Kansas), KTBS-TV (Shreveport, Louisiana) WJHL-TV (Johnson City, Tennessee) and other outlets shared the AP report.

Mitchell Center to host talk on the importance of relationships in climate action Jan. 30

24 Jan 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled "Who's on First? Focusing on the importance of relationships in climate action" at 3 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 30. In this talk, Nathan Robbins, climate change specialist with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), will discuss the agency's approach to incorporating climate change principles into all its programs. Building on Maine's 2020 Climate Action Plan, the DEP is using a cross-departmental approach to alter how climate change principles are incorporated into day-to-day decision-making. Partnerships with others are prioritized to deliver consensus-based solutions that are sustainable into the future. At its core, DEP's Climate Program serves to galvanize action, coordinate players and add capacity to move the state's climate initiatives forward. Robbins has worked at DEP to advance climate solutions in Maine since 2015. His work most often includes climate-focused support to agency programs, representing the DEP on organizational bodies and assisting communities develop and implement their own climate plans. Robbins manages content for the Maine Climate Hub, supports DEP's work on the Maine Climate Council and is the co-coordinator of Maine Climate Change Adaptation Providers Network. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Jones announced as keynote for Maine Aquaculture R&D&E summit

24 Jan 2023

Heather Jones, CEO of the Sustainable Aquaculture Innovation Center in Stirling, Scotland, will be the keynote speaker for the 5th Maine Aquaculture Research, Development and Education (R&D&E) Summit Jan. 27, hosted by the University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute and the Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center. The R&D&E Summit at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast also will feature industry updates, knowledge exchange sessions, and workshops covering a wide array of topics. The schedule can be viewed here. Jones will be joined by Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of the University of Maine, and Hannah Pingree, director of the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, and co-chair of the Maine Climate Council, to kick off the summit. Jones' talk entitled "From Scotland to Maine: What's the path that delivers impact through innovation?" will discuss the importance of the space for knowledge exchange, discussions around new opportunities and the capacity for interdisciplinary collaboration to positively impact and benefit this growing sector. As in past years, a research priorities survey was conducted with industry and adjacent sectors between April and July 2022 to guide summit topics and format. A final report will be released prior to the event, as well as a user-friendly dashboard developed by Atlantic Corporation to help researchers and industry members navigate the survey data. More information about the event and its sponsors is online. Questions can be

directed to ari@maine.edu.

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Jan. 24

24 Jan 2023

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update for Jan. 24:

- Snow removal and cleanup activities continued throughout the weekend and through the most recent storm.
- Fogler Library's loading dock entrance is upgraded with a new door system.
- Continuing projects include East substation upgrades, Holmes and Coburn halls hotel construction; preparations for commencement and the Student Government concert; first impression area improvement work campuswide.

CentralMaine.com shares Mitchell Center event about the importance of relationships in climate action

24 Jan 2023

CentralMaine.com shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine plans will host a talk, "Who's on First? Focusing on the importance of relationships in climate action" at 3 p.m. Jan. 30, both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, visit the event webpage.

Kaye speaks to WalletHub about the best states to retire

24 Jan 2023

Lenard Kaye, director of the University of Maine Center on Aging and professor at the University of Maine School of Social Work, was featured as an expert for a WalletHub ranking of the best states to retire based on three key dimensions: affordability, quality of life and health care. "Age-friendly states and communities have easy access to quality health, social, and other public services, good systems of transportation, are walkable and safe, offer opportunities for employment, volunteering, and civic engagement, have effective systems for information sharing and communicating with its citizens, and encourage older adults having a voice and being respected in the communities in which they live," Kaye said.

Anderson publishes book about medieval Christianity

24 Jan 2023

Joel Anderson, assistant professor of history, has just seen the release of his new book, "Reimagining Christendom: Writing Iceland's Bishops into the Roman Church, 1200-1350." The book, which takes a deep dive into an underexplored aspect of medieval Christianity, is published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. Read more at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences website.

U.S. News & World Report: UMaine's online master's in education among the best programs for veterans

24 Jan 2023

The University of Maine's online graduate programs in education earn high marks for students who are veterans or active-duty service members, according to U.S. News & World Report. UMaine is ranked No. 35 in the Best Online Master's in Education for Veterans category, part of the 2023 Best Online Programs report. The rankings take into account factors like affordability, accessibility and institutional reputation, as well as financial benefits available to students with military backgrounds. As a public institution, UMaine offers in-state tuition fully covered by the GI Bill to all current and former members of the U.S. armed forces who have been honorably discharged, as well as military dependents using the GI Bill. Once the in-state tuition has been applied to a student's account, it remains in effect until they complete their academic program, even if their GI Bill benefits have been exhausted, transferred or otherwise expired. UMaine's Veterans Education and Transition Services office helps veterans access resources and information they need from applying to the university through graduation and beyond. To make the list of best programs for veterans, schools must be ranked among the top half of online programs overall in their field. UMaine is ranked No. 142 (tie) for Best Online Master's in Education out of almost 350 schools. "We take pride in all our graduate programs and are especially thrilled to be named one of the best options for veterans," says Penny Bishop, dean of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. "Whether veterans are already teaching or are interested in earning teacher certification, it's an honor and a privilege to provide a high-quality and accessible educational experience for those who have served or are still serving in our nation's armed forces." The college offers several online programs, including graduate certificates and master's degrees in areas such as curriculum, assessment and instruction; educational leadership; instructional technology; and special education. The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) is an accelerated teacher licensure program that allows students with a bachelor's degree in a field other than education to earn initial teacher certification in as little as 15 months. A majority of MAT courses are delivered online, though student teaching and other field experiences are completed in-person. Faculty members in the college have extensive experience teaching online courses, as well as expertise in areas such as rural education, instructional supervision, educational technology, and teacher identity and professional development. Graduate students in online programs also have the benefit of working with UMaineOnline's professional advisers, who offer personalized services to help them stay on track to graduate. "There's no 'one size fits all' category of student," says Patricia Libby, associate dean of the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning. "We work diligently to support our online students with services designed around their needs, and we are committed to ensuring Black Bears everywhere have access to the best possible learning experiences." For a full list of University of Maine College of Education and Human Development graduate programs, go to umaine.edu/edhd/graduate. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

U.S. News & World Report ranks the Maine Business School among the best online MBA and BSBA programs

25 Jan 2023

The Maine Business School's undergraduate and graduate programs have been ranked among the best online programs in the country by U.S. News & World Report. The University of Maine's Graduate School of Business has been ranked among the 2023 Best Online MBA programs at No. 51 and ranked No. 31 MBA programs for veterans. The undergraduate online management program has been ranked No. 44. U.S. News assessed schools in this category based on various objective factors, such as student engagement, faculty credentials, and services and technologies. "I'm thrilled that the MaineMBA program is among the top online MBA programs in the country," says Norm O'Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business. "Given the number and quality of our MBA concentrations, dual degree programs, and certificates, we are leading the way among business schools in our region." The MaineMBA program began in 2019 and is offered online or in-person in flexible, eight week sessions. Faculty from the University of Maine in Orono and the University of Southern Maine teach the roughly 325 students enrolled in the program. Students can expand upon their MBA program with one of 13 concentrations, including business analytics, finance, health care systems, and blue economy. The BSBA in management program at the Maine Business School began in 2020, serving students in Maine and beyond. "This is the second year our online management program has been ranked among the top 50," says Jason Harkins, interim executive dean of the Maine Business School. "Our world-class faculty have created a robust, rigorous, and relevant online program that helps students from anywhere to complete their business degree from an AACSB-accredited program." Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

Canadian-American Center extends awards deadline to Feb. 15

25 Jan 2023

The final date to apply for the awards offered by the Canadian-American Center is Feb. 15. Application criteria have changed and incoming graduate students can now apply. For more information and to apply, visit the Canadian-American Center website.

Mitchell Center to host talk on utilizing interdisciplinary thinking outside of academia Feb. 6

25 Jan 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Interdisciplinary Thinking Outside of the Academy: Lessons from Program Evaluation," at 3 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 6. Emma Fox, associate at Industrial Economics (IEc) with a Ph.D. and M.S. in Ecology and Environmental Science from the University of Maine, will discuss how environmental economic consulting can inform decision-making by federal and state clients working to set climate and energy policy or develop programs for improving equity in disadvantaged communities. IEc offers practices in public policy analysis, natural resource damage assessment, carbon footprint analysis and program evaluation. Fox specializes in interdisciplinary social science methods, with expertise in stakeholder outreach and engagement, energy policy analysis, decision support and energy technologies. Her work focuses on program evaluation for state and federal clients, including characterizing community outreach and engagement for improving market uptake of clean energy services, benchmarking best practices and assessing program implementation in response to energy and climate policies. In this talk, Fox will discuss how program evaluation can provide an avenue for using interdisciplinary thinking to identify successes and barriers and develop recommendations for government-sponsored programs. Fox will also talk about her interdisciplinary research experience at UMaine, and how it has supported her career at IEc. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196 or hallsworth@maine.edu.

University Bookstore to host 'Business the NHL Way' book signing with Burton, O'Reilly and Barr

25 Jan 2023

University Bookstore will host a book signing for "Business the NHL Way" featuring authors Rick Burton and Maine Business School Dean of Graduate School of Business & Professor of Marketing & Sport Management Norm O'Reilly on Friday, Jan. 27 at 3 p.m. The authors will be joined by UMaine Men's Ice Hockey coach Ben Barr. The book ties business and sports into lessons that resonate with both communities. Copies of the book will be available to purchase. "This book represents something very special for Rick [Burton] and [me]," O'Reilly said. "We have been writing together for more than a dozen years, and COVID afforded us the opportunity to dig into a series of business lessons learned from an organization, the NHL, that we are passionate about, have studied closely and are fans of." Additionally, the authors will sign books at Bear Necessities Fan Shop at 5:30 that evening.

Media share Maine Day Week announcement

25 Jan 2023

News Center Maine and WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that University of Maine is revamping its Maine Day celebration. University President Joan Ferrini-Mundy announced that Maine Day will become "Maine Day Week" from April 24–28. Classes will be held all week. The focus on campus clean-up, community building, philanthropy, and celebration was backed by a task force of students, faculty, staff, alumni and the Orono community. KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) and WLOX-TV (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi) shared the WABI report.

BDN notes UMaine online master's program in education ranking

25 Jan 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that the University of Maine's online graduate programs in education ranked No. 35 in the Best Online Master's in Education for Veterans category in the U.S. News & World Report's 2023 Best Online Programs report.

Media note UMaine role in drafted offshore wind bill

25 Jan 2023

News Center Maine, Maine Public, Spectrum News, WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland), WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland), WMTW-TV (Channel 8 in Portland) and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported on a drafted state bill that would allow the state public utilities commission to compile data

collected from a 12-turbine research array, designed by engineers at the University of Maine in order to decide how large the turbines should be and how many should be placed in federal waters off the coast. The bill would jump-start the bidding process for building the floating wind turbines.

Media report on funding to UMaine aquaculture facility in Franklin

25 Jan 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Mount Desert Islander reported that the University of Maine will receive $3.5 million in federal funds to boost the flowing seawater at its aquaculture research and business incubator site in Franklin.

Leahy speaks to the Guardian about wood banks

25 Jan 2023

Jessica Leahy, professor of forestry at the University of Maine, spoke to the Guardian for an article about wood banks emerging as a vital source of heat as the price of gas continues to rise. “A lot of the climate change challenges actually are opportunities for wood banks,” Leahy said. Enviro360 shared the Guardian report.

UMaine-led study finds that eDNA can help detect rainbow smelt

25 Jan 2023

Searun Rainbow smelt — a culturally and ecologically valuable fish for New England anglers, consumers and marine ecosystems — is on the decline. Determining the extent of that decline, however, is difficult in Maine. Searun smelt can be easy to miss because they only enter coastal spawning streams from deeper waters during a few cold, wet nights each spring, and they depart the streams by early morning. In a new study, a University of Maine-led research team found that collecting and analyzing environmental DNA (eDNA), fragments of DNA that organisms shed in their environment, can help detect the presence of rainbow smelt with greater accuracy, efficiency, safety and cost-effectiveness. It may also benefit surveys for other rare, transient fish species. In response to the study findings, the Maine Department of Marine Resources will begin using eDNA and the UMaine-led team’s tactics for employing it to survey several searun smelt streams in spring 2023. Traditional monitoring methods for rainbow smelt involve either capturing them in streams with fyke nets or visually searching for spawning fish or eggs deposited on rocks. It can be challenging field work that grows harder as the fish become rarer. To obtain eDNA from rivers and streams, scientists can collect water samples in the daytime without specialized field gear or direct contact with the fish. Researchers then use a process called quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR), the same tool used to detect COVID-19, to isolate the DNA they want to study. Through laboratory analysis of water samples, qPCR detection of eDNA can reveal where a species has been, when they were at that location and how many were there at that time. At the same time, eDNA can only be obtained in a limited amount of time after organisms leave a river or stream because the flowing water eventually dilutes and flushes it out of the system. Therefore, identifying optimal eDNA collection strategies for surveying rainbow smelt became part of the UMaine-led research team’s investigation. By surveying two sites in the York River system, the group found that eDNA samples were detectable eight–13 days after a single spawning event, a much longer window of time than that allotted for visual or net surveys. The team then surveyed at four sites around Casco Bay multiple times each in a month, after which they determined that employing three sampling events per location, three samples per event and six qPCR replicates per sample resulted in a greater than 90% combined detection capability. “DMR is excited to apply eDNA techniques to help us take the pulse of smelt populations in Maine streams this coming spring,” says Maine DMR scientist Danielle Frechette. “The results will complement the visual observations of smelt spawning being collected by community scientists along our coast and can help us identify locations for smelt restoration projects and better understand how climate change may be affecting smelt.” The study was led by Vaughn Holmes, who conducted the work when he was a master’s student in ecology and environmental sciences, in collaboration with his graduate adviser Michael Kinnison, director of the Maine Center for Genetics in the Environment; Geneva York, manager of the UMaine Environmental DNA CORE Laboratory; and Jacob Aman, stewardship director of the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve. The team’s findings were published in BMC Ecology and Evolution. “With expanded use of the methodology on the horizon, I'm eager to see eDNA become a mainstay in simplifying anadromous fish surveying efforts across Maine,” Holmes says. The study was supported by the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund and the Maine-eDNA EPSCoR initiative, a multi-institutional research, education and outreach program led by UMaine to revolutionize environmental monitoring, ecological understanding and sustainability of coastal ecosystems. The five-year Maine-eDNA program launched in 2019 after receiving a $20 million grant from the National Science Foundation EPSCoR program. “eDNA has really taken off as a tool for natural resources monitoring and management,” says Kinnison, co-principal investigator for Maine-eDNA. “It is not only a powerful survey tool, it is very accessible. Almost anyone can be trained to collect a water sample, and I am especially excited for how eDNA can make it possible for more people, from all walks of life, to participate in monitoring the species and habitats they care about.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Golet receives significant, multiyear support for Atlantic bluefin tuna tagging program from the Bass Pro Shops and Cabela’s Outdoor Fund

26 Jan 2023

The University of Maine Pelagic Fisheries Lab directed by assistant professor Walt Golet has received a five-year, $250,000 commitment from the Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund to deploy electronic tags on Atlantic bluefin tuna. The Outdoor Fund is a not-for-profit charity that rallies Bass Pro Shops and Cabela’s 200 million passionate customers to support conservation programs across North America by rounding up their purchase totals in-store and online at checkout. This support directly promotes the conservation and wise use of one of the most highly valued resources in the ocean. Atlantic bluefin tuna are one of the largest and most sought-after fish in the ocean. As a seasonal visitor to the northwest Atlantic, they play an important ecological role in structuring pelagic food webs. Beyond their commercial value, the fish provide the foundation of fishing tourism and charter boat businesses in coastal communities. Not only do these important fish travel widely, they do so quickly — Atlantic bluefin tuna can travel from Florida to Norway in 50 days. Studying and managing an animal with such extensive migratory capacity is challenging. The development of electronic tags has provided a way to collect data on where these fish go, the temperature of the water they swim in and their vertical utilization of the ocean. Data made available from these tags provides important information for biologists and fisheries managers. Using these tags, scientists can estimate important parameters, such as mixing rates between the two bluefin management units, residency in those different management units, the timing and location of spawning. This data allows managers to set scientifically based quotas to ensure long-term sustainability. Such sustainability buffers fishing communities against the historical ups and downs of exploitation and recovery that result in ecosystem perturbation and economic hardships. “This support comes at a critical time when the data needs of a completely new Atlantic bluefin tuna assessment and management model have just been accepted by the international community,” says Golet, who most

recently received U.S. Department of Commerce funding to use tags to quantify the number of Atlantic bluefin tuna in New England that die after being caught and released. “These tags will provide critical pieces of information that will be used by international managers to conserve this iconic species to maintain its importance stabilizing pelagic food webs, supporting coastal communities, and providing angling opportunities for generations to come.” Twenty electronic tags were deployed on Atlantic bluefin tuna this year in the northwest Atlantic ranging in size from 600–1,000 pounds. By fall 2023, the tags will begin transmitting their data back to the Pelagic Fisheries Lab where Ph.D. student Kaylyn Zipp will use the data to recreate a year in the life of an Atlantic bluefin tuna. The lab, based in the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, studies the life history of highly migratory species, such as tunas, sharks and billfish to improve stock assessments and long-term sustainability of these resources in the Atlantic Ocean. Golet chairs the U.S. International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and leads the Pelagic Ecosystem Research Consortium to enhance the stock assessment, management, and sustainability of highly migratory species. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

4-H leadership program helps teens explore agriculture careers

26 Jan 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering its Agriculture Leadership Ambassador program from March 7–April 18. The program, open to all teens ages 14–18, will focus on understanding the Maine food system, exploring careers and building advocacy skills. As formal agricultural programs at local high schools disappear, students lack opportunities to learn about critical food systems and discover careers in agriculture. The 4-H Agriculture Leadership Ambassador program seeks to provide teenagers with opportunities to consider a future in agriculture and connect with others who have similar goals. Additional details about the program can be found on the program website. Participants in the program will gain leadership experiences, explore career pathways and investigate current issues around food systems including climate, social justice, food equity, livestock, crop sciences and aquaculture. This program is open to all Maine youth; 4-H membership is not required for participation. The program will begin with a series of online learning and will conclude with an in-person visit to the UMaine campus in Orono. The spring 2023 cohort will meet from 3:30–5 p.m. on Tuesday afternoons from March 7–April 18, with an in-person celebratory luncheon in Orono on April 20. To register, visit the event website. For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, contact Sadee Mehuren; 207.342.5971; extension.4hagleadership@maine.edu.

Sun Journal shares UMaine scholarship for educators in Oxford County

26 Jan 2023

The Sun Journal reported that University of Maine’s College of Education and Human Development has opened a new round of applications for the Susan Hathaway Glines Scholarship for educators who live and work in Oxford County and are interested in pursuing graduate studies. For more information, visit the College of Education and Human Development website.

Morning Ag Clips shares Tri-State Dairy Financial Workshop

26 Jan 2023

Morning Ag Clips shared information about the Tri-State Dairy Financial Workshop, a two-day event, with locations in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont hosted by the Tri-State Dairy Extension Team, a collaborative effort by University of New Hampshire, University of Maine, and University of Vermont Extension.

Media boost UMaine Extension Agricultural Leadership Ambassador program

26 Jan 2023

Turner Publishing and the Daily Bulldog shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H’s Agricultural Leadership Ambassador program for teens will take place March 7–April 18. For more information, visit the UMaine Extension 4-H website.

Media reports on UMaine and Penquis partnership to 3D print housing community

26 Jan 2023

News Center Maine, WFVX-TV (Fox 22 in Bangor), Yahoo Finance and MarketScreener reported that Penquis, a Maine nonprofit organization that works to eliminate poverty in the state, has received $3.3 million in government funding to address the lack of affordable housing for low-income Mainers. The money will be used to purchase nine new 3D printed homes from the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center, which the university unveiled last year with the help of Gov. Janet Mills and Sen. Susan Collins. Habib Dagher, the executive director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center at the university, says that they had always planned to use their technology to help the community. “We’re delighted that we have an opportunity here to help the homeless in the area and the low-income homes as well. That was the plan from day one — to have opportunities to build homes for those who can't afford them today or can't have them at all,” said Dagher.

PPH/Times Record interviews Percival Carter about L.L. Bean Freeport renovation

26 Jan 2023

The Portland Press Herald/Times Record spoke to Erin Percival Carter, assistant professor of marketing at the Maine Business School, about L.L. Bean’s Freeport store and campus undergoing a $50 million makeover. Percival Carter said that proposed changes make sense for a company that has long used the promise of outdoor experiences to cultivate enduring relationships with its customers. “If L.L. Bean can convince those people who are coming to Maine on vacation to experience ‘The Way Life Should Be’ to stop at the L.L. Bean store and have an experience there and pick up a hat or some gloves or whatever they’re going to use for the rest of their vacation in Maine, they form this really special connection. Probably when they go home and find themselves thinking, ‘I need a flannel,’ they think of L.L. Bean, and they smile and remember that vacation,” Percival Carter said.

UMaine hosts dairy travel course for six universities

26 Jan 2023

Animal and veterinary science students from six universities toured Maine's dairy industry this month in a travel course hosted by the University of Maine. More than 40 students and their advisors from universities in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont joined the statewide tour. Five students from the University of Maine participated as well. The travel course included visits to the University of New Hampshire's dairy, and farms and facilities in Cornish, Canton, Farmington, Clinton, Exeter, Lamoine, New Gloucester, and St. Albans. The students also toured UMaine's dairy at the J. Franklin Witter Teaching and Research Center in Old Town, as well as Pineland Farms Dairy Company in Bangor and IDEXX Laboratories Inc. in Westbrook. The tour included the Maine Agricultural Trades Show at the Augusta Civic Center on Jan. 12. There, the students met with leaders in Maine's agriculture and dairy sectors including the Maine Commissioner of Agriculture, the Maine State Veterinarian and the Executive Directors of the Maine Dairy Promotion Board, Dairy Nutrition Council and Maine Milk Commission. "The diversity of dairy farms in Maine provides a great learning experience for students," said David Marcinkowski, a UMaine animal and veterinary science associate professor in the School of Food and Agriculture and Cooperative Extension dairy specialist. "The students will see large, small, organic, conventional, purebred, cow, goat and value-added farms. Most importantly, they will see the range of careers the dairy industry offers." The New England Dairy Travel Course, now in its 22nd year, is a collaboration of the six land grant universities in New England that rotate hosting a tour of their respective state's dairy industries each year. The model is unique in the nation. The course is made possible by support from participating universities and an Ag Enhancement Grant from Farm Credit East.

Camire named editor-in-chief of leading food science journal

26 Jan 2023

University of Maine food science professor Mary Ellen Camire has been named the first dedicated editor-in-chief for the journal Comprehensive Reviews in Food Science and Food Safety (CRFSFS). The journal ranks third among more than 140 food science and technology journals worldwide. Camire has served as scientific editor of the journal since 2018. In that role, she screened all submissions for suitability for peer review, totaling more than 900 papers in 2021, when the journal earned an impact factor of 15.786. "I am excited to work with a great team of editors and staff to provide readers around the world with the information in food science. In 2023, I hope to increase authors' success with journals while maintaining our high expectations for review manuscripts," Camire says. Prior to Camire's appointment, a single editor-in-chief oversaw both of the Institute of Food Technologists' (IFT) journals. Her appointment followed a recommendation from the IFT Journals Task Force to separate the roles. Camire is also the first woman editor-in-chief for the institute, and served as its president from 2014 to 2015. "We are thrilled to welcome Professor Camire as the new editor-in-chief of Comprehensive Reviews," says Christie Tarantino-Dean, IFT CEO. "In her previous leadership as Scientific Editor, Professor Camire successfully managed Comprehensive Reviews during a period of tremendous growth. We look forward to the future as she collaborates with her team of accomplished editors to implement their vision for the journal." Camire has been a faculty member in the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture since 1989. She also coordinates UMaine's food science and human nutrition graduate programs, is the membership director of the Healthy Aging Dietetic Practice Group and a faculty associate at UMaine's Center on Aging. Camire is also an associate editor for the journal Cereal Chemistry. In her research, Camire studies how food processing that improves shelf life affects nutritional value and consumer satisfaction. She also assesses how consumers react to new crop varieties and food products. Her goals include increasing consumption of healthy foods, especially among older and disadvantaged populations, and the development of sustainable food production.

Zenith Ensemble performing at UMaine Feb. 4

26 Jan 2023

The Zenith Ensemble, a chamber music group that holds concerts throughout Northern New England, will perform at 3 p.m. Feb. 4 in the Minsky Recital Hall is in the Class of 1944 Hall. The event, hosted by the Collins Center for the Arts, will feature eight singers from the ensemble, including co-founder and co-artistic director Nacole Palmer of Bowdoin, Maine, performing composer David Lang's choral score "the little match girl passion," based on the 1845 story by Hans Christian Anderson about a girl who suffers and ultimately dies from the coldness of a harsh winter and the indifference of a society that ignores her plight. The concert also will feature the works of Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, Samuel Coleridge Taylor, Jonathan Woody and Alice Parker. Visit the Collins Center website for more information and to purchase tickets.

Ranco awarded $50K for project to develop climate resilience with Wabanaki communities

27 Jan 2023

The University of Maine Office of Sponsored Research has been awarded $50,000 from Jane's Trust Foundation for a project to develop adaptive resilience to climate change with Wabanaki communities, led by Darren Ranco, professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine. Jane's Trust Foundation is a family foundation dedicated to creating a more socially just and environmentally sustainable world in which all people thrive through education and deep connections with family, community and the natural world. Jane's Trust Foundation focuses its grantmaking on climate change mitigation and adaptation, social justice and special projects of interest to the trustees. The funds will be used to host two knowledge-gathering conferences with Wabanaki elders and knowledge keepers in order to maintain and update the Wabanaki Climate Adaptation and Adaptive Management Workbook, a culturally relevant guide for Maine's Wabanaki communities to adapt to climate change developed in collaboration with the Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center (NE CASC). The workbook, which has been in development since 2016, was inspired by the Dibaginjigaadeg Anishinaabe Ezhitwaad, a guide to climate adaptation for tribes in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan designed by the Tribal Adaptation Menu Team from Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC). "We have been able to work with the tribal folks locally across tribes here to develop these sorts of strategies using the framework established by the tribes in the upper Midwest, but in our cultural context," Ranco says. "The idea is that the tribes can reference this workbook as they develop more specificity around climate adaptation planning." Ranco and Natalie Michelle, a postdoc and research associate at UMaine and former graduate student, conducted an initial climate change impact assessment through tribal interviews from 2016–18 to establish the Wabanaki Climate Change Adaptation Baseline that identifies key areas of impact from climatic changes unique to each region and zone. The workbook project was identified as key to meeting the short-term and medium-term goals outlined in that framework. Using Indigenous Research Methods, Ranco and Michelle will organize two Wabanaki Climate Adaptation symposia with 10 traditional knowledge keepers at each event, focusing on Wabanaki strategies for culturally appropriate climate adaptation in two high-priority cultural sectors: women and water systems, and plants and terrestrial systems. "Women were the primary teachers in ways of the acquisition, processing, preparation and preservation of our resources for our own cultural survival," Michelle says. "They were an important part of the decision making processes in management and establishing sacred relationships within the ecology. I want to emphasize how

our traditional knowledge bases complement science, and how we can utilize our traditional knowledge to lead in decision making. I think it's going to be an opportunity for Native women who don't normally have access to these kinds of forums to be active and to participate." Using the information gathered from the symposia, Ranco, Michelle and other researchers at UMaine will write a collaborative report to identify the culturally-appropriate climate adaptation methods for Wabanaki Tribal Nations in the next century, which will be presented to each of the Wabanaki Nation's Natural Resources and Environmental Departments and integrated into the workbook. Ranco and Michelle will also use the knowledge gathered from the symposia to develop a more permanent institutional framework for Wabanaki Climate Change Adaptation Work at the University of Maine. "While there's lots of information about how to plan for climate adaptation there isn't in terms of our cultural milieu," Ranco says. "The novel thing that we're doing here is we're mobilizing traditional knowledge in new contexts and that requires a real amount of care and consideration." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Cruz-Uribe receives NSF award to make geological dating methods more accessible

27 Jan 2023

Editor's note: Updated Feb. 2, 2023. Geologists have long determined the age of rocks and minerals by measuring the decay of certain isotopes, but the process can be time consuming and labor intensive. Alicia Cruz-Uribe, associate professor of mineralogy and petrology in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences at the University of Maine, is hoping to make the use of two important isotopes for geochronology — Rubidium-87 and Strontium-87, or 87Rb and 87Sr — more accessible for widespread use. The radiogenic decay of 87Rb to 87Sr is an important "clock" geologists have used for over 80 years to measure the age of rocks and minerals. However, these measurements have traditionally required time-consuming lab work. Technical advances have enabled Rb-Sr measurements in situ, which is easier and less expensive for many labs, but there are still barriers to their widespread use due to a lack of appropriate reference materials, as well as questions about what Rb-Sr dates record in different rocks. "The Rb-Sr system has the potential to record processes as young as a million years, and as old as the solar system," says Cruz-Uribe. "So, to be able to harness the information in this system with analyses that can be done on very specific textures within a rock, instead of having to crush an entire rock and lose the context of the minerals you want to date, is a game changer for the scope of geochronologic processes that can be undertaken." Cruz-Uribe and her team at UMaine and Penn State aim to develop two Rb-Sr reference glasses that have the same compositions as natural mica minerals that can be used by labs to significantly expand the use and application of Rb-Sr dating. They will also determine Rb-Sr dates from three well-studied geological sites — the Mooselookmeguntic contact aureole in western Maine, the Franciscan Subduction Complex in California and the Ivrea-Verbano Zone in the Italian Alps — to provide key context for similar data elsewhere. The technique will not only allow scientists to accurately date mica, one of the most common minerals in Earth's crust, but it will also provide dating results in less than an hour, compared to the weeks to months of traditional methods. "Most of the current geochronometers that geologists use to constrain the age of rocks take advantage of the U-Pb — uranium-lead — decay system. However, the minerals that contain significant quantities of uranium like zircons are very sparse and do not usually actively participate in reactions that are occuring in the major minerals in a rock. The Rb-Sr system can be measured in major rock-forming minerals such as micas and feldspars, and so this system expands our geochronologic toolbox in many ways," says Cruz-Uribe. While developing this project, Cruz-Uribe was also a participant in the University's Enhanced Mentoring Program with Opportunities for Ways to Excel in Research (EMPOWER). Last year, Cruz-Uribe worked closely with her mentor, Heather Leslie, professor of marine sciences and Director of the Darling Marine Center, as part of a cohort of supported faculty. The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded Cruz-Uribe $391,286 for her research. The award began Jan. 15, 2023. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Jan. 30

30 Jan 2023

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Jan. 30:

- Snow removal and cleanup of resident parking lots began this past weekend and continues this week.
- Mahaney Dome response and assessment work has begun.
- Cutler Health Center roof repair work is scheduled for this week.
- In preparation for engineering design and repair work, test coring of Fogler Library's north entrance patio is scheduled Feb. 10.
- Additional granite patio benches for Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center will be scheduled for installation.

Chanthu Millay: Expressing an exceptional life through art

30 Jan 2023

Chanthu Millay's art is raw and intimate: a technicolor self-portrait in painstaking detail, a metal sculpture comprised of pieces of her old prosthetic leg, a ceramic sculpture depicting the emotions she experienced as her family's lone survivor of the violent Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia. Millay's art wasn't always so personal. Her education at the University of Maine has allowed her to open up and tell her exceptional life story through her art — and she hopes to do the same as an art educator once she graduates. Millay came to Maine by way of adoption. When she was a child "between 3 and 5" — the lack of official records make it difficult to pinpoint her exact age — it is believed her entire family was killed during infighting that took place in her village. She survived, but her left leg was severely damaged in what American doctor's believe was both a fire and a landmine according to burn patterns. Taken by her story, the American doctor who treated her facilitated an emergency adoption with a couple in Surry. Millay was one of 12 children from seven different countries in her household. "It was kind of like the United Nations in our house," she laughs. "I was one of the older ones, so I learned to be a caretaker and a role model. I am very close to many of my siblings." Millay was an ambitious student in all subjects, but even at a young age, she had a standout talent for art. She had an innate sense of proportion, and her sense of creativity was "very different from the children around [her]." As a preteen, she started selling her first acrylics and iconography pieces. After graduating from high school, Millay thought she might parlay her art skills into an architecture degree at the University of Maine at Augusta, but soon left college after realizing that she "wasn't ready to be a serious student again yet." Over the next decade or so, she worked a variety of jobs: a seafood clerk at Shaw's, cashier at Walmart, tutor, babysitter and disability services agent at a variety of organizations, including the Addison Point Agency, Downeast Horizons and SequelCare of Maine, just to name a few. All the while, she continued freelancing as a professional artist on the side. Beginning in 2016, her residual limb started to break down — besides that, she had a permanent limp that caused other underlying problems to the hips and spine because of its severe deformity. A visit to the doctor revealed that the tissue was dying, and the leg needed to be amputated. The procedure, which took place in 2017, was complicated, and she had to adjust to using a prosthetic while struggling with phantom limb pain and sensation (which, she

said, she still deals with today). Throughout her recovery, Millay realized that she wanted a job that wouldn't require her to be on her feet all day, and would allow her to work in art full time. "It was a turning point," Millay says. "Even before the surgery I really struggled to keep a job because of the physical demands on my feet. My leg was just breaking down. I couldn't do the eight or nine hours of standing that most jobs required. I knew I was going to need something that would allow me flexibility to sit." With her art skills and her experience as a mentor to her younger siblings, Millay felt that becoming an art educator would allow her to make an impact while allowing flexibility for her physical needs. In 2019, Millay enrolled at the University of Maine to study art education. She was nervous about starting school again. She saw the advantages of being a mature student: she was clear in what she wanted to get out of her college experience, and confident enough to advocate for herself in order to achieve it. Still, she was older than her peers and worried about connecting with them, not to mention that she was still learning how to navigate with her prosthetic leg. Millay said UMaine Student Accessibility Services was helpful and accommodating to her physical needs. As for her classmates, she soon realized that, much like with her siblings, she could serve as a mentor to her peers. Constant Albertson is an associate professor of art and art education, as well as Millay's adviser. She says that Millay has not only demonstrated that she is an excellent teacher of children through her art education classes, but her college-aged classmates look up to her as well, as she generously contributes to both collaborative projects and peer critiques. "She's community-minded," Albertson says. "She's very aware of the effect that she has on her peers and is always very, very helpful and caring. She's a remarkable student and she's going to be a remarkable teacher very soon." Millay came to the UMaine art program with more experience than the average student, having worked professionally for years as an artist before coming to school. Still, the UMaine art curriculum has allowed Millay to explore types of art that she hadn't been exposed to before, like ceramics and sculpture, which she thinks makes her a better artist. "I think artists can get really comfortable with their one skill or their two skills, and that's great because you know the ins and the outs of it but also problematic because it boxes you and limits you because you can only express yourself in this medium," Millay says. "With ceramics, I expressed freedom in clay that I never had with drawing or painting. It's essential that artists dip their hands into other mediums they're not comfortable with because I definitely have grown." Even more profoundly, Millay says that her professors at UMaine have helped her to open up personally and use art to tell her powerful life story. She says that Ed Nadeau, associate adjunct professor of art, was especially influential in this awakening. Nadeau says that in drawing class, he always encourages students to explore their sense of self through their work. When Millay decided to draw her prosthetic leg for an assignment, the attention to detail and the intimacy of the subject matter "blew everyone's mind." "She was always a little hesitant to bring that out and let it really show," Nadeau says. "I think that she needed just a little bit of encouragement in order to know that when an artist goes deep that's where their best stuff comes from." Millay and Nadeau both laugh as they recall an assignment for a drawing class using India ink — a difficult medium to control precisely, known for free-flowing forms — that Millay says "had [her] breaking down and crying" because she "didn't know how to draw freely." Eventually, she was able to fill a 30-by-30-inch paper with an abstract, screaming mouth that helped channel her frustration — about the project, sure, but also about the other challenges she had experienced in the past few years. "It was foundational to help me open the spiritual me in my art," Millay says. "I think that support is life changing to how you are as a student." UMaine has also allowed Millay to explore deeper social themes in her work, too. Some of Millay's favorite classes have been history and social studies classes that have allowed her to explore her identity as an artist and beyond. "I was already a developed artist, but what really helped me grow as an artist was not my technique so much as what I was representing," Millay says. "I took a class about students with disabilities, Native American history, social justice with the gay and transgender community, feminism — I think learning about all these minorities and realizing I myself encompassed a lot of these descriptions allowed me to look at myself which reflected into my work." Millay says that her experience at UMaine has been "foundational and life-changing," thanks to the professors, faculty and SAS staff who have helped support her along the way (as well as her husband, friends and family, of course). She says that all aspiring artists — at UMaine and beyond — should listen to their support group throughout the creative process because "they may see something you don't." She also recommends that anyone going into art dedicate equal amounts of effort to subjects and media that they struggle with. "If you spend 20 hours doing something you are good at, then you should spend double that on something you don't know and hate," Millay says. "This is the only way to learn and to grow. It is okay to struggle, it is okay to cry and it is okay to fail, that is how we grow as artists." Millay plans to graduate in December 2023. After her experience with her professors and her peers, she thinks she may want to go on and

pursue her master's in order to become a professor of art at the university level. She hopes to someday help students find themselves through art the way that she has. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension 4-H introduces youth to environmental science concepts through algae

30 Jan 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a short-term online 4-H club about algae and its impact on surrounding ecosystems. Intended for youth ages 12–15, the special interest, or SPIN, club will meet from 3:30–5 p.m. on Tuesdays from March 7–April 11. Required registration closes Feb. 10. The Algae SPIN Club will explore all things algae — why it's important, how it can be used, harmful algae blooms and related community action. In this club, youth will have the opportunity to taste algae, create a seaweed lava lamp, and observe and analyze the growth of an algae sample at home. The 4-H Algae Series will introduce ecological knowledge and experiment skills by exploring algae in different ways each week while making connections with youth statewide. UMaine Extension 4-H staff will lead the meetings and provide guidance for the algae growth experiment. The club is free; limited to 10 participants. Register by Feb. 10 on the event webpage to receive the link and at-home materials. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.8206 or sarah.sparks@maine.edu. Additional information also is available on the Extension 4-H Virtual Learning webpage. 4-H is a community for all youth with programs that suit a variety of backgrounds, interests, budgets and schedules. Programs are grounded in the belief that youth learn best by doing. Participants complete hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture and civic engagement in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles.

Alumna Kelsey Stoyanova to keynote UMaine Student Symposium

30 Jan 2023

University of Maine alumna Kelsey Stoyanova, Maine's 2022 Teacher of the Year, will keynote the annual UMaine Student Symposium (UMSS), a celebration of student research and creative work, April 14 at the Collins Center for the Arts. Stoyanova's UMSS23 address will have two main themes: "Voice, choice and advocacy: What can YOU do to make a change utilizing the skills and passion you already have?" and "How can stakeholders utilize their expertise in their fields to help grow and shape the future leaders of Maine?" Stoyanova is an 8th grade language arts teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School in Hampden. A full story is on the UMSS23 website.

2023 Department of Art Faculty Exhibition opens Feb. 3 in Lord Hall

30 Jan 2023

The University of Maine's Department of Art will host its 2023 Faculty Exhibition from Feb. 3–March 17. The exhibition includes art by faculty from UMaine's Department of Art and Intermedia Programs, including N.B. Aldrich, Diana Baumbach, Susan Camp, Tim Conte, Sam Jones, Robert Pollien, Susan L. Smith, Matt Smolinsky and Giles Timms. A diverse range of artwork will be featured, including painting, site-specific installation, social practice, animation and more. Lord Hall Gallery is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. A public reception will take place Feb. 10, 5:30–7 p.m. The trio Aldrich Norton & Ross will perform live in the Gallery on Feb. 23 at 4 p.m. Events are free, accessible and open to the public. If you are interested in a class visit or outreach activities, or for questions or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact gallery director Diana Baumbach, diana.baumbach@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offers 'Recipe to Market' workshop online

30 Jan 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer an online workshop for entrepreneurs and farmers interested in starting a home-based, specialty food business in Maine from 9 a.m.–noon on Feb. 15. Recipe to Market is a multidisciplinary program intended to introduce participants to key topics that an aspiring entrepreneur needs to consider before starting a food business. Instructors will cover topics such as business basics; the specialty food industry and product development; licensing and regulations; and food safety. Products that may be discussed include canned shelf-stable products (jams/jellies/preserves, baked goods, condiments, salsas, sauces, dessert sauces), fermented foods, dry mixes and candies/confections. Instructors for the program include UMaine Extension professor emeritus Louis Bassano; professor emeritus of economics and Extension Jim McConnon; and Extension food science specialist, professor of food science and director of UMaine Food Testing Services Beth Calder. The fee is $35; registration is required. Financial assistance is available. Register and find more details on the event registration page. For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, contact Melissa Libby Babcock, melissa.libby1@maine.edu; 207.581.2788 or 800.287.0274 (Maine only).

Media share UMaine Extension 4-H science workshop for youth

30 Jan 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Piscataquis Observer and CentralMaine.com noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a short-term online 4-H club about algae and its impact on surrounding ecosystems. Intended for youth ages 12–15, the special interest, or SPIN, club will meet from 3:30–5 p.m. on Tuesdays from March 7–April 11. Required registration closes Feb. 10.

CentralMaine.com shares UMaine Mitchell Center talk on interdisciplinary thinking

30 Jan 2023

CentralMaine.com noted that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine is scheduled to host a talk, "Interdisciplinary Thinking Outside of the Academy: Lessons from Program Evaluation," at 3 p.m. Feb. 6. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, visit the event webpage.

Media share UMaine Extension 4-H workshop for teens to explore agriculture careers

30 Jan 2023

The Daily Bulldog, Bangor Daily News and CentralMaine.com shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering its Agriculture Leadership Ambassador program from March 7–April 18. The program, open to all teens ages 14–18, will focus on understanding the Maine food system, exploring careers and building advocacy skills. To register, visit the event website.

My Central Jersey notes UMaine research about agrovoltaics

30 Jan 2023

In a column about the potential symbiotic relationship between farmers and electrical utilities, My Central Jersey noted that researchers from University of Maine Cooperative Extension are evaluating the impact of panel installation on blueberry plants.

Maine Monitor quotes Beal in article about clam fisheries

30 Jan 2023

The Maine Monitor spoke to Brian Beal, a professor of ecology and at the University of Maine at Machias, about the impact of climate change on Maine's clam fishery. "Climate change is just that piece of dynamite that's been thrown into that room. That has just changed everything," Beal said. News Center Maine, the Bangor Daily News and Wiscasset Newspaper shared the Maine Monitor report.

Media report on UMaine Extension Recipe to Market workshop

30 Jan 2023

The Piscataquis Observer, CentralMaine.com, Daily Bulldog and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer an online workshop for entrepreneurs and farmers interested in starting a home-based, specialty food business in Maine from 9 a.m.–noon on Feb. 15. Register and find more details on the event registration page.

Brewer speaks to PPH about potential for income tax cuts in Maine

30 Jan 2023

The Portland Press Herald spoke to Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about bipartisan proposals in the state legislature to cut income taxes in Maine. Brewer said the state's strong fiscal health, coupled with bills from both parties aimed at lowering income taxes for the middle class, shows that lawmakers could take significant action this session. Making a concession on income taxes could also help Gov. Janet Mills achieve her stated goal of passing a bipartisan budget. "The fact that Maine continues to be in a relatively positive budget state allows these items to be discussed in a bipartisan way. I think there's a lot of room for negotiation here. The environment seems right," Brewer said.

Two UMaine student receive Maine Press Association scholarships

30 Jan 2023

The Maine Press Association awarded scholarships to three Maine journalism students in January — two of them from the University of Maine. Recipients of 2023 scholarships are Grace Bradley of Orono, a UMaine senior and editor-in-chief of Maine Campus Media; Hope Carroll of Portland, a UMaine junior in the Honors College and opinion contributor to The Maine Campus; and Andrew Wing of Raymond, a senior at St. Joseph's College of Maine and 2022 intern at The Windham Eagle. The Maine Press Association awards scholarships every year to a junior or senior with financial need who plans to pursue a career in journalism. The funds come from the association's annual scholarship auction.

Heather Leslie, Darling Marine Center Director, named 2022 AAAS fellow

31 Jan 2023

Heather Leslie, professor of marine science and director of the Darling Marine Center at the University of Maine, has been named a 2022 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellow, one of the highest honors in the scientific community. AAAS Fellows are a group of scientists, engineers and innovators recognized for their achievements across disciplines, from research, teaching, and technology, to administration in academia, industry and government, to excellence in communicating and interpreting science to the public. Since the program's establishment in 1874, the AAAS Council has elected such distinguished fellows as W.E.B DuBois, Maria Mitchell, Steven Chu, Ellen Ochoa, Irwin M. Jacobs, Alan Alda, Mae Jemison and Ayanna Howard. Other recent AAAS Fellows from UMaine include Susan Brawley, professor emerita of plant biology and marine ecology and 2012 AAAS Fellow; Daniel Sandeweiss, professor of anthropology and 2014 AAAS Fellow; and R. Dean Astumian, professor of physics and 2016 AAAS Fellow. "I am honored to be recognized as a AAAS Fellow. I hope my election will inspire students to pursue interdisciplinary research relevant to coastal communities," Leslie says. "We need many researchers from many different backgrounds contributing to marine conservation, given the importance of ensuring both people and ecosystems thrive in the face of climate change and other challenges." Leslie has been a professor of marine science and director of the Darling Marine Center at UMaine since 2015. An international leader in marine conservation science, Leslie studies the drivers of ecological and social processes in marine systems, and how to more effectively connect science to policy and management. Leslie's work has appeared in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Ecology, Conservation Biology, and Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment. The AAAS Council wrote that Leslie was selected for her "distinguished contributions to conservation biology, particularly to coastal marine ecology, human-environment linkages, and design and evaluation of marine management strategies." Before arriving at UMaine, Leslie was on the faculty at Brown University, as the inaugural Peggy and Henry D. Sharpe Assistant Professor. She also received an A.B. in Biology from Harvard University, a Ph.D. in Zoology from Oregon State University and conducted

postdoctoral research at Princeton University. Leslie lives with her family by the Damariscotta River in Newcastle, Maine. Leslie and the other 505 newly elected 2022 AAAS Fellows will be recognized this spring at the ceremonial Fellows Forum in Washington, D.C. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers maple syrup workshop for beginners

31 Jan 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer an in-person maple syrup production workshop for beginners 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Feb. 11. The class first meets at York County Extension Office, 15 Oak Street, Springvale; and finishes at Maple Moon Farm, 289 Chick Road, Lebanon. The snow date is Feb. 18. The Backyard Maple Sugaring program teaches beginners how to identify and tap trees; collect and boil sap; and filter, grade and can syrup. Participants also will learn the logistics of installing and maintaining a sap collection system that uses tubing during a site visit to a local sugar making operation. The workshop will be led by UMaine Extension assistant professor and maple industry educator Jason Lilley; Richard Morrill, owner of Nash Valley Farm in Windham; and Frank Ferrucci, owner of Maple Moon Farm in Lebanon. The $18 fee includes the textbook "Backyard Sugarin': A Complete How-To Guide" by Rink Mann. Registration is required; register on the event webpage. This program is sponsored and co-taught by the Southern Maine Maple Sugarmakers Association. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jason Lilley, 207.781.6099; jason.lilley@maine.edu.

UMaine Outdoor Recreation and Leadership Job Fair to be held Feb. 7

31 Jan 2023

The University of Maine Career Center and Outdoor Leadership Program will host an Outdoor Recreation and Leadership Job Fair from 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7 at the North Pod in the Memorial Union. The fair is open to students of all majors from UMaine and the University of Maine at Machias. About 20 employers in outdoor recreation, education, tourism and other fields from across the state will participate. Opportunities for internships, seasonal and full-time positions will be available. From 12:15–1 p.m., there will be a roundtable discussion about offering outdoor recreation opportunities for children with disabilities; individuals who are therapeutic- or trauma-informed, or from areas of adaptive and economic hardship; and other similar populations. More information, including a list of participating employers, is online.

UMaine International Dance Festival returns Feb. 11

31 Jan 2023

The University of Maine will hold the 2023 International Dance Festival on Feb. 11 at the Collins Center for the Arts. The annual event will showcase traditional music, dance and costumes from around the world that are representative of the diverse student body at UMaine. The two shows, which are free and open to the public, will take place at 2 and 7 p.m. and feature performers from both the campus and surrounding community. Admission is free. The festival is a student-led initiative that began in 2005 and is organized by the Office of International Programs and the International Student Association. Visit the event webpage for more information. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact the Office of International Programs, 207.581.3437; international@maine.edu.

Submissions open for 2023 Graton Prize in Constitutional Law

31 Jan 2023

Endowed by Claude Dewing Graton, Class of 1900, the Graton Prize is awarded annually to the best essay responding to a current question in constitutional law. This year's prize will award up to $4,000 to the best response to each of three questions:

1. What are the constitutional issues facing the Department of Justice in deciding whether to prosecute former president Trump, pursuant to the criminal referral of the congressional January 6 Committee? To what extent can (or should) the DoJ hold the former president legally accountable for his role in the events of January 6, 2021? Can he be constitutionally disqualified from running for the presidency again?
2. Who is the ultimate arbiter of how a state administers an election—the state legislature or the state supreme court? What are the stakes involved here? Discuss with reference to Moore v. Harper, a case being decided during the current term of the U.S. Supreme Court.
3. Does the federal Department of Education have the constitutional authority to forgive the debt obligations of student borrowers? What are the legal issues that must be considered? How should the Supreme Court answer this question, as it has agreed to do?

Any regularly enrolled undergraduate student may enter the contest. A qualifying essay must respond to only one of the set questions and should illustrate its answer by drawing (where appropriate) on the intent of the Framers, actions of Congress and/or the executive; and landmark decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court. Essays must be submitted in hardcopy to the Office of the Administrative Assistant, Department of Political Science, 229 North Stevens Hall, no later than Friday, March 31, 2023, by noon. The essays must be between 2,000–5,000 words in length and have two cover sheets: one with the title only, the other with the student's name and contact information. Adherence to the Style Manual for Political Science, APA or other standard style reference is highly encouraged. A complete bibliography must accompany the essay and proper citation be followed throughout. Judging criteria include:

- Clarity of issue identification and thesis
- Strength of argument and analysis
- Quality of research
- Coherence of organization and grammar

The evaluation committee reserves the right not to award any prize money if it determines that no essay meets its standards. Questions about the contest may be directed to Robert Ballingall, assistant professor of political science, at robert.ballingall@maine.edu.

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion announces 2023 Black History Month events

31 Jan 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated Feb. 2. The University of Maine Office for Diversity and Inclusion has organized Black History Month events throughout February, beginning with a Black Lives Matter flag raising at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 1 in the atrium on the first floor of the Memorial Union. Later that day, the office will host Women of Color Wednesday, a monthly gathering held to create an uplifting space for women of color at UMaine through meaningful discussion and activities, at 6:30 p.m. in the Multicultural Student Center, Room 312 in the union. On Feb. 8, a Lunch and Learn event about empowerment featuring Judith Josiah-Martin, principal lecturer with the Department of Social Work, will be held at noon in the Multicultural Student Center. The Office for Diversity and Inclusion will then host Tunes and Snacks: Celebrating Black Women's History at noon on Feb. 9 in the Intersectional Feminist Resource Center, Room 227 in the Memorial Union. A Paint N' Sip event with the Black Student Union will be offered at 8 p.m. Feb. 16 at the Bear's Den Pub in the Memorial Union. On Feb. 17, the Office for Diversity and Inclusion will host Bodies of Worth, an open conversation around the intersection of fatness, racism and assigning worth to bodies, at noon in the Rainbow Resource Center, Room 224 in the Memorial Union. The office also will continue its Solidarity Meeting for Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) at UMaine, held every other Wednesday, this month at 3 p.m. on Feb. 8 and 22 in the Multicultural Student Center. A Black Professionals and Students Mixer will be held at 4 p.m. Feb. 24 in the Multicultural Student Center. In partnership with the Black Student Union, the Office for Diversity and Inclusion also will host a Hair Care Fair with free cuts and styles for UMaine students starting at 9 a.m. Feb. 25 at the Woolley Room in the Doris Twitchell Allen Village, located next to Parking Services. For information about the office's Black History Month events, contact Anila Karunakar, director for Diversity and Inclusion, at anila.karunakar@maine.edu. The office also promotes events in its newsletter, subscription for which is available on its website.

Ellsworth American notes UMaine role in offshore wind site that is ready for review

31 Jan 2023

The Ellsworth American reported that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management will move ahead with a review of Maine's application for a floating wind power research site in the Gulf of Maine. The floating research array with 10 to 12 turbines will use patented technology developed by the University of Maine.

Livingston speaks to News Center Maine about warming winters' impact on Maine loggers

31 Jan 2023

News Center Maine interviewed William Livingston, associate professor of forest resources at the University of Maine, about the potential impact of warming winters on Maine's logging industry. Livingston said that it is hard to tell if the majority of climate impacts on Maine forests will be positive or negative since Maine's forests are so diverse and will have winners and losers as temperatures increase. "As long as we take care of it, it will grow, and it will be in good shape. The Maine forest is a very resilient forest and something that is a real asset to the state," Livingston said.

WalletHub features Puhlman as expert in list of 2023's best places to get married

31 Jan 2023

Daniel Puhlman, assistant professor of family studies at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, was a featured expert in WalletHub's list of 2023's best places to get married. "Go where you want to go. Do what you want. This day is for you and those who care about you will celebrate with you. Pick a place that is true to you and your partner and not one that is about your obligations," Puhlman said.

Birkel speaks to USA Today to fact check article about global cooling

31 Jan 2023

Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, spoke to USA Today to fact check an article that falsely claims the sun is causing global cooling. Birkel explained that cold events can occur even on a warming planet. Climate "variability can produce weather patterns that may bring cooler than normal temperatures to some locations for some period of time. … Meanwhile, the global temperature is still warmer than in decades past," Birkel told USA Today in an email.

Maine Public speaks to Ranco about Wabanaki Climate Adaptation and Adaptive Management Workbook

31 Jan 2023

Maine Public interviewed Darren Ranco, chair of Native American programs at the University of Maine, about plans to organize two symposia with 10 Wabanaki knowledge keepers at each event as part of an effort to update the Wabanaki Climate Adaptation and Adaptive Management Workbook. "That's going to focus on gathering women's knowledge as it relates to water, thinking about climate [adaptation] through the lens of women's knowledge and their caretaking roles for water," Ranco said.

Weiskittel featured as VIP caller for Maine Public segment about artificial intelligence

31 Jan 2023

Aaron Weiskittel, professor of forest biometrics and modeling at the University of Maine School of Forest Resources, was featured as a VIP caller on a Maine Public segment about how artificial intelligence is being used in Maine, and the potential harms and benefits of AI to society.

UMaine moves forward with new B.S. program in Human-Centered Technology Design

31 Jan 2023

The University of Maine School of Computing and Information Sciences (SCIS) will launch a new Bachelor of Science in Human-Centered Technology

Design program in the fall 2023 semester. The degree program was approved at the Jan. 30 meeting of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees. Human-Centered Technology Design, or HCTD, focuses on the design and development of digital technology with a grounding on the needs and capabilities of the humans who will use it. HCTD brings together elements from new media, computer science, spatial computing, psychology, communications, and innovation engineering. The fast-growing field has appeared in engineering, gaming, media, arts and communications programs in more than 75 U.S. colleges and universities over the last decade, but no college or university in Maine currently offers a major in HCTD, despite a demand for related jobs in the field throughout New England and nationally. Interviews conducted with Maine high school guidance programs also found that HCTD would help bridge computer science and new media for college-bound high-schoolers. "This program offers new opportunities for UMaine students who are excited about designing technology that meets people's needs," says Emily Haddad, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "Programs like HCTD are also key to expanding the workforce of creative, adaptable technology experts in Maine." UMaine's program will feature a collaborative, project-based learning curriculum throughout all four years. Developing from existing resources in SCIS and in other UMaine programs, the HCTD major will create new research-learning opportunities and a new pathways-to-careers model for both the campus and the UMaine System. "HCTD will build upon the design expertise of new media faculty, the program development expertise of computer science faculty and the human-centered computing expertise of spatial computing faculty, drawing upon the strengths of all three existing programs. This major will attract students who want to build technology for human use and benefit," says Penny Rheingans, professor of computer science and director of SCIS. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Innovate for Maine set to double cohort size in 2023

01 Feb 2023

The University of Maine Foster Center for Innovation is seeking Maine students and Maine companies to participate in the 2023 Innovate for Maine Fellows internship program. The application deadline for students and companies is March 5. To apply or learn more about Innovate for Maine Fellows, visit the program website. This year, with funding for University of Maine System workforce development efforts from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, put forth by Gov. Janet Mills and supported by the Maine Legislature, Innovate For Maine will nearly double the number of fellows it will hire to support eligible businesses at little to no cost. Innovate for Maine connects the most curious and passionate Maine college students with the state's most exciting growing companies for paid, meaningful, hands-on internship experiences. The program is looking for both student fellows to join the 2023 cohort and a variety of for-profit companies developing innovative products, services or processes to host them. These companies will proactively engage these students, mentor and coach them throughout their internship. Emphasizing innovation and entrepreneurship, Innovate for Maine prepares student fellows to collaborate with companies on innovation projects that accelerate company growth. Innovation projects can include work on new products or services, process improvements, market research, prototyping, sales forecasting and more. "With support from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, startups and small businesses will be able access talent to help them accomplish important business milestones, while the fellows gain valuable experience and see how they can be a part of Maine's future workforce," says Renee Kelly, UMaine associate vice president for strategic partnerships and innovation. Eligible students include those enrolled in undergraduate or graduate degree programs at any college or university in Maine, Maine residents enrolled in degree programs at colleges or universities outside of the state, and any college students that have strong ties to Maine. These students may include those who visit Maine regularly or have family who reside in the state. Host companies can range in size from small startups to major corporations. Fellows can work full time or part time during the summer, with the possibility of continuing part time during the academic year. Trained innovation experts guide and mentor both the fellow and the company for the duration of the internship. UMaine recruits, screens, matches, hires and trains fellows to work on projects for companies selected to participate in the program. Since Innovate for Maine Fellows was established in 2012, 250 student participants have gained exposure to innovative Maine companies and built strong networks that help them find opportunities to stay in Maine.

Mitchell Center to host talk on the shifting challenges of conservation work Feb. 13

01 Feb 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk entitled "A Career in Conservation: Frequent retooling required!" at 3 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 13. The work of conservation has changed dramatically in Maine over the past 50 years in response to shifting challenges and opportunities. Effective response has required constant balancing and rebalancing appropriate approaches, including specialization versus interdisciplinary, confrontation versus collaboration and competition versus partnership. In this talk, Tim Glidden, former president of Maine Coast Heritage Trust, will explore this period through the personal lens of his own direct involvement and the evolving skills and professional growth required. Glidden has had a long career in Maine land conservation, environmental advocacy and natural resource policy. He has degrees in Environmental Studies from Colby College and Forestry Science from Yale. Since working on the original zoning of Maine's Unorganized Territory in 1974, Glidden consulted internationally, served as principal analyst for Natural Resources at the Maine Legislature, deputy director at the Natural Resources Council of Maine, director of the Land for Maine's Future Program and, most recently, as the president of Maine Coast Heritage Trust. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Summer University 2023 registration open

01 Feb 2023

Registration is open for University of Maine Summer University 2023. All courses run May 8–Aug. 18. Courses are available for viewing on MaineStreet. Summer is a great time for students to continue their coursework and make progress toward completing their degree. With flexible summer course schedules and nearly 900 course offerings, almost 300 of which are offered online, students can fit in the courses they need to meet their educational goals. The 2023 Summer University calendar once again consists of three- and six-week sessions and an additional session for miscellaneous schedules. New this year is an eight-week, online-only session from June 26–Aug. 18. Summer and winter terms provide additional opportunities for students to Think 30 credits per year to stay on track to graduate in four years. More information, including a course listing and how to register, is online.

Daily Meal cites UMaine Extension information about local produce

01 Feb 2023

In an article about ways to upgrade a frozen pizza, the Daily Meal cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension noting that local produce contains higher nutritional value and is a great way to support community farmers. Learn more on the UMaine Extension website.

AP notes Talty nomination for National Book Critics Circle award

01 Feb 2023

The Associated Press noted that Morgan Talty, associate professor of English at the University of Maine, was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle award for best debut work. The Washington Post, the Independent, The Hill, ABC News, Bloomberg and other outlets shared the AP report.

Morning Ag Clips notes Camire appointment as editor-in-chief of prestigious journal

01 Feb 2023

Morning Ag Clips reported that University of Maine food science professor Mary Ellen Camire has been named the first dedicated editor-in-chief for the journal Comprehensive Reviews in Food Science and Food Safety. The journal ranks third among more than 140 food science and technology journals worldwide. “I am excited to work with a great team of editors and staff to provide readers around the world with the information in food science. In 2023, I hope to increase authors’ success with journals while maintaining our high expectations for review manuscripts,” Camire said.

BDN shares 2023 Department of Art Faculty Exhibition events

01 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine Department of Art will host its 2023 Faculty Exhibition from Feb. 3–March 17 in the Lord Hall Gallery. A public reception will take place 5:30–7 p.m. Feb. 10. The trio Aldrich Norton & Ross will perform live in the gallery at 4 p.m. Feb. 23. Events are free, accessible and open to the public.

Media highlight Sodexo broccoli event at UMaine

01 Feb 2023

News Center Maine, WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and Food Service Director noted that the University of Maine joined 10 other schools across the state for The Maine Broccoli Takeover hosted by food supplier Sodexo. The event highlighted Sodexo’s partnership with Good Shepard Food Bank and efforts to bring locally grown food to the campuses. Broccoli is the number one vegetable consumed by students at the University of Maine System universities.

Sun Journal features UMaine Extension homemakers program

01 Feb 2023

The Sun Journal noted that the Franklin County Extension Homemakers (FCEH), a University of Maine Cooperative Extension program, is gearing up for 2023 with a meeting with their advisory board on Feb. 13. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and target specific community needs and problem solve those needs. FCEH is a volunteer group with the goal of developing leadership, supporting worthy community causes and promoting UMaine Cooperative Extension’s educational programs in Franklin County. Their most recent efforts include a community service project where over 240 adult cover-ups were created for nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Witter Center’s dairy herd ranked eighth in the nation

01 Feb 2023

The herd of Holsteins at the University of Maine’s J.F. Witter Teaching and Research Center is among ten best at U.S. colleges and universities, an annual ranking by the Holstein Association says. The 26-cow herd placed third in New England and tied for eighth in the association’s nationwide 2022 Breed Age Average ranking. Breed Age Average compares the characteristics of an animal or herd to the breed’s average for an animal of similar age and stage of lactation. The Witter Center’s ranking is a product of careful stewardship of the herd’s breeding program. UMaine’s dairy is managed by the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, and provides hundreds of animal and veterinary science students hands-on livestock experience each year. It also serves as a living laboratory for faculty who research innovative approaches to livestock care and feed production. To support the Experiment Station’s farms visit our.umaine.edu/farms

UMaine researcher explores issues with blood pressure measurement in the dental office

01 Feb 2023

In recent years, health care professionals and patients have become concerned that blood pressure, as traditionally measured in the medical clinic, is not done correctly. That includes blood pressure measurement in a dental office, where it is equally important that it be done correctly, according to University of Maine researchers. Merrill Elias, UMaine emeritus professor of psychology and emeritus cooperating professor of biomedical sciences and engineering, and Amanda Goodell, a retired research associate, both researchers affiliated with the Maine Syracuse Longitudinal Study, have studied the use of the automated wrist cuff blood pressure measurement system for routine assessment in a dental office. The wrist cuff measurement is somewhat less accurate than the arm cuff measurement system, according to the researchers, but can be adequate if used properly. Elias and Goodall have written two journal articles to provide evidence that wrist cuff measurement, as taken in the dental office, is often not used properly: “The Need for Accurate Data on Blood Pressure Measurement in the Dental Office,” and, with Adam Davey, “The Perils of Automated Wrist-Cuff Devices and Dental Chairs in Opportunistic Blood Pressure Screening.” Elias also has produced a short video that includes a demonstration of the proper way to measure blood pressure with an automated wrist cuff device, and suggests some ways of achieving more accurate blood pressure measurement. Elias’ views about how blood pressure should be measured in the dental office

are solely his and are not recommendations by UMaine or any other organization with which he is associated.

UMaine study illuminates grief of parents of children with serious mental illness

01 Feb 2023

Caring for a child with a serious mental illness, one which substantially impairs or limits a person's major life activity, can lead to a range of emotions for parents and caregivers, from anxiety and shame to guilt and grief. The stress of the task is compounded if there is also a threat of violence from the child with serious mental illness. A new University of Maine-led study shows that parents raising children with serious mental illness and violent tendencies experience and express grief similar to those of children who have died, which informs how practitioners can help these caregivers cope with the stress. Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology at UMaine, led a study that conducted in-depth interviews with 32 parents of young and adult children with serious mental illness and violent tendencies. The transcripts of the interviews were analyzed for shared themes and ideas across the parents studied. The results showed that the subjects expressed grief and loss similar to that of parents whose children have died, though parents of children with serious mental illness and violent tendencies lack the closure and community support that often comes with the loss of a child. Since their loss is symbolic and the child is still physically present and needs care, parents are more likely to cope with their stress by reconstructing the identity of their child rather than their identity as parents, which is more common for parents of deceased children. This reconstruction ranged from expressing the belief that the expression of mental illness is not truly their child, to viewing their child as a stranger or non-existent. "Our research highlights the pervasive strains and stigma associated with loving and caring for a child who suffers from serious mental illness. For these parents in particular, they are not only mothers and fathers in mourning, but they are also survivors of domestic violence," Sporer says. The study helps illuminate the grief experienced by parents in this uniquely stressful situation and informs practitioners helping parents who are in this caregiving role. The researchers recommend that, in light of these results, therapists encourage "meaning-making" and "both/and thinking," which encourages acceptance of the tough emotions, celebrating what remains of their loved one and allowing for mourning of the connections or relationships that have been lost. "The relationship between mental illness and violence is a complicated one. I hope this work illuminates how compassion and courage is needed to fight the stigma of mental illness and to fight for better access to services and treatment for both persons with mental illness and their loved ones," Sporer says. The study was published Jan. 25, 2023, in the Journal of Family Trauma, Child Custody & Child Development. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine leads study of Ugandan glaciers that unravels 20,000-year-old geological mystery

01 Feb 2023

Ancient geological discrepancies can not only puzzle scientists, but can also lead to revelations about our present climate once they are solved. An international team led by a University of Maine researcher has uncovered a 20,000-year-old geological mystery in Uganda that will inform how scientists understand the relationship between glaciers, sea level temperatures and precipitation during this time and in this location. A team of scientists led by Alice Doughty, an instructor at UMaine's School of Earth and Climate Sciences, conducted a study to determine why, during the last ice age 20,000 years ago, the Rwenzori Mountains of Uganda experienced cold temperatures despite mild sea surface temperatures in the area. Glaciers in general are sensitive to changes in temperature and precipitation. During the last ice age, glaciers in the East African tropics were dry and cold — between 5 degrees C and 9 degrees C — while sea surface temperatures changed relatively little, only between 1 degrees C and 3 degrees C. Scientists had different theories about this discrepancy. One potential explanation was that the rate of cooling with elevation — also known as the lapse rate — was steeper during the drier conditions of the ice age, leading the glaciers high up in the mountains to be colder than they would have been otherwise. "The lapse rate is one of Earth's few negative feedbacks in the climate system, and it helps to regulate Earth's temperature like a thermostat. It is hugely important to understand how lapse rates changed in the past and how they are changing today," says Doughty. The scientists used a 2D ice-flow model with a range of temperature, precipitation and lapse rate estimates to show how the glaciers would grow toward their moraines, the deposit points that mark their known extent at the last ice age. The results indicated that glaciers can reach these moraines even with the modest sea surface temperature change if there is, indeed, a steeper lapse rate. Moreover, that rate is supported by the available biogeochemical analysis in this area. The model also showed that a large change in temperature and no lapse rate change could achieve the same results, but that is not supported by sea surface temperature estimates. The findings not only help piece together the geological puzzle of this region's ice age, but in general, they contribute to the understanding of how the lapse rate can change with time and location, which is vital for informing climate change models on a global scale. "Tropical glaciers are rare and spectacular. Their deposits can tell us about how climate changed in the middle atmosphere — that is, at around 15,000 feet elevation — over thousands of years. The tropics are basically the heat engine of the world, and what happens to climate in the tropics has global impacts," says Doughty. The study was published Jan. 10, 2023, in the journal Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine provides resources for Browntail Moth Awareness Month

02 Feb 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is collaborating with the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for its recently announced Browntail Moth Awareness Month throughout February 2023. Feb. 2 from 3:30–4:30 p.m., there will be a free virtual webinar hosted by the University of Maine One Health Initiative. Topics include the University of Maine's BTM research. No registration is required; join by using this Zoom link. Passcode: 269053. UMaine Extension and the Androscoggin Soil and Water Conservation District will host a free hands-on workshop about how to recognize and remove browntail moths on Feb. 18, 10:30 a.m.–noon. This workshop is an outdoor event; weather-appropriate attire is required. Bring pruning equipment and work gloves. Pole saws, handsaws and loppers will be available for participant trials. Registration is requested but not required. More information and to register for the event can be found on Eventbrite.

UMaine Extension hosts discussion on updated labor laws, H-2A and Fair Labor Standards Act

02 Feb 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host an online discussion on federal agricultural-related employment laws on Feb. 21 at 3 p.m. The session will focus on H-2A program requirements and includes recent Final Rule changes that went into effect in November 2022. The discussion will also cover wage and child labor protections under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Violations under these employment laws can be costly. On Oct. 12, 2022, the U.S. Department of Labor published the final rule, "Temporary Agricultural Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in the United States" which went into

effect on Nov. 14, 2022. This final rule amends the Department's regulations governing the H-2A program to improve program protections for workers and enhance enforcement against fraud and abuse, while modernizing the H-2A application and temporary labor certification process. The presentation will be led by Brian Cleasby, community outreach and resource planning specialist from the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division's (WHD), Northern New England District Office. WHD is responsible for administering a number of statutes that extend various protections to different types of agricultural workers. The session will cover key program considerations to avoid common wage, disclosure, housing, transportation and recordkeeping-related violations at worksites where H-2A workers are employed. FLSA compliance considerations relating to the act's minimum wage, overtime and youth employment provisions in agricultural-related settings will also be discussed. A question-and-answer period will follow the presentation and links to WHD agricultural employment-related resources will be shared during the session. This program is free; register online to receive the link information. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jason Lilley, 207.781.6099; jason.lilley@maine.edu.

UMaine TIDC to host virtual 2023 New England Railroad Symposium Feb. 16

02 Feb 2023

The University of Maine Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center (TIDC) is hosting the 2023 New England Railroad Symposium virtually on Feb. 16 at 9 a.m. The symposium focuses on emerging challenges and solutions in New England rail. The event will feature keynote speaker David Fink, Pan Am Group LLC president, and three panelist presentation/Q&A sessions: National Perspectives, TIDC Research In Action and New England Department of Transportation (DOT), Owner, & Operator Perspectives. More information and registration are online.

UMaine Hutchinson Center and Restorative Justice Project Maine to offer online Foundations in Restorative Practices training

02 Feb 2023

Registration is open for two online restorative practices training programs through the Hutchinson Center. This six-session course, part of the University of Maine Hutchinson Center's professional development program, will be held from 9 a.m.–4 p.m., April 20–21, May 19, June 29–30 and July 21. The cost is $900 per person. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available. More information is online. Today's best thinking in leadership, education and change management emphasizes the need to create spaces where people feel seen, heard and part of a community that cares. Restorative practices, which have their roots in Indigenous knowledge and traditions, are poised to meet this need, improving and repairing relationships between people and communities. The purpose of restorative practices is to build healthy communities, increase social capital, decrease crime and antisocial behavior, repair harm and restore relationships. Through this Foundations in Restorative Practices program, participants will learn nonadversarial problem-solving tools to reach solutions in moments of conflict that go beyond de-escalation and build safer, healthier, more equitable environments. Systematic use of restorative practices can leave participants and the people they interact with feeling connected to positive, resilient and accountable communities. Educators, parents, school administrators, health care providers, social workers, police officers, municipal workers and nonprofit workers alike can benefit from restorative practices. The restorative practices program is facilitated by Heather Fogg, Sarah Matari and Jamar Williams of Restorative Justice Project Maine (RJPM). Fogg joined RJPM July 2021. She values the interconnectedness of all people and honors that as a circle keeper; conflict coach; mediator; restorative dialogue and restorative reflection facilitator; community dialogue facilitator; conferencing facilitator; and Certified Optimum Life Breathologist (C.O.L.B.). Fogg shares her love of the work by awakening the ideas and concepts within others via trainings, presentations and courses about conflict and resolution and restorative justice. She served on the board and leadership circle of the Circle of Restorative Initiatives (CRI) for Maryland, helping to spread the awakening to restorative values and the processes that support them. Fogg was fortunate to grow in the field with years of support, love and encouragement from colleagues and collaborators at the Maryland Judiciary Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO). Matari began providing restorative practices and mediation services to institutions and communities early on in her alternative dispute resolution career. As a trainer and consultant for the New York City Department of Education restorative pilot project, she delivered mediation and restorative circle trainings to staff and students in an effort to help schools work toward restorative culture change. She learned firsthand the importance of having a sustainable implementation strategy and team approach when engaging with restorative practices and brings that experience in her directing of RJPM's Training and Capacity Building Team. Williams joined RJPM in August 2021 as a trainer on the Training and Capacity Building Team. He has extensive experience in various aspects of the prison reentry field and has leveraged his expertise to educate others in universities, institutions and conferences across the country. His focus on social and restorative justice has led him to relocate to Maine to train others on restorative justice practices. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Abby Spooner, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002. Participants may be eligible for funding from the Harold Alfond Center for the Advancement of Maine's Workforce. Learn more here. More information about upcoming professional development programs, including how to register, is online. Need-based scholarships are available. Early registration is recommended as spots are limited.

UMaine Career Fair to be held Feb. 15

02 Feb 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated Feb. 3. The University of Maine Career Center will host the annual Career Fair from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15 at the New Balance Student Recreation Center. UMaine's Career Fair, the largest in the state, is held each year for UMaine and University of Maine at Machias students and alumni of all majors. Over 160 employers from Maine and nationwide will participate. Summer jobs, internships, part-time or full-time positions are available. Selected branches of the U.S. military also will be represented. Participants should register online, create a Career Link profile and upload their resume prior to the event. They are also encouraged to download the "Careers by Symplicity" app available on Apple's App Store and Google Play, which will allow them to filter participating employers by available positions and preferred majors. Students attending the event are advised to dress professionally, bring resumes, prepare a 30-second introductory pitch and research the companies they plan to engage. Career Center staff also are available to help with resume updates and to provide tips for successful interviewing. Students who will be driving to the event are being asked to park in the Collins Center for the Arts and Belgrade lots. A free shuttle from the east end of the CCA lot — along Rangeley Road — to the New Balance Recreation Center will be running throughout the day. The fair is underwritten by Feldman Geospatial, Northern Light Health, VIP Tires and ServiceBath Iron Works, Machias Savings Bank, UScellular, Cintas and Landry French Construction, with additional support from several area sponsors. More information, including a list of participating employers and Career Fair tips, is available online or by contacting Crisanne Blackie, 207. 581.1355; cblackie@maine.edu. The snow date for the event is Wednesday, March 1.

Daily Bulldog shares UMaine Extension class about growing tomatoes

02 Feb 2023

The Daily Bulldog shared that Nick Rowley, sustainable agriculture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will host a workshop on garden tomato production at Franklin County Adult Ed on Tuesday, Feb. 7 from 6–8 p.m.

PPH interviews Dill about the impact of subzero winter temperatures on ticks

02 Feb 2023

Griffin Dill, director of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, spoke to the Portland Press Herald about whether this weekend's subzero temperatures will impact Maine's tick population. "I don't think this cold weather coming up is going to have much of an impact on tick populations at all. We don't have a lot of snow, but what we do have is providing added insulation to the ticks where they are over-wintering. They have adapted quite well to these conditions," Dill said. The Sun Journal shared the PPH report.

Knight speaks to PPH about egg prices

02 Feb 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Colt Knight, an associate professor and the state livestock specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about rising egg prices. Knight told the PPH that he has been getting more calls from people interested in raising their own chickens in order to avoid buying eggs at the grocery store. "Before, it cost twice as much to raise your own eggs as buying them in the store, but right now, you could say it might be cheaper," Knight said.

News Center Maine reports on UMaine using eDNA to track rainbow smelt

02 Feb 2023

News Center Maine featured research from the University of Maine that tracks down sea run rainbow smelt using environmental DNA, or eDNA. "It runs right up against forensics, it's just, we move outside of crime scenes and into the wild. The nice things about environmental DNA is it only requires somebody to collect a water sample," said Michael Kinnison, professor of evolutionary applications at the University of Maine.

Adams chosen as 2023 Artist in Residence at Acadia National Park

02 Feb 2023

Hollie Adams, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, has been selected as one of 13 artists selected for Acadia National Park's Artist-in-Residence Program in 2023. Adams is the author of the novel "Things You've Inherited from Your Mother" and the hybrid prose-poetry chapbook "Deliver Me from Swedish Furniture," which was a finalist for the bpNichol Chapbook Award. She will spend the year making frequent trips to Mount Desert Island to work on a collection of poems on the topic of Acadia in the Anthropocene that will investigate the effects of climate change and the human impact on the park's landscape. Read more on the National Park Service website.

Grew aids discovery of two compounds previously unknown to materials science

02 Feb 2023

Edward Grew, research professor in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences at the University of Maine, has helped a team of Chinese and European scientists obtain official recognition for three new minerals discovered as tiny inclusions in corundum (Al2O3) from a chromite mine in Tibet, China. Read more on the School of Earth and Climate Sciences website.

Salmon deplete fat stores while stopped at dams, UMaine study shows

02 Feb 2023

Restoration of the critically endangered Atlantic salmon is an important issue in the rivers of Maine. Dams on Maine rivers have long been known to impact fish populations, but a new study led by the University of Maine quantifying the time and energy lost by Atlantic salmon stopped by dams indicate that the structures might have even more of an impact than once thought. Atlantic salmon return to the rivers of Maine from the ocean every spring to make the long, arduous swim upstream to spawn in freshwater. When the fish are stopped by dams, they are stuck in warmer waters for longer than expected, which can deplete the fat they have stored up to power their journey. The stored energy isn't just used for migration, but also producing gametes, developing secondary sexual traits and spawning. "Salmon limit the food they eat in freshwater, so excess energy lost during their migration doesn't get replaced," says Sarah Rubenstein, who completed her masters of science in wildlife ecology at the University of Maine in 2021. "However, spawning takes a lot of energy, so the more energy reserves salmon have left after migrating and during spawning, the more likely they will be at successfully reproducing. This is particularly important here in Maine where Atlantic salmon populations have been on the decline since the 1800s." For her graduate thesis, Rubenstein led a group of researchers from UMaine and the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) to radio-tag adult Atlantic salmon at the lowermost dams of the Penobscot and Kennebec Rivers in Maine — the Milford and Lockwood dams, respectively — to track their movements upstream. They measured the fishes' fat stores when the fish were tagged, and then again once they had ascended the dams' fishways, which are meant to mitigate the impacts of dams by providing a detour route for migrating fish. The scientists found that the tagged fish were delayed on average between 16 and 23 days at the dams and lost between 11% and 22% of their fat reserves, in large part due to the temperature of the water but also due to the delay in time. "Delays and poor passage at dams during upstream migrations have been well-documented for Atlantic salmon across their range. We were able to show that these delays have consequences," says Rubenstein. One of the results of such dramatic energy loss could be the decline in repeat spawners — adults that survive the spawning process, return to sea and live to migrate another season to spawn — which have nearly been eliminated from Maine's populations. Moreover, warming waters as a result of climate

change will likely exacerbate the energy depletion. The study suggests that restoration efforts should focus on providing migrating Atlantic salmon with more rapid access to the upstream habitats to get to cooler waters faster. “We studied the impact of delay at only a single barrier. However, Atlantic salmon often encounter multiple dams or other barriers along their migrations and this can increase the likelihood of a cumulative loss of energy that becomes detrimental,” Rubenstein says. “Improving access to quality habitat benefits migrating fish species and is likely to promote increased spawning, post-spawning survival, and reproductive success in Atlantic salmon.” The study was published in the Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences in September 2022. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Four students selected to join McGillicuddy Humanities Center as fellows in spring 2023

03 Feb 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated Feb. 6, 2023. Beginning this spring the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) at the University of Maine will welcome four new undergraduate research fellows for the next year: Paige Allen, Sebastien Chamberlain, Abigail Roberts and Willow Wind. This new cohort will join existing fellows Bell Gellis Morais, Brenna Jones, Paige McHatten and Donald Patten, who will see the culmination of their MHC projects in the coming months. The MHC funds a rotating cohort of eight undergraduate fellows, providing $4,000 each per semester for two semesters to complete the research or creative projects of their choosing. In addition to honing their research skills and building their academic networks, fellows serve as humanities ambassadors to their peers, the campus and beyond. Incoming fellow Paige Allen, a sociology major and member of the Honors College from Mendon, Massachusetts is working with assistant professor of family studies Daniel Puhlman on a project that explores “The Intersection of Ambitious Women and Parenting.” Drawing on semi-structured qualitative interviews with professionally successful women, Allen intends to study career-driven women in relation to their decisions to have children and their experiences of parenting. Allen’s work examines the concept of maternal regret, and asks whether and how maternal regret is present in the lives of ambitious women and what this means for their children and work-life balance. The inaugural Riordan Fellow and the first international affairs major to be awarded an MHC fellowship, Sebastien Chamberlain of Windsor, Maine will spend two semesters working on a project titled “A Digital Cold War for Legitimacy: Pakistani and Indian Narrative Control Through Social Media.” Under the supervision of Asif Nawaz, assistant professor of history and international affairs, Chamberlain will use Twitter’s Application Programming Interface (API) to study social media in India and Pakistan; Chamberlain will look at the limits and authority these countries hold over their citizens’ social media activity and how these controls affect conflict in the contested territory of Kashmir. Abigail Roberts, a senior English major and member of the Honors College from Damariscotta, Maine and this year’s Wiggin Fellow is working on “The Otherworld of Morality: Verbal Contracts and Fairies in Medieval Romance.” Guided by faculty mentor and associate professor of English Sarah Harlan-Houghey, Roberts will be studying the moral implications of fairy contracts which appear frequently in the literature of Medieval and Middle English, with particular interest in how these contracts might illuminate medieval culture and morality. Finally, Willow Wind of Orono, a communication major and member of the Honors College, has received her fellowship for a project titled “Conceptualizing and Enacting Gender Euphoria: Exploring Awareness and Action Across Gender Demographics.” As part of her honors thesis, Wind will be working with Liliana Herakova of the Department of Communication and Journalism to study how people relate to and experience gender. By conducting interviews with the general population and health care providers, inclusive of an artistic journaling component, Wind will inquire into how gender euphoria is operationalized in routine daily performances and in the more specific contexts of health care. Students interested in becoming a McGillicuddy Humanities Center undergraduate fellow have two deadlines to apply annually, on March 17 and Oct. 17. Proposals for research and creative work of all types across the humanities will be considered, from academic papers and art gallery shows, to community workshops or films. More information, including application instructions, proposal guidelines, and a rubric, are all available at on the Humanities Center’s website or by contacting the MHC’s humanities specialist Brian Jansen at brian.jansen@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension 4-H offers maple sugaring workshops in Piscataquis, Penobscot, Somerset, Waldo counties starting Feb. 22

03 Feb 2023

Not long after the New Year celebrations have ended and Maine hunkers down for several more weeks of winter, some farmers and landowners across the state turn their attention to maple sugar season. Depending on the weather, maple trees start to release their sweetness anytime between February and April, and there’s a lot of work to be done to prepare for collecting the sap and boiling it down into syrup. Maple Sugaring 101 is a three-week program open to current 4-H’ers ages 12 and up who are interested in learning about the maple sugaring process and live in Somerset, Piscataquis, Penobscot and Waldo counties. Participants will learn about forest management, tapping trees, transporting sap, using an evaporator, grading and storing syrup, and operating a maple sugaring business. Each week, participants will learn about the process and connect with other young maple sugar makers through online meetings and in-person workshops led by Extension and University of Maine experts. Online meetings are scheduled for 6 p.m. on Wednesdays: Feb. 22, March 1 and March 8. On-site workshops where participants can gain hands-on experience will be held Saturdays with the following schedule:

- Feb. 25 at local sugar houses in each county
- March 4 at the University of Maine’s Thomas J. Corcoran Sugar House in Old Town
- March 11 at the local county Extension office or other location suitable for creating value-added products (TBD)

Maple sugaring is very weather-dependent. However, these dates are likely to be suitable for maple sugaring activities in many parts of the state. Registration is required; there is no cost. For more information, to register or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact your county office:

- Penobscot or Piscataquis County: Sheila Norman, sheila.norman@maine.edu; 207.942.7396 or 207.564.3301.
- Somerset County: Karen Giles, karen.giles@maine.edu; 207.474.9622.
- Waldo County: Sadee Mehuren, sadee.mehuren@maine.edu; 207.342.5971. General questions about the program can be directed to Andrew Hudacs, andrew.hudacs@maine.edu; 207.581.8204.

Morning Ag Clips shares UMaine Extension discussion on agriculture employment laws

03 Feb 2023

Morning Ag Clips noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host an online discussion on federal agricultural-related employment laws on

Feb. 21 at 3 p.m. The session will focus on H-2A program requirements and includes recent Final Rule changes that went into effect in November 2022. This program is free; register online to receive the link information.

Media share Mitchell Center event about shifting challenges in conservation

03 Feb 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot, Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk entitled "A Career in Conservation: Frequent retooling required!" on Feb. 13 at 3 p.m. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage.

Media feature UMaine study about salmons stopped at dams

03 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Courier-Gazette, Phys.org and Hydro Review featured a recent study from the University of Maine that found salmon depleted fat stores while stopped at dams. The scientists found that the tagged fish were delayed on average between 16 and 23 days at the dams and lost between 11% and 22% of their fat reserves, in large part due to the temperature of the water but also due to the delay in time. "We studied the impact of delay at only a single barrier. However, Atlantic salmon often encounter multiple dams or other barriers along their migrations and this can increase the likelihood of a cumulative loss of energy that becomes detrimental. Improving access to quality habitat benefits migrating fish species and is likely to promote increased spawning, post-spawning survival, and reproductive success in Atlantic salmon," said Sarah Rubenstein, who completed her master's of science in wildlife ecology at the University of Maine in 2021. Energy News Network cited the Hydro Review report.

Bruce Hall named University of Maine's CARET delegate

03 Feb 2023

Bruce Hall has been named the Maine delegate to the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET). Hall will represent the University of Maine's Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. CARET is a nationwide collaboration that advocates for understanding and support of the food and agriculture research, extension and education advanced by the land-grant university system. It was established in 1982 by the Board on Agriculture Assembly of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities. Hall was nominated for the position by Diane Rowland, dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture and director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. "CARET members are important voices for land grant university and domestic agriculture. I am grateful to have Bruce join this national initiative to tell UMaine's story," Rowland said. Hall is Director of Agroecology at Wyman's, a 149-year-old 5th generation family-owned Wild Blueberry grower and processor based in Milbridge that is the nation's top frozen fruit brand in retail. In 2022, Wyman's made a donation to establish the Wyman's Wild Blueberry Teaching and Research Center at UMaine. Hall has a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Tampa, and pursued graduate studies in botany from Miami University. He represents the wild blueberry industry on UMaine's Board of Agriculture and is a board member for Penn State's Center for Pollinator Research. He also serves as a committee chair for the Wild Blueberry Advisory Committee.

Apul inducted into AEESS 40 Under 40 program

03 Feb 2023

Onur Apul, a University of Maine assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering, has been inducted into the 2022 Class of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists' (AEESS) 40 Under 40 Recognition Program. According to AEESS, the program recognizes researchers who have helped advance the fields of environmental science or environmental engineering in a demonstrable way in the last 12 months. Apul is investigating ways to eliminate toxic forever chemicals known as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, among other projects. He is the science lead and a steering committee member of UMaine's PFAS+ Initiative, university-wide multi-disciplinary effort to mitigate the spread and environmental and societal ramifications of these forever chemicals through research and development. Additionally, Apul is exploring how nanobubbles, ultrafine pockets of oxygen, carbon dioxide, hydrogen and other gasses contained in liquids, can improve the efficiency of life support functions on spaceships, particularly water treatment and growing algae to provide oxygen and nutrition for astronauts. Apul also is an associate faculty member with the Frontier Institute for Research in Sensor Technologies (FIRST), and a faculty fellow with the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions.

Mitchell Center researchers explore how community-university partnerships can strengthen democratic decision-making

06 Feb 2023

Researchers from the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions have found that community-university collaborations focused on local concerns can help communities make decisions and take actions to resolve them, even when complete agreement isn't possible. In their recent essay for the journal Issues in Science and Technology, Mitchell Center Director David Hart; faculty researchers Bridie McGreavy, Darren Ranco and Anthony Sutton; and Ph.D. student Gabrielle Hillyer share lessons about collaboration based on more than a decade of experience helping clammers from Maine communities and Wabanaki Tribal Nations tackle various challenges associated with shellfishing in mudflats along Maine's coast. Partnerships sometimes begin when researchers attend town halls and other community meetings, primarily as a listener. This can lead to discussions of issues that could benefit from scientific research and other ways of working together. Productive collaborations are more likely to emerge when partners co-develop the research questions and methods, as well as participate in collecting and interpreting data. As the researchers began meeting with clammers and other community members, they learned about a variety of concerns. For example, many mudflats were closed to harvesting by the Maine Department of Marine Resources due to water pollution problems. This eventually led to a number of collaborative projects to improve water quality and reopen closed flats. Learning about such community concerns is an on-going process, and often leads to the development of collaborations focused on other challenges. For instance, Passamaquoddy tribal citizens also expressed concerns regarding access to mudflats, the impact of toxins in sustenance practices, and the negative effects of dams on rivers and Wabanaki cultures. This has led to innovative partnerships focused on some of these issues. In all their work, the researchers emphasize that strong partnerships are usually characterized by empathy, flexibility and trust, as well as deep commitments to equity and justice. The

researchers also discovered that the goal of "finding common ground" is often unrealistic. Instead, they underscore the value of building collaborative capacity by learning about differences among partners and fostering constructive deliberation that draws upon multiple forms of knowledge and points of view. "If common ground exists at all," says McGreavy, "we find it in the shared belief that these differences, and the creativity they spur, motivates problem-solving and other kinds of connection." The Mitchell Center researchers have found that community-university partnerships can yield broad-based benefits. Community members who participate in these problem-solving collaborations not only benefit from the results, but can also gain a sense of empowerment through shared work. Faculty can acquire insights that bolster their other work and the satisfaction of helping tackle real-world problems, sometimes in their own backyards. Local partners may also assist researchers when complications arise. Student researchers, in particular, can find purpose and greater motivation to conduct scientific investigations by working with community members to resolve problems that affect them, according to the essay. They also can gain skills that can help them in their future careers, new relationships and lifelong passions. In fact, doctoral student Hillyer was recently invited to speak at an international conference based in part on her leadership roles in these collaborations. These collaborations also hold great promise for learning how to work together more effectively. "At a time when surveys show that many Americans are concerned about political polarization, we are finding that local partnerships may allow for a more tailored approach to working across differences," Hart says. "We hope these collaborations can generate the kinds of 'small wins' that grow the social capital needed to address even bigger challenges." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hosts wild blueberry conference Feb. 25

06 Feb 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host its annual wild blueberry conference on Feb. 25 from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor. An industry soiree will follow the conference from 4–7 p.m. with value-added vendors, dinner and keynote speaker Amanda Beal, commissioner of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. Conference sessions will focus on integrated pest and pollinator management, climate change, harvesting and processing. Specific topics include irrigation, mulch, biochar, dual-use solar, food safety, harvester improvements, a new rake and other exciting innovations occurring in both Maine and Nova Scotia. Sessions will be led by UMaine Extension and University of Maine educators and researchers; industry experts; representatives from DACF and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); and farmers from Maine and Canada. The conference fee is $0–$50 sliding scale; registration is required. Register and find the agenda on the event webpage. Pesticide credits will be available. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Mary Michaud, 207.581.3175; mary.j.michaud@maine.edu.

Tasting Table cites UMaine information about lobsters

06 Feb 2023

In an article about the difference between spiny and Maine lobster meat, Tasting Table cited information from the Maine Sea Grant website about Maine lobster, noting that though they are available year round, their numbers spike in late summer and into fall.

Media share Darling Marine Center search for student researchers

06 Feb 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot and Lincoln County News shared that University of Maine's Darling Marine Center is recruiting student researchers to contribute to a diversity of marine and environmental research projects this summer. This season, more than 15 paid internships are available for students, thanks to support from friends and donors to the Darling Marine Center, as well as external research funding from the National Science Foundation, NOAA, USDA, Maine Sea Grant, and other federal and state institutions. Application information is available on the Darling Marine Center website.

BDN notes Maine Business School ranking in U.S. News and World Reports

06 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that the Maine Business School's undergraduate and graduate programs have been ranked among the best online programs in the country by U.S. News & World Report. The University of Maine Graduate School of Business has been ranked among the 2023 Best Online MBA programs at No. 51 and ranked No. 31 MBA programs for veterans. The undergraduate online management program has been ranked No. 44.

News Center Maine shares UMaine tips for protecting animals from severe cold

06 Feb 2023

News Center Maine shared tips from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension about keeping farm animals safe in the severe cold.

BDN boosts UMaine outdoor recreation and leadership job fair

06 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that the University of Maine Career Center and Outdoor Leadership Program will host an Outdoor Recreation and Leadership Job Fair from 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Feb. 7 in the North Pod in the Memorial Union. More information, including a list of participating employers, is online.

Media boost UMaine Extension wild blueberry conference

06 Feb 2023

The Daily Bulldog, Penobscot Bay Pilot, CentralMaine.com and Bangor Daily News noted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host its annual wild blueberry conference on Feb. 25 from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor. An industry soiree will follow the conference from 4–7 p.m. with value-added vendors, dinner and keynote speaker Amanda Beal, commissioner of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and

Forestry. Register and find the agenda on the event webpage.

Media boost youth maple sugaring workshop

06 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Piscataquis Observer, Penobscot Bay Pilot, Republican Journal, WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) and The County shared Maple Sugaring 101, a three-week program open to current 4-H'ers ages 12 and up who are interested in learning about the maple sugaring process and live in Somerset, Piscataquis, Penobscot and Waldo counties. Register on the UMaine Cooperative Extension 4-H website.

Crawley speaks to New York Times about influx of new residents to Maine

06 Feb 2023

Andrew Crawley, assistant professor at the University of Maine School of Economics, spoke to the New York Times for an article about an influx of new residents to Maine. Crawley said the number of workers in the state is still down since the pandemic; school enrollment may be ticking up, but the results are inconclusive. "For now, it's a blip, not a trend — but even as a blip, it's incredible, and if it holds steady, then it's huge. For those arguing we need more people, more nurses, more teachers, more plumbers, this is good news; the question is if it will continue," Crawley said. Boston.com shared the New York Times report.

UMaine geologist helps identify critical minerals in northern Maine

07 Feb 2023

In his career as a University of Maine geologist, Martin Yates has been recruited to help investigate geologic anomalies, but none like the one found last year on Pennington Mountain in Aroostook County. His work contributed to a major discovery of critical mineral resources of rare earth elements and trace metals that was the first of its kind in the eastern half of the U.S. Chunzeng Wang, a professor at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, and John Slack, a U.S. Geological Survey scientist emeritus from Farmington, met with Yates at his microprobe lab in the Bryand Global Science Center in early June 2022 to identify minerals in rock samples Wang collected from Pennington Mountain. In 2021, USGS found the first signs of the anomaly during an airborne survey, and Wang traveled to the site to examine the rocks and collect samples for geochemical analysis. For two, nine-hour days, Yates, Wang and Slack examined thin, polished rock samples the size of dominos using an electron microprobe. They also used the electron beams to measure various X-rays emitted from the rocks, the types and concentrations of which serve as signatures for identifying minerals. At the culmination of their analysis, the three geologists found 15–20 identifiable minerals, including the highly desirable metals niobium and zirconium. According to the USGS, niobium is a crucial component in steelmaking and superalloys for jets. Zirconium is another rare metal used for manufacturing ceramics and some superalloys. Following the mineral identification research at UMaine and other analyses conducted by the University of New Brunswick and ALS Laboratories, Yates joined Wang; Slack; and Anjana Shah, a USGS research geophysicist; and other scientists for an additional survey of the Pennington Mountain anomaly in late June 2022. Their trek, combined with more than a year of evidence, confirmed that it contained a unique combination of rare earth elements, niobium and zirconium all contained in trachyte, an igneous rock with feldspar crystals. Rare earth elements are used to make smartphones and other electronics and renewable energy technology, according to USGS. A commercial mining operation in Mountain Pass, California, is the only one in the U.S. that harvests rare earth elements. Yates says the team found that the rare earth elements and trace metal deposits in the mountain were created through hydrothermal mineralization. There has been no other evidence of mineralized trachyte in Maine that has been formed this way, Yates says, and it also confirms that the geologic anomaly was not man-made. This trachyte-hosted rare earth element-niobium-zirconium occurrence is similar to others found across the world in China and Australia, according to researchers. Based on the similarities to these other occurrences and a lack of detailed mapping conducted in and around Pennington Mountain, researchers say it's possible northern Maine may contain other notable quantities of rare and critical minerals. Researchers published their findings in the journal Economic Geology. Wang is first author, with Yates, and other researchers from the USGS, Maine Geological Survey and the University of New Brunswick serving as co-authors. "The discovery itself of this occurrence is of scientific interest. It's something that's not been described east of the Mississippi River before, so it's exciting that we found this. Is this of economic significance? It only has potential," Yates says. "I think that it will inspire some mining companies that are forward thinking and entrepreneurial to start looking at other possible occurrences in Maine." The initial survey that kick-started the Pennington Mountain investigation was part of the USGS Earth Mapping Resources Initiative. The effort aims to uncover more information about the nation's geological framework and possible critical mineral deposits that could support the economy by creating new geologic maps, and by conducting new geophysical and topographic surveys and geochemical sampling. Yates says little is known about the possible rare metals and other critical minerals present in Maine because the state has extensive forest cover, water, swampland and glacial till that typically block out signals from radiological survey drones used to uncover these resources. "So the fact that we happened to find this and it happened to be confirmed by doing the legwork after finding it with the survey, suggests that there may be more deposits of this type in the state," he says, "we have this — what I consider — a major success that has directly come out of the federal government's mapping with these surveys." Yates says he was not surprised when Wang contacted him for help with the investigation. Yates is the only university geologist with a microprobe in Maine, and his ability to use it and expertise in mineral identification with it is also unique. The two geologists also have known each other for more than 20 years, and have worked together on many projects and co-advised several students. "He is a powerhouse," Yates says about Wang. "I have never seen anyone so energetic. I think he puts more days in the field than any other geologist that I know in the state right now. From the first moment that the snow is off the outcrops of northern Maine, he is out collecting samples." Yates says he also has collaborated with other geologists from the University of Maine at Farmington (UMF) over the years. Maine geologists are "a tight-knit group," Yates says, particularly because they go to meetings and on trips together. Inter-university collaboration between geologists from different institutions within the University of Maine System (UMS), including UMaine, UMPI and UMF, bolsters research efforts and generates more comprehensive findings, Yates says. Partnerships between UMS geologists also benefits students by giving them access to expertise and resources not available at their home institutions, Yates says. For example, Yates offers unique equipment and instruction in mineral identification and analytical instrumentation not found outside of UMaine. Wang is one of the researchers in the state who conducts in-depth geological mapping. "This is my role," Yates says. "I feel I have a real responsibility to offer service and expertise and the analytical abilities our labs have to other campuses and colleges." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Lecture about comics and heritage learning hosted by MLC Feb. 16

07 Feb 2023

The University of Maine Department of Modern Languages and Classics (MLC), with support from Adelaide Hamm Campus Activity Fund, will host a talk entitled “Narrating Lives: Creation of Comics by Heritage Learners” with Sandra Bernal Heredia, assistant professor in the Department of Spanish at Colby College, at Hill Auditorium on Feb. 16, 5-6:30 p.m. Bernal Heredia will discuss how the creation of comics can be especially beneficial for heritage learners as students develop visual and narrative abilities, but can also serve to reflect and transmit trauma, memory and emotions. Many studies have highlighted the prominence and appeal of using comics as second language learning tools, pointing principally to the casual speech and image to text format to engage students with the language on a dynamic level. Comic creation demands planning, idea organization, language succinctness and grammar, among other things; if the comic has a testimonial component, it can also be a visual and written documentation of a forgotten or marginalized experience. In this talk, Bernal Heredia will give examples of the comics her students created through the Pixton platform and the activities used in this teaching unit.

Brown ash, emerald ash borer webinar and field tour to take place March 1, 3

07 Feb 2023

A webinar and field tour of research about brown ash and the emerald ash borer will be held March 1 and 3, respectively, by the University of Maine Center for Research on Sustainable Forests (CRSF). The webinar on March 1 will discuss species preservation goals in the context of brown ash trees in the face of emerald ash borer, including a Maine Forest Service update on EAB status, traps and monitoring; management trials and brown ash seed collection projects; and forest/land management strategies. Panelists include John Daigle, professor of forest recreation management in the School of Forest Resources (SFR); SFR graduate students Tyler Everett and Emily Francis; Andy Shultz, consulting forester; and Mike Parisio of the Maine Forest Service. A field tour of the Greater Augusta Utilities District around Readfield will follow on March 3. For details, resources and registration details, visit the CRSF website.

Media share UMaine Hutchinson Center restorative justice workshops

07 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Penobscot Bay Pilot shared a six-session course in restorative justice through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center’s professional development program. The spring 2023 workshops will be held from 9 a.m.–4 p.m., April 20–21, May 19, June 29–30, and July 21. The cost is $900 per person. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available. More information is online.

Dagher speaks to Weather Channel about 3D-printed materials

07 Feb 2023

Habib Dagher, founding director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center, spoke to the Weather Channel about the potential to use sawdust and wood waste as a more sustainable alternative to traditional building materials. “This house becomes like a carbon storage facility because the wood fiber or waste is essentially locked into the house,” says Dagher.

Miller featured on Maine Public to discuss ethics of abortion

07 Feb 2023

Jessica Miller, professor of philosophy at the University of Maine, was a guest on Maine Public's live call-in radio program Maine Calling on Feb. 6 to discuss ethical issues around Gov. Janet Mills' and legislative leaders' recent proposal to expand access to abortion in Maine.

Wahle speaks to Maine Public about lobster regulations

07 Feb 2023

Rick Wahle, director of the Lobster Institute and professor of marine sciences at the University of Maine, spoke to Maine Public about the continued challenges facing lobstermen even after the Maine lobster fishery secured a six-year pause in a federal spending bill late last year that will buy the industry more time to research and test new fishing techniques and other measures aimed at protecting North Atlantic right whales. "These are huge challenges ahead, and six years may not be enough," Wahle said.

Maine Monitor speaks to Fairman about Maine teacher shortage

07 Feb 2023

The Maine Monitor interviewed Janet Fairman, co-director of the Maine Education Policy Research Institute (MEPRI) and associate professor in the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, about Maine’s teacher shortage. The Bangor Daily News and News Center Maine shared the Maine Monitor report.

Wahle speaks to AP about impact of changes in lobster regulations

07 Feb 2023

The Associated Press interviewed Rick Wahle, director of the Lobster Institute and professor of marine sciences at the University of Maine, about the impact of the rules about the minimum and maximum sizes of lobsters potentially becoming stricter. Wahle said that changing the U.S. measurement standards gives lobsters more opportunity to reproduce, though the change would also have ramifications such as marketing consequences for the U.S.-Canada trade. Wahle added that more restrictive measurement guidelines “would be consistent with the precautionary approach to hedge bets against poor year classes.” The Bangor Daily News, The Hill, Spectrum News, NBC Boston, WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor), Seafood Source and National Fisherman shared the AP report.

Daigle speaks to Saturday Evening Post about emerald ash borer impact on Wabanaki basket making

07 Feb 2023

The Saturday Evening Post spoke to John Daigle, professor of forest recreation management at the University of Maine, about the impact of the invasive emerald ash borer on Wabanaki basket making. Daigle conducts research into emerald ash borers, combining academic methods with indigenous expertise. “It’s such a strong part of people’s identity. The style of basket you make kind of defines who you are. It’s one of those things that makes it scary when you think about the emerald ash borer,” he said.

Alaba honored at BHBS 9th Biennial Conference in Tampa

07 Feb 2023

Tolu Esther Alaba, Ph.D. student in the Graduate School of Biological Science and Engineering at the University of Maine, received the Junior Investigator Speaker Award and third place Poster Award at the Berry Health Benefits Symposium (BHBS) Ninth Biennial Conference in Tampa, Florida for her work entitled "Phenolic acids from wild blueberry facilitate wound healing through vascular remodeling."

Richards serves on 2023 National Merit Scholarship Selection Committee

07 Feb 2023

Christopher Richards, director of undergraduate enrollment at the University of Maine, was invited to serve as a member of the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Selection Committee earlier this month. Richards served on a 14-member committee to select the finalists of 2023 National Merit Scholarships from an estimated 15,000 semifinalists. The UMaine alumnus and native of Dixfield, Maine has been a member of the university’s enrollment management team for over 10 years. Most recently, Richards served as vice president for enrollment management for nearly three years, and was named director in October. In the National Merit Scholarship Program, three types of scholarships are offered to finalists: National Merit $2,500 scholarships, corporate-sponsored merit scholarship awards, and college-sponsored merit scholarship awards. Special Scholarships also are awarded to outstanding students who are not finalists and meet a corporate sponsor's criteria, according to the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) website. NMSC recognizes and honors academically talented students in the United States. Its scholarship programs promote a wider and deeper respect for learning in general and for exceptionally talented individuals, in particular; spotlight top students and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence at all levels of education; and stimulate increased support from individuals and organizations to sponsor scholarships for outstanding scholastic talent.

UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning names new executive director of academic program support and online learning

08 Feb 2023

Richard Roberts has been named executive director of academic program support and online learning for the University of Maine Division of Lifelong Learning. In this role, Roberts will provide leadership in the development and implementation of online learning and program development at UMaine and UMaine Machias. This position will serve as a core member of the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning senior leadership team and supervise the UMaineOnline advising team. “We are thrilled to have Richard step into this critical role as we look to the future of UMaineOnline and increase our capacity to meet the needs of current and future online degree-seeking students,” said Associate Provost for Online and Continuing Education and Dean of Cooperative Extension Hannah Carter. “Richard has a deep knowledge of online programs, diverse experiences within higher ed, and a passion and enthusiasm for UMaine and our programs. He will be an asset to our team and to this institution.” The executive director is responsible for partnering with administrators from across campus to develop new online programs that respond to student and workforce needs. In addition, the executive director will establish and monitor enrollment goals and student success metrics that align with the strategic priorities of the university. Roberts has worked in higher education for 12 years, serving students in a variety of roles, such as advising, academic success coaching, teaching, curriculum development and student success programming. Prior to taking on his new role, Roberts served as UMaineOnline advisor, offering information and guidance to prospective and current online students, and working closely with academic faculty and university departments to ensure personalized and accessible student services. “I’m honored and excited to continue my work with UMaineOnline,” said Roberts. “I look forward to collaborating with the UMaineOnline team and campus partners as we strive to grow our online student support and expand our online program offerings.”

Lincoln County News shares Leslie honor as 2022 AAAS Fellow

08 Feb 2023

The Lincoln County News reported that Heather Leslie, professor of marine science and director of the Darling Marine Center at the University of Maine, has been named a 2022 American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow, one of the highest honors in the scientific community.

Dagher quoted in Engineering News Record about offshore wind in Maine

08 Feb 2023

In an article about offshore and onshore wind projects moving forward in Maine, Engineering News Record interviewed Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center, about the U.S. Interior Department approving a 9,700-acre floating turbine research site in a deepwater federal tract in the Gulf of Maine last month. Dagher said the approval “opens the door … to continue development of the first floating turbine research array in the U.S., bringing floating wind closer to reality. It will help evaluate environmental and fishing impacts, while scaling up the production of the concrete hull technology, and training the workforce needed to start a new industry."

MaineBiz reports on Innovate Maine Fellows Program doubling cohort

08 Feb 2023

MaineBiz reported that the Innovate for Maine Fellows Program at the Foster Center for Innovation at the University of Maine is looking to double the cohort

size this year to around 50 fellows. "This is made possible by additional funding from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan to address the challenges startups and small businesses face in accessing and bringing new products to market," said Renee Kelly, UMaine's associate vice president for strategic partnerships and innovation.

Media share UMaine study about caring for children with serious mental illness

08 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Mount Desert Islander and WMTW-TV (Channel 8 in Portland) featured a new University of Maine-led study that shows that parents raising children with serious mental illness and violent tendencies experience and express grief similar to those of children who have died, which informs how practitioners can help these caregivers cope with the stress. “Our research highlights the pervasive strains and stigma associated with loving and caring for a child who suffers from serious mental illness. For these parents in particular, they are not only mothers and fathers in mourning, but they are also survivors of domestic violence,” says Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology at UMaine. Yahoo! News, KMIZ-TV (Channel 17 in Columbia, Miss.) and KAKE-TV (ABC 10 in Wichita, Kan.) shared the WMTW report.

UMaine Dining engagement opportunities in February

09 Feb 2023

University of Maine Dining and Sodexo continue their community engagement in February with the continuation of open forums and the launch of a Culinary Council. Both are opportunities to provide feedback on campus dining and the partnership with Sodexo, announced last fall. Starting on Feb. 9 and continuing on the second Thursday of each month from 1–2 p.m., members of the UMaine community — students and employees — can register to join the Culinary Council. Members will have an opportunity to learn about new recipes, give their input into menus and more. Registration is online. Campus Dining Open Forums will be held from 10–11:30 a.m. and 2–3:30 p.m. on Feb. 13 in the Bear’s Den Pub in the Memorial Union. “Having the Sodexo team join us here on campus has been an exciting new experience,” says general manager Kerry Chasteen. “They bring a wealth of knowledge, a love of food and most importantly the desire to see our campus food service get even better. We can’t wait to see what our community has to say when they join the Culinary Council, at a focus group or through the survey.” Joining Chasteen, former interim director of UMaine Dining, is Sodexo resident district manager Tadd Stone, who comes to UMaine from the University of Southern Maine dining program and has worked in food service for more than 24 years. “We’re so excited to have a busy spring semester full of new programs and lots of opportunities for the campus to give us feedback,” Stone says. “Joining Kerry and the UMaine Dining team has been a joy. They’re dedicated to student service, talented and we’re excited to provide students with opportunities to try new things while also keeping UMaine’s traditions alive.” For information on other upcoming events, to request a reasonable accommodation or to set up an interview to learn more about UMaine’s food service leadership, contact Debra Bell, 207.356.2353; debra.bell@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offers ServSafe® food protection course and exam

09 Feb 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering an eight-hour ServSafe® Food Protection Manager course on March 7 from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. This course, which will be held at UMaine Extension's Cumberland County office in Falmouth, will help prepare students for the ServSafe® Food Protection Manager Certification exam. The exam will immediately follow the course. This nationally recognized certification is for anyone working in the food industry, including nonprofit organizations. The course covers topics such as food safety; personal hygiene; preventing cross-contamination; cleaning and sanitizing; time and temperature control; and receiving and storing food. Students will receive the ServSafe® Manager book 7th Ed., diagnostic exam and practice exam approximately two weeks prior to the course. No refunds for the course will be issued. Registration closes Feb. 21. The $140 fee covers the cost of the class, materials and exam. Register and find more details on the program webpage. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, call the Cumberland County office, 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine); or email ksavoie@maine.edu.

Fogler Library hosts Latin American Film Festival Feb. 14–March 21

09 Feb 2023

The University of Maine Fogler Library will host the Latin American Film Festival, with five screenings of Spanish and Portuguese language movies subtitled in English starting Feb. 14 through March 21. Screenings will occur in person and online via streaming. In-person events will include featured guests and refreshments. The scheduled screenings are as follows:

- Feb. 14, 7-9:30 p.m. — “Perfect Strangers” (2018), dir. Manolo Caro, Mexico — Fogler Library Lynch Room
- Feb. 21, 7-9:30 p.m. — “Machuca” (2004), dir. Andrés Wood, Chile — Fogler Library Lynch Room
- Feb. 21, 7-9:30 p.m. — “Alice Júnior” (2019), dir. Gil Baroni, Brazil — Fogler Library Lynch Room
- March 7, 7-9:30 p.m. — “Vicenta” (2020), dir. Darío Doria, Argentina — Fogler Library Lynch Room
- March 21, 6-8 p.m. — “Eternal Amazon” (2012), dir. Belisário Franca, Brazil — Fogler Library Classroom 1

For streaming access, visit the film festival website (username: SFC@UniversityofMaine; password: FilmFestUofMaine23). For more information about the films and screenings, visit the Fogler Library events webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, email Christopher Clark, christopher.clark@maine.edu. The festival is made possible through a Pragda Spanish Film Club Grant and with generous support from the Alton ’38 and Adelaide Hamm Campus Activity Fund.

Brewer featured on Democracy Forum discussing small-state bias in federal government

09 Feb 2023

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, was featured on Democracy Forum, a monthly radio program produced by League of Women Voters-Downeast in cooperation with WERU-FM. The episode discussed how rural states are over-represented in the federal government, and how that affects Maine.

Maine Monitor highlights Dagher, ASCC 3D printer

09 Feb 2023

The Maine Monitor featured the Advanced Structures and Composites Center's (ASCC) 3D printer, which is the largest in the world, and interviewed ASCC Founding Executive Director Habib Dagher about UMaine's growing reputation as a place where science and technology combine to create products that benefit society. "By working together we can make a difference, educate the next generation and move the needle on societal needs. We need to bring the young people back to Maine. We have a motto in our lab…None of us is as smart as all of us," Dagher says.

Socolow featured on The Assignment with Audie Cornish discussing violence in sports

09 Feb 2023

Michael Socolow, associate professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, was featured on The Assignment with Audie Cornish, a CNN podcast, about the history of boxing, violence in sports and the future of the NFL. "What do you do when the population might have issues with the violence you're providing to them through their television sets? And what the NFL did is they created new rules about the violence. They created penalties for hitting the quarterback in certain ways, and now we see if you're concussed, you have to leave the field. You have to take a test. They brought the doctors in. They've … done all kinds of things and they've been helped by television. Television doesn't show the most horrible injuries," Socolow said.

Beth Davis: Using eDNA to Monitor Maine's Rivers

09 Feb 2023

Beth Davis, a graduate student in the University of Maine School of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, is exploring the uses of environmental DNA, or eDNA, to monitor fish and invertebrates in freshwater rivers and streams. Advised by Andy Rominger, assistant professor of ecological bioinformatics, Davis looks to understand how community ecology in these freshwater ecosystems is impacted by dams and river restoration projects. She is currently focusing on sites regularly sampled by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the Penobscot Indian Nation Department of Natural Resources and others. Read more about Davis on the Maine EPSCoR website.

Brandon Henry: Studying blue crabs in Casco Bay

09 Feb 2023

Warming temperatures have attracted blue crabs to the Gulf of Maine, and their aggressive nature is harmful to native bivalves that are essential to Maine fisheries. Brandon Henry, a graduate student involved in Maine EPSCoR's environmental DNA, or eDNA, initiative, is researching the novel emergence of blue crabs along the coast of Maine, specifically Casco Bay. To better understand their shift in location and behavior, Henry is investigating blue crabs' diet, habitat preferences, reproduction and ability to survive Maine's cold winters. Part of his research involves trying to detect their presence using eDNA collected from water samples, baited commercial grade lobster traps, trawl nets and telemetry devices. "This project may offer a window into how other creatures may be shifting their ranges." Henry says. "It's a really great way of getting an early insight into what impacts climate change may have in the Gulf of Maine." Read more about Henry's work on the Maine EPSCoR website.

Socolow wins Journalism History essay contest

10 Feb 2023

Michael Socolow, associate professor at the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, won an essay contest sponsored by the academic journal Journalism History on the topic of the history and importance of television over the last 60 years, in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of TV news coverage of the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963. Socolow's essay, which will be published this fall in Journalism History, is titled, "Commercial Television's Secret Goldmine: The Hidden Riches Generated by U.S. Network TV News, 1960–1970." Read more on the Journalism History website.

Brewer featured on Todd Veinotte Show discussing debt ceiling

10 Feb 2023

Mark Brewer, political science professor at the University of Maine, was a featured guest on the Halifax City News podcast The Todd Veinotte Show discussing United States politics, including the State of the Union and the debt ceiling.

WBZN-FM shares Versant Power Astronomy Center's Foo Fighters event

10 Feb 2023

WBZN-FM (107.3 in Brewer) shared that the Versant Power Astronomy Center & Jordan Planetarium will host "Foo Fighters in February" on Feb. 12, 19 and 26. Tickets are $9 and can be purchased on the Versant Power Astronomy Center website, by phone at 207-581-1341 or at the box office prior to each show.

BDN boosts UMaine International Dance Festival

10 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine will hold the 2023 International Dance Festival on Feb. 11 at the Collins Center for the Arts.

Visit the event webpage for more information.

Bouchard speaks to Science about salmon aquaculture

10 Feb 2023

Science Magazine interviewed Deborah Bouchard, associate Extension professor and aquatic animal health specialist at the University of Maine, about the advantages and disadvantages of using a sand filter in salmon aquaculture systems. “When operating properly, it’s great. … If sand gets out of your biofilter, then you are in big, big trouble with your pumps, which will break down immediately,” Bouchard said.

UMaine study highlights importance of everyday interactions in environmental research

10 Feb 2023

Scientific research can often feel prescriptive, sterile and disconnected from the communities where it happens — but it doesn’t have to be. Using two case studies of watershed restoration and environmental monitoring projects in Maine, a new paper from the University of Maine illustrates how scientists can successfully use “embodiment,” or the nuanced practices and everyday interactions that shape collaboration, to improve their research. The authors of the study, published in volume 10 issue 4 of the Communication Design Quarterly, assert that “embodiment” encompasses the many ways in which people interact while collaborating, from listening, sharing and organizing ideas to fostering empathy, deciding what questions to ask, working through tensions and laughing together. “Our work pays attention to the many ways in which bodies are a foundational part of research, from the ways bodies participate, collaborate within, are studied, conduct studies, write together and are written (or not written) about,” says Jennifer Smith-Mayo, Ph.D. student in communication at the University of Maine and co-author of the study. “This focus on embodiment draws attention to research practices that, in the process of striving for objectivity in data, may make bodies involved in that research invisible or detach them from the research context.” To show how embodiment can be used in practice to improve research methods, Mayo and her colleagues Michael Clay, Ph.D. candidate in communication and journalism at UMaine, and Bridie McGreavy, associate professor of environmental communication, highlighted two case studies: the Meduxnekeag River watershed restoration and Maine-eDNA project. Both focus on embodiment to structure their research processes and shape ongoing, emergent and collaborative research practices. For Maine-eDNA — UMaine’s research, education and outreach program that aims to transform the understanding and sustainability of Maine's coastal ecosystems via environmental DNA (eDNA) — the researchers conducted a team science knowledge mapping activity, where collaborators in the project were asked to define eDNA and all the concepts connected to it. Though a seemingly simple task, focusing on elements of embodiment in collaborative communication allowed the group to reflect on and negotiate the scientists’ relationship with the community — for example, the importance of ethical communication practices as an ongoing commitment for eDNA work. “Focusing on the embodied practices and processes of putting together something like a knowledge map can give collaborators a way of sensing and working across differences that wouldn’t otherwise exist on a project,” says McGreavy. “In the case of eDNA, the knowledge mapping created spaces for collaborators to identify differences in how they imagined eDNA science connecting with communities, which opened up new conversations and insights about ethics and engagement.” In the Meduxnekeag River watershed case study, the researchers worked with partners to design an interview protocol that asks farmers how the act of farming helps them shape their relationships with land and water in the watershed, the values that guide those practices and how they think about best management practices. The results showed how important caring for soil is to the ways that farmers relate to, make decisions about and find value in land and water throughout the Meduxnekeag watershed. “What makes the Meduxnekeag River watershed case study so interesting is how it helped us consider how to connect research design in community-engaged research with everyday, lived experiences of our community partners,” says Clay. “You can see this play out in how our questions shifted from persuading farmers, or determining what communication approaches they will find compelling, to better understanding farmers' relationships and perspectives as they relate to soil, water and farming practices.” According to the authors, the success of the case studies show that framing research in terms of embodiment offers a means to better understand how communication practices shape collaboration and knowledge co-production. We also discuss how engaged research projects that attend to embodiment can offer partners and researchers opportunities to modify or reshape a project’s efforts to improve collaboration and strengthen community relationships. “These case studies show that engaging with embodiment can be a valuable approach to collaborative research design with community partners,” Smith-Mayo says. “Going forward, researchers can make commitments to embodied practices such as collaborative research design, paying attention to and attending to: partners’ needs, active listening, engaging in dialogue, respect for each other, and reflexivity, an iterative practice of checking in with others and reflection. Such practices will continue to strengthen relationships between researchers and community partners as we collaborate to produce knowledge together.” The research was supported by a National Science Foundation award to Maine EPSCoR at the University of Maine and the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions’ Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) Grant Program. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Native American Programs launches website for Penobscot signs

10 Feb 2023

The University of Maine Native American Programs, in partnership with the Penobscot Nation, has launched a website to accompany bilingual English and Penobscot signage on campus. The new website includes audio recordings of the Penobscot language translations by language master Gabe Paul, a Penobscot pronunciation guide, and maps of the signs across campus. “The use and recognition of Penobscot language connects everyone in the University of Maine community to a deeper connection to this place where we learn and build community,” says Darren Ranco, chair of Native American Programs. “It has made our Native students feel more welcome and recognized, and created many more pathways for cross-cultural dialogues on the importance of place, naming, and language.” Ranco says that the next steps include having QR codes for each sign connected to the web pages with the audio translations. “We are committed to adding to this integration of Penobscot language over the next several years to other buildings, street signs and campus entrance signs as a welcome to everyone who visits here,” Ranco says. Ranco adds that a similar website for bilingual English and Pasamaquoddy signs at UMaine Machias is underway, with translations by Passamaquoddy language master Newell Lewey. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine’s MIRTA accelerator program selects five teams for 2023 cohort

10 Feb 2023

Five faculty-led innovation teams have been selected to participate in the fifth cohort of the University of Maine’s MIRTA accelerator program. The 2023 projects will develop research innovations in photovoltaic and color changing fabric; utilizing a new technology in catheterization to reduce infection in long-

term patients; developing custom-made medical ports for stuffed animals so children can cope with the stress of similar medical procedures for themselves or siblings; a novel non-toxic fire suppressant foam used in fire fighting; and a computer system that can scan pulp for anomalies at the source. MIRTA, coordinated by UMaine's Foster Center for Innovation, assists teams from Maine research institutions to advance lab discoveries into public and commercial use. Teams work 20 hours a week for 16 weeks doing market research, intellectual property analysis and business model development to bring their inventions to market. Guiding them throughout the process are business incubation staff from the Foster Center. Additionally, each team has an advisory committee of industry and technology experts who provide feedback and advice. The teams are eligible for up to $25,000 each to help develop commercialization implementation plans. This year, MIRTA is piloting two new programs: hosting three Business Fellows — Taylor Boucher, Xander Karris and Japhet Murenzi. All three are MaineMBA students in the Graduate School of Business. Also new this year, a MaineHealth team, led by Bethany Sweet, is participating in this MIRTA cohort and has been matched with MIRTA Business Fellow Taylor Boucher. To kick off the program, this year's cohort recently completed an immersive boot camp designed to introduce them to all aspects of the commercialization process. Commercialization plans vary depending on the type of invention a team brings to MIRTA, and the result could be starting a new company or licensing to an existing one. From the 21 teams in the first five MIRTA cohorts, eight new startups have been formed, seven patents have been filed or issued, and the teams have collectively raised more than $2.5 million in external funding and prototype sales to support ongoing commercialization. Companies that have been formed after participation in MIRTA include Neuright, winner of the $25,000 David Shaw prize at the statewide Top Gun accelerator program in 2019, and UNAR Labs selected to join the first cohort of the Roux Institute Startup Residency Program in 2021. In 2022, Waved Medical was the first runner up in the Greenlight Maine Collegiate edition and was also the winner of Maine Venture Fund's "Maine Startup Challenge" for the collegiate tier. MIRTA is made possible by support from the University of Maine System Research Reinvestment Fund (RRF) and the Maine Technology Institute. RRF is a pool of competitive internal grants allocated to advance research projects along the path from discovery to becoming commercial products with public benefit. All projects are tied to Maine businesses or industries critical to the future of the state. The MIRTA 6.0 teams are: **INTELLI-TEX** Color-changing textile yarns and photovoltaic power-producing Textile Yarns that can be woven into consumer-grade products. Team: David Erb, Senior R&D Program Manager, Advanced Structures and Composites Center; and Christopher Erb, UMaine senior in mechanical engineering **SeekInsight**: AI Fiber Characterization Tool Delivers New Insight for Papermakers SeekInsight provides papermakers with more comprehensive fiber identification capabilities than previously possible, without the inconvenience of human labeled data, better enabling quality, research, and product managers to control their pulp composition, improve product properties and adapt to new material trends. Team: Douglas Bousfield, Calder Professor, Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering; Tyler Seekins, Ph.D. candidate; Andre Khalil, Director of CompuMaine Lab **PROCatheter** A bio-inspired coating on commercial catheter surfaces that can reduce the need for antibiotics making them safer for patients by minimizing both protein and bacterial adhesion to the catheter surface as well as the spread of bacteria to other organs. Team: Caitlin Howell, Associate Professor, Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering; Japhet Murenzi, MaineMBA student **Firefighting BioGel** Bio-derived gel that can offer an environmentally friendly novel material for firefighting, that is both safer for the environment and for those fighting fires. Team: James Anderson, Senior R&D Program Manager, Advanced Structures and Composites Center; Xander Karris, MaineMBA student. **Play Portal** The Play Portal™, is a fully simulated 3D printed port-a-catheter that is inserted into stuffed animals and dolls and given to pediatric patients who have port-a-catheters. This can help young patients feel more at ease with their medical device if they have a friend to share the experience with. Team: Bethany Sweet, Certified Child Life Specialist, MaineHealth; Taylor Boucher, MaineMBA student. **About The Foster Center for Innovation** *The Foster Center for Innovation is the hub of innovation-focused activities at the University of Maine and the state's leading resource for innovation and commercialization, serving both the campus community and outside businesses and organizations. The center is part of the university's Office of Innovation and Economic Development, which links businesses and communities to university experts and first-class facilities to solve problems and innovate Maine's future and builds strategic partnerships between public- and private-sector groups and individuals to advance prosperity in our state.* Contact: Katy England, katharine.england@maine.edu

UMaine Extension and regional partners develop Cultivating Resilience podcast; looking for interviewees for second season

13 Feb 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension recently launched a new podcast called Cultivating Resilience, developed in partnership with colleagues in the Cultivemos network, a group of farmers, farm workers and organizations that support them in the Northeast, from Maine to West Virginia. Cultivating Resilience is a six-episode podcast featuring candid conversations with farmers about how they find connection and strength amid daily struggles. The group is currently looking for farmers to talk to for the podcast's second season, due out later this year. "We are excited to continue with a second season and bring these important stories to a new group of listeners," says Leslie Forstadt, human development specialist at UMaine Extension and co-lead of the Farm Communication Cohort, which produces the podcast. "Each episode shares the lived experiences of farmers and how they stay resilient in the face of stress. Some episodes also feature Extension educators and the work they do with farmers to develop and implement strategies for resilience." For season two, the Cultivemos Farm Communication Cohort is looking for farmers who are trying to acquire or have recently acquired farmland; farmers who have passed or are planning to pass on their farm to someone other than a family member; or farmers who can speak to balancing farm, family and life responsibilities. Farming is often referred to as one of the most stressful jobs in the country, citing family and financial pressures, isolation, physical strain and exhaustion. Everyone on a farm is part of a larger community, and on Cultivating Resilience, farmers and farm workers discuss stressors and supports. Topics covered include family farm succession, climate change, community belonging, farm finances and overall well being. Experts also provide resources to strengthen mental health and survive uncertain times. The podcast is free and available on common platforms like Google and Apple. Episode transcriptions are available in English and Spanish. For more information about the podcast, including how to participate in season two, contact Leslie Forstadt, 207-581-3487; leslie.forstadt@maine.edu.

Media boost UMaine Extension labor workshop

13 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Piscataquis Observer boosted the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's online discussion on federal agricultural-related employment laws on Feb. 21 at 3 p.m. The session will focus on H-2A program requirements and includes recent Final Rule changes that went into effect in November. The discussion will also cover wage and child labor protections under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). This program is free; register online to receive the link information.

Maine Monitor notes UMaine Machias classes in article about rural nurse shortages

13 Feb 2023

In an article about the shortage of nurses in rural areas of Maine, particularly Washington County, the Maine Monitor quoted state Sen. Marianne Moore of

Calais as saying she is “encouraged” by the healthcare classes being offered at the University of Maine at Machias.

Media note Talty book chosen as Waldo Reads Together featured title

13 Feb 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot and Republican Journal reported that the Waldo Reads Together committee announced this year’s featured title for its One Book, One Community program is Night of the Living Rez by Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine.

News Center Maine, PenBay Pilot reports on UMaine Penobscot signs website

13 Feb 2023

News Center Maine and the Penobscot Bay Pilot shared that the University of Maine Native American Programs, in partnership with the Penobscot Nation, has launched a website to accompany bilingual English and Penobscot signage on campus. The new website includes audio recordings of the Penobscot language translations by language master Gabe Paul, a Penobscot pronunciation guide and maps of the signs across campus.

Public News Service reports on UMaine Arctic charr research

13 Feb 2023

The Public News Service reported that researchers at the University of Maine are studying the feeding habits of Arctic charr to help predict how other fish species could adapt to a warming climate. Michael Kinnison, director of the Maine Center for Genetics and the Environment at the University of Maine, said the research will inform biologists how introducing other species into Maine lakes could impact Arctic charr populations, or if they will ultimately need to be moved into special reserves to survive. "When we start having significant problems with Arctic charr, we can anticipate that sometime in the future, we could be facing some similar challenges for these other species," Kinnison said.

PPH commentary features UMaine Lobster Institute’s Lobster Town Meeting

13 Feb 2023

An op-ed for the Portland Press Herald highlighted the University of Maine Lobster Institute’s U.S.-Canada Lobster Town Meeting, which it has held for the past 18 years, and the discussions there about the future of the industry’s approach to the North Atlantic right whale. CentralMaine.com shared the PPH commentary.

Media feature UMaine research about African glaciers

13 Feb 2023

WMTW-TV (Channel 8 in Portland) and the Bangor Daily News reported on University of Maine research about tropical glaciers in Uganda. “One of the big reasons why the tropics are important is because what happens in the tropics doesn't stay in the tropics. It influences the rest of the globe. A lot of our atmospheric circulation starts in the tropics — that’s where most of the solar heating is, and so the land heats up, that air rises and circulates through — and so, if you cool the land surface in the tropics, if you cool the ocean surface in the tropics, that’s going to change the air circulation of the entire planet,” said Alice Doughty, author of the study and lecturer at the UMaine School of Earth and Climate Sciences.

Lilley speaks to Maine Public about early maple tree tapping

13 Feb 2023

Jason Lilley, assistant Extension professor and Maine sustainable agriculture and maple industry educator, was interviewed by Maine Public about the early maple tree tapping season caused by the warm winter weather. "All of these changing weather patterns and weather extremes are having impacts on the tree health. And we as a research community are trying to figure out how that impacts the long-term viability of the individual trees but also the industry,” Lilley said. WBUR and Connecticut Public shared the Maine Public report. Food & Wine cited the WBUR report.

Yu receives NSF Early CAREER award for solid-solid phase transition research

13 Feb 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated Feb. 23, 2023. Liping Yu, assistant professor of physics and an associate member of the Frontier Institute for Research in Sensor Technologies (FIRST) at the University of Maine, has earned an Early CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the foundation’s most prestigious recognition of early-career faculty with potential to serve as academic role models in research and education. Yu will receive a five-year $528,300 grant to support his research in solid-solid phase transitions. Most materials have several different stable crystalline phases, each with its own set of physical, chemical and mechanical properties. For instance, carbon can take the phase form of both hard, precious diamonds or flaky, black graphite used in pencils. Solid-solid transitions between different crystalline phases are ubiquitous and important phenomena. They can lead to a wide variety of technologically important applications, such as diamond and steel production, synthesis of ceramic materials, thermal energy harvesting and storage, rewritable optical data storage and nonvolatile electronic memories. Solid-solid phase transitions have been studied for nearly a century. Significant progress has been made in understanding the relative stability between different phases, which is the driving force for the phase transition. However, the kinetics, or motions, that dictate whether the transition can occur under given environmental conditions and which path the transition likely takes remain poorly understood. Through his research, Yu and his team will develop a computationally efficient method to advance the fundamental understanding of the kinetics underlying solid-solid transitions at the atomic level. The method will use state-of-the-art machine learning, modern quantum mechanics calculations and reverse engineering to overcome the challenges of studying atomic-level transitions of this nature. “This research has the potential to lay a framework for obtaining the ability to control phase transition processes and accelerate the design and discovery of new functional phase-change materials where kinetics is

essential," Yu says. Yu's team will also develop advanced courses in computational materials physics and modeling at the University of Maine, expand the partnership between the University of Maine and national laboratories for student research, and create a summer computational materials research fellowship program for undergraduates. They also aim to create a module about materials design for high school students in collaboration with the Maine Center for Research in STEM Education (RiSE Center) at the University of Maine. "Through these educational and outreach activities, we aim to inspire and develop a diverse, globally competitive next-generation STEM workforce in computational materials science that will benefit the state of Maine as well as the nation," Yu says. Yu joined the University of Maine as an assistant professor of physics in September 2018 and currently leads a research group focused on materials theory, informatics, and design. The goal of his research is to make impactful contributions to the design and discovery of new or improved functional materials for sustainable energy, such as solar cells, batteries and capacitors, and for next-generation electronics such as transistors and sensors. "We are thrilled by this recognition of professor Yu's excellence" says MacKenzie Stetzer, associate professor and acting chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy. "This highly selective CAREER award is a defining moment of his faculty career. It will considerably strengthen both our undergraduate and graduate programs and help prepare future generations of materials physicists in Maine and beyond to tackle the critical questions and problems they will face." Yu's award starts March 1, 2023. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Whitfield named UMaine chief marketing and communications officer

13 Feb 2023

Following a University of Maine System-wide search, Meredith Whitfield, chief of staff to University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, has been named UMaine chief marketing and communications officer, effective March 1. Whitfield has been a member of the UMaine community since October 2021. Among her multiple responsibilities as chief of staff and a member of the President's Cabinet, Whitfield has been responsible for drafting key institutional communications, advancing engagement with university constituents on and off campus, guiding and supporting strategic initiatives, and assisting in establishing UMaine's reputation and relationship with the external community. "I have greatly appreciated Meredith's vision, leadership and work ethic as chief of staff, and look forward now to collaborating with her to advance the state, regional and national marketing and communications strategies of the state's R1 research and its regional campus," says President Ferrini-Mundy. "Her experience and talent in communications and external relations will benefit our many stakeholders." For more than 15 years, she has served in executive support roles, and external and government relations administration in higher education. Prior to coming to Maine, Whitfield was deputy chief of staff and director of external relations at Western Carolina University, and special assistant for federal relations and research at Appalachian State University. Her career includes legislative assistant experience in two congressional offices, and as an associate lobbyist. Whitfield holds an MBA from Appalachian State University. As UMaine's chief marketing and communications officer, Whitfield will direct the Division of Marketing and Communications, which has institutional responsibilities for both UMaine and the University of Maine at Machias. She will serve as the UMaine and UMaine Machias public information officer and spokesperson, and the primary communications liaison with the University of Maine System.

UMaine supports teaching of Wabanaki Studies in K–12 schools

13 Feb 2023

Last fall, Grace Bermeo was in her last semester as an elementary education major at the University of Maine, doing her student teaching at Portland's East End Community School. The school was piloting Portland Public Schools' Wabanaki Studies curriculum, which weaves lessons about the history, culture, language and more of Maine's original inhabitants — the Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Mi'kmaq and Maliseet/Wolastoq people — through various subjects. "I went to all the teacher meetings in August, where we discussed the curriculum in-depth, and because we were the first group to go, we were kind of the guinea pigs," says Bermeo, who taught the curriculum in a third-grade class with her mentor teacher. Having moved from New York City to Maine at age 10 and having graduated from Biddeford High School before going to UMaine, Bermeo says she learned a little about the Wabanaki people growing up. But her knowledge didn't feel sufficient for teaching the curriculum. "Before I would teach the lessons, I was teaching myself, too," she says. One lesson involved a field trip to a dam on the Presumpscot River in Westbrook, where students were challenged to think about how the river was used by the Wabanaki versus European settlers. "We talked about how the Wabanaki relied on the river for food, for travel, and how the Europeans came in and built dams and took the river away. It was really interesting for the students and for me to learn about that and think about how it still has an impact," Bermeo says. The UMaine College of Education and Human Development has launched a pair of initiatives to help education graduates like Bermeo be better prepared to teach Wabanaki studies when they get jobs in Maine schools. Starting this school year, all pre-service teachers in the college are required to complete the University of Maine System's Dawnland micro-credential, a self-directed online course exploring the history of the original people of Maine. Starting next year, the college will require teacher education students to take a semester-long class called Teaching Wabanaki Studies, which is being offered for the first time this spring through the Native American Studies program at UMaine. The micro-credential and the class were both developed by John Bear Mitchell, a citizen of the Penobscot Nation from Indian Island and a lecturer in Wabanaki Studies, among other roles at UMaine. "We have an opportunity at UMaine to be a model for how this is done in other places," says Mitchell. "We're taking an Indigenous knowledge approach. In other words, we're going to be doing and creating." The course is designed to provide students with eight to 10 example lesson plans and supplementary materials that they can take with them after graduation. It also covers how to create additional lessons and connect them to the Maine Learning Results. Importantly, the lessons span the list of subjects taught in elementary and secondary schools, including math, science and engineering, health, language arts and social studies. "Indigenous knowledge is broad, and the curriculum has to reflect that," Mitchell says. "We exist in every single subject." A 2001 state law requires K–12 schools in Maine to teach Wabanaki history and culture. The law is still widely referred to by its bill number, LD 291, which was sponsored by the Penobscot Nation's then-tribal representative to the Maine Legislature and UMaine alumna, the Hon. Donna Loring. Some have criticized the state and school districts for failing to fully implement the law. Last October, a group led by the Wabanaki Alliance, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Abbe Museum and the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission released a report that says the Maine Department of Education has not "meaningfully enforced" the law and that schools don't "consistently and appropriately" teach Wabanaki Studies. The report also called teacher training and professional development on the topic insufficient. The two initiatives in the College of Education and Human Development were in the works before the report came out. Last year, the college created a committee to look at ways it currently supports implementation of the Wabanaki Studies law and to explore how to incorporate more perspectives and knowledge about the Wabanaki people into courses for aspiring teachers at UMaine. In addition, Mitchell led a Wabanaki Studies strand at last summer's inaugural UMaine Educators Institute, which more than 120 Maine teachers participated in. "We are the largest teacher education program in the state, so it's our responsibility to ensure the educators who serve our communities are not only able to meet the letter of the law, but to go beyond it and provide specific and relevant lessons about the first people of Maine," says Penny Bishop, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. Mitchell, who has been involved with adding Wabanaki Studies standards to the Maine Learning Results since LD 291 passed and who has worked with Maine DOE and other organizations on teacher training for several years, agrees that the goal should be to go above and beyond the minimum requirements of the law. He notes that many schools and school districts have taken it upon themselves to create programs and curriculum to do just that. "Things rarely happen quickly in education, but we've made

great strides in 21 years," Mitchell says. "From a standalone law to now, all of the tribes have developed their own curriculum, all are working with local school districts. So, we have schools interested, we have the College of Education and Human Development interested." After introducing the Wabanaki Studies curriculum at East End Community School in the fall, all elementary schools in the Portland district are now teaching it. The district also has plans to introduce it at the middle and high school levels during the 2024–25 school year. Similarly, the Bangor School Department is piloting a Wabanaki language and history course at Bangor High School this spring. About halfway through her student teaching, Bermeo, the recent UMaine graduate, was hired as a full-time teacher at Portland's Rowe Elementary School, where she is currently teaching the Wabanaki Studies curriculum to a class of second graders. Bermeo completed the Dawnland micro-credential course in December and says it helped her gain a better understanding of the history of the Wabanaki people that will have long-term benefits to her as a teacher. "I feel a lot more confident than I did in August or September," she says, adding that she wishes she were still in school so she could take the Teaching Wabanaki Studies class. "My students in the fall and the class I have now, they love the curriculum," Bermeo adds. "They are so engaged and so excited to connect what they learn about the Wabanaki people to their own lives and to the other topics we're learning about." Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

UMaine part of $10 million USDA grant to fuel economic resilience, sustainability in eastern U.S. forests

13 Feb 2023

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded a $10 million grant to a collaborative research team from the University of Maine, the University of Georgia and lead-site Purdue University to help landowners and stakeholders better adapt their forests to increasingly complicated economic and climate conditions in the eastern United States. UMaine will receive $2.7 million for their efforts on the project. About five million small, private landowners control just over half the acreage of forests in the eastern U.S. This contrasts with western U.S. forests, which are mostly publicly owned. The aim of the project partners is to improve the management of 15 million acres of those forests, an area nearly as large as the state of West Virginia. The project encompasses the northern hardwood forest in the Northeast, the central hardwood region, and the southern pine and mixed hardwood. "Maine's landscape has created incredible recreational activities and economic opportunities for our state, but our great outdoors is facing new challenges in light of climate change, evolving markets, and land-use changes," said Senators Susan Collins and Angus King. "Addressing these challenges isn't easy, and this new investment for the University of Maine is a positive step to integrate technology in forestry research, education, and outreach — providing significant benefits to the long-term health and sustainability of Maine's forests. We are grateful to our partners at the U.S. Department of Agriculture for their help in protecting these extraordinary lands for generations to come." PERSEUS (Promoting Economic Resilience and Sustainability of the Eastern U.S. Forests) will work to protect forestry's many benefits that include timber and fiber production, along with climate mitigation. Their long-term sustainability faces threats from climate change, evolving markets and land-use changes. "Forests are highly dynamic and driven by an array of factors, including climate. Management needs to simultaneously consider short- and long-term conditions, which complicate actions," says Aaron Weiskittel, professor of forest biometrics and modeling, and director of the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests at UMaine. "PERSEUS attempts to leverage emerging technology to provide landowners with the necessary tools to make optimal decisions for different competing objectives." PERSEUS will use digital technology to improve the health and sustainability of forests. High-accuracy automated measurement serves as the project core. "Purdue has a suite of novel digital tools that can be applied to this project," says Songlin Fei, a professor of forestry and natural resources, and director of the Center for Digital Forestry at Purdue. Those tools range from drones to piloted aircraft to satellite-based sensors that will provide nearly real-time measurements of an entire forest. The PERSEUS project team also includes UMaine School of Forest Resources faculty members Erin Simons-Legaard, Sandra De Urioste-Stone, Adam Daigneault, Daniel Hayes and Kasey Legaard, who will work cross-institutionally to construct and apply an integrated digital framework for modeling current and future forest ecosystem service trends at the landowner-scale, resulting in data upon which to base their forest management decisions. The project will support a competency-based, multimodal education and training system whereby diverse participants can acquire modern skills and knowledge in digital forestry. "Forestry generally prides itself as a boots-on-the-ground business, while technology is rapidly changing access to information. PERSEUS will provide the necessary training to help both students and landowners alike leverage these new tools," says Weiskittel, adding that the project's successful research proposal benefited directly from landowner input and congressional support. A Purdue news release about the research award is online. Contact: Meg Fergusson, margaret.fergusson@maine.edu

Ethan Howe: Finding Wall Street on Main Street

13 Feb 2023

For Ethan Howe, investing is about more than the money: it's about the challenge, the thrill of taking risks and the community that he has built around it. Aside from his involvement with student investment funds on campus, Howe has used his knowledge of the market to lead a UMaine team in a global competition, where they ranked in the top 5% worldwide. Howe's passion for finance started when he was a teenager living in Uxbridge, Massachusetts, and he realized how little financial literacy had been taught to him and his peers. "I started doing independent research on financial literacy," Howe says. "It's something really important that not a lot of younger people even know about. I wanted to learn about this stuff, and I wanted to be able to teach it to others and work in a career where I can help people manage their finances." Howe, currently a senior majoring in finance, transferred to UMaine from University of Hartford after his freshman year. One of the elements of UMaine that convinced him to transfer was the active Student Portfolio Investment Fund, known by its members as "SPIFFY," which manages about $3.9 million in stocks, bonds and international funds of the UMaine Endowment. Howe leads a team of three student analysts in the financials sector. "We make all the executive decisions by a voting basis which is really exciting because it puts the power in the students' hands," Howe says. "We feel like we're managing it ourselves which is a great opportunity to have as a college student before you get into the real workplace. That has been really great." So, when professor of finance Sebastian Lobe asked Howe and peers in his Investment Strategy class if they would represent UMaine in the 2022 Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) Trading Challenge — a highly realistic trading competition with 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students from more than 200 schools in 23 countries — Howe quickly took the reins. Howe explains that investing through SPIFFY is more focused on long-term returns. With the CME Trading Challenge, he had a chance to experiment with riskier trading strategies like scalping — exploiting the small changes in share prices over the course of the day by quickly buying and selling shares in order to build profits — because there was no real money at stake. "There are things called indicators that tell you when to buy and sell based on price activity," Howe says. "It seems simple, but in practice it's a lot more complex. I was testing out my indicators and trading off of those, I was finding a lot of success on a very short term basis, which is pretty cool to see. It's valuable to me because I have an interest in the analytical side of finance, and to be able to push it to the next level, that's something that I really found interesting." The risk paid off, too: Howe's team ranked No. 22 of nearly 500 teams worldwide in the 2022 CME Trading Challenge. "I didn't expect it," Howe says. "I was trading for a few hours a day and trying to keep our place as high as we could get without ruining the whole account. Stick to the formula, set your limits and follow those limits.The only successful traders are the ones that stick to their guidelines and follow the formula. That's something that I tested and it did work for the most part." As a professor, Lobe was thrilled with the team's success. He says that in class, Howe "perfectly demonstrates his understanding of finance theory in his classes and can apply investing fundamentals in real life," which, in his experience as a professor, is "a unique combination." Even so, Lobe says Howe's performance in the competition was exceptional, demonstrating "an above-average trading discipline coupled with

stress resistance when scalping." "In a highly realistic trading simulation, the team made a great return of 51% over one month. All competing teams' average and median returns have been negative, with -13.1% and -4.3%, with no notable performance difference between undergraduate and graduate teams," Lobe explains. "The UMaine team's risk management was superior, as the stable performance with relatively low volatility demonstrates." Howe is enrolled in the MaineMBA 4+1 accelerated program and will complete his undergraduate degree in the spring. "I hope to experience further growth in Ethan [Howe]'s intellectual endeavors that allow for future opportunities and success in academia or as a practitioner and thought leader," Lobe says. Howe says for now, day trading is "a little passion project," and he still thinks he will pursue long-term investment. He was recently accepted for a wealth management internship role at Fidelity. "I'm excited about that," Howe says. "I feel more comfortable with long term investment just because the stress and the risk is not always there. It is very stressful to day trade — but if I got the opportunity it would be something I seriously consider working in." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Kaylee Hussey: Wiki-wonder

13 Feb 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated Feb. 14, 2023. The assignment was simple: add information to the Wikipedia page of an invertebrate species, citing two peer-reviewed sources. Somehow, Kaylee Hussey misunderstood the task — and may have found a passion for science communication along the way. Hussey grew up in southern Maine. She always loved animals and knew she wanted to study wildlife ecology at the University of Maine when she arrived. "The only thing I could see myself doing was working outside and working with animals," Hussey says. "I like learning about ecology in general, and how systems are connected, and how different systems affect one another. It's given me a lot of opportunities and I really like the faculty in the department." Despite her affection for creatures big and small, Hussey developed a fear of spiders in her teens. This was out of character; as a kid, she admits to rounding up spiders from her yard into a bucket and gently coloring them with pink chalk, undaunted by arachnophobia. In Invertebrate Biology class last semester with Erin Grey, professor of aquatic genetics, Hussey found the perfect assignment to face her fears: editing the Wikipedia page of an invertebrate of her choosing. Grey found the assignment through Wiki Education, a program available to college and university instructors across the U.S. and Canada to assign students to write Wikipedia articles guided by online tutorials. Though Wiki Education modules had been used by UMaine professors before, it was Grey's first experience with the program. "It was kind of a test run for me," Grey says. "It was a really nice way for me to gauge that students were really understanding the content because they were able to write it in their own words for a general audience. It's nice to know the students' hard work will live on past the class. There are so few Wikipedia pages for invertebrate species there really is a lot that students can do. It wasn't hard to find Wikipedia pages that needed editing." Hussey chose the bold jumping spider Wikipedia page and dove right in. She spent hours reading dozens of research papers on jumping spiders, synthesizing the information and distilling it to add to the page. "I got lost in it," Hussey says. "The beginning article was very simple. I think there were a couple sections, which didn't include more than a sentence of information. It didn't include anything about their life history or reproduction. One of the biggest gaps was on vision: it mentioned that they have excellent vision, but they didn't expand on that, and it's probably one of the most notable things about the spider." Instead of updating the page with two sources — like Grey's assignment required — Hussey cited 20 peer-reviewed papers in the updated version of the page. Hussey first realized that she had made a mistake on the presentation day for the assignment. "I knew I had gone a little above and beyond, but then I saw people presenting and I was like, 'Oh, I really gave this a lot of effort,'" Hussey says. "I said, 'I misunderstood,' and everybody was laughing." "Thankfully she didn't go first," Grey laughs. "That would have been really awkward for everyone else who followed. All the students did a good job, but when Kaylee [Hussey] got up there, we were all very impressed." Meanwhile, Cassidy Villeneuve, communications and marketing coordinator for Wiki Education, noticed that the jumping spider page was getting many more views than a page of its kind usually does — on average, about 300 a day, with a total of 34,000 views since Kaylee had finished her edits, which, Villeneuve says, "is pretty big for a page about an invertebrate species." Looking into it further, Villeneuve realized that the changes attracting new readers were all made by a student through the Wiki Education program. Inspired, Villeneuve reached out to Grey for Hussey's contact information in order to interview and feature her on Wiki Education's blog. "I love pulling examples that speak to this bigger impact that a student can make, thinking about how people are going to use this information in their life," Villeneuve says. "Kaylee [Hussey] wanted to inspire more of an appreciation for the natural world so maybe by reading more about this particular spider, people will give it a second thought before killing them. Students are in a great position to do this kind of science communication because they have access to scholarly sources and they remember what it was like learning about these complex topics for the first time. They might just change a few readers' minds." For Hussey, though, editing the page was about more than just generating goodwill for the jumping spider. Wikipedia is a powerful tool for providing accessible information to the world. Hussey has experienced the need for such tools in her own life. "I am a first-generation student. I never had around-the-dinner-table conversations about science," Hussey says. "I think it's important for somebody to be able to Google something and be able to read something that's accurate." Hussey, who completed her coursework for the wildlife ecology degree in December and will graduate in May, also says that rewriting the experience has opened her eyes to what she is capable of in terms of communicating about science. "I am actually looking for a job right now doing something like that," Hussey says. "I think that it's the biggest gap in science. People want to learn about this stuff, but it can be challenging if you don't know how to read a scientific paper. I think it's important that somebody who is familiar with the research makes sure the information is correct." Still, as far as her own arachnophobia goes, spending so much time learning about the jumping spider has made her a veritable fan. "Now I watch videos of them doing their mating dance," Hussey says. "They're very cute. They're kind of clever. It made me appreciate them more." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Piscataquis Observer shares that UMaine student will intern with Sen. Collins

14 Feb 2023

The Piscataquis Observer noted that University of Maine junior Steffi Victoria has been awarded a spring internship in Sen. Susan Collins' Washington, D.C. office. Victoria first met Collins during the UMaine Cohen Institute Summer Program's Washington, D.C., trip last year, and she completed an internship in Collins' Bangor office last fall. Victoria is majoring in political science and minoring in leadership studies. She participates in an array of organizations at UMaine, such as Pi Sigma Alpha; the National Political Science Honor Society, University of Maine Chapter; and Sigma Alpha Lambda; the National Leadership and Honors Organization, University of Maine Chapter.

Phys.org highlights UMaine study about embodiment in environmental research

14 Feb 2023

Phys.org featured a new paper from the University of Maine that illustrates how scientists can successfully use "embodiment," or the nuanced practices and everyday interactions that shape collaboration, to improve their research. "Going forward, researchers can make commitments to embodied practices such as collaborative research design, paying attention to and attending to: partners' needs, active listening, engaging in dialogue, respect for each other, and

reflexivity, an iterative practice of checking in with others and reflection. Such practices will continue to strengthen relationships between researchers and community partners as we collaborate to produce knowledge together," says Jennifer Smith-Mayo, a Ph.D. student in communication and co-author of the study.

BDN reports on UMaine's Human-Centered Technology Design B.S. launching in fall 2023

14 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that the University of Maine School of Computing and Information Sciences will launch a new bachelor of science in Human-Centered Technology Design program in the fall 2023 semester, after the degree program was approved at the Jan. 30 meeting of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees. Human-Centered Technology Design, or HCTD, focuses on the design and development of digital technology with a grounding on the needs and capabilities of the humans who will use it, bringing together elements from new media, computer science, spatial computing, psychology, communications and innovation engineering.

Blackstone speaks to WGME about Mainers choosing to live childfree

14 Feb 2023

Amy Blackstone, professor of sociology at the University of Maine, spoke to WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) about the choice some Maine couples are making to be child-free by choice. Blackstone published a book in 2019 called "Child Free by Choice," sharing some of her story, her research, myths and history about not having children. "The idea of opting out of parenthood is not new, but one thing that is very new is that we're talking about it. … We've had women we've called spinsters for many decades, and those folks have opted out of parenthood. We've had men that we call bachelors that have never had kids, so we've had different names for them, but we've always had people who never became parents because they didn't want to become parents," Blackstone said. WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the WGME segment.

UMaine hosts 2023 Winter Carnival Feb. 21–25

14 Feb 2023

The University of Maine will host its 2023 Winter Carnival from Feb. 21–25. The weeklong celebration will feature a Star Wars theme and offer games and events that are "out of this world." The carnival begins with a kickoff bonfire with s'mores and a hot cocoa bar from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Feb. 21 on the Mall. Other events, all in the Memorial Union, include:

- Star Wars, Service and Crafts, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Feb. 22, Lown and Bumps Room
- Star Wars Trivia, 8–10 p.m. Feb. 23, Bear's Den Pub
- Go Blue Friday and Small Business Fair, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Feb. 24, Bangor Room
- Casino Night, 8–11 p.m. Feb. 25, North Pod

Also during the carnival will be a weeklong, campuswide Yoda Scavenger Hunt, with new clues released each day on Campus Groups, and a weeklong Social Media Contest, in which participants take a picture with the Black Bear Statue and share it on Instagram for a chance to win a pair of L.L. Bean boots. The carnival is organized by the Center for Student involvement, and students and staff across campus. The festivities are also sponsored by the Division of Student Life, Maine Bound, UMaine Student Government and the Campus Activities Board. Visit the Center for Student Involvement website and Instagram account, @um.getinvolved, for more information. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sierra Crenshaw, sierra.crenshaw@maine.edu.

University of Maine announces fall 2022 Dean's List

14 Feb 2023

The University of Maine recognized 3,010 students for achieving Dean's List honors in the fall 2022 semester. Of the students who made the Dean's List, 1,983 are from Maine, 957 are from 45 other states and 70 are from 25 countries other than the U.S. To be eligible for the Full-time Dean's List, a student must have completed 12 or more calculable credits in the semester and have earned a 3.50 or higher semester GPA. Students who have part-time status during both the fall and spring semesters of a given academic year are eligible for Part-time Dean's List. They must have completed 12 or more calculable credits over both terms and have earned a combined GPA in those terms of 3.50 or higher. Also available is a breakdown of the Dean's List by Maine counties.
Please note that some students have requested that their information not be released; therefore, their names are not included.

Last name	First name	City	State	Country
Abbott	Emily	Brookline	MA	
Abbott	Emma	Cumberland Foreside	ME	
Abdulhay	Basam	Portland	ME	
Abell	Madeline	Stoneham	MA	

Accurso	Karly	Bangor	ME	
Ackor	Brody	Cumberland Center	ME	
Adams	Abby	Mendon	MA	
Adams	Bridget	Orono	ME	
Adams	Ileana	Bradley	ME	
Adams	Jack	Westerly	RI	
Adams	Olivia	Lowell	MA	
Adams	Paige	Bedford	NH	
Adetogun	FoFo	Regina	SK	Canada
Agbuya	Hezekiah Gabriel	Waldo	ME	
Agneta	Monica	Windham	ME	
Agostino	Larissa	Dracut	MA	
Ahlin	Shane	Wilmington	MA	
Ahmad	Arius	Gorham	ME	
Aiello	Nick	Nashua	NH	
Albert	Matthew	Bradford	ME	
Albert	Sam	Fort Kent	ME	
Aldrich	Ayla	Biddeford	ME	
Aldrich	Patrick	Rome	ME	
Alicea	Talia	Litchfield	CT	

Allard	Alexis	Levant	ME	
Allard	Grant	Cumberland Center	ME	
Allen	Benjamin	Johnston	RI	
Allen	Gavin	Old Town	ME	
Allen	Nick	Minot	ME	
Allen	Paige	Mendon	MA	
Allen	Phil	Vassalboro	ME	
Allen	Ryan	Chapel Hill	NC	
Allen	Seth	Wales	ME	
Allison	Josh	Veazie	ME	
Almonte	Niomi	Orono	ME	
Alofs	Zachary	Scarborough	ME	
Alsamsam	Maher	Bangor	ME	
Altimore	Jessica	York	PA	
Alward	Dustin	Mapleton	ME	
Alyokhin	Philip	Old Town	ME	
Amendola	Isabella	Westbrook	CT	
Amero	Katelyn	Mapleton	ME	
Ames	Amelia	Greensboro	NC	
Ames	Ashley	Moultonborough	NH	
Ames	Mike	Hollis Center	ME	

Ammerman	Ian	Bangor	ME	
Amon	Ashlynn	Yuma	AZ	
Amos	Tyler	New Gloucester	ME	
Andersen	Allie	Hewitt	NJ	
Andersen	Kenzie	Plymouth	MA	
Andersen	Mike	Beverly	MA	
Anderson	Garrett	Hermon	ME	
Anderson	Lee	Greenbush	ME	
Anderson	Liam	Swansea	MA	
Anderson	Luke	Hesston	KS	
Andrew	Colin	Beverly	MA	
Andrews	Cam	New Gloucester	ME	
Andrews	Rowan	Brewer	ME	
Androlewicz	Connor	Lewiston	ME	
Anghel	Octavian	Windham	ME	
Antonacci	Luke	Skillman	NJ	
Ardell	Emma	Monticello	ME	
Ardito	Ava	Belgrade	ME	
Arend	Brooke	Little Silver	NJ	
Arledge	Bryn	Edmond	OK	

Armstrong	Isabelle	Falmouth	ME	
Arnott	Grayson	King City	ON	Canada
Arscott	Alyssa	Lincoln University	PA	
Arsenault	Katherine	New Gloucester	ME	
Arute	Casuarina	Rockwood	ME	
Asherman	Davis	Eddington	ME	
Aspinall	Jensen	Thorndike	ME	
Audet	Hope	Old Town	ME	
August	Caelie	Dunkirk	MD	
Austin	Jay	South China	ME	
Avci	Hira	Konak		Turkey
Avellar	Sadie	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Avery	Cameron	Bradley	ME	
Avery	Nick	Bradley	ME	
Awad	Moayied	Westbrook	ME	
Axelson	Owen	South China	ME	
Ayasin	Israk	Portland	ME	
Aylesworth	Connor	Warwick	RI	
Aylesworth	Emme	Lake Stevens	WA	
Baartvedt	Mille Sofie	Oslo		Norway
Bach	Samuel	Surry	ME	

Bachner	Dan	Gorham	ME	
Bacon	Jack	Reading	MA	
Baez-Vazquez	Estephanie	Milford	ME	
Bagley	Abby	Newport	ME	
Bair	Taylor	Cape Neddick	ME	
Baird	Jake	Colchester	VT	
Bairos	John	Taunton	MA	
Bajracharya	Siddhartha	Orono	ME	
Baker	Nichole	Dover	NH	
Baldwin	Alyssa	Watertown	CT	
Baldwin	Ella	Hampden	ME	
Bamberger	Rae	Brunswick	ME	
Bammel	Olivia	Naples	FL	
Banger	Tucker	Woolwich	ME	
Banner	Alexis	Port Charlotte	FL	
Baptista	Alexia	Carver	MA	
Baran	Jessica	Providence	RI	
Barboza	Liv	Cumberland	RI	
Barclay	Jack	Marshfield	MA	
Bard	Jenna	North Andover	MA	

Bard	Marsha	Winslow	ME	
Bardini	Ilaria	Salem	MA	
Barker	Brady	Holden	ME	
Barney	Gretchen	Falmouth	ME	
Barney	Holly	Falmouth	ME	
Baron	Nicholas	Old Town	ME	
Barrett	Cooper	Oakland	ME	
Barrett	Kaila	Berlin	MA	
Barrett	Kaleb	Freeport	ME	
Barron	Carter	Sarnia	ON	Canada
Bart	Phillip	Bar Harbor	ME	
Bartholomae	Ethan	Jefferson	ME	
Bartlett	Quinn	Carmel	ME	
Bartow	Evan	Green Lake	WI	
Basile-Maslowe	Jasper	Newton Center	MA	
Bassett	Alexia	New Hampton	NH	
Bassma	Keenan	Franklin	MA	
Batson	Nathanael	Fairfield	ME	
Baur	Alex	Windham	ME	
Beach	AJ	Lee	ME	
Beach	Anna	Sabattus	ME	

Beady	Peyton	Weymouth	MA	
Beal	Kaitlin	Gouldsboro	ME	
Beard	Savannah	Old Lyme	CT	
Beason	Jalyssa	Scarborough	ME	
Beaton	Zachary	Hermon	ME	
Beauregard	Emma	Bath	ME	
Beauregard	Mark	Avon	CT	
Beckwith	Gordon	Lewiston	ME	
Bein	Elizabeth	Cumberland Center	ME	
Belanger	Connor	North Attleboro	MA	
Belden	Chris	North Billerica	MA	
Bell	Aidan	Gorham	ME	
Bell	Connor	Gorham	ME	
Bellavance	Cindy	Sanford	ME	
Bellavance	Jade	Sanford	ME	
Bellemare	Patrick	Winthrop	ME	
Bendoraitis	Kathleen	New Milford	NJ	
Benider	Calvin	Portland	ME	
Benner	Sarah	Farmingdale	ME	
Bennett	Meggie	Medway	MA	

Benoit	Alyssa	Rutland	MA	
Benson	Bruce	Westfield	MA	
Benson	Emily	Middleboro	MA	
Benson	Tamra	Turner	ME	
Bent	Lucas	Berwick	ME	
Bentley	Jacob	Vassalboro	ME	
Berez	Ellie	Camden	ME	
Berger	Hadley	Camden	ME	
Bergeron	Lucas	Topsham	ME	
Berk	Julia	Victoria	BC	Canada
Berkes	Anna	Winthrop	ME	
Bermeo	Gabriella	Biddeford	ME	
Berry	Gisele	Gorham	ME	
Berry	Maddy	Gorham	ME	
Berube	Matt	Newburyport	MA	
Best	Kate	Braintree	MA	
Beyer	Emily	Mount Chase	ME	
Bhosale	Anisha	Old Town	ME	
Bickerstaff	Annie	Corinth	ME	
Bierman	Samantha	Sorrento	ME	
Bifulco	Hope	Camden	ME	

Bigelman	Eli	Portland	ME	
Biju	Lena	Durango	CO	
Bilella	James	Berlin	NJ	
Billings	Lauren	Ellsworth	ME	
Bilodeau	Jack	Winslow	ME	
Bilodeau	Sophie	Veazie	ME	
Bina	Jonathan	Quincy	MA	
Bindell	Scott	Wantagh	NY	
Binette	Gabriella	Bethlehem	CT	
Binette	Joe	Sanford	ME	
Birch	Matthew	Orono	ME	
Birch	Peter	Barrington	RI	
Bird	Isabel	West Gardiner	ME	
Birkett	Hannah	Chebeague Island	ME	
Birks	Cameron	Falmouth	ME	
Birmingham	Jack	Waterbury	VT	
Biro	Esther	Louisville	KY	
Birri	Nicole	Shrewsbury	MA	
Bisecco	Morgan	North Haven	CT	
Bishop	Allison	Gorham	ME	

Bishop	Jacqueline	Orono	ME	
Bishop	Patrick	Orono	ME	
Bishop	Tyler	Stillwater	ME	
Bissonnette	William	Bucksport	ME	
Blackie	Layla	Milford	ME	
Blackwell	Peter	Bangor	ME	
Blackwood	Hannah Marie	Castine	ME	
Blais	Jack	Vassalboro	ME	
Blais	Will	Taftville	CT	
Blake	Carson	South Portland	ME	
Blake	Lily	Liberty	ME	
Blanchard	Grace	Bangor	ME	
Blanchard	Jane	Hallowell	ME	
Blanchard	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Blanda	Daniel	Colchester	CT	
Bledsoe	Payton	Holden	ME	
Blejeru	Teodora	Winterport	ME	
Blohm	Julian	Camden	ME	
Blondin	Faith	Westfield	MA	
Bloom	Sydney	Scarborough	ME	

Bloomquist	Mason	Camden	ME	
Bock	Phil	Yarmouth	ME	
Bodkin	Porter	Acton	ME	
Bogner	Molly	Milford	MA	
Bois	Paige	Steep Falls	ME	
Boissonneault	Owen	Saco	ME	
Bolduc	Gillianne	North Haven	CT	
Bolduc	Justin	Winslow	ME	
Bolosky	Sam	Glenburn	ME	
Bonanno	Allie	Burlington	MA	
Bond	Kacie	Blue Hill	ME	
Bond	Skyler	Charlton	MA	
Bonilla	Ruby	South Berwick	ME	
Boone	Libby	Presque Isle	ME	
Boria	Isabelle	Charlton City	MA	
Borodaenko	Danila	Camden	ME	
Boscarino	Adam	West Stockbridge	MA	
Bosse	Christian	Ellsworth	ME	
Bouchard	Abby	New Gloucester	ME	
Bouchard	Emily	Syracuse	NY	
Boucher	Abby	Carmel	ME	

Boucher	Hana	Presque Isle	ME	
Boucher	Jenna	Greene	ME	
Boucher	Konner	Hermon	ME	
Boudreau	Abby	Westminster	MA	
Boudreau	Gage	Benton	ME	
Boudreau	Paige	Dayton	ME	
Boudreaux	Emma	Essex Junction	VT	
Bourassa	Noah	Salem	NH	
Boure	Victoria	Saco	ME	
Bourett	Claire	Waldoboro	ME	
Bourgeois	Abby	York	ME	
Bourgeois	Simon	North Yarmouth	ME	
Bourgeois	Will	York	ME	
Bourne	Mchale	New Gloucester	ME	
Bourque	Casey	Gardiner	ME	
Bourque	David	Biddeford	ME	
Bourque	Izzy	Orono	ME	
Bowden	Emma	Old Town	ME	
Bowdle	Sarah	Denton	MD	
Bowen	Claire	Hermon	ME	

Bowen	Kate	Norway	ME	
Bowen	Katherine	Rockport	ME	
Bowers	Ian	Augusta	ME	
Bowker	Katelynn	Bangor	ME	
Boxall	Ella	Kennebunkport	ME	
Boyd	Danielle	Plymouth Meeting	PA	
Boyer	Colby	Dighton	MA	
Boyes	Chloe	Windham	ME	
Boynton	Cassidy	Thomaston	ME	
Bradbury	Brayden	Bridgewater	ME	
Braden	Carmen	Lawrence	KS	
Bradfield	Amelia	Sidney	ME	
Bradfield	Lydia	Sidney	ME	
Bradford	Maggi	Standish	ME	
Bradish	Elizabeth	Wells	ME	
Bradish	Hannah	Lyman	ME	
Bradley	Alexa	Tewksbury	MA	
Bradley	William	Stockton Springs	ME	
Bradstreet	Leah	Pittsfield	ME	
Braga	Haley	Stockton Springs	ME	
Bragdon	Zach	Poland	ME	

Bragg	Kate	Winterport	ME	
Brahan	Christopher	North Sutton	NH	
Brainerd	Nate	Bangor	ME	
Brame	Nathan	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Braun	Lilly	Portland	ME	
Braun	Michael	North Attleboro	MA	
Breazeale	David	Jenison	MI	
Breen	Lynden	Saint John	NB	Canada
Brenna	Andrew	York	ME	
Brennan	Alexa	Belgrade	ME	
Brennan	Elizabeth	West Chester	PA	
Brennan	Noah	Wakefield	MA	
Brennan	Riley	Manasquan	NJ	
Brennan	Ryan	Amesbury	MA	
Brenner	Jonathan	Livermore	ME	
Bressette	Gavin	Oakland	ME	
Breton	Justin	Hampden	ME	
Brich	Tea	Glenwood	NJ	
Bridges	Graham	Wells	ME	
Bridges	Kelsey	Hermon	ME	

Briggs	Alex	Bangor	ME	
Briggs	Beau	Newport	ME	
Briggs	Paul	Lamoine	ME	
Briley	Anna	Old Town	ME	
Brinegar	Wes	Livermore Falls	ME	
Britt	Taylor	Orrington	ME	
Brittain	Katie	Wilton	ME	
Britton	Olivia	Islesboro	ME	
Broadaway	Taylor	Tulsa	OK	
Broadbent	Samuel	Freeport	ME	
Brodeur	Ben	Waterbury	CT	
Broetzman	Audrey	Orono	ME	
Brooks	Audra	Orrington	ME	
Brooks	Leah	Orrington	ME	
Brooks	Ryan	North Andover	MA	
Broome	Zach	Portland	ME	
Brown	Ashley	Richmond	ME	
Brown	Bella	Bar Harbor	ME	
Brown	Camryn	Orono	ME	
Brown	Christine	Howland	ME	
Brown	Kaitlyn	Weare	NH	

Brown	Kaz	Trenton	NJ	
Brown	Maia	Meredith	NH	
Brown	Matt	Clinton	ME	
Brown	Nick	Dedham	ME	
Brown	Noah	Turner	ME	
Brown	Peta-Gay	Manchester	CT	
Brown	Ruby	Bar Harbor	ME	
Brown	Ryan	Tulsa	OK	
Brown	Sam	South Portland	ME	
Brown	Sydney	Vineyard Haven	MA	
Brown	Sydney	Saco	ME	
Brownstein	Jack	South Portland	ME	
Bruneski	Dawson	Orono	ME	
Brunetti	Olivia	Warner	NH	
Bryant	Aedan	Harrison	ME	
Bryson	Joseph	Lumberton	NJ	
Bucco	Angelina	Danvers	MA	
Bucher	Julius	Lincolnville	ME	
Buchmiller	Hailey	Olympia	WA	
Buck	Luke	Sidney	ME	

Buckley	Anna	Mansfield	MA	
Bui	Morgan	Ottawa	ON	Canada
Bullock	Harry	North Attleboro	MA	
Burbridge	Dylan	Essex	MA	
Burby	Noah	Belgrade	ME	
Burgartz	Tim	Orono	ME	
Burgess	James	Carmel	ME	
Burhoe	Pamela	Hancock	ME	
Burke	Sean	Mansfield	MA	
Burkus	Amy	Connellsville	PA	
Burmeister	Rory	Ellsworth	ME	
Burnham	Jaden	Monmouth	ME	
Burns	Andrew	Freeport	ME	
Burns	Haley	Gorham	ME	
Bursey	Sarah	Naugatuck	CT	
Burt	Don	Mason	MI	
Burton	Jack	Marlborough	CT	
Bush	Scout	Blacksburg	VA	
Bushy	Emily	Arthur	ND	
Buskey	Elly	Hyannis	MA	
Bustamante	Olivia	Evanston	IL	

Butler	Krista	Cushing	ME	
Butler	Mary	Holden	ME	
Buxton	Brooke	Veazie	ME	
Buzduga	Anastasiia	Chernivtsi		Ukraine
Buzzell	Audrey	Greenbush	ME	
Byrd	Joby	Livermore Falls	ME	
Byrd	Ryleigh	Plymouth	ME	
Byrne	Emily	Standish	ME	
Cabral	Erin	Pelham	NH	
Caccese	Anthony	Levant	ME	
Caccese	Gino	Bangor	ME	
Cadorette	Abby	Bangor	ME	
Cako	Ersilda	Vlore		Albania
Caldwell	Ben	Marshfield	MA	
Caldwell	Ethan	Albion	ME	
Caldwell	Sydney	Glenburn	ME	
Callaghan	Owen	Dedham	MA	
Callahan	Gavin	Portland	ME	
Callahan	Ivalani	Waterboro	ME	
Callahan	Sarah	Ellsworth	ME	

Calver	Haylie	Wilbraham	MA	
Camacho	Miguel	Metepec		Mexico
Camire	Brooke	Acton	ME	
Camire	Kyle	Winslow	ME	
Camp	Makayla	Landing	NJ	
Campagna	Samantha	York	ME	
Campbell	Aileen	South Portland	ME	
Campbell	Killian	Kittery	ME	
Campo	Nora	Woodbury	NJ	
Candage	Ella	Manchester	ME	
Canders	Caleb	Brewer	ME	
Canders	Lily	Brewer	ME	
Cannell	Wyatt	Readfield	ME	
Canning	James	Warwick	RI	
Canon	Mason	Falmouth	ME	
Cantwell	Ashley	Merrimack	NH	
Cao	Jacob	Sanford	ME	
Caouette	Ally	Derry	NH	
Capelle	Ashleigh	Hyannis	MA	
Carbone	Emma	Orono	ME	

Card	Jacob	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Card	Katie	Woolwich	ME	
Carey	Liam	Mansfield	MA	
Carey	Sean	Attleboro	MA	
Carlson	Grace	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Carney	Aidan	Paradise Valley	AZ	
Carney	Ashley	York	ME	
Carney	Isak	Brunswick	ME	
Carney	Mia	Ashland	ME	
Caron	Ashton	Corinna	ME	
Caron	Charlotte	Hermon	ME	
Caron	Maya	Stratton	ME	
Caron	Meg	Bangor	ME	
Carpenter	Erica	Trumbull	CT	
Carrasquillo	Emily	Sumner	ME	
Carreira	Kat	Eddington	ME	
Carrien	Caleb	Barre	VT	
Carrier	Devon	Calais	ME	
Carrier	Kayla	Burlington	CT	
Carrier	Kylie	Buckfield	ME	

Carroll	Ben	Limerick	ME	
Carroll	Hope	Portland	ME	
Carroll	Jacob	Owls Head	ME	
Carrolton	Eleanor	Bath	ME	
Carrolton	William	Bath	ME	
Carter	Bailey	Tewksbury	MA	
Carter	Evan	Bucksport	ME	
Carter	Max	Orono	ME	
Carter	Teegan	Tewksbury	MA	
Cartwright	Joy	Ellsworth	ME	
Cartwright	Sam	Old Town	ME	
Carvalho	Devin	Tiverton	RI	
Carver	Jazmin	Jonesport	ME	
Casey	Andrea	Tribes Hill	NY	
Casey	Mallory	Turner	ME	
Cassidy	Will	Auburn	ME	
Castillo Garcia	Annabel	Coral Gables	FL	
Castillo Parkman	Kassidy	Falmouth	ME	
Castonguay	Abby	Livermore	ME	
Castro-Rovira	Gabriella	Andover	MA	

Catalano	Jessica	Chicopee	MA	
Caulfield	Graden	Yarmouth	ME	
Cavilla	Robert	Tenafly	NJ	
Cavo	Maura	Springfield	VA	
Cecelya	Jack	Hudson	MA	
Celani	Lydia	Auburn	ME	
Celano	Andres	Brewer	ME	
Chadburn	Autumn	Sabattus	ME	
Chadwick	Kehl	Bath	ME	
Chadwick	Mason	Camden	ME	
Chaffee	Jackson	Auburn	MA	
Chalande	Christopher	Cape Neddick	ME	
Chalmers	Brooke	Framingham	MA	
Chalmers	Matthew	Framingham	MA	
Chamberlain	Sebastien	Windsor	ME	
Chamberland	Andrew	Topsham	ME	
Chambers	Gabriel	Harmony	ME	
Champion	Sam	Holden	ME	
Champney-Brown	Emily	Corinth	ME	
Chandler	Nicole	Lee	ME	

Chaplin	Jacob	Blackstone	MA	
Chaplin	Louise	Northeast Harbor	ME	
Chapman	Kaitlin	Waterville	ME	
Chappelle	Tim	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Chard	Brewster	Topsham	ME	
Charette	Cody	East Waterboro	ME	
Chase	Kelsey	Chesapeake	VA	
Chase	Mackenzie	Chesapeake	VA	
Chase	Rachel	Orono	ME	
Chasse	Mason	Madawaska	ME	
Chavaree	Alanna	Indian Island	ME	
Chavez de Paz Solis	Daniela	Caribou	ME	
Chazin-Knox	Kalina	Washington	ME	
Cheadle	Quintin	Olney	MD	
Chen	Esther	Auburn	ME	
Chen	Kiley	Hillsborough	NJ	
Cheney	Sarah	Wilmington	MA	
Chern	Lara	Webster	NH	
Chevarie	Andrew	Leominster	MA	
Chew	Corinne	Litchfield	NH	

Chhoeuk	Kimmy	Shrewsbury	MA	
Child	Madison	Marshfield	MA	
Childs	Sophie	Litchfield	ME	
Chiruna	Steven	Plymouth	MA	
Chouinard	Ben	Windham	ME	
Christakis	Colby	Gorham	ME	
Christensen	Erin	Brant Rock	MA	
Christian	Logan	Hampden	ME	
Christiansen	Erik	Naples	ME	
Christopher	Eric	Portland	ME	
Christopher	Jaycie	Skowhegan	ME	
Chute	Addison	Auburn	ME	
Ciardiello	Sam	Lebanon	NJ	
Cielinski	Cameron	Keene	NH	
Cilley	Gianna	York	ME	
Cilley	Mike	Chesterville	ME	
Cilley	Tristan	Woolwich	ME	
Cinfo	Jocelyn	South Berwick	ME	
Ciola	Jenna	Bethany	CT	
Cirone	Stephen	Jonesport	ME	

Cisowski	Michaela	Orono	ME	
Clapp	Charlie	South Hamilton	MA	
Clark	Alan	Burke	VA	
Clark	Alex	Readfield	ME	
Clark	Eli	Milford	ME	
Clark	Elisa	Hampden	ME	
Clark	Fisher	New Fairfield	CT	
Clark	Hannah	Bangor	ME	
Clark	Riley	Prospect	CT	
Clark	Syeira	Lancaster	MA	
Clarke	Reg	Hampden	MA	
Claudio	Sophia	Little Rock	AR	
Clement	Libby	Monmouth	ME	
Clements	Lindsay	Newburgh	ME	
Clements	Wesley	Auburn	ME	
Clemons	Haley	West Newbury	MA	
Clifford	Brittney	East Thetford	VT	
Clifford	Michael	Ipswich	MA	
Clifford	Quincy	Lincoln	ME	
Climo	Cassidy	Bradley	ME	

Cline	Tori	Bangor	ME	
Clough	Julia	Tenants Harbor	ME	
Clukey	Peter	Portland	ME	
Cobb	Amelia	Gray	ME	
Cobb	Benjamin	Saco	ME	
Cobb	Katie	Fairfield	ME	
Cobb	Nicole	Gray	ME	
Cochran	Dakota	North Yarmouth	ME	
Coffey	Devin	Glen Mills	PA	
Coffey	Toby	Bangor	ME	
Coffin	Jonah	Sudbury	MA	
Coffin	Maddie	Mars Hill	ME	
Coker	Kassidy	Bangor	ME	
Cole	Sarah	Etna	ME	
Coleman	Peter	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Colfer	Sophia	Stamford	CT	
Collard	Braden	Missoula	MT	
Collett	Patrick	Hanson	MA	
Colley	Libby	Bangor	ME	
Collins	Abigail	Port Deposit	MD	

Collins	Ellie	Presque Isle	ME	
Collins	Michael	Plymouth	MA	
Colliver	Elijah	Blacksburg	VA	
Colson	Delaney	Rutland	MA	
Comeau	Calvin	South Portland	ME	
Comeau	Keegan	Merrimac	MA	
Commeau	Jack	Glenburn	ME	
Condon	Clark	Garfield Plantation	ME	
Congdon	Caleb	Kennebunk	ME	
Connelly	Chantal	Hampden	ME	
Connolly	Caeli	Elizabethtown	PA	
Connolly	J.G.	Kennebunk	ME	
Connor	Tobey	Sullivan	ME	
Contento	Caroline	Camden	ME	
Conway	Cricket	Butler	TN	
Cook	Hayden	Canaan	NH	
Cook	Isabella	Scarborough	ME	
Cook	Jacob	Perry	ME	
Coombs	Julia	Brick	NJ	
Coomey	Rori	Eliot	ME	

Cooper	Aiden	Manchester	ME	
Cooper	Charlie	Hope	ME	
Cooper	Owen	Hope	ME	
Corcione	Nicholas	Scituate	MA	
Corlett	Caleb	Livermore Falls	ME	
Cormican	Meghan	Quincy	MA	
Cormier	Alana	Orono	ME	
Cormier	Emily	Windham	ME	
Cormier	Heather	Wareham	MA	
Cormier	Madeleine	Ipswich	MA	
Cormier	Paige	Wolcott	CT	
Cornbau	Travis	Orono	ME	
Cornell	Grace	Greenfield Center	NY	
Corradi	Mia	Winsted	CT	
Correia	Erica	Middleboro	MA	
Cortez	Nicole	Deer Isle	ME	
Corzo	Ryan	Howell	NJ	
Costanza	John	Brick	NJ	
Costigan	Hugh	Appleton	ME	
Cote	Elaina	Southwest Harbor	ME	

Cotner	Stella	Saint Paul	MN	
Cotroneo	Raist	Bangor	ME	
Coulombe	Adia	Lisbon	ME	
Courtois	Madi	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Cousins	Alex	Augusta	ME	
Cousins	Sam	Old Town	ME	
Couture	Ethan	Dixfield	ME	
Coviello	Benjamin	Pepperell	MA	
Cowan	Caleb	Madison	ME	
Cowan	Casper	Westbrook	ME	
Cox	Amanda	Hermon	ME	
Cox	Jenna	North Granby	CT	
Coxen	Amber	Dayton	ME	
Coyle	Noah	Bangor	ME	
Craig	Ailsa	Dorchester	MA	
Craig	Bradan	New Gloucester	ME	
Craig	Caleb	Kensington	NH	
Crain	Jack	South Portland	ME	
Crapa	Sebastian	Alexandria	VA	
Crawford	Caitlin	Orono	ME	

Crawford	Connor	Sullivan	ME	
Cray	Ashley	Orono	ME	
Credit	Alicia	New Gloucester	ME	
Cremens	Lilian	Weatogue	CT	
Cremmen	Kelly	Lebanon	ME	
Cringle	Liam	Pittsburgh	PA	
Cripps	Nate	Kennebunk	ME	
Crisci	Joseph	East Haven	CT	
Croce	Chloe	Portland	ME	
Crone	Jennifer	Orono	ME	
Crossland	Ginny	Maynard	MA	
Crossman	Fallon	Hampden	ME	
Crowley	Julia	Andover	MA	
Crowley	Lauren	Jonesport	ME	
Cude	Steven	Belgrade	ME	
Cullen	Etain	Sanford	ME	
Cummings	Brandon	Bangor	ME	
Cummings	Brandon	Orono	ME	
Cummings	Connor	Windham	ME	
Cunningham	Alex	Sagamore Beach	MA	

Cunningham	Maya	Stoneham	MA	
Cunningham	Will	Portland	ME	
Curcio	Nico	Gray	ME	
Curioli	Laura	Hampden	ME	
Currie	Kaitlyn	Portland	ME	
Currie	Rissa	Colchester	CT	
Curry	Kalley	Hermon	ME	
Curry	Natalie	Morrill	ME	
Curtis	Ben	Portland	ME	
Curtis	Jacob	Dedham	ME	
Curtis	Susannah	Madison	ME	
Cusack	Peter	Sanford	ME	
Cusson	Brayden	Eliot	ME	
Cusson	Lauren	Eliot	ME	
Cutshall	Trinity	Fairfield	ME	
Cyr	Chantal	Auburn	ME	
Cyr	Devin	Westbrook	ME	
Cyr	Matthew	Madawaska	ME	
Cyr	Sadie	Gorham	ME	
Czarnecki	Andrew	North Branford	CT	

Dacey	Ellie	Hampden	ME	
Dacey	William	Hampden	ME	
Dagenais	Branden	Orono	ME	
Daigle	Connor	Union	ME	
Daigle Thompson	Juliette	Bangor	ME	
Dalton	Cameron	York	ME	
Daly	Cameron	Brunswick	ME	
Damboise	Emma	Winterport	ME	
Damboise	Sairah	Winterport	ME	
Danforth	William	Hooksett	NH	
Daniels	Garrett	Falmouth	ME	
Darata	Matthew	New Providence	NJ	
Daries	Eve	Brewer	ME	
Darr	Cambree	Newport	ME	
DaSilva	Chloe	Orono	ME	
DaSilva	Sophia	Arlington	MA	
Dau	Alyssa	Bowdoinham	ME	
Davenport	Erin	Orono	ME	
Davenport	James	Cumberland Center	ME	
Davenport	Mason	Wiscasset	ME	

David	Hunter	Bow	NH	
David	Sarah Gabrielle	Bangor	ME	
Davids	Leila	Orono	ME	
Davids	Silvia	Orono	ME	
Davis	Abby	Arundel	ME	
Davis	Abraham	Gardiner	ME	
Davis	Amanda	Middleboro	MA	
Davis	Caroline	Kenduskeag	ME	
Davis	Holly	South Weymouth	MA	
Davis	Katie	Lindenhurst	IL	
Davis	Nate	Freeport	ME	
Davis	Sam	Belfast	ME	
Davison	Emily	North Waterboro	ME	
Davison	Katie	Charlton	MA	
Day	Clyde	Garland	ME	
Day	Julianna	Rockport	ME	
Day	Matthew	Garland	ME	
Day	Riley	Poland	ME	
de Lannee de Betrencour	Andre	Orono	ME	
De Vries	Kaia	Fryeburg	ME	

Dean	Jenny	Madison	ME	
Dean	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Dean	Natalie	Nobleboro	ME	
Dean	Sophie	Keene	NH	
Dean	Thomas	Madison	ME	
DeAngelis	Zoey	North Waterboro	ME	
Debeauchamp	Jazmine	Burkesville	KY	
deBest	Madie	Baroda	MI	
DeBlois	Brenda	Newington	CT	
DeCataldo	Mark	Charlestown	RI	
Decker	Isabelle	Chesterville	ME	
Decoteau	Shea	Brookline	NH	
Deighan	Hannah	Beverly Hills	MI	
Delaney	Arianna	Mansfield	MA	
Delaney	Drew	Livermore	ME	
Delano	Chloe	Portland	ME	
DeLap	Daniel	Dekalb	IL	
Delile	Zack	Clinton	ME	
Delmonte	Sarah	West Brookfield	MA	
Delorge	Michael	Saco	ME	

DeMarte	Venae	Naperville	IL	
Demeny	Olivia	Wiscasset	ME	
DeMerchant	Dylan	Bath	ME	
DeMoura	Ethan	Berwick	ME	
Denico	Aubrey	Standish	ME	
DeRosby	Bryce	Hampden	ME	
DeSantos	Arianna	Catonsville	MD	
Desautell	Cece	Charleston	ME	
Desbois	Eric	Orono	ME	
Desjardins	Luca	South Portland	ME	
Devallance	LouLou	Jersey City	NJ	
Devaney	Jack	Leominster	MA	
Deveney	Nathan	Topsham	ME	
Dever	Griffin	Bath	ME	
Devers	Finn	North Attleboro	MA	
Dexter	Troy	New Gloucester	ME	
Diaz- Resto	Enehila	Corinna	ME	
DiBello	Benjamin	Ipswich	MA	
DiBiase	Lauren	South Portland	ME	
DiChiara	Jennifer	Burlington	CT	

Dickinson	Garrett	Kennebunk	ME	
Dickson	Evan	Arundel	ME	
Dieffenbacher-Krall	Nick	Old Town	ME	
DiFrumolo	David	Woburn	MA	
DiGirolamo	Emma	Belgrade	ME	
Dill	Zack	Milford	ME	
Dillon	Lauren	Boxford	MA	
Dimick	Hannah	Gorham	ME	
Dimitropolis	Kyra	Old Town	ME	
Dimmick-Russell	Lily	York	ME	
Dimond	Lucas	Topsham	ME	
Dinelli	Dominic	Hermon	ME	
Dionne	Colby	Raymond	ME	
Dionne	Isabel	Raymond	ME	
Dionne	Jake	Concord	MA	
Dixon	Brent	Lakeville	MA	
Dixon	Seth	Falmouth	ME	
Doak	Kody	Brewer	ME	
Dobbins	Lenah	Sidney	ME	
Dobrzynski	Paige	Orono	ME	

Dodge	Sarah	Orono	ME	
Doherty	Liam	Brunswick	ME	
Dolan	Claudia	Pottstown	PA	
Doliber	Tyler	Old Town	ME	
Donahue	Alexis	Calais	ME	
Donenbayev	Kaidar	Nur-Sultan		Kazakhstan
Donnelly	Abigail	Brooks	ME	
Donnelly	Jenna	Lawrence	MA	
Donovan	Shane	Dorchester Center	MA	
Dood	Sydney	Fayette	ME	
Doody	Hannah	Caribou	ME	
Doody	Janell	Corinth	ME	
Doore	Georgia	Brewer	ME	
Doran	Mike	South Berwick	ME	
Dorey	Sarah	Dedham	ME	
Dorr	Erin	Stockton Springs	ME	
Doten	Alexis	Baring Plt	ME	
Doty	Alex	Succasunna	NJ	
Doucette	Bryan	Reading	MA	
Doucette	Logan	Bradley	ME	

Doucette	Paige	Arcadia	IN	
Dougherty	Olivia	Warren	ME	
Doughty	Katie	Winslow	ME	
Doughty	Sara	Winslow	ME	
Douin	Kyle	Augusta	ME	
Downing	Abigail	Holden	ME	
Downing	Emma	Orono	ME	
Doyle	Veronica	Groveland	MA	
Drage	Aidan	Wiscasset	ME	
Drayer	Mallory	Hummelstown	PA	
Drelich	Elizabeth	Portland	ME	
Drew	Freya	Lafayette	NJ	
Drews	Kelby	Milo	ME	
Drillen	Ethan	Dedham	ME	
Driscoll	Ryan	Eliot	ME	
Drislane	Harrison	Lynnfield	MA	
Drumm	Emilyann	Oxford	ME	
Duarte	Henry	Brentwood	NH	
Dubay	Jake	Old Town	ME	
Dube	Avery	Windham	ME	

Dube	Brady	Orrington	ME	
Dube	Bryanna	Orrington	ME	
Dube	Jonathan	Arundel	ME	
Dube	Laura	Framingham	MA	
Dube	Sophie	Winterport	ME	
Dubuc	Samuel	Windham	ME	
Duerr	Sam	Burr Ridge	IL	
Dugre	Adam	Bangor	ME	
Duguay	Cameron	Leeds	ME	
Dumas	David	Kennebunk	ME	
Dumas	Sofie	Arundel	ME	
Dunbar	Ashton	Lee	ME	
Dunham	William	Saco	ME	
Dunifer	Aurora	Bangor	ME	
Dunlap	Emily	Old Town	ME	
Dunn	Ana	Holden	ME	
Dunn	Ashleigh	Waterville	ME	
Dunn	Liz	Hebron	ME	
Dunn	Olivia	Hampden	ME	
Dunphy	Ashley	Hermon	ME	

Dunphy	Brendan	Windham	ME	
Dunton	Dyllon	Old Town	ME	
Duong	Olivia	Portland	ME	
Dupler	Jessica	Kennebunkport	ME	
Duplisea	Christopher	Old Town	ME	
Duprey	Benjamin	Presque Isle	ME	
Dupuis	Darby	Hooksett	NH	
Duranko	Jessie	Westport	CT	
Durkin	Caileigh	Barrington	RI	
Durocher	Sarah	Buxton	ME	
Durost	Julia	Edinburg	ME	
Dustin	Adam	Bowdoin	ME	
Dustin	Bram	Hebron	ME	
Dutton	Juliette	Derry	NH	
Dutton	Mariah	Old Town	ME	
Dyer	Hannah	Bangor	ME	
Dyer	Leaf	Searsmont	ME	
Dyer	Libby	Hollis Center	ME	
Dyer	Sarah	Winterport	ME	
Dymowski	Matt	Elkton	MD	

Eason	Alex	Mount Desert	ME	
East	Alec	Jamaica Plain	MA	
Eastlack	Emily	Rangeley	ME	
Eastman	Gunnar	Bangor	ME	
Eastman	Nadia	Wellesley Hills	MA	
Eaton	Madison	Bangor	ME	
Eberle	Charles	Califon	NJ	
Economy	Sara	Hampden	ME	
Edgerly	Emily	Madison	ME	
Edwards	Lauren	Gorham	ME	
Edwards	Tyler	Embden	ME	
Eichorn	Victoria	Hebron	ME	
Eldridge	Lucy	Warwick	RI	
El-Hajj	Catrina	Swanville	ME	
Elkhariji	Fatima	Myrtle Beach	SC	
Ellingsen	Katie	Madison	ME	
Elling-Wilson	Taylor	Kittery	ME	
Elliot	Greg	Passadumkeag	ME	
Elliott	Grace	Belgrade	ME	
Ellis	Colby	Kennebunk	ME	

Ellis	Zackery	Farmingdale	ME	
Emanuel	Will	Falmouth	ME	
Emery	Alex	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Emond	Brynn	Wales	ME	
Emond	Mia	Auburn	ME	
Empsall	Chase	Saint Johnsbury	VT	
Enck	Abby	Gorham	ME	
Engel	Caroline	East Hampton	CT	
Engelsen	Sean	Laconia	NH	
English	Zachary	Berwick	ME	
Engstrom	Garrett	Alton	ME	
Eno	Mya	Fort Kent	ME	
Eom	Jeongwon	Seoul		Korea, Republic of
Erb	Christopher	Readfield	ME	
Erickson-Harris	Josh	Kennebunk	ME	
Erikson	Theo	Orono	ME	
Ernenwein	Max	York	ME	
Ernst	Emily	Marblehead	MA	
Eshleman	Will	Norway	ME	
Esmond	Gabi	Falmouth	ME	

Esposito	Tehya	Scarborough	ME	
Eugene	Anna	South Portland	ME	
Evans	Amelia	Chelsea	ME	
Evans-Ralston	C.J.	Oxford	PA	
Everett	Alexis	Chelsea	ME	
Evers	Ethan	Cutchogue	NY	
Fabrizio	Anthony	Old Town	ME	
Fadziejewski	Emma	Chicago	IL	
Faherty	Kaylee	Scarborough	ME	
Fahey	Cedric	Orono	ME	
Fahey	James	Bangor	ME	
Fallon	Caitlyn	Warwick	RI	
Farnese	Bella	Auburndale	MA	
Farnsworth	Colby	Orono	ME	
Farrell	Jilleon	Manchester	ME	
Farrington	Alex	Gray	ME	
Farris	Kenny	Bourne	MA	
Farrow	Max	Orono	ME	
Faulkingham	Hannah	Hillsborough	NH	
Favreau	Gretchen	Falmouth	ME	

Fay	Sophia	Belfast	ME	
Fazendin	Carly	Sarasota	FL	
Fecteau	Ben	Gorham	ME	
Fecteau	Zachery	Westbrook	ME	
Feely	Michael	South Portland	ME	
Feeney	E.	Winthrop	ME	
Feid	Julia	North Attleboro	MA	
Fein	Gabe	Fayette	ME	
Feix	Jon	Bangor	ME	
Felix	Julia	Oak Bluffs	MA	
Fenwick	Hailey	Kingfield	ME	
Ferguson	Maia	Poland	ME	
Fernandez	Grace	Carmel	IN	
Fernandez-Faucher	Annie	Orono	ME	
Ferreira	Aalliyah	South Portland	ME	
Ferrell	Fiona	Falmouth	ME	
Ferrell	Hannah	Bucksport	ME	
Fessler	Wyatt	New Gloucester	ME	
Fetterman	Olivia	Saint Clair Shores	MI	
Field	Caine	Orono	ME	

Fielding	Callie	Raymond	ME	
Figueroa	Cheyenne	Pawtucket	RI	
Filer	Collette	Bangor	ME	
Finley	Grace	Kittery	ME	
Fiore	Alexiis	Portland	ME	
Firkin	Kieran	Orono	ME	
Firstenberg	Jessica	Marlton	NJ	
Firth	Connor	Vienna	ME	
Fisher	Abigail	Orono	ME	
Fisher	Sam	Pembroke	NH	
Fitch	Elijah	Liberty Hill	TX	
Fitts	Madison	Pittsfield	ME	
Fitz	Sophie	Holyoke	MA	
Fitzgerald	Brendan	Falmouth	MA	
Fitzgerald	Colin	Lititz	PA	
Fitzmaurice	Ordis	Bath	ME	
Fitzmaurice	Ryan	Bath	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Conor	Mansfield	MA	
Fitzpatrick	Emma	Fayette	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Gabe	Houlton	ME	

Fitzpatrick	Liv	Buzzards Bay	MA	
Fitzpatrick	Riley	Skowhegan	ME	
Flaherty	Rory	Braintree	MA	
Flanagan	Joshua	Orono	ME	
Fleischner	Leah	Trumbull	CT	
Fleming	Patrick	Enfield	CT	
Fletcher	James	Portland	ME	
Fletcher	Madyson	East Falmouth	MA	
Flood	Dallas	Hampden	ME	
Flores	Chantelle	Oakland	ME	
Floyd	Amanda	Bangor	ME	
Flubacher	Riley	Winter Harbor	ME	
Flubacher	Tara	Winter Harbor	ME	
Flueckiger	Jared	Sharon	MA	
Flynn	Kate	Lee	NH	
Fogg	Jamie	Dedham	ME	
Foley	Sam	Westbrook	ME	
Folger	Amber	Millbury	MA	
Folley	Anna	South Portland	ME	
Ford	Ethan	Appleton	ME	

Foreman	Haley	Portland	ME	
Fortin	Blair	Benton	ME	
Fossett	Natalie	Gardiner	ME	
Foster	Atticus	Veazie	ME	
Foster	Owen	Winthrop	ME	
Fournier	Kendra	Glenburn	ME	
Foust	Sarah	West Gardiner	ME	
Fox	Claudia	Owls Head	ME	
Fox	Simon	Owls Head	ME	
Fracassa	Lauren	Warwick	RI	
Frager	Laini	Portland	ME	
Francia	Krista	Surprise	AZ	
Francis	Landyn	Bangor	ME	
Francis	Sade	Hampden	ME	
Francois	Tyrie	Davenport	FL	
Frank	Josh	South Portland	ME	
Fraser	Emily	Bethel	ME	
Frazer	Devin	Danbury	NH	
Freedman	Emily	Portland	ME	
Freel	Thomas	Ottawa	ON	Canada

Freeman	Dylan	Ellsworth	ME	
Freeman	Julia	Scarborough	ME	
Fremouw	Kell	Orono	ME	
French	Jasmine	New Gloucester	ME	
Freudig	Ben	Bernard	ME	
Friedman	Hannah	Brewer	ME	
Fuller	Grace	Weymouth	MA	
Fuller	Megan	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Fuller	Sean	Eliot	ME	
Furber	Zoe	Vancouver	BC	Canada
Furlong	Julia	Weymouth	MA	
Furtado	Michael	Orono	ME	
Gaboury	Cody	Farmington	ME	
Gagne	Alyssa	Minot	ME	
Gagnon-Victor	Eliott	Ellsworth	ME	
Gaidola	Alexander	Topsham	ME	
Gaines	Susannah	Lexington	MA	
Galipeau	Piper	Presque Isle	ME	
Gallagher	Colin	Bangor	ME	
Gallego	Paula	Orono	ME	

Gambardella	Gianni	West Haven	CT	
Gamble	Jaxon	Haverhill	MA	
Gannett	Brianna	Hollis Center	ME	
Ganzel	Autumn	Linneus	ME	
Garcia	Natalie	Auburn	ME	
Gardner	Logan	Old Town	ME	
Gardocki	Cassandra	Cincinnati	OH	
Garfein	Laura	Walnut Creek	CA	
Garfield	Rebecca	Brockton	MA	
Garrison	Sydney	Mars Hill	ME	
Gassman	Danielle	Kennebunk	ME	
Gatewood	Kathryn	Boxford	MA	
Gato	Nshuti	Bangor	ME	
Gatti	Carina	Saint Paul	MN	
Gauthier	Nick	Hampden	ME	
Gavigan	Riley	Ellington	CT	
Gavin	Madeline	Milltown	NJ	
Gehrisch	Anastasia	Barrington	IL	
Gehrke	Olivia	Chula Vista	CA	
Geiser	Jennah	Brewer	ME	

Geiser	Nick	Holden	ME	
Gellis Morais	Bell	Montevideo		Uruguay
Gendreau	Calynn	Scarborough	ME	
Genereux	Adam	Sanford	ME	
Geniti	Olivia	Scotia	NY	
Genoter	Melissa	Townsend	MA	
Genrich	Jonathan	Bar Harbor	ME	
Genrich	Loren	Bar Harbor	ME	
Gentle	Jadon	Houlton	ME	
Gentle	Keegan	Houlton	ME	
Getchell	Olivia	Fairfield	ME	
Geydoshek	Ashley	Newton	NJ	
Gibbons	Miranda	Mansfield	MA	
Giftos	Gabriella	Scarborough	ME	
Giguere	Emily	Oakland	ME	
Gil	Annika	South China	ME	
Gil	Jason	Sanford	ME	
Gilgan	Chelsea	Bangor	ME	
Gillespy	Peter	Hanscom AFB	MA	
Gillette	Cameron	Wakefield	RI	

Gilley	Izabelle	Stetson	ME	
Gillis	Kenzie	Glenburn	ME	
Gilman	Madison	West Enfield	ME	
Gilmore	Lydia	Bangor	ME	
Gilpatrick	Addie	Brewer	ME	
Gingras	Rowan	Bangor	ME	
Ginsburg	Max	Clinton	MA	
Ginter	Cameron	Buxton	ME	
Gleason	Gavin	Beverly	MA	
Glendinning	Nuala	South Bristol	ME	
Glidden	Ivy	Milford	CT	
Glidden	Jodi	Milford	ME	
Glover	Emma	Cheshire	CT	
Glueck	Molly	Waterville	ME	
Gobeil	Grady	Buzzards Bay	MA	
Godin	Melissa	Old Town	ME	
Golder	Josh	Searsport	ME	
Goldstein	Joy	Ellsworth	ME	
Gomez Lawson	Juliette	Winthrop	ME	
Gomm	Makenzie	Bradley	ME	

Gonzalez	Derrick	Whiting	NJ	
Gonzalez Merrill	Angel	Skowhegan	ME	
Goodwin	Andrew	South Berwick	ME	
Goodwin	Drew	Bass Harbor	ME	
Goodwin	Jake	South Portland	ME	
Goodwin	Summer	Merrimac	MA	
Goodwin-Whitmore	Audrey	Ellsworth	ME	
Goraj	Ava	West Gardiner	ME	
Gordesky-Hooper	Tovin	Burlington	VT	
Gordon	Madison	Oxford	ME	
Gorman	Dylan	Windham	ME	
Gorman	Maureen	Monroe	CT	
Gorneau	Aidan	South Portland	ME	
Gosselin	Avery	Burnham	ME	
Gould	Rhiannon	Washington	ME	
Goulette	Anita	West Gardiner	ME	
Goulette	Joey	York	ME	
Gousha	Kenny	Glenburn	ME	
Gousha	Natalie	Glenburn	ME	
Gouveia	Conall	Medway	ME	

Graci	Mia	Springfield	PA	
Graffam	Gretchen	Wells	ME	
Graham	Ryder	Houlton	ME	
Grant	Emalee	Union	ME	
Grant	Katelyn	Orrington	ME	
Grant	Riley	Addison	ME	
Graves	Alex	Presque Isle	ME	
Gray	Jasmine	La Mirada	CA	
Greco	Avery	Lewiston	ME	
Greeley	Emily	Kingston	MA	
Green	Erick	East Millinocket	ME	
Greenblatt	Ben	Sudbury	MA	
Greene	Serena	Steep Falls	ME	
Greenlaw	Kathleen	Bangor	ME	
Greenlee	Amelia	Cumberland Center	ME	
Greenwood	James	Lewiston	ME	
Greer	Thomas	Marshfield	MA	
Grey	Adin	Camden	ME	
Grey	Sam	Plymouth	MA	
Griffin	Eric	Brewer	ME	

Griffith	Juliet	Burke	VA	
Griffith	Megan	Fairfield	ME	
Griffith	Ruth	Parkman	ME	
Griffith	William	Maplewood	NJ	
Griffiths	Eva	Portland	ME	
Grindle	George	Old Town	ME	
Grindle	Riley	Ellsworth	ME	
Groneman	Ashton	Barkhamsted	CT	
Gross	Katherine	Scarborough	ME	
Grous	Emma	Ashford	CT	
Grover	Alex	West Gardiner	ME	
Grover	Dakota	Brewer	ME	
Grover	Kassie	Pittsfield	ME	
Grow	Spencer	Center Barnstead	NH	
Gruitch	Alex	Englewood	CO	
Grunwald	Abe	Port Matilda	PA	
Guarnieri	Martin	Belgrade	ME	
Guenzel	Krista	Ewing	NJ	
Guerrette	Nickolas	Caribou	ME	
Guerrette	Ronald	Caribou	ME	

Gurnell	Emma	Old Saybrook	CT	
Gurney	Lauren	Melvin Village	NH	
Gushue	Niall	Raymond	ME	
Guy	Henry	Worthington	OH	
Gylstorff	Caroline	Risskov		Denmark
Habiyambere	Fabien	Buffalo	NY	
Haggerty	Jillian	Houlton	ME	
Hainer	Ainsley	Lincoln	ME	
Hale	Glenice	Bangor	ME	
Hale	Kameron	Hampden	ME	
Hale	Molly	Cumberland Center	ME	
Haley	Caitlin	Plymouth	MA	
Hall	Abigail	Olympia	WA	
Hall	Alex	Jefferson	ME	
Hall	Chappy	Brunswick	ME	
Hall	Connor	Albion	ME	
Hall	Danielle	Sidney	ME	
Hall	Gabe	Sargentville	ME	
Hall	Jacqueline	Owls Head	ME	
Hall	Kayla	Eagle River	AK	

Hallagan	Isabelle	Falmouth	ME	
Hall-Arnett	Caleb	Belfast	ME	
Hallee	Emma	Portland	ME	
Hallett	Alexis	Blue Hill	ME	
Hallett	Laura	Pembroke	MA	
Halloway	Alissa	Windham	ME	
Hamblen	Sammy	Searsport	ME	
Hamel	Margaret	Cape Neddick	ME	
Hamilton	Colby	Ellsworth	ME	
Hamilton	Erik	Orono	ME	
Hamina	Lucca	Orono	ME	
Hamlin	Luke	Searsmont	ME	
Hammond	Nick	Lyman	ME	
Hancock	Ryan	Moyock	NC	
Handral	Swaroop	Brewer	ME	
Hanington	Sarah	Lincoln	ME	
Hankinson	Gabe	Braintree	MA	
Hanley	Patience	Middlebury	VT	
Hannan	Lauren	East Brunswick	NJ	
Hanscom	Emily	Bethel	ME	

Hanscom	Sophie	West Bethel	ME	
Hansen	Andrew	Middleton	MA	
Hanson	Trevor	Madawaska	ME	
Harden	Ian	Augusta	ME	
Harder	Katie	Orono	ME	
Hardina	Oliver	Nobleboro	ME	
Harding	Courtney	Presque Isle	ME	
Harding	Seth	Biddeford	ME	
Hardy	Amy	Deer Isle	ME	
Hare	Sarah	Raymond	ME	
Hargraves	Cam	Sun Prairie	WI	
Harkins	McCallum	Saco	ME	
Harkness	Alex	Orono	ME	
Harmatys	Grace	Livermore	ME	
Harmon	Danielle	Lincoln	RI	
Harper	Briana	Blackstone	MA	
Harper	Luke	Madison	ME	
Harriman	Bri	Augusta	ME	
Harriman	Parker	Winterport	ME	
Harrington	Emalee	Bethel	ME	

Harrington	Jack	York	ME	
Harris	Colin	Gray	ME	
Harris	Shailey	Windham	NH	
Harris	Trace	South China	ME	
Harris	Wyatt	Scarborough	ME	
Hart	Chloe	Orrington	ME	
Hart	Zakary	Milford	CT	
Harthorne	Maggie	Dyer Brook	ME	
Hartley	Madisyn	Pittsfield	ME	
Hartley	Sofia	Poland	ME	
Hartley	Weston	Auburn	ME	
Hartmann	Emily	Sparta	IL	
Hartt	Bill	Carmel	ME	
Harvey	Alexa	Durham	ME	
Harvey	Talia	Bangor	ME	
Haskell	Avery	North Waterboro	ME	
Hasselbaum	Cam	Bellingham	MA	
Hatch	Aidan	Dover	NH	
Hathaway	Corvidae	Pittsfield	ME	
Hatt	Arianna	Winslow	ME	

Haverty	Erin	Fitchburg	MA	
Havey	Alicia	Surry	ME	
Hawkins	Courtney	Belfast	ME	
Hayden	Amelia	Surry	ME	
Hayes	Aidan	North Yarmouth	ME	
Hayes	Anna	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Hayes	Desiree	Peabody	MA	
Hayes	Isaac	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Hayes	Kenzie	Presque Isle	ME	
Hayes	Lorenzo	Las Vegas	NV	
Hayes	Michael	New Hyde Park	NY	
Hays-Peterson	Katrina	Baldwinsville	NY	
Hayward	John	Andover	MA	
Hayward	Riley	Farmingdale	ME	
Hayward	Tatum	Scarborough	ME	
Heartquist	Jacob	Lowell	MA	
Hebda	Owen	Rehoboth	MA	
Hebert	Cheyenne	Stockton Springs	ME	
Hebert	Keri	Madawaska	ME	
Heck	Max	Greenfield	NH	

Helfen	Kaitlyn	Orono	ME	
Helinski	Mina	Whitinsville	MA	
Hellender	Courtney	Winthrop	MA	
Helms	Maggie	Lincoln	NE	
Henderson	Isabel	Orono	ME	
Henderson	Reed	Gorham	ME	
Henderson	Savanah	Las Vegas	NV	
Hendrick	Caleb	Owls head	ME	
Hendricks	Shea	So. Thomaston	ME	
Hendrickson	Jesse	Sanford	ME	
Hendrickson	Sheila	Wilmington	DE	
Hendrix	Samantha	Levant	ME	
Hennessey	Catherine	Montpelier	VT	
Henning	Olivia	Milford	ME	
Henry	Jacob	Bangor	ME	
Henry	Jozelyn	Jackson	NH	
Hepler	Ada	Orono	ME	
Herbert	Maddie	Westbrook	ME	
Herrero	Daniel	Amherst	NH	
Herrick	Peter	Washington	DC	

Herrington	Dasha	Surry	ME	
Hersey	Mickey	Brewer	ME	
Hess	Alec	Brunswick	ME	
Heyland	Lily	Wells	ME	
Higgins	Nick	Old Town	ME	
Higgs	Reid	Bangor	ME	
Hill	Delia	Winterport	ME	
Hills	Emily	Searsmont	ME	
Hills	Julia	Windham	ME	
Hinde	Gabi	North Kingstown	RI	
Hinz	Jacob	Austin	TX	
Hirsch	Jacob	Bangor	ME	
Hixon	Noah	Orono	ME	
Hobbs	Emily	South Portland	ME	
Hodgdon	Aurora	Orono	ME	
Hodgdon	Chloe	South Paris	ME	
Hodge	Mark	Lee	NH	
Hodge	Rachel	Delmar	NY	
Hodgkin	Grace	Manchester	ME	
Hodgkins	Alexander	Old Orchard Beach	ME	

Hodgkins	Desiree	Westbrook	ME	
Hodgkins	Molly	Windham	ME	
Hodgman-Burns	Lucy	Fryeburg	ME	
Hodgson	Sera	Rindge	NH	
Hodson	John	Wiscasset	ME	
Hodson	Julianna	Pittsfield	NH	
Hoeft	Zech	Denmark	ME	
Hogan	Cooper	Yarmouth	ME	
Hogg	Kayleigh	Palmyra	PA	
Holland	Sunni	Salem	NH	
Hollander	Evan	Saco	ME	
Holm	Zach	Amston	CT	
Holmes	Alex	Winterport	ME	
Holmes	Ashley	Waldoboro	ME	
Holmes	Jake	Unity	ME	
Holmes	Nathaniel	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Holmquist	Hailey	Caribou	ME	
Holt	Brandon	Grand Forks	ND	
Holt	Chase	Cape Neddick	ME	
Holt	Logan	Belgrade Lakes	ME	

Holubcova	Tereza	Praha		Czech Republic
Homa	MacKenna	Westbrook	ME	
Hooker	Sadie	Harrison	ME	
Hooper	Elliott	Portland	ME	
Hooper	Jorja	Bowdoinham	ME	
Hopkins	Mason	Dixmont	ME	
Hopp	Zach	Maple Grove	MN	
Ho-Rezvani	Saba	New Rochelle	NY	
Horne	Joe	Berwick	ME	
Horton	Chris	Bar Harbor	ME	
Horvat	George	Saco	ME	
Hotham	Jimmy	Blaine	ME	
Hotham	Lizzy	Blaine	ME	
Houghton	Abby	Bangor	ME	
Hovda	Catherine	Littleton	ME	
Howard	Kali	Farmington	ME	
Howard	Skye	Gouldsboro	ME	
Howatt	Lauren	Farmington	ME	
Howe	Amanda	Fryeburg	ME	
Howe	Ethan	Hampden	ME	

Howell	Aaron	Cumberland Center	ME	
Howell	Cadi	Mount Desert	ME	
Howell	Kasey	Garland	ME	
Howell	Kellie	Hampton	VA	
Howell	Ryan	Portland	ME	
Howland	Mikyla	Haynesville	ME	
Howlett	Madison	Mars Hill	ME	
Howorth	Madeline	Orono	ME	
Hoy	Andrew	King of Prussia	PA	
Hoy	Gus	Old Town	ME	
Hoyt	Ben	South Portland	ME	
Hubbard	Charles	Gorham	ME	
Hubbard	Freddy	Sandy Hook	CT	
Huber	Nicole	Greenwich	CT	
Huchel	Abby	South Portland	ME	
Huerth	Maddie	Bradley	ME	
Hughes	Baxter	Bangor	ME	
Hughes	Cameron	West Warwick	RI	
Hughes	Faith	Searsmont	ME	
Hull	Allie	Orleans	MA	

Hull	Drew	Mendham	NJ	
Hume	Lauren	Fairfield	ME	
Humphrey	Alex	Bowdoin	ME	
Humphrey	Ben	Bowdoin	ME	
Humphrey	Maddy	Winterport	ME	
Humphrey	Tyler	Cape Neddick	ME	
Hunt	Benjamin	Corea	ME	
Hunt	Ellie	Bangor	ME	
Hunt	Faith	Boise	ID	
Hunt	Kaitlin	Monmouth	ME	
Hunt	Timothy	Corea	ME	
Hunter	Bobby	Beverly	MA	
Huntington	Dom	Orono	ME	
Hupper	Troy	Kingfield	ME	
Hureau	Tess	Fort Collins	CO	
Hurlburt	Rowan	Lincolnville	ME	
Hurlburt	Zachary	Alfred	ME	
Hussey	Madox	Bangor	ME	
Hutchins	Garret	Somerville	ME	
Hutchins	Samuel	Swanville	ME	

Hutchins	Wesley	Swanville	ME	
Hutchinson	Anna	Hooksett	NH	
Hyora	Ava	Brewster	MA	
Ilvonen	Karl	Owls Head	ME	
Ingalls	Brendan	Melrose	MA	
Ingersoll	Dianna	Windham	ME	
Ingersoll	Nate	North Yarmouth	ME	
Inman	Estella	Windham	ME	
Inman	Morgan	Wales	ME	
Innes	Max	Sudbury	MA	
Irani	Isabelle	Spring	TX	
Ireland	Meghan	Hampden	ME	
Ireland	Miah	Stetson	ME	
Ireland	Morgan	Presque Isle	ME	
Ireland	Zack	Old Town	ME	
Ismail	Alexis	Glenburn	ME	
Isnor	Erika	Baileyville	ME	
Ittleson	Claire	West Hartford	CT	
Ivanicka	Dominika	Orono	ME	
Ives	Amanda	Newburyport	MA	

Jackson	Pearl	Chester	VT	
Jackson	Tony	Bradley	ME	
Jacobo	Dante	Rockport	ME	
Jacobs	Alex	Millinocket	ME	
Jacobs	Nathan	Westbrook	ME	
Jacobs	Nicholas	Glenburn	ME	
Jacques	Keeva	Arundel	ME	
Jakacky	David	Orono	ME	
Jalbert	Noah	Orono	ME	
Jalbert	Rachel	Burlington	CT	
Jameson	Lucy	Waldoboro	ME	
Jancsy	Kurt	Malden	MA	
Janes	Ali	Avon	CT	
Janson	Sarah	Geneseo	NY	
Jarosz	Jack	Franklin	MA	
Jendian	Anais	San Diego	CA	
Jensen	Dustin	Old Town	ME	
Jensen	Joseph	Naples	ME	
Jerose	Maya	Enosburg Falls	VT	
Jestel	Eric	Slingerlands	NY	

Jimenez	Jordy	Auburn	ME	
Jipson	Storm	Auburn	ME	
Johanson	Chelsea	Old Town	ME	
Johanson	Chris	Old Town	ME	
Johnson	Abby	Richmond	ME	
Johnson	Anna	Springvale	ME	
Johnson	Dane	Fall Creek	WI	
Johnson	Hana	Maple Grove	MN	
Johnson	Hannah	Kennebunk	ME	
Johnson	Henry	Brunswick	ME	
Johnson	Jack	Saco	ME	
Johnson	Koby	Steep Falls	ME	
Johnson	Madelyn	Melrose	MA	
Johnson	Maggy	Kittery Point	ME	
Johnson	Mei Li	Port Jefferson Station	NY	
Johnson	Mollie	Wareham	MA	
Johnson	Nicholas	North Berwick	ME	
Johnson	Riley	Gorham	ME	
Johnson	Ryan	Avon	CT	
Johnson	Sam	Houlton	ME	

Johnson	Sarah	Clifton	ME	
Johnson	Will	Boxborough	MA	
Johnson	Will	Falmouth	ME	
Johnson	Zoey	Bucksport	ME	
Jolliffe	Eli	Searsmont	ME	
Jones	Brenna	Old Town	ME	
Jones	Elizabeth	Mount Desert	ME	
Jones	Hannah	Brewer	ME	
Jones	Haven	Orrington	ME	
Jones	Kiersten	Brewer	ME	
Jones	Liana	Saint Louis	MO	
Jones	Matthew	Lamoine	ME	
Jones	Miles	Scituate	MA	
Jones	Sarah	Himrod	NY	
Jones	Seamus	Brewster	MA	
Jones	Trinity	Perry	ME	
Jordan	Hanna	Surry	ME	
Jordan	Hope	Walpole	MA	
Joseph	Bennett	Freeport	ME	
Joy	Daniel	South Portland	ME	

Joyce	Hannah	Glenburn	ME	
Judkins	Quinn	North Waterboro	ME	
Junge	Evangeline	Jamestown	RI	
Juskiewicz	Cami	Marana	AZ	
Kachmar	Sydney	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Kahelin	Anna	Helsinki		Finland
Kahkonen	Tyler	Brewer	ME	
Kalonji	Moise	South Portland	ME	
Kalume	Nicolas	London	ON	Canada
Kane	Devon	Bangor	ME	
Kaphle	Apurba	Fort Kent	ME	
Karamousadakis	Emmanouil	Winthrop	ME	
Karkheck	Matt	Bridgewater	NH	
Karpinski	Kenzie	Boonville	NY	
Kasacek	Jess	Canterbury	CT	
Kashmark	Nathaniel	Sabin	MN	
Katsube	Taylor	Delta	BC	Canada
Kauffman	Hannah	Warrenton	VA	
Kaufman	David	Westborough	MA	
Kaufman	Sophie	Gorham	ME	

Kaulenas	Corey Aras	Salem	MA	
Kaurin	Aleksandar	South Portland	ME	
Kay	Annie	Marblehead	MA	
Kazek	Louise	Saint Didier sur Chalaronne		France
Kazilionis	Aaron	Scarborough	ME	
Kearney	John	Cumberland Center	ME	
Keast	Faith	Cornville	ME	
Keast	Matthew	Portland	ME	
Keast	Megan	Portland	ME	
Keebler	Isabella	Bangor	ME	
Keebler	Paul	Bangor	ME	
Keirstead	Carina	Henniker	NH	
Keliher	Caitlin	Freeport	ME	
Kelley	Kaitlyn	Saco	ME	
Kelley	Meaghan	Old Town	ME	
Kelley	Mitchell	Falmouth	ME	
Kelley	Myles	Appleton	ME	
Kelly	Jack	Westborough	MA	
Kelly	Lindsay	Orrington	ME	
Kelly	Lucas	Poland	ME	

Kelly	Owen	Westborough	MA	
Kelsey	Courtney	Hermon	ME	
Kelton	Peter	Metuchen	NJ	
Kemper	Kate	Rockport	ME	
Kennedy	Bhreagh	Skowhegan	ME	
Kennedy	Erin	Monmouth	ME	
Kennefick	Will	East Walpole	MA	
Kenney	Kayleigh	Belchertown	MA	
Kenney	Wyatt	Gray	ME	
Kenny	Adam	Milford	ME	
Khalil	Hubert	Orono	ME	
Kidd	Emily	Freeman Twp	ME	
Kiecker-Olson	Killian	Andover	MN	
Kiesman	Jerdon	Winterport	ME	
Kilborn	Chloe	Wiscasset	ME	
Kilby	Kaylah	Calais	ME	
Killarney	Noelle	Grantham	NH	
Kilmer	Mark	Ripley	ME	
Kim	William	Orono	ME	
Kimball	Diana	North Yarmouth	ME	

Kindler	Henry	Kennebunk	ME	
King	Cade	Palermo	ME	
King	Parker	Palermo	ME	
King	Thea	Milford	ME	
Kingdon	Jake	Scarborough	ME	
Kinnarney	Molly	Tunbridge	VT	
Kinney	Ryan	Bangor	ME	
Kinyon	Kalina	Westport	CT	
Kirkpatrick	Willoe	Belfast	ME	
Kissinger	Corbin	Fairfield	ME	
Kjellander	Olivia	Kingston	MA	
Kleeman	Michael	West Yarmouth	MA	
Kleinschmidt	Sofija	Oakland	ME	
Klimowich	Scott	New Milford	CT	
Kluck	Cady	Raymond	ME	
Knapp	John	Farmington	ME	
Knapp	Willow	Old Town	ME	
Knedler	Blake	New Gloucester	ME	
Kneissler	Casey	Fryeburg	ME	
Knight	Jax	Marblehead	MA	

Knight	Lucy	Hampden	ME	
Knowles	Liam	Topsham	ME	
Knox	Sophie	Buzzards Bay	MA	
Koblenzer	Laura	Goffstown	NH	
Kocaba	Owen	Madison	CT	
Koenig	Abbye	Old Town	ME	
Kogler	Kaleigh	Lexington	KY	
Kohtala	Jordyn	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Kolodziej	Cam	Salem	MA	
Kolodziej	Christopher	Salem	MA	
Kondax	Andrea	Plymouth	ME	
Koneff	Roy	Alton	ME	
Koretsky	Alexandra	Presque Isle	ME	
Korstanje	Thomas	Bar Harbor	ME	
Kostelnick	Isabelle	El Paso	IL	
Kotliarov	Antonia	Arlington	VA	
Kovacs	Sam	Buxton	ME	
Koval	Elizabeth	Brunswick	ME	
Kowalsky	Caden	Topsham	ME	
Kraemer	Abby	Waterloo	ON	Canada

Krebs	Nik	Turner	ME	
Kreeger	Rebecca	Wadsworth	OH	
Kreigh-McNeal	Ashwini	Topsham	ME	
Kroll	J.J.	Florence	MA	
Kronberg	Karin	Tibro		Sweden
Kroushl	J.	Franklin	MA	
Kruger	Max	Shelton	CT	
Krull	Alexis	Old Town	ME	
Kubinsky	Bryn	Allentown	PA	
Kugler	Strix	Vail	AZ	
Kull	Grant	Kennebunk	ME	
Kummer	Sophie	Fryeburg	ME	
Kuoppala	Ida	Pietarsaari		Finland
Kuptchik	Yeshayahou	Orono	ME	
Kuras	Lia	San Diego	CA	
Kusnierz	Brett	Garland	ME	
Kwan	Matthew	Natick	MA	
La Casse	Gus	Trenton	ME	
Labb	Tommy	Wells	ME	
Labbe	Emily	Scarborough	ME	

Labesky	Owen	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
LaBlanc	MacKenzie	Bangor	ME	
Labonte	Delaney	York	ME	
Labonte	Gabriel	Lewiston	ME	
Labrie	Josh	Gorham	ME	
LaCasse	Cassie	Bangor	ME	
LaCasse	Lily	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
LaChance	Olivia	Scarborough	ME	
Lacroix	Thomas	Wrentham	MA	
Ladd	Roland	Bangor	ME	
Ladd	Sophie	Byron	ME	
Laffey	Kaycee	Brewer	ME	
Laffler	Garrett	Ocean	NJ	
LaFrance	Grace	Alfred	ME	
Lagace	Dominic	Orono	ME	
Lagassie	Max	Stockton Springs	ME	
Lai	Peter	Waterville	ME	
Lajoie	Jack	Bangor	ME	
Lajoie	Josh	Hebron	ME	
Laliberte	Casey	East Walpole	MA	

Lalime	Jack	Otis	ME	
Lambert	Levi	North Berwick	ME	
Lambert	Miranda	Fairfield	ME	
Lambert	Sophia	Presque Isle	ME	
Lamkins	Cadence	Thomaston	ME	
Lammert	Devon	Bangor	ME	
Lamont	Chloe	Northbridge	MA	
Lamson	Aiden	Bangor	ME	
Lancaster	Lauren	Pittsfield	ME	
Lancellotti	Andrew	Seekonk	MA	
Lander	Jack	Orrington	ME	
Landry	Emily	Lincoln	ME	
Landry	Hunter	Lewiston	ME	
Landry	Madison	Freeport	ME	
Landry	Pierce	Farmington	CT	
Landry	Robert	Freeport	ME	
Landsbergen	Parker	Freeport	ME	
Landsman	Baylor	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lane	Ash	Falmouth	ME	
Lange	Walter	Bar Harbor	ME	

Langlois	Sofia	Glenmont	NY	
Langone	Gabrielle	Lynnfield	MA	
Lantagne	C.J.	Acton	ME	
LaPerriere	Caroline	Orono	ME	
LaPietra	Julian	New Castle	PA	
LaPlante	Eric	Van Buren	ME	
LaPlante	Maxim	Westbrook	ME	
LaPointe	Jillian	Stow	MA	
LaPointe	Renee	Van Buren	ME	
Lapointe	Riley	Harpswell	ME	
LaPorte	Sam	Duxbury	MA	
Larochelle	Sam	Durham	ME	
LaRose	Anna	Albertville	MN	
Larrabee	Ellie	Little Deer Isle	ME	
Larson	Danielle	Bellingham	MA	
LaScala	Julian	Keene	NH	
Laskey	Enoch	Eddington	ME	
Laslie	Katie	Lewiston	ME	
Lasorsa	Jolene	Ashby	MA	
Latimore	Destiney	North Attleboro	MA	

Laubscher	Alec	Simsbury	CT	
Laurence	Abbe	Greenland	NH	
Laurita	Louis	Hope	ME	
LaValley	Elizabeth	Greenfield	MA	
Lavin	Madison	Ashland	MA	
Lavin	Mya	Milford	ME	
Lavoie	Isabelle	Madawaska	ME	
Lavoie	Lee	Winthrop	ME	
Lavoy	Nathan	Portland	CT	
Lawrence	Abbie	Orrington	ME	
Lawrence	Griffin	Mattapoisett	MA	
Lawrence	Wynonia	Malone	NY	
Lawson	Erika	Penfield	NY	
Lawson	Jenna	Corpus Christi	TX	
Lax	Abbie	Northbridge	MA	
Le	Phuoc	Da Nang		Vietnam
Leach	Rori	Syracuse	NY	
Leahy	Annie	Marshfield	MA	
Leary	McKayla	South Berwick	ME	
Leavitt	McKenzie	Orono	ME	

Leavitt	Nick	Eliot	ME	
LeBlanc	Josie	Westbrook	ME	
LeBlanc	Nicole	Boylston	MA	
LeClair	Jasmine	Presque Isle	ME	
LeClair	Madeline	Milford	ME	
LeClaire	Ashley	Webster	NY	
Lecomte	John	Melrose	MA	
Ledford	David	Hudson	ME	
Ledoux	Katie	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Lee	Kyle	Skowhegan	ME	
Lee	Olivia	Lewiston	ME	
Lee	Payeng	Saint Paul	MN	
Leeman	Daegan	Newport	ME	
Lees	Justin	Naples	ME	
Lefebvre	Kerry	Freeport	ME	
Lefkowitz	Stephen	Blue Hill	ME	
Lehan	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Lehan	Lily	Old Town	ME	
Leigh	Iann	Bangor	ME	
Leighton	Gavyn	Wells	ME	

Lemarier	Julia	Wells	ME	
Lembree	Hannah	Claremont	NH	
Lemieux	Benjamin	Rome	ME	
Lemieux	Charese	Cape Neddick	ME	
Lemieux	Rollan	Cape Neddick	ME	
Lennon	Colin	Topsham	ME	
Leonard	Evan	Portland	ME	
Leonard	Rachel	Mount Desert	ME	
Leone	Sonia	Fryeburg	ME	
Leschey	Grace	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Leschey	Nick	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Lessard	Alexandra	Jackman	ME	
Lester	Tim	Cumberland Center	ME	
Leung	Annapurna	Braintree	MA	
Levesque	Alexander	Lyman	ME	
Levesque	Amanda	Swansea	MA	
Levesque	Emily	Sidney	ME	
Levesque	Jacob	Orrington	ME	
Levesque	Levi	Lisbon	ME	
Levinson	Adam	Yarmouth	ME	

Lewin	Reeseanne	Bridgewater	NJ	
Lewis	Bailey	Skowhegan	ME	
Lewis	Katherine	Windham	ME	
Lewis	Owen	Eagle Lake	ME	
Lewis	Shelby	Oakfield	ME	
Leys	Jack	Middletown	RI	
Libby	Hayden	Topsham	ME	
Libby	Katie	Rancho Palos Verdes	CA	
Libby	Owen	Bow	NH	
Libby	Rowan	Saco	ME	
Libuda	Casey	Moultonborough	NH	
Lick	Trent	Orono	ME	
Liem	Kendrick	Palo Alto	CA	
Light	Allie	Gorham	ME	
Light	Wyatt	Saco	ME	
Lilly	Eve	Oakland	ME	
Lilly	Myles	Bethel	ME	
Lin	Kelvin	Saco	ME	
Lin	Vincent	Standish	ME	
Lindauer	Parker	Verona	WI	

Lindholm	Ryan	Rowley	MA	
Lindstrom	Hannah	Plainville	MA	
Lindstrom	Kelsie	Plainville	MA	
Lindyberg	Jack	Stockton Springs	ME	
Linehan	Paige	Bangor	ME	
Lines	Eli	Trumansburg	NY	
Linkel	Reilly	Orland	ME	
Lipka	Skyler	Shrewsbury	MA	
Lipson	Jacob	Franklin	MA	
Little	Kennedy	Andover	MN	
Littlefield	Cameron	Fairfield	ME	
Littlefield	Rebekah	Winterport	ME	
Littlehales	Kristina	Franklinville	NJ	
Littler	Alicia	Downingtown	PA	
Lizzotte	Hunter	Farmingdale	ME	
Ljungberg	Skye	Belchertown	MA	
Llerena	Julianne	Hampden	ME	
Lobdell	Brady	Hampden	ME	
Lobley	Jordan	Orrington	ME	
Locke	Tyler	Brookfield	MA	

Lockhart	Mariah	Winterport	ME	
Loehr	Iris	Cincinnati	OH	
Loeser	Claire	Saco	ME	
Lofstrom	Julienna	Manchester	CT	
Loftus	Riley	Winslow	ME	
Lolar	Ethyn	Old Town	ME	
Loman	Peter	Lee	ME	
Long	Ryan	Kittery	ME	
Longchamps	Nevaeh	Auburn	ME	
Longtin	Kate	Brewer	ME	
Looney	Michaella	Orono	ME	
Lopez	Joshua	Jay	ME	
Lopez	Sabrina	Bridgton	ME	
Lopez Garcia	Carlos	Solidaridad		Mexico
Lopez-Mata	Maddie	East Falmouth	MA	
Loranger	Jake	Portland	ME	
Lord	Christiana	Danforth	ME	
Lord	Griffin	Orono	ME	
Lorenc	Kayla	Oakland	NJ	
Lorenzo	Jacob	Falmouth	ME	

Lorom	Sydney	Houlton	ME	
Losquadro	Katie	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lossius	Julie	Kristiansand		Norway
Loughman	Kayla	Reading	MA	
Lounsbury	Sydney	Southbury	CT	
Lovering	Gabe	Auburn	ME	
Low	Maria	Brewer	ME	
Lowry	Rhys	Falmouth	ME	
Lozinski	Brynn	Sidney	ME	
Lucas	Lacey	Old Town	ME	
Luchon	Adam	Willington	CT	
Lucia	Tori	Fairfield	CT	
Luciano	Ian	Gorham	ME	
Ludwig	Noah	Warren	ME	
Luick	Roshan	New Sharon	ME	
Lunedei	Jake	Monument Beach	MA	
Lupien	Allison	Waldoboro	ME	
Lupien	Emily	Waldoboro	ME	
Luu	Mai	Auburn	ME	
Lydon Shay	Colton	Braintree	MA	

Lyford	Jennah	Hampden	ME	
Lynch	Ryan	Rockland	ME	
Lyons	Abby	Hampden	ME	
Mabry	Eric	Wells	ME	
MacAskill	Erin	New Fairfield	CT	
Macaulay	Madie	Andover	MA	
MacDonald	Cam	Seabrook	NH	
MacDonald	Clare	Harpswell	ME	
MacDonald	Maddie	Manchester	ME	
Mace	Emily	Norwood	MA	
Mack	Jada	Cornville	ME	
MacKay	Megan	Dracut	MA	
MacKay	Stuart	Bangor	ME	
Mackesy	Mallory	Stoney Creek	ON	Canada
MacKinnon	Ian	Presque Isle	ME	
Macklin	Fisher	Salem	CT	
MacLean	Cam	Augusta	ME	
MacLean	Darcy	Gray	ME	
MacLean	Ella	Antigonish	NS	Canada
MacMillan	Charlotte	Brunswick	ME	

MacPherson	Tommy	Quincy	MA	
MacVane	Chloe	South Portland	ME	
Madden	Dylan	Greenbush	ME	
Madison	Zach	Turner	ME	
Madore	Joe	Bridgewater	MA	
Magill	Nathan	Woburn	MA	
Maguire	Anthony	Westbrook	ME	
Mahar	Alexander	Rockland	ME	
Maheu	Rebecca	Waterville	ME	
Maidman	Jonathan	Carrabassett Valley	ME	
Mailey	Trinity	Old Town	ME	
Majka	Justin	West Newbury	MA	
Maki	Joe	Fitchburg	MA	
Makowski	Jasper	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Maksymenko	Mariia	Kyiv		Ukraine
Malia	Patrick	Fryeburg	ME	
Malieswski	Ryan	Framingham	MA	
Malinowski	Xandra	West Gardiner	ME	
Malkin	Julian	Woodbury	CT	
Maloney	Liv	Worcester	MA	

Mandras	Lilliana	New Rochelle	NY	
Mann	Joshua	Dexter	ME	
Manning	Sarah	East Hampstead	NH	
Mansfield	Sarah	Annandale	VA	
Mantini	Gianna	Dunbarton	NH	
Mara	Keith	Suva		Fiji
Marchessault	Brady	Thomaston	ME	
Marchessault	Mike	Cumberland Center	ME	
Margetis	Anna	Wesley Chapel	FL	
Mark	Michael	Houston	TX	
Marks	Charlie	Orono	ME	
Marks	Jacob	Falmouth	ME	
Marks	Maddie	Falmouth	ME	
Marsanskis	Luke	Cumberland Center	ME	
Marsanskis	Olivia	Cumberland Center	ME	
Marsh	Bryant	Cutler	ME	
Marshall	Kai	Natick	MA	
Martell	Kyle	Gray	ME	
Martin	Abi	Monroe	ME	
Martin	Brandon	Biddeford	ME	

Martin	Deanna	Orono	ME	
Martin	Gabe	Monmouth	ME	
Martin	Laura	Bar Harbor	ME	
Martin	Matthew	Hopkinton	MA	
Martin	Mchenna	Stonington	ME	
Martin	Peter	Scarborough	ME	
Martin	Samantha	Pittsfield	ME	
Martin	Sarina	Orland	ME	
Martinez	Ashley	Paterson	NJ	
Maslaczynska-Salome	Sara	Green Brook	NJ	
Mason	Alden	Owls Head	ME	
Massey	Kursten	Leesburg	GA	
Masterson	Jackson	Kingfield	ME	
Mastriani	James	Bridgewater	MA	
Mastrianno	Leah	Augusta	ME	
Mastrorillo	Brandon	Old Town	ME	
Mather	Samuel	Avon	CT	
Mathews	Lindsay	Fayetteville	NY	
Mathieu	Hannah	Sidney	ME	
Mathieu	Lilo	Farmingdale	ME	

Matsuyama	Itsuki	Kanazawa Ishikawa-prefecture		Japan
Matteo	Spencer	Portland	ME	
Mattson	Timber	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Maurais	Hannah	Jay	ME	
Max	Theresa	Ottsville	PA	
Maxwell	McKenna	Appleton	ME	
May-Fleming	Iris	Nashville	TN	
Mayhew	Zoe	Unity	ME	
Maynard	Jackson	Presque Isle	ME	
Maynard	Nella	Eagle	NE	
Mayo	LilyGrace	Rockland	MA	
Mayo	Matthew	Bridgton	ME	
Mayotte	Kaylee	Lebanon	ME	
Mazhar	Khan	Chantilly	VA	
McAllaster	Riley	Brunswick	ME	
McA'Nulty	Danny	Milton	MA	
McAuliffe	Maggie	Foxboro	MA	
McBreairty	Meaghan	Hampden	ME	
McBreairty	Riley	Hampden	ME	
McBrine	Ethan	Biddeford	ME	

McCann	Jack	Rehoboth	MA	
McCarthy	Billy	Norton	MA	
McCarthy	Madi	Orono	ME	
McCarthy	Natalie	Old Town	ME	
McCarthy	Tessa	Northville	MI	
McCauley	Faith	Carmel	NY	
McCauley	Justin	Randolph	MA	
McClellan	Kyle	Orono	ME	
McClung	Ruby	Fircrest	WA	
McCollom	Daphne	Minooka	IL	
McCue	Sam	Wrentham	MA	
McCullough	Kaitlin	Ellsworth	ME	
McCullough	Nolan	Gorham	ME	
McCullough	Sarah	North Haven	CT	
McCutcheon	Drew	Lincoln	ME	
McDaniel	Quinn	Eliot	ME	
McDermott	Wyatt	Wells	VT	
McDevitt	Griffin	Sandwich	MA	
McDowell	Yvey	Bristol	RI	
McElroy	Brian	Carmel	ME	

McEnaney	Aidan	Stillwater	ME	
McGarry	Morgan	Scarborough	ME	
McGee	Bailey	Durham	ME	
McGee	Lexi	South Berwick	ME	
McGibbon	Sean	Millinocket	ME	
McGlone	Aidan	Limington	ME	
McGlone	Alec	Key Biscayne	FL	
McGovern	Nick	Methuen	MA	
McHatten	Paige	Mapleton	ME	
McIntire	Cassidy	Winslow	ME	
McKenzie	Darius	Old Town	ME	
McKinney	James	Newbury	MA	
McLagan	Kayla	Hackettstown	NJ	
Mclaughlin	Delani	Greenbush	ME	
McLaughlin	Graham	Kennebunk	ME	
McLaughlin	John	Manchester	ME	
McLaughlin	Lily	Bangor	ME	
McLaughlin	Maria	Brewer	ME	
McLellan	Ivy	Calais	ME	
McMannus	Rachel	Derby	ME	

McManus	Marina	Edgecomb	ME	
McMerty	Tristan	Freehold	NJ	
Mcnally	Kaden	Stacyville	ME	
McNally	Zoe	Bowdoin	ME	
McNeil	Karen	Hartford	ME	
Mcneill	Amaya	Waterville	ME	
McQuarrie	Jamie	Brewer	ME	
McSweyn	Aidan	Hope	ME	
Mcvearry	Caeley	Belfast	ME	
Mead	Mackenzie	Westford	MA	
Meader	Cortney	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Mealey	Jacob	Farmington	ME	
Meaney	Lauren	North Reading	MA	
Medeiros	Josh	Scarborough	ME	
Meeker	Victoria	East Haven	CT	
Meggison	Teagan	West Baldwin	ME	
Mehre	Alex	Veazie	ME	
Meirelles-Cochran	Antonio	Hyannis	MA	
Mejias	Jazmyne	Standish	ME	
Melanson	Andrew	Orono	ME	

Melanson	Josiah	Gardiner	ME	
Mellor	Rebekah	Stockton Springs	ME	
Melzl	Vienna	Combined Locks	WI	
Membrino	Lilia	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Mendonca	Allison	Saint Albans	ME	
Mendoza Yanes	Karla	Auburn	ME	
Mercado	Rene	Orono	ME	
Mercurio	Sophia	Lynn	MA	
Merkle-Scotland	Maeve	Madison	CT	
Merrill	Isabella	Hope	ME	
Merz	Nolan	Rocklin	CA	
Messier	April	Camden	ME	
Metivier	Jacob	Lewiston	ME	
Meyer	John	Brick	NJ	
Mezzadri	Dom	Blackstone	MA	
Michalko	Emily	Port Republic	MD	
Michaud	Aidan	North Yarmouth	ME	
Michaud	Beau	Fort Kent	ME	
Michaud	Camille	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Michaud	Conner	Presque Isle	ME	

Michaud	Dante	North Berwick	ME	
Michaud	Gregory	Oakland	ME	
Michaud	Isaac	Wells	ME	
Michaud	Jacob	Wells	ME	
Michaud	Madison	Gorham	ME	
Michaud	Marc	Machiasport	ME	
Mierzejewski	Nicholas	New Hartford	CT	
Miester	Ethan	East Windsor	NJ	
Milan-Bryant	Kaitlyn	Brewer	ME	
Mild	Owen	Bernard	ME	
Millay	Chanthu	Brewer	ME	
Miller	Abigail	Gorham	ME	
Miller	Jenna	Charlton	MA	
Miller	Jordyn	Dedham	ME	
Miller	Katelyn	Trumbull	CT	
Milligan	Mary	Summerfield	FL	
Milliken	Brenna	Fryeburg	ME	
Mills	Nic	Chelsea	ME	
Mills	Sam	Biddeford	ME	
Milo	Sophia	Denmark	ME	

Miltenberger	Julia	Longmeadow	MA	
Minas	Katarina	Cranston	RI	
Minkin	Grace	Camden	ME	
Misiaszek	Katy	West Boylston	MA	
Mitchell	Faith	China	ME	
Mittelstadt	Lexi	Wilton	ME	
Moaratty	Mya	Aiea	HI	
Moery	Katie	Alexandria	VA	
Moeykens	Caitlin	Orono	ME	
Mohawass	Marina	Bangor	ME	
Moir	Brooke	Woodland	ME	
Molina	Justin	Elizabeth	NJ	
Moline	Brendan	Northport	ME	
Moline	Gary	Old Town	ME	
Moniz	Kyle	Salem	NH	
Monkiewicz	Sydney	Lynnfield	MA	
Monteiro	Luke	Mystic	CT	
Moody	Kylee	Lincoln	ME	
Moon	Brianna	Howland	ME	
Mooney	Amelia	Lisbon Falls	ME	

Mooney	Katie	Chepachet	RI	
Moore	Cole	Old Town	ME	
Moore	Max	Camden	ME	
Moore	Timothy	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Moores	Sydni	Belfast	ME	
Morales	Sarah	Framingham	MA	
Moreau	Sarah	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Morgan	Alex	Perry	ME	
Morgan	Curtis	Kennebunk	ME	
Morgan	Evan	Scarborough	ME	
Morgan	Noah	Auburn	ME	
Morgus	Matthew	Orono	ME	
Morin	Abby	Winthrop	ME	
Morin	Andrea	Ipswich	MA	
Morin	Emily	Lyman	ME	
Morin	Theodore	Wells	ME	
Morley	Sara	Belchertown	MA	
Morneault	Garrett	Washburn	ME	
Morneault	Hollie	Madawaska	ME	
Morphy	Elise	Regina	SK	Canada

Morrell	Avery	Cornwall	NY	
Morrell	Dylan	Gorham	ME	
Morrill	Jillian	Gorham	ME	
Morrill	Rya	Hudson	ME	
Morrill	Zach	Falmouth	ME	
Morris	Kahlysta	Robbinston	ME	
Morrison	Camden	Wells	ME	
Morrison	Emily	Sanford	ME	
Morrison	Tegan	Waterloo	ON	Canada
Morrison	Trevor	Hancock	ME	
Morrissette	Alexander	Brookfield	CT	
Morrissey	Katie	Freeport	ME	
Morrissey	Lilly	Woodbridge	CT	
Morse	Madisyn	Brewer	ME	
Morton	Sam	Norway	ME	
Mosca	Caroline	Augusta	ME	
Moseley	Kendra	North Berwick	ME	
Moser	Matisse	Falmouth	ME	
Moss	Molly	Waterville	ME	
Moulton	Greg	Cutler	ME	

Moyes	Katie	Georgetown	ME	
Moynihan	Naomi	Bangor	ME	
Mrenna	Brigid	Batavia	IL	
Mulkhey	Jazlo	Winthrop	ME	
Mullally	Jacquie	Millis	MA	
Mulligan	Abigail	Orono	ME	
Mulligan	Claire	North Yarmouth	ME	
Mulligan	Jacob	Berwick	ME	
Mulligan	Kacie	West Enfield	ME	
Mullin	Maeve	Redding	CT	
Mullin	Natalie	Cumberland Center	ME	
Mullin	Rachel	Bridgewater	MA	
Mulrooney	Connor	Chester	VA	
Muniz	Byron	Saint Louis	MO	
Munroe	Heather	Penobscot	ME	
Murdock	Peter	Peterborough	Nhants	United Kingdom
Murphy	Bart	Biddeford	ME	
Murphy	Fiona	Bridgton	ME	
Murphy	Fiona	York	ME	
Murphy	Haley	Haverhill	MA	

Murphy	Maegan	South Portland	ME	
Murphy	Matthias	Old Town	ME	
Murphy	Michael	West Baldwin	ME	
Murphy	Noah	Bangor	ME	
Murphy	Shannon	South Portland	ME	
Murray	Brenna	North Billerica	MA	
Murray	Emily	Scarborough	ME	
Murray	Kian	Brunswick	ME	
Murray	Maggie	Farmington	ME	
Murray	Marion	Goffstown	NH	
Murray	Seán	Goffstown	NH	
Muscatell	Annabelle	Bangor	ME	
Myers	Hagen	Portland	ME	
Myers	Sabina	Rehoboth	MA	
Myles	Allie	Gorham	ME	
Myron	Alyssa	Durham	ME	
Myron	Amanda	Durham	ME	
Naamani	Mohsin	Masqat		Oman
Nachamie	Eddie	North Andover	MA	
Nadeau	Larry	Fort Kent	ME	

Nadeau	Travis	Litchfield	ME	
Nahas	Natalie	Dover	NH	
Namujju	Elizabeth	Old Town	ME	
Nangle	Sydney	Windham	ME	
Nash	Ellie	Falmouth	ME	
Natalizia	Jake	Saunderstown	RI	
Nataluk	Alanna	Lovell	ME	
Nault	Anna	Gorham	ME	
Neal	Madi	Monmouth	ME	
Nedder	Reagan	Attleboro	MA	
Needham	Dominic	Veazie	ME	
Negley	Jaidyn	Greene	ME	
Nelson	Casey	Damariscotta	ME	
Nelson	Declan	Hampden	ME	
Nelson	Jacob	Walpole	MA	
Nelson	Jared	Scarborough	ME	
Nelson	Vi	Howland	ME	
Nenadic	Milana	Kitchener	ON	Canada
Neri	Katerina	Palmyra	PA	
Nery	Andrew	Newcastle	ME	

Neuhauser	Liv	Falmouth	ME	
Nevells	Kaden	Hermon	ME	
Newcomb	Madilyn	Perry	ME	
Newell	Ethan	Princeton	MA	
Newick	Carissa	North Berwick	ME	
Newsom	Kahlan	Eddington	ME	
Ney	Connor	Brunswick	ME	
Ngo	Vinh-Nhan	Bangor	ME	
Nguyen	Kelly	Portland	ME	
Nguyen	Peter	Thanh Pho Thu Dau Mot		Vietnam
Nguyen	Soren	Orono	ME	
Nicholas	Annika	Littleton	ME	
Nicholas	Nathaniel	Mechanicsville	MD	
Nicholas	Tori	Tolland	CT	
Nichols	Addison	Bangor	ME	
Nichols	Emma	Wilmington	NC	
Nichols	Ira	Hampden	ME	
Nichols	Kate	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Nichols	Nolan	Branford	CT	
Nieblas	Izzy	Bakersfield	CA	

Nielsen	Tyler	North Grafton	MA	
Nightingale	Jared	Saratoga Springs	NY	
Ninteau	Emily	Dracut	MA	
Nkulikiyinka	Theogene	Orono	ME	
Nkulikiyinka	Theophile	Orono	ME	
Noble	Meg	Arundel	ME	
Noddin	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Noonan	Sydney	Old Town	ME	
Norbury	Kristina	Woodstown	NJ	
Norman	Ian	Holden	ME	
Norment	Lukas	Glenburn	ME	
North	Zoe	Kingston	RI	
Novak	Kathryn	South Paris	ME	
Nowak	Lilian	Bangor	ME	
Noyes	James	Warren	ME	
Noyes	Kody	Topsham	ME	
Nuesslein	Hisarya	Bar Harbor	ME	
Nunes	Nicole	Danvers	MA	
Oakes	Bailey	Richmond Hill	ON	Canada
Oakes	Breanne	Hermon	ME	

Oakes	Brooklyn	Keswick	ON	Canada
Oakes	Deanna	Millinocket	ME	
Obenauer	Samara	Glenburn	ME	
Ober	Julian	Tulsa	OK	
Obertas	Andrii	Orono	ME	
O'Brien	Meadow	North Attleboro	MA	
O'Brien	Sean	Narragansett	RI	
O'Brien	Sydney	Kingston	MA	
O'Connell	Leena	Darien	CT	
O'Connor	Caitlin	North Weymouth	MA	
O'Donald	Megan	Stetson	ME	
O'Donnell	Emmakate	Colchester	VT	
O'Donnell	Laura	Tewksbury	MA	
O'Donnell	Mackenzie	Portland	ME	
Oduro	Lea	Scotch Plains	NJ	
Offerdahl	Ella	Circle Pines	MN	
Ogata	Mana	Yokohama Kanagawa		Japan
Ogle	Allison	Oxford	CT	
Oglesby	Wyatt	Black Hawk	CO	
Oja	Zachariah	Standish	ME	

O'Kane	Erin	Bangor	ME	
O'Keefe	Armand	South Orange	NJ	
O'Kelly	Luke	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Oldfield	Olivia	Bangor	ME	
O'Leary	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	
Oliveira	Elijah	Lincoln	RI	
Oliveira	Isabella	Boxford	MA	
Oliver	Connor	Scarborough	ME	
Olsen	Tucker	Canton	ME	
Olshin	Jasmine	Scarborough	ME	
Olson	Camden	Yarmouth	ME	
Olson	Chase	West Simsbury	CT	
Olson	Zoe	Trenton	ME	
Olzinski	Molly	Johnson City	NY	
ONeil	Luke	Orono	ME	
Oranje	Paige	Bangor	ME	
Ordazzo	Caroline	South Weymouth	MA	
O'Regan	Liam	Westwood	MA	
Orio	Mimi	Medfield	MA	
O'Rourke	Courtney	Paxton	MA	

Osborne	Reilly	Northampton	MA	
Ostman	Victor	Danderyd		Sweden
Otash	Trent	Berwick	ME	
Ouellette	Aimee	Orono	ME	
Ouellette	Emma	Derry	NH	
Ouellette	Toby	Saco	ME	
Outwater	Andrew	Millbrook	NY	
Ozlanski	Sarah Renee	Beflast	ME	
Pagliaro	Maria	Sandy Hook	CT	
Paine	Daniel	South Paris	ME	
Pais	Ali	Peabody	MA	
Palazzo	Gavin	West Springfield	MA	
Palazzo	Riley	Orange	CT	
Palm	Gunnar	Kittery Point	ME	
Palmer	Brett	West Gardiner	ME	
Palmer	Mallory	Brunswick	ME	
Palmore	Dylan	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Papenhausen	CarleeRae	Babylon	NY	
Papushka	Gabrielle	Surrey	BC	Canada
Paquin	Alyssa	Waterboro	ME	

Paquin	Ethan	Waterboro	ME	
Parajuli	Shreyash	Kathmandu		Nepal
Pardue	Aidan	Cumberland Center	ME	
Parent	Drew	Orono	ME	
Parent	Jeffery	Waldoboro	ME	
Parker	Anya	Orono	ME	
Parker	Garrett	Brooksville	ME	
Parker	Jonah	Orono	ME	
Parrotta	Emma	Cape Neddick	ME	
Parsons	Alia	Old Town	ME	
Parsons	Dylan	Kittery	ME	
Parsons	Miko	Dixfield	ME	
Pasamba	Anna	Edison	NJ	
Pasternak	Gabe	Orono	ME	
Patashnik	Emily	Scarborough	ME	
Patel	Niraj	Sanford	ME	
Pateman	Nicole	St. Thomas	ON	Canada
Patin	William	Hampden	ME	
Patten	Donny	Belfast	ME	
Patten	Noelle	Hermon	ME	

Patterson	Jaida	Gray	ME	
Paul	Ashley	Orono	ME	
Pavlik	Zoe	Durham	NH	
Pawelski	Jonah	Goshen	NY	
Peaco	Andrew	Bangor	ME	
Peaco	Josh	Bangor	ME	
Peacock	Hannah	Old Town	ME	
Peakes	Olivia	Dexter	ME	
Pearson	Mariah	Mooresville	NC	
Pearson	Trevor	Holden	ME	
Peary	Alexandra	Cumberland Center	ME	
Pease	Josh	York	ME	
Pease	Lydia	Springvale	ME	
Pease	Nick	Palmyra	ME	
Peck	Alexa	Westport Island	ME	
Pedersen	Finn	Scarborough	ME	
Peitz	David	Fairfield	ME	
Pelkie	Shelby	Fryeburg	ME	
Pellegrino	Kelly	Bangor	ME	
Pelletier	Justin	Madawaska	ME	

Pelletier	Marielle	Industry	ME	
Pelletier	Zachary	Dover	NH	
Pellizzari	Giacomo	Venezia		Italy
Peloteau	Melina	Quebec	QC	Canada
Peluso	Gabriella	Dumont	NJ	
Pencinger	Ben	Tampa	FL	
Pendergast	Annie	Sudbury	MA	
Pendleton	Annabelle	Auburn	ME	
Pendy	Ben	Oakland	NJ	
Pennington	Abigail	North Waterboro	ME	
Penza-Clyve	Ana	Cumberland Center	ME	
Pereira	Ayden	Auburn	NH	
Perilla	Emily	Freeport	ME	
Perkins	Annah	Cornville	ME	
Perkins	Dominic	Kittery	ME	
Perkins	Gwenyth	Medway	ME	
Perkins	Kyla	Stockton Springs	ME	
Perkins	Logan	Exeter	ME	
Perkins	Shaelea	Marshfield	ME	
Perrotta	Margaret	Freeport	ME	

Perry	Emily	Kensington	NH	
Perry	Meghan	South Portland	ME	
Perry	Riley	Veazie	ME	
Persinger	Chris	Hampden	ME	
Persson	Andrew	Bangor	ME	
Pescatore	Ryan	Wakefield	MA	
Peters	Aidan	Old Town	ME	
Peters	Aiden	Scarborough	ME	
Peters	Audrey	Lee	ME	
Peters	Erin	Houlton	ME	
Peters	Max	Falmouth	ME	
Peterson	Rosemary	Oakland	ME	
Petherick	Andrew	Groton	CT	
Petrovich	Matthew	Shelton	CT	
Peyton	Madeline	Herkimer	NY	
Phalon	Max	Mason	NH	
Phelps	Kai	Ellsworth	ME	
Philbrick	Bailey	Newburgh	ME	
Philbrook	Carly	Winterport	ME	
Philips	Shelby	Bangor	ME	

Phillippe	Chris	Troy	ME	
Phillips	Andrew	Georgetown	MA	
Phillips	Elizabeth	Houlton	ME	
Phillips	Randi	Chandler	AZ	
Phillips	Tabrizia	Bangor	ME	
Phinney	Cameron	Hollis Center	ME	
Pickard	Renee	Sabattus	ME	
Picone	Jojo	Bangor	ME	
Pierce	Adrian	Camden	ME	
Pierce	Alex	Rome	ME	
Pierce	Lindsay	Gray	ME	
Pigott	Sean	Tyngsboro	MA	
Pilon	Ava	Lunenburg	MA	
Pineau	Nick	North Dartmouth	MA	
Pinette	Jordane	Thetford Mines	QC	Canada
Pinette	Tom	Limestone	ME	
Pisone	Chase	Laurel	MD	
Pitcairn	Joshua	Lincolnville	ME	
Pitcher	Mason	Cumberland Center	ME	
Pitman	Ava	Gorham	ME	

Pitman	Julia	Beverly	MA	
Pitt	George	Orono	ME	
Pitt	Kaitryn	Westbrook	ME	
Place	Eliott	Eliot	ME	
Plante	Colin	Stoughton	MA	
Plummer	Nathan	Raymond	ME	
Plummer	Sydni	Windsor	ME	
Poirier	Samantha	Auburn	ME	
Poissant	Tristan	Orono	ME	
Poisson	Ben	Vancouver	BC	Canada
Poisson	Brian	Sudbury	MA	
Poisson	Jennie	Saco	ME	
Poling	Tom	Stetson	ME	
Pollard	Mark	Old Town	ME	
Polley	Devon	Vassalboro	ME	
Pollier	Kayla	Ware	MA	
Pomerleau	Eliot	Scarborough	ME	
Pomerleau	Sierra	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Ponzini	Nick	Burlington	MA	
Poole	Wei Wei	South Berwick	ME	

Poole	Will	Brownville	ME	
Porter	Jonah	Orono	ME	
Porter	Kevin	Hingham	MA	
Porter	Sam	Sebago	ME	
Pothier	Mia	Biddeford	ME	
Potter	Ben	Falmouth	ME	
Potter	Kylar	Washington	ME	
Potvin	Amelia	Webster	NY	
Poulin	Amanda	Presque Isle	ME	
Poulin	Katharine	Kennebunk	ME	
Poulin	Lauren	Kennebunk	ME	
Poulin	Nathalie	Bradley	ME	
Poulin	Nick	Augusta	ME	
Powers	Abby	Brunswick	ME	
Powers	Alex	Lunenburg	MA	
Prats	Zoe	York	PA	
Pratte	Michael	Bedford	NH	
Praul	Hunter	South China	ME	
Praul	Jacob	South China	ME	
Preble	Juliann	Bradley	ME	

Prell	Jonathan	West Simsbury	CT	
Prentice	Audrey	Auburn	ME	
Prescott	Kiara	Corinth	ME	
Preston	Dean	Windham	ME	
Preston	Roxy	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Probst	Cy	Lock Haven	PA	
Prokop	Matush	Skowhegan	ME	
Pugatch	Sam	Portsmouth	RI	
Pullen	Ryan	Oakland	ME	
Pullias	Izzy	Robbinston	ME	
Punch	Jessica	Hebron	ME	
Punzo	Beck	Glenside	PA	
Purple	Spencer	Westford	MA	
Purslow	Shelby	Lovell	ME	
Pustizzi	Kacey	Burlington	MA	
Pyle	James	Fort Wainwright	AK	
Qiu	Renxuan	Freeport	ME	
Quinn	Logan	Braintree	MA	
Quintal	Aja	Deer Isle	ME	
Quint-Wood	Mia	South Portland	ME	

Quirion	Myles	Orono	ME	
Quirrion	Hunter	Jay	ME	
Radzelovage	Teresa	Londonderry	NH	
Rae	Josh	Monroe	ME	
Rafford	Kit	North Yarmouth	ME	
Rainsford	Jakob	Rowley	MA	
Rajcula	Jed	Brookfield	CT	
Ramlo	Gretchen	Brookings	SD	
Ramos	Jordan	Tiverton	RI	
Ramsden	Ian	Portland	ME	
Rancourt	Kristen	Winslow	ME	
Ranisate	Camille	Monument	CO	
Ransley	Sam	New Harbor	ME	
Rathbun	Molly	Gorham	ME	
Ratliffe	Mary	Fremont	NH	
Ray	Kaylee	Gardiner	ME	
Raye	Kaitlynn	Hampden	ME	
Raymond	Kayla	Standish	ME	
Raymond	Neily	Hermon	ME	
Rayner	Mae	Cape Elizabeth	ME	

Ray-Smith	Joseph	Milbridge	ME	
Ready	Colin	Eliot	ME	
Reardon	Austin	Norwood	MA	
Rec	Corinna	Kennebunk	ME	
Reed	Myah	Newport	ME	
Reed	Sydney	Skowhegan	ME	
Reese	Connor	Veazie	ME	
Reeves	Nick	Vassalboro	ME	
Regan	Adam	Old Town	ME	
Regan	Ashley	Pepperell	MA	
Regan	Fiona	Orchard Park	NY	
Reis	Stefan	Saco	ME	
Renshaw	Brianna	Marshfield	ME	
Renwick	Nolan	Milestone	SK	Canada
Reynolds	Dana	Kents Hill	ME	
Reynolds	Dorian	Bangor	ME	
Reynolds	Mikayla	Waterville	ME	
Reynolds	Sara	Winterport	ME	
Rezack	Stephen	South Berwick	ME	
Rheault	Riley	Portland	ME	

Rhodes	Michael	Beverly	MA	
Rice	Anora	Bangor	ME	
Rice	Keagan	New Gloucester	ME	
Rice	Olivia	Kenduskeag	ME	
Rich	Chris	Skowhegan	ME	
Rich	Kaily	Lebanon	ME	
Rich	Maxwell	Orono	ME	
Richard	Andrew	Bangor	ME	
Richard	Avery	Hampden	ME	
Richard	Sawyer	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Richards	Alicia	South Berwick	ME	
Richards	Garrett	Coplay	PA	
Richards	Sam	Madawaska	ME	
Richardson	Kate	Edinburgh		United Kingdom
Richardson	Sadie	Milton Twp	ME	
Richardson	Taylor	Ellsworth	ME	
Richter	Amanda	Rockville Centre	NY	
Ricker	Ashley	Gorham	ME	
Ricker	Kyle	Westport Island	ME	
Ridenour	Olivia	Richmond	ME	

Rider	Benjamin	Saint Augustine	FL	
Rider	Rebecca	Presque Isle	ME	
Rieth	Alysen	Lake Havasu City	AZ	
Riley	Caden	Mansfield	MA	
Riley	Makala	Searsport	ME	
Rinehart	Emerson	Lakeville	CT	
Ringuette	Madison	Madawaska	ME	
Rinoldo	Becca	Upton	MA	
Riordan	Declan	Bangor	ME	
Ritchie	Katie	Orono	ME	
Ritchie	Madison	Gambrills	MD	
Rivera	Sofia	Oakhurst	NJ	
Roamer	Jordan	Evergreen	CO	
Robbins	Allison	Ellsworth	ME	
Robbins	Ethan	Holden	MA	
Robbins	Lily	Searsmont	ME	
Robbins	Sherralyn	Brewer	ME	
Roberge	Cameron	Gray	ME	
Roberts	Abigail	Damariscotta	ME	
Roberts	Dimarco	Wells	ME	

Roberts	Margo	Bangor	ME	
Roberts	Sam	Old Town	ME	
Roberts	Sean	Harpswell	ME	
Robin	Cas	Goffstown	NH	
Robinson	Ashley	Kennebunk	ME	
Robinson	Natalie	Wells	ME	
Robinson	Samuel	Freeport	ME	
Robinson	Sydney	Portland	ME	
Robson	L.J.	Chelmsford	MA	
Rock	Amanda	Glenburn	ME	
Rockey	Neil	Chicago	IL	
Rockwood	Olivia	Windsor	VT	
Roderick	Kayla	Waldoboro	ME	
Rodrigue	Grace	Augusta	ME	
Rodriguez	Haley	New Bedford	MA	
Roebuck	Lewis	Wakefield	RI	
Rogers	Halle	Medina	OH	
Rogers	Kira	Fort Fairfield	ME	
Rohde	Svenja	Waldshut-Tiengen		Germany
Roise	Mike	Ivoryton	CT	

Rolfe	Avery	Windham	ME	
Ronco	Lucas	Dover-Foxcroft	ME	
Rooney	Will	Darien	CT	
Roseman	Ben	Ellicott City	MD	
Rosenberg	Alexa	Bethany	CT	
Rosenbluth	Marisol	Burlington	VT	
Rosenthall	Louis	Manchester	NH	
Ross	Bella	Trenton	ME	
Ross	Callie	Walpole	MA	
Ross	Julia	Vancouver	BC	Canada
Ross	Rachel	Norwalk	CT	
Ross	Stephanie	Scarborough	ME	
Rothbacher	Luke	Vassalboro	ME	
Rothwell	Angela	Camden	ME	
Rousseau	Meagan	Exeter	NH	
Roussel	Simon	Gorham	ME	
Rovers	Gillian	Kitchener	ON	Canada
Rowe	Wyatt	Wells	ME	
Roy	Abby	Scarborough	ME	
Roy	Brenna	Northwood	NH	

Roy	Hayley	Holden	ME	
Roy	Katherine	Scarborough	ME	
Roy	Lauryn	Brewer	ME	
Roy	Lydia	Monmouth	ME	
Roy	Sydney	Lewiston	ME	
Rubin	Leo	Norwich	CT	
Rudai	Andi	Phoenix	MD	
Rudman	Paul	Otisfield	ME	
Ruesswick	Max	Rockport	ME	
Rulon	Charles	Manahawkin	NJ	
Rumsey	Roisin	Orono	ME	
Ruocco	Emily	Saco	ME	
Ruppert	Maddie	Libertyville	IL	
Rush	Adam	Hermon	ME	
Rusk	Eleanore	Exeter	RI	
Russell	Alexander	Acton	MA	
Russell	Chloe	Gorham	ME	
Russell	Teagan	Plainville	CT	
Russo	Sophia	East Freetown	MA	
Rutkowski	Derrick	Broad Brook	CT	

Rutkowski	Nathan	Granger	IN	
Ryan	Eryn	Leeds	ME	
Ryan	Shea	Buffalo	NY	
Ryder	Candice	Stratford	CT	
Ryder	Maggie	Sabattus	ME	
Rydman	Emma	Fryeburg	ME	
Sabal-Bernardez	Courtney	Denver	CO	
Sabol	Michael	Finleyville	PA	
Sage	Kathryn	Abington	MA	
Sala	Emily	Columbia	CT	
Saleh	Ahmed	Cumberland Center	ME	
Salesky	Gwyn	Nashua	NH	
Salgado	Barb	Medway	MA	
Salley	Kyle	Smithfield	ME	
Sallinen	Thomas	Gorham	ME	
Saltis	Evan	Auburn	ME	
Sanchez	Phoenix	Oakland	ME	
Sanders	Robbie	Kennebunkport	ME	
Sanderson	Hannah	Northport	ME	
Sandler	Ilanah	Orono	ME	

Sapiel	Aliya	Argyle Twp	ME	
Sardano	Justin	Oakland	ME	
Sargent	Howard	Bridgewater	ME	
Sargent	Jessica	Brewer	ME	
Sargent	Myles	Greenland	NH	
Sathler	Symon	Woburn	MA	
Sauberlich	Megan	Falmouth	ME	
Sauer	Olivia	Marlborough	MA	
Savage	Annika	Voluntown	CT	
Savage	Emily	Plainville	CT	
Sawitsky	Brygid	Milford	CT	
Sawyer	Camden	Gorham	ME	
Sawyer	Isaac	Orono	ME	
Sawyer	Nayan	Cherryfield	ME	
Schambach	Ethan	Branford	CT	
Schanck	Olivia	Wilton	ME	
Schiavo	Katerina	Norwood	MA	
Schlett	Evalynn	Alto	MI	
Schmidt	Ana	Parkman	ME	
Schmidt	Benjamin	Glenburn	ME	

Schmidt	Jarred	Readfield	ME	
Schmidt	Lee	Parkville	MD	
Schmitt	Michael	Orefield	PA	
Schneider	Emma	Calgary	AB	Canada
Schneider	Myla	Calgary	AB	Canada
Schroeder	John	Brunswick	ME	
Schulitz	Ella	Weatogue	CT	
Schultz	Sara	Bethany	CT	
Schumann	Evan	Orange	CT	
Schweers	Jan	Baden-Wurttemberg		Germany
Schweizer	Sean	Old Town	ME	
Sciarappa	Olivia	Charlton	MA	
Scobie	Collin	Hampden	ME	
Scott	Caroline	York	ME	
Scott	Olivia	Hampden	ME	
Scott	Zachary	Hampden	ME	
Scrapchansky	Lea	Brunswick	ME	
Scruton	Taylor	Holliston	MA	
Seams	Nicholas	South Paris	ME	
Sears	Justyn	Scarborough	ME	

Seekins	Katie	Oakland	ME	
Seekins	Samuel	Oakland	ME	
Seeley	Lilli	Bangor	ME	
Seidakhmetov	Amir	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Seiders	Brooke	Orono	ME	
Senior	Brody	Newburyport	MA	
Serappa	Livia	Portland	ME	
Seregely	Mira	Budapest		Hungary
Sernyk	Isabella	Windham	ME	
Severino	Dominic	Falmouth	ME	
Shair	Sydney	Dedham	MA	
Shambarger	Benjamin	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Shamus-Udicious	Ella	Plantsville	CT	
Shannon	Julia	Lee	ME	
Shanz	Ryan	Bristow	VA	
Shapiro	Gil	Arlington	MA	
Sharon	Alex	Brunswick	ME	
Shaw	Claire	Bernard	ME	
Shaw	Liana	Orono	ME	
Shaw	Oren	Turner	ME	

Shaw	Parker	Charleston	ME	
Shay	John	Cornville	ME	
Shea	Benjamin	Beverly	MA	
Shea	Molly	Centerville	MA	
Sheaffer	Peyton	Lancaster	PA	
Sheehan	Daniel	West Roxbury	MA	
Sheehan	Nicole	Newbury	MA	
Sheffield	Emma	Bangor	ME	
Shell	Ethan	Wells	ME	
Shen	Gloria	Dexter	ME	
Shepherd	Lucas	Old Town	ME	
Sherburne	Sydney	South Portland	ME	
Sherwood	Clement	Brookline	NH	
Sherwood	Hannah	Bangor	ME	
Sherwood	Hannah	Blue Hill	ME	
Shestopal	Seffi	Newton Lower Falls	MA	
Shiber	Morgan	Port Deposit	MD	
Shields	Dylan	West Baldwin	ME	
Shink	Cassidy	Fayette	ME	
Sibley	Dexter	Monroe	ME	

Sickler	Kayla	Milford	NH	
Sickles	Rachael	Corinna	ME	
Sidaway	Jaymie	Dedham	ME	
Silva	Louisy	Framingham	MA	
Silva	Stephanie	Framingham	MA	
Silva	Tori	North Waterboro	ME	
Silvia	Matalin	Westport	MA	
Simmons	Katie	North Yarmouth	ME	
Sinderson	Donne	Orrington	ME	
Singer	Alyssa	Oxford	MA	
Singer	Violet	Falmouth	ME	
Singh	Harjot	Medford	MA	
Sintiris	Madelin	South Berwick	ME	
Sirois	Thomas	Buxton	ME	
Skog	Jackson	New York	NY	
Skrocki	Kylie	East Jordan	MI	
Slattery	Lucy	Ashland	ME	
Slaven	Jeremy	Westbrook	ME	
Slocum	Amelia	Bangor	ME	
Smalley	Bay	Portland	ME	

Smart-Pelletier	Damien	Bangor	ME	
Smelter	Kyle	Bristol	CT	
Smith	Adrianna	Reston	VA	
Smith	Audrey	Orono	ME	
Smith	Bella	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Charlie	Kennebunk	ME	
Smith	Colin	Brooklyn	CT	
Smith	Dan	Scarborough	ME	
Smith	Dorothy	Greenbush	ME	
Smith	Felicia	Lee	NH	
Smith	Hope	North Smithfield	RI	
Smith	Jackson	West Suffield	CT	
Smith	Jason	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Jonah	Bath	ME	
Smith	Joshua	Bradley	ME	
Smith	Lily	Berwick	ME	
Smith	Maddie	Athol	MA	
Smith	Mary-Kate	Orono	ME	
Smith	Maxx	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Megan	Sheffield	MA	

Smith	Meghan	Saint Paul	MN	
Smith	Naomi	Holden	ME	
Smith	Travis	Belgrade	ME	
Smith	Zach	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Jackson	Gorham	ME	
Smy	Isabelle	Cumming	GA	
Snyder	Natalie	Lake Frederick	VA	
Soares	Mason	Bar Harbor	ME	
Sockalexis	Emmett	Indian Island	ME	
Soctomah	Brooke	Bradley	ME	
Soctomah-Holmes	Sienna	Glenburn	ME	
Soler Marques	Anna	Barcelona		Spain
Solomon	Justin	Veazie	ME	
Solorzano	Pablo	Old Town	ME	
Somers-Jones	Hannah	Brooksville	ME	
Song	Yedam	Bangor	ME	
Soni	Jaitin	Osceola	IN	
Sonnemann	Rebecca	Monroe	CT	
Sorgio	Jonathan	West Hartford	CT	
Sossong	Brooke	Old Town	ME	

Soucia	Kailee	Orrington	ME	
Soucy	Evan	Bangor	ME	
Soucy	Evangeline	Augusta	ME	
Soucy	Melanie	Brewer	ME	
Soule	Danica	Winslow	ME	
Soule	Daylin	Lyman	ME	
Soule	Taylor	Bangor	ME	
Soulliere	Keegan	Waterbury	CT	
Sousa	Alexandra	Hopedale	MA	
Sousa	Ross	Somerset	MA	
Southworth	Katie	Bangor	ME	
Spada	Carli	Wilmington	MA	
Spaller	Will	Eliot	ME	
Spann	Jennifer	Newburgh	ME	
Spaulding	Abby	Troy	ME	
Spaulding	Ashley	Clinton	ME	
Speakman	Brynne	Bethel	ME	
Spear	Kathleen	Portland	ME	
Spears	Kimberley	Sidney	ME	
Spears	Paige	Waterville	ME	

Sperrey	Alaina	Presque Isle	ME	
Spiegel	Charlie	Searsport	ME	
Spizzuoco	Joe	Old Town	ME	
Sprecher	Hannah	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Springer	Marissa	Bar Harbor	ME	
Squires	John	Alpharetta	GA	
St. John	Neil	Bangor	ME	
St. Laurent	Brook	Rockport	ME	
St. Peter	Eleanor	Houlton	ME	
St. Pierre	Aubrey	Slidell	LA	
St. Pierre	Elyse	Old Town	ME	
St. Pierre	Keenan	Poland	ME	
St. Pierre	Zack	Biddeford	ME	
Staines	Liam	Trumbull	CT	
Stamey	Mia	Westbrook	ME	
Stanford	Taylor	Burlington	ON	Canada
Stankevitz	Zoe	Corinna	ME	
Stanley	Nathaniel	Rockport	ME	
Starks	Lauren	Holden	ME	
Steele	Keelan	Caledon	ON	Canada

Steeves	Jacob	Skowhegan	ME	
Steinman	Kim	Cumberland Center	ME	
Sterner	Kaitlyn	Sandy	UT	
Stevens	Abby	Orono	ME	
Stevens	Braedon	Hermon	ME	
Stevens	Conor	Kennebunk	ME	
Stevens	Cullen	Kennebunk	ME	
Stevens	Katherine	Winslow	ME	
Stevenson	Ava	Grosse Pointe	MI	
Stillman	Ezra	Falmouth	ME	
Stiverson	Camille	West Lafayette	IN	
Stock	Danika	Pittsfield	ME	
Stockman	Emily	Northborough	MA	
Stockman	Madeline	Northborough	MA	
Stoddard	Aiden	Tolland	CT	
Stoelzel	Liz	Trumbull	CT	
Stokes-Dana	Kaden	Bangor	ME	
Stone	Addie	Stow	ME	
Storer	Bree	Poland	ME	
Stormann	Noel	Milford	ME	

Story	Elijah	Huntsville	AL	
Stover	Lindsey	Orono	ME	
Stow	Courtney	Niantic	CT	
Stow	Kaitlyn	Niantic	CT	
Stowell	Olivia	Shoreham	NY	
Straub	Anna	Wallingford	CT	
Straub	Max	Florence	AL	
Streeter	Cassidy	Scarborough	ME	
Streinz	Abigail	Hersey	ME	
Streinz	Caleb	Hersey	ME	
Strout	Justin	Limington	ME	
Strout	Nick	Gorham	ME	
Struppe	Lasse	Gloucester	MA	
Sturgis	Julia	Gorham	ME	
Sturgis	Liza	Gray	ME	
Sturtevant	Levi	Bangor	ME	
Sudimick	Camryn	Seymour	CT	
Sullivan	Caileigh	Watertown	MA	
Sullivan	Declan	Monmouth	ME	
Sullivan	Zackary	Kennebunk	ME	

Supple	Ben	Kingston	MA	
Suriano	Sophia	Old Town	ME	
Sutherland	Gabrielle	Woodland	ME	
Sutherland	Jessica	Lincoln	ME	
Suttie	Elsie	Fairfield	ME	
Sutton	Benjamin	Forestdale	MA	
Sutton	John	Gorham	ME	
Sutton	Trevor	Kennebunkport	ME	
Swift	Liam	Bucksport	ME	
Swift	Logan	Gorham	ME	
Swift	Olivia	Hebron	ME	
Sylvain	Johnny	Portland	ME	
Sylvester	Eddie	Peaks Island	ME	
Szczechowicz	Jack	North Berwick	ME	
Szczechowicz	Nate	North Berwick	ME	
Tabor	Ahlwynn	Richmond	ME	
Taggart	Emma	Raymond	ME	
Talalay	Miriam	Lutherville Timonium	MD	
Tallgrass	Jack	Gloucester	MA	
Talon	Gabe	Old Town	ME	

Talon	Sarah	Windham	ME	
Tanguay	Ashley	Bangor	ME	
Tanner	Desiree	Brunswick	ME	
Tanous	Marla	South Paris	ME	
Tarbox	Daniel	Dayton	ME	
Tasker	Morgan	Etna	ME	
Tassinari	Maddison	Kennebunk	ME	
Tate	Henry	Holliston	MA	
Taylor	Celsea	Old Town	ME	
Taylor	Kyla	Camden	ME	
Taylor	Maria	Bangor	ME	
Taylor	Ryan	Holliston	MA	
Teerlinck	Nathaniel	Canandaigua	NY	
Tengstrom	Thea	Brookhaven	GA	
Terril	Kyla	Sanford	ME	
Testa	Lauren	Gray	ME	
Testerman	Noah	West Simsbury	CT	
Tetlow	Cody	Sebec	ME	
Thackeray	Noah	Camden	ME	
Thatcher	Jayson	Scarborough	ME	

Thayer	Jagger	Hampden	ME	
Thelen	Finnegan	Bath	ME	
Thibodeau	Abby	Dixfield	ME	
Thielman	Emelia	Fargo	ND	
Thieme	Sophie	Topsham	ME	
Thomas	Alisha	Orono	ME	
Thomas	Curtis	Lakeville	ME	
Thomas	Elaine	Hampden	ME	
Thompson	Caroline	Topsham	ME	
Thompson	Ian	Lancaster	PA	
Thompson	Jordan	Caswell	ME	
Thompson	Nathan	Glenburn	ME	
Thompson	Olivia	Bridgton	ME	
Thompson	Rebecca	Broomfield	CO	
Thompson	Ryan	Howland	ME	
Thompson	Shannon	North Kingstown	RI	
Thompson	Sommer	Lebanon	ME	
Thorpe	Joseph	Falmouth	ME	
Thourot	Julian	Acton	MA	
Thrasher	Benjamin	Madison	ME	

Throckmorton-Hansford	Willow	Somerville	ME	
Thurlow	Ryan	Cape Neddick	ME	
Thurston	Caleb	Durham	ME	
Thurston	Deklan	Burnham	ME	
Tibbetts	Elizabeth	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Tidd	Allisyn	Eddington	ME	
Tiemann	Maddie	Feasterville Trevose	PA	
Tiensivu	Brennon	Orrington	ME	
Tillson	Ashley	Saco	ME	
Timms	Angie	Orono	ME	
Tiner	Lincoln	Winslow	ME	
Titcomb	Nick	Biddeford	ME	
Tkacs	Aislyn	Glenburn	ME	
Toman	Anna	Gardiner	ME	
Tomasetti	Emma	Nashua	NH	
Tomassini	Antonio	North Branford	CT	
Tomlinson	Laura	Wilbraham	MA	
Tompkins	Jillian	Brewer	ME	
Topchik	Amy	Scarborough	ME	
Toppan	Ragan	Machias	ME	

Torno	Brandon	Lebanon	ME	
Tourtellotte	Riley	Dover	MA	
Towey	Zahra	Bangor	ME	
Towle	Annemarie	Augusta	ME	
Towne	Hunter	Freeport	ME	
Townsend	Abby	Fairfield	ME	
Townsend	Lydia	Fairfield	ME	
Townsend	Sarah	Fairfield	ME	
Tracey	Caroline	Auburn	ME	
Tracey	Nathaniel	Union	ME	
Tracy	Jack	Standish	ME	
Tracy	Olivia	Fairfield	ME	
Trafton	Sophie	York	ME	
Tran	Sara	Da Nang		Vietnam
Treadwell	James	Orono	ME	
Treadwell	Jameson	Auburn	ME	
Treat	Emily	Carmel	ME	
Tremblay	Emelia	Dighton	MA	
Tripp	Keegan	Winn	ME	
Troxell	Alec	Portland	ME	

Trumbull	Katherine	Fryeburg	ME	
Truong	Khang	Sanford	ME	
Truso	Luc	Morrisville	VT	
Trussell	Zoey	Waterville	ME	
Tschirhart	Julie	North Andover	MA	
Tubbs	Zach	Hermon	ME	
Tucker	Anasia	Ellsworth	ME	
Tucker	Emily	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Tucker	Orion-Bay	Orono	ME	
Tucker	Reilly	Falmouth	ME	
Tull	Owen	Yarmouth	ME	
Tupper	Madelyn	Holden	MA	
Turcotte	Hannah	Old Town	ME	
Turcotte	Lily	Litchfield	ME	
Turgeon	Gwenneth	Auburn	ME	
Turgut	Ata	Ankara		Turkey
Turmel	Sarah	Westbrook	ME	
Turner	Blake	North Yarmouth	ME	
Turner	Kathrina	Old Town	ME	
Ulsamer	Percival	West Haven	CT	

Upham	C.J.	Old Town	ME	
Upton	Sean	Arlington	VA	
Utsler	Zoe	Valley Village	CA	
Vaccaro	Emily	Kingston	NH	
Vaccaro	Sam	Kennebunk	ME	
Vacchiano	Riley	Cornish	ME	
Vachon	Phoenix	Winterport	ME	
Vadas	Jeremiah	Orrington	ME	
Valentin	Sylvia	Saint Paul	MN	
Valentine	Maxwell	Orono	ME	
Valleli	Luke	Boylston	MA	
Valorose	Andrea	Dracut	MA	
Van Beek	Skye	Fairfax Station	VA	
Van Leer	Keldan	Brunswick	ME	
Van Ommen Kloeke	Ciaran	Danby	VT	
Vanderblue	Greta	Waterford	ME	
Vandereb	Schuyler	Orland	ME	
VanDyke	Andrew	Oakland	NJ	
VanNorwick	Ash	Bloomfield Hills	MI	
VanValkenburg	Emily	Ellenburg Center	NY	

Vargas	Andres	Lyman	ME	
Varghese	Karun	Ras Al Khor		United Arab Emirates
Varley	Jackson	Frederick	MD	
Varneke	Pierce	Toms River	NJ	
Varney	Ethan	Pittsfield	ME	
Varney	Everet	Turner	ME	
Varnum	Alexa	Dixfield	ME	
Vasquez	Alessandra	Westbrook	ME	
Vatis	Lizzie	Fairfield	CT	
Vecchione	Hayley	Millville	MA	
Vecera	Colin	Iowa City	IA	
Veilleux	Emma	Bucksport	ME	
Verrill	Lilas	Peachtree Corners	GA	
Verrill	Patrick	Carmel	ME	
Vickery	Kathleen	Hampden	ME	
Victoria	Steff	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Vidoni	Anna	South Easton	MA	
Viekman	Sarah	Old Town	ME	
Viel	Sophia	Beverly	MA	
Villeneuve	Donavan	Montreal	QC	Canada

Viola	Caleb	South Portland	ME	
Viola	Zaden	Melrose	MA	
Violette	Isaac	Oakland	ME	
Violette	Suzy	Holden	ME	
Vira	Boris	Somerville	MA	
Virgin	Matt	Lewiston	ME	
Vissering	Phillip	North Andover	MA	
Vital	Macy	West Haven	CT	
Vittum	Richard	Burlington	MA	
Vittum	Zoe	Brewer	ME	
Viveiros	Richard	Boxford	MA	
Von Oesen	Noah	Waterville	ME	
Voner	Taylor	West Wareham	MA	
Wagenknecht	Maria	Ellsworth	ME	
Waggoner	Sam	Gorham	ME	
Waitkevitch	Deacon	Falmouth	ME	
Wald	Leah	Framingham	MA	
Walden	John	Cumberland	RI	
Walden	Seamus	Pittsfield	ME	
Walker	Ellie	Scarborough	ME	

Walker	James	Marlborough	MA	
Walker	Nicole	Gorham	ME	
Wallace Murphy	Calvin	Orono	ME	
Wallick	Aiden	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Walorz	Kaity	Lakeville	MA	
Walsh	Ryan	Franklin	MA	
Walters	Caleb	Metuchen	NJ	
Waltner	Maple	Sparta	NJ	
Warburton	Evan	Old Town	ME	
Ward	Ashley	Williamsburg	VA	
Wardwell	Finn	Dedham	ME	
Warmuth	Claire	Brewer	ME	
Wasylyna	Ethan	Exeter	NH	
Waterhouse	Ethan	Dayton	ME	
Waterman	Sadie	Sabattus	ME	
Watkins	Gwen	Orrington	ME	
Watras	Julia	Seal Cove	ME	
Watson	Josh	Glenburn	ME	
Waweru	Vidianna	Lowell	MA	
Weafer	Sam	Orono	ME	

Weatherbee	Bryn	Lincoln	ME	
Webb	Heather	Bangor	ME	
Webber	Adrian	Stratham	NH	
Webber	Cora	Johnston	RI	
Webber	Lily	Westbrook	ME	
Webber	Meg	Leeds	ME	
Webster	Abigail	Adams	MA	
Weidman	Farin	Hope	ME	
Weigand	Isabella	Belle Mead	NJ	
Weinheimer	Erica	Richmond	ME	
Weinstein	Myky	Orono	ME	
Weir	Kelsey	Copley	OH	
Weirich	Maizy	Orrington	ME	
Weiss	Ma'ayan	Mount Kisco	NY	
Welch	Lily	Readfield	ME	
Welcke	Lilli	Heidelberg		Germany
Welcke	Luisa	Heidelberg		Germany
Wellman-Webster	Graydon	Bar Harbor	ME	
Wentworth	Emma	Sidney	ME	
Wentworth	Molly	Vinalhaven	ME	

Wentworth	Sarah	Falmouth	ME	
Wentworth	Zachary	Calais	ME	
Werner	Ash	South Hamilton	MA	
West	Emma	Gray	ME	
Westbrook	Katie	Methuen	MA	
Westbrook	Phoebe	Binghamton	NY	
Westhaver	Caroline	Weatogue	CT	
Weymouth	Allison	Scarborough	ME	
Wheeler	Caroline	Bowdoin	ME	
Wheeler	Mary	Bowdoin	ME	
Whetham	Emily	Simsbury	CT	
White	Aaron	Lewiston	ME	
White	Courtney	Kennebunk	ME	
White	Emily	Jay	ME	
White	Emma	Wells	ME	
White	Eva	Orono	ME	
White	Kat	North Haven	ME	
White	Katie	Welcome	MD	
White	Lizzie	Dixfield	ME	
White	Noah	Orono	ME	

Whiting	Sophie	Saco	ME	
Whitley	Hannah	Londonderry	NH	
Whitney	Emma	Surry	ME	
Whitney	Katherine	Bangor	ME	
Wichterman	Dennis	Ellsworth	ME	
Widman	Mikey	Rochester	MN	
Wilbur	Joshua	Frankfort	ME	
Wilcox	Leah	Warren	ME	
Willard	Bethany	Eddington	ME	
Willard	Henry	Winterport	ME	
Willey	Kendrah	Ripley	ME	
Williams	Aaron	Worcester	MA	
Williams	Cooper	Liberty Twp	OH	
Williams	Emma	Fremont	NH	
Williams	Hunter	York	ME	
Williams	Lily	Westport	CT	
Williams	Maddie	Windham	ME	
Williams	Madison	Bernard	ME	
Williams	Zach	Agawam	MA	
Williamson	Dean	Teaneck	NJ	

Williford	Justin	Centereach	NY	
Willigar	Sam	Veazie	ME	
Willis	Hayden	Rensselaer	NY	
Willis	Kyle	West Paris	ME	
Wilson	Jackson	South Portland	ME	
Wilson	Mackenzie	Woolwich	ME	
Wilson	Mackenzie	Lasalle	ON	Canada
Wilson	Matt	Orono	ME	
Wilson	Thomas	Wilbraham	MA	
Wimer	Merrick	Cranberry Township	PA	
Wind	Meadow	Rumford	ME	
Wind	Willow	Orono	ME	
Wing	McKade	Manchester	ME	
Wise	Sophia	Orono	ME	
Wisell	Mary Isabelle	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Withers	Elizabeth	South Portland	ME	
Witte	Lauren	Dexter	MI	
Wittmer	Torria	Hermon	ME	
Wofford	Lily	Dallas	TX	
Wogelius	Kyle	Farmington	CT	

Wohlstrom	Augusta	Clinton	CT	
Wolfe	Bethany	Dillon	MT	
Wolfenden	Anne	North Andover	MA	
Wolotsky	Isabella	Freeport	ME	
Wood	Cassondra	Milford	ME	
Wood	Gavin	Hampton	NH	
Wood	Marie	Acton	ME	
Wood	Marissa	Machiasport	ME	
Wood-McGuckin	Gabby	Belgrade	ME	
Woodruff	Tristan	Camden	ME	
Woods	Delaney	Peru	ME	
Wooldridge	Angelique	Orono	ME	
Worrick	Lauren	Aurora	CO	
Wortman	Daniel	Old Town	ME	
Wright	Silvia	Orrington	ME	
Wright	Trey	Scarborough	ME	
Wyatt	Bruce	Gorham	ME	
Wyckoff	George	Fairfield	CT	
Wycoff	Colby	Franklin	ME	
Wynott	Christian	Norway	ME	

Yager	Cal	Eliot	ME	
Yanko	Jack	Amherst	MA	
Yaskula	Mackenzie	Gorham	ME	
Yates	Anna	Casco	ME	
Yeldan	Ece	Kadikoy		Turkey
Yelverton	Summer	Guilford	ME	
Yoder	Marlee	Durham	NH	
York	John	Benton	ME	
York	Sara	Topsham	ME	
Yost	Matt	Brunswick	ME	
Young	Audrey	Owls Head	ME	
Young	Haleigh	Ellsworth	ME	
Young	Ivan	Lincolnville	ME	
Young	Kenzie	Alton	ME	
Young	Megan	Gorham	ME	
Young	Patrick	North Yarmouth	ME	
Young	Star	Pembroke	MA	
Zaenger	Calista	San Diego	CA	
Zalcman	Morgan	Ellington	CT	
Zambrano	Noah	Bradley	ME	

Zanoni	Jude	Brewer	ME	
Zanotta	Alessio	Lee	ME	
Zeitlin	Benjamin	Milford	ME	
Zelmanow	Jacob	Gorham	ME	
Zeno	Joe	Hampden	MA	
Zenuh	Dylan	New Hartford	CT	
Zhao	Xianyu	Collegeville	PA	
Zhu	Garrison	Orono	ME	
Zhu	Jie Ning	Belfast	ME	
Ziemer	Madison	Lombard	IL	
Zimet	Lam	Portland	ME	
Zippert	Tristan	Hillsborough	CA	
Zlamany	C.J.	Shelton	CT	
Zollars	Ava	North Wales	PA	
Zoorob	Marc	Orono	ME	
Zumwalt	Evelyn	Ellsworth	ME	
Zuras	Holden	Presque Isle	ME	
Zybert	Steven	Bangor	ME	

Fall 2022 Dean's List by Maine counties

Androscoggin County
Aroostook County
Cumberland County
Franklin County
Hancock County
Kennebec County
Oxford County
Penobscot County
Piscataquis County
Sagadahoc County
Somerset County
Waldo

Knox County Lincoln County Washington County York County

Androscoggin County

Auburn: Will Cassidy, Lydia Celani, Esther Chen, Addison Chute, Wesley Clements, Chantal Cyr, Mia Emond, Natalie Garcia, Weston Hartley, Jordy Jimenez, Storm Jipson, Nevaeh Longchamps, Gabe Lovering, Mai Luu, Karla Mendoza Yanes, Noah Morgan, Annabelle Pendleton, Samantha Poirier, Audrey Prentice, Evan Saltis, Caroline Tracey, Jameson Treadwell, Gwenneth Turgeon **Durham**: Alexa Harvey, Sam Larochelle, Bailey McGee, Alyssa Myron, Amanda Myron, Caleb Thurston **Greene**: Jenna Boucher, Jaidyn Negley **Leeds**: Cameron Duguay, Eryn Ryan, Meg Webber **Lewiston**: Connor Androlewicz, Gordon Beckwith, Avery Greco, James Greenwood, Gabriel Labonte, Hunter Landry, Katie Laslie, Olivia Lee, Jacob Metivier, Sydney Roy, Matt Virgin, Aaron White **Lisbon**: Adia Coulombe, Levi Levesque **Lisbon Falls**: Jacob Card, Timber Mattson, Amelia Mooney, Sarah Moreau, Benjamin Shambarger **Livermore**: Jonathan Brenner, Abby Castonguay, Drew Delaney, Grace Harmatys **Livermore Falls**: Wes Brinegar, Joby Byrd, Caleb Corlett **Mechanic Falls**: Alex Emery, Jordyn Kohtala, Sierra Pomerleau, Elizabeth Tibbetts **Minot**: Nick Allen, Alyssa Gagne **Poland**: Zach Bragdon, Riley Day, Maia Ferguson, Sofia Hartley, Lucas Kelly, Keenan St. Pierre, Bree Storer **Sabattus**: Anna Beach, Autumn Chadburn, Renee Pickard, Maggie Ryder, Sadie Waterman **Turner**: Tamra Benson, Noah Brown, Mallory Casey, Nik Krebs, Zach Madison, Oren Shaw, Everet Varney **Wales**: Seth Allen, Brynn Emond, Morgan Inman

Aroostook County

Ashland: Mia Carney, Lucy Slattery **Blaine**: Jimmy Hotham, Lizzy Hotham **Bridgewater**: Brayden Bradbury, Howard Sargent **Caribou**: Daniela Chavez de Paz Solis, Hannah Doody, Nickolas Guerrette, Ronald Guerrette, Hailey Holmquist **Caswell**: Jordan Thompson **Dyer Brook**: Maggie Harthorne **Eagle Lake**: Owen Lewis **Fort Fairfield**: Kira Rogers **Fort Kent**: Sam Albert, Mya Eno, Apurba Kaphle, Beau Michaud, Larry Nadeau **Garfield Plantation**: Clark Condon **Haynesville**: Mikyla Howland **Hersey**: Abigail Streinz, Caleb Streinz **Houlton**: Gabe Fitzpatrick, Jadon Gentle, Keegan Gentle, Ryder Graham, Jillian Haggerty, Sam Johnson, Sydney Lorom, Erin Peters, Elizabeth Phillips, Eleanor St. Peter **Limestone**: Tom Pinette **Linneus**: Autumn Ganzel **Littleton**: Catherine Hovda, Annika Nicholas **Madawaska**: Mason Chasse, Matthew Cyr, Trevor Hanson, Keri Hebert, Isabelle Lavoie, Hollie Morneault, Justin Pelletier, Sam Richards, Madison Ringuette **Mapleton**: Dustin Alward, Katelyn Amero, Paige McHatten **Mars Hill**: Maddie Coffin, Sydney Garrison, Madison Howlett **Monticello**: Emma Ardell **Oakfield**: Shelby Lewis **Presque Isle**: Libby Boone, Hana Boucher, Ellie Collins, Benjamin Duprey, Piper Galipeau, Alex Graves, Courtney Harding, Kenzie Hayes, Morgan Ireland, Alexandra Koretsky, Sophia Lambert, Jasmine LeClair, Ian MacKinnon, Jackson Maynard, Conner Michaud, Amanda Poulin, Rebecca Rider, Alaina Sperrey, Holden Zuras **Van Buren**: Eric LaPlante, Renee LaPointe **Washburn**: Garrett Morneault **Woodland**: Brooke Moir, Gabrielle Sutherland

Cumberland County

Bridgton: Sabrina Lopez, Matthew Mayo, Fiona Murphy, Olivia Thompson **Brunswick**: Rae Bamberger, Isak Carney, Cameron Daly, Liam Doherty, Chappy Hall, Alec Hess, Henry Johnson, Elizabeth Koval, Charlotte MacMillan, Riley McAllaster, Kian Murray, Connor Ney, Mallory Palmer, Abby Powers, John Schroeder, Lea Scrapchansky, Alex Sharon, Desiree Tanner, Keldan Van Leer, Matt Yost **Cape Elizabeth**: Nathan Brame, Anna Hayes, Isaac Hayes, Nathaniel Holmes, Owen Labesky, Katie Ledoux, Grace Leschey, Nick Leschey, Lilia Membrino, Luke O'Kelly, Dylan Palmore, Mae Rayner, Sawyer Richard, Mary Isabelle Wisell **Casco**: Anna Yates **Chebeague Island**: Hannah Birkett **Cumberland Center**: Brody Ackor, Grant Allard, Elizabeth Bein, James Davenport, Amelia Greenlee, Molly Hale, Aaron Howell, John Kearney, Tim Lester, Mike Marchessault, Luke Marsanskis, Olivia Marsanskis, Natalie Mullin, Aidan Pardue, Alexandra Peary, Ana Penza-Clyve, Mason Pitcher, Ahmed Saleh, Kim Steinman **Cumberland Foreside**: Emma Abbott **Falmouth**: Gretchen Barney, Holly Barney, Cameron Birks, Mason Canon, Kassidy Castillo Parkman, Garrett Daniels, Seth Dixon, Will Emanuel, Gabi Esmond, Gretchen Favreau, Fiona Ferrell, Isabelle Hallagan, Will Johnson, Mitchell Kelley, Ash Lane, Jacob Lorenzo, Rhys Lowry, Jacob Marks, Maddie Marks, Zach Morrill, Matisse Moser, Ellie Nash, Liv Neuhauser, Max Peters, Ben Potter, Megan Sauberlich, Dominic Severino, Violet Singer, Ezra Stillman, Joseph Thorpe, Reilly Tucker, Deacon Waitkevitch, Sarah Wentworth **Freeport**: Kaleb Barrett, Samuel Broadbent, Andrew Burns, Nate Davis, Bennett Joseph, Caitlin Keliher, Madison Landry, Robert Landry, Parker Landsbergen, Kerry Lefebvre, Katie Morrissey, Emily Perilla, Margaret Perrotta, Renxuan Qiu, Samuel Robinson, Hunter Towne, Isabella Wolotsky **Gorham**: Arius Ahmad, Dan Bachner, Aidan Bell, Connor Bell, Gisele Berry, Maddy Berry, Allison Bishop, Haley Burns, Colby Christakis, Sadie Cyr, Hannah Dimick, Lauren Edwards, Abby Enck, Ben Fecteau, Reed Henderson, Charles Hubbard, Riley Johnson, Sophie Kaufman, Josh Labrie, Allie Light, Ian Luciano, Nolan McCullough, Madison Michaud, Abigail Miller, Dylan Morrell, Jillian Morrill, Allie Myles, Anna Nault, Ava Pitman, Molly Rathbun, Ashley Ricker, Simon Roussel, Chloe Russell, Thomas Sallinen, Camden Sawyer, Jackson Smith, Nick Strout, Julia Sturgis, John Sutton, Logan Swift, Sam Waggoner, Nicole Walker, Bruce Wyatt, Mackenzie Yaskula, Megan Young, Jacob Zelmanow **Gray**: Amelia Cobb, Nicole Cobb, Nico Curcio, Alex Farrington, Colin Harris, Wyatt Kenney, Darcy MacLean, Kyle Martell, Jaida Patterson, Lindsay Pierce, Cameron Roberge, Liza Sturgis, Lauren Testa, Emma West **Harpswell**: Riley Lapointe, Clare MacDonald, Sean Roberts **Harrison**: Aedan Bryant, Sadie Hooker **Naples**: Erik Christiansen, Joseph Jensen, Justin Lees **New Gloucester**: Tyler Amos, Cam Andrews, Katherine Arsenault, Abby Bouchard, Mchale Bourne, Bradan Craig, Alicia Credit, Troy Dexter, Wyatt Fessler, Jasmine French, Blake Knedler, Keagan Rice **North Yarmouth**: Simon Bourgeois, Dakota Cochran, Aidan Hayes, Nate Ingersoll, Diana Kimball, Aidan Michaud, Claire Mulligan, Kit Rafford, Katie Simmons, Blake Turner, Patrick Young **Peaks Island**: Eddie Sylvester **Portland**: Basam Abdulhay, Israk Ayasin, Calvin Benider, Eli Bigelman, Lilly Braun, Zach Broome, Gavin Callahan, Hope Carroll, Eric Christopher, Peter Clukey, Chloe Croce, Will Cunningham, Kaitlyn Currie, Ben Curtis, Chloe Delano, Elizabeth Drelich, Olivia Duong, Alexiis Fiore, James Fletcher, Haley Foreman, Laini Frager, Emily Freedman, Eva Griffiths, Emma Hallee, Elliott Hooper, Ryan Howell, Matthew Keast, Megan Keast, Evan Leonard, Jake Loranger, Spencer Matteo, Hagen Myers, Kelly Nguyen, Mackenzie O'Donnell, Ian Ramsden, Riley Rheault, Sydney Robinson, Livia Serappa, Bay Smalley, Kathleen Spear, Johnny Sylvain, Alec Troxell, Lam Zimet **Raymond**: Colby Dionne, Isabel Dionne, Callie Fielding, Niall Gushue, Sarah Hare, Cady Kluck, Nathan Plummer, Emma Taggart **Scarborough**: Zachary Alofs, Jalyssa Beason, Sydney Bloom, Isabella Cook, Tehya Esposito, Kaylee Faherty, Julia Freeman, Calynn Gendreau, Gabriella Giftos, Katherine Gross, Wyatt Harris, Tatum Hayward, Aaron Kazilionis, Jake Kingdon, Emily Labbe, Olivia LaChance, Peter Martin, Morgan McGarry, Josh Medeiros, Evan Morgan, Emily Murray, Jared Nelson, Ryan O'Leary, Connor Oliver, Jasmine Olshin, Emily Patashnik, Finn Pedersen, Aiden Peters, Eliot Pomerleau, Stephanie Ross, Abby Roy, Katherine Roy, Justyn Sears, Dan Smith, Cassidy Streeter, Jayson Thatcher, Amy Topchik, Ellie Walker, Allison Weymouth, Trey Wright **Sebago**: Sam Porter **South Portland**: Carson Blake, Sam Brown, Jack Brownstein, Aileen Campbell, Calvin Comeau, Jack Crain, Luca Desjardins, Lauren DiBiase, Anna Eugene, Michael Feely, Aalliyah Ferreira, Anna Folley, Josh Frank, Jake Goodwin, Aidan Gorneau, Emily Hobbs, Ben Hoyt, Abby Huchel, Daniel Joy, Moise Kalonji, Aleksandar Kaurin, Chloe MacVane, Maegan Murphy, Shannon Murphy, Meghan Perry, Mia Quint-Wood, Sydney Sherburne, Caleb Viola, Jackson Wilson, Elizabeth Withers **Standish**: Maggi Bradford, Emily Byrne, Aubrey Denico, Vincent Lin, Jazmyne Mejias, Zachariah Oja, Kayla Raymond, Jack Tracy **Steep Falls**: Paige Bois,

Serena Greene, Koby Johnson **West Baldwin**: Teagan Meggison, Michael Murphy, Dylan Shields **Westbrook**: Moayied Awad, Casper Cowan, Devin Cyr, Zachery Fecteau, Sam Foley, Maddie Herbert, Desiree Hodgkins, MacKenna Homa, Nathan Jacobs, Maxim LaPlante, Josie LeBlanc, Anthony Maguire, Kaitryn Pitt, Jeremy Slaven, Mia Stamey, Sarah Turmel, Alessandra Vasquez, Lily Webber **Windham**: Monica Agneta, Octavian Anghel, Alex Baur, Chloe Boyes, Ben Chouinard, Emily Cormier, Connor Cummings, Avery Dube, Samuel Dubuc, Brendan Dunphy, Dylan Gorman, Alissa Halloway, Julia Hills, Molly Hodgkins, Dianna Ingersoll, Estella Inman, Katherine Lewis, Sydney Nangle, Dean Preston, Avery Rolfe, Isabella Sernyk, Sarah Talon, Maddie Williams **Yarmouth**: Phil Bock, Graden Caulfield, Cooper Hogan, Adam Levinson, Camden Olson, Owen Tull

Franklin County

Carrabassett Valley: Jonathan Maidman **Chesterville**: Mike Cilley, Isabelle Decker **Farmington**: Cody Gaboury, Kali Howard, Lauren Howatt, John Knapp, Jacob Mealey, Maggie Murray **Freeman Township**: Emily Kidd **Industry**: Marielle Pelletier **Jay**: Joshua Lopez, Hannah Maurais, Hunter Quirrion, Emily White **Kingfield**: Hailey Fenwick, Troy Hupper, Jackson Masterson **New Sharon**: Roshan Luick **Rangeley**: Emily Eastlack **Stratton**: Maya Caron **Wilton**: Katie Brittain, Lexi Mittelstadt, Olivia Schanck

Hancock County

Bar Harbor: Phillip Bart, Bella Brown, Ruby Brown, Jonathan Genrich, Loren Genrich, Chris Horton, Thomas Korstanje, Baylor Landsman, Walter Lange, Katie Losquadro, Laura Martin, Hisarya Nuesslein, Mason Soares, Marissa Springer, Graydon Wellman-Webster **Bass Harbor**: Drew Goodwin **Bernard**: Ben Freudig, Owen Mild, Claire Shaw, Madison Williams **Blue Hill**: Kacie Bond, Alexis Hallett, Stephen Lefkowitz, Hannah Sherwood **Brooksville**: Garrett Parker, Hannah Somers-Jones **Bucksport**: William Bissonnette, Evan Carter, Hannah Ferrell, Zoey Johnson, Liam Swift, Emma Veilleux **Castine**: Hannah Marie Blackwood **Corea**: Benjamin Hunt, Timothy Hunt **Dedham**: Nick Brown, Jacob Curtis, Sarah Dorey, Ethan Drillen, Jamie Fogg, Jordyn Miller, Jaymie Sidaway, Finn Wardwell **Deer Isle**: Nicole Cortez, Amy Hardy, Aja Quintal **Ellsworth**: Lauren Billings, Christian Bosse, Rory Burmeister, Sarah Callahan, Joy Cartwright, Dylan Freeman, Eliott Gagnon-Victor, Joy Goldstein, Audrey Goodwin-Whitmore, Riley Grindle, Colby Hamilton, Kaitlin McCullough, Kai Phelps, Taylor Richardson, Allison Robbins, Anasia Tucker, Maria Wagenknecht, Dennis Wichterman, Haleigh Young, Evelyn Zumwalt **Franklin**: Colby Wycoff **Gouldsboro**: Kaitlin Beal, Skye Howard **Hancock**: Pamela Burhoe, Trevor Morrison **Lamoine**: Paul Briggs, Matthew Jones **Little Deer Isle**: Ellie Larrabee **Mount Desert**: Alex Eason, Cadi Howell, Elizabeth Jones, Rachel Leonard **Northeast Harbor**: Louise Chaplin **Orland**: Reilly Linkel, Sarina Martin, Schuyler Vandereb **Otis**: Jack Lalime **Penobscot**: Heather Munroe **Sargentville**: Gabe Hall **Seal Cove**: Julia Watras **Sorrento**: Samantha Bierman **Southwest Harbor**: Elaina Cote, Sydney Kachmar, Camille Michaud, Timothy Moore, Roxy Preston, Aiden Wallick **Stonington**: Mchenna Martin **Sullivan**: Tobey Connor, Connor Crawford **Surry**: Samuel Bach, Alicia Havey, Amelia Hayden, Dasha Herrington, Hanna Jordan, Emma Whitney **Trenton**: Gus La Casse, Zoe Olson, Bella Ross **Winter Harbor**: Riley Flubacher, Tara Flubacher

Kennebec County

Albion: Ethan Caldwell, Connor Hall **Augusta**: Ian Bowers, Alex Cousins, Kyle Douin, Ian Harden, Bri Harriman, Cam MacLean, Leah Mastrianno, Caroline Mosca, Nick Poulin, Grace Rodrigue, Evangeline Soucy, Annemarie Towle **Belgrade**: Ava Ardito, Alexa Brennan, Noah Burby, Steven Cude, Emma DiGirolamo, Grace Elliott, Martin Guarnieri, Travis Smith, Gabby Wood-McGuckin **Belgrade Lakes**: Logan Holt **Benton**: Gage Boudreau, Blair Fortin, John York **Chelsea**: Amelia Evans, Alexis Everett, Nic Mills **China**: Faith Mitchell **Clinton**: Matt Brown, Zack Delile, Ashley Spaulding **Farmingdale**: Sarah Benner, Zackery Ellis, Riley Hayward, Hunter Lizzotte, Lilo Mathieu **Fayette**: Sydney Dood, Gabe Fein, Emma Fitzpatrick, Cassidy Shink **Gardiner**: Casey Bourque, Abraham Davis, Natalie Fossett, Josiah Melanson, Kaylee Ray, Anna Toman **Hallowell**: Jane Blanchard **Kents Hill**: Dana Reynolds **Litchfield**: Sophie Childs, Travis Nadeau, Lily Turcotte **Manchester**: Ella Candage, Aiden Cooper, Jilleon Farrell, Grace Hodgkin, Maddie MacDonald, John McLaughlin, McKade Wing **Monmouth**: Jaden Burnham, Libby Clement, Kaitlin Hunt, Erin Kennedy, Gabe Martin, Madi Neal, Lydia Roy, Declan Sullivan **Oakland**: Cooper Barrett, Gavin Bressette, Chantelle Flores, Emily Giguere, Sofija Kleinschmidt, Eve Lilly, Gregory Michaud, Rosemary Peterson, Ryan Pullen, Phoenix Sanchez, Justin Sardano, Katie Seekins, Samuel Seekins, Isaac Violette **Readfield**: Wyatt Cannell, Alex Clark, Christopher Erb, Jarred Schmidt, Lily Welch **Rome**: Patrick Aldrich, Benjamin Lemieux, Alex Pierce **Sidney**: Amelia Bradfield, Lydia Bradfield, Luke Buck, Lenah Dobbins, Danielle Hall, Emily Levesque, Brynn Lozinski, Hannah Mathieu, Kimberley Spears, Emma Wentworth **South China**: Jay Austin, Owen Axelson, Annika Gil, Trace Harris, Hunter Praul, Jacob Praul **Vassalboro**: Phil Allen, Jacob Bentley, Jack Blais, Devon Polley, Nick Reeves, Luke Rothbacher **Vienna**: Connor Firth **Waterville**: Kaitlin Chapman, Ashleigh Dunn, Molly Glueck, Peter Lai, Rebecca Maheu, Amaya Mcneill, Molly Moss, Mikayla Reynolds, Paige Spears, Zoey Trussell, Noah Von Oesen **West Gardiner**: Isabel Bird, Sarah Foust, Ava Goraj, Anita Goulette, Alex Grover, Xandra Malinowski, Brett Palmer **Windsor**: Sebastien Chamberlain, Sydni Plummer **Winslow**: Marsha Bard, Jack Bilodeau, Justin Bolduc, Kyle Camire, Katie Doughty, Sara Doughty, Arianna Hatt, Riley Loftus, Cassidy McIntire, Kristen Rancourt, Danica Soule, Katherine Stevens, Lincoln Tiner **Winthrop**: Patrick Bellemare, Anna Berkes, E. Feeney, Owen Foster, Juliette Gomez Lawson, Emmanouil Karamousadakis, Lee Lavoie, Abby Morin, Jazlo Mulkhey

Knox County

Appleton: Hugh Costigan, Ethan Ford, Myles Kelley, McKenna Maxwell **Camden**: Ellie Berez, Hadley Berger, Hope Bifulco, Julian Blohm, Mason Bloomquist, Danila Borodaenko, Mason Chadwick, Caroline Contento, Adin Grey, April Messier, Grace Minkin, Max Moore, Adrian Pierce, Angela Rothwell, Kyla Taylor, Noah Thackeray, Tristan Woodruff **Cushing**: Krista Butler **Hope**: Charlie Cooper, Owen Cooper, Louis Laurita, Aidan McSweyn, Isabella Merrill, Farin Weidman **North Haven**: Kat White **Owls Head**: Jacob Carroll, Claudia Fox, Simon Fox, Jacqueline Hall, Caleb Hendrick, Karl Ilvonen, Alden Mason, Audrey Young **Rockland**: Ryan Lynch, Alexander Mahar **Rockport**: Katherine Bowen, Julianna Day, Dante Jacobo, Kate Kemper, Max Ruesswick, Brook St. Laurent, Nathaniel Stanley **South Thomaston**: Shea Hendricks **Tenants Harbor**: Julia Clough **Thomaston**: Cassidy Boynton, Cadence Lamkins, Brady Marchessault **Union**: Connor Daigle, Emalee Grant, Nathaniel Tracey **Vinalhaven**: Molly Wentworth **Warren**: Olivia Dougherty, Noah Ludwig, James Noyes, Leah Wilcox **Washington**: Kalina Chazin-Knox, Rhiannon Gould, Kylar Potter

Lincoln County

Boothbay Harbor: Tim Chappelle, Cortney Meader **Damariscotta**: Casey Nelson, Abigail Roberts **Edgecomb**: Marina McManus **Jefferson**: Ethan Bartholomae, Alex Hall **New Harbor**: Sam Ransley **Newcastle**: Andrew Nery **Nobleboro**: Natalie Dean, Oliver Hardina **Somerville**: Garret Hutchins, Willow Throckmorton-Hansford **South Bristol**: Nuala Glendinning **Waldoboro**: Claire Bourett, Ashley Holmes, Lucy Jameson, Allison Lupien, Emily Lupien, Jeffery Parent, Kayla Roderick **Westport Island**: Alexa Peck, Kyle Ricker **Wiscasset**: Mason Davenport, Olivia Demeny, Aidan Drage, John

Hodson, Chloe Kilborn

Oxford County

Bethel: Emily Fraser, Emily Hanscom, Emalee Harrington, Myles Lilly, Brynne Speakman **Buckfield**: Kylie Carrier **Byron**: Sophie Ladd **Canton**: Tucker Olsen **Denmark**: Zech Hoeft, Sophia Milo **Dixfield**: Ethan Couture, Miko Parsons, Abby Thibodeau, Alexa Varnum, Lizzie White **Fryeburg**: Kaia De Vries, Lucy Hodgman-Burns, Amanda Howe, Casey Kneissler, Sophie Kummer, Sonia Leone, Patrick Malia, Brenna Milliken, Shelby Pelkie, Emma Rydman, Katherine Trumbull **Hartford**: Karen McNeil **Hebron**: Liz Dunn, Bram Dustin, Victoria Eichorn, Josh Lajoie, Jessica Punch, Olivia Swift **Lovell**: Alanna Nataluk, Shelby Purslow **Milton Township**: Sadie Richardson **Norway**: Kate Bowen, Will Eshleman, Sam Morton, Christian Wynott **Otisfield**: Paul Rudman **Oxford**: Emilyann Drumm, Madison Gordon **Peru**: Delaney Woods **Rumford**: Meadow Wind **South Paris**: Chloe Hodgdon, Kathryn Novak, Daniel Paine, Nicholas Seams, Marla Tanous **Stow**: Addie Stone **Sumner**: Emily Carrasquillo **Waterford**: Greta Vanderblue **West Bethel**: Sophie Hanscom **West Paris**: Kyle Willis

Penobscot County

Alton: Garrett Engstrom, Roy Koneff, Kenzie Young **Argyle Township**: Aliya Sapiel **Bangor**: Karly Accurso, Maher Alsamsam, Ian Ammerman, Peter Blackwell, Grace Blanchard, Sam Blanchard, Katelynn Bowker, Nate Brainerd, Alex Briggs, Gino Caccese, Abby Cadorette, Meg Caron, Hannah Clark, Tori Cline, Toby Coffey, Kassidy Coker, Libby Colley, Raist Cotroneo, Noah Coyle, Brandon Cummings, Juliette Daigle Thompson, Sarah Gabrielle David, Adam Dugre, Aurora Dunifer, Hannah Dyer, Gunnar Eastman, Madison Eaton, James Fahey, Jon Feix, Collette Filer, Amanda Floyd, Landyn Francis, Colin Gallagher, Nshuti Gato, Chelsea Gilgan, Lydia Gilmore, Rowan Gingras, Kathleen Greenlaw, Glenice Hale, Talia Harvey, Jacob Henry, Reid Higgs, Jacob Hirsch, Abby Houghton, Baxter Hughes, Ellie Hunt, Madox Hussey, Devon Kane, Isabella Keebler, Paul Keebler, Ryan Kinney, MacKenzie LaBlanc, Cassie LaCasse, Roland Ladd, Jack Lajoie, Devon Lammert, Aiden Lamson, Connor Lehan, Iann Leigh, Paige Linehan, Stuart MacKay, Lily McLaughlin, Marina Mohawass, Naomi Moynihan, Noah Murphy, Annabelle Muscatell, Vinh-Nhan Ngo, Addison Nichols, Connor Noddin, Lilian Nowak, Erin O'Kane, Olivia Oldfield, Paige Oranje, Andrew Peaco, Josh Peaco, Kelly Pellegrino, Andrew Persson, Shelby Philips, Tabrizia Phillips, Jojo Picone, Dorian Reynolds, Anora Rice, Andrew Richard, Declan Riordan, Margo Roberts, Lilli Seeley, Emma Sheffield, Hannah Sherwood, Amelia Slocum, Damien Smart-Pelletier, Bella Smith, Jason Smith, Maxx Smith, Zach Smith, Yedam Song, Evan Soucy, Taylor Soule, Katie Southworth, Neil St. John, Kaden Stokes-Dana, Levi Sturtevant, Ashley Tanguay, Maria Taylor, Zahra Towey, Heather Webb, Katherine Whitney, Steven Zybert **Bradford**: Matthew Albert **Bradley**: Ileana Adams, Cameron Avery, Nick Avery, Cassidy Climo, Logan Doucette, Makenzie Gomm, Maddie Huerth, Tony Jackson, Nathalie Poulin, Juliann Preble, Joshua Smith, Brooke Soctomah, Noah Zambrano **Brewer**: Rowan Andrews, Caleb Canders, Lily Canders, Andres Celano, Eve Daries, Kody Doak, Georgia Doore, Hannah Friedman, Jennah Geiser, Addie Gilpatrick, Eric Griffin, Dakota Grover, Swaroop Handral, Mickey Hersey, Hannah Jones, Kiersten Jones, Tyler Kahkonen, Kaycee Laffey, Kate Longtin, Maria Low, Maria McLaughlin, Jamie McQuarrie, Kaitlyn Milan-Bryant, Chanthu Millay, Madisyn Morse, Sherralyn Robbins, Lauryn Roy, Jessica Sargent, Melanie Soucy, Jillian Tompkins, Zoe Vittum, Claire Warmuth, Jude Zanoni **Carmel**: Quinn Bartlett, Abby Boucher, James Burgess, Bill Hartt, Brian McElroy, Emily Treat, Patrick Verrill **Charleston**: Cece Desautell, Parker Shaw **Clifton**: Sarah Johnson **Corinna**: Ashton Caron, Enehila Diaz-Resto, Rachael Sickles, Zoe Stankevitz **Corinth**: Annie Bickerstaff, Emily Champney-Brown, Janell Doody, Kiara Prescott **Dexter**: Joshua Mann, Olivia Peakes, Gloria Shen **Dixmont**: Mason Hopkins **East Millinocket**: Erick Green **Eddington**: Davis Asherman, Kat Carreira, Enoch Laskey, Kahlan Newsom, Allisyn Tidd, Bethany Willard **Edinburg**: Julia Durost **Etna**: Sarah Cole, Morgan Tasker **Exeter**: Logan Perkins **Garland**: Clyde Day, Matthew Day, Kasey Howell, Brett Kusnierz **Glenburn**: Sam Bolosky, Sydney Caldwell, Jack Commeau, Lauren Dean, Kendra Fournier, Kenzie Gillis, Kenny Gousha, Natalie Gousha, Alexis Ismail, Nicholas Jacobs, Hannah Joyce, Lukas Norment, Samara Obenauer, Amanda Rock, Benjamin Schmidt, Sienna Soctomah-Holmes, Nathan Thompson, Aislyn Tkacs, Josh Watson **Greenbush**: Lee Anderson, Audrey Buzzell, Dylan Madden, Delani Mclaughlin, Dorothy Smith **Hampden**: Ella Baldwin, Justin Breton, Logan Christian, Elisa Clark, Chantal Connelly, Fallon Crossman, Laura Curioli, Ellie Dacey, William Dacey, Bryce DeRosby, Olivia Dunn, Sara Economy, Dallas Flood, Sade Francis, Nick Gauthier, Kameron Hale, Ethan Howe, Meghan Ireland, Lucy Knight, Julianne Llerena, Brady Lobdell, Jennah Lyford, Abby Lyons, Meaghan McBreairty, Riley McBreairty, Declan Nelson, Ira Nichols, William Patin, Chris Persinger, Kaitlynn Raye, Avery Richard, Collin Scobie, Olivia Scott, Zachary Scott, Jagger Thayer, Elaine Thomas, Kathleen Vickery **Hermon**: Garrett Anderson, Zachary Beaton, Konner Boucher, Claire Bowen, Kelsey Bridges, Charlotte Caron, Amanda Cox, Kalley Curry, Dominic Dinelli, Ashley Dunphy, Courtney Kelsey, Kaden Nevells, Breanne Oakes, Noelle Patten, Neily Raymond, Adam Rush, Braedon Stevens, Zach Tubbs, Torria Wittmer **Holden**: Brady Barker, Payton Bledsoe, Mary Butler, Sam Champion, Abigail Downing, Ana Dunn, Nick Geiser, Ian Norman, Trevor Pearson, Hayley Roy, Naomi Smith, Lauren Starks, Suzy Violette **Howland**: Christine Brown, Brianna Moon, Vi Nelson, Ryan Thompson **Hudson**: David Ledford, Rya Morrill **Indian Island**: Alanna Chavaree, Emmett Sockalexis **Kenduskeag**: Caroline Davis, Olivia Rice **Lakeville**: Curtis Thomas **Lee**: A.J. Beach, Nicole Chandler, Ashton Dunbar, Peter Loman, Audrey Peters, Julia Shannon, Alessio Zanotta **Levant**: Alexis Allard, Anthony Caccese, Samantha Hendrix **Lincoln**: Quincy Clifford, Ainsley Hainer, Sarah Hanington, Emily Landry, Drew McCutcheon, Kylee Moody, Jessica Sutherland, Bryn Weatherbee **Medway**: Conall Gouveia, Gwenyth Perkins **Milford**: Estephanie Baez-Vazquez, Layla Blackie, Eli Clark, Zack Dill, Jodi Glidden, Olivia Henning, Adam Kenny, Thea King, Mya Lavin, Madeline LeClair, Noel Stormann, Cassondra Wood, Benjamin Zeitlin **Millinocket**: Alex Jacobs, Sean McGibbon, Deanna Oakes **Mount Chase**: Emily Beyer **Newburgh**: Lindsay Clements, Bailey Philbrick, Jennifer Spann **Newport**: Abby Bagley, Beau Briggs, Cambree Darr, Daegan Leeman, Myah Reed **Old Town**: Gavin Allen, Philip Alyokhin, Hope Audet, Nicholas Baron, Anisha Bhosale, Emma Bowden, Anna Briley, Sam Cartwright, Sam Cousins, Nick Dieffenbacher-Krall, Kyra Dimitropolis, Tyler Doliber, Jake Dubay, Emily Dunlap, Dyllon Dunton, Christopher Duplisea, Mariah Dutton, Anthony Fabrizio, Logan Gardner, Melissa Godin, George Grindle, Nick Higgins, Gus Hoy, Zack Ireland, Dustin Jensen, Chelsea Johanson, Chris Johanson, Brenna Jones, Meaghan Kelley, Willow Knapp, Abbye Koenig, Alexis Krull, Lily Lehan, Ethyn Lolar, Lacey Lucas, Trinity Mailey, Brandon Mastrorillo, Natalie McCarthy, Darius McKenzie, Gary Moline, Cole Moore, Matthias Murphy, Elizabeth Namujju, Sydney Noonan, Alia Parsons, Hannah Peacock, Aidan Peters, Mark Pollard, Adam Regan, Sam Roberts, Sean Schweizer, Lucas Shepherd, Pablo Solorzano, Brooke Sossong, Joe Spizzuoco, Elyse St. Pierre, Sophia Suriano, Gabe Talon, Celsea Taylor, Hannah Turcotte, Kathrina Turner, C.J. Upham, Sarah Viekman, Evan Warburton, Daniel Wortman **Orono**: Bridget Adams, Niomi Almonte, Siddhartha Bajracharya, Matthew Birch, Jacqueline Bishop, Patrick Bishop, Izzy Bourque, Audrey Broetzman, Camryn Brown, Dawson Bruneski, Tim Burgartz, Emma Carbone, Max Carter, Rachel Chase, Michaela Cisowski, Alana Cormier, Travis Cornbau, Caitlin Crawford, Ashley Cray, Jennifer Crone, Brandon Cummings, Branden Dagenais, Chloe DaSilva, Erin Davenport, Leila Davids, Silvia Davids, Andre de Lannee de Betrencour, Eric Desbois, Paige Dobrzynski, Sarah Dodge, Emma Downing, Theo Erikson, Cedric Fahey, Colby Farnsworth, Max Farrow, Annie Fernandez-Faucher, Caine Field, Kieran Firkin, Abigail Fisher, Joshua Flanagan, Kell Fremouw, Michael Furtado, Paula Gallego, Erik Hamilton, Lucca Hamina, Katie Harder, Alex Harkness, Kaitlyn Helfen, Isabel Henderson, Ada Hepler, Noah Hixon, Aurora Hodgdon, Madeline Howorth, Dom Huntington, Dominika Ivanicka, David Jakacky, Noah Jalbert, Hubert Khalil, William Kim, Yeshayahou Kuptchik, Dominic Lagace, Caroline LaPerriere, McKenzie Leavitt, Trent Lick, Michaella Looney, Griffin Lord, Charlie Marks, Deanna Martin, Madi McCarthy, Kyle McClellan, Andrew Melanson, Rene Mercado, Caitlin Moeykens, Matthew Morgus, Abigail Mulligan, Soren Nguyen, Theogene Nkulikiyinka, Theophile Nkulikiyinka, Andrii Obertas, Luke ONeil, Aimee Ouellette, Drew Parent, Anya Parker, Jonah Parker, Gabe Pasternak, Ashley Paul, George Pitt, Tristan Poissant, Jonah Porter, Myles Quirion, Maxwell Rich,

Katie Ritchie, Roisin Rumsey, Ilanah Sandler, Isaac Sawyer, Brooke Seiders, Liana Shaw, Audrey Smith, Mary-Kate Smith, Abby Stevens, Lindsey Stover, Alisha Thomas, Angie Timms, James Treadwell, Orion-Bay Tucker, Maxwell Valentine, Calvin Wallace Murphy, Sam Weafer, Myky Weinstein, Eva White, Noah White, Matt Wilson, Willow Wind, Sophia Wise, Angelique Wooldridge, Garrison Zhu, Marc Zoorob **Orrington**: Taylor Britt, Audra Brooks, Leah Brooks, Brady Dube, Bryanna Dube, Katelyn Grant, Chloe Hart, Haven Jones, Lindsay Kelly, Jack Lander, Abbie Lawrence, Jacob Levesque, Jordan Lobley, Donne Sinderson, Kailee Soucia, Brennon Tiensivu, Jeremiah Vadas, Gwen Watkins, Maizy Weirich, Silvia Wright **Passadumkeag**: Greg Elliot **Plymouth**: Ryleigh Byrd, Andrea Kondax **Stacyville**: Kaden Mcnally **Stetson**: Izabelle Gilley, Miah Ireland, Megan O'Donald, Tom Poling **Stillwater**: Tyler Bishop, Aidan McEnaney **Veazie**: Josh Allison, Sophie Bilodeau, Brooke Buxton, Atticus Foster, Alex Mehre, Dominic Needham, Riley Perry, Connor Reese, Justin Solomon, Sam Willigar **West Enfield**: Madison Gilman, Kacie Mulligan **Winn**: Keegan Tripp

Piscataquis County

Brownville: Will Poole **Derby**: Rachel McMannus **Dover-Foxcroft**: Sadie Avellar, Grace Carlson, Megan Fuller, Jasper Makowski, Kate Nichols, Hannah Sprecher, Steff Victoria, Lucas Ronco **Guilford**: Summer Yelverton **Milo**: Kelby Drews **Parkman**: Ruth Griffith, Ana Schmidt **Sebec**: Cody Tetlow

Sagadahoc County

Bath: Emma Beauregard, Eleanor Carrolton, William Carrolton, Kehl Chadwick, Dylan DeMerchant, Griffin Dever, Ordis Fitzmaurice, Ryan Fitzmaurice, Jonah Smith, Finnegan Thelen **Bowdoin**: Adam Dustin, Alex Humphrey, Ben Humphrey, Zoe McNally, Caroline Wheeler, Mary Wheeler **Bowdoinham**: Alyssa Dau, Jorja Hooper **Georgetown**: Katie Moyes **Richmond**: Ashley Brown, Abby Johnson, Olivia Ridenour, Ahlwynn Tabor, Erica Weinheimer **Topsham**: Lucas Bergeron, Andrew Chamberland, Brewster Chard, Nathan Deveney, Lucas Dimond, Alexander Gaidola, Liam Knowles, Caden Kowalsky, Ashwini Kreigh-McNeal, Colin Lennon, Hayden Libby, Kody Noyes, Sophie Thieme, Caroline Thompson, Sara York **Woolwich**: Tucker Banger, Katie Card, Tristan Cilley, Mackenzie Wilson

Somerset County

Cornville: Faith Keast, Jada Mack, Annah Perkins, John Shay **Embden**: Tyler Edwards **Fairfield**: Nathanael Batson, Katie Cobb, Trinity Cutshall, Olivia Getchell, Megan Griffith, Lauren Hume, Corbin Kissinger, Miranda Lambert, Cameron Littlefield, David Peitz, Elsie Suttie, Abby Townsend, Lydia Townsend, Sarah Townsend, Olivia Tracy **Harmony**: Gabriel Chambers **Jackman**: Alexandra Lessard **Madison**: Caleb Cowan, Susannah Curtis, Jenny Dean, Thomas Dean, Emily Edgerly, Katie Ellingsen, Luke Harper, Benjamin Thrasher **Palmyra**: Nick Pease **Pittsfield**: Leah Bradstreet, Madison Fitts, Kassie Grover, Madisyn Hartley, Corvidae Hathaway, Lauren Lancaster, Samantha Martin, Danika Stock, Ethan Varney, Seamus Walden **Ripley**: Mark Kilmer, Kendrah Willey **Rockwood**: Casuarina Arute **Saint Albans**: Allison Mendonca **Skowhegan**: Jaycie Christopher, Riley Fitzpatrick, Angel Gonzalez Merrill, Bhreagh Kennedy, Kyle Lee, Bailey Lewis, Matush Prokop, Sydney Reed, Chris Rich, Jacob Steeves **Smithfield**: Kyle Salley

Waldo County

Belfast: Sarah Renee Ozlanski, Sam Davis, Sophia Fay, Caleb Hall-Arnett, Courtney Hawkins, Willoe Kirkpatrick, Caeley Mcvearry, Sydni Moores, Donny Patten, Jie Ning Zhu **Brooks**: Abigail Donnelly **Burnham**: Avery Gosselin, Deklan Thurston **Frankfort**: Joshua Wilbur **Islesboro**: Olivia Britton **Liberty**: Lily Blake **Lincolnville**: Julius Bucher, Rowan Hurlburt, Joshua Pitcairn, Ivan Young **Monroe**: Abi Martin, Josh Rae, Dexter Sibley **Morrill**: Natalie Curry **Northport**: Brendan Moline, Hannah Sanderson **Palermo**: Cade King, Parker King **Searsmont**: Leaf Dyer, Luke Hamlin, Emily Hills, Faith Hughes, Eli Jolliffe, Lily Robbins **Searsport**: Josh Golder, Sammy Hamblen, Makala Riley, Charlie Spiegel **Stockton Springs**: William Bradley, Haley Braga, Erin Dorr, Cheyenne Hebert, Max Lagassie, Jack Lindyberg, Rebekah Mellor, Kyla Perkins **Swanville**: Catrina El-Hajj, Samuel Hutchins, Wesley Hutchins **Thorndike**: Jensen Aspinall **Troy**: Chris Phillippe, Abby Spaulding **Unity**: Jake Holmes, Zoe Mayhew **Waldo**: Hezekiah Gabriel Agbuya **Winterport**: Teodora Blejeru, Kate Bragg, Emma Damboise, Sairah Damboise, Sophie Dube, Sarah Dyer, Parker Harriman, Delia Hill, Alex Holmes, Maddy Humphrey, Jerdon Kiesman, Rebekah Littlefield, Mariah Lockhart, Carly Philbrook, Sara Reynolds, Phoenix Vachon, Henry Willard

Washington County

Addison: Riley Grant **Baileyville**: Erika Isnor **Baring Plantation**: Alexis Doten **Calais**: Devon Carrier, Alexis Donahue, Kaylah Kilby, Ivy McLellan, Zachary Wentworth **Cherryfield**: Nayan Sawyer **Cutler**: Bryant Marsh, Greg Moulton **Danforth**: Christiana Lord **Jonesport**: Jazmin Carver, Stephen Cirone, Lauren Crowley **Machias**: Ragan Toppan **Machiasport**: Marc Michaud, Marissa Wood **Marshfield**: Shaelea Perkins, Brianna Renshaw **Milbridge**: Joseph Ray-Smith **Perry**: Jacob Cook, Trinity Jones, Alex Morgan, Madilyn Newcomb **Robbinston**: Kahlysta Morris, Izzy Pullias

York County

Acton: Porter Bodkin, Brooke Camire, C.J. Lantagne, Marie Wood **Alfred**: Zachary Hurlburt, Grace LaFrance **Arundel**: Abby Davis, Evan Dickson, Jonathan Dube, Sofie Dumas, Keeva Jacques, Meg Noble **Berwick**: Lucas Bent, Ethan DeMoura, Zachary English, Joe Horne, Jacob Mulligan, Trent Otash, Lily Smith **Biddeford**: Ayla Aldrich, Gabriella Bermeo, David Bourque, Seth Harding, Brandon Martin, Ethan McBrine, Sam Mills, Bart Murphy, Mia Pothier, Zack St. Pierre, Nick Titcomb **Buxton**: Sarah Durocher, Cameron Ginter, Sam Kovacs, Thomas Sirois **Cape Neddick**: Taylor Bair, Christopher Chalande, Margaret Hamel, Chase Holt, Tyler Humphrey, Charese Lemieux, Rollan Lemieux, Emma Parrotta, Ryan Thurlow **Cornish**: Riley Vacchiano **Dayton**: Paige Boudreau, Amber Coxen, Daniel Tarbox, Ethan Waterhouse **East Waterboro**: Cody Charette **Eliot**: Rori Coomey, Brayden Cusson, Lauren Cusson, Ryan Driscoll, Sean Fuller, Nick Leavitt, Quinn McDaniel, Eliott Place, Colin Ready, Will Spaller, Cal Yager **Falmouth**: Isabelle Armstrong **Hollis Center**: Mike Ames, Libby Dyer, Brianna Gannett, Cameron Phinney **Kennebunk**: Caleb Congdon, J.G. Connolly, Nate Cripps, Garrett Dickinson, David Dumas, Colby Ellis, Josh Erickson-Harris, Danielle Gassman, Hannah Johnson, Henry Kindler, Grant Kull, Graham McLaughlin, Curtis Morgan, Katharine Poulin, Lauren Poulin, Corinna Rec, Ashley Robinson, Charlie Smith, Conor Stevens, Cullen Stevens, Zackary Sullivan, Maddison Tassinari, Sam Vaccaro, Courtney White **Kennebunkport**: Ella Boxall, Jessica Dupler, Robbie Sanders, Trevor Sutton **Kittery**: Killian Campbell, Taylor Elling-Wilson, Grace Finley, Ryan Long, Dylan Parsons, Dominic Perkins **Kittery Point**: Maggy Johnson, Gunnar Palm **Lebanon**: Kelly Cremmen, Kaylee Mayotte, Kaily Rich, Sommer Thompson, Brandon Torno **Limerick**: Ben Carroll **Limington**: Aidan McGlone, Justin Strout **Lyman**: Hannah Bradish, Nick Hammond, Alexander Levesque, Emily Morin, Daylin Soule, Andres Vargas **North Berwick**: Nicholas Johnson, Levi Lambert, Dante Michaud, Kendra Moseley, Carissa Newick, Jack Szczechowicz, Nate Szczechowicz **North Waterboro**: Emily Davison, Zoey DeAngelis, Avery Haskell, Quinn Judkins, Abigail Pennington, Tori Silva

Old Orchard Beach: Peter Coleman, Madi Courtois, Alexander Hodgkins, Lily LaCasse, Amir Seidakhmetov, Emily Tucker **Saco**: Owen Boissonneault, Victoria Boure, Sydney Brown, Benjamin Cobb, Michael Delorge, William Dunham, McCallum Harkins, Evan Hollander, George Horvat, Jack Johnson, Kaitlyn Kelley, Rowan Libby, Wyatt Light, Kelvin Lin, Claire Loeser, Toby Ouellette, Jennie Poisson, Stefan Reis, Emily Ruocco, Ashley Tillson, Sophie Whiting **Sanford**: Cindy Bellavance, Jade Bellavance, Joe Binette, Jacob Cao, Etain Cullen, Peter Cusack, Adam Genereux, Jason Gil, Jesse Hendrickson, Emily Morrison, Niraj Patel, Kyla Terril, Khang Truong **South Berwick**: Ruby Bonilla, Jocelyn Cinfo, Mike Doran, Andrew Goodwin, McKayla Leary, Lexi McGee, Wei Wei Poole, Stephen Rezack, Alicia Richards, Madelin Sintiris **Springvale**: Anna Johnson, Lydia Pease **Waterboro**: Ivalani Callahan, Alyssa Paquin, Ethan Paquin **Wells**: Elizabeth Bradish, Graham Bridges, Gretchen Graffam, Lily Heyland, Tommy Labb, Gavyn Leighton, Julia Lemarier, Eric Mabry, Isaac Michaud, Jacob Michaud, Theodore Morin, Camden Morrison, Dimarco Roberts, Natalie Robinson, Wyatt Rowe, Ethan Shell, Emma White **York**: Abby Bourgeois, Will Bourgeois, Andrew Brenna, Samantha Campagna, Ashley Carney, Gianna Cilley, Cameron Dalton, Lily Dimmick-Russell, Max Ernenwein, Joey Goulette, Jack Harrington, Delaney Labonte, Fiona Murphy, Josh Pease, Caroline Scott, Sophie Trafton, Hunter Williams *Back to full list*

Facilities Management project updates available online

14 Feb 2023

Weekly and ongoing Facilities Management projects campuswide are now online. The projects lists are updated weekly.

New Balance Student Recreation Center and Gannett/Cutler parking lots closed Feb. 15, 5–11 a.m.

14 Feb 2023

Due to the Career Fair on campus Feb. 15, the New Balance Student Recreation Center and Gannett/Cutler parking lots will be closed from 5–11 a.m. Vehicles parked in these lots at 5 a.m. will be cited and towed at the owners' expense. A shuttle will run from the CCA lot to the Rec Center throughout the Career fair to avoid congestion in the area. There will be no attendee parking in the Rec Center area. To avoid searching for a parking space, please consider carpooling, biking or walking to your campus destination, if possible. Also, remember that displaying your MaineCard allows you free access to the Community Connector and Black Bear Orono Express. We also encourage you to call 581-INFO (4636) to find campus parking lots with available spaces. We appreciate your help making parking as easy as possible during the event closure.

Lopez-Anido named 2023 Distinguished Maine Professor

15 Feb 2023

An internationally recognized University of Maine civil engineering researcher known for his excellence in teaching and innovation in the use of composite materials for infrastructure applications has been named the 2023 Distinguished Maine Professor, the university's most prestigious faculty award. Roberto Lopez-Anido, the Malcolm G. Long '32 Professor of Civil Engineering, will be honored at an Alumni Achievement Awards and Recognition Ceremony on Friday, April 28 at Wells Conference Center. The annual Distinguished Maine Professor Award honors a UMaine professor who exemplifies the highest qualities of teaching, research and public service. It is sponsored by the UMaine classes of 1942 and 2002, and administered by the University of Maine Alumni Association. Lopez-Anido, a member of the UMaine community since 1998, has helped prepare and mentor a generation of Maine structural engineers while producing an impressive portfolio of scholarship and service. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on subjects ranging from basic structural mechanics to advanced composite materials modeling and design. Undergraduate students have three times voted him Professor of the Year in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. He also teaches a sequence of graduate courses in composite materials that supports the research of UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC). As a structural engineer, Lopez-Anido has a nearly 30-year career in design, mechanics modeling, material testing and durability assessment of fiber-reinforced polymer composites for construction. He is a research leader in manufacturing thermoplastic composites, and in modeling, design and testing large-scale 3D-printed structures — work that has led to millions of dollars in external research funding, including a National Science Foundation CAREER Award, seven patents, and nearly 200 journal articles and conference publications. His current research focuses on automated manufacturing for structural thermoplastics; design of large-scale extrusion-based additive manufacturing applications; use of renewable and recyclable materials in construction; experimental methods for characterizing composites; durability of fiber-reinforced polymer composites for infrastructure; and structural health monitoring systems. His work has been cited more than 3,100 times in the literature. As a faculty lead and member of the ASCC management team, Lopez-Anido has contributed to the research and development of advanced composite materials in civil infrastructure, energy, marine and defense applications. That includes participation in research that led to such internationally recognized innovations as Bridge-in-a-Backpack, and spinoff companies such as Advanced Infrastructure Technologies, Inc. He serves on the management team of the Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center, leading the research on new materials for longevity and use in construction. In addition, Lopez-Anido is lead faculty in the Alfond Advanced Manufacturing Laboratory for Structural Thermoplastics, focused on digital, additive and robotics manufacturing. Internationally, he has served on science and technology delegations to Chile and Puerto Rico. In 2006, he received the prestigious Fulbright Scholar award as visiting professor at the University of Chile. In Maine, he collaborates with state agencies, including the Maine Department of Transportation. On campus, Lopez-Anido's service includes membership on the University Research Council, and both the Graduate School Board and Executive Committee. Furthermore, he has been active in the community, including K–12 educational outreach. Lopez-Anido received the College of Engineering's 2012 Ashley S. Campbell Award and, through his career, he has beena four-time recipient of the ASCC Director's Award for Outstanding Faculty Member, Most recently, Lopez-Anido's research team received the Best Paper Award for large-scale 3D printing for highway culvert rehabilitation by the Society of Plastics Engineers. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Yale Environment 360 notes ASCC biobased house

15 Feb 2023

In an article about the rise of biobased materials, Yale Environment 360 noted that the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) manufactured 3D-printed house made from a mix of forest byproducts from the state's numerous sawmills: sawdust, wood flour and a bio-resin whose ingredients have not yet been disclosed. "This material is recyclable. If in a hundred years this house becomes unusable, you could take the material, grind it up, and print another home or other structure or something else useful. It could be repurposed for the future," said Evan Gilman, the ASCC's chief operations engineer.

ASCC and the Maine Business School: Bringing students together to solve real-world problems

15 Feb 2023

“None of us are as smart as all of us” and “students first" are two values of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC). Indeed, the statements are on the wall in the lobby and conference rooms of the University of Maine research complex, and at the heart of ASCC’s internationally recognized work by nearly 350 faculty, staff and students. Undergraduate and graduate students from multiple academic disciples participate in ASCC internships. In fiscal year 2022, those opportunities included 196 undergraduates and 57 graduate students, amounting to $2.4 million in wages and supporting costs. Students participate in ASCC’s mission to solve complex challenges such as energy security and affordable housing, and contribute their talents, creativity and dedication to making a difference, all while gaining hands-on experience in state-of-the-art facilities. Among the many academic areas that partner with ASCC to provide learning opportunities for students is the Maine Business School. For instance, students in Business Information Systems work on an enterprise resource planning (ERP) system used by ASCC to manage resources across $175 million in active research projects. Accounting and finance students have an opportunity to practice fundamental skills. In addition, students can learn the basics of project management and support active projects working in ASCC’s Project Management Office (PMO). “The Maine Business School is deeply committed to partnering with ASCC, and the incredible opportunities working within the center offers students,” says Jason Harkins, interim associate dean of the Maine Business School. “Business students can apply their robust, rigorous, and relevant education into their hands-on experiences at ASCC. The contribution of their expertise in collaborations like this advance the goals of UMaine and the state of Maine as we look to develop the ideas and train the workforce for tomorrow's economy.” ASCC also partners with the Graduate School of Business. Students pursuing the MaineMBA have the option to specialize in one of 13 concentrations, including engineering management. One of those former MaineMBA students is Peter Drown, who is now the ASCC chief operating officer who oversees financial services, the Project Management Office, laboratory operations and IT/ERP systems. “As an MaineMBA graduate who interned at the ASCC as a student, I was well prepared to enter the job market in 2013,” Drown says. “After spending seven years post-graduation in Washington, D.C. working in government and industry, I concluded that the opportunities at the University of Maine and ASCC were more satisfying and in line with my values. I jumped at the opportunity to bring my family back to Maine and join a team of innovative leaders who are bringing real solutions to some of the toughest problems for society.” Collaborations between ASCC and Maine Business School are paying dividends for students, faculty and the broader campus community. Below are the stories of current MaineMBA students and a recent graduate involved in ASCC projects:

Maggie Healy, BSBA ’21, MaineMBA ’23

[caption id="attachment_95784" align="alignright" width="223"]  Maggie Healy[/caption] Maggie Healy from Portland, Maine completed her undergraduate degree at UMaine in marketing with a concentration in management information systems. After her MBA, she plans to pursue a career in business analytics. Healy came to ASCC with a strong recommendation from an MBS faculty member. The center was launching a new enterprise resource planning (ERP) system to track human and financial resources across its project portfolio, and needed assistance providing system administration. In her full-time graduate research assistantship, she leads the ERP support team. “My work at ASCC allows me to see real-world examples of the topics discussed in my business school studies; it helps me make better sense of the concepts,” Healy says. “The hands-on experience has progressed the communication and time management skills that my business studies helped me develop.” At ASCC, Healy says she is encouraged to “take what I’ve learned in the classroom and apply it to my work. Additionally, I am given the opportunity to explore different areas of business, which allows me to learn more about myself and what I would like to do as a career.”

Kirk Larkin, MaineMBA ’24

[caption id="attachment_95783" align="alignright" width="223"] Kirk Larkin[/caption] Kirk Larkin came to Maine from Fitchburg, Massachusetts in 2005. His career goals are centered on sustainable communities, including staying at the forefront of innovation to bring sustainable alternative products to consumers. Kirk currently works as a graduate assistant in the ASCC Portland office, supporting a research project of the Office of Naval Research. “I have learned from competitive sports that preparation and training is critical to success, but nothing can replace the experience you get in a game,” Larkin says. “I have already put some skills that I’ve learned in my business school studies into practice. For example, I found that the intense research required for my capstone project in the fall semester directly translated over to some of the facility planning work I was asked to help with. This work crystalized my research skills that I have been acquiring in my business studies.” The most enjoyable part of working at ASCC is being part of an amazing team, he says. “I have been given the opportunity to work with some brilliant people that have all contributed in some way to my experience so far,” says Larkin. “I lean toward people and connection, so team is number one for me, but a close second for most enjoyable part of working at ASCC is the amazing world-class work that’s already been done and the unbelievable plans for the future that place ASCC as a world leader in sustainable structures and manufacturing. I can’t believe I get to work here!”

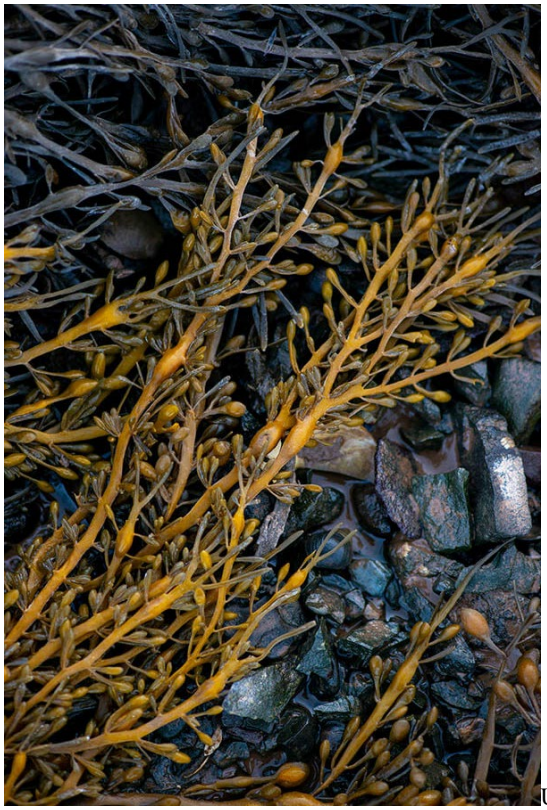
Angelina Buzzelli, BSBA ’20, MaineMBA ’21

[caption id="attachment_95782" align="alignright" width="223"] Angelina Buzzelli[/caption] Angelina Buzzelli from Charleston, Maine was an ASCC graduate research assistant in her final year of studies. Following graduation in December 2021, Buzzelli joined the ASCC staff with a focus on 3D-printed housing initiatives. Her work included market analyses by conducting interviews with industry stakeholders and combining those findings with secondary research analysis. This research will ultimately be used to guide the business case for biobased 3D printing solutions in the housing construction industry. In addition, she has taken on a communications role, acting as a liaison between the ASCC and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and creating marketing solutions for the program and helping promote the annual conference, Manufacturing Renew3D. “My business school education has been instrumental in my market research, especially when it comes to interpreting qualitative data collected during my interviews,” Buzzelli says. “My work here has been extremely fulfilling because I am participating in cutting-edge research and developing solutions to problems we all face — namely, the rising costs of housing. It is also very enjoyable to be surrounded by people with entirely different educational backgrounds. Coming from a non-science background made it originally challenging to understand the work my colleagues were doing, but it also meant I learned something new every day. “The collaborative ASCC/ORNL team managing the Hub and Spoke program is also incredible to work alongside, making my day-to-day even more enjoyable.” Contact: Peter Drown, peter.drown@maine.edu

Study unravels the impact of rockweed harvest at the bed-scale

15 Feb 2023

A study led by the University of Maine captured how entire rockweed beds recover from harvest, and the practice has a smaller impact than previously thought. Rockweed wields immense influence over its intertidal habitat. Its tangled branches form the backbone of a rich ecosystem that shelters and feeds an abundance of marine life. Everywhere rockweed grows, invertebrates, fish and fowl follow. The marine alga has also been valued as a soil amendment for centuries, and more recently as crop biostimulants. The Maine Department of Marine Resources reports that commercial harvest has more than tripled over the past 20 years. Rockweed grows back following harvest, with biomass recovering faster than height. This change, combined with climbing harvest pressure, has led to concern regarding the practice. Harvesters, landowners, ecologists and community scientists want to understand how cutting and removing



rockweed affects the ecosystem it creates. UMaine ecologist Amanda Klemmer and her collaborators traipsed Maine's tidal waters to examine the impact of rockweed harvest over the whole bed — a first for the species. Previous studies in the United States and Canada examined harvest impact at smaller scales or without control sites. The team chose to study harvest recovery over the whole bed, which mirrors the scale that both commercial harvesters and mobile animals, like birds and fishes, interact with rockweed. The research team documented the biomass and height of rockweed in 100 meter long swaths before and one year following commercial harvest. The study included 38 different sites from Harpswell downeast to Cobscook. All sampling was non-destructive in an effort to isolate changes in rockweed characteristics to either natural variation or harvest, and not from sampling methods. The study found that harvest patterns were uneven, creating a mosaic of habitats across the bed. This indicates that harvest has less impact than previous studies, with a smaller scale of focus, reported. It also supports the idea of studying natural resource and ecosystem management decisions at a variety of spatial scales. On average in the study, rockweed biomass fully recovered one year after harvest but the height remained lower where harvest occurred. They also found that sites with more intensive harvest were less likely to fully recover biomass and height in that time. "These results suggest to me two bottom lines, first that harvesters exploit beds patchily, like individuals walking haphazardly with weed wackers. This dilutes the effects of harvest for the overall rockweed bed. Second, recovery of algal biomass post-harvest is faster than it is for algal height. This result has been shown before, but the speed of biomass recovery here is quite remarkable," says Chris Petersen, Emily and Mitchell Rales Chair in Ecology at the College of the Atlantic. "The harvest impacts on this foundational species appear less than I believe many would have predicted." Klemmer, who studies food webs on Maine's coastline, and her team drew from the broad knowledge base of the harvest industry, conservation groups, state and federal agencies, and public interest groups to inform the study's design. She hosted a stakeholder advisory panel in Belfast in 2018, and continued to engage with groups for the duration of the project. Altogether, they worked with more than 80 landowners and eight harvesters to gain access to and select sites for the study. "Having everyone in that room to see what everyone's priorities were and where we could find common ground was really meaningful. And to put a face to some names was also good from both perspectives. A lot of connections came out of those meetings, overall it was a great experience," says Alison Feibel, senior resource biologist at Acadian Seaplants Limited. The research team included first author and Ph.D. candidate Elliot Johnston, as well as Hannah Mittelstaedt, Laura Braun and Hannah Webber, all graduate students at UMaine's School of Biology and Ecology in the lab of Klemmer. Webber also works as marine ecology director at the Schoodic Institute. Brian Olsen, director for UMS TRANSFORMS, who holds a faculty appointment in the school, and Jessica Muhlin, professor of marine biology at Corning School of Ocean Studies at Maine Maritime Academy, also contributed to the study. The study was published in the Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology. The research was funded by Maine Sea Grant and Pittman-Robertson funds awarded by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It was also supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Hatch Project Numbers ME0-21710, ME0-22207, and ME0-22322 through the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

Alireza Kianimoqadam: Developing software to help decarbonize industries

15 Feb 2023

From 2012–14, Alireza Kianimoqadam helped provide sustainable heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems for people in Tehran as a volunteer engineer with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme. The systems he designed were efficient and relied on renewable sources instead of fossil fuels. Kianimoqadam, of Tabas, Iran, completed his bachelor's degree only months before starting his volunteer work, yet he was already making a difference in peoples' lives and contributing to a more renewable future for Iran's capital. Working for UN-Habitat allowed him to broaden his skill set and witness the benefits of sustainable urban development to communities and the planet. Now at the University of Maine, Kianimoqadam is tackling a new challenge in creating a more sustainable society: decarbonizing industries. Kianimoqadam, a Ph.D. student in mechanical engineering, has been developing software to assist with the creation of a solar-powered reactor that could eliminate almost all greenhouse gas emissions from the process used to make light olefins, chemicals like ethylene and propylene that serve as precursors to plastic. His adviser, Justin Lapp, a UMaine assistant professor of mechanical engineering, is leading the design of this novel thermochemical reactor, and recently received $400,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy for it. The Computational Fluid Dynamics–Discrete Element Method software, or CFD-DEM software, will be able to predict how the reactor — particularly the particles within it — will behave under various conditions. Equipped with comprehensive heat and mass transfer functions, Kianimoqadam says the software will help researchers

design the new reactor, and possibly support the development of more by other scientists and engineers, in ways that will "optimize energy consumption and further reduce greenhouse gas emissions." "As a researcher in the fields of sustainable energy and thermal engineering, I am proud to contribute to the efforts to decarbonize industries and reduce greenhouse gas emissions," Kianimoqadam says. "In promoting sustainable energy solutions and reducing industry's impact on the environment, I hope to benefit not only the people of Maine but also the general public." Kianimoqadam and Lapp recently developed new methods for increasing the efficiency of software used to simulate high-temperature particle behavior during energy generation, chemical reaction engineering and other processes. These new tactics focus on pre-processing data and using it to train a recurrent neural network to predict the amount of heat transfer between high temperature particles, which is faster and cheaper than traditional methods, Kianimoqadam says. They shared their findings in an article published in the International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer, for which Kianimoqadam was first author. "The preprocessing methods and neural network regression function developed in this paper have the potential to greatly accelerate the prediction of radiation in particulate media, which is a crucial aspect of many industrial processes," Kianmioqadam says. "These findings not only have the potential to improve the efficiency and speed of these processes, but also have the potential to be applied in a wide range of industries, from chemical and petrochemical to solar and aerospace. Overall, this work represents a significant advancement in the field and has the potential to have a significant impact on the development of more sustainable and efficient industrial processes." Before enrolling at UMaine in 2014, Kianmioqadam earned a master's degree from K.N. Toosi University of Technology and worked as a technical adviser for the company Petro Irsa Nico Ltd., both in Tehran. Kianmiqadam says he came to UMaine because of its reputation as a leader in several research areas, renowned faculty, serene environment, proximity to mountains and the ocean, and abundance of outdoor activities. "Overall, I felt that the unique combination of natural beauty and academic excellence offered by UMaine would provide the perfect setting for me to focus on my studies and further develop my skills and knowledge in my field," he says. When he graduates, Kianmiqadam hopes to either work for or start his own engineering firm. "Overall, I believe that the education and experience I have received at UMaine have given me the foundation I need to excel in my chosen field," he says. "I am confident that the skills and knowledge I have gained during my time at UMaine have prepared me well for this next step in my career." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host talk with James Francis, Penobscot Nation director of cultural and historic preservation, Feb. 27

16 Feb 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Penobscot Sense of Place: An exploration of Indigenous landscapes in the Dawnland" on Monday, Feb. 27 at 3 p.m. Speaker James Eric Francis Sr. is the Penobscot Nation's director of cultural and historic preservation, Tribal historian and chair of the Penobscot Tribal Rights and Resource Protection Board. As a historian, Francis studies the relationship between Maine Native Americans and the landscape. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Forbes, Statista list UMaine among top mid-sized employers in America

16 Feb 2023

Forbes and Statista have ranked the University of Maine among America's Best Midsize Employers for 2023. According to them, these employers were identified in an independent survey taken by approximately 45,000 American employees working for companies with more than 1,000 workers in the U.S. In total, 500 employers were recognized across 25 different industry sectors. The evaluation was based on direct and indirect recommendations from respondents who were asked to rate their willingness to recommend their own employer to friends and family. Their evaluations also included other employers in their respective industries that stood out either positively or negatively.

Ippolito speaks to News Center Maine about ethics of AI software in classrooms

16 Feb 2023

John Ippolito, professor of new media at the University of Maine, spoke to News Center Maine about attempts to incorporate AI writing software like ChatGBT into classroom settings. Ippolito said that AI-detecting softwares for essays may not always work, so educators should teach both the ethics of using AI as well as how to use it to their advantage in the classroom. "Let's not abandon this new technology, but also, let's not completely give into it. Let's mix and match," Ippolito said.

Elephant seal remains show Antarctic sea was warmer in the recent past, UMaine-led study finds

16 Feb 2023

Studying the response of Antarctic ice sheets to past warming episodes is essential to understand how they may respond to the present warming climate, as their melting and collapse can contribute to global sea level rise. Detailed records of past ocean temperatures close to the continent are rare, but clues to how ice sheets and sea ice responded to global conditions in the past can be found in funny places — even in the remains of animals that once lived there. A study led by the University of Maine used the presence (and eventual lack thereof) of elephant seals to illustrate how the area transformed in a warm period in the recent past. A team of researchers led by Brenda Hall, professor at the University of Maine School of Earth and Climate Science, and Climate Change Institute, studied the remains of the southern elephant seal at sites along the Victoria Land Coast of the Ross Embayment, which borders both the West and East Antarctic ice sheets. Today, the Victoria Land Coast is largely free of elephant seals and even penguins in many places because of shelves of permanent sea ice frozen to its beaches. Besides, modern elephant seals are based largely on subantarctic islands north of the Ross Sea. Past UMaine research, however, uncovered elephant seal remains in the beaches suggesting the species flourished in the area during warm periods of the Holocene. They theorized that the seals were able to occupy the beaches in a period of warmth before extensive sea ice pushed them off of the present-day coast. For this study, the scientists gathered the mummified and skeletal remains of elephant seals, as well as their molted skin, buried under rocks and snow banks along the Victoria Land Coast, ultimately recovering 305 samples, which they radiocarbon dated and tested for ancient DNA "Southern elephant seals today tend to haul out in much warmer areas than the Ross Sea," Hall says. "We were able to use the presence of their molted skin and hair, as well as some bones and mummies desiccated by the polar wind, to show that these seals had once made the Ross Sea their home." The results from the molted skin, bones and other remains showed that southern elephant seals not only once occupied the Ross Sea, but were present on the Victoria Land Coast from about 7,000 and 500 years ago. The presence

of the seals at this time indicated that there was a reduced amount of ice covering the sea during this time of the Holocene, which coincides with other records of ocean temperatures and circulation in the Ross Sea. "Our work shows that for much of the Holocene, the Ross Sea was less icy and presumably warmer than it is today and this warmth may have driven retreat of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet from the Ross Sea during the last 8000 years and future warming could continue to push ice retreat," Hall says. "However, ocean temperature may not be the entire story." More research is needed, but the scientists also found a few elephant seals that dated to a much older period just before the last glacial maximum, which suggests that warm water may have existed during the buildup of the ice sheet in the Ross Sea. If the presence of warm ocean temperatures immediately prior to and perhaps even during build-up to the Last Glacial Maximum ice position could be confirmed, it would suggest that factors other than a drop in ocean temperatures, such as lowered sea level, might have been critical in causing ice-sheet advance in the Ross Embayment. The study was published online Feb. 7, 2023, and will be in the March 2023 edition of the journal Quaternary Science Reviews. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Media share 2023 MIRTA cohort

17 Feb 2023

MaineBiz and the Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine's MIRTA accelerator program through the Foster Center for Innovation has selected five teams for its 2023 cohort. The 2023 projects will develop research innovations in photovoltaic and color changing fabric; a new technology in catheterization to reduce infection in long-term patients; custom-made medical ports for stuffed animals so children can cope with the stress of similar medical procedures for themselves or siblings; a novel nontoxic fire suppressant foam used in fire fighting; and a computer system that can scan pulp for anomalies at the source.

Media report on browntail moth surveys on UMaine campus

17 Feb 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that researchers at the University of Maine have been conducting browntail moth surveys across the campus. The surveying is part of a larger effort to reveal trends in the behavior of these moths as UMaine researchers evaluate ways to manage these pests without harming other insects. "We're looking at different ways of monitoring the moth. Controlling the moth. Better understanding the biology of it to really increase the knowledge about it so that we can hopefully better control it," said Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology. WBRC-TV (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama) and KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) shared the WABI report.

Media share UMaine rockweed study

17 Feb 2023

Phys.org and Maine Public reported on a study led by the University of Maine that captured how entire rockweed beds recover from harvest. The study found that harvest patterns were uneven, creating a mosaic of habitats across the bed. This indicates that harvest has less impact than previous studies, with a smaller scale of focus, reported. It also supports the idea of studying natural resource and ecosystem management decisions at a variety of spatial scales.

Dill speaks to BDN about bed bugs

17 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about a recent uptick in bed bugs in Maine. "We are starting to see a little uptick in bed bugs now, but it's nothing like what it was six or seven years ago when it was really bad. … They have a piercing, sucking mouth part. The adults feed once a week [and] once they have their blood meal, they are pretty happy for a while…If there is anything good about them, it's that they are not associated with any diseases," Dill said. WGME (Channel 13 in Portland) shared the BDN article.

Education connection: Student teacher reunites with elementary school principal at UMaine

17 Feb 2023

Back in 2006 and 2007, Maria Low was in kindergarten at Capri Street School in Brewer, Maine. Joan Staffiere was the school's principal. Low is now a college senior majoring in elementary education at the University of Maine, where Staffiere — who retired from a distinguished career as a public school teacher and administrator in 2008 — is now an adjunct instructor and student teaching supervisor. The pair recently reconnected when Low signed up for the student teaching seminar course taught by Staffiere this semester. "I love working with kids," says Low, who will graduate in May after completing her 15-week student teaching internship. "Also, my mom is a teacher, which inspired me to want to go into education." Low says her mom connected the dots that Staffiere was once her elementary school principal. "My mom actually went back to school to become a teacher and she graduated from UMaine not that long ago, in 2013," Low says. "I asked about her student teaching supervisor, because I thought maybe we would have the same one. And she said, 'No, but you know Joan was your principal, right?'" Low and her mom dug through some old pictures and yearbooks until they found her kindergarten class photo, which includes Staffiere's school portrait at the top of the page.

Although Capri Street School closed in 2012 and has since been torn down, Low has fond memories of going to school there. "I remember my teachers. I also remember when I was in kindergarten, we did a musical and we took dance," she says. Staffiere recalls that she wrote a grant for the dance classes. She also says that each class put on its own musical, and that as principal she was the narrator. "The year you were in kindergarten, you might remember that I wore a hat with lemons on it," Staffiere says. "We still have pictures of that!" says Low. Staffiere, who was recognized with a Teaching Excellence Award from the UMaine College of Education and Human Development in 2015, says Low is the fourth former student from her time as a public-school educator to take her student teaching seminar. "It's wonderful to see all of my students become teachers," says Staffiere. "I love seeing them go into the field, gain that experience and confidence in their teaching, and then get their first full-time jobs in schools." Student teaching supervisors oversee preservice teachers, offering mentoring, coaching and other support, including evaluation of their performance in the classroom. At UMaine, the student teaching seminars meet every other week or so throughout a semester to allow student teachers who are in the field to examine and reflect on their teaching and learning, apply the skills and knowledge gained from their previous classes and field experiences, and to develop and finalize their teacher candidacy portfolios. Low says the seminar course has been the culmination of her four years at UMaine, where field experiences and classroom observations are incorporated into the curriculum for teacher education majors from a student's freshman year. A member of the UMaine women's soccer team, Low says that during college she's learned a lot about herself outside of the classroom as well. "I've gained so much in terms of leadership, communication and working with others," she says. "The university has really helped me grow and find my passion." Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Reminder: 2023 Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast has been cancelled

17 Feb 2023

The 2023 Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast will not take place on Monday, Feb. 20, 2023. It has been cancelled. Group and individual refunds are available and we apologize for any inconvenience. Please hold the date for the 2024 Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast, Monday, Jan. 15, 2024.

Penobscot Bay Pilot shares Talty reading

21 Feb 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot shared that Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, will read from his debut novel Night of the Living Rez for the Poet's Corner on Sunday, March 5, 4–5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

News Center Maine features Turkish UMaine student

21 Feb 2023

News Center Maine featured Ece Yeldan, a junior at the University of Maine from Turkey, who said that it's been difficult being away from home in light of the region's devastating earthquakes in early February. "It felt a little unfair, too, because, like, here I am, like, worrying about how well I'll perform on my quiz while there's people who are still trapped under rubble," Yeldan said.

Birkel speaks to Sun Journal about 2022 weather highlights

21 Feb 2023

Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, spoke to the Sun Journal about the weather highlights of 2022. Birkel told the Sun Journal that the last of the winter snowpack melted earlier than usual on March 8, and a lackluster end to the winter season and below normal precipitation through the spring and summer led to drought conditions across most of the state by late summer. Yahoo News shared the Sun Journal report.

Media boosts UMaine Extension 'Cultivating Resilience' podcast

21 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Morning Ag Clips, Piscataquis Observer and Lincoln County News reported that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension

recently launched a new podcast called Cultivating Resilience, developed in partnership with colleagues in the Cultivemos network. Cultivating Resilience is a six-episode podcast featuring candid conversations with farmers about how they find connection and strength amid daily struggles. The group is currently looking for farmers to talk to for the podcast's second season, due out later this year.

WGME speaks to Ippolito about ChatGPT

21 Feb 2023

WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) interviewed Jon Ippolito, professor of new media at the University of Maine, about artificial intelligence essay writing softwares like ChatGPT. Ippolito says ChatGPT is already used as a springboard for ideas in his class. "It does scare me to some extent…I think that banning the tools is not the right approach. Whatever happens, we're likely going to need these tools in the workplace going forward," Ippolito said. WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the WGME report.

Maine Monitor features UMaine Machias study about health care gaps for Down East fishermen

21 Feb 2023

The Maine Monitor reported on a study from the University of Maine at Machias finds that Down East clammers and lobstermen face steep barriers to healthcare access, despite greater risks of job-related injuries and other health issues that can sometimes lead to substance use disorders. "It's pretty clear from the results here that harvesters are struggling to treat pain, and they experience a lot of it, and they get minimal help from the health care sector in treating that pain appropriately," she said. "And so it's pretty obvious that we need some new solutions," said Tora Johnson, the lead author and associate professor at UMaine Machias. The Portland Press Herald shared the Maine Monitor report.

Katherine McCarthy: Finding and building community at UMaine

22 Feb 2023

Katherine McCarthy of Greenville, North Carolina is a University of Maine graduate student pursuing her M.Ed in student development in higher education. McCarthy, who moved to Maine in fall of 2021, has a graduate assistantship for training and outreach in the Office of Diversity and inclusion and is heavily involved with the Center of Student Involvement (CSI). McCarthy says that through both of these jobs she has been able to have two very different, but equally meaningful experiences. Through the Diversity and Inclusion Office she has been able to see students lead very small, intimate and oftentimes challenging discussions. While through CSI, she has seen students excel at leading huge groups through fun activities. "I have learned from these experiences that every student is different and that is OK," says McCarthy. "I have learned to take things as they come because things never go the way they are planned and it's always important to have a plan B." When McCarthy came to Maine, she says it was difficult to pick up and move her entire life to a place she has never been. But she says that UMaine has given her confidence not only in her work, but also in herself. In addition, she has come to appreciate the outdoor spaces available around her and says that the accessible walking and hiking trails have provided her with meditative spaces to get away from the stress of business and academics. McCarthy began her assistantship when she started at UMaine and her internship with Ben Evans, assistant director for campus activities, at CSI in spring 2022. "Working with CSI I have found a lot of community. Although my internship ended, I plan to continue to be involved with CSI and late nights at the U. It keeps me going to see the students having fun," she says. Through her internship with Evans, McCarthy was able to build off an idea she had to make the UMaine "bucket list" more accessible to students and has now turned it into a whole year project with the help of the Hamm activity fund. In addition to her community at CSI, McCarthy has also been inspired by her mentor and supervisor in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Anila Karunakar, director for diversity and inclusion. "She is the most emotionally intelligent leader I have ever met and she centers herself with grace and perspective. She does what she does really well and it has been an honor working with her," says McCarthy. After she graduates in the spring, McCarthy plans to seek an entry-level position in student affairs. She wants to expand upon the work she has done for students at UMaine and plans to continue engagement in student life in her future. "UMaine has prepared me for my future in student life because I have learned a lot about troubleshooting and the importance of providing a space to build community for students," McCarthy says. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

BDN notes UMaine 4-H participating in Cabin Fever Reliever event

22 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is participating in the fishing and outdoor recreation show Cabin Fever Reliever at 10 a.m. Feb. 25–26 at Brewer Auditorium. During the event, UMaine 4-H will offer a bow and arrow activity for children.

Media promote UMaine Extension course about reinvigorating old apple trees

22 Feb 2023

The Livermore Falls Advertiser, Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com promoted a course about reinvigorating old apple trees offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Franklin County at 10 a.m. March 4 at Black Acres Farm in Wilton. More information is available on the UMaine Extension website.

PenBay Pilot highlights nonviolent communication in classroom program

22 Feb 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot promoted an upcoming professional development program offered by the University of Maine Hutchinson Center titled "Teaching From the Heart: Nonviolent Communication in the Classroom." The program, which costs $195, will be held at 9 a.m. April 28 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. Visit the center's website for more information.

BDN advances Mitchell Center talk by Penobscot Nation's tribal historian

22 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News advanced a talk by James Eric Francis Sr., Penobscot Nation's director of cultural and historic preservation, tribal historian and chair of the Penobscot Tribal Rights and Resource Protection Board, titled "Penobscot Sense of Place: An exploration of Indigenous landscapes in the Dawnland." The University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions is hosting the talk at 3 p.m. Feb. 27 via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. More information is available on the Mitchell Center website.

Mainebiz notes UMaine part of $10 million forest management project

22 Feb 2023

Mainebiz reported that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded a $10 million grant to a collaborative research team from the University of Maine, the University of Georgia and lead-site Purdue University to help landowners and stakeholders better adapt their forests to increasingly complicated economic and climate conditions in the eastern U.S.

Caron's induction into Maine Women's Hall of Fame featured in media

22 Feb 2023

News Center Maine, Mainebiz and the Kennebec Journal and Morning Sentinel featured the induction of Sandra Caron, University of Maine professor of family relations and human sexuality, into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame. Caron is scheduled to be inducted in a ceremony at 2 p.m. March 18, in the Farber Forum in Jewett Hall at the University of Maine at Augusta, 46 University Drive.

UMaine invites members of the public to snack for science

23 Feb 2023

The University of Maine is recruiting taste testers for its food science Sensory Evaluation Center. Members of the public who are 18 and older are invited to subscribe to an email list that announces taste testing opportunities. The lab tests everything from seafood to spuds to help researchers and companies evaluate the palatability of new crop varieties, food preservation techniques and other innovative edibles. Taste testing generally takes less than 30 minutes, and most offer participants cash compensation upon completion. To subscribe, send a note from the email you wish to subscribe with to sensory.evaluation@maine.edu.

BDN features Ash Wednesday at UMaine

23 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News featured the Ash Wednesday ceremony at the University of Maine Memorial Union led by Rev. Kyle Doustous, who is also known as "Father Kyle" and serves as the Roman Catholic chaplain at Maine's flagship campus. Doustous is also the pastor of the Parish of the Resurrection of the Lord, which serves churches in Old Town, Orono, Indian Island and Bradley.

Morning Ag Clips notes Pereira presentation at Herd Health and Nutrition Conference

23 Feb 2023

Morning Ag Clips noted that Glenda Pereira, assistant Extension professor, assistant professor of animal science and dairy specialist at the University of Maine, will present at the Herd Health and Nutrition Conference April 3–4 in East Syracuse, New York. Pereira's presentation will focus on a comparison of crossbreds with holsteins for confinement and pasture production herds.

BDN reports on Lopez-Anido being named as 2023 UMaine Distinguished Professor

23 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that Roberto Lopez-Anido, the Malcolm G. Long '32 Professor of Civil Engineering, has been named the 2023 Distinguished Maine Professor, the university's most prestigious faculty award. Lopez-Anido will be honored at an Alumni Achievement Awards and Recognition Ceremony on April 28 at Wells Conference Center.

'The Maine Question' looks at how Maine can grow and diversify its economy

23 Feb 2023

Maine's economy is evolving with several burgeoning industries, like artificial intelligence and alternative energy, and new opportunities in its quintessential natural resource sectors, such as commercial fishing and forestry. The University of Maine's Office of Strategic Partnerships, Innovation, Resources and Engagement, or SPIRE, is supporting statewide economic growth by connecting startups and expanding companies with resources and experts at UMaine, and building strategic partnerships that grow talent, innovation and investment in the state and beyond. In the first episode of "The Maine Question" Season 8, Jake Ward, UMaine vice president of innovation and economic development, and Renee Kelly, associate vice president of innovation and economic development, discuss the future of Maine's economy and SPIRE's role in helping it prosper in the 21st century. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host March 6 talk with USGS New England Water Science Center director

24 Feb 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "USGS Water Science Centers: Serving our Communities with Science," on Monday, March 6 at 3 p.m. Speaker John Bumgarner is the director of the U.S. Geological Survey's New England Water Science Center (WSC). He joined the New England WSC in February 2020 and works with the center's over 170 staff members completing a diverse scientific program in the areas of hydrologic monitoring; water-quality assessments; hydraulics; environmental hydrology; watershed and urban hydrology; integrated computational modeling; statistical analysis; and geospatial studies in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Media share Hutchinson Center workshop for teachers

24 Feb 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Republican Journal, Fiddlehead Focus and CentralMaine.com shared that the annual S-T-R-E-T-C-H Your Teaching Workshop, a low-cost professional development program for all preK to 12 educators, will be held March 18 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. Register online or by contacting Donna Kennison, mimiken7@gmail.com.

Media cite UMaine role in Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap

24 Feb 2023

In reporting on Maine Gov. Janet Mills' new Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap, the Union of Concerned Scientists, WMTW-TV (Channel 8 in Portland) and and Offshore Wind noted the University of Maine's role in designing floating platforms for offshore wind turbines. In launching the plan, Mills spoke from the Maine State House with a model of the University of Maine-designed floating concrete platform for wind turbines behind her.

WGME cites UMaine statement about offshore wind turbines and whales

24 Feb 2023

In an article about the Marine Mammal Commission's new study showing there is no risk of entanglement for right whales by offshore wind turbines, WGME-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) noted that University of Maine researchers had previously stated that there was no entanglement risk to the right whale because the line for these floating turbines is both too taut and the diameter too large.

Gramlich speaks to WABI about impact of Ohio train derailment on snow

24 Feb 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) interviewed William Gramlich, associate professor in the University of Maine Department of Chemistry, about the potential impact of the derailment and explosion of a train carrying toxic chemicals in Eastern Ohio on snow in Maine. Gramlich said Mainers should be able to interact with incoming snow without fear that it's contaminated from the explosion. "The plastic, we have in our houses, but it doesn't actually have that chemical at the time. It's gone, it's been transformed at that point. … [Rails carrying hazardous chemicals are] probably more common than people think. Rails, from my understanding, are a pretty common way to ship chemicals. It tends to be safer than trucks. One would hope they've developed a safe way to transport through that," Gramlich said. WBRC-TV (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama) and WLOX-TV (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi) shared the WABI report.

American Council on Education features story on UMaine program for students on the autism spectrum

24 Feb 2023

The American Council on Education featured a story on how the University of Maine partners with the Maine Department of Labor's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) to provide a five-week learning experience called Step Up, to help prepare high school students and recent graduates on the autism spectrum to successfully transition to college.

Fogler Library will host online grant writing workshop March 14

27 Feb 2023

The University of Maine Fogler Library and Office of Research Development will host an online workshop about the basics of grant writing March 14, 10 a.m.–noon. At Grants 101: Seeking, Analyzing, and Writing Basics, participants will search for grants in PIVOT, analyze an agency's request for proposals and learn grant writing basics. The workshop is open to all, and may be especially resonant for faculty, staff and graduate students. RSVP for the workshop here. For questions or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jen Bonnet, jenbonnet@maine.edu.

On the Water features UMaine tuna survey

27 Feb 2023

On the Water boosted a survey from the Pelagic Fisheries Lab at the University of Maine and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute evaluating post-release mortality on commercial-size Atlantic bluefin tuna. Survey data will be used to inform the tagging portion of the study in hopes of capturing a representative set of the rod and reel angling community. Take the survey here.

Piscataquis Observer features Garland in article about seed scratching

27 Feb 2023

In an article about the method of scratching seeds to help them germinate, the Piscataquis Observer quoted Kate Garland, horticultural professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension. “There are certain seeds that have specific requirements to break dormancy. Sometimes seed dormancy can be really complicated depending on the species,” Garland said.

Media features Mitchell Center event with USGS water scientist

27 Feb 2023

The Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine plans to host a free talk, USGS Water Science Centers: Serving Our Communities with Science, at 3 p.m. March 6. Speaker John Bumgarner is the director of the U.S. Geological Survey’s New England Water Science Center. For more information and to register, visit the event webpage.

Portland Press Herald features UMaine hybrid classes

27 Feb 2023

The Portland Press Herald wrote a feature article about hybrid virtual and in-person classes at the University of Maine. The PPH reported that the “increase in online learning has both fans and critics.” “Many of our faculty who taught classes online for the first time during COVID became accustomed to it, enjoyed it and built their schedules around online delivery,” said Jeff St. John, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs with the University of Maine System. Yahoo News and Kennebec Journal shared the PPH report.

Grunge cites UMaine Lobster Institute information about lobster feeding

27 Feb 2023

In an article about lobsters using their feet to taste food, Grunge cited information from the University of Maine Lobster Institute explaining that lobsters eat tough seafood like crabs and mussels by using their claws to rip their prey into pieces and break through tough shells and use its limbs to bring the morsel into the maxillipeds, which can be loosely deemed the lobster’s “mouth.”

Campbell speaks to media about polar health screenings

27 Feb 2023

Seth Campbell, associate professor at the University of Maine School of Earth and Climate Sciences and Climate Change Institute, was quoted by Science and E&E News about unfair practices in the polar Physical Qualification, or PQ, process. The comprehensive medical screening is required for scientists and support staff whose deployment to the Antarctic and Arctic regions is funded by the National Science Foundation. Some researchers said they were disqualified from fieldwork based on medical conditions that their own doctors did not consider large risks, particularly mental health concerns. “I want to make sure the students that I’m working with have a better situation — it seems like there’s been one issue after another in the past few years,” Campbell told Science.

Sandra Caron, professor of sexuality, to be inducted in Maine Women’s Hall of Fame

27 Feb 2023

Sandra Caron, professor of family relations and sexuality at the University of Maine, is the 2023 inductee into the Maine Women’s Hall of Fame. The Maine Women’s Hall of Fame recognizes those whose achievements have had a significant statewide impact, significantly improved the lives of women in Maine, and contributed an enduring value for women. Caron, an Orono resident, is a pioneer in sexuality education, widely known throughout Maine, respected nationally and internationally for her creative teaching and groundbreaking research in sexuality education. Read more on the University of Maine at Augusta website.

Howell receives 2023 Gilbreth Lectureship from National Academy of Engineering

27 Feb 2023

Caitlin Howell, associate professor of biomedical engineering at the University of Maine, was awarded a 2023 Gilbreth Lectureship from the National Academy of Engineering (NAE). NAE established the Gilbreth Lectures in 2001 in honor of Lillian Gilbreth, the first woman elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1965. The lectureship recognizes outstanding young American engineers and provides them with the opportunity to make presentations at NAE’s fall Annual Meetings and spring National Meetings. “I am honored to receive this lectureship and to be able to share my research with such a distinguished group of engineers,” Howell says. Howell’s research focuses on guiding the interactions of biomolecules, micro-organisms and cells using nontoxic, noninvasive surface-based methods to accomplish specific goals. She leads a team of researchers at the UMaine Biointerface and Biomimetics Lab studying different coatings that can help prevent protein deposition that could lead to urinary tract and blood infections. Howell’s lecture at the 2023 NAE conference, which took place Feb. 9, 2023, in Irvine, California, was entitled “Materials-Based Approaches to Prevent Biofilm-Associated Infections.” (Howell’s presentation in the video starts at 54:09.) “Presenting at the NAE annual meeting was an incredible opportunity to engage in insightful discussions with both members and local high school students. I am hopeful that this lectureship will open new doors for collaboration and outreach with us here at UMaine,” Howell says.

Sexuality professor, therapist and author Sandra Caron to be inducted into the Maine Women’s Hall of Fame

27 Feb 2023

Editor's note: Story updated with livestream link. Nationally recognized sexuality professor, therapist and author Sandra Caron is the 2023 inductee into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame. Caron, a longtime professor of family relations and human sexuality at the University of Maine, joins an esteemed list of honorees, starting with Sen. Margaret Chase Smith in 1990 and last year including Julia Kahrl and Jessica Meir. The Maine Women's Hall of Fame recognizes those whose achievements have had a significant statewide impact, significantly improved the lives of women in Maine, and contributed an enduring value for women. A 1 p.m. reception will be followed by an induction ceremony at 2 p.m., March 18 in the Farber Forum, Jewett Hall, University of Maine at Augusta. To attend or for more information, email futuramafound@gmail.org by March 6 with your name, email address, and organization affiliation. The event will be livestreamed: maine.zoom.us/j/87366469936. The Maine Women's Hall of Fame was established in 1990 by the BPW/Maine Futurama Foundation. The induction ceremony is usually held on the third Saturday of March, in observance of Women's History Month. The University of Maine at Augusta maintains a permanent Maine Women's Hall of Fame display of photographs and citations for all honorees in the Bennett D. Katz Library. "It is wonderful to see professor Caron's long career in education, research and advocacy be recognized with her induction into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "Generations of UMaine students and people statewide and beyond know of her pioneering work and dedication to the importance of inclusion for all. The UMaine community extends congratulations to this alumna (UMaine '79, '82G) for this impressive statewide honor." Caron, an Orono resident, is a pioneer in sexuality education, widely known throughout Maine, respected nationally and internationally for her creative teaching and groundbreaking research in sexuality education. Her involvement and contributions to UMaine and in the state have touched countless lives and contributed to inclusivity in communities. Since joining the UMaine faculty in 1988, Caron has taught undergraduate and graduate courses, including the popular undergraduate course in human sexuality. She is also a member of the women's, gender and sexuality studies faculty. In the span of her UMaine career, Caron has taught over 25,000 students. She also has devoted countless hours to projects that advance a more inclusive and socially just society and university community. Her influence is wide-ranging, having mentored hundreds of students from Maine. Caron's research and publications focus on the social-sexual development of young people. She is a licensed clinical professional counselor specializing in sexuality-related issues and has authored several books on sexuality, including "Sex Matters for College Students: Sex FAQs in Human Sexuality" (2nd Edition); "Sex Around the World: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Human Sexuality"; and a children's book, "Birds and Bees and More: How Babies Are Made and Families Form". Her newest book is based on her research over the past 30 years, "The Sex Lives of College Students: Three Decades of Attitudes and Behaviors." Caron received the University of Maine Alumni Association's 2019 Distinguished Maine Professor Award that recognizes the highest qualities of teaching, research and public service. She received UMaine's 1998 Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award and the 2002 Presidential Public Service Award. In 2013, she was recognized by the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center for her lifelong contribution to sexual and reproductive health, and in 1999, she received the Margaret Vaughn award from the Maine Family Planning for her outstanding contribution to sexuality education. Caron received her bachelor's and master's degrees from UMaine, and her Ph.D. from Syracuse University. Caron is a member of the American Association of Sex Educators Counselors and Therapists, and The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Andrew Bustin: capstone work becomes career

28 Feb 2023

Andrew Bustin moved to Portland, Maine, in 2018 for two reasons. One, to pursue his MBA at the University of Maine Graduate School of Business, and two, to experience the world-class food and drinks that Portland is a mecca for. Bustin's background is rich with experiences in national land conservation, sustainability, permaculture, and the local food movement. After five years of working for The Trust for Public Land, building parks, playgrounds, community gardens, and other "land for people" projects, he traveled throughout Southeast Asia to learn about regenerative agriculture and seed saving. Read Bustin's full story on the Maine Business School website. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

UMaine Mitchell Center launches Maine School Cafeteria Food Waste Study

28 Feb 2023

The University of Maine Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions launches its Maine School Cafeteria Food Waste Study pilot this week at four elementary schools in Orono, Buxton, Lisbon and Sebago. According to the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, approximately $5 million of edible food is wasted every school day in the U.S. In many Maine schools, about three-quarters of the waste in school dumpsters is food. At the same time, Maine leads New England in food insecurity with "on average 1 in 4 children at risk for hunger," according to the Maine Department of Education website. The University of Maine School Cafeteria Food Waste Study will address these major issues with a series of student-directed food waste interventions which have been co-developed over the last few months with their Maine public school Nutrition Director partners. "We are very excited about this opportunity to identify effective solutions for reducing food waste while improving student nutrition in Maine schools. By focusing specifically on elementary schools, we hope to teach these young students positive food waste behaviors that will continue through their middle and high school years. We also hope that these young influencers will bring those positive food waste behaviors into their homes," says Susanne Lee, faculty fellow at the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions who is leading the study. Lee also leads projects like the Maine Home Food Waste Challenge targeting home food waste reduction, a statewide food rescue pilot, a Maine community landfill diversion program and the annual Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit held in April. The four pilot elementary schools in the two-month study include Asa C. Adams Elementary School, Buxton Center Elementary School, Lisbon Community School, and Sebago Elementary School. Beginning Monday, Mitchell Center student interns and faculty will host special Food Waste Education Assemblies at the four schools using "What is Food Waste" K–5 slideshow along with student games and activities to help teach food waste solutions that will be put into practice in the school cafeteria. In addition to continuing food waste education, key cafeteria interventions will include signage reminding students to "feed their bodies not the trash bin," a "Share Basket" to enable students to return packaged items they choose not to eat, and a sorting station to help children separate compostable food from trash. "Our school feels very fortunate to be a part of the study," says Morgan Therriault, food service director at Sebago Elementary. "Working together with the UMaine Mitchell Center will broaden our ability to teach students about the harmful economic, social and environmental impact of wasted food, a much-needed elementary school topic. I foresee a positive outcome for our Food Service Department, and an educational impact that will last a lifetime for our students." Researchers are also tracking daily food waste quantities and conducting detailed pre- and post-study food waste audits in order to measure the impact of these food waste interventions. "Collecting daily food waste data is incredibly important for our team to assess whether our solutions to reduce food waste are actually working. In addition, the students are also very excited to see how they are doing, so we will use the data to create a fun and motivational feedback loop for them as well," says Eddie Nachamie, the Mitchell Center student intern in charge of the School Food Waste Study. The Maine School Cafeteria Food Waste Study is developed in collaboration with the Maine Department of Education and the Department of Health & Human Services as well as the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The study is supported by a Sustainability Seed Grant from the Natural Resources Council of Maine. AgriCycle Energy will provide food waste recycling services to pilot schools. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Singers & Alumni Spring Concert: Celebrating Dennis Cox scheduled for March 25

01 Mar 2023

Over 170 University of Maine Singers alumni, families and friends from across the U.S., Europe and Canada will join current University of Maine Singers in their spring 2023 concert celebrating longtime director emeritus Dennis Cox on Saturday, March 25, 7:30 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts at the University of Maine. Hosted by the University of Maine School of Performing Arts, in partnership with the Collins Center for the Arts and the UMaine Alumni Association, the event will celebrate the artistic and professional excellence of the University Singers for 35 years under the direction of Dennis Cox, professor emeritus of music, and continuing under current conductor Fran Vogt. Cox — or "D.C," as he is called by the UMaine Singers — helped create the powerful experience of friendship, camaraderie and sense of belonging for hundreds of students over his tenure. He led the UMaine Singers in concert tours throughout the eastern U.S., Canada and Europe, as well as at Carnegie Hall and American Choral Director Association Conventions, and collaborations with the Symphony Orchestras in Maine and in Europe. UMaine Singers alumni have gone on to be outstanding and successful leaders in the arts as conductors, music educators, directors, performers, musical vocal rehabilitation therapists and more. The final combined pieces at the 2023 UMaine Singers & Alumni Spring Concert will be directed by Cox. General admission tickets are $12, or free with a student MaineCard. To register and for more information about the concert, visit the Collins Center website. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact cca@maine.edu. The University of Maine Foundation holds the Dr. Dennis K. Cox Fund to support University of Maine Singers. To make a gift: our.umaine.edu/denniscoxfund.

UMaine to conduct first national assessment of seafood marketing practices

01 Mar 2023

The University of Maine, with funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and NOAA Fisheries, is launching the first-ever national assessment of seafood marketing practices in the United States. The American Seafood Harvesters Marketing Practices Survey aims to bring attention to the role that seafood harvesters play in the nation's food systems and, eventually, inform future investments in the sector. The survey being released in March 2023 is designed for any seafood harvester or business in the U.S. that participates in a state or federal commercial fishery and sells at least a portion of their catch directly to consumers, restaurants or institutions, or sells to dealers who identify them as the harvester. The survey, which is being mailed to 6,600 harvesters, follows an initial round of research that was conducted in 2021 and showed that 11% of all seafood harvesters in the United States directly market their catch. While the commercial fishing sector in the U.S. is critically important to the economy, food security and cultural identity of many coastal communities, seafood often remains poorly integrated into efforts to strengthen local and domestic food systems. One reason for this is that, in contrast to the agricultural sector, there isn't data on how seafood harvesters market their catch and therefore it is an invisible part of the food system. "We often talk about how important data are for fisheries conservation and management. Data are also important for describing our nation's food systems and ensuring that seafood is part of the discussion," says Joshua Stoll, UMaine assistant professor of marine policy and principal investigator of the study. The USDA has been collecting data about where farmers sell their harvest since 1976 through the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act. These data have helped to inform USDA's investment in local and regional food systems, including in the allocation of $133 million to small- and mid-sized farming operations in FY23 through the Farmers Market Promotion Program and the Local Food Promotion Program. Data from the American Seafood Harvesters Marketing Practices Survey will help bring visibility to the scale and diversity of direct marketing practices and, in the future, may inform future investments, help develop targeted technical support and identify impacts of new regulations on the commercial seafood sector in the United States. Additionally, collecting data will help inform fishermen, researchers and policy-makers about the state of direct marketing efforts and the characteristics of those consumers and marketers. "This work helps unpack the different pathways seafood takes from our oceans to the final consumer. Understanding these pathways document the benefits to the nation of U.S. fisheries in terms of food production and food security and contribute to the NOAA National Seafood Strategy. This project also leverages strengths of the three organizations: USDA's valuable experience in alternative marketing practices survey work; University of Maine's, through their Local Catch Network, contacts and continued engagement with local fishing businesses around the country; and NOAA Fisheries' understanding of fisheries and seafood data," says Sarah Shoffler, one of the NOAA Fisheries leads on the survey project. The survey period will be open from March to June 2023. Eligible entities will receive a postcard in the mail informing them about the survey, and will also receive a survey form with an individual ID and a link to access the survey online. If there are entities that didn't receive a postcard but believe they should have, contact Advani at sahir.advani@maine.edu. A webinar providing information about the aims and structure of the survey is being organized on March 29, 2023 at 12 PM ET (9 AM PT). The preregistration link for the webinar is: bit.ly/Webinar-Seafood-Survey Contact: Joshua Stoll, joshua.stoll@maine.edu

World Learning's Global Gazette features UMaine partnership

01 Mar 2023

The Global Gazette, an online publication for the study abroad program World Learning, featured its partnership with the University of Maine and interviewed Orlina Boteva, director of the Office of International Programs at University of Maine. UMaine is currently hosting three students through World Learning's Global Undergraduate Exchange, or UGRAD. "I have very fond memories of Global UGRAD students who have studied at UMaine over the years. I stay in touch with quite a few of them. The students are always so outgoing and eager to learn, try new things and share their experiences with others," Boteva said.

Media share UMaine Mitchell Center cafeteria food waste study

01 Mar 2023

News Center Maine, the Penobscot Bay Pilot and Food Service Director reported that the University of Maine Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions launched its Maine School Cafeteria Food Waste Study pilot this week at four elementary schools in Orono, Buxton, Lisbon and Sebago. The University of Maine School Cafeteria Food Waste Study will address these major issues with a series of student-directed food waste interventions which have been co-developed over the last few months with their Maine public school Nutrition Director partners.

WABI covers UMaine State of the University

01 Mar 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy's annual State of the University address. Ferrini-Mundy highlighted UMaine's accomplishments over the last year, from athletics to 3D-printed homes, as well as current challenges, like potential declining enrollments, rising costs and aging infrastructure. WBRC-TV (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama), WLOX-TV (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi) and KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) shared the WABI report.

Cammen featured on Maine Calling show about seals

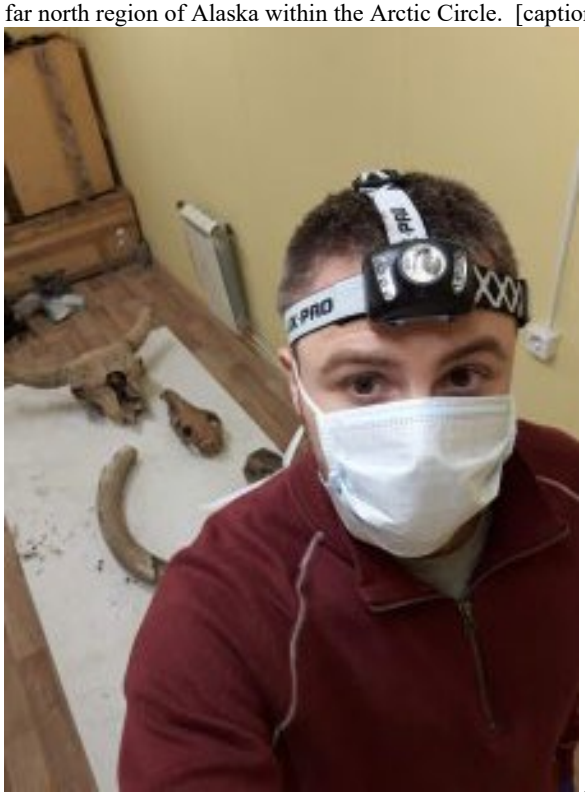
01 Mar 2023

Kristina Cammen, assistant professor at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, was a panelist on Maine Public's show Maine Calling for an episode about how to help stranded seals and the health of Maine's seal population.

Mereghetti to study how megaherbivore diversity affects Arctic vegetation

01 Mar 2023

Determining how the diversity of plant-eating megafauna has affected vegetation in the Arctic over the past 150,000 years will be the focus of a new University of Maine study funded by the National Science Foundation. Alessandro Mereghetti, a UMaine Ph.D. student in ecology and environmental sciences, received a $56,118 Arctic Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant from NSF for his project. These grants are designed to support studies "that advance a fundamental, process and systems-level understanding of the Arctic's rapidly changing natural environment and social and cultural systems, and, where appropriate, to improve our capacity to project future change," according to NSF. Megaherbivores such as caribou, bison and muskoxen promote nutrient cycling, plant growth and diversity in the Arctic by foraging and trampling across the region. As a result, these animals also reduce interspecies competition between plants, permafrost thaw and shrubification, all of which can help protect Arctic vegetation from the effects of climate change. The Arctic was once home to a larger variety of megaherbivore species, including woolly mammoths, wild horses, woolly rhinoceroses and cold-adapted antelope, until the end of the last ice age, at which point the majority of them became extinct. Through his latest study, Mereghetti hopes to find out whether having a more diverse pool of megaherbivores thousands of years ago — as opposed to only a few species today — provided Arctic vegetation greater stability and resilience to climate change at the time. Examining the extent of megaherbivore influence on Arctic plant life in the past could help scientists better understand present dynamics, particularly as some scientists suggest reintroducing certain megaherbivores to the region as a possible manage vegetation, permafrost thaw and carbon emissions, Mereghetti says. "Learning how northern ecosystems worked in the past can give us clues on new management strategies to address the challenging future in front of us," says Mereghetti, who collaborates with Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology with the UMaine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute. Mereghetti's study will focus on Squirrel Lake, located in the far north region of Alaska within the Arctic Circle. [caption id="attachment_95986" align="alignright" width="375"]



Alessandro Mereghetti stands beside a mammoth tusk and the skulls of a steppe bison and horse in a room in Yakutsk, Republic of Sakha, in 2019.[/caption] The area was part of what was once the most extensive biome on the planet: the mammoth steppe. It stretched across most of Europe, Siberia, Alaska and Canada's Yukon, until it disappeared 10,000 years ago. Mergehetti says biological diversity of the mammoth steppe, which is also referred to as the "Serengeti of the ice age," and its persistence through millendia of climatic and ecological transitions make it a "model system for understanding megaherbivore impacts on Arctic plant communities under climate change." In the summer, Mereghetti will excavate sediment cores from Squirrel Lake to analyze the ancient DNA, plant macrofossils, fungal spores and pollen within them. He also plans to create a database of existing georeferenced and radiocarbon-dated megaherbivore remains from Alaska to support his research. With both the new core samples and the database, Mereghetti will create a high resolution chronology of Arctic plant and megafauna diversity over the past 50,000 years in Squirrel Lake. The chronology will inform Mereghetti of how megaherbivore variety changed over time, how that relates to plant composition and which species may have been important for maintaining past Arctic ecosystem properties. It will be the "first long-term, high resolution record of species-level herbivore diversity, vegetation composition and climate from a record that spans two interglacial warm periods," Mereghetti says. "Having access to such a long, high-resolution record of biodiversity and environmental change in the Arctic will not only allow us to improve our knowledge of the past, but also to better understand our present and

be more aware of what could happen in the future," Mereghetti says. The data gathered from the project will be used to create educational materials about ice age ecosystems and how they changed over time for rural middle schools in Alaska and Maine. These materials included a virtual reality game that's already in development as part of another UMaine project, and 3D-printed dioramas displaying the evolution of plant and animal life in Squirrel Lake overtime. Mereghetti also plans to specifically share his research with various communities in the Kotzebue region of northern Alaska, where Squirrel Lake is located, and create exhibits and classroom kits for them. In addition to investigating the relationship between megaherbivore diversity and arctic vegetation, Mereghetti has been analyzing fossilized feces from Siberia, Russia to find out which animals lived there more than 20,000 years ago, what plants they ate and how they interacted with the landscape over millennia. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Undergraduate Responsible Conduct of Research Training available through March 31

01 Mar 2023

The University of Maine Office of Research Compliance will be offering online Responsible Conduct of Research Training for undergraduate students on Brightspace from Wednesday, March 1, to Friday, March 31. Completion of this training is required for students participating in research sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and/or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA). Students who complete the training will receive a certificate of completion valid for four years. More information and a link to enroll is available one the Office of Research Compliance website.

Nominations for Foster Center Innovation Awards extended to March 10

02 Mar 2023

Nominations have been extended for the Foster Center Innovation Awards, a recognition and celebration of the students, faculty, staff and alumni who are making entrepreneurial or social impact solutions a reality in Maine and beyond. This is the second year the Foster Center will host the Innovation Awards in the categories described below. Community nominations will close on Friday, March 10, at 5 p.m. Awards include:

- The Doug Hall Alumni Award (named for Doug Hall '81, founder of Eureka! Ranch and co-inventor of the Innovation Engineering curriculum first taught at UMaine and adopted by educational institutions in the U.S. and the world) honors an alumnus who is recognized for innovation-driven social, cultural or economic impact in Maine and beyond. Eligible recipients must have graduated from the University of Maine.
- The Impressive Innovator Award is presented to a University of Maine student who has developed innovative solutions leading to social, cultural, or economic impact on campus or in the wider world. Eligible recipients must be current UMaine students (any level).

To submit a nomination, fill out the online form. For more details on the awards visit the Foster Center website. University of Maine System faculty and staff may be nominated for the inaugural Presidential Innovation Award. Eligible nominees are those who have translated research discoveries and scholarly activity into products or services that have resulted in economic impact or significant social and cultural benefit in Maine and beyond. Nomination forms for Presidential awards and their criteria can be found online. Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony at the Foster Center on the evening of April 13, 2023, as part of Maine Impact Week.

BDN, Horsetalk.co.nz share UMaine megafauna study

02 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Horsetalk.co.nz reported on a University of Maine study funded by the National Science Foundation will seek to understand the effect of megafauna grazing on plant diversity in the Arctic over the past 150,000 years. Alessandro Meregehetti, a University of Maine Ph.D. student in ecology and environmental sciences, received a $56,118 Arctic Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant from the National Science Foundation for the project.

Talty pens essay for The Guardian about dimples and family

02 Mar 2023

Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, wrote an essay for The Guardian about how dimples connect him, his deceased mother and unborn child.

Media share UMaine woodcock study

02 Mar 2023

In a column about the American woodcock, the Ellsworth American and Piscataquis Observer highlighted a study of the woodcock's migration habits and patterns by the University of Maine. The data is available on the project website.

Eason speaks to Inside Edition about weather balloon research project

02 Mar 2023

Rick Eason, associate professor emeritus of electrical engineering at the University of Maine, was interviewed by Inside Edition about balloon hobbyists and a weather balloon experiment he conducted along with hobbyist John Garesche with seventh graders in Ohio. The interview is available on Inside Edition's YouTube channel.

Parsons to present at Gold Humanism Honor Society Well-Being Workshop Series April 10

02 Mar 2023

Kayla Parsons, registered dietitian nutritionist, a second-year Ph.D. student at the University of Maine, and Graduate Assistant on UMaine School of Nursing's WellNurse research study, was invited to participate in the national Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) Well-Being Workshop Series on April 10 at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. Parson's workshop, "Eat Well to Test Well," is designed to mimic a cooking show, ideally with five groups of three, each group working together to create delicious, healthy and accessible recipes. It was initially developed for nursing students to help improve diet quality and nutrition knowledge through a gamified cooking-based workshop, leading to improved academic success and other health behaviors. The workshop was modified to expand support for students studying in the field of health sciences. The workshop will be held in person at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine's St. Francis Room at 5:30-6:40pm ET. The 2023 GHHS Well-being Workshops are all free and open to all healthcare professionals and students. For questions, reach out to Louisa Tvito at ltvito@gold-foundation.org. Register for the event here: https://www.gold-foundation.org/events/eat-well-to-test-well-2/

'The Maine Question' asks what role libraries play in the digital age

02 Mar 2023

Libraries are vital resources for many communities, and their services have evolved over time with the advent of new technology and needs. The University of Maine Raymond H. Fogler Library, a more than 150-year-old institution and the largest research library in the state, has adopted several new offerings in recent years to meet the demands of students, faculty and the general public in the digital age. In this week's episode of "The Maine Question," Daisy Domínguez Singh, dean of libraries at UMaine, discusses the latest developments in library services, including those at Fogler, and the role these repositories for knowledge and entertainment play in 2023. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Learn to grow your own shiitakes with Franklin County Extension

03 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a workshop on shiitake mushroom production on Wednesday, April 5, 5:30–7 p.m., at Franklin County Extension Office, 138 Pleasant St., Farmington. The workshop is for anyone interested in learning how mushrooms grow or how to grow their own. Nick Rowley, Extension sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional, will discuss mushroom production for small farms and demonstrate the process of inoculating mushrooms. Suggested donation is $10. Visit the website to register. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Tiffany Wing, 207.778.4650; tiffany.wing@maine.edu.

CentralMaine.com shares Chatfield event about wood turtles

03 Mar 2023

CentralMaine.com shared that Matthew Chatfield, assistant professor of evolution and eco-health, will present as part of the Center for Wildlife Studies' Wild Maine series at the Camden Public Library at 6:30 p.m. March 9. Chatfield will discuss the natural history of wood turtles and some of the approaches that he and his colleagues are using to study and conserve the species. This hybrid event will take place in person in the Picker Room at the 55 Main St. library, as well as virtually on Zoom. To find the Zoom registration link, visit librarycamden.org.

Sun Journal shares call for UMaine Extension volunteers

03 Mar 2023

The Sun Journal reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Franklin County is looking for volunteers for its 4-H programs, which have seen increased popularity in the wake of COVID-19. To become a volunteer, visit the UMaine Extension website.

Beal, Wahle speak to PPH about farming lobster

03 Mar 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Brian Beal and Rick Wahle about the potential to farm lobster in Maine. Beal stated that according to his research, lobsters can be farmed economically. "The reason why there is nothing going on is that the fishery doesn't want it to happen. They think it will negatively affect their bottom line. It's all about money. And they want to keep the money within the fishery," Beal said. In contrast, Wahle said that farming lobsters is economically unfeasible given the cost of food, heat, space and maintenance. "To my knowledge that was the only documented effort to raise lobster from hatchling to market size entirely in captivity," Wahle told the PPH.

Maine Public reports on UMaine logging study

03 Mar 2023

In an article about Maine loggers leaving the industry, Maine Public cited a new University of Maine study that found the state's logging industry supported fewer jobs and generated less economic output and labor income in 2021, compared to the five years prior.

Moeykens to serve on EPSCOR/IDeA Foundation Board of Directors

03 Mar 2023

Shane Moeykens has been nominated and accepted to serve on the EPSCoR/IDeA Foundation Board of Directors. The national nonprofit strives to increase the quality of research and research capacity within EPSCoR/IDeA jurisdictions like Maine. Moeykens will help grow science and technology enterprises

across the United States through improvements to university research infrastructure and jurisdictions' research competitiveness. Moeykens joined Maine EPSCoR in 2015 after serving in a senior management role in the engineering software sector, and prior work in the nuclear power, environmental engineering and HVAC sectors. Moeykens is the Maine EPSCoR director and the director of Advanced Research Computing, Security, and Information Management (ARCSIM) at the University of Maine. He was nominated to the board by the Brian Whitney, president of the Maine Technology Institute.

LeClair's presentation at Sweetland School noted in Courier-Gazette

06 Mar 2023

The Courier-Gazette featured an upcoming presentation about Amphibian Big Night by University of Maine Ph.D. student Greg, LeClair hosted by the Stewardship Education Alliance and Sweetland School, at 2 p.m. March 12.

VillageSoup advances facilitation training at Hutchinson Center

06 Mar 2023

The VillageSoup advanced the University of Maine Hutchinson Center's upcoming facilitation skills training program. Strengthening Your Facilitation Skills will be held from 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. May 5, 19 and June 2 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. More information is available on the Hutchinson Center website.

Media highlight donation to NorthStar program

06 Mar 2023

The Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension's NorthStar 4-H Youth Mentoring program received a $120,000 donation from Norway Savings Bank.

VillageSoup promotes nonviolent communication workshop

06 Mar 2023

The VillageSoup promoted an upcoming professional development program offered by the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast about nonviolent communication in classroom settings. The in-person program will be held from 9 a.m.–2 p.m. April 28. More information available on the Hutchinson Center website.

Media advance shiitake mushroom growing workshop

06 Mar 2023

The Daily Bulldog, Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com advanced a University of Maine Cooperative Extension workshop about shiitake mushroom production from 5:30–7 p.m. on April 5 at Franklin County Extension Office, 138 Pleasant St., Farmington. More information is available on the UMaine Extension website.

BDN promotes Concert for a Cause

06 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News promoted the upcoming Concert for a Cause, to be performed by the University of Maine Concert Band in partnership with Leonard Middle School and Reeds Brook Middle School to benefit a local charity. This year's beneficiary will be the Bangor Humane Society. The concert will be held at 7 p.m. March 7 at the Collins Center for the Arts.

New UMaine educator featured in Livermore Falls Advertiser

06 Mar 2023

The Livermore Falls Advertiser featured a story about Bella Russo, a new education assistant with University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Franklin County. Her work focuses on the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. Russo said "the job does center around things that I'm pretty passionate about, like community health, food justice and food access, which for me all reasonably fall under the category of agriculture, which is my passion and something that really, really excites and engages me."

Garland discusses trap cropping with BDN

06 Mar 2023

Kate Garland, horticultural professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke with the Bangor Daily News about trap cropping, a technique in which people use certain plants in their gardens and fields that attract pests and steer them away from more desirable crops, flowers, produce and other vegetation. "Trap cropping comes under the umbrella of companion planting," Garland said. "This is when you plant different crops together that benefit each other — trap cropping is one of those approaches of intercropping."

Former UMaine administrator F. Philip Dufour passes

06 Mar 2023

A memorial service for F. Philip Dufour, a former University of Maine administrator who passed away on Feb. 20, will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 1 at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church, 7 Union St., Camden. Dufor held many positions with the university from the late 1960s to 1991, including director of technical services, director of sponsored programs, interim vice president of research and public service, assistant vice president of research and public service and assistant vice president of business, industry and government relations. His obituary is available online.

Saros named 2023 Fulbright Distinguished Arctic Scholar

07 Mar 2023

Jasmine Saros, professor of paleolimnology and lake ecology at the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and the Climate Change Institute, has been named the 2023 Fulbright Distinguished Arctic Scholar, one of most prestigious appointments in the Fulbright Scholar Program. The 2023 Fulbright Distinguished Arctic Scholar award supports research and teaching within areas that are relevant to understanding of the Arctic and High North regions. Scholars are expected to engage with faculty inside and outside the host institution, give public lectures and lead seminars, as well as supervise and mentor master's and Ph.D. candidates. From Sept. 1 through early December, Saros will study Arctic freshwater security in collaboration with Western Norway University of Applied Sciences. Saros' research will focus on newly formed glacially fed lakes near the Jostedal Glacier and above the Arctic Circle in Norway to better understand their role in biogeochemical cycles and the hazards presented by the systems. With rapid glacial recession, more than 360 new glacially fed lakes have formed in the last 20 years in Norway. "Glacial lakes are broadly important across the Arctic. Recent studies quantifying the widespread growth of glacial lakes in Norway underscore the importance of these systems for Arctic freshwater security, and how they can serve as a model of glacial lake patterns and processes more broadly," says Saros. Jacob Yde, professor at the Western Norway University of Applied Sciences Department of Environmental Sciences, will be Saros' host for the duration of the appointment. Ansley Grider, one of Saros' graduate students in the National Science Foundation Systems Approaches to Understanding and Navigating the New Arctic (SAUNNA) National Research Traineeship (NRT) program, will assist with the research as part of her thesis. Saros will also facilitate a graduate seminar that will connect the UMaine Arctic Research Forum, a graduate seminar held every fall, with students in Norway. "I am excited to join a community of Fulbright scholars focused on fostering cooperation and collaboration across countries, and to have the opportunity to conduct research and teaching along with my Norwegian colleagues," says Saros, who co-leads the international working group, the Kangerlussuaq International Research Network (KaIRN), that focuses on recent climate-driven environmental changes in the West Greenland ice sheet, and terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Memorials to be held for Ngo Vinh Long at Harvard, UMaine

07 Mar 2023

Two memorial events will be held this spring to honor the life and scholarship of Professor Ngo Vinh Long, who died this past October after a brief illness. On March 17, 3–5 p.m., friends and colleagues of Ngo Vinh Long will have a celebration of his life, work and legacy during the Asian Studies Association Conference at Harvard-Yenching Library, 2 Divinity Ave., Boston. The University of Maine History Department is helping to sponsor this event. Among those speaking will be three members of the UMaine community. On April 20, noon–3 p.m., the Socialist-Marxist Luncheon Series at UMaine will have a program on Long, followed by a reception sponsored by the History Department. More details on this event are forthcoming. Both events will also be offered via Zoom. If you wish to attend the event at Harvard-Yenching Library either in person or via Zoom, register at forms.gle/sn87RV6P6qwUEEik9, or send an email to ngovinhlong.celebration@gmail.com.

BDN shares UMaine Singers and Alumni Spring Concert

07 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that over 170 University of Maine Singers alumni, families and friends from across the U.S., Europe and Canada will join current University of Maine Singers in their Spring 2023 concert celebrating longtime director emeritus Dennis Cox on Saturday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts at the University of Maine. To purchase tickets and for more information about the concert, visit the Collins Center website.

Media report on Talty winning 2023 PEN America Literary Award

07 Mar 2023

Literary Hub and Book Riot reported that Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, was awarded the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize for Debut Short Story Collection for his book, "Night of the Living Rez."

Media report on a bill to help University of Maine System students with tuition

07 Mar 2023

Maine Public, News Center Maine, CentralMaine.com, Q106.5 FM, WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland), WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and WMTW-TV (Channel 8 in Portland) reported on bill, L.D. 512, a bill that would provide 50% tuition vouchers to Maine residents who get a high school diploma between 2023 and 2025, live in Maine at the time they enroll in a University of Maine System school, pursue a degree full time during those years, and maintain at least a 2.0 GPA from their sophomore through senior years. "A four-year degree and academic enrichment should not be available only to those who are financially well off. It should be available to all Mainers," Jim McClymer, a UMaine physics professor and faculty union president, told CentralMaine.com. WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the WGME report. The Bangor Daily News shared the Maine Public report. Forbes and Diverse Issues in Higher Education cited the WMTW report. Yahoo News shared the PPH report.

Ortega-Jimenez presented at APS March Meeting in Las Vegas

07 Mar 2023

Victor Ortega-Jimenez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology and biomechanics, presented at the American Physical Society (APS) March Meeting in Las Vegas, Nev., on March 6. Ortega-Jimenez's presentation, "Fatal attraction: Electrostatic forces pull jumping nematodes directly to their charged prey," was with former colleagues at Georgia Tech, Sunny Kumar and Saad Bhamla.

UMaine earns Military Friendly School designation

08 Mar 2023

The University of Maine has been designated a 2023–2024 Military Friendly School and ranked among the top performers nationwide in veteran student support and success during and after college. Military Friendly School designations, administered by the veteran-owned business VIQTORY, are granted to colleges and universities that have high retention, graduation and job placement rates among veterans and other students. More than 1,800 schools participated in the 2023-2024 survey, according to VIQTORY. UMaine also received a silver rank in the Tier 1 research institution category, meaning it scored within 20 percent of the 10th-ranked Military Friendly School in the nation for that category. "Receiving this designation validates all of the work our UMaine community puts towards being a welcoming and inclusive place for veterans and their families," says Tony Llerena, associate director of the UMaine Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) Center. The VETS Center, located in Room 161 of the Memorial Union, is the key provider of services to student veterans at UMaine. The center serves student veterans as they apply to, attend and advance beyond the university. It connects student veterans with the resources they need to successfully transition from combat to classroom to career. This includes help navigating the admissions process, applying for financial aid and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, academic assistance and preparing to re-enter the workforce.

Institute of Medicine offering summer research fellowships for Ph.D. students in biomedical research

08 Mar 2023

Faculty interested in recruiting full-time Ph.D. students to assist with their biomedical research can apply for summer research fellowships offered by the University of Maine Institute of Medicine. The institute will offer up to five awards of $7,000 each for a stipend, graduate credit hour and health insurance for the summer months. Projects supported by these fellowships can pertain to the biological sciences, biomedical engineering and clinical research. Applications are due by March 17. By providing summer research fellowships, the institute aims to assist faculty members who may generate new grant proposals for research funding from federal agencies. Visit the institute's website for more information.

Proposals sought for seed grants for health, life science research

08 Mar 2023

The University of Maine Institute of Medicine is seeking proposals for internal seed grants that will support research projects in the health and life science fields. Full-time faculty members from UMaine and the University of Maine at Machias can apply for funding to support their projects, which must pertain to some aspect of mental health, by April 17. Up to three grants with a maximum budget of $20,000 will be awarded. The projects should involve collecting preliminary data or developing a proof of concept that will lead to the submission of a related significant proposal by July 2024. Visit the Institute of Medicine website for more information.

Fogler Library to host online Publish and Thrive Challenge March 20–24

08 Mar 2023

The University of Maine Fogler Library and Writing Center will host the online Publish and Thrive Challenge March 20–24. This online, asynchronous program is open to all, with particular relevance for graduate students and early career scholars. Each day, for five days, participants will receive an email with brief tasks designed to build publishing acumen and confidence by identifying venues to publish and present your work, explore the process of responding to calls for proposals in both academic and popular presses, examine your rights as an author, and increase the overall visibility of your work. Participants will also have an opportunity to share their insights and experiences with other participants, and hear from UMaine faculty, graduate students, and local authors publishing and presenting across a wide range of disciplines and genres. Additionally, student participants will be invited to a practice presentation in the Writing Center on April 5, nearly two weeks before UMaine's Student Symposium. Symposium participants are encouraged to use this Publish and Thrive Challenge to prepare their scholarly work for this symposium. RSVP for the challenge here. For questions or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jen Bonnet at jenbonnet@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host talk on innovations in food waste reduction March 20

08 Mar 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Stepping up to the Plate: Innovations in Food Waste Reduction" on Monday, March 20 at 3 p.m. Wasted food is a solvable challenge that could lead to positive environmental and social impacts, and there is a wide range of solutions that are ripe for adoption that can help us achieve our national and international goals of cutting food waste by 50% by 2030. ReFED's Angel Veza will discuss some of the current barriers to food waste reduction faced by individuals and companies, the latest innovations designed to address these barriers, and what's needed to help these solutions grow their impact. ReFED is a national nonprofit dedicated to ending food loss and waste across the U.S. food system. Angel Veza serves as their senior manager of capital, innovation, and engagement, working to catalyze adoption of top food waste solutions. She originally worked in the education field teaching underserved communities. After working with students for seven years, Veza received her Grande Diplome at the French Culinary Institute and worked through New York City's top restaurants, including Morimoto, two Michelin-starred Atera and foodservice companies like Compass Group. During that time, she witnessed the significant amount of food being wasted in the hospitality industry and decided to work with the Food Waste team at World Wildlife Fund. As an expansion of that, she worked in supply chain and led strategic sourcing and procurement with a focus on food waste reduction at Manhatta Restaurant, part of Danny Meyer's Union Square Hospitality Group in New York City. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable

accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196 or hallsworth@maine.edu.

Sun Journal reports on Knight swine workshop

08 Mar 2023

The Sun Journal reported that Colt Knight, state livestock specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, offered a class on raising pigs on Friday, March 3. One notable breed that Knight touched upon was the mangalitsa pig, a breed known for its extreme tufts of hair. This breed was one of the reasons Knight started these Swine 101 classes. According to Knight, he had received several phone calls from pig farmers concerned that their mangalitsa pigs were dying after an "unscrupulous breeder" sold mangalitsa pigs inaccurately claiming that they did not need to be fed, and they were capable of living off grass like cows.

Lilley speaks to PPH about maple sap runs

08 Mar 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Jason Lilley, sustainable agriculture and maple professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about this year's promising maple sap run, which might yield above-average quantities for some producers. Lilley said producers in southern Maine and along the coast have enjoyed a few weeks of early runs, and the sap quality from those runs have been "fairly average." Drought conditions the state suffered last summer don't seem to be impacting the sap right now, but because the state has now seen several years of extended droughts, he and his team are working closely with producers to monitor sap quality and identify any areas where groups of trees might be showing signs of stress and decline during the growing season. "We do not expect to see any differences in sap yield or sugar content that we would be able to correlate with last year's drought," Lilley said. Yahoo News shared the PPH report.

Washington Post shares UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data about Greenland

08 Mar 2023

The Washington Post used data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer in an article about record temperatures in Greenland early this week, which were up to 50 degrees above normal in some places.

Maine Public reports on UMaine forest modeling study

08 Mar 2023

Maine Public reported on a forest modeling study conducted by researchers from the University of Maine, the New England Forestry Foundation and the U.S. Forest Service. The study shows that Maine's commercial forest landowners could increase annual carbon storage by at least 20% over the next 60 years while maintaining timber harvest levels. The findings are timely as the demand for carbon offset projects accelerates. WBUR and Timberline Magazine shared the Maine Public report.

BDN shares how UMaine students get vote over spring break

08 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared information about how UMaine students can vote in Orono's election over spring break. Orono voters can still cast an absentee ballot at Orono's town office before 5:30 p.m. on March 9.

UMaine researchers present at Aquaculture America conference

08 Mar 2023

Deborah Bouchard and Meggan Dwyer from the University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute (ARI) chaired a session about Maine's aquaculture sector at Aquaculture America, the largest national aquaculture conference, Feb. 23–26 in New Orleans. Speakers from the University of Maine, Educate Maine, the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Long Cove Sea Farms, Colby College, and the University of New Hampshire demonstrated the multidisciplinary work, from UMaine's microcredential pathway to using pheromones as a means to control sea lice. The session also highlighted workforce development projects such as the Maine Aquaculture Apprenticeship Program, Aquaculture Pioneers, and the Aquaculture Experiential Opportunities for Undergraduate Students (AquEOUS). Qiujie Zheng, assistant professor of business analytics at the University of Maine, presented a study about why understanding consumer attitudes toward seaweed and value-added products is crucial for farmers and expanding Maine's seaweed market. Adam St. Gelais, aquaculture innovation specialist with ARI, discussed macroalgae carbon dioxide removal through the first of its kind "Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment," with the integration of both social and economic analysis. Assistant Professor of Fish Nutrition and Nutrigenomics Michael Habtetsion presented successful results from his research looking into sustainable feed development using insects as an alternative to fish meal for Atlantic salmon. Bobby Harrington, a research associate at ARI, presented about work testing for naturally occurring compounds present in recirculating aquaculture systems which can result in an "off-flavor" of the fish tissue. Bobby Morefield, a current Ph.D. candidate, presented work looking at pheromones as means for pest management, with the idea of having a drug free and environmentally friendly means to control for sea lice in aquaculture systems.

UMaine's Entsminger leads USDA-funded study about rural communities' needs

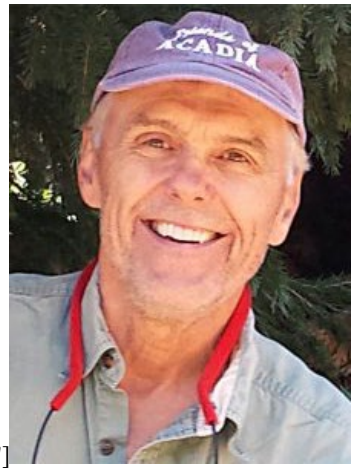
08 Mar 2023

A national study published last week, led by a now University of Maine assistant professor and small business specialist, identifies critical investments needed to build community capacity and improve quality of life in rural America. Results showed a need to increase collaboration, inform decision making through research, involve local underrepresented groups and build climate and economic resilience. The study was conducted by the nation's four Regional Rural

Development Centers (RRDCs), which link the research and capacity of regional land grant universities with local decision makers to address a wide range of rural development issues. It was led by Jason Entsminger, assistant professor of entrepreneurship and innovation and state Extension specialist for small business at the Maine Business School and University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The report, “Investing in Rural Capacity: Comprehensive Summary of National Rural Development Stakeholder Listening Sessions,” summarizes results from the initiative's eight virtual listening sessions, which convened stakeholders to identify rural development investments they viewed as the highest priorities for U.S. rural communities. Entsminger led the RRDC team’s efforts in his previous role as associate director of the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development, and continued to provide leadership for drafting the final report after joining the University of Maine in September 2022. “In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, rural communities found themselves at a critical juncture, right as new resources for recovery are becoming available via Federal and state programs,” says Entsminger. “As a community of practice, we needed to rapidly identify where investments might be made to leverage rural communities’ assets, while strengthening their capacity to take advantage of emerging opportunities.” Four of the listening sessions were conducted nationally, each focusing on an issue of widespread importance: broadband and the digital divide; rural innovation and entrepreneurship; workforce development, training and education; and community planning, leadership and governance. The other four listening sessions were conducted regionally, focusing on issues of regional importance. The dialogues were facilitated by Cooperative Extension professionals from 20 land grant universities. Participants represented a wide range of stakeholders, including land grant universities, nonprofits and government agencies. In the sessions, they identified the need to support and increase collaborative efforts across disciplinary, organizational, and geographic boundaries; inform decision making through place-based and community-engaged research and best practices; involve underserved groups and pursue greater equity; and build climate and related economic resilience into local, regional, and national planning. “The incredible work done by Dr. Entsminger and his colleagues highlight the importance of understanding context in identifying and actualizing entrepreneurial opportunities. Rural communities are often overlooked and have unique needs for workforce development and entrepreneurship support. Leveraging the insights from this report, universities and business schools can develop new educational opportunities that connect students with communities to make an impact,” says Jason Harkins, interim executive dean of the Maine Business School. The report provides eight overview summaries — one for each of the national topics explored during the listening sessions, and one for each of the four geographic regions. It also integrates additional qualitative data from a national survey conducted in fall 2021, building on the survey’s quantitative findings published in October 2021. The entire report, as well as topic-specific and region-specific sections of the report, are available for download on the RRDC website. “Thanks to Jason [Entsminger]’s dedicated efforts, we were able to organize listening sessions and gather and analyze an enormous amount of stakeholder input in a record amount of time,” says Stephan Goetz, director of the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development at Penn State University. “The information is now readily available to community and other leaders in the form of easy-to-navigate dashboards.” The report will be used by practitioners, decision makers and government agencies to inform where programmatic efforts and resources may be most effective in tackling key issues facing rural communities. “The rapid assessment we completed as part of this initiative gives decision makers at all levels — from federal and state agencies to universities to local communities — a starting point for action,” says Entsminger. “Our findings are driving continuing conversations about where we can take action now to maintain vibrant rural life, and make rural communities resilient spaces to live and work.” Contact: Melissa Arndt, melissa.arndt@maine.edu

Fogler Library receives the W. Kent Olson Conservation Papers

09 Mar 2023

[caption id="attachment_96099" align="alignright" width="223"] 

Ken Olson[/caption] Conservationist and author Ken Olson has donated his professional papers to Fogler Library at the University of Maine, complementing materials the state’s largest library holds relating to the environment, resource conservation and policy in Maine and elsewhere. Olson is a 1968 graduate of the university, where he was a Senior Skull and captained the varsity soccer team. He began his charitable work in 1971, becoming, at age 24, the youngest person ever to run the Appalachian Mountain Club’s combined Hut System, Pinkham Notch Camp and Saco River campgrounds, and direct its White Mountain search and rescue operations. He later was appointed publisher and editor-in-chief of AMC books, maps and magazines, including Appalachia, the nation’s oldest journal of mountaineering and conservation. His writings — books, essays, reviews, op-eds, poems — have run in many venues. In 2006, Olson retired from a 30-year career that included 20 years as chief executive at three nonprofits: The Nature Conservancy of Connecticut, American Rivers and Friends of Acadia. The Olson collection comprises professional papers and documents dealing with nonprofit organizational management, engagement in public policy, publishing, lecturing, and alliance-building around a passion for conserving lands and waterways, primarily in Maine. The materials include nonconservation and personal papers, as well as published and unpublished manuscripts on numerous subjects. “I hope the papers will serve anyone interested in conservation history. The collection has materials on classic environmental battles in the creation and long-term management of Acadia National Park, the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, and Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument. Other documents deal with working relations between government agencies and philanthropic partners,” said Olson. “My collection, along with the trove of resource management materials Fogler holds, might help form the foundation for a Maine conservation archive at the state’s land, sea and space grant university. I encourage conservationists and organizations to help build the archive,” he said. Daisy D. Singh, University of Maine dean of libraries, said, “Mr. Olson’s collection is an excellent complement to our other holdings such as the Great Northern Paper Company Records, Dickey-Lincoln Hydro Project Collection, and Sewall Aerial Photographic Collection. We congratulate our 1968 alumnus on his incredible three-decade career in conservation and are honored to safeguard his collection here at Fogler for generations ahead.” Olson holds a master’s degree from Yale and was a faculty lecturer there and at Wesleyan University. In 1995, College of the Atlantic awarded him an honorary degree. He has donated an estate gift to the University of Maine Foundation to fund curation of his papers. Raymond H. Fogler Library is the largest research library in

Maine, with a 150-year history supporting the faculty, students and staff of the university, as well as residents of the state. The current collection includes approximately 3.1 million print and digital volumes, including government publications, as well as 1.1 million physical and digital media titles, including microforms, streaming video and music, maps, CDs, and DVDs. The library provides access to more than 160,000 online serials and over 300 online databases. Fogler Library is the regional depository for federal government publications and an official depository for Canadian federal and Maine state government publications. The state Legislature has also designated Fogler as the Maine Business, Science, and Technology Library. It is also the only Patent and Trademark Resource Center in Maine. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Amazon lockers available on campus

09 Mar 2023

Campus shoppers on Amazon now have a new delivery location. Amazon lockers have been installed on campus outside of the MaineCard office at Hilltop. The locker setup at Hilltop, named Vidal, will allow for secure 24/7 pickup of packages. Pickup requires a person to bring their smartphone with them, or a print out of the code to scan.

Call for applications for EMPOWER research mentoring program

09 Mar 2023

Applications are open for the Enhanced Mentoring Program with Opportunities for Ways to Excel in Research (EMPOWER), which supports faculty in their quest to achieve significant professional growth and advancement, including attaining success in research and scholarly activities. There is particular interest in supporting faculty who are women and/or from underrepresented groups. Mentees apply through the InfoReady platform by the end of the day on March 31, 2023. For more information, visit the UMaine Research website.

UMaine Dining announces open forums, March 21

09 Mar 2023

Editor's note: This story has been updated to reflect a change in location. UMaine Dining will hold open campus forums on Tuesday, March 21, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. and 5–7 p.m. in the Lown Room in the Memorial Union. Any member of the UMaine community is welcome to join. UMaine Dining leaders and Dembling and Dembling Architects will share ideas, as well as listen to what the community is looking for in the future of campus dining. Participants will get a preview of the vision for the next three years and get campus feedback. These forums are open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided.

'The Maine Question' explores work and evolution of athletic training

09 Mar 2023

Athletic trainers help both athletes and non-athletes recover from injuries and get back in the game, and their services are in high demand. Job opportunities in athletic training have been growing rapidly in recent years, and so too have the places in which athletic trainers work. The University of Maine has long offered a bachelor's degree in athletic training, and alumni from it have found careers at high schools, major league sports like the National Hockey League, rehabilitation facilities and in other settings. This year, however, UMaine has incorporated a master's degree for it, which prepares students to join the growing allied health profession providing acute care, evaluation, treatment and rehabilitation, as well as prevention from injuries and illness. In this week's episode of "The Maine Question," Christopher Nightingale, director of UMaine's Athletic Training program, and other faculty discuss the work athletic trainers do, how the field has evolved and the learning opportunities available through the university's program. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Committee calls for 2023 proposals

09 Mar 2023

The Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series (CA/DLS) Committee is accepting grant applications from the University of Maine to enhance the artistic, cultural and intellectual life of the campus of the University of Maine and to support speaking engagements or lectures at the University of Maine at Machias. Grants support up to 50% of expenses associated with cultural events and speaking engagements and lectures. Past awards have supported lectures, Culturefest, the International Dance Festival, exhibits, performances and guest artists.

The CA/DLS committee accepts applications four times a year. The next application deadline is March 27, 2023. Grant applications submitted by the above deadline are for projects starting on or after April 24, 2023. Please consider submitting applications for programs and events for the Fall 2023 semester on this grant application cycle.
Proposals must be submitted online using the CA/DLS Grant Application Form at umaine.edu/president/culturalaffairs/application.

BDN notes UMaine Extension as resource for homesteaders

09 Mar 2023

In an article about turning your home into a mini homestead, the Bangor Daily News notes that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension is a wonderful, free resource to help people get started.

Jacobs featured in Gould Academy alumni magazine

09 Mar 2023

Lauren Jacobs, lecturer in outdoor leadership at the College of Education and Human Development, was featured in a magazine cover story by Gould Academy discussing her career in outdoor education and leadership.

BDN reports on UMaine's Military Friendly School designation

09 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that the University of Maine has been designated a 2023–2024 Military Friendly School and ranked among the top performers nationwide in veteran student support and success during and after college.

High Plains Reader notes Talty presentation at UND Writers Conference

09 Mar 2023

High Plains Reader noted that Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, will present at the 54th Annual University of North Dakota Writers Conference.

Mitchell featured on Indian Country Today

09 Mar 2023

John Bear Mitchell, lecturer of Wabanaki studies and outreach and student development coordinator at the University of Maine Wabanaki Center, was featured on Indian Country Today discussing new initiatives aimed at better preparing teachers to teach Wabanaki studies. Red Lake Nation News shared the ICT report.

Gardner featured on Wood Science Talks podcast

09 Mar 2023

Douglas Gardner, professor of forest operations, bioproducts and bioenergy and researcher at the Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC), was recently featured on an episode of Wood Science Talks. The podcast is presented by the International Society of Wood Science and Technology and hosted by Rupert Wimmer. Listen to the Wood Science Talks episode with Gardner here.

Events & Hospitality named 2022 Planner's Choice winner for Expos and Trade Shows by Unique Venues

09 Mar 2023

UMaine's Events & Hospitality Office was named the 2022 Planner's Choice winner for Expos and Trade Shows in the United States by Unique Venues. Unique Venues is an industry leader in working with unique planners like universities, arboretums, museums and other unique spaces. Runners-up in this category were MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey and The Ranch Events Complex in Loveland, Colorado.

Kerr awarded CINAR Fellowship to study integration of climate change impacts to improve fisheries decision making

09 Mar 2023

NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center and the Cooperative Institute for the North Atlantic Region (CINAR) have named Lisa Kerr, associate professor at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, as one of four 2023 CINAR Fellows in Quantitative Fisheries and Ecosystems Science. Kerr's research aims to bring climate information to bear on fishery stock assessment and management processes in order to inform progress toward sustainable management of marine fisheries and ecosystems. She regularly advises on regional, national and international fisheries management issues. The CINAR fellowship program engages scientists in research that supports the training and education of the next generation of stock assessment scientists, ecosystem scientists and economists. The two-year program pairs fellows with scientists at the Northeast Fisheries Science Center to further strengthen the links between research, assessments and management in order to improve the assessment and management of living marine resources in the Northeast. During her CINAR Fellowship, Kerr will collaborate with NOAA Fisheries stock assessment scientist Larry Alade to research the integration of climate information into aspects of stock assessments for groundfish stocks. The work will expand on recent climate-integrated modeling conducted through the American Plaice Research Track stock assessment process and new research on yellowtail flounder. The proposed work will also contribute to the collaborative Northeast Climate Integrated Modeling (NCLIM) initiative and Northeast Fisheries Science Center's ongoing efforts to implement climate-enhanced stock assessments that support an ecosystem approach to fisheries management. "It is exciting to be advancing science to support climate-informed fisheries decision-making for important fish stocks in the Northeast U.S.," Kerr says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Ghanavati awarded $674,804 from NSF to study data privacy

09 Mar 2023

Sepideh Ghanavati, assistant professor of computer science, has received a $674,804 National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award for her research studying data privacy. The annual NSF CAREER awards are one of the organization's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty and include a federal grant for research and education activities for five consecutive years. Studies show that the number of privacy violations in the U.S. has increased by 68% from 2020–21, with about 45% of companies experiencing such harmful and costly breaches. Privacy breaches are not only distressing for users, but they can lead to financial and reputational costs for companies and developers. Holistic privacy engineering solutions, which build privacy into the software during its development rather than adding it on in patches as issues arise, can help address these breaches. Recent privacy research has made progress in this domain, but gaps remain in implementation guidelines and detection of privacy violations. "My research addresses these gaps and fundamentally advances knowledge in privacy engineering and programming comprehension by investigating new theories, methods and tools

to describe applications' privacy behaviors prior to development and ensure their effective implementation in software code," Ghanavati says. The project first investigates how developers implement privacy rules through a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods to generate scientific knowledge about the privacy comprehension and expertise of developers, as well as the challenges they face. Ghanavati — along with her team of students, Google's privacy researchers and legal scholars — will develop an innovative modeling language, known as "privacy stories," which will extend and augment existing neural language generation models to recommend privacy technical and policy solutions proactively, even before the development phase. Another major aspect of their effort is the development of automated privacy-related code generation models. With these models, she hopes developers do not require to look for an answer through mediums such as stack overflow and be concerned about the correctness and soundness of their solution; instead a privacy-preserving piece of code could be generated for them based on their question. "I envision my research will advance and complement AI tools such as ChatGPT regarding privacy-related question and answer systems, and source code generation and summarization," says Ghanavati. The research ultimately seeks to provide developers with on-demand privacy recommendations that will enable developers to better understand and implement privacy requirements during the software development process, and facilitate the creation of more secure software products to help prevent privacy violations for individuals and organizations alike. Ghanavati's project will result in models and tools to enhance privacy for all types of software applications. In particular, she aims to not only help the software industry and economy, but also protect the privacy of vulnerable groups, such as young children, refugees and asylum seekers. "Protecting the privacy of children and migrants and ensuring that highly sensitive data such as health care and location information are not used or shared illegally have been important to me. My research and education activities will therefore focus on protecting the youth and other vulnerable groups by informing them about their privacy rights and teaching them how to safeguard their digital privacy," Ghanavati says. Outreach is another important element of Ghanavati's work. Through the NSF CAREER project, Ghanavati will lead three outreach projects, bringing hands-on STEM activities to Maine middle and high school students and teachers in collaboration with the UMaine Cooperative Extension 4-H, Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) and UMaine Cooperative Extension in Cumberland County. Ghanavati also plans to recruit several undergraduates from underrepresented groups in New England and New York State to participate in summer research. "I believe that raising privacy awareness will empower users to better protect their personal information while benefiting from the applications they use or interact with. This is a win-win situation for both developers and users," Ghanavati says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension holds sustainable agriculture workshop

10 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a sustainable agriculture workshop on Wednesday, March 22 from 7:15 a.m.–4 p.m. at the University of Maine at Presque Isle Ballroom, 120 Campus Center, 181 Main St. The event is an opportunity to learn from crop professionals and network with professionals in the field of sustainable agriculture. Faculty and staff from UMPI, UMaine and Extension will speak on topics that include interseeding and intercropping; managing potato virus Y and potato leafroll virus; alfalfa and soil health; marketing and branding; using drones; cover crop practices; and irrigation scheduling. There is also an opportunity for attendees to present their research during the poster session. The registration fee is $50; participants must register before March 13. The event will offer 5.5 CCA/CEU credits and 2 pesticide credits. To register for the event or poster session, visit the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pam Hickey, 207.764.3361; pam.hickey@maine.edu.

MBS Corps hosts Heroes and Hope Dodgeball Tournament fundraiser March 26

10 Mar 2023

Maine Business School's MBS Corps will host a Heroes and Hope Dodgeball Tournament to benefit the Maine Veterans Project and Service Dog Strong on March 26 at the New Balance Field House. Entry costs $5 per person. Food and drink will be available for purchase through registration. The event includes raffle, prizes and more. Sign-in will begin at 12:30 p.m.; the event will start at 1 p.m. Register as an individual or team of five online. For questions or to request reasonable accommodation, contact Nory Jones, njones@maine.edu.

Jazz concerts featuring international performers Camila Meza and Aaron Goldberg March 23–24 in Orono and Machias

10 Mar 2023

Chilean jazz guitarist and singer/songwriter Camila Meza and pianist Aaron Goldberg will perform in jazz concerts March 23 at the University of Maine and March 24 at the University of Maine at Machias, sponsored by the Collins Center for the Arts in conjunction with the UMaine School of Performing Arts and gWatson Gallery in Stonington. In addition to the 7:30 p.m. concerts at UMaine's Minsky Recital Hall and the UMaine Machias Performing Arts Center, student workshops will be held at both universities in the afternoons preceding the performances. Tickets for adults are $30 for the UMaine concert, with free admission for K–12 students. The UMaine Machias concert is free. Additional information is online; to request a reasonable accommodation, write cca@maine.edu. The concerts are part of the Collins Center for the Arts Jazz Series, created to bring internationally acclaimed musicians and experienced educators to the university campuses in Orono and Machias. Since its first concert in 2019, the Jazz Series has expanded to include performances at UMaine Machias and workshops for university and high school students in the Machias area. The series receives grant funding from UMaine's Alton '38 and Adelaide Hamm Campus Activity Fund, and the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series. "The Collins Center for the Arts has a long tradition of presenting jazz," says Danny Williams, Collins Center for the Arts director. "From Ella Fitzgerald and Ray Charles to Dizzy Gillespie, Dave Brubeck and Wynton Marsalis, some of the greatest jazz players have performed on our stage. We're happy to partner with the School of Performing Arts and the gWatson Gallery to bring the next generation of jazz musicians to students and audiences in Orono and Machias." Meza makes ambitious, lyrical music that combines progressive fusion post-bop and Latin American traditions. She has garnered widespread acclaim for her genre-crossing albums that apply her distinctive approach to jazz and pop standards as well as original pieces. She records for the Sony Masterworks label and performs in venues worldwide. For more than two decades, Goldberg has regularly collaborated with such icons as Joshua Redman, Marsalis, Joe Lovano and Ravi Coltrane. He tours extensively with his own trio and records for Sunnyside Records. As an educator, Goldberg teaches at several universities and frequently travels as a clinician worldwide. In the Jazz Series workshops, which are open to university and area high school students, visiting musicians share their music in performances, listen to and play with student ensembles, and offer feedback and encouragement. "Our students love these concerts and go back home reinvigorated and ready to take their musicianship to the next level," says Deb Maynard, director of the Jazz Band at Foxcroft Academy. "We love what the Jazz Series is making available to our students, bringing world renowned musicians to us." UMaine music faculty member Dan Barrett notes that guest artists working with the students "changes our program." "The students see and hear things differently, and become more connected into the larger musical world," says Barrett, who teaches low brass instruments, music theory and jazz courses. "It gives them an idea of how good they want to be in order to work as a musician, and it gives them creative ideas for their own playing, composing and improvising. And some of the students just become friends with various guest artists and stay connected down the

road."

PenBay Pilot notes UMaine Jazz Ensemble performance at Jazz in June

10 Mar 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot noted that the UMaine Jazz Ensemble will perform at the Jazz in June festival, June 16–17.

WABI features Bangor Boys and Girls Club's tour of UMaine

10 Mar 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) shared that the Boys and Girls Club in Bangor received a donation from US Cellular that allowed them to take a tour of the behind-the-scenes technology used at a UMaine hockey game. WLOX-TV (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi), KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) and WBRC-TV (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama) shared the WABI report.

Media report on Fogler acquisition of W. Kent Olson Conservation papers

10 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Piscataquis Observer reported that conservationist and author Ken Olson has donated his professional papers to the Fogler Library at the University of Maine, complementing materials the state's largest library holds relating to the environment, resource conservation and policy in Maine and elsewhere.

Fogler Library hosts Human Dimensions of Climate Change film series March 21–April 4

13 Mar 2023

Fogler Library will host the Human Dimensions of Climate Change film series, with three film screening events March 21–April 4. In-person screenings, all from 6–8 p.m. in Fogler Library Classroom 1, will include post-film discussions with featured guests:

- March 21 — "Eternal Amazon" (2012); post-film discussion with director Belisário Franca
- March 28 — "Reciprocity Project" (2022); post-film discussion with Tony Sutton, assistant professor of Native American studies and food systems, and Darren Ranco, chair of Native American Programs
- April 4 — "Catching the Sun" (2015); post-film discussion with Sharon Klein, associate professor of economics

For more information about the films and screenings, visit the Fogler Library Events webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, email Jen Bonnet at jenbonnet@maine.edu. Sponsors include the UMaine Climate Change Institute, Department of Anthropology, Fogler Library, Native American Programs and School of Economics.

WABI, BDN report on Maine Sportsman Show held at UMaine

13 Mar 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and the Bangor Daily News reported that the University of Maine hosted the 82nd Eastern Maine Sportsmen's Show.

PenBay Pilot shares Stanley workshop about fruit tree pruning

13 Mar 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot noted that Liz Stanley from University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Knox and Lincoln counties will be teaching the basics of pruning small trees and shrubs at the Thomaston Garden Club's Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop on March 20 at 4 p.m. at the Knox Museum in Thomaston.

Sun Journal shares Mitchell Center food waste event

13 Mar 2023

The Sun Journal reported that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Stepping up to the Plate: Innovations in Food Waste Reduction," at 3 p.m. on March 20. ReFED's Angel Veza will discuss some of the current barriers to food waste reduction faced by individuals and companies, the latest innovations designed to address these barriers, and what's needed to help these solutions grow their impact. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage.

BDN shares UMaine Extension sustainable agriculture workshop in Presque Isle

13 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a sustainable agriculture workshop on March 22 from 7:15 a.m.–4 p.m. at the University of Maine at Presque Isle Ballroom. Faculty and staff from UMPI, UMaine, and Extension will speak on topics that include interseeding and intercropping; managing potato virus Y and potato leafroll virus; alfalfa and soil health; marketing and branding; using drones; cover crop practices; and irrigation scheduling. To register, visit the event webpage.

BDN features UMaine economic impact report about logging and trucking

13 Mar 2023

In an article about the impact of the dwindling cedar supply on logging in Maine, the Bangor Daily News cited a University of Maine report that found that even though Maine logging industry contributed an estimated $582 million to the state economy in 2021, certain factors — operational costs that nearly doubled, mills that closed, fewer logging contractors, weather and access to repair parts — threaten the industry's ability to maintain maximum production.

Ippolito speaks to WFVX about AI in education

13 Mar 2023

Jon Ippolito, professor of new media at the University of Maine, spoke to WFVX-TV (Fox 23/ABC 7 in Bangor) about educators dealing with students using AI for assignments. According to Ippolito, the best solution for educators to prevent their students from abusing AI on assignments is to change the assignments themselves. "There's a lot of ways you change your syllabi to adapt to these new applications. One would be to make sure you do things that only students can do, only humans can do. So for example, reacting to something that just happened in class or something that's local to your own community," Ippolito says.

Media report on the University of Maine System relaxing vaccine requirements

13 Mar 2023

The Portland Press Herald, Maine Public, News Center Maine, Spectrum News and WAGM-TV reported that the University of Maine System campuses will no longer require vaccines starting in the May 2023 term, but will continue to encourage community members to get a COVID vaccine and booster shots. Yahoo News shared the PPH report. MSN shared the News Center Maine report.

Silvers to perform at Ukrainian-American Archives Museum

13 Mar 2023

Noreen and Phillip Silver, faculty in the University of Maine School of Performing Arts, will perform a concert entitled "The Music of Resistance" at the Ukrainian-American Archives Museum in Hamtramck, Michigan, on Saturday, March 18, at 6 p.m. This recital presents works by Jewish and Ukrainian composers, including James Simon, Leone Sinigaglia, Paul Ben-Haim, Mykola Lysenko and Vasyl Barvinsky. All composers on the program were destroyed either professionally or physically by the Russian Tsarist, Nazi or Soviet regimes. The Silvers will perform with Ukrainian-American violinist Solmia Soroka, professor at Goshen College. The performers present about the composers' lives and their music.

Wujcik to present at 94th New England Complex Fluids Workshop

13 Mar 2023

Evan Wujcik, professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering and the Advanced Structures and Composites Center, will deliver a keynote presentation at the 94th New England Complex Fluids (NECF) Workshop, hosted at the University of Rhode Island on March 17, 2023. His talk: "Investigation of Polymer Systems and their Composites for Advanced Functional Materials." Learn more on the NECF website, or the workshop flier.

Deseret News shares wild blueberry resource by UMaine Extension

14 Mar 2023

In an article detailing the health benefits of wild blueberries, Deseret News shared an online resource by University of Maine Cooperative Extension titled "Wild Blueberry Concentrations: Antioxidants, Vitamins and Minerals."

Media promote lecture by LeClair

14 Mar 2023

The Scarborough Leader and Portland Press Herald promoted an upcoming lecture by University of Maine Ph.D. student Greg LeClair about vernal pool wetlands. The lecture, scheduled for 10:30 a.m. April 1 at Broadturn Farm in Scarborough, will be hosted by the Scarborough Land Trust, and Amphibian and Reptile Trust International.

BDN, Republican Journal advances Coffin's weed management workshop

14 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News and The Republican Journal advanced an upcoming workshop about weed management by Donna Coffin, a professor with University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Coffin will deliver the workshop on March 21 at the Belfast Garden Club.

PenBay Pilot, VillageSoup promote Hutchinson Center's critical thinking workshop

14 Mar 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot and VillageSoup promoted an upcoming workshop about critical thinking, hosted by the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast, 9 a.m. May 12.

UMaine cross-laminated timber research referenced in BDN

14 Mar 2023

In an article about the College of the Atlantic erecting a new dormitory using laminated timber, the Bangor Daily News highlighted cross-laminated timber research being conducted at the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center.

Ellsworth American highlights Eat Well volunteer training program

14 Mar 2023

The Ellsworth American noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension is hosting a five-week Eat Well volunteer training program beginning May 9 at the Hancock County Extension Office, 63 Boggy Brook Road, Ellsworth. The training will be weekly from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. on Tuesdays until June 6.

BDN promotes Saros becoming Fulbright Distinguished Arctic Scholar

14 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News highlighted Jasmine Saros, professor of paleolimnology and lake ecology at the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and associate director of the Climate Change Institute, being named the the 2023 Fulbright Distinguished Arctic Scholar, one of most prestigious appointments in the Fulbright Scholar Program.

Law enforcement training exercise on campus March 15

14 Mar 2023

The University of Maine and area law enforcement teams will participate in training exercises from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, in the University Credit Union facility on Rangeley Road. For more information, contact UMaine PD, 207.581.4040.

Orono, UMaine partner to offer Community English classes to meet needs, provide support

15 Mar 2023

This spring, 18 students from 12 countries have taken advantage of a new weekly class meeting at the University of Maine and in Orono. And more are joining. The learners, who range in age from their early 20s to senior citizens, each with varied multilingual fluency, gather for the free pilot program called Community English, offered by the Town of Orono and UMaine's Intensive English Institute (IEI). The new class, which runs Feb. 15–May 3 and alternates locations between Orono Public Library and the UMaine Memorial Union, was developed to meet the needs of community members who could benefit from information, conversational language development opportunities versus traditional, rigorous IEI instruction, says Orlina Boteva, director of UMaine's Office of International Program, which oversees IEI. "The Community English class is filling an educational gap in our community," says Erin-Kate Sousa, a UMaine IEI senior instructor. "Currently, there is no free group English language support offered in the Orono area. Language skills are critical for new community members to build friendships, complete daily tasks like shopping and using public transportation. Additionally, this in-person class builds community." The class is taught by Kristen Wedin, an IEI adjunct instructor and retired teacher who is active in Literacy Volunteers of Bangor. Her background and training in literacy education provide a strong foundation for teaching English acquisition. "Kristen has a passion to help immigrants improve their skills in oral and written language, giving them tools to communicate with people in their adopted community, and, ultimately, to promote happiness and a sense of belonging," Boteva says. When asked about their personal goals for attending Community English, students overwhelmingly indicate that they wish to become better at speaking and understanding spoken English, Wedin says. They receive instruction in both, as well as ample time to practice, while also learning about American customs. Any student who also wishes to become more proficient at written English is also given the opportunity to submit homework in writing, and several students have taken advantage of this. The Town of Orono was interested in partnering with the Office of International Programs to offer an opportunity to support the community, says Meghan Mazzella, Orono Parks and Recreation manager. "The town has a long-standing relationship with OIP and was excited when this opportunity was brought to our attention," Mazzella says. "We are interested in continuing this program in an effort to meet community needs and to support our robust relationship with the University of Maine." This initiative also fits well with the state of Maine's efforts to train and educate its workforce, and UMaine's role in being a place that is welcoming and inclusive of all levels of learning and training, Boteva says. As Maine welcomes more immigrants from around the world, it is important to provide basic language training so they can more easily integrate in the Orono local community. "We hope this course will be a gateway for those who wish to pursue other professional or educational goals, whether that means being able to advance in the job market or continue language education at the Intensive English Institute," says Sousa. "The IEI core program, which is an intensive English language immersion program, is designed to help learners professionalize their language skills and/or continue their education at an institution of higher learning." More information about IEI courses is available at umaine.edu/iei. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine to conduct an emergency communications system test March 22

15 Mar 2023

The University of Maine will conduct its annual emergency communications system test at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22, complete with the outdoor sirens sounding for several minutes. The sirens are part of UMaine's multifaceted emergency communications system established in 2007 that allows university safety and communications professionals to use several mechanisms to quickly communicate vital information to the community during emergency situations. When UMaine's emergency communication system is activated, several notifications occur: A text message is sent to subscribers of UMaine's umaine.alerts system; UMaine Police Department sounds the sirens; information is posted on the university's homepage and social media, and the UMaine portal; and a recorded telephone message may be heard by dialing 207.581.INFO. Members of the University of Maine community are reminded to register to receive UMaine's emergency notifications. The emergency notification service alerts the UMaine community to public safety issues, including inclement weather conditions causing class cancellations.

Those registered for UMaine alerts will receive a message about the emergency notification system on March 22, as well as on the 15th of every month. Registration for texts and/or email alerts is online (umaine.edu/emergency).

Detroit Jewish News reports on Silvers' upcoming performance at Ukrainian-American Archives Museum

15 Mar 2023

The Detroit Jewish News reported on the upcoming performance by Noreen and Phillip Silver, faculty in the University of Maine School of Performing Arts, titled "The Music of Resistance," at 6 p.m. on March 18, the Ukrainian-American Archives Museum in Hamtramck, Michigan. The Silvers will perform with Ukrainian-American violinist Solmia Soroka, a professor at Goshen College.

The Conversation publishes Socolow's op-ed about media criticism

15 Mar 2023

The Conversation published an op-ed about news media criticism by Michael Socolow, University of Maine associate professor of communication and journalism. "Americans across the political spectrum share a growing disdain for journalism — no matter how accurate, verified, professional or ethical," Socolow wrote. "Yet open debate over journalism ethics signals healthy governance. Such argumentation might amplify polarization, but it also facilitates the exchange of diverse opinions and encourages critical analyses of reality." The Times Union, the Houston Chronicle, Cadillac News, the Chronicle-Tribune, SFGate, Yahoo! News, New Haven Register, the Daily Progress and other media outlets shared Socolow's piece.

NYT features cross-laminated timber research at UMaine

15 Mar 2023

The New York Times featured University of Maine research into cross-laminated timber. Liam O'Brien, a UMaine graduate student, spoke with the Times about an effort by him and his colleagues to develop a cross-laminated timber panel insulated with wood fiber. "It is a material that should take off in the U.S. as long as we can convince people," O'Brien said about cross-laminated timber panels. "Building sciences can play a large role in how we respond to climate change." Stephen Shaler, a professor of sustainable materials and technology in the UMaine School of Forest Resources, spoke to the Times about the assistance researchers at the university's Maine Mass Timber Commercialization Center provide to companies hoping to manufacture cross-laminated timber at a commercial scale. "What we're trying to do is reduce any technical barriers or questions that a company might have before setting up a manufacturing operation here," he said.

Lobe discusses Silicon Valley Bank collapse with WABI

15 Mar 2023

Sebastian Lobe, University Foundation Professor of Investment Education and associate professor of finance in the Maine Business School, spoke with WABI (Channel 5) about the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank. "This is not an event that really sets the whole financial sector on fire," Lobe said. "Although the stock market, you know, is very sensitive to that and shown that, but many voices are saying this is not, the U.S. banking system as a whole is healthy and small bank failures are common."

Applications open for prospective Maine Learning Assistants

15 Mar 2023

Applications to become a Maine Learning Assistants (MLA) for the fall 2023 semester are now available. MLAs serve as peer instructors, facilitating group work and assisting faculty as they transform their course to incorporate more interactive-engagement and student-centered instruction. MLAs learn to use innovative, research-based instructional strategies, develop relevant pedagogical skills, deepen their content understanding and have the opportunity to explore their interest in STEM teaching, while participating in a vibrant community of peers and faculty. Apply today using the link here. Application review begins April 1. For questions, contact figmla@maine.edu or torey.bowser@maine.edu.

'The Maine Question' explores functionality of art on campus and beyond

16 Mar 2023

Art — whether it's created on a page or computer or in a studio or theater — can do more than showcase creativity for amusement and cultural enrichment. Art can help teach people about historical and contemporary societies, advance research, support economic development and combat daily and systemic issues. Inspired by the significance and utility of art, the University of Maine Arts Initiative was formed to increase resources and support for creative works, reinforce their significance and enhance their visibility. The initiative also aims to break down the silos between artists, scientists, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders so they can work together to solve problems and enrich, enlighten and ease the lives of the people in Maine. In episode four of season eight of "The Maine Question," George Kinghorn, UMaine senior executive director of cultural engagement and arts initiatives and curator and director of the Zillman Art Museum, discusses the various roles art plays on campus and elsewhere. Also featured are Gretchen Faulkner, director of the Hudson Museum; Justin Wolff, professor of art history and chair of the UMaine Department of Art; and Amber Roth, assistant professor of forest wildlife management. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Maine Spruce Budworm Task Force releases updated executive summary

16 Mar 2023

The Maine Spruce Budworm Task Force, formed in summer 2013 by the University of Maine Cooperative Forestry Research Unit (CFRU), Maine Forest Service (MFS), and Maine Forest Products Council (MFPC) to begin preparing for the next outbreak of the eastern spruce budworm, has released an update to

its 2016 Task Force report. “The work of this Task Force has been important in focusing landowners and managers on a native insect that can cause profound changes in the forests in Maine on a periodic basis,” said Patty Cormier, director of the Maine Forest Service. “I am grateful to the CFRU for their leadership in bringing together the Task Force to reexamine strategies and publish this updated executive summary.” A native insect that has been a part of Maine’s spruce-fir forests for thousands of years, spruce budworm populations can be found at low levels the majority of the time. When natural limiting factors such as pathogens and parasites are unable to keep budworm populations below a threshold for tree mortality, an outbreak occurs. During Maine’s last spruce budworm outbreak in the 1970s–80s, millions of acres of forests were killed, causing ripple effects on wildlife habitat, Maine’s forest economy, and more. In late 2021, the task force held a workshop to revisit and provide progress reports on recommendations that were made in the 2016 SBW Task Force Report. Each of the seven task teams, representing different areas of research and expertise, were asked to provide updates on their work as well as prioritizing future needs regarding the potential for a spruce budworm outbreak. Monitoring efforts and shared knowledge have been key elements to this effort, pointed out Pat Strauch, director of the Maine Forest Products Council. “Since we first met, many of our members have engaged in enhanced monitoring, reexamined and adjusted harvest schedules to reduce impact of future outbreaks and continued the conversation regarding strategies and priorities for response to this insect,” Strauch said. Regina Smith,CFRU program leader, emphasized that “climate change has precluded applying all lessons from past outbreaks of this insect, and the work of this Task Force has helped identify areas of focus for CFRU research partners and others.” The updated executive summary provides a number of links for those interested in newly published research related to spruce budworm, media stories and educational materials, mapping tools, and more. Contact: Regina Smith, regina.smith@maine.edu

Amanda Ives: Teaching — and learning — with Maine Audubon

16 Mar 2023

Amanda Ives has always been outdoorsy. She remembers her childhood vacations and outdoor summer camp adventures as formative times in her life, and influential in her decision to pursue conservation as a career. As the 2022 Davis Intern at the Fields Pond Audubon Nature Center, Ives had the opportunity to communicate that love for the outdoors to a new generation — and learn some new things for herself. Ives says that growing up in St. Louis, Missouri, and later in Newburyport, Massachusetts, through her high school years, her family always found ways to spend time in nature, even when they “lived in suburbia.” Ives describes herself as a “summer camp kid” who started attending annual sleepaway camps when she was 10. Summer camp not only allowed her to spend more time outdoors, but also to form a community around outdoor activities and spaces. When Ives got to UMaine, the wildlife ecology major called her. Though most of her UMaine experience has been virtual due to the pandemic, Ives says that the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology always made an effort to make classes interactive with safe outdoors meetups. One of her favorite classes has been Wildlife Field Survey, a two-week intensive May term class that, during the pandemic, involved doing field work in Orono. “It was the most intense class I've ever taken,” Ives says. “We had to be out in the field at 4 a.m. most days. We took samples of river invertebrates in the stream with anadromous fish to see if they were bringing in nutrients from the ocean and how that might have affected the invertebrates living there. It was really cool to do field experiments and student-led research.” Ives also had the opportunity to visit Fields Pond Audubon Nature Center through class her freshman year. She was enamored; the facility reminded her of sanctuaries she had visited with her family. When Ives saw the open Davis Intern position in March 2022, she applied. She touted her educational experience as well as her volunteer experience with the University Volunteer Ambulance Corps, which more than prepared her for handling cuts, scrapes and summer camp-sized crises. Weeks later, she was hired. Throughout the rest of her spring 2022 semester, Ives would stop by once or twice a week to work on small jobs, helping out with a youth birding club, supplying the gift shop and the like. As soon as the summer started, her educational and research duties were in full swing, as she monitored loon nests, took water samples of the pond and led summer camp programs, which were the “highlight of [her] summer.” “It's a cool experience for them outside of school that’s still educational and could inspire them to get into environmental sciences,” Ives says. David Lamon, manager of the Fields Pond Audubon Nature Center, says Ives was able to take on the many roles required of her in the internship. “At Maine Audubon, we have a mixed bag mission,” Lamon says. “We have education as a big piece of it, but so is conservation science and advocacy. She fit in all those pretty well.” Lamon notes that when he had a freak accident tearing his calf muscle while playing with kids at a program off-site, Ives easily took the reins. “She ran the center. She was here to greet the public at opening and closing, and checking in via phone or Zoom,” Lamon says. “For an undergraduate, that’s pretty darn good that she was able to jump in there.” Lamon says he was most impressed, though, with her willingness to adapt to the educational element of the role. “She’s not an education major; that’s really not her bag, so her willingness to do that was great,” Lamons says. “She was involved in all these pieces which were more in her wheelhouse for her major, and she did that just as well and her willingness for working with kids.” Ives says there is a certain art to coming up with activities that kids will enjoy. She says that most of the kids’ favorite activity was a day that revolved around loons, with a scavenger hunt, a viewing of the Fields Pond Audubon Center’s taxidermied loons and a field trip to view the live loons at the pond through binoculars. Of course, she says being able to bounce ideas off of Lamon, her co-worker, Melissa Gallagher, and her own mother — who all have backgrounds in education — was extremely helpful. Even as Ives’ senior year at UMaine started up in the fall, she has continued working at Fields Pond, running after-school programs and even teaching AP environmental science students at Bangor High School how to take water samples. She says that though she still isn’t sure exactly what she wants to do after she graduates in the spring with her degree in wildlife ecology and concentration in conservation biology, the internship at Fields Pond has helped guide her in how she may be able to get involved with the many facets of conservation. “I’ve been looking into jobs in policy and public interaction,” Ives says. “Some of the positions I'm looking into are fieldwork and public outreach combined. A lot of conservation work is in that, so I’m excited. All of that together will be what I want to do.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Campbell receives over $1 million in NSF grants for polar research, education program

16 Mar 2023

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded Seth Campbell, associate professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences and Climate Change Institute, with $1,001,174 over two prestigious grants that will fund research about Alaska and Canada glacier change and connect hundreds of low-income high school students and first-generation college students with polar research. NSF funded Campbell with $623,881 through a prestigious Early Career Development (CAREER) grant, awarded to researchers who have demonstrated the potential to serve as academic role models and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization. Campbell’s research aims to quantify spatial and temporal variations in thickness, density, porosity, water content and volume change in firn — the intermediate phase in the transition process of snow packing into ice — across the Juneau Icefield in Southeast Alaska and Northwest Canada in order to understand the changing meltwater dynamics in the current climate. “Glaciers and ice sheets across the Earth store a tremendous amount of meltwater in firn which can impact downstream ecosystems, including billions of humans,” Campbell says. “Unfortunately, we know very little about just how much meltwater is stored in firn and how this storage is likely to change as glaciers retreat due to climate change.” Campbell and his team will study meltwater storage on the Juneau Icefield, which has a significant impact on the Gulf of Alaska, one of the most important marine ecosystems and fisheries on Earth, and because it is comparable to thousands of glaciers around the world. UMaine co-operates an annual field training program on the Juneau Icefield with the Foundation for Glacier & Environmental Research called the Juneau Icefield Research Program (JIRP), which allows

for coupling real glacier research with education. NSF also awarded Campbell with a $377,293 Pathways into the Geosciences — Earth, Ocean, Polar and Atmospheric Sciences (GEOPAths) grant, designed to improve education in these scientific fields. Campbell's grant focuses on providing field and classroom opportunities for high school students in the Department of Education-funded Upward Bound (UB) program. UB supports over 80,000 high school students nationwide who hail from low-income families or who will be first generation college students. Participating UB students will have the opportunity to travel to Alaska to learn, hands-on, about polar Earth systems science and experience a "Virtual Alaska" and "Virtual Antarctica" in the classroom at their host institutions. This project will also provide training for high school teachers who are interested in bolstering their current Earth science curriculum to include new and engaging hands-on polar Earth systems science lessons which include real data and real science discoveries. To date, this project has engaged UB programs in Washington, Maine, Florida, Texas, California, Oregon and Alaska. The GEOPAths project — a partnership between UMaine, JIRP, University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) and several affiliated UB programs — is expected to support hundreds of students over the course of three years. In addition to his CAREER and GEOPAths projects, Campbell conducts research about the advance and retreat of the Antarctic Ice Sheet since the last interglacial period. Campbell is the co-principal investigator at three key locations — Mount Waesche, Pine Island Glacier and Wilkes Basin — and sent graduate students to study Pine Island Glacier and Hercules Dome, in 2022–23. Graduate students he is working with will travel to Waesche and Wilkes Basin in 2023–24. Beyond conducting research at these four locations, the graduate students will also collect 3D video and photography to develop an interactive virtual reality experience to be used in the UB programs and other classrooms. Participating high school students will learn how to use virtual reality equipment, software and hardware. They will also contribute to the "Virtual Antarctica" and "Virtual Alaska" worlds by integrating current research into an educational video game, a task that can be expanded on by future cohorts of students. An additional $29,740 in funding was provided to JIRP from Battelle, an independent not-for-profit organization that advances science and technology, to acquire the virtual reality, videography and photography equipment. "Low-income communities across the planet are disproportionately impacted by climate change, pollution and other global environmental challenges," Campbell says. "One of my goals is to help create future leaders who battle these challenges within their own communities. The GEOPAths funding will provide us opportunities to train students who are the most at risk to these issues and provide them the necessary science knowledge and support network so they can positively impact their communities while securing new opportunities for themselves." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host talk on dealing with drought, meeting the needs of farmers, March 27

16 Mar 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Dealing with Drought: Aligning farmer needs and advisor confidence, skills, and expertise" on Monday, March 27 at 3 p.m. Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine in the School of Food and Agriculture, will be the featured speaker. In 2020–21, Schattman and her colleagues conducted two complementary investigations. In the first, they asked farmers what kind of information, technical advice, or financial support they needed to deal with both too much and not enough water. In the second, they asked agricultural advisors (those who provide services directly to the agricultural community on a regular basis) to share their perspectives on what skills and bodies of knowledge are needed to help farmers address water-related concerns, and whether Maine organizations currently have the capacity to meet farmer needs. In this talk, Schattman will share the results of these studies. Attendees are also invited to share their thoughts on where Maine can and should invest to attend to this growing challenge. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196 or hallsworth@maine.edu.

Fiddlehead Focus notes UMaine Extension workshops in Fort Kent

16 Mar 2023

The Fiddlehead Focus shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a series of agriculture classes on Thursday evenings starting March 16. The spring workshops are free and will be held from 6–7 p.m. at the University of Maine at Fort Kent Armory in Room 119 on March 16, 23, 30, and April 6.

Mount Desert Islander boosts Callaway presentation

16 Mar 2023

The Mount Desert Islander shared that Patrick Callaway, lecturer at the University of Maine Department of History, will appear on Chebacco Chats at 4:30 p.m. March 23, to talk about his latest research on 18th-century colonial interests related to Mount Desert Island. For more information, visit the Mount Desert Island Historical Society website.

Media feature UMaine seafood marketing study

16 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Mount Desert Islander and National Fisherman featured a first-ever national assessment of seafood marketing practices in the United States led by the University of Maine with funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and NOAA Fisheries. The American Seafood Harvesters Marketing Practices Survey aims to bring attention to the role that seafood harvesters play in the nation's food systems and, eventually, inform future investments in the sector.

New Scientist features Ortega Jiménez research

16 Mar 2023

New Scientist featured the research of Victor Ortega Jiménez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology and biomechanics, about how jumping parasitic worms use static electricity to hit their targets.

MaineBiz highlights UMaine logging study in article about logging careers legislation

16 Mar 2023

In an article about the Future Logging Careers Act, which would allow family logging companies to safely train 16- and 17-year-olds, MaineBiz cited a study conducted by the University of Maine found that the total number of jobs in the logging industry in Maine declined 6% more than the national average between 2014 and 2021.

Media note UMaine role in Community English classes

16 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News and News Center Maine reported that the University of Maine's Intensive English Institute has partnered with the Town of Orono to offer a program called Community English. The new class runs Feb. 15 to May 3 and alternates locations between Orono Public Library and the UMaine Memorial Union. Orlina Boteva, director of UMaine's Office of International Program, says that program was developed to meet the needs of community members who could benefit from information, conversational language development opportunities.

Lilley speaks to PPH about 40th anniversary of Maine Maple Sunday

16 Mar 2023

Jason Lilley, assistant professor and maple industry educator for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Portland Press Herald about the 40th anniversary of Maine Maple Sunday. Lilley said that the number of people attending Maine Maple Sunday and participating sugarhouses have increased, the distance attendees travel has expanded, and technology has evolved over the past 40 years, but the spirit of the event, and maple syrup production, remains what it was in 1983 and hundreds of years before. "The process, at its core, of collecting a sustainable amount of sap from well-taken-care-of trees, and boiling it down to a high quality, and sweet smelling and tasting, finished product, has remained the same," Lilley said.

PREP honors late Betsy Webb at regional professional development conference

17 Mar 2023

The annual Penobscot River Educational Partnership (PREP) virtual conference this year is dedicated to the late Betsy Webb, longtime Bangor School Department superintendent and Libra Professor of Educational Leadership at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development. Webb was executive director of PREP from 2020 until she passed away last November. UMaine is a higher education partner in the collaborative, which includes 22 school districts in the eastern Maine area. Under Webb's leadership, the annual PREP conference regularly attracted more than 1,400 educators for professional development sessions on a variety of topics, such as literacy, mathematics, outdoor learning, social-emotional learning and STEM education. The 2023 conference is being held March 17. Several UMaine COEHD faculty and alumni typically present at the event. Although most of it will be virtual, the College of Education and Human Development's School of Kinesiology, Physical Education and Athletic Training is hosting an in-person workshop for physical education teachers at Lengyel Hall with a focus on educators from PREP schools. Senior lecturer in health education and lifespan Jennifer McNulty will lead a session at the workshop, "IMPROVE the Moment with Autogenic Training." The college and PREP are holding the workshop in partnership with the Maine Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

UMaine researchers and students share their science at the Maine Fishermen's Forum

17 Mar 2023

University of Maine students, researchers, Marine Extension Team members and alumni were among the more than 2,000 participants in the 48th Maine Fishermen's Forum in Rockport, March 2–4. The annual three-day event brings together fishermen, gear suppliers, scientists, government officials and others to share information and collaborate on all things fishing: markets, resource status, regulations, the latest in technology, the environment and more. UMaine's Darling Marine Center, Aquaculture Research Institute, Lobster Institute, Maine Sea Grant, and School of Marine Sciences were among the more than 130 exhibitors at the forum. "I had so many interesting and fun conversations with people at the forum," said Lobster Institute assistant director, Chris Cash. "Prospective students, members of the industry and neighbors came by to chat — it is a great environment to share the University's ongoing research and resources with the broader community and get feedback. A lot of collaborations are formed as a result of informal conversations that begin at the forum." UMaine faculty and students attended the event to learn more about Maine fisheries and fishing communities and to share their science. Graduate students Phoebe Jekielek and Kelsey Ward were among the speakers in a session, focused on Maine's inshore scallop fishery and aquaculture. Fishermen, scientists and others engaged in Maine's marine economy have been working together to understand and support the human and ecological dimensions of this fishery and possibilities for culture. The session, co-organized by Jekielek, a senior scientist with Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership, and Meggan Dwyer, associate director of UMaine's Aquaculture Research Institute, was a chance to reflect on decades of work and to plan for the future. Lobster Institute director Rick Wahle organized a session on how handling of lobsters can be altered to minimize loss as they are moved from traps, to boats, and then to trucks and airplanes through the supply chain. The session featured research findings by professor Damian Brady of the School of Marine Sciences and graduate student Cassie Leeman. A second session focused on lobster science was convened by Maine Department of Marine Resources scientists, mostly UMaine alumni, and included Amalia Harrington from Maine Sea Grant, who shared her work and the work of many researchers throughout the region funded through the Sea Grant American Lobster Initiative. Maine Sea Grant has a long history of supporting the Maine Fishermen's Forum, having funded the inaugural event in 1976 as part of a collaborative project. In 2021, when the forum Board decided not to host an in-person event due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Maine Sea Grant's Marine Extension Team, in partnership with forum Board members and other partners, helped develop and host sessions online. They received the forum's Distinguished Service award this year to commemorate those efforts. "Our coastal waters are shared by individuals and communities with diverse interests. The Maine Fishermen's Forum provides an annual setting for conversations around the issues those communities face," said Maine Sea Grant director Gayle Zydlewski. "And for us, the forum is an opportunity to hear directly from the people we serve." Zydlewski also serves on the Maine Fishermen's Forum Board of Directors. The 2024 Maine Fishermen's Forum will be held Feb. 29–March 2 in Rockport, Maine. Registration opens Jan. 1, 2024. Learn more at mainefishermensforum.org. Contact: Hannah Robbins, hannah.robbins@maine.edu, 207.581.1442; Christina Cash, christina.cash@maine.edu, 207.581.1443

Media boost UMaine Extension Rural Living Day in Waldo County

17 Mar 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot, Bangor Daily News and Republican Journal shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Waldo County Extension Association are hosting the 29th annual Rural Living Day, on April 1, from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., at Mount View High School, 577 Mount View Road, Thorndike. Visit the event webpage to register and for a complete list of workshop topics and presenters.

Media share UMaine Extension workshop on swine in Oxford County

17 Mar 2023

The Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com noted that Colt Knight, UMaine Extension State Livestock Specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will host a workshop on raising swine on March 27, from 11 a.m.–1 p.m., at the UMaine Extension office, 9 Olson Road, South Paris. Register online.

Media share Mitchell Center event on farmers dealing with drought

17 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Sun Journal, Penobscot Bay Pilot and CentralMaine.com reported that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Dealing with Drought: Aligning farmer needs and advisor confidence, skills, and expertise," on March 27 at 3 p.m. To register and receive connection information, see the event webpage.

Hudson, Sibley speaks to WABI about binge drinking trend

17 Mar 2023

Sean Sibley, nurse practitioner at the Northern Light Health Cutler Center at the University of Maine, and Kevin Hudson, student life educator, spoke to WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) about "BORG," or Blackout Rage Gallon, where a gallon jug of water is half-emptied, then filled with alcohol and electrolyte solutions. The idea is even though one may be drinking up to 17 servings of alcohol in one container, the water and electrolytes reduce the effects of dehydration or a hangover. Sibley added high amounts of alcohol in a short amount of time can have long-lasting effects. "...if you're consuming that amount of alcohol in a small period of time, it's definitely going to increase your blood alcohol content pretty quickly. And nothing you do as far as electrolytes or hydration is going to speed up that metabolism, and the alcohol it's still sticking around and building up," Sibley said. Hudson added that UMaine takes a "harm reduction approach" to issues like these. "This is a systemic problem, and we're trying to allow people that education to go out…with a better sense of what they want out of the experience, versus what TikTok or social media is telling them," Hudson said.

Media report on Williams Hall mural

17 Mar 2023

News Center Maine and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that Portland-based artists Ryan and Rachel Adams are painting a mural of Beryl Warner Williams, UMaine's first black graduate to earn a degree in mathematics, in Williams Hall.

Learning With AI a new online resource

17 Mar 2023

The University of Maine has launched Learning With AI, an initiative to help faculty and students adapt to an educational landscape transformed by generative AI like ChatGPT and DALLE. Originally convened by UMaine's New Media program and the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL), the initiative has quickly gathered contributors from across the University of Maine System due to widespread concern nationwide about the disruptive impact of generative artificial intelligence in the classroom and beyond. These tools make it easy for anyone, including a student, to type a brief query that composes a term paper, computer program, video, or digital image in a matter of seconds. Complicating the situation for educators is the fact that the underlying technology makes it unlikely any software will ever be able to detect AI-generated content accurately. Rather than try to ban this technology from classrooms outright, the Learning with AI initiative asks if this moment offers an opportunity to broach the ethical and economic questions wreaked by these new tools, as well as to consider fresh new forms of pedagogy that can prepare students for a world where they are commonplace, says Peter Schilling, CITL director. "This is the point at which we need to begin thinking of generative AI as native to teaching and learning rather than as a disruptive force we must resist," Schilling says. Among the products of this initiative is a series of events to raise awareness of generative AI's impact on education, to brainstorm solutions to its challenges, and to consider pedagogical practices that incorporate rather than combat it, says Jon Ippolito, professor of new media. These will include higher education workshops dedicated to the humanities, art and design, and STEM fields, as well as a series of webinars for high school and community college faculty and students. A schedule on the project's website will be updated as new events are added. Another offering of the initiative is an online toolkit for educators. This resource is meant to inform educators, as well as equip them with concrete strategies that either emphasize the humanity of the creator or incorporate AI into the classroom in a way that enhances rather than replaces the learning process. Community members are invited to contribute to this compendium of educational resources and techniques. "The evolution of AI tools over the past six months has been unprecedented," says new media lecturer Aaron Boothroyd. "This has led to an urgent need for the development of comprehensive strategies aimed at effectively harnessing and integrating these technologies into academic curricula. And while these tools do present tremendous potential for improving learning and research, it is also imperative to assess the very real risk they pose to the current academic model." Other partners in the initiative include the College of Education and Human Development, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Digital and Spatial History Lab, and UMaine AI. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Extension presents healthy gardens webinar March 28

20 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar to help home gardeners select healthy plants for their garden from 6–7:15 p.m. on March 28. Healthy Gardens Start with Healthy Plants will offer tips on how to evaluate plants prior to purchasing and assess the health of mail-order plants when they arrive. Participants will also learn where to find current information regarding invasive plants, quarantines and invasive species updates. Additionally, the workshop will discuss the importance of choosing the right plant for specific growing conditions. Carole Neil, assistant state horticulturist, leads the webinar. Registration is required; a sliding scale fee is optional. Register on the event webpage to attend live or receive the recording link. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Katherine Garland, 207.942.7396; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offers virtual 4-H volunteer training starting March 28

20 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part online training for adults interested in becoming 4-H volunteers from noon–1 p.m. on March 28 and April 4. A second round of the training will be offered from 6–7 p.m. on April 19 and 26. Start Your 4-H Volunteer Journey will explore the ways volunteers can become involved with UMaine Extension 4-H, what the 4-H youth development program is about and requirements for becoming a volunteer. Participants will also hear from youth and volunteers currently active in 4-H and do a hands-on activity together. The training is free; registration is required. Register on the event webpage. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jennifer Lobley, 207.255.3345; jennifer.lobley@maine.edu.

Funeral for longtime FM employee John Davis, March 24

20 Mar 2023

A funeral mass on March 24 will celebrate the life of John Davis of Old Town, a longtime and well-known Facilities Management employee. Davis had a 38-year career at UMaine, working as a custodian assigned to the Memorial Gym and Field House. He was a champion weightlifter, earning him the nickname Big John. He is remembered for his passion for the sport as well as his commitment to UMaine athletes and the athletic community. The funeral mass begins at 11 a.m. at Holy Family Church, 429 Main St., Old Town and will be livestreamed, according to his obituary. Memorial contributions may be made to the Old Town Animal Orphanage, P.O. Box 565, Orono, Maine 04473.

UMaine faculty, staff and students involved with 2023 Maine Science Festival

20 Mar 2023

University of Maine faculty, staff and students will present at and be involved in a number of events at the Maine Science Festival (MSF), a program of the Maine Discovery Museum in Bangor and will include more than 70 events and activities, that will take place March 22–26. Additional UMaine presenters — particularly those involved with the headliner event, Queen — will be announced as more information becomes available. The full programming for the festival can be found on the MSF website. MSF is a five-day celebration that showcases the science and technology happening in Maine in the format of an arts or music festival, with events for all ages. Through forums, workshops, talks, art exhibits, film screenings and hands-on activities, attendees learn about science happening and being used in Maine. Since 2015, MSF has had over 50,000 attend its events. UMaine is sponsoring the Maine Science Festival Field Trip Day, which features curated events for nearly 600 middle school-aged students around the state, at the Cross Insurance Center from 9 a.m.–noon, March 23. UMaine faculty and staff hosting activities at the event include Taylor Ward, communications specialist at the Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC); Anna Martin, Intermedia Programs; Sheila Pendse, communications and outreach at the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute, along with other UMaine Engineering faculty and staff; Scarlet Tudor, education and outreach coordinator at the Aquaculture Research Institute; Jennifer Perry, associate professor of food microbiology; Beth Campbell, education, outreach and diversity program manager at Maine EPSCoR; and Gabrielle Brodek, 4-H youth development professional at the UMaine Extension. Phil Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology, will present at the Science on Tap forum about bees on March 23, 6:30–8 p.m. at Mason's Brewing Company. Caitlin Howell, associate professor of biomedical engineering, and Salimeh Sekeh, assistant professor of computer science, will present at 5 Minute Genius, which takes place March 24 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Bangor Arts Exchange. The UMaine VEMI Lab will host a rapid research experience, where festival goers can develop and test a hypothesis with VEMI Lab students, on March 25, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. at Meeting Rooms A&B in the Cross Insurance Center. VEMI Lab presenters include Rick Corey, RJ Perry, Grant Beals, Nick Giudice, Paul Fink, Emily Blackwood, Justin Brown, Anna Johnson, Sean Radel, Jake Loranger, Aleigha Morgan, Sam Orlando, Ersi Cako, Jake Doolittle, Alexa Guerrero, Darien Orethun, Cedric Fahey, Henry Kindler, Georgia Doore, Ainslie Allen, Em Hanscom, Maher Alsamsam, Anthony Caccese, Theo Erikson and Roisin Rumsey. Katherine Allen, associate professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences with a cooperating appointment at the Climate Change Institute, will host a workshop about ancient oceans on March 25, 10–11:30 a.m. in Meeting Rooms 3 and 4 of the Cross Insurance Center. Shawn Laatsch, director of the Versant Power Astronomy Center, will present at a workshop about how to observe the solar eclipse of 2023 and total solar eclipse in 2024, on March 25, 11 a.m.–noon, in Meeting Room D at the Cross Insurance Center. Laatsch will also present about the cosmic views of the James Webb Space Telescope 2:15–3:15 p.m. in Meeting Room 1 and 2 of the Cross Insurance Center. Ali Abedi, professor of electrical and computer engineering, will present about the Maine Space Complex is a unifying and aspiring vision for a coordinated effort to engage Maine in the new space economy, on March 25, 1–2 p.m. in Meeting Rooms 1 and 2 of the Cross Insurance Center. John Thompson, professor of physics, will moderate the presentation. Micah Pawling, associate Professor of history and Native American studies, and John Bear Mitchell, lecturer of Wabanaki studies, will present about the importance of Wabanaki knowledge and practices of science on March 25, noon–1 p.m. in Meeting Room 3 and 4, of the Cross Insurance Center. Victor Ortega-Jiménez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology and biomechanics, will present about how animals use fluid dynamics on March 25, 1–2 p.m. in Meeting Room C at the Cross Insurance Center. Mac Stetzer, associate professor of physics, will moderate a presentation about sound pressure level at concerts and the potential for hearing loss on March 25, 3–4 p.m., in Meeting Room 3 and 4 at the Cross Insurance Center. Francis Drummond, professor emeritus at the School of Biology and Ecology, will present at a forum about Maine bees on March 26, 12:30–1:30 p.m., at the Dramatic Academy at the Penobscot Theater Company. Samantha Schipani, news writer at the Division of Marketing and Communications, will present about the basics of science writing on March 26, 1–2 p.m. at the Maine Discovery Museum. Christopher Clark, Lindsay Decker and Heather Perrone with Fogler Library will present about how they combined popular fiction and scientific themes to promote engagement with the library and its collections on March 26, 2–3 p.m. at Dramatic Academy at the Penobscot Theater Company.

Media boost UMaine Extension healthy gardens webinar

20 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Penobscot Bay Pilot, Sun Journal and Piscataquis Observer shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar to help home gardeners select healthy plants for their garden, March 28 from 6–7:15 p.m. Register on the event webpage to attend live or receive the recording link.

BDN notes UMaine collection of Berry woodcut prints

20 Mar 2023

In an article about a showcase of artist Carroll Thayer Berry's woodcut prints at the Courthouse Gallery in Ellsworth, the Bangor Daily News noted that collections of his work can be found at the University of Maine.

Media share virtual training for UMaine Extension 4-H volunteers

20 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Turner Publishing, CentralMaine.com, Daily Bulldog and Sun Journal shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part online training for adults interested in becoming 4-H volunteers from noon–1 p.m. on March 28 and April 4. A second round of the training will be offered from 6–7 p.m. on April 19 and 26. Register on the event webpage.

Holland speaks to Maine Public about browntail moths

20 Mar 2023

Lynne Holland, horticulture and social media professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was a VIP caller on a segment of Maine Public's show Maine Calling about how to deal with invasive browntail moths this time of year.

Bisson speaks to Maine Monitor about citizen science

20 Mar 2023

Beth Bisson, associate director of Maine Sea Grant and the University of Maine's phenology program Signs of the Seasons, spoke to the Maine Monitor about how citizen science helps to track the impact of climate change in Maine. "[Researchers] could just never approach anything close to the volume that you can get if people from communities all over the state are out there in their backyards and in public parks and other places observing these changes," Bisson said.

Dill speaks to BDN about babesiosis

20 Mar 2023

Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Tick Lab, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about the rise of the tick-borne disease babesiosis. Cases of babesiosis — a disease carried and transmitted by deer ticks with symptoms that include fever, chills and lethargy — have skyrocketed in Maine from nine reported in 2011 to 138 in 2019, according to the U.S. CDC. The report comes as unseasonably warm weather in recent years has increased tick activity throughout the state, extending what has traditionally been. "We've had babesiosis cases [in Maine] since 2001, but they stayed relatively low at 5–10 cases a year until about 2013, when they really started to jump up to 30 or 40 cases a year. That seems like a relatively low number, but like Lyme disease, there is a good chance it is underreported," Dill said.

Harkins named executive dean of the Maine Business School

21 Mar 2023

Jason Harkins, a University of Maine associate professor of management, has been named executive dean of the Maine Business School (MBS), effective April 1, 2023. Harkins had been serving as interim MBS executive dean since July, and as associate dean since 2020. "At the conclusion of a national search, we are pleased that Jason will continue to provide leadership for the Maine Business School," says John Volin, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. "His focus on student success and career preparation, entrepreneurial approaches to business education, and engagement with and commitment to the business community in Maine and beyond are important in meeting the state's workforce and economic needs." Harkins joined the UMaine community in 2008. He founded and served as the CEO for the Scratchpad Accelerator, which resulted in over $3 million in increases to the workforce in Maine. In addition to his research focused on entrepreneurship and small business management, Harkins leads the Maine Business Institute, dedicated to promoting thought leadership and consulting services throughout the state. He has worked with firms in Maine to promote well-being, and to gather ideas for students and employees on what organizations can do to enhance physical, mental, social, vocational and financial well-being. Harkins has a Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma. "I am excited to continue leading the Maine Business School's focus on providing a robust, rigorous, and relevant education for students," says Jason Harkins. "At Maine's premier business school, we are innovating with a focus on connecting theory and practice, developing life-transformative educational opportunities that enhance well-being over a lifetime, and engaging with the businesses to provide expertise that advances economic outcomes in Maine and beyond."

UMaine Extension hosts annual Rural Living Day in Waldo County

21 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Waldo County Extension Association are hosting the 29th annual Rural Living Day from 9 a.m.–1:45 p.m. on April 1, at Mount View High School, 577 Mount View Road, Thorndike. The event features workshops on a variety of rural living topics, including keeping goats; fungi; creating a cranberry garden; processing chickens for easy meals and storage; sourdough baking; farming in the presence of carnivores; ruminant

births; growing peppers and eggplants; and planning your preserving season. The $30 fee includes two workshops; registration is required. Proceeds support a postsecondary scholarship for a graduating Waldo County high school senior. Visit the event webpage to register and for a complete list of workshop topics and presenters. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.342.5971, 800.287.1426 (in Maine); extension.waldo@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offers indoor seed starting workshop in Somerset County

21 Mar 2023

The workshop Seed Starting Indoors will take place at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Somerset County office at 7 County Drive in Skowhegan on Friday, March 31 from 12:30–3 p.m. Brett Johnson, UMaine Extension sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional, will share strategies used to optimize conditions for seed germination, seedling growth and acclimation to the outdoors. Variety selection and sowing schedules will be discussed, as well as what qualities make a planting medium ideal for seed starting indoors. A light lunch will be provided before the presentation. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A discussion and an optional seed-sowing workshop. There is a suggested donation of $0-15 for this program and registration is required. For more information and to register, visit the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.474.9622; emily.collins3@maine.edu.

Learn to grow tomatoes, peppers and melons with UMaine Extension vegetable specialists

21 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners on growing tomatoes, peppers, melons and more from 6–7:15 p.m. on April 4. Growing Great Tomatoes, Peppers, Melons and More will offer simple tips and tricks to save time and improve yields. Peyton Ginakes, Extension research associate, and Mark Hutton, Extension vegetable specialist, will share updates on new variety trials at Highmoor Farm, a UMaine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station facility in Monmouth where Extension faculty conduct fruit and vegetable research. Registration is required; a sliding scale fee is optional. Register on the event webpage to attend live or receive the recording link. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Katherine Garland, 207.942.7396; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

Media share UMaine Extension Master Gardener berry workshop

21 Mar 2023

The Ellsworth American, Mount Desert Islander and Bangor Daily News noted that the 2023 UMaine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteers monthly workshop series begins at 10 a.m. April 8 with David Handley, vegetable and small fruit specialist at the UMaine Extension, presenting “Grow Your Best Berries” at the Cooperative Extension office in Ellsworth. Registration is required for this free workshop by emailing sue.baez@maine.edu or calling 207.667.8212.

Ellsworth American boosts UMaine Extension food preservation workshop

21 Mar 2023

The Ellsworth American shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a workshop titled “Introduction to Food Preservation” on March 29 at 12:30 p.m. at its Ellsworth office. For more information and to register, visit the event webpage.

The Weather Network cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data

21 Mar 2023

In an article about a new peak in global ocean temperatures, the Weather Network cited information from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer showing that the North Atlantic contributes to this global ocean temperature anomaly.

Foster cited in Country Living about growing lavender

21 Mar 2023

Jonathan Foster, community education assistant with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was cited in an article by Country Living about best practices in growing lavender, noting that aggressive pruning into the woody part of the lavender plant may kill the plant. Yahoo Life and Yahoo Sports shared the Country Living report.

BDN shares UMaine Learning With AI initiative

21 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that the University of Maine launched Learning With AI, an initiative to help faculty and students adapt to an educational landscape transformed by generative AI like ChatGPT and DALLE. “The evolution of AI tools over the past six months has been unprecedented. This has led to an urgent need for the development of comprehensive strategies aimed at effectively harnessing and integrating these technologies into academic curricula. And while these tools do present tremendous potential for improving learning and research, it is also imperative to assess the very real risk they pose to the current academic model,” said UMaine new media lecturer Aaron Boothroyd.

Rubin speaks to News Center Maine about climate impact of transportation

21 Mar 2023

News Center Maine interviewed Jonathan Rubin, director of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and professor of economics at the University of Maine, about comparing the climate impact of flying overseas versus driving a car that uses a lot of gas. “We know that if, say, New York to London round trip is about 7,000 miles, [then] two trips from New York to London is about equivalent to what an average person would drive each year, which is about 12,000 to 14–15,000 miles per year. So, yes, if you go a couple times, a couple flights to London and back each year, it would be equivalent to all the miles and emissions from driving," Rubin said.

Mainebiz selects Dagher as 2023 Mainebiz Business Leaders of the Year

21 Mar 2023

Mainebiz honored Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center, as one of the 2023 Mainebiz Business Leaders of the Year. Dagher was cited as Innovator of the Year.

Study asks what personal and professional factors help mitigate teacher burnout

21 Mar 2023

A new study from two University of Maine researchers suggests that the personal protective factors of resilience and compassion satisfaction, and the professional factor of working in a positive school climate are key to mitigating burnout among teachers. Compassion fatigue, secondary traumatic stress and burnout have long been identified as commonplace in so-called helping professions like health care, social work and law. When people work closely with others who have experienced traumatic life events, some of that trauma rubs off on them and leads to feelings such as cynicism, despair, exhaustion and inadequacy, or what scholars call “cost to caring.” UMaine researchers Sherry Pineau Brown and Catharine Biddle surveyed more than 540 Maine teachers in an attempt to understand the extent to which educators experience cost to caring, and what factors might mitigate its effects. Brown earned her Ph.D. in education with a concentration in prevention and intervention from UMaine in 2020. She’s an adjunct lecturer with the College of Education and Human Development and academic dean of students at a central Maine high school. The study is from her dissertation research. Biddle is an associate professor of educational leadership and leads the Rural Schools Collaborative’s New England Rural Education Hub, housed at UMaine. She served on Brown’s dissertation committee. Although several studies have examined costs to caring in other professions, Brown and Biddle note a lack of empirical evidence of its prevalence among teachers, as researchers have “all but ignored educators in the discussion.” That has started to change recently with growing interest in the impact of trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) on educators and schools. Two questions guided Brown and Biddle’s research. First, what is the extent to which teachers experience costs to caring and personal and professional ACEs? Second, what personal and organizational mediating factors contribute to the extent to which teachers experience cost to caring? The teachers who participated in the study completed a 91-question survey designed to measure personal and professional ACEs, school climate, personal protective factors (resilience, empathy and compassion satisfaction) and cost to caring. On the first question, the study’s participants reported similar levels of cost to caring as people in other professions. “Levels of burnout in the sample, for example, mirrored those of the reported norms, and the level of secondary traumatic stress in the sample were also only slightly lower than the norm,” Brown and Biddle write. Participants also had “a higher-than-expected prevalence of having experienced four or more ACEs, the cutoff score typically used to determine higher levels of risk.” Brown and Biddle also found a correlation between teachers’ personal ACEs and their perception of their students’ ACEs. “We theorize that teacher empathy may be a factor, as teachers who have experienced difficulties in childhood may be more apt to recognize such difficulties in others or even seek out work in environments with students who they believe have similar ACE histories to their own,” they write. On the second question about the factors that mediate the extent to which teachers experience cost to caring, Brown and Biddle found that ACEs had a negligible effect on cost to caring, specifically burnout. “This finding is encouraging from a policy and practice perspective,” they argue, “as there is little that teachers can do about their childhood experiences or those of their students.” Compassion satisfaction — defined in part as the pleasing feeling of being successful and capable as a teacher — and personal resilience had the strongest effect on burnout, with a total effect four times higher than the risk factor of teachers’ personal ACEs. “Given that teachers have a degree of control over their personal resilience and compassion satisfaction, these findings suggest that personnel practices that enhance these aspects of teachers’ professional experiences will mitigate burnout,” Brown and Biddle say. Although school climate did not have a direct mitigating effect on burnout, according to the results of the study, the researchers found a strong indirect effect. “A positive school climate had a strong direct effect on a teachers’ personal resilience and compassion satisfaction, which in turn has a strong negative effect on teachers’ burnout,” they write. Importantly, the study and its findings were completed before the COVID-19 pandemic, which continues to disrupt schools in the United States and abroad, leading many teachers to leave the profession citing burnout and other costs to caring-linked factors. Overall, Brown and Biddle say they hope their study can be used as a model for school leaders, policymakers, researchers and others seeking to inform changes in education. “By understanding the impact of adversity and empathy, creating schools with positive climate, and building resilience and compassion satisfaction in teachers, stakeholders may be able to mitigate the costs to caring that teachers face,” they write. The study was published in the journal Teaching and Teacher Education and is available online. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Signs of the Seasons phenology trainings offered through April

22 Mar 2023

Signs of the Season, a program of the Maine Sea Grant and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will offer free in-person trainings on documenting the signs of spring and contributing to regional research throughout March and April. Focusing on 22 indicator species including robins, loons, lilacs, forsythia, maple trees and frogs, participants will learn how to identify and record changes in plants and animals found in their own backyards and other favorite outdoor locations. Participants will also learn about the history and science of phenology — the study of seasonal changes — and the connection to our changing climate. Data collected by volunteers contribute to an online database hosted by the National Phenology Network to help scientists understand the local effects of climate change. In-person trainings are currently scheduled for March 27, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve in Wells; March 30, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. at the Gilsland Farm Audubon Center in Falmouth; April 6, 4–6 p.m. at the Merryspring Nature Center in Camden; and April 12, 1–3 p.m At the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay. For more information, an updated list of workshops or to watch the three-part webinar series on-demand, visit the Signs of the Seasons training webpage. These events are free, but registration is required. For more information and to register, visit extension.umaine.edu/signs-of-the-seasons/training. For questions or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Beth Bisson, beth.bisson@maine.edu, or Keri Kaczor, keri.kaczor@maine.edu.

Novelist Suzette Mayr to present reading and Q&A March 30

22 Mar 2023

Award-winning Canadian novelist Suzette Mayr will give a creative reading at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 30 in the IMRC Fernald APPE space, sponsored by the University of Maine Department of English and UMaine Canadian-American Center. Mayr's reading will be introduced by Hollie Adams, assistant professor of literature and creative writing at UMaine. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact hollie.adams@maine.edu. Mayr is the author of six novels, including "Dr. Edith Vane and the Hares of Crawley Hall" (Coach House Books, 2017), "Monoceros" (Coach House Books, 2011) and "Venous Hum" (Arsenal Pulp Press, 2011). Her latest, "The Sleeping Car Porter" (Coach House Books, 2022), is the recipient of the 2022 Scotiabank Giller Prize, the richest prize in Canadian literature, which is awarded each year to the best English-language novel or short story collection published in Canada. "The Sleeping Car Porter" was also nominated for the Republic of Consciousness Prize and the inaugural Carol Shields Prize for Fiction. Mayr's other novels have won the ReLit Award and W.O. Mitchell Book Prize, and been nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, the Commonwealth Prize for Best Book in the Canada-Caribbean Region, the Writers' Guild of Alberta's Best First Book and Best Novel Awards and the Ferro-Grumley Award for LGBT Fiction. A former President of the Writers' Guild of Alberta, Mayr teaches Creative Writing at the University of Calgary.

Media share UMaine Extension workshop about growing tomatoes, peppers and melons

22 Mar 2023

Morning Ag Clips, the Daily Bulldog, Piscataquis Observer, Sun Journal, CentralMaine.com and Turner Publishing Inc. boosted a University of Maine Cooperative Extension webinar for home gardeners on growing tomatoes, peppers, melons and more that will take place from 6–7:15 p.m. on April 4. Register on the event webpage to attend live or receive the recording link.

BDN cites UMaine Extension information about growing crops in cold frames

22 Mar 2023

In an article about using cold frames to extend the growing season, the Bangor Daily News cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension explaining that starting lettuce, other greens, radishes or scallions now could have you harvesting them before the start of the regular planting season even begins because these plants will mature faster when planted in a cold frame.

Timber Harvesting & Forest Operations notes UMaine role in PERSEUS project

22 Mar 2023

Timber Harvesting & Forest Operations noted the University of Maine's role in a $10 million grant to Purdue University led project called PERSEUS (Promoting Economic Resilience and Sustainability of the Eastern U.S. Forests) designed to help landowners and stakeholders better adapt their forests to increasingly complicated economic and climate conditions in the Eastern U.S. Aaron Weiskittel, professor of forest biometrics and modeling at the School of Forest Resources, spoke to Timber Harvesting & Forest Operations about the project. "The high interest in carbon has renewed interest in forest, while complicating their overall management. PERSEUS will work to provide a more holistic approach to forest management, while giving landowners new tools to guide decision-making," he said.

Blue Banner cites UMaine data about social media use

22 Mar 2023

In a column about social media use, the Blue Banner cited data from the University of Maine stating that the average social media user engages with an average of 6.6 various social media platforms, and 40% of all internet users worldwide utilize social media for work purposes.

USA Today cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data

22 Mar 2023

In an article about President Joe Biden's Ocean Climate Action Plan, USA Today cited information from the Climate Reanalyzer at the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine that shows sea surface temperatures in the global ocean reached a record high on March 16, averaging 69.8 degrees. MSN, the Spectrum (St. George, Utah), the Indianapolis Star (Indianapolis, Indiana), Hometown Life (Detroit, Michigan), the Daily Journal (Vineland, New Jersey), Yahoo Sports Canada and other outlets shared the USA Today report.

Verma speaks to WABI about offshore wind

22 Mar 2023

Amrit Verma, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Maine, was interviewed by WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) about the potential for offshore wind energy to help Maine meet its climate goals. "The research that we are currently doing is going to make possible this goal of 30 gigawatts by 2030. … There are challenges, but at the same time, I would say if we work on these challenges together, we will be able to really benefit from the industry because this is really the future of the U.S., I would say, in terms of renewable industry," Verma said.

Bisson featured on Maine Public discussing phenology

22 Mar 2023

Beth Bisson, associate director of the Maine Sea Grant College Program and coordinator for Signs of the Seasons program, was a panelist on a segment of Maine Public's show Maine Calling about how studying phenology reveals the impacts of climate change on nature's cycles.

$2 million planned gifts from UMaine alumnus will enhance Fogler Library digital resources

23 Mar 2023

Two planned gifts from a University of Maine alumnus totaling $2 million will greatly enhance the digital resources of Raymond H. Fogler Library and provide additional scholarship assistance to University of Maine business majors. The University of Maine Foundation received the bequests from John Marshall Webber, a 1970 graduate who passed away on Oct. 24, 2022 at the age of 78. A Bangor native and U.S. Marine Corps veteran, Webber enrolled at UMaine following his military service and earned a bachelor's degree in art. Webber was an accomplished artist, investor, and lifelong learner who studied philosophy and enjoyed collecting Asian works of art. In 2007 Webber, a longtime member of the Friends of Fogler Library Advisory Board, worked with the University of Maine Foundation to establish the John M. Webber Digital Library Fund. He created the endowed fund to help Fogler Library enhance its ability to acquire and access to digital resources worldwide. He also committed an additional $1 million gift to the fund, to be paid by his estate upon his passing. "Countless learners at the University of Maine and in the state of Maine will benefit from Mr. Webber's vision, including interest in the arts and humanities, and in the value of accessing digital informational resources," said University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "We deeply appreciate our alumni giving back to their alma mater and, in this case, to one of the pillars of our R1 university — the state's research library." "We are very grateful for Mr. Webber's tremendous and forward-thinking gift, which will support Fogler Library's digitization efforts," said Daisy D. Singh, UMaine's dean of libraries. "We are Maine's largest academic library and we are also open to the public. His generous support will allow us to reenvision that traditional divide by making academic collections and projects more accessible to all." Also in 2007, Webber worked with the University of Maine Foundation to establish another endowed fund, the John M. Webber School of Business Scholarship. It provides financial assistance to students enrolled in one of UMaine's graduate-level business programs. Per Webber's wishes, preference is given to students who are studying international business or finance, and who demonstrate their potential for career success following graduation. "The generous bequest by John Webber to the John M. Webber School of Business Scholarship will enable many students to access world-class business programs at the University of Maine," said Jason Harkins, interim executive dean of the Maine Business School. "This support will impact Maine for generations as it enhances the ability of individuals from a variety of backgrounds to use education to enhance their career success." "On behalf of our MBA students and alumni, it is with deep gratitude that I acknowledge the $1 million bequest from Mr. Webber to support our graduate students," added Norman O'Reilly, dean of the university's Graduate School of Business. "Thanks to his generosity, we will be able to further support students in our globally ranked MaineMBA program and attract and retain top talent in our great state." "The University of Maine campus was a special place to John," explained Jeffery N. Mills, University of Maine Foundation president and CEO. "He was a frequent visitor to Fogler Library until late in life, when health issues made trips to campus difficult. His generous bequests reflect his deep appreciation for the transformative nature of higher education and the role that Fogler, as a research library, plays in student and scholarly success." Mills noted that Webber's gifts continued the extensive philanthropic support for the university and community provided by his late parents, G. Peirce Webber and Florence (Pitts) Webber. A prominent businessman and civic leader, Peirce Webber led Webber Timberlands, which, under his leadership, became one of Maine's largest private landowners. Peirce Webber, who died in 2001, had been a member of the University of Maine Foundation Board of Directors and served a term as its board chair. The University of Maine Foundation was established in 1934 to encourage gifts and bequests to promote academic achievement, research and intellectual pursuit at the University of Maine. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Dunn named UMaine chief of staff

23 Mar 2023

Diane Dunn, senior advisor for special initiatives in the University of Maine Office of the President, has been named chief of staff to President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, effective March 23, 2023. The UMaine alumna with 33 years of military service has been a senior advisor reporting to the president since January 2022. In her role as senior advisor, she worked closely on DEI, research security and compliance, UMaine Machias integration initiatives and presidential special events. Dunn is retired brigadier general who served as the assistant adjutant general of the Maine Army National Guard. She retired from the Maine Army National Guard Dec. 31, 2021. Dunn was the first female general officer in the 200-year history of the Maine Army National Guard. She also was the first female to command a brigade in the Maine Army National Guard. "We are pleased that Diane will continue to share her leadership and talents as a member of the President's Office team, now as chief of staff," says President Ferrini-Mundy. "It has been a pleasure working with Diane and we look forward to continued collaboration to benefit UMaine, UMaine Machias and Maine." Dunn joined the Maine National Guard in 1988, serving as a traditional member from 1988–97, then becoming a full-time member. During that time, she also was a UMaine assistant professor of military science for three years. She holds a Master of Public Administration from UMaine and a master's degree in strategic studies from the United States Army War College. Dunn's daughter, Kayla, is a 2012 UMaine graduate and her son, Marcus, is a member of the class of 2023 and a UMaine Army ROTC contracted cadet.

UMaine Extension 4-H introduces youth to ecosystems and community science

23 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a short-term online 4-H club about algae and its impact on surrounding ecosystems. Intended for youth ages 12–18, the special interest, or SPIN, club will meet from 4–5 p.m. on Wednesdays from April 12–May 17. Required registration closes March 31. The 4-H Ecological Studies Club will introduce ecological knowledge and experiment skills by exploring Maine's environment in participants' own backyards. This virtual 4-H citizen scientists club encourages youth to practice community science and report their observations while making connections with peer citizen scientists in their community and throughout the state. Club members will also learn about Maine ecology and how to participate in research simply by taking a picture. The club is free; limited to 12 participants. Register by March 31 on the event webpage to receive the link and at-home materials. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.8206 or sarah.sparks@maine.edu. Additional information also is available on the Extension 4-H Virtual Learning webpage. This workshop is supported by Maine EPSCoR at the University of Maine. 4-H is a community for all youth with programs that suit a variety of backgrounds, interests, budgets and schedules. Programs are grounded in the belief that youth learn best by doing. Participants complete hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture and civic engagement in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles.

Share your love of cooking by becoming an Eat Well volunteer

23 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is hosting a five-week Eat Well Volunteer Training beginning May 9 at the Hancock County Extension Office, 63

Boggy Brook Road, Ellsworth. The training will meet weekly on Tuesdays from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. until June 6. Kate Yerxa, Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) coordinator and Extension professor, and Kathy Savoie, Extension professor, will teach the course. The training will prepare volunteers to educate food pantry patrons about cooking with local produce, food safety and healthy eating during food pantry visits. Participants who complete the training, as well as 30 hours of community service in local food pantries, will obtain Eat Well Volunteer status and ServSafe Food Handler certification. The $70 training fee covers food costs, training materials and the ServSafe Food Handler certification. There is limited financial assistance available. To register for the course, visit the Hancock County Eat Well Volunteer website by April 12. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.667.8212; leah.mccluskey@maine.edu.

Theatrical production 'Silent Sky' coming to the Versant Power Astronomy Center

23 Mar 2023

Orono-based theater company True North Theatre (TNT) will perform the play "Silent Sky," based on the true story of 19th-century astronomer Henrietta Leavitt, at the Versant Power Astronomy Center in March and April. Performances of "Silent Sky" are scheduled as follows:

- Thursdays, March 23 and 30 at 7 p.m.
- Friday, March 24 at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, April 1 at 2 p.m. (with a post-performance talkback) and 7 p.m. (with a post-performance stargazing session, weather permitting)
- Sundays, March 26 and April 2 at 4 p.m.

Tickets are $20 and are available online, by calling 207.581.1341 or by visiting the box office prior to the performance. For more information about the performance, visit the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences website.

'The Maine Question' asks how athletics help universities fulfill their missions

23 Mar 2023

University of Maine Athletics, the state's only Division I athletics program, is undergoing some major changes. A new director, Jude Killy, stepped up to bat in January, and several facilities are undergoing extensive upgrades as part of a $110 million master plan, funded primarily by the Harold Alfond Foundation as part of the UMS TRANSFORMS initiative. In episode five of season eight of "The Maine Question," Killy, who previously worked for the Division I schools Miami University and University of Pittsburgh, discusses the facility renovations and other updates to Black Bear sports, the evolving landscape of college sports and how they help higher education institutions fulfill their missions. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Hypebeast notes UMaine ASCC 3D-printed bio-based house

23 Mar 2023

In an article about the world's first 3D-printed hotel coming to Marfa, Texas, Hypebeast noted the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center's Biohome 3D, a 3D-printed house made of fully recyclable natural materials.

Media cite UMaine collaborations with Biofine

23 Mar 2023

In an article about Biofine Developments Northeast announcing its partnership with the Town of Lincoln to develop a biofuels refinery on the former site of the Lincoln Pulp & Tissue Mill, News Center Maine and Mainebiz noted that Biofine has demonstrated the technology over the course of many years at the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute at the University of Maine. ConstrucionEquipmentGuide.com shared the Mainebiz report.

WFVX shares UMaine School of Performing Arts events

23 Mar 2023

WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) shared events from the University of Maine School of Performing Arts. This weekend, the UMaine Singers and Alumni Concert at the Collins Center for the Arts will celebrate longtime University Singers conductor, Dennis "DC" Cox. Next weekend, the Department of Theatre offers up the play "Everybody," a modern adaption of the 15th-century morality play, at the Cyrus Pavilion Theatre.

Phys.org shares UMaine study about teacher burnout

23 Mar 2023

Phys.org reported on a new University of Maine study that suggests the personal protective factors of resilience and compassion satisfaction, and the professional factor of working in a positive school climate are key to mitigating burnout among teachers.

WABI boosts 'Silent Sky' production at Versant Power Astronomy Center

23 Mar 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the True North Theatre will host performances of the play "Silent Sky" on March 23, at the Versant Power Astronomy Center. For more information about the production, visit the center's website.

Kaitlin McCullough: Commencement singer shares her passion for music

23 Mar 2023

Kaitlin McCullough has spent years shaping her own unique singing voice, and she is ready to share it with thousands of people during the 2023 University of Maine commencement ceremonies. Commencement is not the first event at which McCullough, a UMaine senior from Ellsworth majoring in music education, has sung the “National Anthem.” She performed it during the 2022 State of the University Address and at an event in the Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Commencement, however, will have the largest audience for which she has ever performed — three ceremonies for a total traditionally of more than 12,000 graduates and in-person guests, plus countless others viewing the livestreams. “It’s kind of crazy to really think about how I’m actually singing the ‘National Anthem’ at my own commencement,” she says. “I worked really hard, through my degree progress here especially, to find my own voice, and being able to put that forward to the rest of the college community is very surreal.” Growing up, McCullough participated in multiple choirs at school and in church. Once she was in high school, McCullough primarily focused on playing flute in chamber, concert and jazz bands, as well as pit orchestra. It wasn’t until her senior year that she returned to the stage as a singer, participating in her school’s show choir and Maine All State Music Festival. At UMaine, McCullough has been a member of UMaine Symphonic Band, Pride of UMaine Marching Band, Screamin' Black Bears Pep Band, Collegiate Chorale, and various jazz groups. She also is currently the assistant conductor and soprano lead for University of Maine Singers, which she joined in her sophomore year. “I think the biggest thing that I’ve learned from being a performer is that I don’t see stage fright as fright, I see it as excitement,” she says. “I think you get the nervous butterflies in your stomach before a performance because you’re excited that it’s going to happen and you want to put your best foot forward.” When exploring different colleges at which to study, McCullough says she chose UMaine for its affordability; proximity to home; talented and compassionate faculty, a couple of whom she met during her audition into the School of Performing Arts; and acceptance of her desire to specialize in both singing and flute. “A lot of other schools I looked at were not as open to having someone do a dual concentration of studying flute and voice, and I really wanted to be able to become the most well-rounded educator,” she says, “and UMaine is a strong program that allowed me to do what I wanted, how I wanted it and to try everything.” In addition to performing, McCullough has been student teaching at Reeds Brook Middle School and Hampden Academy, both in Hampden, Maine, this semester. As an educator, McCullough says she ensures that her students receive structured lessons, have fun, and feel welcomed and heard. She also tells her students not to fear performing — saying to them that they’re nervous because they’re excited — and encourages them to find their own unique voice and playing style, just how she was supported to do so by her past instructors in high school and at UMaine. McCullough says her teacher inspirations include Ellsworth High School Band teacher Jamie Calandro, who expresses interest in all of his students; UMaine School of Performing Arts director Philip Edelman, a kind and caring educator, and UMaine flute instructor Elizabeth Downing, her “biggest cheerleader.” After graduating, McCullough plans to pursue a full-time teaching career and eventually a master’s degree in music education. “I really love to see a smile on a kid’s face when they come into the music room. You can really see a stress relief because it’s a place where they feel safe and heard, and also music is fun,” she says. “It warms my heart up so much.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Coughlin named UMaine vice president for enrollment management

23 Mar 2023

[caption id="attachment_96401" align="alignright" width="223"]  Kevin Coughlin[/caption] Kevin Coughlin, vice president for enrollment management and services at Florida International University with a more than 20-year career in student recruitment and retention, has been named vice president for enrollment management at the University of Maine, effective June 16. “We look forward to the national leadership and vision Kevin will bring to student recruitment and retention efforts at the state’s flagship,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “Maine’s R1 research university is student-centric and committed to helping fulfill the state’s needs for workforce and economic development. Kevin is as dedicated to student recruitment as he is the quality of the student experience and overall learner success.” In 2014, Coughlin was named Florida International University registrar and, in 2017, interim vice president for enrollment management and services. He has served as vice president for enrollment management and services since 2018. “Kevin’s range of experience and expertise, all with a data-driven focus — from new student recruitment efforts to retention initiatives, financial aid optimization and strategic planning — will benefit UMaine and UMaine Machias prospective and current undergraduates,” says John Volin, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. “We welcome his collaborative leadership to advance student success initiatives at all levels, starting with our incoming classes.” Prior to joining the Florida International University community, Coughlin was dean of student services, 2009–10, and dean of institutional research, planning and effectiveness, 2010–14 at Edison State College. He also served as registrar and director of academic course level assessment. In addition, Coughlin held enrollment leadership roles at the University of South Florida and Lake Erie College. Coughlin has a Ph.D. from the University of South Florida. “With faculty members consistently winning NSF CAREER awards, students able to engage in research learning experiences when they first enter the university, and professional staff members working with a zealous commitment to student success, the University of Maine has all the hallmarks of a premier, high-impact, R1 institution,” Coughlin says. “From the moment I stepped on campus, I encountered solutions-focused, curious, future-oriented students, staff, faculty and administrators; without exception, every person that I met represented the best of university life. I am thrilled to be joining the UMaine team, and I am eagerly preparing for June 16.”

Learn to grow better berries with UMaine Extension small fruit specialist

24 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold a berry growing workshop on Saturday, April 8 at 10 a.m. at the Hancock County Extension office, 63 Boggy Brook Road, Ellsworth. Raspberries and blackberries are among the favorite fruits of gardeners, but keeping the plants vigorous and productive can be a challenge in Maine's climate. Extension small fruit specialist David Handley will take a detailed look at growing raspberries and blackberries, including variety selection, planting, pruning, trellising and pest management for successful harvests. Weather permitting, the session will include a demonstration in the garden. There is no fee for the workshop; reservations are required by emailing sue.baez@maine.edu or calling 207.667.8212. Space is limited. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sue Baez, 207.667.8212. This workshop is part of a monthly series on gardening topics held on Saturday mornings for Master Gardener Volunteers and members of the public.

Department of Art 2023 Student Exhibition in Lord Hall Gallery open April 3–28

24 Mar 2023

The Department of Art's 2023 Student Exhibition will open in Lord Hall Gallery from April 3–28. The gallery is free, accessible and open to the public Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. A public reception will be held on Friday, April 7 from 5–7 p.m. Refreshments will be served. This show is a celebration of the creative endeavors of students taking art classes at UMaine. The 2023 Student Exhibition includes a range of media representing the variety of courses. Students who were enrolled in an art class in fall 2022 and spring 2023 had the opportunity to submit up to six pieces and selections were made by a guest juror. This year's juror is Timothy Peterson, an established executive director, curator and advocate for artists, contemporary art, access and organizational transparency. He currently serves as the executive director and chief curator of the Center for Maine Contemporary Art in Rockland.

Filmed version of Wiemann's opera 'I Give You My Home' to screen around New England

24 Mar 2023

Screenings of a filmed version of the opera "I Give You My Home," with music and libretto written by Beth Wiemann, professor of music and director of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center, will be screened in venues across New England in March and April. The piece, inspired by the life and work of Rose Standish Nichols, has been translated to film by Guerilla Opera. Cara Consilvio directed the film. Scheduled screenings include:

- March 24, 7 p.m., at the Mosesian Center for the Arts, Watertown, Massachusetts.
- March 26, 7 p.m., at the Colonial Performing Arts Center, Keene, New Hampshire.
- March 29, 3 p.m., and April 2, 2 p.m., at the Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine

The Guerilla Opera will host a virtual premiere of "I Give You My Home" via livestream on April 6 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available online. For more information, visit the School of Performing Arts website.

UMaine students, faculty to present at 2023 Maine Sustainability and Water Conference

24 Mar 2023

A number of University of Maine students and faculty members will present at the 2023 Maine Sustainability and Water Conference at the Augusta Civic Center on March 30. UMaine's Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions is the lead organizer of the event. For more information and to register, visit the event webpage. Session chairs include Parker Gassett, Climate Resilience Coordinator, Maine Climate Science Information Exchange, Maine Sea Grant, for the session Applied Research to Advance Coastal Climate Resilience; Andres Urcuqui-Bustamante, Ph.D. student at the School of Forest Resources, for the session Protecting Key Ecosystems through Integrated Pest Management in Maine; Sharon Klein, professor at the School of Economics and Mitchell Center Faculty Fellow, for the session Maine Community Resilience Partnership: Supporting Local Climate and Energy Action; and Caroline Noblet, associate professor at the School of Economics, and masters student Charity Zimmerman for the session Voices of the PFAS Issue in Maine. Session presenters include Jessica Reilly-Moman, former Ph.D. student at the Darling Marine Center; Sean M.C. Smith, associate professor at the Earth and Climate Sciences and Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions; Mark Jordan, Ph.D. student at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences; Julie Gosse, associate professor of biochemistry; Andrei Alyokhin, professor of applied entomology; Stephanie Hurd, Ph.D. student in ecology and environment sciences; Regina Smith, program manager at the Cooperative Forestry Research Unit; David Handley, vegetable and small fruit specialist at UMaine Extension; Alex Scearce, masters student of plant, soils and environmental science; Erin Percival Carter, assistant professor of marketing at the Maine Business School; and Kathleen Bell, professor at the School of Economics. Undergraduate student poster presenters include Noah Burby, Honors College, School of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences; Angeline Casella and Robert "Cade" King, School of Earth and Climate Sciences; Hayden Libby, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering; and Molly Shea and Bruce Wyatt, Honors College, School of Economics. Graduate student poster presenters include Yuksel Rudy Alkarem, Liam Hanley, Nicolas Cyr and Debora Barros, Coasts, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers Institute (COPRI); Taylor Bailey, Vanessa Mahan, Elisabeth Younce, Grace Johnson and Simin Moavenzadeh Ghaznavi, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Abigail Bennett, School of Forest Resources; Beth Davis, School of Biology and Ecology; Gabrielle Hillyer and Rachel White, Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences; B Lauer and Jennifer Smith-Mayo, Department of Communication and Journalism; Alissa Miller-Gonzalez, Charity Zimmerman and Benjamin Cotton, School of Economics.

Media share 4-H special interest club about algae

24 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Penobscot Bay Pilot, Sun Journal, CentralMaine.com and Morning Ag Clips shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H online club for ages 12–18 about algae and its impact on surrounding ecosystems. The special interest, or SPIN, club will meet from 4–5 p.m. Wednesdays from April 12–May 17. For more information and to register, visit the program webpage.

Tasnim interviews Schattman for Frontiers in Science News

24 Mar 2023

Rafa Tasnim, Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences, conducted a Q&A with Rachel Schattman, assistant professor sustainable agriculture at the School of Food and Agriculture, for Frontiers in Science News. They discussed accessibility to clean water and sanitation through the lens of Schattman's research expertise and perspectives on sustainable agriculture and climate change.

News Center Maine features UMaine engineers creating origami-inspired structures

24 Mar 2023

News Center Maine reported on a project led by UMaine engineering professor Masoud Rais-Rohani and sponsored by the U.S. Army DEVCOM Soldier Center that aims to create deployable structures to help shelter people in a short amount of time. "[The] ultimate goal is to see it mass produced, mainly for humanitarian aid operations," Rais-Rohani said.

BDN reports on Fogler Library gifts

24 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that two planned gifts from a University of Maine alumnus totaling $2 million will be used to enhance the digital resources of Raymond H. Fogler Library and provide additional scholarship assistance to University of Maine business majors.

Lilley speaks to Maine Public about Maine Maple Sunday

24 Mar 2023

Jason Lilley, assistant Extension professor and Maine sustainable agriculture and maple industry educator, was a panelist on Maine Public's show Maine Calling discussing maple syrup production in Maine and the upcoming Maine Maple Sunday.

Birkel interviewed by BDN about mud season

24 Mar 2023

Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about the impact of climate change on Maine's mud season. Birkel said that thanks to climate change, exceptionally muddy conditions could start earlier and last longer, as extreme weather events with wildly fluctuating temperatures are becoming increasingly common and leaving a muddy wake in their path.

Glover, LaBouff to present about democracy with Maine Conservation Voters March 31

27 Mar 2023

Rob Glover, associate professor of political science, and Jordan LaBouff, associate professor of psychology, both at the University of Maine and the Honors College, will present a webinar, "Understanding Poll Workers, the Unsung Heroes of Our American Democracy" on March 31, noon–1 p.m. with Maine Conservation Voters. Glover, LaBouff and Carrie Levan, assistant professor of government at Colby College, will present initial findings from an ongoing project to understand the characteristics and experiences of poll workers in Maine. For more information and to register, visit the event webpage.

University of Maine to host Fresh Check Day April 3

27 Mar 2023

University of Maine will host Fresh Check Day on April 3, from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. in the atrium outside of the bookstore in the Memorial Union. Fresh Check Day is a concept created by the Jordan Porco Foundation that brings the whole campus community together to "check-in" on the mental health and wellness of college students. The event is free and has been organized by the Student Wellness Resource Center, as well as numerous university departments such as the Counseling Center with student volunteers and representatives of the Jordan Porco Foundation. The event will include booths with positive peer-to-peer messaging and interactive exhibits combined with food, prizes and giveaways. This year's event will also include a ball pit, mirror painting, a trail mix bar and other hands-on experiences. This is the university's fifth Fresh Check Day, after hosting the first in 2019. For more information, visit the event website or contact kevin.hudson1@maine.edu.

CentralMaine.com shares seed starting workshop

27 Mar 2023

CentralMaine.com shared a Seed Starting Indoors workshop scheduled for March 31, 12:30-3 p.m. at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Somerset County office. Brett Johnson, UMaine Extension sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional, will share strategies used to optimize conditions for seed germination, seedling growth and acclimation to the outdoors. For more information and to register, visit the program webpage.

WABI features Heroes and Hope dodgeball tournament

27 Mar 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on the MBS Corps' annual Heroes and Hope dodgeball tournament at the New Balance Field House. The tournament doubled as a fundraiser, donating proceeds to the Maine Veterans Project (MVP) and Service Dog Strong.

Giles speaks to Spectrum News about Maine Maple Sunday

27 Mar 2023

Spectrum News interviewed Karen Giles, a 4-H youth program professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Somerset County, about Maine Maple Sunday. Giles said that milder weather can promote an early start to the sap season. “The sap starts running once the temperatures reach about 40 degrees,” she said.

Media report on Talty winning National Books Critic Circle for ‘Night of the Living Rez’

27 Mar 2023

Maine Public, the Los Angeles Times, the Portland Press Herald, Publishers Weekly, Book Riot and the AP reported that Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, was awarded the John Leonard Prize for the best first book in any genre from the National Book Critics Circle. Yahoo News shared the PPH report. The Washington Post and the Globe and Mail shared the AP report.

Maine Sea Grant co-hosting phytoplankton to fisheries acoustics symposium March 27-30

27 Mar 2023

Maine Sea Grant is co-hosting the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Fisheries and Plankton Acoustics Symposium with NOAA, ICES, and the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development through March 30 at the Holiday Inn By the Bay in Portland. The aim of this symposium, entitled “From Echosounders to the Cloud: Transforming Acoustic Data to Information,” is to facilitate exchange among scientists and engineers who develop acoustic instrumentation that collects data and generates information critical for conserving fisheries and ecosystems. Acoustic instrumentation monitors and collects data about many facets of the ocean ecosystem that until now have been too expensive or impossible to monitor. In response to this meteoric increase in data, the fisheries and plankton acoustic community has evolved to integrate multiple data streams using analytic techniques such as artificial intelligence and machine learning. The data are used to generate information used by resource managers and policymakers that manage healthy ecosystems for everyone to enjoy. The conference focuses on early career scientists, and convenes participants from 30 countries. The symposium has been designated as a United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development event. The full program and symposium proceedings can be found on the event webpage.

Thirty-one faculty members receive tenure and/or promotion

28 Mar 2023

At the University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias, 31 faculty members have received tenure and/or promotion this spring. The annual announcement recognizes outstanding achievement in teaching, scholarship and research, and community engagement. Tenure for 21 of the faculty members was approved by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees on March 27. “These are world-class faculty members who contribute to the quality of the UMaine and UMaine Machias student experience, and to the mission of the state’s R1 university in meeting the needs in Maine and beyond,” says John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. “We are extremely proud of their achievements and the difference they make through their teaching, scholarship and outreach.”

University of Maine

Promoted to Professor

College of Engineering

- John Allen, Electrical Engineering Technology
- Wilhelm Alexander Friess, Mechanical Engineering

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Cynthia Isenhour, Anthropology and Climate Change
- Michael Socolow, Communication and Journalism
- Ellen Weinauer, English

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- Damian Brady, Marine Sciences
- Teresa Johnson, Marine Policy

Maine Business School

- Patti Miles, Operations Management

Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure

College of Education and Human Development

- Rebecca Buchanan, Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction
- Sarah Howorth, Special Education

College of Engineering

- Babak Hejrati, Mechanical Engineering
- Meredith Kirkmann, Construction Engineering Technology
- Karissa Tilbury, Bioengineering
- Yingchao Yang, Mechanical Engineering

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Joel Anderson, History
- Tyrone Crisp, Mathematics
- Liliana Herakova, Communication and Journalism
- Mark McLaughlin, History and Canadian Studies
- Bonnie Newsom, Anthropology
- Liping Yu, Physics

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- Elizabeth Armstrong, Social Work
- Kristina Cammen, Marine Mammal Science
- Parinaz Rahimzadeh-Bajgiran, Remote Sensing of Natural Resources
- Amber Roth, Forest Wildlife Management
- Joshua Stoll, Marine Policy
- Yongjiang Zhang, Applied Plant Physiology

Awarded Tenure at Current Rank of Associate Professor

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- Andrei Kurbatov, Earth and Climate Sciences
- Melody Neely, Molecular and Biomedical Sciences

Maine Business School

- Yonggang Lu, Business Analytics

Promoted to Associate Extension Professor/Associate Professor with Continuing Contract

Cooperative Extension

- Vanessa Klein, 4-H STEM Specialist

University of Maine at Machias

Promoted to Professor

- Tora Johnson, Geographic Information Systems

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

BDN shares UMaine Fresh Check Day

28 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine will host Fresh Check Day on April 3 from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. in the atrium outside of the bookstore in the Memorial Union. Fresh Check Day is a concept created by the Jordan Porco Foundation that brings the whole campus community together to “check-in” on the mental health and wellness of college students. The event is free and has been organized by the Student Wellness Resource Center, as well as numerous university departments such as the Counseling Center with student volunteers and representatives of the Jordan Porco Foundation. For more information, visit the event website.

PPH highlights UMaine Extension role in 100 Resilient Yards program

28 Mar 2023

The Portland Press Herald reported that South Portland is partnering with University of Maine Cooperative Extension for the 100 Resilient Yards Program, an initiative that unites experts and trained volunteers with landowners to transition 100 properties into resilient and natural landscapes.

Health quotes Dill in article about rise of Babesiosis

28 Mar 2023

In an article about the rise of the tick-borne disease Babesiosis, Health spoke to Griffin Dill, manager of the Tick Lab at the University of Maine. Dill said that the increasing spread of babesiosis is directly related to the increasing population size and geographic range of the blacklegged tick. “There are a variety of factors including land use change, climate change, changes in wildlife populations, and changes in human behavior that have contributed to the blacklegged tick’s ability to spread into new regions which it turn has allowed babesiosis and other [tick-borne] illnesses to spread,” Dill said. Yahoo Life shared the Health report.

Maine Business School students competed in the CFA Institute Research Challenge

29 Mar 2023

Four Maine Business School students competed in the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute Research Challenge state finals in early March. The annual global competition offers students real-world experience as research analysts. For the full story, visit the Maine Business School website.

Mitchell Center to host third annual Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit April 14

29 Mar 2023

The Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit, Maine’s annual food waste education event, is scheduled for Friday, April 14, from 10 a.m.–noon via Zoom. The event is free and open to the public. Registration is required. Food waste has economic, social, environmental and climate impacts. Nearly 40% of food produced in the U.S. is never eaten, costing the country $285 billion in 2019. Nationwide, $5 million per day is spent on food that is wasted in schools. In Maine, 97% of food waste goes to landfills, contributing to harmful pollution and climate change. Meanwhile, 1 in 8 adults and 1 in 5 children in Maine go hungry every day. “Food waste is a major financial, social and environmental problem that impacts all Maine people, but the great news is that there are simple solutions,” says Susanne Lee, faculty fellow at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine. “We host this free online event so that everyone can attend and learn to reduce wasted food.” The summit brings together key food system participants — residents, farms, food businesses, charitable food partners, community leaders, nonprofits and state representatives — to learn about Maine’s food waste problem and solutions. This year’s keynote speakers include Claudia Fabiano from the Environmental Protection Agency’s “Food: Too Good To Waste” peer network and Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, Maine First District representative, a leading sponsor of bipartisan legislation to help end food waste. Linda Breggin and Margaret Badding from the Environmental Law Institute will also present about the connection between food waste and climate change, and how communities can work to solve both at the same time. The “MaineSuccess Stories” segment will recognize inspiring food waste initiatives across the state. Leaders from Preble Street Food Security Hub, Scrap Dogs Community Compost and Hannaford’s Zero Food Waste program will detail their food waste solutions. A highlight of the summit is the presentation of the latest food waste pilot solutions by Mitchell Center student interns. Students Halle Rogers, Andrew MacMaster, Kate Flynn, Eddie Nachamie and Hannah Mathieu will talk about reducing, recovering and recycling food waste with key stakeholder partners, including Northern Light Health, Rockland AIO Food Pantry, Maine Department of Corrections and select Maine elementary schools in Buxton, Lisbon, Orono and Sebago. “Our stakeholder-driven research process really teaches you to integrate multiple perspectives in order to develop successful solutions to food waste,” says first-year food waste intern Eddie Nachamie. “Seeing our solutions in action and measuring their real-world impact — that’s a unique and exciting aspect of this internship.” The third annual Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit is hosted by the Mitchell Center and Food Rescue MAINE. This online event is free and open to the public. Register online by April 7 to receive Zoom connection information. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Susanne Lee at susanne.lee@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host talk on climate adaptation planning for rural communities April 10

29 Mar 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, “Rural Maine Feels the Heat,” on Monday, April 10 at 3 p.m. Speaker Brian McGill, professor at the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions and the School of Biology and Ecology at the University of Maine, will present ongoing efforts and preliminary results from a National Science Foundation-funded research project to increase Maine and Vermont’s climate change adaptation planning and capacity. Much of Maine’s economy is dependent on natural resources, whether directly through harvesting or indirectly through tourism. Climate change will require substantial adaptation, not just from crops, trees and wildlife, but also from the rural communities whose economies depend upon them. McGill is the lead investigator of an interdisciplinary grant studying adaptation to climate change in Maine and Vermont that involves eight faculty and three universities (UMaine, University of Maine at Augusta, University of Vermont), as well as stakeholders from conservation and agriculture as advisors. McGill will discuss the models leading to near-term, policy-relevant predictions of range shifts of crops and conservation targets in response to climate change; changing phenology of crops and resulting changing agricultural practices; national analysis of farmer adaptive behaviors such as crop switching; and modeling of the impact of social networks on adaptation. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offers webinar on growing unique fruit in Maine on April 11

29 Mar 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners on growing unique fruits in Maine from 6–7:15 p.m. on April 11. Join orchardist and nurseryman Jesse Stevens for Beyond the Apple: Growing Unique Fruit in Maine, a webinar focused on lesser known perennial and woody crops. For 15 years, Stevens has been trialing a wide variety of fruit- and nut-bearing plants in western Maine and will share his experiences of growing, propagating, harvesting, marketing and utilizing species like hardy kiwi, haskap, figs and many more. Registration is required; a sliding scale fee is optional. Register on the event webpage to attend live or receive the recording link. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Katherine Garland, 207.942.7396; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

The Travel highlights Zillman Art Museum

29 Mar 2023

The Travel featured the University of Maine's Zillman Art Museum in a guide of best things to do in Bangor.

Media share Mitchell Center Food Waste Solutions Summit

29 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Penobscot Bay Pilot, CentralMaine.com and Turner Publishing Inc. shared information about the Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit, Maine's annual food waste education event. The summit is scheduled for April 14, from 10 a.m.–noon via Zoom. The event is free and open to the public. The third annual Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit is hosted by the Mitchell Center and Food Rescue MAINE. Register online by April 7 to receive Zoom connection information.

Ellsworth American notes UMaine student participation in Downeast Chamber Orchestra performance

29 Mar 2023

The Ellsworth American noted that students from the University of Maine School of Performing Arts will join the Downeast Chamber Orchestra, Down East Maine's newest classical music ensemble, for a concert of notable classical works led by violinist and conductor Anatole Wieck on Friday, April 7, at 6 p.m. at Hammond Hall. For more information and to get tickets, visit the Winter Harbor Music Festival website.

BDN cites UMaine research about Bangor schools

29 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that Bangor school leaders and teachers are setting goals after evaluation research by the University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development that showed some Bangor students experience school differently based on their gender, race, socioeconomic status and whether they require additional academic support.

Washington Post interviews Gill about climate 'doomers'

29 Mar 2023

In an article about climate "doomers," the Washington Post spoke to Jaquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology at the School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute. Gill told the Washington Post that in 2018 she started hearing different sorts of questions when she spoke at panels or did events online. "I started getting emails from people saying: 'I'm a young person. Is there even a point in going to college? Will I ever be able to grow up and have kids?'... If you try to push back on this in any way, you get accused of minimizing the climate crisis. I've been accused of being a shill for the fossil fuel industry," Gill said.

MacRae speaks to BDN about Maine companies that emit most pollutants

29 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, for an article about the Maine companies that emit the most pollutants. "I think we should continue to keep an eye on the companies that are releasing toxic chemicals, particularly dioxins," MacRae said.

UMaine awarded $11.3 million from NIH to support biomedical research

30 Mar 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated March 31, 2023. The University of Maine has received a $11.3 million Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support interdisciplinary biomedical research. The COBRE award will focus on research about the mechanisms that regulate cellular behavior in response to cues from outside the cells, from the impact of persistent viral infections on cell systems to the mechanisms that lead to muscle cell development. The research has the potential to inform future treatment of infectious diseases, neuromuscular disorders and muscle aging and regeneration. "UMaine is the only institution in the state that grants doctoral degrees in biomedical science and biomedical engineering through its Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering," says Kody Varahramyan, vice president for research and dean of the UMaine Graduate School. "This COBRE, which will be UMaine's first, will transform UMaine's ability to serve as the academic leader for biomedical research in Maine and feed the growing biomedical research industry in Maine. This research will elucidate basic biological mechanisms underlying cell behavior and also has the potential to inform the future treatment of infectious diseases, neuromuscular disorders, and muscle aging and regeneration." The COBRE award is led by Clarissa Henry, professor of biological sciences in the School of Biology and Ecology and director of the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering at UMaine. "This award will transform the landscape of biomedical research at the University of Maine and foster

innovation in the life sciences statewide," Henry says. It will primarily support five research projects led by early career investigators from UMaine and the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, including UMaine's Melissa Maginnis, Jared Talbot, Joshua Kelley and Ben King, as well as Romain Madelaine at the MDI Bio Lab. "The MDI Biological Laboratory is very pleased to collaborate on this Maine-based research initiative," says MDI Bio Lab President Herman Haller. "Romain Madelaine's work on the cellular mechanisms of muscle regeneration holds great promise for improving the way we age. The COBRE award will accelerate his discoveries and more by university faculty and students." As program director for the COBRE award, Henry will mentor the research team as they develop their projects. The award also aims to bolster UMaine's ability to serve as the academic leader for biomedical research in the state and feed its growing biomedical research industry through the Institute of Medicine and College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. For example, this award will support the creation of a Microscopy and Image Analysis Core headed by Rob Wheeler, associate professor of microbiology, that will provide access to super-resolution confocal microscopy and support unbiased image analysis. The award will also support burgeoning biomedical researchers through assistantships in the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering (GSBSE). Currently, UMaine is the only institution in the state that grants doctoral degrees in biomedical science and biomedical engineering. "One of the most exciting aspects of this grant is the explicit integration of research with training of the next generation of biomedical scientists," says Henry. "The University of Maine has a phenomenal cluster of early career biomedical faculty and I am thrilled that this award will propel their research careers, increase campus and statewide collaboration, and add meaningful undergraduate and graduate research experiences." The award starts April 5, 2023. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

'The House We Lived In' screening April 10 at DPC

30 Mar 2023

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is hosting a public presentation of the film "The House We Lived In," with a post-screening talk and Q&A with the filmmaker Tim O'Donnell and his father. A decade in the making, O'Donnell confronts family, memory and addiction as he chronicles his father's journey to recover lost memories following a traumatic brain injury. Using experimental approaches with projected installations, he attempts to find those missing memories in hopes of finding the dad he used to know. As memories return in the form of dreams, the family struggles with acceptance of this new version of their father. The screening will be on Monday, April 10, at 6 p.m. in DP Corbett Room 100. Free parking is available at the Collins Center for the Arts lot. Register to attend the screening on campus or remotely here.

Fogler Library to host online Research Impact Challenge April 10–14

30 Mar 2023

Fogler Library and Office of the Vice President for Research will host the online Research Impact Challenge from April 10–14. This online, asynchronous program is open to all, with particular relevance for faculty, staff and graduate students. Each day for five days, participants will receive an email with tasks designed to build and curate scholarly profiles, measure the impact of research and promote work to reach new audiences. Materials will remain live and accessible after the event. RSVP for the challenge here. For questions or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jen Bonnet, jenbonnet@maine.edu.

'The Maine Question' explores the Honors College experience

30 Mar 2023

Established in 1935, the University of Maine Honors College is one of the oldest continuously running honors programs in the U.S. Its students, who are among the top undergraduates at UMaine, explore texts, ideas, the arts and current events through an interdisciplinary lens in an academically rigorous environment. Their class sizes are small and emphasize student engagement and lively discussion. In their senior year, honors students work on a thesis or project that pertains to their major and their passions. In episode six of season eight of "The Maine Question," Dean Ellen Weinauer and four students discuss what it's like to learn and thrive in the Honors College. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

PenBay Pilot promotes UMaine Hutchinson Center public speaking program

30 Mar 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot shared that registration is open for an in-person professional development course about public speaking, offered May 4 through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. More information is available on the Hutchinson Center website.

The Island Packet cites UMaine Extension information about tussock moth caterpillars

30 Mar 2023

In an article about avoiding rashes from tussock moth caterpillars, the Island Packet cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension explaining that children are much more susceptible to receiving a rash than adults, and are also at risk of receiving a much harsher variation of this rash.

Bond co-writes article about play for Inside Higher Ed

30 Mar 2023

Niya Bond, Ph.D. candidate in higher education at the University of Maine, co-wrote an article for Inside Higher Ed about the importance of play in learning. The article explained that Bond has created a video about the vision she has for the teaching and learning journey that she will share with students of her online courses and asks students to respond with short learning philosophy statements. The interactions can then set the tone for a term filled with teaching and learning symbiosis.

Wiscasset Newspaper shares Ross talk

30 Mar 2023

Wiscasset Newspaper noted that Camille Ross, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, will present a talk about her research into the foraging patterns of endangered North Atlantic right whales on April 19, 11 a.m. at the Boothbay Harbor Memorial Library.

BDN reviews 'Silent Sky' at UMaine Jordan Planetarium

30 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News reviewed True North Theatre's production of the play "Silent Sky" at the Versant Power Astronomy Center. "The true star of True North Theatre's 'Silent Sky' is the Maynard Jordan Planetarium at the University of Maine. The dome where the constellations and photographs are projected essentially act as the set backdrop even though they are overhead. Seeing the night sky while the characters talk about charting the stars is fascinating and gives theatergoers a greater understanding of how important the work done by women in the early 20th century was and still is," the review read.

Media report on $11.3 million UMaine grant from NIH

30 Mar 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and WVFX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that the National Institutes of Health awarded the University of Maine with a Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) award for $11.3 million to support biomedical research. The COBRE award will focus on research about the mechanisms that regulate cellular behavior in response to cues from outside the cells, from the impact of persistent viral infections to muscle cell development. WVIR-TV (NBC 29 in Charlottesville, Virginia) shared the WABI report.

MaineBiz reports on approval for Maine College of Engineering and Computing

30 Mar 2023

MaineBiz reported that a new Maine College of Engineering and Computing will be launched April 1 after approval by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees on Monday. The new college aims to combine the strengths of the University of Maine and University of Southern Maine to expand educational opportunities and help employers across the state meet future workforce needs.

Mayewski featured on Maine Public

30 Mar 2023

Maine Public's show Maine Calling featured Paul Mayewski, professor and director of the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Climate Change Institute. Mayewski discussed his latest research and what he has learned over the years about glaciers, melting ice, and human-induced climate change.

Volin to receive AERA award for co-led education research project

30 Mar 2023

The American Educational Research Association will present its 2023 Outstanding Conference Submission Award for the project, "Interrogating consequential education research: Exploring social networks connecting communities with a university environmental service-learning program." Team members on the project from the University of Connecticut include John Volin, now University of Maine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. Volin was co-principal investigator on the Environment Corps project at UConn. The award, cited by the Experiential Education and Community Engagement: Scholarship and Practice Special Interest Group, will be presented April 15 at the AERA Annual Meeting in Chicago. The theme of this year's annual meeting: Interrogating consequential education research in pursuit of truth. The AERA conference draws more than 15,000 scholars annually and is one of the most highly refereed conferences in the field of education.

UMaine Student Symposium for Research and Creative Activity set for April 14

31 Mar 2023

The 2023 Annual UMaine Student Symposium for Research and Creative Activity will be held on Friday, April 14, from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts. The event will showcase the research and creative work being done by University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias graduate and undergraduate students across disciplines. This event gives the wider UMaine community, including local business and legislative leaders, the opportunity to interact one-on-one with students who are shaping the future of Maine in education, art, engineering, science and the humanities. This year's keynote speaker is Kelsey Stoyanova, 2022 Maine Teacher of the Year. Stoyanova teaches 8th grade language arts at Reeds Brook Middle School in Hampden, and is a proud UMaine alumna. The UMaine Student Symposium is the culmination of Maine Impact Week, a yearly series of events focused on providing the public an opportunity to learn about UMaine's ongoing research and outreach efforts into the local community and beyond. The symposium is free and open to the public; registration is required. For more information about the program, the book of abstracts and information on attending, please visit the symposium webpage. Tag and follow the event on social media using the hashtag #UMSS23.

Media boost UMaine Extension workshop about growing unique fruit

31 Mar 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Morning Ag Clips, CentralMaine.com and the Sun Journal shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners on growing unique fruits in Maine from 6–7:15 p.m. on April 11. Register on the event webpage to attend live or receive the recording link.

Yahoo News interviews Dill about babesiosis

31 Mar 2023

Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, spoke to Yahoo News about the rise of the tick-borne illness babesiosis in the Northeast. “I think awareness is kind of the key there. We don't want people to be afraid of these illnesses and … prevent people from going outdoors and enjoying outdoor activities. But be aware and take some precautions when recreating outside,” Dill said.

Maine College of Engineering and Computing launching April 1

31 Mar 2023

The University of Maine System Board of Trustees on Monday approved an initial engineering framework for the Maine College of Engineering and Computing, leveraging the strengths of the University of Maine’s College of Engineering and the University of Southern Maine’s Department of Engineering for the benefit of students and employers statewide. The Maine College of Engineering and Computing, or MCEC, will offer expanded educational opportunities in collaboration with programs across the System and address the need for thousands of new engineering and computing graduates required for Maine’s future economic development. The college officially launches April 1 and is a signature initiative of the Harold Alfond Foundation’s historic $240 million investment to revitalize the System, known as UMS TRANSFORMS. The grant provides $150 million for the project — including a $75 million commitment from the Harold Alfond Foundation with a $75 million challenge match — to address statewide needs for a highly skilled workforce and innovations that are critical to moving Maine’s economy forward. Read the full story on the UMS website. Contact: Tory Ryden, tory.ryden@maine.edu, 207.852.5875.

Sam Ransley: Presenting award-winning essay at a global forum

03 Apr 2023

In fall 2022, University of Maine senior Sam Ransley of New Harbor, Maine, penned an essay about the threat of totalitarianism. He will soon present his essay to political science experts from across the U.S. and beyond at the World Social Science Association’s 65th Annual Conference in April in Tempe, Arizona. Ransley, who is majoring in political science with a minor in economics, earned the opportunity to share his work at a global forum after winning the Bert & Phyllis Lamb Prize in Political Science. The award, for which Ransley was one of two recipients this year, also includes an online publication of his essay on the Lamb Prize website, a plaque and $1,000. Ransley originally wrote the essay for a senior seminar taught by Robert Glover, associate professor of political science. Glover encouraged Ransley to apply for the award and helped him with the application and edits to his essay. By attending the World Social Science Association conference, Ransley hopes to meet with various experts, inquire about their research and learn tips on how to someday become an adept political science professor and scholar. “I’m grateful, and I hope to use the opportunity to learn a lot about the way political science conferences are done,” Ransley says. “There’s going to be a lot of smart people there, and I’m excited to talk to them.” In his essay, Ransley contends that democracy can be undermined by authoritarianism and totalitarianism today due to the decline of moderating social institutions like community and family. He also argues that the rise of technology like social media can, inadvertently or otherwise, undermine democracy by isolating people, keeping them in echo chambers and causing existential loneliness. “Democracy is one of the most important things to study, because without democracy, we don’t have the freedom to study anything else,” Ransley says. “I think that democracy — globally — is in a precarious place. I just worry that we might not learn from the lessons we should have already learned back in the 20th century.” For Ransley, preserving democracy and preventing the rise of authoritarianism and totalitarianism is possible by building more relationships, particularly those across political ideologies and socioeconomic circumstances. “I think we really should try to build relationships with every sort of person and make it something that matters, and establish, I would argue, a communitarian responsibility for one another,” he says, “because if we care about each other in a real deep way, I think that sort of thing can help stop the growth of totalitarianism. Because there is something more important than the government, and that’s your community.” Ransley’s love for political science derived from a fascination with philosophy, particularly moral and ethical quandaries, he had since he was a child. His interest broadened to authoritarianism and totalitarianism after reading works about early facism and “The Origins of Totalitarianism,” by political philosopher Hannah Arendt. Her work has been vital to Ransley’s studies in all three capstone courses he has taken at UMaine, as well as to the arguments in his essay. When he first enrolled at UMaine, Ransley was an economics major, then switched to education before settling on pursuing a political science degree. The Early Modern Political Thought course with Robert Ballingall, assistant professor of political science, that Ransley took his sophmore year was a key driver in his decision to switch majors, he says. Ransley, however, decided to keep studying economics as a minor because of its influence on politics, he says. “When I went home after that semester, I decided to build a government on paper,” Ransley says, “and I basically wrote up a draft constitution for this fake republic and I debated it with my friends for the following three or four months. Once I did that, I realized that this is amazing, this is brilliant and I cannot do anything else other than political science. It’s so fulfilling!” Ransley says all of his professors, no matter their subject matter, “had a profound influence on my personal and academic life.” Ballingall, Glover and Rebecca Buchanan, assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction, in particular, have demonstrated a passion for their areas of study to their students in ways Ransley hopes to replicate when he eventually becomes an educator. “The faculty is brilliant,” Ransley says. In addition to his studies, Ransley participated in student government for two years — which included serving as chair of the mental health services committee — as well as ballet and tango club. Ransley also served as president of the Commuter and Nontraditional Student Association, which he says provided him with a close-knit community. After UMaine, Ransley will pursue a master’s degree in political science at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UVAC to host open house on April 10

03 Apr 2023

The University Volunteer Ambulance Corps (UVAC) will host an open house event on April 10 from 8 a.m.–1 p.m. at UVAC’s bay in the Cutler Health Building. The event will mark the arrival and installation of new equipment, including a donated wireless router, safety equipment and software that will be installed in an ambulance. This installation is the second phase of upgrades that are being made at UVAC. NEWCOM has already completed the installation of a 360 degree camera on campus. According to UVAC Chief of Service Aiden Koplovsky, representatives from NEWCOM — as well as installers from Sugarloaf Ambulance, a professional camera crew from Cradlepoint as well as representatives from Brigade, HAAS Automation and Maine EMS — are expected to be present. In addition, invites have gone out to area fire and EMS chiefs. Koplovsky noted that the new equipment will enable UVAC to track the ambulance and securely transmit data from the ePCR and cardiac monitor system to not only a cloud-based network, but also to hospitals and mutual aid

partners.

Collins Center presenting Maine Indie Music Showcase April 15

03 Apr 2023

The University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts will host a Maine Indie Music Showcase, featuring four Maine-based bands, at 8 p.m. April 15. The event will include performances by headliner GoldenOak, a folk-inspired band with music rooted in the natural landscape; Gnocchi, a rock band from Orono; Midnight Breakfast, an indie-soul sextet; and Rigometrics, a rock band from Portland. Tickets are on sale for $20 for the public; $15 for students with MaineCard. Visit the Collins Center website to purchase tickets or for more information.

Mount Desert Islander shares Ellis reading

03 Apr 2023

The Mount Desert Islander shared that Kathleen Ellis, lecturer at the University of Maine Department of English, will conduct a poetry reading at Southwest Harbor Public Library at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 22. Ellis' latest book, "Body of Evidence," won the 2022 Grayson Books poetry award. To receive the link for online viewing, visit the library website.

Sun Journal cites UMaine data about overdoses

03 Apr 2023

In an article about two new substance use disorder recovery residences that will be built in the Lewiston area, the Sun Journal cited data from the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine showing that there were 715 confirmed and suspected fatal overdoses last year.

Schnieders speaks to Maine Monitor about noncredentialed 'navigators'

03 Apr 2023

Lori Schnieders, associate professor of psychology at the University of Maine at Machias, spoke to the Maine Monitor about a program that allows noncredentialed, adult "navigators," also known as community health workers, to escort students to private rooms within the schools for their teletherapy sessions in an attempt to address shortages in mental health professionals. "They definitely are putting people not qualified in those positions. My fear is that somebody's going to give some advice and a kid is going to wind up committing suicide," Schnieders said. The Bangor Daily News and News Center Maine shared the Maine Monitor report.

Civil Eats cites UMaine working waterfront data in article about oyster farmers

03 Apr 2023

In an article about the challenges faced by young oyster farmers as working waterfronts disappear, Civil Eats cited 2019 data from the University of Maine that shows only 20 miles of Maine's 5,300-mile coastline supports working-waterfront activities, a number that has decreased 20 percent since 2002. The data also show that working waterfronts generate more than $740 million in revenue annually and support roughly 35,000 jobs for the state.

Daily Bulldog boosts 4-H Agriculture Symposium

04 Apr 2023

The Daily Bulldog shared that Maine students ages 14–18 are invited to a 4-H Agriculture Symposium at the University of Maine April 20–21. For more information, visit the event webpage on the UMaine Extension website.

Ellsworth American shares Berigan and Filiberti presentation with Downeast Audubon

04 Apr 2023

The Ellsworth American noted that Liam Berigan and Emily Filiberti, graduate student researchers at the University of Maine studying bird migration using remote tracking technology, will present a talk titled "Migratory Marvels: Understanding Woodcock and Golden-winged Warbler Migration" with Downeast Audubon on April 12 at 7 p.m. at the Moore Community Center in Ellsworth.

WABI reports on UMaine Fresh Check Day

04 Apr 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on the University of Maine Student Life's Fresh Check Day event. "Students just don't have as much support and they feel they do, so this gives them that opportunity to understand there is a community behind them not only from the school but from outside as well," said Kevin Hudson, student life educator.

UMaine Alumni Awards honorees include Butterfield, Yardley and Labonte

04 Apr 2023

Two internationally recognized researchers, a selfless advocate for those in need, and a business-savvy financial expert are among the honorees being

recognized as part of the University of Maine Alumni Association's 2023 Alumni Achievement Awards Ceremony on April 28. Award recipients, selected through a formal nomination and review process that concluded in January, led by a standing committee of alumni volunteers, will be recognized at the Alumni Association's annual Alumni Achievement Awards Dinner and Celebration at UMaine's Wells Conference Center. The event is open to the public. For more information, contact alumni@maine.edu or call 207.581.1146. Professor D. Allan Butterfield '68, '02 D.Sc. (Hon.), University of Kentucky Alumni Association Endowed Professor of Biological Chemistry, has been chosen to receive the Alumni Career Award, the UMaine Alumni Association's highest alumni honor. Butterfield has been credited with numerous breakthroughs in the study of Alzheimer's disease and amnestic mild cognitive impairment, the precursor to Alzheimer's. He has received countless accolades for his work, including the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring, presented by President Bill Clinton in 1998, and an honorary doctorate from UMaine in 2002. Butterfield currently divides his time between Kentucky and Maine, and was recently recognized by the UMaine Institute of Medicine as their inaugural Distinguished Science Lecturer. Roberto Lopez-Anido, the Malcolm G. Long '32 Professor of Civil Engineering at UMaine, has been named the 2023 Distinguished Maine Professor, the Alumni Association's most prestigious faculty award. The honor is given to a UMaine professor who exemplifies the highest qualities of teaching, research and public service. It is sponsored by the UMaine classes of 1942 and 2002, and administered by the University of Maine Alumni Association. Shawn Yardley '79 has been selected to receive the Bernard Lown '42 Alumni Humanitarian Award for his decades of service to the underprivileged population in Maine. Serving most recently as the CEO for Community Concepts Maine before retiring, Yardley dedicated his career to advocacy and leadership, ensuring a better tomorrow for those struggling with today. He resides in Bangor. Justin Labonte '10 has been chosen to receive the Spirit of Maine Achievement Award. The award recognizes an individual who graduated within the past 15 years and has achieved outstanding professional success. Since graduating, Labonte earned an MBA from Harvard Business School, and has steadily climbed the corporate ladder, currently working at a Fortune 200 company as a vice president of global finance. Labonte is in his first term as a member of UMaine's Board of Visitors, and served for seven years on the UMaine Alumni Association's Board of Directors. He is a resident of New Milford, Connecticut. John Diamond '77, '89G has been selected to receive the Alumni Association's Suzanne Kay Hart '68 Alumni Service Award, which honors an individual whose leadership and service have advanced the organization's success and reputation. Diamond has held numerous leadership roles in the UMaine community over the past three decades, from senior director of public affairs to executive director of external affairs for the University of Maine System, and most recently as the president and CEO of the UMaine Alumni Association for seven years prior to his retirement. He resides in Blue Hill. Charles "Chip" Hutchins of Brewer has been selected to receive the Champion of UMaine Award. The award recognizes an individual who, though not a UMaine graduate, has been a strong and effective advocate for UMaine. Hutchins has continued his family's strong tradition of support for the university, specifically for the Collins Center for the Arts and UMaine's athletic programs. The Robbins family has been selected for the Fogler Legacy Award. The honor is awarded annually to a family with multiple generations of Black Bear graduates who have been actively engaged in volunteer service on behalf of UMaine, their community, and/or their respective professions. Through their family business, Robbins Lumber of Searsmont, they have provided significant support to the research efforts at the School of Forest Resources and the Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Kristin Gilmour '18, '20G was chosen to receive the Alumni Association's Rising Star Award in recognition of her tireless service to the UMaine M Club as a member of their Board of Directors. Gilmour has been an academic counselor in the athletics department for several years, and played on the women's ice hockey team as a student. She is a resident of Bangor. Established in 1875, the University of Maine Alumni Association is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting the interests of UMaine and its 110,000 alumni. Contact: Nicolette Hashey, nicolette.hashey@maine.edu

BDN shares McCullough profile

04 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared a profile of Kaitlin McCullough, a UMaine senior from Ellsworth majoring in music education who will be singing the National Anthem at the 2023 University of Maine commencement ceremonies.

Gill essay featured in Sierra Magazine

04 Apr 2023

Sierra Magazine featured an essay entitled "The Asteroid and the Fern" that Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, wrote for the collection "Not Too Late: Changing the Climate Story From Despair to Possibility" edited by Rebecca Solnit and Thelma Young Lutunatabua.

Cartwright writes opinion piece for BDN about TikTok

04 Apr 2023

Joy Cartwright, who will graduate from University of Maine this spring with a double major in marketing and sociology, wrote an opinion piece for the Bangor Daily News about whether TikTok should be banned in the United States. Cartwright researchers the risks and sociological implications of social media in the U.S. "In an age of social media, we must continue to educate the public about the harmful practices used by these corporations. The U.S. should define the next era of digital legislation and protection while preserving the integrity of American values," Cartwright wrote. The column is a guest contribution to the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

VEMI Lab debuts custom-built multi-person autonomous vehicle simulator

04 Apr 2023

The VEMI Lab at the University of Maine has launched its custom-built multi-person autonomous vehicle simulator, a unique platform for human-subject research in the automotive space. VEMI's Multimodal Omnidirectional Immersive Simulator for Inclusive Navigation or MOISIN (pronounced "mo-sheen") is unique as the first fully autonomous "people mover" or "robo-taxi" motion simulator, designed as a replacement for the human-driven taxis or ridesharing services available today. It has no steering wheel or pedals, and its cabin — outfitted with multi-directional seating for up to six people — sits atop a motion platform powered by actuators that give passengers the feeling of movement on the roads. Realistic cityscapes are projected onto 360-degree screens surrounding the unit, and integrated audio systems simulate both on-board and environmental sounds for a fully immersive experience. Members of the UMaine community, the public and the media are invited to visit the lab on Friday, April 7, from 4–6 p.m. for an open house featuring simulator demonstrations and a chance to meet VEMI students and staff. If you'd like to attend, please RSVP. "At the VEMI Lab, our core focus is on humans, and

that's precisely why we chose to build a multi-person AV simulator," says lab director Richard Corey. "We're primarily interested in a concept that we refer to as human-vehicle collaboration, which encompasses the needs of the people in the vehicle, the needs of the vehicle, and where those needs intersect." A key research question involves exploring inclusive technology solutions that will help ensure that future AV technology serves the widest set of user needs possible. "Fully autonomous vehicles have the potential to meaningfully expand transportation options for many individuals who aren't able to drive — notably the blind and visually impaired, including older adults — but only if they are designed inclusively," says VEMI chief research scientist and professor of spatial computing Nicholas Giudice. "What we call human-vehicle collaboration is a new frontier in human-computer interaction and one that will be increasingly important as we transition toward a future in which AVs are the dominant mode of transportation. Our research aims to ensure that the full range of user needs are considered in that transition." Maine offers a unique environment and opportunity to conduct autonomous vehicle research and testing with a cold-weather climate, diverse road infrastructure (from major highways to urban centers to logging roads), and an aging, rural populace that will greatly benefit from the availability of AVs. These factors are drawing automotive industry interest to Maine and creating new opportunities for research and development. It was the recognition of this opportunity that led the VEMI Lab to design and build MOISIN, which, like many VEMI projects, has been driven by student involvement. The software that runs the simulator and the virtual worlds within which it operates were created by student-led programming teams using Unity and Unreal Engine, interior electrical components (including LED lights and audio systems) were designed and implemented by students and staff, and VEMI students named the simulator. VEMI would also like to acknowledge collaboration with UMaine's Advanced Manufacturing Center, which has provided design and engineering support. Part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, VEMI attracts students from a range of disciplines, including biomedical engineering, computer science, interdisciplinary studies, mechanical engineering, psychology, physics, spatial computing, and more. "Working on MOISIN has been an amazing experience," says Anthony Caccese, a junior majoring in computer science. "When developing for a machine like this, there are a lot of things that need to be just right for a realistic experience. It's not only the dynamics of the simulator, but also other things, like having realistic graphics and making sure the motion of the vehicle and the graphics are in lockstep. It's been a lot of fun applying different concepts that I've learned over the years and I'm grateful to have gained this outside-the-classroom experience developing for such a unique project as an undergraduate." With assembly complete and initial simulations set up, the VEMI Lab team is working on additional software builds, multisensory user interfaces, and engineering development to refine the experience in preparation for research studies with human participants and continued collaboration with the automotive industry. Contact: Allen Adams, allen.adams@maine.edu, 207.581.1955

NIA grant will expand UMaine research on a wearable robotic system for home-based gait training for older adults

04 Apr 2023

Babak Hejrati, director of the Biorobotics and Biomechanics Laboratory in the University of Maine Department of Mechanical Engineering, has received a more than $432,000 grant from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to create a novel wearable robotic system and intelligent methods that, for the first time, will enable home-based and independent walking training for older adults. Maintenance of efficient walking ability is essential for high-quality and independent living in older adults. However, most older adults often demonstrate mild to moderate deficits in their walking that, if untreated, will lead to loss of mobility and increased risk of falls. Many of the changes in walking seen with aging are a reflection of impaired motor control that are not ameliorated by conventional training interventions. Through this funded project, Hejrati and his team also will create training methods based on motor learning exercises to enhance older-adult users' neuromotor systems and generate more effective and long-lasting improvements in their walking. The long-term goal of this research is to merge the training unobtrusively into older-adult users' daily living through seamless and low-profile wearable devices because neuromotor skills can be improved by regular training. Hejrati is also a recipient of a CAREER award from the National Science Foundation (NSF), which will enable his team to further expand their translational research in the areas of robotics, gait training and clinical gerontology. Contact: Chris Karlen, christopher.karlen@maine.edu

UMaine IEI hosts English language program with Japanese partner for 23 consecutive years

05 Apr 2023

The UMaine Intensive English Institute (IEI) hosted a virtual English language program for students from Hirosaki University in Japan from Feb. 26–March 9, 2023. Tokuji Noro, professor in the Department of English, faculty of Education at Hirosaki University, recruited the students and organized the program again this year. During the program this year, students participated in daily lessons with Hirosaki program instructors Cheryl Robertson and Gwyneth Esty-Kendall. The Hirosaki students joined the English program from 9 a.m.–noon Monday–Friday for two weeks during their vacation between their fall and spring semesters. The UMaine instructors offered the classes from 7–10 each night due to the time difference. "Working with Hirosaki University students and this program through IEI is always an honor," said Robertson. "At the beginning of the program, my students share with me their trepidation at speaking English out loud. By the end of the two weeks (that's all!), they have had a myriad of experiences with me, their host families and conversation partners, and each other. This community building on an international level is what I love about working with the Hirosaki program, and that initial fear of speaking English is gone." Esty-Kendall noted that she is grateful to be in her third year of working with Hirosaki University students. "Every year it is such a joy to teach students while also learning about their cultural experiences," she said. "I appreciate the opportunity to witness students build confidence in their English skills and to see the positive impact this program has on each of them in such a short time!" The classes were a success and the students were able to engage with the English language through both written and spoken communication. Students participated in a presentation about the IMRC lab at UMaine with Drew Hooke during the first week of the program. The following week, Adriana Cavalcanti, IEI administrative staff member, offered a presentation on Maine Indigenous culture by introducing a video published on the Emergence Magazine about tree migration and the impacts on the Passamaquoddy traditional knowledge on basket making. "The goal of the program is two-fold: that is, improving English skills and deepening cross-cultural understanding," said Tokuji Noro, professor of English at Hirosaki University. "For the last three years with the COVID-19 pandemic, we were left with no choice but to change it into a virtual program by remote learning. We thought we would have to discard the cultural learning part, but thanks to the enthusiasm and sincere dedication of those involved, especially host families, we were able to enjoy as much success as we did in the regular on-site programs" On Mondays and Wednesdays, Hirosaki students participated in conversation activities with current students of the University of Maine, many of whom were part of the Japanese language classes taught on the university campus. "The conversation partner's activity has been the core part of the program since the beginning of this program," Noro said. "Students engage in authentic communication in English with UMaine students, which they can hardly experience back in their home country. The online format of activity seemed to enhance the interactions among students, probably because it 'fits' in their communication style." "This program has been something that I've found truly rewarding and exciting as a previous student who studied in Japan. It was great being able to speak with and teach the students more about English as a second language," said Shania Soler, a conversation partner participant. A vital part of the program calls for students to have a host family. When the program was held in-person, students would stay with their families and learn more about the culture and the language; however, IEI still strived to keep a similar dynamic for students to have the best experience possible during their program. As such, IEI implemented a virtual host family aspect. Students were connected with families in the community and were able to interact with them via email, messaging,

and video calls on platforms such as Zoom and Skype. Many were initially worried if the virtual homestay experience would contribute as much or even a similar amount as that of an in-person experience. "In the past regular on-site programs, students always enjoyed and learned a great deal from their homestay experience, but we were afraid that the virtual program might not contribute much to their learning. However, as the saying goes, 'an attempt is sometimes easier than expected,' and voila, the Zoom sessions suddenly became places of such rich cultural exchanges," Noro said. "Both the students and host families were able to deepen their cross-cultural understanding mutually." In 2021 and 2022, John and Ginger Hwalek were virtual host parents to Eimi Kasai and Ayane Oshima, two students studying education at Hirosaki University. Eimi and Ayane planned to participate in the Hirosaki Program in Maine this year, but the 2023 in-person program was canceled and switched to virtual due to the pandemic situation. Kasai and Oshima were determined to come to Maine, so they worked with Noro and UMaine IEI to have an abbreviated study abroad experience during their winter break. John and Ginger gladly hosted them. Each morning they joined IEI language classes to work on their English skills. They experienced campus life including basketball and hockey games, a concert at Minsky Hall and exercising at the New Balance Student Recreation Center. Off campus, they saw a live production of "The Secret Garden," went tubing at Hermon Mountain and visited Acadia National Park. They also got to spend a day at Mary Snow School in Bangor observing classes and even taught the students how to count to ten in Japanese. "Imagine them teaching Japanese to American students in English! What an experience for these future teachers," the Hwaleks said. "At home we shared our cultures. We cooked both American and Japanese meals, watched Ghibli movies and American classics and read children's books in English and Japanese. One lasting impact of this is that Ginger is now a natto addict." Kristina Weaver and her children from Orono, Maine, volunteered as a host family for the program. "Our family has been participating in the program for three years, all remotely," Weaver said. "We decided to participate as a way to experience different viewpoints and share our love for Maine. It is a great opportunity to both help others learn, and learn ourselves. We particularly value the chance to show our kids how things are both different and the same in other places. The remote program has also given us more confidence about opening our home. We look forward to when we can host a student in person!" The virtual program IEI hosts each year bolsters an international connection with a university and students that are thousands of miles away. It opens up a bridge between two cultures and allows a joint learning to take place; a feat that has been proven stronger than any type of pandemic thanks to the continued motivation and support of not just the educators and community members, but the students as well, both international and local to UMaine. "It's a model that I have enjoyed, on site, and even on Zoom for the last three years. All folks involved with this program are to be commended for their sincere appreciation for teaching and working with all the students" said Cheryl Robertson, Hirosaki program instructor. This program creates a link between two universities and two communities. May 25, 1994, the state of Maine created a sister state connection with Aomori province in Japan. Aomori province is the region where Hirosaki University is located. Students from Hirosaki University can participate in this short program, and then pursue a semester or full year study abroad at the University of Maine. " Kaho Ikeda made such a choice. She participated in the 2021 Hirosaki virtual English program and arrived at UMaine on March 18 to join the IEI program in person. Ikeda will spend the next 10 months in Maine improving her English language skills, traveling around the state, taking university classes and making new friends. "I had wanted to study abroad since entering the university, however due to the COVID-19, I was not sure when I would be able to go abroad," said Ikeda. "That is when I came across the Maine Program. This UMaine virtual program gave me meaningful experiences. Even if it was online, I was able to communicate with my host family, students, and teachers. Also they took us [virtually] to the museum, taught us how to bake blueberry muffins, and we even danced Zumba together! It was virtual but the experiences were real." Orlina Boteva, director of the Office of International Programs at UMaine, is very happy to see a partnership that started with UMaine participating in a state of Maine Governor's mission to Japan, organized by the Maine International Trade Center in 2001, create such a lasting legacy. " "The program began in February-March, 2001 and continued every February–March until the year 2020, after which we had to do it online for three consecutive years in 2021, 2022, and this year, that is, 2023. The total number of participants counts 372 including this year!" said Noro, who has been at HIrosaki University since the beginning of the collaboration with UMaine. IEI plans to continue this program for the coming years and hope to offer the program in person in 2024.

UMaine CCIDS receives nearly $500K Maine DHHS grant to help adults with disabilities

05 Apr 2023

With a $499,970 grant from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services Office of Aging and Disability Services, the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS), will conduct a model demonstration project of intensive evidence-based behavioral intervention to help adults with disabilities who are currently subject to restrictive behavior management plans. CCIDS, Maine's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, will contract with behavioral clinicians (doctoral-level board-certified behavior analysts) to assess challenging behavior in a few volunteers who receive services and support whose rights are currently restricted. The goal is to understand what is causing and maintaining the challenging behavior, and to design changes in environment and practice so that these volunteers can get the support they need in a way that opens up more access to the community and less restriction of rights, says project leader Alan Cobo-Lewis, CCIDS director and associate professor of psychology at UMaine. The project will prioritize people in underserved areas of the state: Aroostook, Franklin, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Washington counties. "I am thrilled that we're able to combine a scientific approach to understanding behavior with a deep commitment to the human rights of people with disabilities," Cobo-Lewis says. "We really want to help improve the function and community inclusion of people with disabilities who need additional support — and to help the direct support professionals to be more effective in the support they provide." Participating behavior analyst Le'Ann Milinder, owner of Adventure ABA in Stockton Springs, says the grant is an important opportunity for Mainers with complex behavioral needs. "I'm grateful to OADS and the University of Maine for bringing applied behavior analysis to more people in underserved areas, who deserve access to evidence-based treatment that empowers them to lead the lives they want," Milinder says. Participating behavior analyst Kimberly Mills, who owns SR Behavioral Health in Hernando, Florida, and who was formerly the UCEDD director in the U.S. Virgin Islands, notes that applied behavior analysis is a powerful science that has helped change the lives of individuals with disabilities and families of people with disabilities throughout the World. "This is amazing news," says Mills. "I'm thrilled to be able to work to further this science in new and innovative ways." The project will also offer enhanced behavioral training to a pilot group of direct support professionals in Maine, toward their registered behavior technician (RBT) training. Sarah Howorth, assistant professor of special education in the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and a board certified behavior analyst, will consult with contractors and serve as a resource for RBT trainees. Howorth will also consult with Cobo-Lewis on proposing evaluation measures for independent evaluators to consider. "I am deeply committed to the advancement of our behavioral services and I'm excited to see what we can achieve," says Howorth, who is also director of Maine Access to Inclusive Education Resources. "Adults in these services deserve better." Project leadership will also make recommendations on how to implement a similar service in Maine's Home and Community Based Services waivers in a way that would be both effective and cost-effective. The project will be evaluated by the National Disability Institute (NDI). "I'm so excited at having an independent evaluation," says Cobo-Lewis. "This is the right way to combine science with human rights. This initiative is also a great example of the difference Maine's R1 university can make in people's lives." Contact: Sandra Horne, sandra.horne@maine.edu

Public health equity, ethics workshop co-sponsored by UMaine Institute of Medicine to be held April 6

05 Apr 2023

In recognition of National Public Health Week, the Maine Public Health Association will host a day-long, virtual workshop titled "Equity and Ethics in Public Health Research and Evaluation" from 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 6 via Zoom. The University of Maine Institute of Medicine is one of the event sponsors. Register online for this free workshop.

Labyrinths of New England display installed at Fogler Library

05 Apr 2023

In anticipation of World Labyrinth Day on May 6, a Labyrinths of New England display has been installed in the north lobby of Fogler Library. Intermedia artist Yadina Clark, who has been designing and visiting New England labyrinths over the past 10 years, provided the collection of photos, books and finger labyrinths. World Labyrinth Day is an annual international event founded by The Labyrinth Society in 2009. Every year on the first Saturday in May, thousands of people around the globe participate in World Labyrinth Day as a moving meditation for world peace and celebration of the labyrinth experience. For more information, visit the World Labyrinth Day website or contact Clark at yadina.clark@maine.edu.

Apply to be a Maine Learning Assistant

05 Apr 2023

The Maine Center for Research in STEM Education (the RiSE Center) is now accepting applications for undergraduate student employment as Maine Learning Assistants (MLAs) in the Faculty Course Modification Incentive Grant – Maine Learning Assistant (FIG-MLA) Program for fall 2023. MLAs serve as peer instructors, facilitating group work and assisting faculty as they transform their course to incorporate more interactive-engagement and student-centered instruction. MLAs learn to use innovative, research-based instructional strategies, develop relevant pedagogical skills, deepen their content understanding and have the opportunity to explore their interest in teaching while participating in a vibrant community of peers and faculty. The application, with additional information, is available online. Application review continues until all positions have been filled.

Times Record column highlights UMaine food pilot plant

05 Apr 2023

A Times Record column about gefilte fish and food waste reduction highlighted the University of Maine Dr. Matthew Highlands Pilot Plant, with a particular focus on its research to make food products from green crabs. "With the help of a deboning machine, they can separate the not-so-meaty crabs from their meat, resulting in a pile of shells and a pile of meat," writes column author Susan Olcott, also director of operations at the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association. "This is being used to test out a 'fish sauce' made from the green crab material."

Media promote Cooking for Crowds workshop series

05 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News and CentralMaine.com promoted the Cooking for Crowds workshop series, a collection of food safety training programs for volunteer cooks, offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Visit the UMaine Extension website for the full schedule and registration.

Wörsdörfer featured on 'Examining Ethics' podcast

05 Apr 2023

Manuel Wörsdörfer, assistant professor of management and computing and information science at the University of Maine, was featured on a recent episode of the "Examining Ethics" podcast, produced by the Janet Prindle Institute for Ethics at DePauw University. In the episode, Wörsdörfer reviews both the ethical and politico-economic aspects and implications of climate change and provides a novel look at climate change from a business and climate ethics point of view.

Times Record interviews Warhola about Russia's detention of Wall Street Journal reporter, Bowdoin graduate

05 Apr 2023

The Times Record spoke to James Warhola, a University of Maine professor emeritus of political science, about Russia's detention of Bowdoin College graduate and Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich. The reporter was arrested and accused of spying, which, according to the publication, was "just six days after the U.S. Department of Justice accused 37-year-old Russian national Sergey Vladimirovich Cherkasov of spying for his home country." Warhola says he suspects "that it was a tit-for-tat thing." "I don't think it was an accident," he said. The Portland Press Herald shared The Times Record story.

Weiskittel speaks to Atmos about wildfires in the Northeast

05 Apr 2023

Atmos interviewed Aaron Weiskittel, director of the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests at the University of Maine, for an article about whether climate change may bring wildfires to the northeastern U.S. "New England has a lot of forests that can potentially burn and create conditions similar to what we see in the western U.S. There is potential and there is precedent that fires can pose a risk," Weiskittel said.

Smithsonian Magazine features Juneau Icefield Research Program

05 Apr 2023

Smithsonian Magazine published a feature story about the Juneau Icefield Research Program (JIRP) based at the University of Maine.

IEEE-Eta Kappa Nu (IEEE-HKN) honor society inducts 15 students

05 Apr 2023

The University of Maine's Delta-Kappa chapter of the IEEE Eta Kappa Nu (IEEE-HKN) honor society held its annual spring induction ceremony for 15 students selected based on their high academic standings in electrical engineering, computer engineering and computer science. Inductees include John Hodson, Kenzie Young, Connor Noddin, Will Emanuel, Martin Guarnieri, Mary Isabelle Wisell, Allison Lupien, Chloe Hodgdon, Sam Waggoner, Michael Schmitt, Henry Kindler, Ella Schulitz, Marc Michaud and Lucas Bent. IEEE-HKN promotes excellence in the profession and education of electrical engineering, computer science, computer engineering and other IEEE fields of interest. The honor society has over 200,000 members in more than 250 chapters around the globe. The UMaine Delta-Kappa chapter was founded in 1961. The 2023 spring induction ceremony was sponsored by the IEEE Maine section and planned by local chapter officers, including Evan Desmond, president; Isaac Violette, vice president; Landyn Francis, secretary/treasurer; and Ali Abedi, faculty advisor and professor of electrical and computer engineering. Executive committee officers of the IEEE Maine section also were in attendance to celebrate the new inductees. For more information, contact Ali Abedi, ali.abedi@maine.edu.

UMaine showcases research and creativity during Maine Impact Week

05 Apr 2023

Maine Impact Week, which celebrates the University of Maine faculty, students, community and their contributions to the social and economic advancement of the state and beyond, will be held from April 10–16. Over 20 in person and virtual events will occur throughout the week, all of which highlight the impact of research and creative work produced by Maine's public research university. Most events are free and open to the public. The week culminates in the 2023 UMaine Student Symposium (UMSS), held from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. on Friday, April 14 at the Collins Center for the Arts. Students will present research and creative works through posters, oral presentations and exhibits. Projects cover a range of topics including the arts, humanities, health care, education, environment, science and engineering. Other highlighted events during the week include:

- The Portland Gateway Open House from 4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m. on April 11 at 300 Fore St., Portland. This two-hour, open-house event celebrates the value and vibrancy of UMaine research. It will bring together a wide variety of exhibitors to showcase interactive and engaging entry points to Maine-based and Maine-relevant research topics, including marine research related to Portland harbor, sustainable food solutions, aquaculture, the Maine brand survey and many others. Exhibitions will include videos, demonstrations and conversations with researchers.
- Center, institute and laboratory tours on April 14 at various times and locations. Participating facilities include the Advanced Structures and Composites Center, the Climate Change Institute, the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center, Hackerspace and VEMI Lab.
- The Older Adult Health and Wellness Fair from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 11 at the Buchanan Alumni House. This event, hosted by the Center on Aging, will bring together a wide array of exhibitors and participants to provide wellness opportunities and health information to older adults and caregivers in our community. Health screenings, education opportunities and information about local volunteer groups are just some of the exciting presentations older adults can expect to find at the fair.
- The virtual Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit 2023 from 10:00 a.m.–noon on April 14. The event brings together the state's key food system participants, including farms, food businesses, feeding partners, community leadership and government and nonprofit organizations to focus on ending food waste in Maine.

Maine Impact Week is sponsored annually by UMaine's Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. The university is home to over 150 research centers, institutes and laboratories. "Our vision is to continue to succeed as a world-class R1 institution, recognized for our excellence in research and innovation. To achieve this vision, our faculty, staff, and students work together across disciplines and engage in interdisciplinary research that addresses complex societal challenges. Maine Impact Week is an excellent opportunity to celebrate this great work and engage with our outreach mission across the state and beyond. " says Kody Varahramyan, the vice president for research and dean of the graduate school. A full list of events and details such as registration links, can be found on the Maine Impact Week website. Contact: Tilan Copson 207.581.3038, tilan.copson@maine.edu

New UMaine initiative will leverage talent and innovation to help state's startups and small businesses respond to lingering pandemic challenges

06 Apr 2023

With $2.5 million in Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan funding, the University of Maine has expanded programming and services to help stabilize and support small businesses and startups dealing with ongoing pandemic challenges that are hindering their growth. The Solutions for Maine R&D and Innovation Hub, based out of UMaine's Foster Center for Innovation and run by the University's Office of Strategic Partnerships, Innovation, Resources and Engagement (SPIRE), is designed to help Maine companies with fewer than 250 employees access no-cost services including technical assistance, counseling, and student talent to help their recovery and long-term growth. Businesses interested in receiving more information about the hub and being considered for eligibility, as well as prospective partners should visit the SPIRE website and complete the intake form. "The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged businesses of all sizes, but startups and small businesses are uniquely affected," says Renee Kelly, associate vice president of strategic partnerships, innovation and engagement at UMaine. "Data show that they have particularly struggled to attract qualified talent and that financial uncertainty, supply chain disruptions and rising costs all have had an outsize impact on their operations and their ability to develop and launch new products. Left unchecked, these effects could be devastating in a small-business state like ours. The Maine R&D and Innovation Hub is designed to help early-stage companies and small businesses weather these challenges and emerge thriving." Through the hub, startups and small businesses will be able to access services, including:

- Prototyping, testing, and manufacturing design assistance.
- Training and coaching on how to reach potential customers to do needed market research.
- Counseling from entrepreneurs-in-residence to support business planning and recovery from pandemic delays.
- Support from a cadre of undergraduate and graduate students who will assist with key business development tasks.

Several aspects of the hub's services — including the award-winning Innovate for Maine internship program and market-fit support for entrepreneurs — have been in place prior to the pandemic but will be scaled to serve more businesses and provide assistance year-round. This initiative will simultaneously provide

experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine's economy. Through the Hub, Wildwood Oyster Co. recently took advantage of the student support services. "Working with the [University of Maine interns] exceeded my expectations! My team was thoughtful, organized, efficient, and great communicators," said Becky McKinnell, founder and designer of Wildwood Oysters. "They really listened to understand the problem I was trying to solve and in their final presentation they checked every box. Without their help, I would not have been able to have this research done so quickly and thoroughly." The Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan is Gov. Janet Mills' plan, approved by the Legislature, to invest nearly $1 billion in Federal American Rescue Plan funds to improve the lives of Maine people and families, help businesses, create good-paying jobs, and build an economy poised for future prosperity. Since the Jobs Plan took effect in October 2021, the Mills Administration has delivered direct economic relief to nearly 1,000 Maine small businesses, supported more than 100 infrastructure projects around the state to create jobs and revitalize communities, and invested in workforce programs estimated to offer apprenticeship, career and education advancement, and job training opportunities to 22,000 Maine people. For more about Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, visit maine.gov/jobsplan. Contact: Katharine England, katharine.england@maine.edu

Maine students visit New York dairy farms in national competition

06 Apr 2023

Twelve students from the University of Maine Animal and Veterinary Sciences Program competed in the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge held in Saratoga Springs, New York from March 30–April 1, 2023, with more than 250 students from across the U.S. and Canada. The Dairy Challenge is an industry led program to develop the next generation of agriculturists to understand modern dairy farming. In the Dairy Challenge, teams of university students evaluate a dairy, then present their findings to a panel of judges. The judges, who represent various aspects of the dairy industry, also evaluate the farm, and provide guidance and feedback to the students. The student presentations are evaluated on their content, delivery and agreement with the judges findings. These evaluations are shared with the dairy owner for their consideration. "The students never know what to expect on these farms, so the competition is a test of everything they have learned throughout their college career. It is also a tremendous opportunity to network with sponsors, local farm owners, and industry professionals, and the impact is endless," said David Marcinkowski, the team's coach and associate professor and dairy specialist at UMaine. Saratoga Springs is also known for its world-class horse racing. While there, the team visited the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame.

UMaine Events and Hospitality wins 2022 Unique Venues award

06 Apr 2023

University of Maine Events and Hospitality is the winner of Unique Venues' 2022 Planner's Choice Award for Expos & Trade Shows. UniqueVenues.com provides listings that include arenas and stadiums, colleges and universities, boutique hotels, museums and art galleries — unique venues for event planners. A listing of all 2022 award winners is online.

UMaine faculty, student to present with MSF headliner event April 8 and 13

06 Apr 2023

University of Maine students and faculty will participate in pre- and post-show talks as part of the Maine Science Festival's (MSF) headliner event, the play "Queen" by Madhuri Shekar, performed by the Penobscot Theatre Company from March 30–April 16. On April 8 at 1 p.m. before the matinee show, Phillip Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology, will present a talk about bees in Maine. On April 13 after the 7 p.m. performance, Diane Rowland, dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, and Anthony Pina, Ph.D. candidate in Department of Physics and Astronomy, will present about being the first members of their families to go to college or graduate school. Additional UMaine presenters will be announced as more information becomes available. Tickets for "Queen" are available on the Penobscot Theatre Company website. There are a limited number of $20 tickets available with the following code: MSF2023)

Exhibit featuring collaboration between UMaine environment engineers and MFA students opens April 10

06 Apr 2023

A collaborative exhibit by University of Maine environmental engineering and Intermedia MFA students entitled "Co-Translation: Making the Invisible Visible Nanotechnology & Art vs PFAS and Microplastics" will open April 10 at the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center. A free reception with refreshments will be held for the opening April 10 from 5–7 p.m. in 104 IMRC Center. The exhibit will be held during Maine Impact week, April 10–14, and will be open 9 a.m.–4 p.m. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Susan Smith at susan.lynn.smith@maine.edu. Under the guidance of faculty members Onur Apul, assistant professor of environmental and civil engineering, and Susan Smith, faculty and graduate coordinator of Intermedia Programs, students worked together in the classroom, laboratory and art studio to unite arts and science in addressing environmental issues, as well as develop strategies for interdisciplinary collaboration. The project is sponsored by a grant from the UMaine Arts Initiative. Students whose work will be featured in the exhibit include Mansiha Choudhary, Anna Martin, Ruixin Niu, Kenneth Mensah, Benjamin Walker, Charles Adjaye, Sonia Moavenzadeh, Paulina Alulema, Dilara Hatinoglu, Luke McKinney, Casey Schatzabel, Merrilee Schoen, Muhamed Elbokl, Vanessa Schaeffer, Grace Johnson, Alex Rose and Zach Doherty.

'The Maine Question' asks how Indigenous and western knowledge can help preserve the planet

06 Apr 2023

Darren Ranco has spent his life determining how to help Indigenous and non-Indigenous people protect the land they inhabit. Through his work as an anthropologist and chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, Ranco has studied tribal sovereignty, cultural resource protection, environmental justice and ways Native American communities can resist environmental destruction. As a member of the Penobscot Nation, he also is passionate about improving research relationships between universities and Indigenous communities, as well as training the next generation of Indigenous scientists. In episode seven of season eight of "The Maine Question," Ranco discusses his many research projects, and how Indigenous and western knowledge can help preserve the planet. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine

Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Media share VEMI Lab autonomous vehicle simulator

06 Apr 2023

News Center Maine and Telematics Wire shared that the VEMI Lab at the University of Maine has launched a custom-built multi-person autonomous vehicle simulator, a platform for human-subject research in the automotive space.

BDN promotes Maine Indie Music Showcase at Collins Center

06 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts will host a Maine Indie Music Showcase, featuring four Maine-based bands, at 8 p.m. on April 15. Visit the Collins Center website to purchase tickets or for more information.

New Scientist cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data

06 Apr 2023

In an article about record breaking sea temperatures causing supercharged storms, the New Scientist cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer showing that global average sea surface temperature hit a record high of 21.1 degrees Celsius on April 1.

Media note Ferrini-Mundy presence at Tyler Technology groundbreaking

06 Apr 2023

News Center Maine and the Portland Press Herald reported that University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy was among the leaders attending a groundbreaking for Tyler Technologies' new Orono office building. The space will create more collaborative opportunities between Tyler Technologies and UMaine.

Media report on Kingfish Maine at UMaine CCAR

06 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News, The Fish Site, We Are Aquaculture and Seafood Source reported that Kingfish Maine, which is currently operating at the University of Maine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research (CCAR), has announced it is harvesting its first Dutch yellowtail in Maine, with a limited release of the first sustainable Dutch yellowtail to be produced in the U.S.

CBC notes Adams making CBC Short Story Prize longlist

06 Apr 2023

CBC reported that Hollie Adams, assistant professor of English, has made the 2023 CBC Short Story Prize longlist for her story "The Sessional Year."

Media report on Talty being named National Book Foundation 2023 5 Under 35

06 Apr 2023

Today, Book Riot, Literary Hub and Publishing Perspectives reported that Morgan Talty, associate professor of English at the University of Maine, was named one of the National Book Foundation's 2023 5 Under 35 honorees, which is awarded to "five fiction writers under the age of 35 whose debut work promises to leave a lasting impression on the literary landscape."

Study examines how working moms in distance education navigate distractions and achieve academic success

06 Apr 2023

A significant percentage of college students in the United States are parents. According to studies, about 20 percent of undergraduate students and more than a third of graduate students are raising children under the age of 18, with mothers accounting for more than half of both populations. To get a better understanding of the experiences of these students, researchers at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development published an article featuring case studies of six academically high-achieving working moms enrolled in distance education courses during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their findings suggest that effective course design, making use of prior knowledge, scaffolding instruction and encouraging social presence can mitigate distractions and reduce the cognitive load of working mothers who are college students. All four of the study's authors are working moms and three of them are graduate students. Lead author Anne Fensie is the mother of three teenagers, two with special needs. She's an adjunct professor of computer science at the University of Maine at Augusta and a doctoral student in higher education at the University of Maine. "My first attempt at doctoral studies when my children were younger was not successful," she says. "I struggled with mental health at the time. With the help of my family, I have since structured my home environment to safeguard my work time, though there continue to be distractions. I did my master's program in a hybrid format and I'm able to do much of my doctoral studies remotely." Co-author Teri St. Pierre has three children under 18. She's an assistant professor of mathematics and director of Early College at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, as well as a doctoral student in higher education at UMaine. "I earned one graduate degree live and one entirely online," St. Pierre says. "I've been able to structure my role of 'student' in the home somewhat with a home office and external support. As a night owl, I'm able to work late in the evening when my husband and children are not a distraction." Jennifer Jain, another co-author, is the mother of a teenager and a

young adult, who both live at home with her, her husband and a puppy. An interdisciplinary Ph.D. student, who also works part-time as a research assistant at the UMaine Center on Aging, Jain has also worked as a university lecturer and a recreational therapist in mental health. She delayed her doctoral studies due to her husband's career and is now navigating family, work and school. "Finding time to do schoolwork is a challenge," Jain says. "I tend to juggle work and school in the mornings, when there are fewer distractions. I had less time in the afternoons, when there were more distractions. In the evening hours, when there are no distractions, I often fall asleep at the computer." Fensie, St. Pierre, Jain and the study's fourth author, UMaine associate professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Asli Sezen-Barrie, say their own experiences helped them identify with the challenges and distractions faced by the participants in their research. They interviewed faculty members who taught the distance courses that the student participants were enrolled in, as well as the working mom students themselves. The students also used Zoom to record their study sessions for at least a half-hour once a week during the study period. The researchers also conducted weekly phone or Zoom check-ins with the students to debrief their study sessions and to clarify what the researchers had observed. After analyzing the interviews and study observations, the researchers wrote case studies for the six working moms who participated in the project. Each case study discusses the challenges, supports and strategies the working moms experienced as they took part in distance education courses. For example, Rebecca, a 35–44-year-old woman in an undergraduate business program, who was enrolled in a finance course during the study, worked full-time, had three school-aged children, and shared household responsibilities with her husband. With no private space in her house to do schoolwork, Rebecca "scheduled time based on the type of task and the level of distractions she could handle." If she really needed to concentrate — studying for an exam, for example — she would sometimes work in her car. The study took place during the COVID-19 pandemic, which participants reported having both positive and negative impacts on their lives at home and school. One working mom said the pandemic encouraged her to go back to school full-time. Others said it made it hard to manage time and maintain focus on their schoolwork. An overarching theme drawn from the interviews and case studies was the need for effective course design to support distance learners, especially those who are parents. The authors identify specific strategies that distance learning faculty and students can use to reduce the cognitive demands and distractions that can hamper learning. For example, they discuss the importance of encouraging social presence in their online classes. One participant who was part of an online social work program talked about how "the small group that I formed within my cohort has been a godsend." Other strategies include scaffolding instruction, or breaking down complex learning concepts into smaller, more manageable tasks, and using students' prior knowledge, as well as relevant and authentic learning activities. Though the study focused on high-achieving students, the researchers argue that the strategies "could be beneficial for all adult learners in distance education." The study was published in the Journal of Computing in Higher Education. Contact: Anne Fensie, anne.fensie@maine.edu; Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Mille Baartvedt: Outstanding Graduating International Student

07 Apr 2023

Mille Baartvedt of Oslo, Norway is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Education and Human Development. The kinesiology and physical education major is a Presidential Scholar. On campus, she has worked at the New Balance Student Recreation Center and as a teaching assistant, and been a member of the Maine chapter of Pi Beta Phi and the Women's Soccer Club. Baartvedt did her student teaching at Hampden Academy and Orono Middle School. She will pursue a graduate degree in sports management at Boston College, and plans a career as an educator and athletic director. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has given me the people and resources to feel confident in the work I do. I will always appreciate spending my weekends in Acadia and being able to explore what Maine has to offer. Moving to a different country, it was important that I felt like home, which is what the university gave me. I have been able to work with local schools throughout my four years, and explore different career paths thanks to all the opportunities UMaine has to offer. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** Through the KPE program, I have been able to work in local schools, and it made me realize how rewarding it is to be able to work in the local community and help make a positive impact on education. I realized I want to help kids become their most comfortable selves, and how important physical education and health can be for kids when going through the education program. **Why UMaine?** I have always appreciated the nature and people in Maine. I grew up in a different country and in a city, and I have always appreciated the Maine lifestyle. I am able to go skiing every weekend and work closely with students and the physical education program in public schools in the area. I was blessed with an amazing host family, whose host dad works for the hockey team. I always appreciated the focus in sports and was able to be a part of the Black Bear community already in high school, which is why it felt natural to me to continue my sports career journey at the University of Maine. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** The university provides a wide range of classes and resources that support student success. Some key initiatives have been the Career Center and the support I have gotten to prepare for after college. I have utilized the Tutor Program, which is a great initiative to help or get help from other students. The student life at the University of Maine has given me the academic support I needed to succeed, as well as some of my best friends. Being able to participate by helping the freshmen move into their dorms has helped create relationships and school spirit. Another initiative I have appreciated is the Study Abroad Program. I am an international student from Norway, but I have helped and watched my friends study abroad. Given such opportunities can be one of the most rewarding experiences and I am thankful to have gone to a university that puts the students first. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** The kinesiology program at UMaine has allowed me to become close with my professors over the past four years. Jennifer McNulty has taught me everything I need to know about health. My first semester of college, I took KPE 253 Lifetime Fitness with McNulty (which I later was a TA in), and that was the moment I realized I wanted to work in sports. McNulty has a true talent and I thank her for supporting me academically and being there when I needed advice. Jesse Kaye-Schiess is another amazing teacher who has been my mentor throughout my four years. I could have not done student teaching without him and he is one of the most supportive teachers I have ever met. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** My best advice is to be organized and do not procrastinate. Having a planner has been my lifesaver and it has allowed me to feel more calm and appreciative throughout the semester. At the same time, it is important to step out of your comfort zone and take up opportunities even though it can feel daunting. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Samantha Costanza: Outstanding Graduating Student

07 Apr 2023

Samantha Costanza from Norwalk, Connecticut is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Division of Lifelong Learning. Costanza is a university studies major in the labor studies track, and an Online Flagship Scholarship recipient. Costanza has worked full-time as a communications professional for a national retirement company while pursuing an associate degree at a local community college, then transferring to UMaine. Her research as part of her academic work included how COVID impacted the union construction industry; how the legalization of marijuana has changed the landscape of workplace drug testing; and the pay gap and working conditions for women in many industries. Beyond her coursework, Costanza is active in her community choir. She plans to continue her now 23-year career with Transamerica. **Tell us about the research, internships or scholarly pursuits you were involved in as a student.** I've worked full-time while pursuing my degree part-time. I started taking classes at my local community college in 2016, and after receiving my associate degree, I

transferred to UMaine. While at UMaine, I've researched how COVID impacted the union construction industry and how the legalization of marijuana has changed the landscape of workplace drug testing. I also researched the pay gap and working conditions for women in many industries. **Beyond academics, what extracurricular activities occupied your time?** I'm a soprano in a local choir and serve as secretary. We perform free concerts for the community throughout the year. I also volunteer at a local charity, Filling in the Blanks, that provides meals for children in New York and Connecticut. **What are your plans after graduation?** I've happily worked at the same firm for 23 years, so I plan to continue working there. I'm fortunate that my employer offers tuition reimbursement, which helped me complete my degree. I'm still on the fence about graduate school. One immediate plan is to start taking piano lessons. The first time I went to college, I majored in music. Along with continuing to sing with my choir, I'd love to be able to play. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** Since I dropped out of college when I was a teenager and attempted to go back more than once, I really wanted to make sure the college where I completed my degree was the right fit. I majored in music the first time I went to college, so I was really starting over. Since I had also recently attended my local community college and had an amazing experience, I had an idea of what I was looking for. I did a lot of research on various schools. Being an adult learner, cost was important to me. UMaine's affordable tuition helped me reach my goal. UMaine also helped me reach my goals by offering a host of online classes and accepting a lot of transfer credits. I was also fortunate to receive a scholarship and summer financial aid. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** Oddly enough, the online discussion forums for my classes have changed how I see the world. Typically, the first discussion is for each student to introduce themselves. I've met so many people from all walks of life who I probably wouldn't have talked to during an in-person class. In one class, I was partnered up with a woman who was a farmer getting her graduate degree, and a freshman who was a student-athlete. While I encourage anyone who will listen to stay in school, going to school as an adult brings a whole different perspective on learning and interacting with your classmates. **Why UMaine?** After I completed my associate degree, I was looking for a brick-and-mortar school with a fully online option. As someone who works full time, a fully online option was crucial. Most people in my field have business degrees; I wanted something different. Since I work with a lot of employers and unions in my career, and my husband is in a labor union, I decided to pursue labor studies degree. Marc Cryer, director of the Bureau of Labor Education at UMaine, was kind enough to speak with me at length about the program before I decided to apply. He agreed that this program would be a good fit for me and a good complement to my work experience. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** Since I'm fully remote, I haven't had the opportunity to participate in many of the programs offered, but the online features have been easy to use, and the library has been a huge help. My adviser, Barbara Howard, has been an integral part of my success. Barbara helped me find the classes I needed, which was a challenge at times since I was fully remote and only taking one or two classes at a time. She also continuously checked in on me. I would not be graduating without her support and shoulder to cry on. My husband was also a wonderful resource since he is in a labor union. I would not have completed this degree without his support and encouragement. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** In addition to Barbara Howard and Marc Cryer, Karl Kreutz made my UMaine experience better. Professor Kreutz met with me via Zoom almost every week during the semester to help me pass his class. While online classes are wonderful, for this particular class, I really needed to hear and discuss the information to understand it. Professor Kreutz was tireless in his dedication to helping me. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Ask for help. All of the professors I encountered were more than willing to help via email or Zoom. As many of them say, they don't know you need help unless you ask. Also, don't stop. I was out of school for over 20 years, and it was so hard to go back. Even if you have to take fewer classes each semester to stay in school or make other adjustments, don't stop. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Emily Davison: Outstanding Graduating Student

07 Apr 2023

Emily Davison of North Waterboro, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Education and Human Development. She is majoring in athletic training with a minor in child development and family relations. The UMaine Presidential Scholarship recipient also received the 2023 Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association Joseph Abraham Scholarship and 2022 Maine Athletic Trainers' Association Wes Jordan Scholarship. Davison did her athletic training internship this spring at Foxcroft Academy and has had numerous athletic training clinical experiences with athletics teams at UMaine, Husson University and Hampden Academy. On campus, she also worked in the UMaine Ticket Office. Davison plans to pursue a master's degree in sport management at the University of Central Arkansas while working full time as a high school athletic trainer. Her goal is to be an athletic director at a class AA high school in southern Maine. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has become a major stepping stone in helping me reach my career goals, mainly due to the extensive opportunities I've had access to in athletics. Through my clinical experiences, I've been able to work with numerous athletic trainers in the Bangor area, including at Division I and Division III colleges, as well as at a couple high schools. These experiences have allowed for easy and applicable networking to help me kick-start my career. Academically, I had the opportunity to get a full athletic training education that has adequately prepared me for a career in the field. I also had opportunities to work in the Athletic Department here at UMaine, which only added on to the experiences and knowledge I was able to gain in the crazy world of athletics. All of these experiences have inspired me to pursue a fulfilling career in athletics more than I could have imagined, and I'm extremely grateful. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** Over the last two years, I've fortunately been able to attend the Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association conference with a few of my classmates. These conferences allowed me to hear personal stories of athletic trainers fighting adversity and thriving within the profession, whether it be at the high school or collegiate level. It was inspiring to witness licensed clinicians express their passion for the profession, as well as their hope for the times ahead, allowing me to picture a greater future for my career in athletic training. **Why UMaine?** At first, I chose to come to UMaine since it was close to home, and I could go to college with one of my best friends. I honestly hadn't looked into colleges all that much, but applied to places that seemed like a good fit for me. UMaine being the only Division I school in the state was appealing, as I knew I wanted to go to a bigger school in New England. Now that I've spent the last four years here, I'm very happy with my decision. The university has provided me with so many opportunities to establish a foundation for my career path that I don't believe I could have attained anywhere else. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program, or set of resources that helped you succeed?** There are many resources for students to succeed here at UMaine, including the Peer Tutor Program. I was never a tutor, nor did I have a tutor at any point, but some of my friends have said it was very helpful for them. Additionally, professors are very dedicated and willing to help students succeed in specific courses, as well as within the programs as a whole. Your best resources by far are going to be your professors, as well as the upperclassmen in your program. My program in particular was relatively small, so I utilized the upperclassmen for advice whenever I hit a bump in the road. Likewise, professors are a great resource for not only understanding class content and program content, but also learning about real-world experiences that will help set you up for success in your field after graduation. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I've had so many fantastic professors and mentors throughout my time at UMaine. All of the past and present professors within the athletic training program, including Sherrie Weeks, Dr. Nightingale, Dr. Lacy and Dr. Wright, have been great supporters of my education here at UMaine. Additionally, I've had many impactful clinical preceptors, including Orla Curran, Luke Bartlett and Jaclyn Tourtelotte, who have been great mentors of mine outside of the classroom. All of these individuals, as well as many others, have made my experience at UMaine more than I could have ever asked for. Additionally, my classmates have made my undergraduate experience incredibly fun and exciting, and I expect to have some lifelong friendships. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Probably

the biggest advice I would give incoming students is to be the person that's most invested in your learning. Professors believing in you, investing in you and helping you along the way is great, but you need to put the most effort into your educational career in order to get the most out of your academic experience. Along with this, don't be afraid to approach your professors for help, as they're all there to support you. Lastly, just work hard. Hard work from the very first semester will set the tone for the rest of your college career so start off on the right foot. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Kell Fremouw: Outstanding Graduating Student

07 Apr 2023

Kell Fremouw of Orono, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Engineering. The Honors College student is majoring in engineering physics, with a concentration in mechanical engineering and a minor in mathematics. Last summer, he was awarded a National Science Foundation Undergraduate Research Fellowship in Sensor Science and Engineering, and he has worked as a teaching assistant in physics. His honors thesis is: "Thermal Stability of Platinum-Silicon Alloy Films Grown on Langasite Substrates for Use in Microwave Acoustic Sensor Technology." Fremouw has been a student researcher examining optical microscopy data in the laboratory of professor Samuel Hess and modeling graphene transistors in the laboratory of professor Sheila Edalatpour. In addition, Fremouw worked on a materials science project with professor Robert Lad. He also participates in STEM outreach with the Society of Physics Students. Fremouw is a competitive kayaker and canoeist who qualified in the U.S. trials for the Wildwater Canoeing World Championships. He has been awarded a Dean's Fellowship for Excellence at the University of Colorado Boulder where he will pursue a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering. He plans to work in academia or in a lab on improving sustainable energy production and energy efficiency. **Beyond academics, what extracurricular activities occupied your time?** I have been kayaking and canoeing competitively since freshman year of high school. I qualified during U.S. trials for the Wildwater Canoeing World Championships, which were to be held on the Nantahala in North Carolina, but were canceled due to COVID. I also attend many of the kayaking races held throughout Maine every weekend in the spring. Orono Paddlers, an organization I am an officer in, also holds races on summer Thursday nights. In addition to kayaking/canoeing, I enjoy hiking, skiing and skating. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** I have had the opportunity over the past year to develop and pursue my own research project. During this process, I had biweekly meetings with a group of professors who looked at my progress and helped me come up with new plans and ideas. This individual project with very good supervision has really helped me become a strong, independent researcher and grow my communication skills. Through this experience, and other research I did on campus, I had the opportunity to learn what it is like to be a graduate student pursuing a research project, which is valuable experience for the coming years. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** During my research project the past year, I actually decided to switch from engineering physics into materials science and engineering (for graduate school). My project involves growing and characterizing thin (<200nm) Pt-Si films and has given me a new perspective on materials. We use materials for everything from semiconductors powering our phones to high-temperature insulators used in turbine engines. Our current world relies on materials to function and I want to be a part of improving our technology while moving toward a more sustainable future. **Why UMaine?** I chose UMaine because I wasn't quite sure if I wanted to major in physics or engineering, and the engineering physics major gave me the opportunity to explore both fields. My time here has led me to pursue a materials science and engineering degree in which I can combine physics with engineering and chemistry in my future career. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** UMaine is a big enough university that there are plenty of opportunities available if students are proactive. I personally was busy outside of academics with kayaking, but finding research opportunities was a great experience at UMaine. All of the professors I reached out to (even the ones I hadn't met in person) were happy to talk with me about doing research with them, generally as a paid position. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** At each of the labs I worked at I gained valuable experience as a researcher and as a student. The most valuable and enjoyable experience was working with Dr. Lad this past year. I was part of a larger research team, including people from electrical engineering and chemistry along with physics. Being able to see what other people were working on and having valuable feedback from multiple professors with different perspectives was an incredible experience. I vastly improved my communication skills, my presentation of data, my experimental design, and had fun interacting with everyone involved in the project. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** My advice for incoming students is simply to reach out to people. I started all of my research experiences with various professors just by emailing them. I generally reached out after seeing a news release of a grant award or just looking up what kind of research they were interested in on UMaine's website. There are plenty of available projects here at amazing research facilities. Most professors are extremely happy to set up a meeting to discuss joining their group even as a freshman. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Anna Kahelin: Outstanding Graduating International Student

07 Apr 2023

Anna Kahelin of Helsinki, Finland is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the Maine Business School. She is a business administration major in management with a minor in psychology, and member of the Women's Basketball team. Kahelin received an America East Elite 18 award, and was a member of Team Maine from 2021–22. She plans to pursue an MBA at UMaine and play basketball for another year. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** Being a part of the Women's Basketball team has given me a second family that is always there for me and pushes me to be my best every day in the classroom and on the court. The Maine Business School has been an amazing place to learn, which is why I decided to pursue my MBA at UMaine. Most importantly, I've made so many relationships that I will cherish forever. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** The Women's Basketball team has people from all over the world, which has helped me to understand everyone's different points of view, and I've learned so much about different cultures. I think that has been really valuable for me. **Why UMaine?** I chose UMaine because I wanted to play basketball in a program with a winning culture and great people. Academically, the UMaine business school was what I was looking for. I've never regretted choosing to come to UMaine because of the people here. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program, or set of resources that helped you succeed?** As a student-athlete, my athletic academic counselor Ann Maxim and the academic services have been a great support throughout my studies. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I haven't had one single professor I've worked with most, but all the professors I've had have always been ready to help if I needed anything. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** One of the most important things for me is trying to stay organized and on top of my assignments. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Abigail Mulligan: Outstanding Graduating International Student

07 Apr 2023

Abigail Mulligan of Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Mulligan is an Honors College student triple-majoring in chemistry with a pre-med concentration; in food science and human nutrition, with a concentration in dietetics; and in zoology. She is minoring in psychology, sustainable food systems and neuroscience. Among her numerous honors is the Charles A. Brautlecht Scholarship, the S.P. Livermore Award, and the Dr. Melanie Gershman-Tewksbury '77 Scholarship. Her honors thesis is: "The Development of Sustainable, Flax-Integrated, Plastic Composite." Mulligan has been a student researcher in professor William Gramlich's laboratory, studying the development of sustainable, flax-integrated biocomposites. She is president of the Nutrition Club, secretary of the UMaine chapter of Kappa Omicron Nu and a 4-H STEM Ambassador. Mulligan also has been a member of the UMaine Swimming and Diving team and was a peer tutor. She plans to attend medical school to pursue a career in pediatric neurosurgery. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has fostered an environment of academic growth and exploration. In my experience, the administrative staff and professors on campus have shown extensive support for all academic endeavors. These individuals have fostered an environment where academic curiosity and exploration are not only supported, but encouraged. Depth of knowledge and learning has been at the forefront of my academic career as a result. Part of the success I experienced at UMaine is due to the support and guidance of administrative staff and professors who have helped me to navigate an interdisciplinary academic career, the responsibility and grit that accompanies it, as well as the joy and reward this learning can bring. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** Being able to participate in the courses the Honors College had to offer was formative to my worldview. Sitting at a small table with individuals of diverse backgrounds and diverse perspectives of the world was enriching. It is so rare and so special to work so closely with other students and professors in such a way. I have been so fortunate to not only learn from textbooks, lectures and professors, but my peers as well. Learning of, and engaging with, diversity of thought has changed the way I see the world. **Why UMaine?** The first time I visited UMaine, I knew I would be offered the academic experience I was looking for. The small campus size and subsequent small class sizes offered an intimate learning community and environment that ultimately enriched my undergraduate career. Not only was I able to interact with professors more closely, but I was able to interact with student peers more profoundly than I expected. This exposed me to diverse opinions and perspectives that added a human dimension to my learning, which I immensely value. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** UMaine has numerous resources in place in support of student success. In an academic sense, there are in-class learning assistants available, tutoring resources and learning labs. With respect to an individual's future success, there are student mentors available and a Career Center available to students. In addition, UMaine supports students' social success through the encouragement of student organizations and student events, promoting community involvement on campus. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** One professor I have worked closely with during my time at UMaine is professor William Gramlich. Dr. Gramlich was my adviser for my honors undergraduate thesis. Dr. Gramlich provided me with the privilege of being able to conduct research, as well as the privilege of learning from him. Dr. Gramlich has provided me with a plethora of knowledge that not only supports me as an academic, but at an individual level as well. Working with him has been a privilege. In addition, Jennie Woodard of the Honors College definitely enhanced my experience at UMaine. Jennie brought about the humanity of academia and life beyond the classroom. She also offered unconditional support and companionship throughout my undergraduate career. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** My advice for incoming students to help them get to the best start academically is to pursue what you enjoy! Learning is so much easier when it is about something you are passionate about. UMaine has many diverse course options that meet any academic prowess. Aside from this, there are many organizations on campus that support diverse learning as well. Engaging with individuals of the same interests will only be conducive to academic success, whether it be in courses or student organizations. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Theophile Nkulikiyinka: Outstanding Graduating International Student

07 Apr 2023

Theophile Nkulikiyinka of Kigali, Rwanda is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Engineering. Nkulikiyinka, a biomedical engineering student, is a Presidential Scholar and the recipient of the International Presidential Scholarship. He has been an undergraduate researcher in the laboratory of professor Michael Mason, evaluating the potential of cellulose nanofiber as a biomaterial for bone replacement. His academic experiences off campus included shadowing at Hanger Orthotics and Prosthetics Clinic, and working as a cardiac technician at Northern Light Health and a direct support professional for adults with disabilities at MERT Enterprises and Peace Residential Care. Nkulikiyinka is president of UMaine's African Student Association. He plans to pursue a master's degree in prosthetics and orthotics at the University of Hartford. **Beyond academics, what extracurricular activities occupied your time?** As the president of the African Student Association at the University of Maine, I had the opportunity to lead a vibrant and active student community. Our association's primary goal was to provide a supportive environment for African students on campus, and to promote cultural exchange and understanding. To achieve this goal, we organized numerous campus activities throughout the academic year, including our annual cultural festival and winter carnival. These events brought together our members and engaged the wider campus community, showcasing the rich diversity and cultural heritage of Africa. In addition to these events, we held weekly meetings at the Multicultural Center on campus, providing a platform for members to socialize, network and discuss relevant issues affecting the African student community. As a team, we worked closely with the Office of International Programs to assist new students in finding suitable housing and adjusting to the new environment. This collaboration allowed us to provide personalized support to students arriving from Africa, ensuring a smooth transition to their new academic and social setting. Finally, as president, I monitored the club's operations and ensured that our members remained engaged through various outdoor activities, such as hiking, skiing and camping. These activities not only promoted physical health and wellness, but also fostered a sense of community and belonging among our members. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** The university provided me excellent academic resources, including state-of-the-art facilities, research opportunities and a dedicated faculty committed to student success. Furthermore, the University of Maine offered me numerous extracurricular activities, including clubs, sports and community service programs to help me develop my leadership, social and interpersonal skills. These opportunities have enabled me to gain valuable experiences, expand my networks, and build lifelong connections with peers and mentors. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** As the president of the African Student Association, I had the privilege of leading a diverse group of students and fostering a community that celebrates African culture and promotes cross-cultural understanding. This experience has helped me to see the world through a more nuanced lens and to appreciate the richness of cultural diversity. Through organizing cultural events, meetings and outreach programs, I have gained a greater appreciation for the unique perspectives, experiences and challenges that people from different cultures face. This has expanded my understanding of the world and helped me to see beyond my own cultural background. Furthermore, being the president of the African Student Association has helped me to recognize the importance of advocacy and community-building in creating a more inclusive and equitable society. By advocating for the needs and interests of the African student community, I have learned about the power of collective action in effecting positive change. Overall, my experience as the president of the African Student Association has helped me to see the world with greater empathy, understanding and appreciation for diversity. It has also motivated me to continue working toward creating a more equitable and just society for all. **Why UMaine?** What led me to choose UMaine were its exceptional engineering program and welcoming environment, which made me feel like it was the ideal place to discover my direction and develop into a more versatile person. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** UMaine offers a plethora of opportunities for students to enhance their leadership skills and make meaningful contributions to the

campus community through various student organizations. Additionally, the Tutor Program, Counseling Center, Residence Life and Student Wellness Center are excellent resources that provide extensive support and guidance to students. In particular, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion was a safe space for me and my friends. It contributed to our overall well-being and remained committed to being a center for students from all backgrounds. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I had the privilege of collaborating closely with my academic adviser, Professor David Neivandt, who offered guidance and reassurance during my initial transition to the university, directing me toward the appropriate resources. Additionally, Dr. Robert Bowie provided unwavering encouragement, motivation and inspiration throughout my academic journey. Furthermore, Anila Karunakar, the director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, served as a source of support and encouragement during my time at the university. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Establishing a personal schedule and delineating clear boundaries between academic responsibilities and personal activities can be instrumental in fostering a healthy work-life balance for new students. Prioritizing this balance can enhance overall well-being and contribute to academic success. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Shelby Philips: Outstanding Graduating Student

07 Apr 2023

Shelby Philips of Buffalo, New York is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Maine Business School. Philips is a business administration major in management. Her numerous academic awards include the Senior Alumni Non-Traditional Student Scholarship, the Carville Non-Traditional Student Scholarship, and David and Debra Scott Scholarship. Philips interned with Food Rescue Maine, an initiative of the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, and served as president of MBS Corps. She also was a member of SPIFFY and the International Business and Culture Club, and was a cast member in the School of Performing Arts production of “Everybody.” This summer, she will be a producer on an independent feature film. Philips plans to pursue a career in management. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** As a nontraditional student, I spent several years in the workforce before coming back to school. While working, I felt like I could see the pathway that led to jobs that would be more interesting or fulfilling for me, but I found that many of those positions had education requirements that I did not meet. Having the opportunity to complete my bachelor's degree at the University of Maine will help me to start walking those pathways I could only glimpse before. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** When I attended college previously, I was not able to really grasp what college was for or how to make the most of it. I was on the standard track of continuing education without any particular destination in mind. Coming back to school at a moment in my life when I had a much better sense of what I wanted and what my goals were was a really eye-opening experience. I was much better prepared this time around to recognize the opportunities in front of me in college and to seize them. I have realized in my time here that if you want something and you are willing to put the work in to figure it out, to plan for it, to express that interest to others, there are ways to obtain it; but, it has to come from you. **Why UMaine?** The value. Obtaining my bachelor's degree has been a goal of mine for a number of years now, and I found myself in a position to pursue that goal in May 2021. At the time, I was living in Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, and the University of Maine felt like the clear choice. As a public university, UMaine struck the perfect balance of high-quality educational opportunity and affordable cost. It was the perfect choice for me. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** I cannot give enough credit to the incredible faculty and staff at UMaine. In my experience, if you want help, if you have a goal, if you have a dream, there is someone who will become passionately engaged in helping you get there. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** The faculty at UMaine has exceeded my expectations at every turn. It is hard to mention one professor without naming many because I have received such incredible support every step of the way. So, I will name many. Professors Jennifer Healy and Julie Lisnet’s warmth and support helped me get comfortable being back in school again. It has been incredible to watch professor Nory Jones work; she is a tireless advocate for so many groups here at UMaine and beyond, and has been indispensable to any good thing I've managed to do as part of MBS Corps. Both my academic adviser, Cindy D’Angelo, and my faculty adviser, Billy Obenauer, have kept me on track and addressed sincerely any query I ever brought to them (including, “What exactly does my faculty adviser ... do?”). Professor Buffie McCue-Quinn is an inspiration, and if I have one regret as I leave UMaine, it is that I wasn't able to take more classes with her. Internship coordinator Taylor Ashley and professor Stefano Tijerina have not only pushed but obliterated the boundaries of my worldview with their boundless enthusiasm and powerfully informed international perspectives. If I were to name every professor or staff member who opened my eyes to a new perspective, expressed interest, care or attention to my work as a student, or otherwise made my experience at UMaine better, I'd have to name a dozen more. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Go to class and participate in class. Try your best from the very start. Talk to the person you sit next to. Think about your education as the opportunity to propel your life forward and squeeze every bit of value from it that you can. You never know where your next opportunity is going to come from, but if you are engaged, active and seeking connection, you will find opportunities at UMaine. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Aiden Pike: Outstanding Graduating Student

07 Apr 2023

Aiden Pike of Searsmont, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. He is a double major in biochemistry, and molecular and cellular biology, with minors in French and chemistry. The Honors College student, who will receive two bachelor’s degrees, also is in the 4+1 master’s bioinformatics program with the Roux institute at Northeastern University. His numerous academic honors include a Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship, the Professor Frederick H. Radke Award and the Honors INBRE Thesis Fellowships in Comparative Functional Genomics. His honors thesis is: “The Role of Calmodulin-Dependent Protein Kinase IV in Regulating *JC Polyomavirus* Infection.” Pike has been a student researcher in professor Melissa Maginnis’ laboratory, studying how the immune response is implicated in *JC polyomavirus* infection and the signaling mechanisms that the virus may take advantage of to gain control of the host cell. He also spent a summer as a research fellow at MDI Biological Laboratory. On campus, Pike has been a teaching assistant and a course facilitator, and a member of the Pride of Maine Black Bear Marching Band and the Concert Band. With the completion of his master’s degree, Pike plans to apply to an M.D./Ph.D. program to study infectious diseases and practice translational medicine. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** The biggest impact that UMaine has made is giving me so many opportunities to perform research and gain experience doing so. Coming into the biochemistry program, I was met with BMB 150, which is a crash course into how to research a novel topic. Not only that, but UMaine has provided me with so many different opportunities, like being a teaching assistant for the phage course and a course facilitator for HON 170, that I would not have been able to experience otherwise. **Why UMaine?** I chose to come to the University of Maine for the research experiences that I knew were available. In high school, I knew I wanted to join science and gain the experience of performing research, and I thought that coming to UMaine would give me the most and greatest opportunities for this. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** UMaine has so many opportunities to do what you want to do and there are many people here who want to help you find them. One of the greatest opportunities on campus is getting involved in research, regardless of your major. There are so many resources for getting to perform research at the university. That is such an

irreplaceable experience and had such a profound impact on my time here. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** For the past three years, I have been able to work with professor Melissa Maginnis through the majority of my undergraduate career. She has always been in my corner, advocating for me and pushing me to do more and better. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Do not be afraid to reach out to people! The professors are here to help you and have a genuine interest in your success, and students further along in a program know the feelings you are experiencing. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Elaine Thomas: Outstanding Graduating Student

07 Apr 2023

Elaine Thomas of Hampden, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Honors College. She is a business administration major in management with a minor in music. The Honors College student received the 2022 John M. Rezendes Ethics Award for her first-place essay: "When We Cannot Care for Ourselves: Ethics, Interdependence, and the Moral Danger of the Self-Care Message." Also in 2022, she received the Maine Campus Compact PILLARS (Philanthropy, Innovation, Learning, Leadership, Action, Responsibility, and Service) Award and participated in the Maine NEW (National Education for Women) Leadership program. Her honors thesis is: "Evidence-based Family Strengthening Training in Maine: A Resource Assessment and Proposal to Reduce Barriers and Increase Facilitators." Throughout her time at UMaine, Thomas has been a member of the Attachment Theory Team of the Honors College Servant Heart Research Collaborative. She also has interned with three nonprofit organizations: Heart of Maine United Way, Partners for Peace and the American Red Cross, and donates her time to Literacy Volunteers of Bangor. Thomas plans to work for a nonprofit organization in Maine. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** For me, UMaine has been a supportive, resource-rich environment to find new perspectives, build a network and gain leadership experience. Being a student at UMaine has given me the opportunity to lead and take ownership in ways I could have never imagined; sometimes I realize how surreal it is that at 20 years old, I get to build partnerships with NGOs from around the world that are excited to partner with our Attachment Theory Team. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** My research team recently received a grant with one of our NGO partners to organize a workshop that brought together 14 agencies working on family strengthening in Haiti. The executive director of the NGO came to UMaine to run the event virtually with us. It was three full days of amazement at the depth of conversation and connection that we were able to facilitate. Haiti is facing some very serious challenges, and the fact that we at UMaine can be part of the conversation about solving those issues rocked my world. **Why UMaine?** I truly believe UMaine allowed me to "have it all" — the breadth of a large university and the depth of small communities like the Honors College, the vast resources of an R1 institution and the personal connections that make all the difference. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** I think the Honors College, which you join in addition to the college of your major, is a really unique opportunity at UMaine. It feels like a small liberal arts college where you develop close relationships with peers, faculty and staff, and get to have meaningful conversations about important and interesting texts and ideas. It also comes with a lot of other opportunities to get involved, engage in research, lead projects and have fun. Another really valuable opportunity at UMaine is the abundance of Research Learning Experiences in an amazing variety of subject areas. Sometimes when we think of research and UMaine's R1 status, we think only of science labs; those opportunities at UMaine are indeed wonderful, but those of us in other fields can and should take full advantage of early research experiences, too. Exposure to real-world research shifted not only my academic trajectory, but also my career pursuits. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** Melissa Ladenheim, the associate dean of the Honors College, was such an advocate and cheerleader for me throughout college. She was my first preceptor in the Honors College and my research supervisor with the Attachment Theory Team for three years. She encouraged me to do two things I would not have done otherwise: submit an entry to the annual Rezendes Ethics Essay competition and apply for the Maine NEW Leadership policy education program. Both experiences were two of my most valuable college achievements. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** My biggest piece of advice: from the moment you set foot on campus, start talking about what interests you to people you meet who inspire you. Do not assume that opportunities that excite you will land in your lap, but do know that the more you talk about what makes you passionate, the greater the likelihood that you will connect with someone who can point you in the right direction. Even if, like I was, you are not sure exactly what you are passionate about, just talk to interesting faculty members about work that makes you curious to learn more. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Maria Vina Lopez: Outstanding Graduating International Student

07 Apr 2023

Maria Vina Lopez of Santiago de Compostela, Spain is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, and in the Honors College. The biology major with a minor in mathematics is the recipient of numerous awards, including the International Presidential Scholarship and a Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship. Her honors thesis is: "An Organoid Model for Human Brain Aging." As a student researcher, Vina Lopez studied the drug synergy effect of fluconazole and cyclosporine A on *Candida albicans* in the laboratory of professor Robert Wheeler, and used *C. elegans* to study the effect of novel small molecule combinations on age reversal in vivo and identify life span-extending cocktails in professor Suzanne Angeli's lab. For two summers, she also was a research intern in the microbiology laboratory of professor Darren Higgins at Harvard Medical School, and for eight months last year, collaborated on her honors research in the genetics laboratory of professor David Sinclair, also at Harvard Medical School. At UMaine, Vina Lopez has been president of Engineers Without Borders, a resident assistant, a Maine Learning Assistant and peer tutor in genetics, and a member of the University Volunteer Ambulance Corps. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in biological and biomedical sciences at Harvard Medical School. **Tell us about the research, internships or scholarly pursuits you were involved in as a student.** As a student, I was involved in several research projects and internships in the field of biology and biomedicine. I worked in the Angeli Lab at the University of Maine to study the effect of small molecule combinations on age-reversal in vivo and life span-extending cocktails. In the Wheeler Lab, I studied the drug synergy effect of fluconazole and cyclosporine A on *Candida albicans* to improve antifungal therapies and fight the development of drug resistance. At Harvard Medical School, I conducted an honors undergraduate thesis in the Sinclair Lab, where I developed an organoid model of human brain aging and epigenetic drift, and screened for small molecules to reprogram human cells in vitro to a younger state. I also worked in the Higgins Lab to identify CD8+ T cell antigens that provide protection against listeria monocytogenes infection and studied the mechanism of brain infection by listeria monocytogenes. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has played a significant role in helping me reach my academic and research goals. The university's biology program and research opportunities provided me with a strong foundation in the field, and the Office of International Programs welcomed me warmly and provided both personal and academic support throughout my studies. Additionally, my involvement in extracurricular activities such as Engineers Without Borders allowed me to develop leadership and teamwork skills that will be valuable in my future career. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** During my time at UMaine, I had the opportunity to work closely with my academic adviser and professors, who encouraged and challenged me to strive for academic excellence. Attending office hours and participating in class discussions allowed me to deepen my understanding of the course material and develop critical thinking skills. Additionally, being a part of the Honors College provided me with the opportunity to

work on research projects and engage in meaningful discussions with fellow students and faculty members. These experiences not only shaped my academic drive but also taught me the importance of collaboration and intellectual curiosity. As a result, I now see the world through a more informed and nuanced lens, constantly seeking out opportunities to expand my knowledge and contribute to meaningful research and projects. UMaine has truly been instrumental in shaping my academic and personal growth, and I am grateful for the transformative experiences it has provided me. **Why UMaine?** I chose to attend the University of Maine because of its exceptional biology program and the numerous research opportunities available to undergraduate students. As a student pursuing a career in biological sciences, I knew that I needed to attend a university that would provide me with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in my field. UMaine's biology program has a strong reputation for producing successful graduates who go on to pursue successful careers in a variety of fields. Furthermore, the Office of International Programs at UMaine was a major factor in my decision to attend the university. As an international student, I was looking for a university that would provide me with the support and resources necessary to succeed in a new and unfamiliar environment. The Office of International Programs at UMaine welcomed me warmly and provided both personal and academic support throughout my studies. Their support has been invaluable to my success at UMaine, and I am grateful for the opportunities and experiences that UMaine has provided me as an international student. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** I would define the opportunities for student success at UMaine as extensive and diverse. From research opportunities to internships and extracurricular activities, UMaine offers a wide range of programs and resources that allow students to explore their interests and develop their skills. One of the most valuable resources for me has been the academic adviser assigned to me. My adviser has provided me with guidance on course selection, academic planning, and helped me navigate the university system. I have also found the office hours with professors and Maine Learning Assistant sessions to be extremely helpful in providing additional support outside of the classroom. Being able to discuss course material and receive feedback on assignments has been instrumental in my academic success. Moreover, the Honors College and the Office of International Programs has been an exceptional resource for me to find mentors and establish a support system. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I have had the privilege of working closely with a couple professors and mentors who made my UMaine experience even more fulfilling. Professor Margaret Killinger, who is part of the Honors College faculty, has been an incredible source of support and mentorship for me. She has helped me to not only excel academically, but also to develop important skills such as critical thinking and effective communication. On top of that, through her courses she challenged us to think beyond the classroom and apply what we learned to real-world issues, which was incredibly valuable. My academic adviser, Lynn Atkins, has also been an instrumental part of my UMaine experience. She has provided me with guidance on course selection, career planning, and other academic resources available at UMaine and beyond. She has always been available to support my goals and advise me and accompany me to achieve them. Having these two incredible women as my mentors and guides at UMaine has been a truly transformative experience for me, and has helped me to become the student that I am today. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** My advice for incoming students is to take advantage of all the opportunities available to them, both academically and beyond. This includes seeking out research and internship opportunities, getting involved in clubs and organizations that align with their interests, and building strong relationships with professors and mentors. It is important to not be afraid to step outside of your comfort zone and try new things — you never know what opportunities might arise as a result. Additionally, it is important to prioritize self-care and seek out support when needed and speak up. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Willow Wind: Outstanding Graduating Student

07 Apr 2023

Willow Wind of Rumford, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The Honors College student is a communication major with minors in media studies and Spanish. Her academic honors include a McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fellowship and James S. Stevens Outstanding Junior Award, both in 2022, and a 2021 Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship Award and first-place recognition the Communication and Journalism Showcase for her research project: “Communication Goals and Practices of Trans- and Gender Non-conforming (TGNC) Individuals and Their Impact on Mental Health.” Her Honors thesis is: "Conceptualizing and Enacting Gender Euphoria: Exploring Awareness and Action Across Gender Demographics.” Wind has conducted research in collaboration with professor Liliana Herakova, focused on trans and gender-nonconforming communication and mental health, and as a research assistant in the Media Psychology Lab of professor Amelia Couture Bue, working on a project exploring the desirability of STEM to college women. She also has been active in the Scholars Strategy Network, Progressive Pipeline, and Partners for Peace, and in a UMaine collaborative effort to improve classroom belonging. Wind plans to pursue nonprofit advocacy work and a master’s degree. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has connected me to opportunities I never knew I needed. The variety of internships allowed me to explore different careers in my field, helping me discover my precise career goals. Overall, the supportive community I’ve found made me feel like I was doing the right thing, no matter what that was. I’ve often been insecure about missing out on clubs or other extracurriculars, but my mentors have always celebrated the ways I’ve chosen to get involved. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** In a word, research! As an R1 institution, UMaine has ample resources to support undergraduate projects. I didn’t realize how much conducting my own study with a faculty mentor would shape the way I think or how I would grow as a person. Interviewing people is such an intimate, informative experience that I am unfathomably grateful to have experienced. Listening to the life-stories of other human beings forces you to reconsider the way you look at the world and yourself. The same can be said for connecting with peers and instructors. **Why UMaine?** I chose UMaine because it was financially accessible for a first-generation, self-supported student like me. The Maine Top Scholar Scholarship gave me the privilege to attend UMaine at this point in my life. UMaine continued to be an affordable option by connecting me with various supports, such as the Senior Alumni Non-Traditional Student Scholarship. It is important for me to acknowledge that my experience doesn’t represent the situations of other students, especially as the cost of tuition continues to rise. While finances contributed heavily to my decision to attend UMaine, my choice to stay here was made easy by the deep personal relationships I have been able to cultivate with faculty members and students across disciplines. These relationships have inspired me to ask bigger questions, believe in my abilities, and seek out new opportunities. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** Being connected with a faculty mentor and research funding through the Maine Top Scholar program was one of the most impactful opportunities I’ve had while at UMaine. Building a close relationship with a faculty mentor through this program was one of the most invaluable parts of my college experience. My mentor, professor Liliana Herakova, and MTS Director Nives Dal Bo- Wheeler connected me with numerous opportunities to explore my interests and share my work as early as my second semester. Beyond these concrete professional development and experiential learning opportunities, I sincerely treasured having someone to go to with questions, doubts and ideas. Lily gave me room to get to know myself while highlighting the tools I needed to succeed. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** For the past three years, I have been advised and mentored by professor Liliana Herakova. Her compassion and guidance have made me the researcher I am today and an overall better person. Lily is a phenomenal human being. I couldn’t dream of a better role model, and can’t imagine what my experience would have been like without her. I also want to thank professor Melissa Ladenheim for her continued support throughout my college career. While she was not my mentor in a technical sense, she has guided me and supported me through countless circumstances. She made sure I knew I was never alone, whether she was connecting me to resources, writing a letter of recommendation or just checking-in. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** I would advise incoming students to find two things in their first year: their passion and a support

system. Some students may not know what they want to do, coming to college because it is what is supposed to be next. It's okay if it takes time to discover what you are passionate about, but think about this question early and often. Knowing why you are sitting through a long lecture or reading dense material helps make that effort rewarding and enjoyable. Homework will feel like a stepping stone instead of a hurdle. Try not to think of college as a bunch of boxes to check, but as a place where you can explore and become the person you want to be. This journey will be so much easier if you build your support system early on. Be open, honest and vulnerable about the struggles you are facing. There are so many resources and compassionate members of the UMaine community here to make sure you have the best experience possible. Talk with your instructors and peers; build relationships. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Meet the 2023 Outstanding Graduating Students

07 Apr 2023

Twelve undergraduates have been named 2023 Outstanding Graduating Students at the University of Maine. Read their short biographies: [caption id="attachment_96698" align="alignright" width="186"]  Mille Baartvedt[/caption]

Mille Baartvedt

Mille Baartvedt of Oslo, Norway is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Education and Human Development. The kinesiology and physical education major is a Presidential Scholar. On campus, she has worked at the New Balance Student Recreation Center and as a teaching assistant, and been a member of the Maine chapter of Pi Beta Phi and the Women's Soccer Club. Baartvedt did her student teaching at Hampden Academy and Orono Middle School. She will pursue a graduate degree in sports management at Boston College, and plans a career as an educator and athletic director. A full Q&A with Baartvedt is online.

[caption id="attachment_96700" align="alignright" width="186"]  Samantha Costanza[/caption]

Samantha Costanza

Samantha Costanza from Norwalk, Connecticut is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Division of Lifelong Learning. Costanza is a university studies major in the labor studies track, and an Online Flagship Scholarship recipient. Costanza has worked full-time as a communications professional for a national retirement company while pursuing an associate degree at a local community college, then transferring to UMaine. Her research as part of her academic work included how COVID impacted the union construction industry; how the legalization of marijuana has changed the landscape of workplace drug testing; and the pay gap and working conditions for women in many industries. Beyond her coursework, Costanza is active in her community choir. She plans to continue her now 23-year career with Transamerica. A full Q&A with Costanza is online.

[caption id="attachment_96701" align="alignright" width="186"]  Emily Davison[/caption]

Emily Davison

Emily Davison of North Waterboro, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Education and Human Development. She is majoring in athletic training with a minor in child development and family relations. The UMaine Presidential Scholarship recipient also received the 2023 Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association Joseph Abraham Scholarship and 2022 Maine Athletic Trainers' Association Wes Jordan Scholarship. Davison did her athletic training internship this spring at Foxcroft Academy and has had numerous athletic training clinical experiences with athletics teams at UMaine, Husson University and Hampden Academy. On campus, she also worked in the UMaine Ticket Office. Davison plans to pursue a master's degree in sport management at the University of Central Arkansas while working full time as a high school athletic trainer. Her goal is to be an athletic director at a class AA high school in southern Maine. A full Q&A with Davison is online.

[caption id="attachment_96702" align="alignright" width="186"]  Kell Fremouw[/caption]

Kell Fremouw

Kell Fremouw of Orono, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Engineering. The Honors College student is majoring in engineering physics, with a concentration in mechanical engineering and a minor in mathematics. Last summer, he was awarded a National Science Foundation Undergraduate Research Fellowship in Sensor Science and Engineering, and he has worked as a teaching assistant in physics. His honors thesis is: "Thermal Stability of Platinum-Silicon Alloy Films Grown on Langasite Substrates for Use in Microwave Acoustic Sensor Technology." Fremouw has been a student researcher examining optical microscopy data in the laboratory of professor Samuel Hess and modeling graphene transistors in the laboratory of professor Sheila Edalatpour. In addition, Fremouw worked on a materials science project with professor Robert Lad. He also participates in STEM outreach with the Society of Physics Students. Fremouw is a competitive kayaker and canoeist who qualified in the U.S. trials for the Wildwater Canoeing World Championships. He has been awarded a Dean's Fellowship for Excellence at the University of Colorado Boulder where he will pursue a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering. He plans to work in academia or in a lab on improving sustainable energy production and energy efficiency. A full Q&A with Fremouw is online.

[caption id="attachment_96703" align="alignright" width="186"]  Anna Kahelin[/caption]

Anna Kahelin

Anna Kahelin of Helsinki, Finland is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the Maine Business School. She is a business administration major in management with a minor in psychology, and member of the Women's Basketball team. Kahelin received an America East Elite 18 award, and was a member of Team Maine from 2021–22. She plans to pursue an MBA at UMaine and play basketball for another year. A full Q&A with Kahelin is online.

[caption id="attachment_96704" align="alignright" width="186"]  Abigail Mulligan[/caption]

Abigail Mulligan

Abigail Mulligan of Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Mulligan is an Honors College student triple-majoring in chemistry with a pre-med concentration; in food science and human nutrition, with a concentration in dietetics; and in zoology. She is minoring in psychology, sustainable food systems and neuroscience. Among her numerous honors is the Charles A. Brautlecht Scholarship, the S.P. Livermore Award, and the Dr. Melanie Gershman-Tewksbury '77 Scholarship. Her honors thesis is: "The Development of Sustainable, Flax-Integrated, Plastic Composite." Mulligan has been a student researcher in professor William Gramlich's laboratory, studying the development of sustainable, flax-integrated biocomposites. She is president of the Nutrition Club, secretary of the UMaine chapter of Kappa Omicron Nu and a 4-H STEM Ambassador. Mulligan also has been a member of the UMaine Swimming and Diving team and was a peer tutor. She plans to attend medical school to pursue a career in pediatric neurosurgery. A full Q&A with Mulligan is online.

[caption id="attachment_96705" align="alignright" width="186"]  Theophile Nkulikiyinka[/caption]

Theophile Nkulikiyinka

Theophile Nkulikiyinka of Kigali, Rwanda is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Engineering. Nkulikiyinka, a biomedical engineering student, is a Presidential Scholar and the recipient of the International Presidential Scholarship. He has been an undergraduate researcher in the laboratory of professor Michael Mason, evaluating the potential of cellulose nanofiber as a biomaterial for bone replacement. His academic experiences off campus included shadowing at Hanger Orthotics and Prosthetics Clinic, and working as a cardiac technician at Northern Light Health and a direct support professional for adults with disabilities at MERT Enterprises and Peace Residential Care. Nkulikiyinka is president of UMaine's African Student Association. He plans to pursue a master's degree in prosthetics and orthotics at the University of Hartford. A full Q&A with Nkulikiyinka is online.

[caption id="attachment_96706" align="alignright" width="186"]  Shelby Philips[/caption]

Shelby Philips

Shelby Philips of Buffalo, New York is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Maine Business School. Philips is a business administration major in management. Her numerous academic awards include the Senior Alumni Non-Traditional Student Scholarship, the Carville Non-Traditional Student Scholarship, and David and Debra Scott Scholarship. Philips interned with Food Rescue Maine, an initiative of the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, and served as president of MBS Corps. She also was a member of SPIFFY and the International Business and Culture Club, and was a cast member in the School of Performing Arts production of "Everybody." This summer, she will be a producer on an independent feature film. Philips plans to pursue a career in management. A full Q&A with Philips is online.

[caption id="attachment_96707" align="alignright" width="186"]  Aiden Pike[/caption]

Aiden Pike

Aiden Pike of Searsmont, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. He is a double major in biochemistry, and molecular and cellular biology, with minors in French and chemistry. The Honors College student, who will receive two bachelor's degrees, also is in the 4+1 master's bioinformatics program with the Roux institute at Northeastern University. His numerous academic honors include a Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship, the Professor Frederick H. Radke Award and the Honors INBRE Thesis Fellowships in Comparative Functional Genomics. His honors thesis is: "The Role of Calmodulin-Dependent Protein Kinase IV in Regulating *JC Polyomavirus* Infection." Pike has been a student researcher in professor Melissa Maginnis' laboratory, studying how the immune response is implicated in *JC polyomavirus* infection and the signaling mechanisms that the virus may take advantage of to gain control of the host cell. He also spent a summer as a research fellow at MDI Biological Laboratory. On campus, Pike has been a teaching assistant and a course facilitator, and a member of the Pride of Maine Black Bear Marching Band and the Concert Band. With the completion of his master's degree, Pike plans to apply to an M.D./Ph.D. program to study infectious diseases and practice translational medicine. A full Q&A with Pike is online.

[caption id="attachment_96708" align="alignright" width="186"]  Elaine Thomas[/caption]

Elaine Thomas

Elaine Thomas of Hampden, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Honors College. She is a business administration major in management with a minor in music. The Honors College student received the 2022 John M. Rezendes Ethics Award for her first-place essay: “When We Cannot Care for Ourselves: Ethics, Interdependence, and the Moral Danger of the Self-Care Message.” Also in 2022, she received the Maine Campus Compact PILLARS (Philanthropy, Innovation, Learning, Leadership, Action, Responsibility, and Service) Award and participated in the Maine NEW (National Education for Women) Leadership program. Her honors thesis is: “Evidence-based Family Strengthening Training in Maine: A Resource Assessment and Proposal to Reduce Barriers and Increase Facilitators.” Throughout her time at UMaine, Thomas has been a member of the Attachment Theory Team of the Honors College Servant Heart Research Collaborative. She also has interned with three nonprofit organizations: Heart of Maine United Way, Partners for Peace and the American Red Cross, and donates her time to Literacy Volunteers of Bangor. Thomas plans to work for a nonprofit organization in Maine. A full Q&A with Thomas is online.

[caption id="attachment_96709" align="alignright" width="186"]  Maria Vina Lopez[/caption]

Maria Vina Lopez

Maria Vina Lopez of Santiago de Compostela, Spain is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, and in the Honors College. The biology major with minors in mathematics and neuroscience is the recipient of numerous awards, including the International Presidential Scholarship and a Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship. Her honors thesis is: “An Organoid Model for Human Brain Aging.” As a student researcher, Vina Lopez studied the drug synergy effect of fluconazole and cyclosporine A on *Candida albicans* in the laboratory of professor Robert Wheeler, and used *C. elegans* to study the effect of novel small molecule combinations on age reversal in vivo and identify life span-extending cocktails in professor Suzanne Angeli’s lab. For two summers, she also was a research intern in the microbiology laboratory of professor Darren Higgins at Harvard Medical School, and for eight months last year, collaborated on her honors research in the genetics laboratory of professor David Sinclair, also at Harvard Medical School. At UMaine, Vina Lopez has been president of Engineers Without Borders, a resident assistant, a Maine Learning Assistant and peer tutor in genetics, and a member of the University Volunteer Ambulance Corps. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in biological and biomedical sciences at Harvard Medical School. A full Q&A with Vina Lopez is online.

[caption id="attachment_96710" align="alignright" width="186"]  Willow Wind[/caption]

Willow Wind

Willow Wind of Rumford, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The Honors College student is a communication major with minors in media studies and Spanish. Her academic honors include a McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fellowship and James S. Stevens Outstanding Junior Award, both in 2022, and a 2021 Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship Award and first-place recognition the Communication and Journalism Showcase for her research project: “Communication Goals and Practices of Trans- and Gender Non-conforming (TGNC) Individuals and Their Impact on Mental Health.” Her Honors thesis is: "Conceptualizing and Enacting Gender Euphoria: Exploring Awareness and Action Across Gender Demographics.” Wind has conducted research in collaboration with professor Liliana Herakova, focused on trans and gender-nonconforming communication and mental health, and as a research assistant in the Media Psychology Lab of professor Amelia Couture Bue, working on a project exploring the desirability of STEM to college women. She also has been active in the Scholars Strategy Network, Progressive Pipeline, and Partners for Peace, and in a UMaine collaborative effort to improve classroom belonging. Wind plans to pursue nonprofit advocacy work and a master’s degree. A full Q&A with Wind is online. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers 'Recipe to Market’ workshop online

07 Apr 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer an online workshop for entrepreneurs and farmers interested in starting a home-based, specialty food business in Maine from 9 a.m.–noon on April 18. Recipe to Market is a multidisciplinary program intended to introduce participants to key topics that an aspiring entrepreneur needs to consider before starting a food business. Instructors will cover topics such as business basics, the specialty food industry and product development, licensing and regulations, and food safety. Products that may be discussed include canned shelf-stable products — like jams, jellies, preserves, baked goods, condiments, salsas, sauces or dessert sauces — fermented foods, dry mixes, candies and confections. Instructors for the program include UMaine Extension professor emeritus Louis Bassano; professor emeritus of economics and Extension Jim McConnon; and Extension food science specialist, professor of food science and director of UMaine Food Testing Services Beth Calder. The fee for the workshop is $35; registration is required. Financial assistance is available. The workshop will be recorded for registered participants and available for a limited time. Register and find more details on the event registration page. For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, contact Melissa Libby Babcock, melissa.libby1@maine.edu; 207.581.2788 or 800.287.0274 (Maine only).

UMaine Extension offers 'Cooking for Crowds' workshop series in multiple locations

07 Apr 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer food safety training for volunteer cooks in multiple locations beginning April 11, from 9 a.m.–4 p.m., at the Kennebec County office, 125 State St., Augusta. Additional locations include Skowhegan on April 18; Falmouth on April 19; and Ellsworth on April 25. Two online sessions will also be offered. "Cooking for Crowds" offers up-to-date information on how to handle, transport, store and prepare foods safely for large group functions such as soup kitchens, church suppers, food pantries and community fundraisers. Participants receive the "Cooking for Crowds" manual specifically designed for volunteer cooks; a certificate of attendance; posters; and an instant-read thermometer. This class meets the Good Shepherd Food Bank food safety training requirements. The $15 per person fee includes all materials. Find the full schedule and register on the event website. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine).

Media promote UMaine Extension 4-H club about sharks

07 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Sun Journal, CentralMaine.com and Turner Publishing Inc. shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer an online special interest 4-H club on the science of sharks for youth ages 9–18, 4–5 p.m. on Tuesdays, May 16–June 6. Required registration for this special interest, or SPIN, club closes April 25. Register on the event webpage to receive the link and at-home materials.

Slattery interviewed by WMTW at Morse High School STEM night

07 Apr 2023

WMTW-TV (Channel 8 in Portland) interviewed Lucy Slattery, president of the Society of Physics Students from the University of Maine, at a hands-on STEM night at Morse High School. Slattery and her team used an electric experience to show physics is fun. "Kids get to interact and learn more about STEM because, by the time they get to college, they aren't super excited about taking physics," Slattery said.

Harkins interviewed by WABI about Maine Innovation Night

07 Apr 2023

Jason Harkins, dean of the Maine Business School, was interviewed by WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) about Maine Innovation Night at the University of Maine at Augusta Bangor campus. Harkins is the president of UpStart Maine, the organization that hosted the event. "For me, the favorite part is giving the entrepreneurs the chance to speak up and to tell their story. We know only the products that we buy, but we don't necessarily understand the experiences the entrepreneurs have had that led them to the innovation," Harkins said.

Anderson, Albee featured in PPH article about bill to raise minimum teacher salaries

07 Apr 2023

Liam Anderson, a junior at the University of Maine studying early childhood education, and Emily Albee, a UMaine alumna, were featured in a Portland Press Herald article about a bill that Maine lawmakers are considering to raise teachers' minimum salaries to $50,000. "For the aspiring educators seeking out the opportunity to positively impact their community with their passion for the profession, the current teacher salary scale is the most restrictive obstacle towards achieving such an opportunity," Anderson said. CentralMaine.com and the Sun Journal shared the PPH report.

Hakkola speaks to The Chronicle of Higher Education about DEI in higher ed

07 Apr 2023

The Chronicle of Higher Education interviewed Leah Hakkola, associate professor of higher education, for an article about states where lawmakers want to ban diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives at colleges and universities, and states where legislators want to require it. Hakkola said that in the current polarized political climate in the U.S., legislation that promotes DEI at public colleges is increasingly important. She added that most administrators in higher ed understand that these efforts improve accessibility and boost innovation. She said rebranding these initiatives with low-risk language like "intercultural sensitivity" or "intercultural competence" could be one way to preserve them in states where they face bans. Ultimately, Hakkola said, both supporters and skeptics need to find common ground. "This fighting will not necessarily come to a conclusion or some kind of compromise unless we are able to talk across our differences," Hakkola said.

Socolow speaks to Politico about 'venues of common disputation'

07 Apr 2023

In an opinion piece about bringing back the debate show Crossfire, Politico spoke to Michael Socolow, associate professor at the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism. Socolow argued that a revived version of a show like Crossfire is unlikely given larger cultural trends, though there is value to what he calls "venues of common disputation." "The answer doesn't have to be Crossfire and the answer doesn't have to be Substack. We are going to need a venue of common disputation, and it's not constructed yet. We don't know what it will look like. But the point is, we've lost something, we don't know how to get it back. Hopefully market forces and the culture will conspire to help us," Socolow said.

Brenna Jones: UMaine student recontextualizes the housing crisis

10 Apr 2023

Brenna Jones of Mount Desert, Maine, spent her high school years either unhoused or precariously housed in the greater Bangor area with little to no support from adults. At times, she lived in her car, in which she kept all of her belongings; couch-surfed or slept in dorm rooms at Husson University. She kept food in her locker at school and was almost kicked out for not having a permanent address. Despite dealing with housing insecurity as a teenager, Jones earned a 3.8 GPA and was accepted into the University of Maine. From there, she obtained student loans, an apartment in Orono with no rental history requirement and a part-time job. Now as a junior, Jones hopes to use her research to help people who are experiencing housing insecurity like she once did. For her honors thesis, Jones, a student in the Honors College and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is interviewing unhoused and precariously housed individuals in Maine to learn more about their experiences and the socioeconomic barriers they face. Through that and other research, she hopes to ascertain possible solutions to the housing crisis in Bangor and beyond. She is conducting her project under the guidance of Brian Pitman, assistant professor of sociology. "I just would really like people to think about housing issues differently," she says. "If I could get everyone to stop saying 'the homeless' and thinking about unhoused people as 'the homeless,' that would be my biggest goal. They are people. They are individuals. They all have their own histories and paths and dreams and wants." In fall 2022, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) named Jones an undergraduate research fellow, providing her $8,000 over the course of two semesters to support her research. She will discuss her project during an event hosted by MHC at 4:35 p.m. Wednesday, April 12 in Boudreau Hall. Jones has so far interviewed 11 people from the greater Bangor area, Waterville, Brunswick and Knox County for her thesis; she plans to interview 20 overall. Some of her interviewees have physical or mental disabilities that prevent them from working, forcing them to rely solely on disability benefits that may not be sufficient enough to cover rent. Others she spoke to were unhoused after their rent increased and they could no longer afford an apartment. She also spoke with precariously housed people who could only find housing with disability benefits solely because they waited long enough to obtain a case manager or received support from family. Her interviewees told her that credit score requirements, high application fees, an unwillingness from landlords to accept housing vouchers, deposit fees and high rental fees make finding affordable housing "absolutely impossible." Some people said that they cannot find employment, or at least jobs that pay well enough to afford housing in the greater Bangor area and other expenses, Jones says. At least one person told her that prospective employers turned him away because he listed an encampment as his address. While food stamps and disability benefits are available, Jones says some people just aren't aware of them. The requirements for identification, a birth certificate, financial information and income restrictions also make them less accessible, according to the people Jones spoke to. For some, these barriers forced unhoused individuals to choose between employment and benefits, she says. "It's like, do you work more and lose your benefits, or do you just try not to make any more money?" she says. "So it's a lot of things like that where, technically, there are services; technically, there are jobs; and technically, there's housing. But what does it actually look like when you put these things together in reality?" In addition to conducting her honors thesis, Jones is drafting a policy proposal for the Maine Policy Scholars to address housing issues in the state. She also has spoken to Bangor city councilors and hopes to meet with other policymakers. Based on her research and interviews, Jones says possible solutions to the housing crisis include rent caps, strong eviction laws, requirements for landlords to accept housing vouchers, tenant unions and more subsidized housing with fewer wait times for access and other barriers. Before implementing these initiatives, however, Jones says she believes a change in perception must occur. "The main thing that needs to come first is changing the way we think about these people," she says. "That they're not freeloaders. Because I think that's part of the problem of why the policies are not changing." For Jones, studying the local housing crisis has been validating after going through similar experiences, but also emotionally-draining. She says it also caused her to lament not knowing that there was a community of people like her she could have gone to when she was unhoused. Her work prompted her to reflect on her own experiences, including times when peers would laugh at her for having a messy car or interpret descriptions of her troubles "as a joke," or how she "told teachers this was happening and they would not do anything." "These experiences formed a lot of the way I thought about housing and the supports that are actually available to students," she says. Jones is double majoring in sociology and mathematics, and double minoring in criminal justice and women's, gender and sexuality studies. In addition to studying at UMaine, Jones works as the co-coordinator of the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine and is on the leadership team for the Greater Bangor Houseless Collective, which provides food and supplies and support to encampments in the city. "Everyone says that I'm such a great person going out to the encampments every week, but honestly, I love talking to them and knowing why I'm doing this and creating a community," Jones says. For the first two years at UMaine, Jones says she struggled to relate to her peers since many "were brand new to life" and didn't have the experiences she endured. After that, however, she met more students and faculty who faced housing insecurity and similar struggles to whom she could relate. Some faculty, she says, also "are willing to extend themselves way further than they probably should" to listen to students' troubles and help find support services for them. "UMaine has also been a really great learning environment," she says, "there's just so many opportunities that allow you to do more than just going to classes. There's faculty who can help you get involved in the community. There's students who do research. It just really allowed me to find out what I wanted to do." Pitman, Jones' adviser for her sociology degree, has served as a role model for her. She says she admires his research, how attentive and supportive he is toward students and how he spends his free time participating in community organizing. "He's been a huge inspiration, and he gives great advice as well," she says. Jones hopes to earn a master's degree and Ph.D. in criminology to become a professor and continue researching housing issues. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

College of Education and Human Development, PREP host education career fair

10 Apr 2023

The College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine and the Penobscot River Educational Partnership (PREP) are hosting an Education Career Fair on Thursday, April 13 from 1–3 p.m. at Wells Conference Center. More than 20 Maine school districts and other organizations, including the Maine Department of Education, will have tables at the event. Their representatives will be able to meet with preservice teachers from UMaine, home to the state's largest teacher preparation program. UMaine and the College of Education and Human Development offer programs that lead to state certification in early childhood education (grades K–3), elementary education (K–6), secondary education (7–12), special education, physical education and health, and more. PREP is a collaborative organization that includes 22 school districts in Eastern Maine that are focused on improving K–12 student learning

by providing high-quality professional development for educators. The College of Education and Human Development is a higher education partner with the organization. Several districts involved in the partnership will be at the career fair, as well as districts from southern Maine and other parts of the state. In addition to UMaine students, education majors from other University of Maine System campuses, as well as Eastern Maine Community College and Husson University, have been invited to participate in the event. More information, including a form to register, is online.

Law enforcement training exercise on campus April 12

10 Apr 2023

The University of Maine and area law enforcement teams will participate in training exercises from 5–8 p.m. April 12, in the University Credit Union facility on Rangeley Road. For more information, contact UMaine PD, 207.581.4040.

BDN promotes UMaine Student Symposium for Research and Creative Activity

10 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the 2023 Annual UMaine Student Symposium for Research and Creative Activity will be held on April 14 from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts. For more information about the program, the book of abstracts and information on attending, visit the symposium webpage.

Media share UMaine Extension 'Recipe to Market' online workshop April 18

10 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Sun Journal, CentralMaine.com and the Piscataquis Observer boosted a University of Maine Cooperative Extension online workshop for entrepreneurs and farmers interested in starting a home-based, specialty food business in Maine from 9 a.m.–noon on April 18. Register and find more details on the event webpage.

BDN reports on grant to expand UMaine research on wearable robotics

10 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that Babak Hejrati, director of the Biorobotics and Biomechanics Laboratory in the University of Maine Department of Mechanical Engineering, has received a more than $432,000 grant from the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes on Health to create a novel wearable robotic system and intelligent methods that, for the first time, will enable home-based and independent walking training for older adults.

BDN features Killy vision for UMaine Athletics

10 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Jude Killy, the athletic director of the University of Maine, about his vision for the UMaine Athletics Department.

Nominations open for 2023 Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecturer

11 Apr 2023

The University of Maine, in partnership with the University of Maine Foundation, is soliciting nominations for the 2023 Geddes W. Simpson Lecture. This endowed lecture series facilitates campus visits and presentations by prominent speakers with expertise at the interface of science and history. The series has hosted a broad range of speakers from varied academic disciplines. Last year's speaker was Stephen Bocking, professor emeritus from the Trent School of Environment at Trent University, whose research encompassed the historical and contemporary roles of knowledge in environmental affairs. To nominate a speaker to address the UMaine community in fall 2023, submit a one-page letter of nomination and the curriculum vita of the nominee to sydne.record@maine.edu no later than Friday, April 28. Simpson was a distinguished faculty member who began his 55-year career at UMaine with the College of Life Sciences and the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station in 1931. His research program, which focused on aphids in potato plants, was renowned. Simpson served as the chair of the Entomology Department from 1954 until his retirement in 1974. He was the first recipient of the UMaine Presidential Research Achievement Award. Awarded emeritus status upon retirement, he continued to work part-time as an editor with the Agricultural Experiment Station. UMaine Professor emeritus David C. Smith dedicated his history of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station to Simpson, noting that Simpson was "one of three men whose work I admire."

Donate to the Maine Days food drive April 17–24

11 Apr 2023

The Maine Days food drive will accept donations April 17–24, with collection locations in buildings across campus. The drive will be conducted in lieu of the Maine Day Meal Packout. The food collected will be distributed to food banks across several counties in Maine, as well as to the Black Bear Exchange. Sign up for a collection box via online form by April 12, or by contacting Melissa Ladenheim, melissa.ladenheim@maine.edu. The UMaine Honors College is spearheading collection efforts. The goal is to collect 7,500 pounds of donated food. "While we have had to reenvision what our traditional Maine Day service event is, the Honors College and students across campus are still very passionate about food security and wanted to make sure we continued this important work — even if it looks a little different from our beloved Maine Day Meal Packout. We believe and know this Maine Days Food Drive will have a great impact on the local and larger Maine community, and hope everyone who can contribute toward this effort joins us in this," says Mikayla Reynolds, Honors College student and one of the student coordinators of the Maine Days food drive. Additionally, UMaine Athletics will collect food at the April 22 baseball double header from noon–6 p.m. Food will be packed for distribution on April 26.

Mount Desert Islander promotes Klose talk

11 Apr 2023

The Mount Desert Islander promoted a talk by Robert Klose, professor in the University of Maine Honors College, about his experiences as a single adoptive father attempting a second international adoption in the shadow of 9/11 on April 20 at 7 p.m. at the Jesup Memorial Library.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer ocean surface temperature data

11 Apr 2023

In an article about ocean surface temperatures reaching a record high, EcoWatch and Live Science cited data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer showing that the daily sea surface temperature hit 21.1 degrees Celsius on April 1 and remained there through April 6. The recorded high beat the previous highest ocean surface temperature of 21.0 degrees Celsius, recorded in 2016.

3DPrint.com notes UMaine in article about 3D-printed ferry planned for 2024 Summer Olympics

11 Apr 2023

In an article about a 3D-printed, autonomous, and electric passenger ferry that Roboat, Holland Shipyards Group and Sequana Développement are planning to debut for the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, 3DPrint.com noted that the University of Maine has 3D printed large-scale boats at its Advanced Structures and Composites Center, one of which is reportedly the largest vessel ever additively manufactured.

Taste of Home cites UMaine Extension information about bracken ferns

11 Apr 2023

In an article about fiddleheads, Taste of Home cited information from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension that advises against eating bracken ferns, as they have been shown to cause cancer in rats under laboratory conditions.

UMaine faculty, students present at AERA annual meeting

11 Apr 2023

The 2023 American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual meeting will take place April 13–16 in Chicago. The conference is the world's largest gathering of education researchers and practitioners, and a showcase for groundbreaking, innovative studies in a variety of areas. As previously announced, University of Maine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost John Volin was co-principal investigator on a project that is set to receive a 2023 Outstanding Conference Submission Award at AERA. Here's a look at some other presentations, panels and events featuring UMaine faculty and students: **Thursday April 13**

- Assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Rebecca Buchanan will participate in the Lives of Teachers Special Interest Group (SIG) business meeting, reception and awards ceremony.

Friday April 14

- Associate professor of educational leadership Ian Mette will present at a roundtable session on "Reconceptualizing Supervision and Instructional Leadership in Complex Contexts." Mette and colleagues Dwayne Ray Cormier (Virginia Commonwealth University) and Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz (University of Texas at Tyler) will present their paper titled "Culturally Responsive Instructional Supervision as an Emancipatory Framework."
- Assistant professor of educational leadership Esther Enright will present at a roundtable session on "Centering Youth Voices in Education Research." Enright and colleague William Toledo (California State University, Fullerton) will present a paper titled "Considering the Public Good During COVID-19: How Elementary Students Conceptualized Safety and Equity During the Pandemic." The study was published in The Journal of Social Studies Research.
- Senior lecturer of education Tammy Mills, assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Rebecca Buchanan, and lecturer in mathematics/adjunct instructor in women's, gender and sexuality studies Kevin Roberge will present at a roundtable session on "Examining Innovative Teacher Education Practices Through Self-Study." Their paper is titled "Vulnerability and Assessment: A Collaborative Interrogation of Ungrading."
- Associate professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Asli Sezen-Barrie will present at a National Science Foundation Directorate for STEM Education Program Officers roundtable event. Sezen-Barrie is co-lead of NSF's Discovery Research PreK-12 (DRK-12) program, one of the largest funders of education research on PK-12 STEM teaching, learning and assessment, including funding for studies on broadening participation in STEM fields. She will co-present with colleagues Joan M.T. Walker (Pace University) and Jessaca Spybrook (Western Michigan University) on the DRK-12 program's core efforts to build capacity in STEM education research.

Saturday April 15

- College of Education and Human Development postdoctoral fellow Joo-Young Lee will present at a roundtable session on "Student Cognition and Reasoning in Mathematics." Lee and colleagues Elizabeth Hughes and Paul Riccomini (Pennsylvania State University) will present their paper titled "Development and Validation of a Mathematical Writing Measure."
- Assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Rebecca Buchanan will present at a roundtable session on "Teacher Education and Advocacy: Creative Approaches and Agentive Induction." Buchanan and Margaret Clark (Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts) will present their paper, "Developing Critical Capacities Through Creativity."
- Associate professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Asli Sezen-Barrie will co-chair the Environmental Education SIG business meeting.

Sunday April 16

- Associate professor of educational leadership Catharine Biddle will present at a symposium on "Advancing the Field of Rural Education Research: Research Agendas for Scholars, Practitioners, Policy Makers, and Funders." The symposium will feature the major findings from two national research teams tasked with constructing research agendas for the future of equity-centered rural education scholarship. One team, sponsored by the Spencer Foundation's Convening on Equity and Rural Education, conducted an interdisciplinary examination of race and educational equity in rural contexts that combines community-based participatory research, critical research review, and critical policy analysis. The second team, which Biddle is part of, is funded by the National Rural Education Association. The group investigated the intersection of equity and access with policy and funding, teacher/leader recruitment, retention, and preparation, college/career trajectory, community partnerships and relationships, and health/wellness. Each team will present two papers to detail methods, findings, and research agendas. An expert discussant will synthesize the research and facilitate a discussion with attendees.
- Associate professor of educational leadership Ian Mette will chair the Supervision and Instructional Leadership SIG business meeting.
- Assistant professor of special education Melissa Cuba will present a paper at a session on "Defending Against Inequity for Multilingual Learners: How Does Policy Implementation Impact Access to Courses/Programs?" Cuba and Michael Broda (Virginia Commonwealth University) will present their research, "An Intersectional Analysis of Disproportionality: Examining Multilingual Learner Representation in Special Education."
- Professor of higher education Elizabeth Allan, assistant professor of higher education Kathleen Gillon and UMaine alum David Kerschner '21 Ph.D. will present at a paper session on "Violence on Campus and Forces for Change." Allan, Gillon and Kerschner, with colleagues Cameron Beatty (Florida State University) and Cristobal Salinas Jr. (Florida Atlantic University) will present their paper, "Troubling Rigor: Exploring Intersections of Campus Hazing and White Supremacy."
- Associate professor of higher education Leah Hakkola and M.Ed. student in higher education Jade Laplante will present at a roundtable session on "A Critical Examination of Inequity, Race, and Justice in the Academy." Hakkola and Laplante's paper is titled "Examining Equity-Minded Search Committee Training to Mitigate Bias and Ensure Equity."
- Assistant professor of educational leadership Esther Enright will present at a roundtable session on "Social Studies in Elementary and Early Childhood Education." Enright and colleagues William Toledo (California State University, Fullerton) and Katherine Landau Wright (Boise State University) will present their paper titled "Supporting Elementary Students in Developing Their Civic Perspective-Taking Through Disciplinary-Specific Writing Activities." The paper is currently in press in the Journal of Writing Research.

Mitchell Center to host talk on philosophical questions in sustainability April 19

12 Apr 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Field Philosophy as Engaged Research: Practice, History, and Theory," at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 19. Sustainability raises a host of philosophical questions about ethics and values, knowledge, power and more. And yet, philosophy is not part of the predominant approaches to and discourses around sustainability. In this talk, speaker Adam Briggle, associate professor and director of graduate studies in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at the University of North Texas, will discuss how philosophers have fallen victim to disciplinary capture, which consigns them to irrelevance or, at best, very indirect impacts. Public philosophy, in various ways, seeks to change this situation, and it is having a renaissance. The talk will focus on field philosophy, which is a species of public philosophy that is both a collaborative practice of engaged scholarship and a theory of knowledge that contrasts with the disciplinary model of knowledge production. Briggle wrote "A Field Philosopher's Guide to Fracking" and "Thinking Through Climate Change: A Philosophy of Energy in the Anthropocene," and co-authored "Socrates Tenured: The Institutions of 21st Century Philosophy" with Robert Frodeman. He currently serves on the Sustainability Framework Advisory Committee for the city of Denton, Texas, which is drafting a local climate action plan. He is also involved in social and political movements for transgender rights in Texas. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Mainebiz, BDN highlight new Solutions for Maine R&D and Innovation Hub

12 Apr 2023

Mainebiz and the Bangor Daily News highlighted the new Solutions for Maine R&D and Innovation Hub, based out of the University of Maine Foster Center for Innovation and run by UMaine's Office of Strategic Partnerships, Innovation, Resources and Engagement (SPIRE). Funded with $2.5 million from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the new hub features expanded programming and services to help stabilize and support small businesses and startups dealing with ongoing pandemic challenges that are hindering their growth.

Laatsch discusses possible meteorite with Machias Valley News Observer

12 Apr 2023

Versant Power Astronomy Center Director Shawn Laatsch spoke with the Machias Valley News Observer about eyewitness reports of objects falling from the sky from people in Washington County, Maine, and in New Brunswick, Canada. According to the publication, Laatsch "says the most likely explanation is a meteor of some kind, possibly a larger meteor called a bolide." The Bangor Daily News and USA Today shared the Machias Valley News Observer report. Yahoo News, the Indianapolis Star, Hometown Life, The Daily Journal and The Spectrum shared the USA Today report.

WABI reports on UMaine-led effort to diversify nursing workforce

12 Apr 2023

WABI (Channel 5) reported on an effort by the University of Maine School of Nursing, in partnership with Northern Light Health and Morgan State University, to diversify the nursing workforce in the state. The federal Health Resources and Services Administration awarded $1.7 million for the multiyear project in 2021. "Our concern was that we were blocking opportunities with this very rigid, archaic admission criteria to students across our state, especially

students from rural areas or students who are the first students in their family to go to college," said UMaine School of Nursing Director Kelley Strout.

BDN features UMaine student trying to recontextualize the housing crisis

12 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News featured Brenna Jones, a University of Maine junior and McGillicuddy Humanities Center undergraduate research fellow, who is studying the housing crisis in the greater Bangor area and possible solutions. In addition to finding policy solutions to address the problem, Jones, who spent her high school years both unhoused and precariously housed, wants her research to inspire a change of perception of people who experience housing insecurity. "They're human beings with their own histories, hopes and dreams," she said. "Some went to college and would like to use their degrees. They're just like anyone else, they just ran up against the broken system we have, and it can happen to anyone."

Dill speaks to Wall Street Journal about growth of tick-borne disease

12 Apr 2023

Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, spoke with the Wall Street Journal for an article titled "Ticks Are Bringing Disease to a Backyard Near You."

Maine Business School completes pilot of undergraduate personal finance class

12 Apr 2023

This year, the Maine Business School piloted an undergraduate class focused on personal finance. Taught by cooperating faculty member Matt Skaves, the course reached learners ranging from first-year students to seniors. "The idea behind this course was to enhance accessibility for students and focus on key personal finance elements that college students face," says Jason Harkins, executive dean of the Maine Business School. Offered for the first time in fall 2022, this pilot course was made possible thanks to a generous gift from Pat Maiorino '69. Read more on the Maine Business School website.

MBS students and employees visit Boston to explore career opportunities

12 Apr 2023

On March 29, 45 undergraduate business students, three faculty, two staff and one dean boarded a bus bound for Boston for the first-ever "Bear Treks" Boston trip. "Trips such as Bear Treks provide the students with tangible on-site experience. It is invaluable for their career decision-making process," says Pank Agrrawal, professor of finance. "Our MBS students positively impacted a wide array of advertising, medical and finance professionals." Read more on the Maine Business School website.

Maine Public to feature Henry on 'Maine Calling' April 13

12 Apr 2023

Clarissa Henry, a University of Maine professor of biological sciences, will be one of the guests featured in an episode of Maine Public's radio show "Maine Calling" about biomedical research in the state at 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 13. Henry researches cell and molecular biology of segmentation and muscle development in zebrafish. The goal of her lab is to elucidate the signaling networks that underlie muscle morphogenesis. She also is the principal investigator for a $11.3 million Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), focusing on research about the mechanisms that regulate cellular behavior in response to cues from outside the cells, from the impact of persistent viral infections on cell systems to the mechanisms that lead to muscle cell development. The "Maine Calling" segment, which will be rebroadcast at 7 p.m., also will feature MDI Biological Laboratory President Hermann Haller and experts from Northeastern University's Roux Institute, Maine Health and private enterprises.

UMaine Printing Services receives two top ACUP+ honors

13 Apr 2023

Editor's note: Story updated April 18, 2023. The Association of College and University Printers (ACUP+) awarded University of Maine Printing Services two first-place platinum production awards (large institution) for its work on a Climate Change Institute 50th anniversary publication and a College of Engineering student recruitment poster. The 78-page CCI publication, which included a nearly 3-foot timeline poster, was cited by ACUP+ for its graphic design. Betty Lee, assistant director of the Climate Change Institute, led the production of the 50th anniversary publication in collaboration with Printing Services, which designed the cover and did the printing, and with Jenna Davenport, senior graphic designer in the Division of Marketing and Communications. The cover and product design was done by Printing Services graphic designer Arturo Camacho. In addition, the official 50th anniversary logo and included timeline handout was a joint effort between Camacho and Davenport. Production of the booklet involved the entire staff ensuring a high level of quality control and attention to detail on tricky set up, printing and bindery work.

This is the third time that a CCI publication has received ACUP+ awards for excellence: one was in 2019 for "The Art of Science, Climate Change Postcard Book" and in 2017 for a 64-page CCI publication. The College of Engineering poster, cited for excellence in offset single page production, was designed by Christopher Karlen, communications specialist in the College of Engineering. ACUP+ is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting college and university print and mail services. The platinum award is the association's highest distinction.

UMaine Climate Change Institute announces 2023 Harold W. Borns Jr. Symposium award winners

13 Apr 2023

The University of Maine Climate Change Institute has announced the graduate students who won awards for their research presentations during the 2023 Harold W. Borns Jr. Symposium. Ph.D. student Alessandro Mereghetti won first place for best overall talk for his presentation titled "Reconstructing Extinct Herbivore Community Structure Through High-Resolution Coprolite Analysis: An Insight into the Mammoth Steppe's Coproecology." Ph.D. student Ingalise Kindstedt won second place, followed by Ph.D. student Bailey McLaughlin in third. Ph.D. student Andrea J. Tirrell won the Dan & Betty Churchill Exploration Award, which recognizes the best presentation by a recipient of the Dan & Betty Churchill Exploration grant, for the talk "A Sky Island Perspective: New England Alpine Plant Distributions Across the Region." Ph.D. student Elizabeth Leclerc received the Robert and Judith Sturgis Family Foundation Exploration Award, given to the best presentation by a recipient of the Robert and Judith Sturgis Family Foundation Exploration grant, for the talk "Investigating the Influence of Spanish Colonization on Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience on Peru's North Coast." Also recognized during the event was Ph.D. student Madelyn Woods, who won the CCI Student Service Award. The honor recognizes a student for significant service to the climate change profession, the community, the institute and/or the university. This year's symposium was the 30th held by the Climate Change Institute. The annual event, named in honor of institute founder and professor emeritus Harold "Hal" Borns Jr., features presentations and discussion by graduate students and faculty on emerging research and topics related to global environmental change.

Spire, conservation & sustainability journal, to release seventh issue for Earth Day

13 Apr 2023

Spire: The Maine Journal of Conservation and Sustainability will release its seventh and largest issue online April 21 in anticipation of Earth Day. Spire is a graduate student-run, interdisciplinary online journal based at the University of Maine, and it features environmental art, poetry and essays from contributors across the state, including students, staff and alumni. This seventh issue, which will be available on Spire's website, contains original poetry by Maine residents on production, consumption, and waste and wildlife management in the Anthropocene. The issue also includes academic articles about the global climate commons and the importance of mutualism in ecological relations, as well as essays, short stories, photography, artwork and sculptures all sharing diverse perspectives on the nature of Maine's environments. Artwork on the cover is by Leslie Moore, whose linoleum block print sheds light on the life of coyotes in Maine ecosystems. The editor in chief for Spire's seventh issue is Dominic Piacentini, a Ph.D. candidate in anthropology & environmental policy, who will be graduating this year. Cora Saddler, a master's student in English, will be the editor-in-chief of Spire's eighth issue to be released next year. The submission deadline for Spire's eighth issue and cover art contest will be Feb. 1, 2024. Submissions to the journal are accepted on an ongoing basis. More information on how to submit to Spire can be found here. For questions about the journal or joining the Spire team, email spire@maine.edu.

Lindley featured in Republican Journal

13 Apr 2023

The Republican Journal featured Vera Lindley, the food systems and youth development professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension office in Belfast, about Waldo County Bounty. Lindley said the group discussed next steps and, using the Unity Barn Raisers as a fiscal sponsor, set an ambitious goal of raising $100,000 within a year. "There's nothing like an emergency to bring people together and rally for a cause. There was a lot of energy and talent behind the effort. Donations came in from everywhere," Lindley said.

WABI shares UMaine's 13th Annual Shaving Saves event

13 Apr 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) shared that the University of Maine will host the 13th annual Shaving Saves event on Saturday with the goal of raising $20,000 for childhood cancer research. The event will start at noon at the University of Maine IMRC Center, 101 Stewart Commons. Donate online.

Nip Impressions features Parsons

13 Apr 2023

Nip Impressions profiled Alia Parsons, a University of Maine senior in chemical engineering with a minor in business administration and a concentration in pulp and paper management, about her college experience and support from with the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation, which provides scholarships to engineering and forestry students pursuing careers in the pulp and paper and allied industries.

Boteva featured on Changing Lives Through Education Abroad podcast

13 Apr 2023

Orlina Boteva, director of the Office of International Programs at the University of Maine, was a featured guest on the podcast Changing Lives Through Education Abroad for an episode discussing the power of people-first leadership in education abroad.

Scholars Strategy Network highlights Glover, LaBouff research on poll workers

13 Apr 2023

Scholars Strategy Network highlighted research by University of Maine faculty Rob Glover, associate professor of political science, and Jordan LaBouff, associate professor of psychology, to survey poll workers before and after the 2022 midterms. The study was funded through the Scholars Strategy Network's Election Protection and Enhancement Program. "Poll workers are an integral part of Maine's election system. The research that Dr. Glover, Dr. LaBouff and Dr. LeVan are conducting is giving us more information about the motivations that bring poll workers to serve in this capacity and what is effective in reaching them for recruitment. This will be extremely helpful to election officials as we work to ensure we have an adequate number of poll workers signed up to work at future elections," Maine Secretary of State Shenna Bellows told Scholars Strategy Network.

Media share Mitchell Center event about philosophy in sustainability

13 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Penobscot Bay Pilot and CentralMaine.com shared that Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, “Field Philosophy as Engaged Research: Practice, History, and Theory” at 3 p.m. on April 19. Adam Briggle, associate professor and director of graduate studies in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at the University of North Texas, will discuss how philosophers have fallen victim to disciplinary capture, which consigns them to irrelevance or, at best, very indirect impacts. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage.

News Center Maine features PFAS exhibit

13 Apr 2023

News Center Maine featured "Co-Translation: Making the Invisible Visible Nanotechnology & Art vs. PFAS and Microplastics," a collaborative exhibit between Environmental Engineering students and Intermedia students at the University of Maine.

Media cover UMaine Sports Hall of Fame 2023 inductees

13 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Piscataquis Observer and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported on the 2023 inductees to the UMaine Sports Hall of Fame. James Boylen, Calvin Ingraham, Annabelle Hamilton, Stacey Porrini (Clingan), Alexis Soulharis (McNichols) and Anthony Wright are being inducted as individuals, while the 1959–60 men's basketball team, the 1951 football team and the 1961 football team are also being inducted. Yahoo Sports shared the BDN report.

BDN notes expansion of Solutions for Maine R&D and Innovation Hub

13 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that the University of Maine will expand the Solutions for Maine R&D and Innovation Hub, based out of UMaine’s Foster Center for Innovation and run by the University’s Office of Strategic Partnerships, Innovation, Resources and Engagement, with $2.5 million in Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan funding. The program provides services to help stabilize and support small businesses and startups dealing with ongoing pandemic challenges that are hindering their growth.

Media note UMaine role in UMass Amherst transportation research

13 Apr 2023

In a report about UMass Amherst being awarded $15 million to lead transportation research among several universities, the Daily Hampshire Gazette, Greenfield Recorder, Athol Daily News, Mass Live, Amherst Bulletin and WWLP-TV (Channel 22 in Chicopee, Massachusetts) reported that the University of Maine will serve as one of several regional university transportation centers as part of the initiative.

LeClair speaks to Mount Desert Islander about Maine Big Night

13 Apr 2023

Greg LeClair, graduate student at the University of Maine, spoke to the Mount Desert Islander about the Maine Big Night, which he started in 2018 to help amphibians safely cross roads during their spring migration to breed. “We actually have evidence now that there’s frog and salamander populations here in Maine on either side of the I-95 corridor that are showing a genetic difference from each other because they’ve been separated from each other for so long,” LeClair said.

Media share UMaine bikepacking club, the first in the country

13 Apr 2023

Q106.5 FM and Q96.1 reported on the University of Maine’s Bikepacking Collective, the first club of its kind in the country. The UMaine Bikepacking Collective is open to cyclists of all skill levels.

Jones profiled in media for homelessness research

13 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News and News Center Maine shared a profile of Brenna Jones, junior and Honors College student at the University of Maine, who is researching trends and proposing solutions that could help reduce homelessness in Bangor and beyond after experiencing homelessness growing up. “There are more financial and emotional resources and community in college. Being able to have housing and do research has changed my entire life. It helps me not feel alone whereas high school was very lonely and isolating,” Jones said.

Talty featured in Boston Globe discussing Indigenous authors

13 Apr 2023

Morgan Talty, associate professor of English at the University of Maine, spoke to the Boston Globe about the shift in literary representation of Indigenous authors. “The literary critic Louis Owens said non-Native readers of Indigenous fiction come to the page expecting a comfortable tour of Indian country. I feel

like we have at last moved away from that. Now there are Indigenous stories that aren't about Indian country but are more about specific tribes, which is what we need considering there are more than 500 federally recognized tribes," Talty said.

Henry featured on Maine Public discussing the growth of biomedical research in Maine

13 Apr 2023

Clarissa Henry, professor of biological sciences and director of Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering at the University of Maine, was featured in Maine Public's show Maine Calling discussing the growth of biomedical research and education in Maine.

UMaine study shines light on proteins that clean out trash in neurons

13 Apr 2023

A new study led by Zhao Xuan, an assistant professor of neurobiology at the University of Maine, shows how proteins interact in neurons to clear out damaged and abnormal components in the brain. Autophagy is the process by which a cell breaks down and destroys old, damaged or abnormal proteins and other substances in its cytoplasm, which is the fluid in the cell. The process may sound brutal, but it is essential for maintaining balance and function in the cell. In neurons — brain cells — the creation of the machine that can conduct autophagy is regulated near presynaptic sites, which is essentially the front end of the neuron that sends out messages to its neighbors. Part of the autophagy process in these cells involves a protein that travels between membranes called ATG-9, but the molecules that sort this important protein at the synapses are unknown. During her postdoctoral training at Yale University in the lab of neurobiologist Daniel Colón-Ramos, Xuan led a team to identify the role of the protein CLA-1L, more charmingly known as "Clarinet," in sorting ATG-9 at the synapses of the neurons of the microscopic nematode, *Caenorhabditis elegans*, or *C. elegans*. "A wealth of genetic tools coupled with advanced microscopy imaging in *C. elegans* allowed us to tackle this problem *in vivo*, in real-time, and at single-cell resolution," Xuan says. The study found that disrupting the Clarinet protein leads to abnormal accumulation of ATG-9 containing vesicles enriched with a protein involved in endocytosis, the process of bringing substances into the cell. Moreover, the phenotype of the ATG-9 protein for Clarinet was not observed for any integral synaptic vesicle proteins, suggesting a distinct relationship between the two. Using genetic analysis, Xuan and her team were able to uncover the proteins that interact with Clarinet in order to sort ATG-9. They also determined that Clarinet extends from the presynaptic site's active zone, which mediates the release of neurotransmitters, and the periactive zone, the surrounding area that helps bring substances into the cell. Clarinet may serve as a bridge between these two crucial areas of the presynaptic process when it comes to sorting ATG-9 for autophagy. "The giant protein Clarinet may supply a piece of the puzzle of how neurons gauge their activity and get prepared to clean the trash after the party," Xuan says. The study was published April 13, 2023 in the journal PLOS Biology. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine launches new Strategic Enrollment and Retention Action Plan

14 Apr 2023

In response to declining college student recruitment nationwide and other recent disruptions in higher education spurred primarily by the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Maine has launched a new five-year Strategic Framework for Enrollment Management Recruitment and Retention Action Plan for the flagship campus and regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias. The plan for 2023–27 is defined by three action-oriented goals: growing enrollment, fostering a sense of belonging and identity, and improving perseverance and student success. These goals, established with input from community-wide conversations, will be achieved through several objectives. Among the initiatives for bolstering enrollment are achieving annual growth of the first-time-full-time class size by 2.5%; extending recruitment of transfer students, adults with some college and no degree and former UMaine students who never graduated; restoring momentum to graduate admissions, particularly doctoral students, for in-person and online programs; and examining and modifying current financial aid programs and scholarships. Other efforts include expanding operational and human resource services to better advise first-year learners; possibly creating more first-year student success and college prep courses; improving infrastructure; increasing participation in both experiential learning opportunities and extracurricular activities; and enhancing marketing and brand integration. Visit the Strategic Framework for Enrollment Management Recruitment and Retention Action Plan website for more information. "This action plan will require our entire community's continued support and engagement to succeed," wrote John Volin, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost, in a letter to the employees. "Thank you for all you do, for your engagement and contribution to our vibrant community, and for being part, in any way you choose, of this new collective and ambitious action plan." UMaine also has established several new key performance indicators to evaluate the progress toward achieving the goals of the new recruitment and retention initiatives, as well as the university's Strategic Vision and Values. More information about these metrics are available on an online dashboard. These metrics and the new recruitment and retention plan also coincide with and support other campuswide efforts to improving the learning experience at UMaine and UMaine Machias, including the work of the President's Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; the UMS TRANSFORMS Initiative and recently announced UMaine Compass. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Earth Week 2023 starting April 16

14 Apr 2023

The University of Maine will celebrate Earth Week 2023 starting April 16 with a slate of events on- and off-campus groups, compiled by UMaine's Office of Sustainability and Green Campus Initiative. The week kicks off with a new and used outdoor gear sale sponsored by Maine Bound Adventure Center at 10 a.m. April 16. Other Earth Week events include nature walk and talks, academic discussions pertaining to environmental issues, an environmental mindfulness meditation session and a pop-up thrift shop. Throughout the week there will be a nature photo contest held by the Green Campus Initiative and a Healthy High 5K & 10K Race. On Earth Day, April 22, the Green Campus Initiative will host a campus clean up event at noon, with volunteers expected to meet at the Hilltop Quad. Visit the Earth Week 2023 website for a full schedule of events. For more information, contact UMaine Sustainability Director Daniel Dixon (daniel.dixon@maine.edu) or Megan Carter (megan.carter@maine.edu).

Sample seafood pasta for science on April 20

14 Apr 2023

Food scientists at the University of Maine are seeking taste testers for a new seafood pasta recipe on Thursday, April 20. Bryson McDonough, a Master's of Food Science student in the lab of associate professor Jennifer Perry, developed a sauce with green crab meat that will be served with garlic noodles. Green crabs, which originate from Europe, are decimating Maine's soft-shell clam population and crowding lobster traps. Developing new food uses for green crabs may encourage people to seek them out, ultimately reducing their numbers and the damage they cause along Maine's coasts. Testers will spend 15–20 minutes tasting the pasta and providing feedback. Participants will receive $5 for completing the testing process. They must be at least 18 years old and able to eat shellfish, gluten, wheat, and dairy. Testers who enjoy eating pasta are preferred. Taste testing appointments are available between 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m. on April 20. All testing will be held in the University of Maine's Sensory Evaluation Center in Hitchner Hall, Rooms 158A and 158B. Participants must sign up for their time slot in advance. Registration is available online. Contact: Bryson McDonough, bryson.mcdonough@maine.edu

French and Italian media cover latest Tara expedition, Tara-Europa

14 Apr 2023

French media outlets, including La Provence, Ouest-France, Le Télégramme, Paris Match, France 24, Les Echos, and Le Figaro, and the Italian media outlet The Map Report reported on the latest Tara Ocean Expedition, Tara-Europa, which recently left the port of Lorient for a pan-European study of land-ocean interaction. Lee Karp-Boss and Emmanuel Boss, professors at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, are coordinators of the expedition and several of their lab members will participate in it.

Journalism classes host 2023 Alan Miller Fund Visiting Journalists

14 Apr 2023

The 2023 Alan Miller Fund Visiting Journalists attended University of Maine journalism classes on April 13–14, including CMJ 351 (Audio and Video Production), CMJ 330 (Copy Editing) and CMJ 489 (Seminar in Media Ethics), and had lunch with Maine Campus editors. The visiting journalists this year were Nina Mahaleris, audience engagement editor of the Lewiston Sun Journal and a 2019 UMaine journalism graduate who double-majored in international affairs, and Vanessa Paolella, a staff writer at the Sun Journal primarily covering local education. For Mahaleris, this was a homecoming of sorts — she was awarded the 2019 Brooks Hamilton Award by the faculty of the Department of Communication and Journalism for the graduating student who best exemplifies the spirit of journalism as embodied by Brooks Hamilton, a legendary Maine editor and journalism professor at UMaine. The Alan Miller Visiting Journalist Program was established in 2007 in memory of Alan Miller, a long-time professor of journalism at the University of Maine. The program is designed to bring working journalists into the classroom to inspire and educate our journalism students. Previous visiting journalists have included Laura Helmuth, editor-in- chief of Scientific American; Kathleen Kingsbury, opinion editor of the New York Times; and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists such as Mark Feeney and Amy Ellis Nutt. "Journalism is changing so rapidly, my students in the media ethics seminar asked specifically if this year we could invite a journalist or journalists who graduated from college in the last five years or so for the program," says Michael Socolow, an associate professor in the Department of Communication who coordinates the program. "So we're grateful to Nina and Vanessa for visiting Orono and offering our journalism students an inside perspective on the realities of launching a journalism career in 2023."

UMaine to observe Maine Days April 24–28

14 Apr 2023

This year, the University of Maine's traditional Maine Day observance will be a weeklong event April 24–28, focused on community-building and service activities, and philanthropic activities. Students, faculty and staff will have opportunities to get involved — from cleaning up campus to planting gardens — and participate in traditional events, such as Oozeball, the parade, and community block party and barbecue. The 2023 Maine Day Week Committee has published a full schedule of events online, including a list of the more than three dozen volunteer service project opportunities coordinated by the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism. UMaine community members can sign up online to volunteer, add service projects or Maine Days events, and join the parade. Maine Days coincides with UMaine's Senior Week, organized by the Class of 2023 Senior Class Council, and the Maine Day of Giving, led by the University of Maine Foundation. In addition, a number of UMaine Athletics events are scheduled that week. Also, there is a 2023 Maine Days Food Drive, April 17–24, with nonperishables to be donated to the Black Bear Exchange and distributed to food pantries statewide serving food-insecure Mainers. The Honors College is spearheading the collection efforts, with a goal to collect 7,500 pounds of donated food. Among the Maine Days event highlights:

- Wednesday, April 26 — Block Party and Barbecue, 5–7:30 p.m., with food served until 6:30 p.m., Steam Plant parking lot
- Friday, April 28 — Maine Days Parade, 3:30 p.m., starting from Versant Power Astronomy Center
- Saturday, April 29 — Summer Kickoff, noon–3 p.m., Mall

"Maine Day has been renamed and restructured for 2023 to be an exciting week focused on service, philanthropy and fun, as well as community-building activities," says Robert Dana, vice president for student life and inclusive excellence, and dean of students. "As other universities across the country have done, UMaine needed to consider a change for a time-honored tradition that many community members said had lost its focus over the years. Several committees and lots of people have come up with a week-long approach that will include campus-based events to engage students, faculty and staff, all in a concerted effort to help students relax and enjoy themselves, while hopefully reducing the likelihood that anyone could be injured in pursuit of stress relief." Maine Day was introduced in 1935 by UMaine President Arthur Hauck as a day set aside for spring campus clean-up. Over the decades, the tradition transitioned away from its roots and became a large-scale, daylong celebration with classes canceled. Based on input from students, faculty and staff about decreased volunteerism and increased safety concerns related to the long-standing day of service, UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy established a 23-member Maine Day Task Force, chaired by professor Jeffrey Hecker, with student, faculty, staff, alumni and Orono community representation to reenvision Maine Day. The advisory group issued a 12-page report in December with recommendations, which were informed by data and a significant amount of campus and community input. In February, the university shifted to Maine Days and planning began for a weeklong focus on beautification and giving back to campus. Classes will be held each day of that week, including Wednesday, April 26. The revised week has many great activities that have also been coupled with harm reduction messaging about alcohol and other drug use. Safety and positive student engagement are the primary goals of this change that inaugurates a new approach to community celebration. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Extension's plant disease lab receives major grant to lead regional network

14 Apr 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab recently received $472,400 to support the Northeast Plant Diagnostic Network (NEPDN). The funding is part of a $3 million grant cycle from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) to support the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN). With this grant, UMaine Extension becomes the regional center for the Northeast, which represents 14 labs in 12 states. NPDN supports the health and productivity of plants in agriculture and natural ecosystems with quality diagnostic services, member professional development and effective collaboration. “As the regional center, we will detect and identify plant pests and pathogens that can negatively impact our local food systems,” says Alicyn Smart, associate Extension professor, Extension plant pathologist, and director of NEPDN. “We also play the role of communicator, working to disseminate up-to-date information to the rest of the regional network in order to limit the negative effects of plant diseases.” Smart’s team will undergo enhanced diagnostician training and become first responders. The funding will help maintain capacity at the Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab and strengthen the diagnostic infrastructure across the Northeast network. As part of the project, the team will also develop and refine reporting protocols to ensure timely submission of critical disease information to regional and national networks. NPDN is a national network of 70 diagnostic laboratories that rapidly and accurately detect and report pathogens that cause plant diseases of national interest that may be deemed a biosecurity risk. The network alerts labs of possible plant disease outbreaks and/or introductions, and is technologically equipped to detect and identify pests and pathogens rapidly. Here in the Northeast, the diagnostic labs process samples from a wide variety of diversified small farms, as well as individuals and large industries. Each NEPDN lab supports a broad range of clientele, with samples submitted by homeowners, farmers, the lawn care industry, nurseries and state Departments of Agriculture. The individual expertise, skill set and available diagnostic methods at each of the 14 labs enable the region to cohesively provide efficient and effective identification of pathogens infecting plants across the Northeast. The Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab is part of UMaine Extension’s Diagnostic and Research Lab (DRL) located in Orono. The diagnostic lab features several specialized microscopes, incubators and a spectrophotometer. DRL is also home to Extension’s Aquatic Animal Health Lab, the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab and the Tick Lab. This high-containment facility allows Extension to collaborate with other research institutions, industry partners and state and federal agencies on strategic projects that require specialized facilities, equipment and expertise.

UMaine Extension 4-H offers learning opportunity about sharks

17 Apr 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer an online special interest 4-H club on the science of sharks for youth ages 9–18, 4–5 p.m. on Tuesdays, May 16–June 6. Required registration for this special interest, or SPIN, club closes April 25. The 4-H Shark Club will cover topics such as types of sharks, how sharks search for food, how they exist in the ocean with other creatures and sharks' swimming patterns and habits along the Maine coast. Kyle Oliviera, a UMaine Ph.D. student, will lead the program. The club is free; limited to 10 participants. Register on the event webpage to receive the link and at-home materials. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.8206; sarah.sparks@maine.edu. Additional information also is available on the Extension 4-H Virtual Learning webpage. The 4-H Shark Club is supported by the National Science Foundation award #OIA-1849227 to Maine EPSCoR at the University of Maine.

Miller to be featured on Maine Calling discussing ethics of blood donation

17 Apr 2023

Jessica Miller, professor of philosophy at the University of Maine, will be one of the guests featured in an episode of Maine Public’s radio show “Maine Calling” about blood donation at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 18. Millions of people need blood transfusions each year due to surgery, injury, disorders or disease. There is no substitute for human blood — all transfusions use blood from a donor. The show will focus on how blood donations are utilized, different ways to donate — such as plasma, platelet and power red donation — and Miller will discuss some of the ethical questions tied to blood donation.

UMaine Extension Tick Lab adds Powassan virus and Heartland virus to tick testing service

17 Apr 2023

Editor's note: Story updated April 18, 2023. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab is adding two new pathogens to its tick testing panels. The Tick Lab will now be screening ticks for Powassan virus and Heartland virus in addition to testing for the pathogens that cause Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis and tularemia. Powassan virus is a rare but serious pathogen that can be transmitted by infected deer ticks, woodchuck ticks or squirrel ticks; Heartland virus has been linked to the bite of a lone star tick. Powassan virus can cause severe neurological symptoms and is a potentially fatal illness. "We are constantly striving to improve our tick testing service to better serve our clients and help understand the changing dynamics of tick-borne disease in Maine," says Griffin Dill, UMaine Extension Tick Lab coordinator. "The addition of Powassan virus and Heartland virus to our testing panel underscores our commitment to providing comprehensive and reliable tick testing solutions for the people of Maine." Dill also notes that while cases of Powassan virus have been reported in Maine dating back more than 20 years, Heartland virus has only been found in certain Maine wildlife species. To reflect the increased scope of the tick testing service, the price will change from $15 to $20 per tick sample. The Legislature's Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee recently unanimously recommended additional funding to support the growing demand on UMaine's Tick Lab and maintain affordable access to testing for Mainers. If the state appropriations is ultimately approved, the university plans to return the testing fee per sample to $15, well below what other public university labs in the Northeast currently charge. More information on ticks in Maine and submitting tick samples to the lab is available on the tick laboratory website, or by contacting 207.581.3880, 800.287.0279 (in Maine); tickID@maine.edu.

The Cattle Site shares UMaine students’ trip to New York for Dairy Challenge

17 Apr 2023

The Cattle Site shared that a team of 12 students from the University of Maine Animal and Veterinary Sciences Program competed in the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge held in Saratoga Springs, New York. “The students never know what to expect on these farms, so the competition is a test of everything they have learned throughout their college career. It is also a tremendous opportunity to network with sponsors, local farm owners, and industry professionals, and the impact is endless,” said David Marcinkowski, the team’s coach and associate professor and dairy specialist at UMaine.

WABI covers UMaine Shaving Saves event

17 Apr 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) covered the 13th Annual Shaving Saves event at the University of Maine.

BDN shares UMaine Earth Week events

17 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine Earth Week 2023 started April 16 with a slate of events on- and off-campus groups, compiled by UMaine's Office of Sustainability and Green Campus Initiative. Visit the Earth Week 2023 website for a full schedule of events.

Media notes UMaine Tick Lab adding viruses to testing

17 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Maine Public, CentralMaine.com, the Sun Journal and Morning Ag Clips reported that the University of Maine Tick Lab will now be screening ticks for Powassan virus and Heartland virus in addition to testing for the pathogens that cause Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis and tularemia. More information on ticks in Maine and submitting tick samples to the lab is available on the Tick Lab website.

BDN shares CCIDS grant for study on behavioral intervention

17 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) received a $499,970 grant from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services Office of Aging and Disability Services to conduct a model demonstration project of intensive evidence-based behavioral intervention to help adults with disabilities who are currently subject to restrictive behavior management plans.

Business Insider features tour of ASCC 3D-printed house

17 Apr 2023

Business Insider featured a tour of the Advanced Structures and Composite Center's (ASCC) recyclable 3D-printed house. Yahoo News and The New York Ledger shared the Business Insider report.

Dym writes article about Discord for The Conversation

17 Apr 2023

Brianna Dym, lecturer of computer science in the University of Maine School of Computing and Information Science, wrote an article for The Conversation about Discord in light of the social media platform's role in the Pentagon leak of top-secret intelligence. Fast Company, Seattle PI, Houston Chronicle, New Haven Register, SF Gate, Idaho Press and other media outlets shared The Conversation report.

Media cover grant to UMaine Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab

17 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Penobscot Bay Pilot and Morning Ag Clips reported that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab received $472,400 to support the Northeast Plant Diagnostic Network as part of a $3 million grant cycle from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture to support the National Plant Diagnostic Network.

Bishop writes opinion piece for Sun Journal about social work loan forgiveness

17 Apr 2023

Sarah Bishop, a student at the University of Maine who will graduate in May with a master's degree in social work, wrote an opinion piece for the Sun Journal about why social work loan forgiveness makes sense for Maine. "Without loans, earning my degree would have been unobtainable, but I fear that repaying those loans on a social worker's salary will be nearly impossible. This is why I'm advocating for the passage of LD 632: An Act to Amend the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program," Bishop wrote.

Birkel speaks to Sun Journal about extreme weather events

17 Apr 2023

Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, spoke to the Sun Journal about how the increased heat from global warming "facilitates extremes" in weather.

Hamley awarded $25K American Dissertation Fellowship

17 Apr 2023

Kit Hamley, Ph.D. candidate in the School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute (CCI) at the University of Maine, has been awarded an

$25,000 American Dissertation Fellowship from the American Association of University Women. This fellowship will support Hamley for 2023–24 as she completes her dissertation, which leverages new tools to understand human prehistory in Maine and the Falkland Islands. Hamley was previously supported by a CCI Research Assistantship for her M.S. in Quaternary and Climate Studies, as well as a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, a Chase Distinguished Research Assistantship and a Janet Waldron Doctoral Research Fellowship.

Extension workshop on raising pork offered in Somerset County April 26

18 Apr 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is hosting a workshop on raising swine on April 26 from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. at the Somerset County Extension office, 7 County Drive, Skowhegan. Join Colt Knight, associate Extension professor and state livestock specialist, for Swine 101, a two-hour primer on raising pastured pork. Topics include breed selection, basic reproductive information, swine nutrition, fencing, housing, meat yield and more. The sliding scale fee ($0–$10) includes a smoked pork lunch. Register online. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.474.9622; emily.collins3@maine.edu.

Three UMaine graduate students receive Phi Kappa Phi research grants

18 Apr 2023

Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective multidisciplinary collegiate honor society, has awarded graduate research grants to three University of Maine students. Emma Erwin, a Ph.D. student in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences; Elizabeth Leclerc, an interdisciplinary Ph.D. student with the Department of Anthropology and the Climate Change Institute; and Dylan O'Hara, a history Ph.D. student, are among the 20 grant recipients nationwide for 2023. According to Phi Kappa Phi, the up to $1,500 grants will support society member graduate students "seeking funding for research in support of career development opportunities." Phi Kappa Phi started at UMaine in 1897. As the founding institution, the university is home to chapter 1.

Pitman pens op-ed for BDN about Georgia's 'Cop City'

18 Apr 2023

Brian Pitman, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Maine and a member of the Maine Chapter of the Scholars Strategy Network, wrote an opinion piece for the Bangor Daily News about why Mainers should care about Georgia's "Cop City," a proposed $90 million training ground for police and firefighters that includes a mock city within 85 acres of the forest. "Organizations, such as the Atlanta Solidarity Fund and Community Movement Builders have been at the front of the resistance, raising alarm that the ramifications of 'Cop City,' if built, stretch far beyond Atlanta," Pitman wrote.

BDN shares Xuan study about neurons and proteins

18 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported on a study led by Zhao Xuan, an assistant professor of neurobiology at the University of Maine, showing how proteins interact in neurons to clear out damaged and abnormal components in the brain.

Tudor speaks to Maine Public about aquaponics

18 Apr 2023

Maine Public interviewed Scarlett Tudor, education and outreach coordinator for the University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute, about the potential of aquaponics, a hybrid of hydroponics and aquaculture. Tudor said one of the exciting possibilities of aquaponics is that it can reduce the distance that fresh produce and fish have to travel to get to consumers. "I think that we need to diversify how we grow these organisms for food. … When we have these land-based technologies, they come with waste streams, and what do we do with that? Well, we should be growing more food with that," Tudor said.

BDN covers UMaine alumni competing in Stanley Cup

18 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that five University of Maine hockey alumni — Gustav Nyquist, Jeremy Swayman, Ben Hutton, Ryan Lomberg and Devin Shore — will compete at this year's Stanley Cup on their respective National Hockey League teams. Yahoo News shared the BDN report.

Project Upland Magazine features Blomberg lab

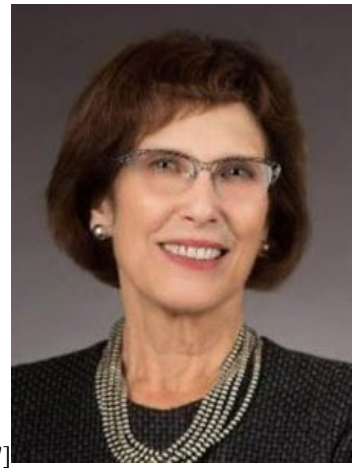
18 Apr 2023

Project Upland Magazine featured the research of Erik Blomberg, associate professor of wildlife population ecology, in an article about aging and sexing woodcocks.

UMaine names its 2023 commencement speakers

18 Apr 2023

The president of the Council of Graduate Schools and a retired U.S. ambassador and career diplomat with 32 years of experience with the State Department in Europe, Asia and Latin America will address graduates at the University of Maine's 221st commencement ceremonies on May 5–6. [caption



id="attachment_97003" align="alignright" width="223"] Suzanne Ortega[/caption] Suzanne Ortega, president of the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), will address the Graduate School Commencement that begins at 4 p.m. May 5. Alumna and retired U.S. ambassador Anne Hall will address the two undergraduate ceremonies that begin at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. May 6. The three ceremonies in Harold Alfond Sports Arena will be livestreamed on the commencement website. “It will be wonderful to have the leader of the nation’s higher education association devoted solely to graduate study addressing our ceremony for the Graduate School, which is celebrating its centennial,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “And we will welcome Anne to her alma mater, where she will share her insights and worldview at our undergraduate ceremonies. We appreciate the leadership and vision of Dr. Ortega and retired ambassador Hall, are honored to have them join us.” Ortega leads CGS, which has nearly 500 U.S. and Canadian members, and 29 international affiliates. A sociologist by training, her research focuses on social inequality, mental health and graduate education. Prior to joining CGS, Ortega served as the University of North Carolina senior vice president for academic affairs (2011–14). Previous appointments included the executive vice president and provost at the University of New Mexico, vice provost and graduate dean at the University of Washington, and the University of Missouri. She has served on review panels for the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health, has been the principal investigator or co-investigator on grants totaling more than $13 million in state, federal and private foundation funds. Ortega also has served on a number of professional association boards and committees, including the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), the National Academies of Science Committee on Revitalizing Graduate STEM Education for the 21st Century, and the National Science Foundation's Human Resources Expert Panel. In addition, she is currently a board member of the American University of the Emirates, serves on Advisory Councils for the Vanderbilt University Graduate School and the Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in STEMM. She is the author of numerous articles and book chapters, and holds master’s and doctoral degrees in sociology from Vanderbilt University.

[caption id="attachment_97004" align="alignright" width="223"] Anne Hall[/caption] Hall was Ambassador to Lithuania from 2016–19, leading a multiagency team focused on strengthening Baltic defense and security. From 2014–16, she served as the principal deputy assistant secretary of state for oceans and international environmental and scientific affairs, and prior to that as director of the Office of Central European Affairs in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs. Other overseas leadership positions included deputy chief of mission, Embassy Vilnius, Lithuania, and consul general of the U.S. Consulate General in Krakow, Poland. She also served in China, Brazil and Colombia. Earlier in her career, Hall served as special assistant to Secretary of State Warren Christopher, in the Executive Secretariat of the Secretary of State, and worked on Nordic and Baltic as well as Southeastern European affairs. She is the recipient of several Department of State Superior and Meritorious Honor awards. In 2019, the president of Lithuania awarded her the Commander’s Cross of the Order of Merit for Service to the Republic of Lithuania. In 2009, she was decorated by the president of Poland with the Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland. Hall holds master’s degrees from the LBJ School of Public Affairs and the Institute of Latin American Studies at University of Texas. She graduated from UMaine with a bachelor’s degree in international affairs in 1981. Her languages are Polish, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese and some Lithuanian. Currently, she chairs the Board of Advisors of the School of Public and International Affairs at UMaine. She enjoys supporting the next generation of diplomats and leaders. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Franco American Programs receives $350K from National Endowment for the Humanities

18 Apr 2023

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) awarded $350,000 to the University of Maine Franco American Programs for a project to digitize historic materials and make them openly available online. UMaine will conduct the project on behalf of the Franco American Collections Consortium, a collaboration of university archives that maintain collections of books, documents, photos, oral histories, art, maps and artifacts related to French-Canadian and Acadian heritage communities. The project will digitize nearly 40,000 pages of French-language and bilingual French-English family correspondence, historic scrapbooks, manuscripts, artworks, personal diaries, songbooks and other personal papers, as well as numerous oral history audio recordings. These materials illuminate 150 years of struggles and triumphs of Franco Americans from all over New England. Once digitized, all of the items will be hosted

online at the Franco American Digital Archives/Portail franco-américain, which provides bilingual access to Franco American materials at institutions across North America. The portal collects a diversity of Franco American primary sources for scholars, community members and the public. It uses both standardized and cultural specific metadata to create a full range of access points. The portal was created with support from another NEH grant that UMaine Franco American Programs received in 2020. "Five academic institutions have been working for five years on this project, and we are honored that the NEH has recognized the importance of our work and the significance of these materials," says Susan Pinette, professor of modern languages and director of Franco American Programs. This project responds to the NEH's special focus on the 250th anniversary of American independence, emphasizing the contributions of under-represented communities in the nation's history. In the 19th and 20th centuries, Franco Americans faced deep-seated antagonism for their language, Catholicism, family ties to their home country and perceived willingness to accept low wages. They were racialized in public discourse and often excluded from civic life. Franco American materials offer unique insight into a broad range of research questions concerning ethnic and religious America, worker relations, gender and family dynamics, political party formation, language usage and folkways. Despite this, Franco American materials are rarely known and often hard to find. The term "Franco-Americans" was designated a Library of Congress subject heading only in 2008. This project aims to bolster the available information about the history of these people. "Collectively, these sources chronicle a unique cultural community whose materials continue to be neglected and hard to access," Pinette says. Contact: Susan Pinette, spinette@maine.edu

NSF awards Howell $550K for microfluidics research and development with Sappi

18 Apr 2023

University of Maine research in partnership with Sappi North America has received a $550,000 award from the National Science Foundation to explore how existing mass produced technologies can be used to study and scale up microfluidic technology. Microfluidics studies the behavior of certain fluids through microscopic channels. The movement can be used to learn more about the microscopic chemical and biological properties of those fluids. Water testing and disinfecting technology uses microfluidics, and it can be applied to fast-growing markets such as wearable technology and low-cost sensor systems. Most people, however, have likely interacted with microfluidic technology in the past few years through COVID-19 tests. "When we can control the way that liquid moves around within a device, we can control what it interacts with," says Caitlin Howell, principal investigator of the study and an associate professor of biomedical engineering, for University of Maine. "COVID tests are a great example of this, where the liquid sample is passed over detector molecules which capture pieces of the virus linked to a marker that we can see." With the pandemic and climate change driving disease outbreaks and freshwater infrastructure, the importance of access to affordable, widely available and quickly produced microfluidic technology has never been clearer. Howell found an extraordinary partner in scaling up the technology used for microfluidic research and application: Sappi North America, a pulp and paper company with an important commercial presence in Maine. Part of Sappi's operation is manufacturing textured surfaces for various applications. The surfaces are not only watertight and ultrathin, but they are produced in rolls at a rate of 4,000 square meters per hour. Customers can request specific patterns — leather grain, geometrics and wood grain have been among the most popular — and then cast or press the paper or film to impart the pattern on coated fabrics and decorative laminates. Sappi materials are used mostly for the fashion industry, but Howell and Mark Hittie, director of release business strategy at Sappi North America, saw its scientific potential. Instead of mass producing materials with stylish patterns, the materials could be textured with the channels needed for microfluidics testing. "We congratulate Caitlin Howell and the University of Maine on this NSF grant," says Hittie. "Microfluidics exploits the nanoscale texturing capability of Sappi's manufacturing processes, and we look forward to our participation in scaling up microfluidic applications for commercial readiness." The ability to quickly test, scale and print rolls of this technology would be a game changer for microfluidics. It could even go beyond relatively simple applications such as water testing entering into cancer diagnostics and vaccine production. The partnership between UMaine and Sappi also demonstrates how existing manufacturing infrastructure and knowledge can be used in new ways, particular in the burgeoning and increasingly important fields of biotechnology. The project will train students in both research and the entrepreneurial skills needed to bridge the gap from the lab to the market by offering workshops through UMaine's Research Commercialization Training series and involving students in all aspects of the work, particularly through the NSF's I-Corps program. "Through courses and informal training, students will build career skills and an entrepreneurial mindset that will enable them to translate innovations into societal impact whether they pursue work in startups, larger companies like Sappi or academia," says Renee Kelly, associate vice president of strategic partnerships, innovation and engagement. UMaine and Sappi have also partnered with the Wyss Institute at Harvard University to continue research and development to clear the way to commercialization of the technology. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine to dedicate Williams Hall April 28 for alumna who was an education and civic leader

19 Apr 2023

Editor's note: Story updated April 21 to note that Williams family history was provided by Rachael Keri Williams, founder and executive director of SOAL: SavingOurAncestorsLegacy. Beryl Warner Williams Hall at the University of Maine will be dedicated in a ceremony on April 28 to honor the legacy of the Bangor native and UMaine's first Black graduate to earn a degree in mathematics. Williams went on to have a distinguished academic career at Morgan State University and become an active civic leader in Baltimore. The dedication ceremony begins at 2 p.m. in 130 Williams Hall, followed by a reception in the atrium. To attend, RSVP online at our.umaine.edu/williams. The event also will be livestreamed: umainefoundation.org/live. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact William Biberstein, 207.581.4091. The ceremony will be attended by the descendants of Beryl Warner Williams, and the program will include UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and notable Black mathematicians, poets, artists, musicians and descendants of Bangor's Black community:

- Leon Woodson, professor of mathematics at Morgan State University and executive secretary emeritus of the National Association of Mathematics
- Rachael Keri Williams, member of the Williams Hall Visualization Committee, descendant historian, founder and executive director of SOAL: SavingOurAncestorsLegacy, and Beryl Warner Williams' granddaughter
- Eve Elizabeth Williams, award-winning poet and Beryl Warner Williams' granddaughter, "Unfiltered," publications include AfroPunk, SonofBaldwin, KinfolkKollective, Peach Mag, Sun Magazine
- MYQ Farrow, singer-songwriter, street performer and reluctant poet, "Music is a joy, it is a revolutionary act, so joy is revolutionary," founder and lead of FARROW — P-Funk, Jam, R&B/Soul and Old-School Folk, Albums: Agitate, Educate.
- Nancy Dymond, Bangor native, actor and educator, and first Maine-born African American to earn a bachelor's degree in education from UMaine to teach in Maine
- Scott Warner Williams, blacksmith, publisher, poet and author, professor emeritus of mathematics at the University at Buffalo and and Beryl Warner Williams' son, recipient of Ford Foundation, Fulbright and National Science Foundation awards, African Americans of the Diaspora author who has given over 85 invited lectures, colloquia and seminars at 58 institutions in eight countries

The post-ceremony reception in the atrium will provide an opportunity to view the two large-scale murals painted in March 2023 by artists Rachel Gloria Adams and Ryan Adams of Portland, Maine in tribute to Williams and as a celebration of Black heritage in Maine. Also in the atrium, a multimedia kiosk facilitates the lived experience of being Black in Maine through historical articles, newspaper clippings and family photos, letters and documents dating to the mid 1800s. The project leads are UMaine new media major Kacie Bond and lecturer Michael Scott, director of ASAP Media Lab. Beryl Elisabeth Warner (1913–99) was born and raised in Bangor, Maine. In 1935, she became the first Black graduate to earn a degree in mathematics at UMaine, followed by a master's degree in mathematics in 1940. During her years at UMaine, she was active in clubs, sports and music, including University Orchestra, and was a member of the mathematics and All Maine Women honor societies. Her thesis: A Reorganization in the Continuity of Subject Matter in Mathematics. According to Rachael Keri Williams, founder and executive director of SOAL: SavingOurAncestorsLegacy, and granddaughter of Beryl Warner Williams, who provided the Williams family history: After receiving her master's degree, Beryl Warner was barred from teaching in her home state because of her race. She moved to New Orleans, the Carolinas, Pennsylvania, and out west, building networks and teaching in Black schools and colleges across the country. She met Roger Kenton Williams, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania at Claflin College. They married in 1942 and had one son, Scott. Roger Williams, the first Black psychology Ph.D. from Penn State, established Morgan State University's Psychology Department. Scott Williams is professor emeritus of mathematics at the University at Buffalo. Although she began her career at Morgan State with only a part-time job, Beryl Warner Williams went on to lead the development of the evening, summer and Extension programs. She founded the Center for Continuing Education and became Morgan State's first female academic dean. While at Morgan State, she also led the desegregation of Baltimore Public Schools, and served on the Baltimore Public Schools Board of Commissioners for 10 years (1974–84). As a musician and artist, Beryl Warner Williams played cello and piano as a volunteer and to pay for college; later she played with the Baltimore Orchestra. Her textile art was exhibited at The Little Black Museum, the Enoch Pratt Library and other places. Beryl Warner Williams was a champion of Black history, Black art, Africa and her students. This was reflected in her work with The Little Black Museum, African Americans in Wax Museum, the Inner-Harbor, Delta Sigma Theta, the NAACP and the National Association of Negro Women. She helped establish Baltimore and Gbaranga, Liberia as Sister Cities, and championed oral history projects, mutual aid networks and free lifetime learning programs for senior citizens in Baltimore. She received an honorary doctorate from UMaine in 1972, and in 1995 received the Alumni Association's Alumni Career Award. Williams died in 1999 at the age of 85. Her obituary in the Baltimore Sun is online. In 2021, the University of Maine System Board of Trustees voted to change the name of C.C. Little Hall to Beryl Warner Williams Hall. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Plants take root at the Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center

19 Apr 2023

Pallet-sized mats of wild blueberry thatch took a 52-mile trip from Deblois to the University of Maine's Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center in Old Town April 12 for planting. The milestone in the center's development follows years of preparations and will create multidisciplinary research opportunities for faculty and students. Maine's state fruit is wild. Commercially-grown lowbush blueberries are not planted; they are cultivated in their natural environment. Transplanting parent plants is rare, as they readily spring from the gravelly, acidic soils left by melting glaciers on their own. To ensure the berries would thrive, the team at Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, which manages UMaine's research farm network, had to recreate Maine's blueberry barrens in highly controlled raised beds. They also had to account for the crop's rich genetic diversity. The plants were carefully selected and genotyped to ensure each patch of thatch grew from a single origin plant. This genetic precision is a first for wild blueberry research, akin to approaches traditionally used for orchards or row crops. The research planned for the site requires frequent management and monitoring, necessitating its proximity to the UMaine campus. The location will also facilitate new opportunities for students to engage with research and wild blueberries, streamlining the workforce pipeline for one of Maine's top food commodities. The Wyman's Center's 36- to 144-square-foot raised beds will allow researchers to control for precipitation, temperature, and plant genetics so they can study wild blueberries with unprecedented precision. In time, the research opportunities created by the center will improve predictions about how the berries respond to field conditions, and ultimately refine crop production techniques that benefit growers, consumers, and the environment. The center was made possible through a gift from Wyman's, a 149-year-old family-owned business based in Milbridge. Wyman's, which harvests and processes fruit throughout Down East and Midcoast Maine, is the number one brand of frozen fruit in the nation and distributes wild blueberries globally. The Wyman's Center in Old Town facilitates detailed and controlled research to complement the commercial-scale field research at Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro and on growing operations large and small across the growing region. UMaine's Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station faculty and their students have conducted wild blueberry research since at least 1898. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

Nobel Prize-winning physicist and educator Carl Wieman to receive UMaine honorary degree

19 Apr 2023

The University of Maine will confer an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to internationally recognized researcher and educator, and Nobel Prize winner Carl Wieman during its 221st commencement ceremony on May 6. "We are honored to celebrate Dr. Wieman's international acclaim for research in optical and atomic physics, and his groundbreaking leadership in the use of evidence-based pedagogies in STEM education," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "His decades of leadership, tireless work and dedication to the fields of science and education support the preparation of an innovative and prepared STEM workforce for the future of Maine and the nation." Wieman received his Ph.D. in physics from Stanford University in 1977. He has held a joint appointment as professor of physics and of the Graduate School of Education at Stanford University since 2013, and before that was at the University of British Columbia and University of Colorado. Wieman has done extensive experimental research in both atomic physics and science and engineering education at the university level. He has received numerous awards for both, including the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2001 and the Carnegie Foundation Professor of the Year award for education in 2004. Wieman served as founding chair of the Board of Science Education of the National Academy of Sciences and was the founder of PhET, which provides online interactive simulations that are used 100 million times per year to learn science. He served as associate director for science in the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House from 2010–12. Wieman directed the science education initiatives at the universities of Colorado and British Columbia, which carried out large scale change in teaching methods across university science departments. He has led efforts that leverage findings from discipline-based education research to improve learning opportunities for undergraduate STEM students — an approach utilized by UMaine's Faculty Incentive Grant and Maine Learning Assistant Program. Wieman published a book on large-scale change, "Improving How Universities Teach Science; Lessons from the Science Education Initiative." He is currently studying expertise and problem-solving in science and engineering, and how this can be better measured and taught. He is also studying intro physics labs, including showing and explaining the ineffectiveness of traditional ones, and how intro labs can be improved. Most recently, he has been awarded the Yidan Prize for educational research. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Somerset County Extension plans presentations and kid-friendly activities for open house event

19 Apr 2023

Somerset County Cooperative Extension is hosting an open house on Saturday, May 6 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. at 7 County Drive in Skowhegan. This free, public event will showcase many programs and services offered by Extension and other local organizations. Informational presentations will cover topics like maple sugaring, planting legumes as cover crops and gardening to rebuild healthy ecosystems. Featured speakers include assistant Extension professors Jason Lilley and Jaime Garzon. There will also be a panel discussion by Extension horticulture professionals Brett Johnson, Rebecca Long and Nick Rowley. Attendees will have an opportunity to make their own native seed balls with seeds donated by Wild Seed Project, explore the 4-H expo and buy treats made by local Extension homemaker volunteers. A limited supply of smoked chicken will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis by associate Extension professor and state livestock specialist Colt Knight. Rain date for the event is May 13. For more information and to RSVP, visit the Somerset Extension Open House webpage. Responses are encouraged, but not required. Attendees who respond by April 15 will receive free seedlings at the event. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.474.9622; emily.collins3@maine.edu.

University Bookstore Tech Center holds clearance event April 24–28

19 Apr 2023

The Tech Center at University Bookstore will hold its annual clearance event April 24–28, with Apple clearance items and the best technology prices of the season. Students, staff and faculty can use Tech Bucks from the Tent Sale at Bear Necessities Fan Shop to get $25 off an Apple or Dell computer system. Qualifying faculty and staff can also purchase a new computer using payroll deduction to spread out payments over the course of a year without paying interest.

Bear Necessities Fan Shop holds tent sale April 25-28

19 Apr 2023

The Bear Necessities Fan Shop will hold its annual tent sale during Maine Days, April 25-28, from noon–5 p.m. at the Harold Alfond Sports Arena location. Highlights include the best savings of the season; $25 in Tech Bucks for students, faculty and staff coming to the sale to use at University Bookstore's Tech Center; and a cornhole tournament where players can win between 20%–50% or a free item. There will also be an ongoing shop-and-win promotion for a Malibu Ocean Kayak, life preserver and paddle package ($899 value). Shop at either campus location or online during the sale to be entered to win this package from Ski Rack Sports in Bangor (shipping, if required, is not included). No purchase necessary to enter. The winner will be drawn on May 1.

BDN shares information about 2023 Maine Days

19 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine's traditional Maine Day observance will be a weeklong event April 24–28, focused on community-building and service activities, and philanthropic activities. The 2023 Maine Day Week Committee has published a full schedule of events online, including a list of the more than three dozen volunteer service project opportunities coordinated by the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism.

CentralMaine.com shares UMaine Extension pork workshop in Somerset County

19 Apr 2023

CentralMaine.com shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension plans to host a workshop on raising swine from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. on April 26, at the Somerset County Extension Office, 7 County Drive. Register online.

Media cite UMaine Extension tick season information

19 Apr 2023

Z107.3 and Q96.1 cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension about tick season. Tick season is from early spring to late fall. During that time, there are two peaks: April–May and June–early July. Although most ticks are found during these months, it is important to note that ticks can remain active as long as the temperature does not drop below freezing.

BDN shares UMaine Collegiate Chorale performance

19 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine Collegiate Chorale will perform at Peakes Auditorium at 7 p.m. on April 25.

Socolow featured on Australian Broadcasting Corporation discussing Fox News-Dominion settlement

19 Apr 2023

Michael Socolow, associate professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, was a guest on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's show Triple J Hack discussing the settlement between Fox News and Dominion Voting.

Ippolito speaks to WGME about TikTok

19 Apr 2023

WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) interviewed John Ippolito, professor of new media at the University of Maine, about the potential ban on TikTok in the

United States. “For one thing, there’s no way to go and pry TikTok off of everybody’s phone. You could prevent the Apple Store, for example, from letting users download the latest version but then they could just use the old version they had on their phone before,” Ippolito said.

Fiacco speaks to News Center Maine about beekeeping

19 Apr 2023

In an article about Maine beekeepers training the next generation, News Center Maine interviewed David Fiacco, who works with students at The University of Maine's beekeeping club, the Black Bear Beekeepers. "We just want to introduce them to that, and if they have a real interest in beekeeping, we can get them pretty deeply involved here. … Neighbors' gardens are more productive. My own garden and flowers are more productive," Fiacco said.

Mediation & the Art of Conflict Transformation professional development program to be offered in June at the UMaine Hutchinson Center in Belfast

20 Apr 2023

Registration is now open for a five-day professional development program, Mediation & the Art of Conflict Transformation, offered June 26–30 from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. The fee for this in-person program is $1,050, and includes catered refreshments and lunch. For those interested in continuing education credits, 4 CEUs and 40 contact hours are available. The program explores the basic premises, practices and policies of mediation and conflict transformation. Understanding the underlying assumptions regarding conflict, reflecting on the nature of conflict, and acquiring communication skills and strategies are essential topics of the course. In addition, this program fulfills the requirements to serve on the Maine Court Alternative Dispute Resolution roster. Participants will also explore the applications and extensions of the Transformative Mediation model as it applies to the workplace, town planning, schools and family conflict. This program is ideal for attorneys, board members, educators, school administrators, social workers, town planners and concerned citizens. Instructor Will Galloway offers over three decades of experience working in the field of conflict transformation. He has served as a court-appointed mediator, and was co-owner and founder of the mediation firm Charbonneau & Galloway. He mediated cases with the United States Postal Service, and has offered courses in basic and advanced mediation. Currently, Galloway serves as the head of school and co-founder of the Watershed School in Camden, Maine, where the principles and practices of conflict transformation have been integrated into the design of the academic program. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Abby Spooner, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available for people who live or work in Knox or Waldo counties. For more information about upcoming professional development programs, scholarships or to register, go online. Early registration is recommended as spots are limited.

2023 CUGR Summer Research Fellowships announced

20 Apr 2023

The UMaine Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR), UMaine Space, UMaine AI and Institute of Medicine announce the recipients of the CUGR, Institute of Medicine, and Maine Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) Summer Research Fellowships. The fellowships were developed to enhance and increase undergraduate student involvement in faculty-supervised research. Winners of the fellowships will receive $3,000 to put toward their research projects over the summer. More information about grantees and projects is available on the CUGR website.

Undergraduate and Graduate Researchers Awarded at UMSS23

20 Apr 2023

More than 1,000 student researchers, co-authors, faculty, staff, event sponsors and community members attended the 2023 UMaine Student Symposium at the Collins Center For the Arts on April 14. Read the full story on the UMaine Student Symposium webpage.

Media report on 2023 UMaine Commencement speakers

20 Apr 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and the Penobscot Bay Pilot reported that the 2023 University of Maine commencement speakers will be alumna and retired U.S. ambassador Anne Hall and Suzanne Ortega, president of the Council of Graduate Schools. The graduate school ceremony will begin at 4 p.m. on May 5, and the undergraduate ceremonies will begin at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on May 6.

Gill featured on ‘Sustain What?’ podcast

20 Apr 2023

Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, was a featured guest on the “Sustain What?” podcast from the Columbia Climate School. The podcast discussed why it’s not too late to turn the tides on climate change.

BDN covers Beryl Warner Williams Hall dedication

20 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that Beryl Warner Williams Hall at the University of Maine will be dedicated in a ceremony on Friday, April 28 to honor the legacy of the Bangor native and UMaine’s first Black graduate to earn a degree in mathematics. Williams went on to have a distinguished academic career at Morgan State University and become an active civic leader in Baltimore.

Maine Business School, Graduate School of Business announce spring 2023 awards

20 Apr 2023

The Maine Business School and Graduate School of Business has announced its spring 2023 awards for students and faculty. A full list of honorees is available on the Maine Business School website.

UMaine College of Education and Human Development holds 2023 Student Awards Ceremony

20 Apr 2023

The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development held an in-person Student Awards Ceremony for the first time since 2019 on April 18 at Wells Conference Center. More than 100 students were recognized at the event, which celebrated both academic achievement and participation in student groups and activities. Emily Davison of North Waterboro, Maine was honored as the college's Outstanding Graduating Student. Davison also was named Outstanding Student in Athletic Training. Mille Baartvedt of Oslo, Norway, a kinesiology and physical education (teaching and coaching concentration) major, was honored as the Outstanding Graduating International Student. Other individual undergraduate awards:

- Natalie McCarthy, Outstanding Student in Elementary Education
- Alexandria Fountain, Outstanding Student in Secondary Education
- Luke Harper, Outstanding Student in Secondary Education
- Madalene Herbert, Outstanding Student in Early Childhood Education
- Seana Mackeldey, Outstanding Student in Individual and Family Studies
- Tara Flubacher, Outstanding Student in Exercise Science
- Julia Feid, Outstanding Student in Teaching and Coaching

Individual graduate student awards:

- Yagmur Gunel, Outstanding Student in Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction
- Warren Frost, Outstanding Master of Arts in Teaching Student
- Sara Pomeroy, Outstanding Graduate Student in Special Education (High Incidence Disabilities concentration)
- Carly Frost, Outstanding Graduate Student in Special Education (Low Incidence Disabilities concentration)
- Patricia Diehlmann, Outstanding Graduate Student in Special Education (Individualized concentration)
- Mary Bridgham, Outstanding Graduate Student in Special Education (Ed.S.)
- Ming-Tso Chien, Outstanding Graduate Student in Literacy, Language and Culture
- Joshua Schmidt, Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology
- Julianna Cleaves, Outstanding Graduate Assistant in Kinesiology, Physical Education and Athletic Training
- Alexandra Johnson, Outstanding Graduate Student in Kinesiology, Physical Education and Athletic Training
- Emily Kuhlmann, Outstanding Student in Human Development
- Madeline West, Krissy Miner Memorial Award for Outstanding M.Ed. Student in Educational Leadership
- Janet Corcoran, Outstanding Scholarly-Practitioner in Educational Leadership Ed.D. Student (Credo cohort)
- Ashley Reynolds, Outstanding Scholarly-Practitioner in Educational Leadership Ed.D. Student (Beacon Black Bear cohort)
- Sophie Audu, Student Development in Higher Education Excellence Award
- Devin Franklin, Student Development in Higher Education Excellence Award
- Katherine McCarthy, Social Justice in Higher Education Award
- Sabrina Murray, Social Justice in Higher Education Award

Maine College of Engineering and Computing presents its top annual awards

20 Apr 2023

Alumnus and president of Dielectric, Keith Pelletier, is among the recipients of the Maine College of Engineering and Computing's Edward Bryand annual awards honoring alumni, faculty, staff and students. Pelletier was named the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineer. Civil engineering professor and chair of the department, Shaleen Jain, received the Ashley Campbell Award. Amrit Verma in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Ali Shirazi in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering both received the Early Career Teaching Award. Onur Apul in the Department of Chemical and Biomdeical Engineering received the Early Career Research Award for his work on PFAS chemicals. Meghan Honnell and Angel Hildreth received the Leila Lowell Award for their outstanding service to their departments. Dean of Maine College of Engineering and Computing Giovanna Guidoboni was inducted into the Francis Crowe Society. This year's Bryand Awards Ceremony took place April 14. The annual event was established in 1979, by Engineering Dean Jim Clapp, with the first college recognition banquet held the following yar. Criteria were established for two awards: Ashley S. Campbell Award and the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineering Award. Other awards for individuals and students have been added throughout the years, including the Leila C. Lowell Award for staff members that began in 1983. More information the alumni award recipients and their citations: **Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineering Award Keith Pelletier '98, President of Dielectric** Keith Pelletier, who earned a B.S. in electrical engineering technology from UMaine, holds a patent for increased isolation in FM interleaved arrays. Two other patents were filed as "provisional" in 2022: a reconfigurable manifold combiner and broadband pylon antenna. Additionally, he has been a featured technical speaker at a significant number of broadcast events, including, NAB and PBS TechCon. Global presentations at Amitra in Mexico, CCBE and WABE in Canada, SET in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Santiago, Chile, are just a few examples of his global leadership in the field of broadcast technology and antennas. A Maine-based company with national and global footprint is truly a gem in our state. UMaine collaborated in several projects with Dielectric, where Pelletier played a key role in securing $2.2M MTI funding to build Maine Center for Next Generation Wireless Communications at UMaine, equipping four labs for R&D and student training, in 2009. Pelletier's achievements in engineering, research and public service are extraordinary as demonstrated by examples provided in his nomination letter. As leader of one of the largest antenna companies in the country with recognitions such as Emmy awards for contributions to the broadcast technology industry, Pelletier has been the force behind record-breaking business growth over the past six years. Pelletier's accomplishments span over his career, with various roles he played at the Dielectric company as engineer, line manager, director of engineering, and, more recently, as president. Pelletier strongly supports creativity, collaboration and

innovation to develop new ideas. Pelletier has been a strong supporter of R&D and has invested $2.25 million in new, cutting-edge technologies in the past two years alone. Employment has nearly quintupled under his watch from 35 in 2013 to 200 in 2020. **Ashley S. Campbell Award Shaleen Jain, Professor of Civil Engineering** "Professor Jain's expertise in hydrology and the role of changing climate has put him in a timely and relevant position to make research contributions in a number of areas. He was among the early researchers who recognized the importance of climate change in affecting the flood level statistics that engineers and scientists use to assess risk. His courses are extremely popular, and his electives, in particular, are among the highest enrolled in our undergraduate program. He has single handedly maintained an extremely productive graduate program in hydrology while teaching a very broad array of courses ranging from first-year seminar and computing to junior/senior electives in both surface water and groundwater hydrology to graduate courses in water resources sustainability." — *Eric Landis, Civil Engineering Professor* **Early Career Research Award Onur Apul, Assistant Professor of Environmental Engineering** "Dr. Apul is an environmental chemist who has developed expertise in nanomaterials applications. In the three years he has been at UMaine, he has parlayed that expertise into a very diverse array of research projects, ranging from health impacts of microplastics in the environment to nanobubbles in water and their role in space exploration. In less than three years, he has amassed a portfolio of 15 funded research projects totaling $1.8 million (PI share, $2.8 million total). He has done this without the benefit of a formal research center appointment. He is a prodigious author, having published a total of 67 journal papers, 30 of which have been published since his arrival at UMaine. Most of his papers are in top journals, and he has in his short time acquired over 2,600 citations, an h-index of 26, and a 'Top Cited Article 2021–2022' from Wiley." — *Eric Landis, Civil Engineering Professor* **Early Career Teaching Award Ali Shirazi, Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering** "Dr. Shirazi came to Maine for fall semester 2019 and taught the graduate course CIE 521: Civil Engineering Systems and Optimization that semester. He got great feedback the first time he taught it. He has since taught this course three more times and perfected it so that his average teaching evaluations in fall 2021 and 2022 was 5.0 out of 5.0 on 10 out of 10 Instructor Questions. In spring semester 2022, he taught another graduate class, Advanced Transportation Planning, and again got excellent evaluations. This semester, he is teaching a third graduate course, Advanced Transportation Safety." — *Per Gårder, Civil Engineering Professor* **Amrit Verma, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering** "Since joining the Department, Dr. Verma has taught MEE 270 Dynamics on multiple occasions, as well as one instance of MEE 251 Strength of Materials and a new co-listed undergraduate/graduate technical elective he created, MEE 491/591 Offshore Wind Farm Engineering. Dr. Verma has taken his teaching assignments seriously, and strives to provide the best student experience possible while ensuring that student learning outcomes are achieved. Dr. Verma emphasizes clear course organization and provides detailed grading rubrics on the first day of his courses; these efforts increase the quality of his courses and has created a strong feeling of fairness in the grading procedures among his students. As a result of Dr. Verma's care, attention to detail, and sincere desire to improve his teaching ability, he has received numerous positive signed comments praising his courses and his numeric evaluations are already near the top of those received in the Mechanical Engineering Department." — *Andrew J. Goupee, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering* **Leila C. Lowell Award Angel Hildreth, Chemical and Biomedical Engineering Department** "Angel often goes far beyond the call of duty to support the whole department on many challenges through her proactive actions with the help of her vast network both on and off campus. She has earned the respect of faculty and students alike. She is very deserving of the COE Leila Lowell Award." — *Hemant Pendse, Chair Chemical and Biomedical Engineering Department* **Meghan Honnell, Mechanical Engineering Department** "Meghan is the go-to person and problem solver for students and faculty. She always finds solutions to advising and curricular questions and manages to successfully place the seemingly endless capstone orders. When in doubt, Meghan will have an answer (or will know how to find the answer). Meghan is the friendly face of the department. She makes everyone feel welcome and sweetens everybody's day by maintaining a constant supply of chocolates on her desk. Meghan truly is instrumental in everything that the MEE Department does." — *Masoud Rais-Rahani, Mechanical Engineering Chair* **Graduate Assistant Research Award Min Wang, Mechanical Engineering** "Min joined my research group in summer 2018. She has been focusing on design and fabrication of advanced protonic ceramic electrochemical cells (PCECs) for carbon dioxide reduction and ethylene production to echo the need in addressing climate change. Min has been carrying out intern research at Idaho National Laboratory (INL) since summer 2020. Min has well-bridged the collaboration between Dr. Dong Ding at INL and Dr. Yang at UMaine through the projects funded by the Department of Energy (DOE). Min is expected to graduate by the end of 2023. To date, Min, as a leading and coauthor, has published nine papers. In 2022, Min performed converting ethane to ethylene by initiating the use of aligned carbon nanotube forests as a novel anode material for an ethane-fueled PCEC to co-produce ethylene and electricity. She established a protocol for massive production of electrolyte powder by introducing an improved solid-state reaction method to produce electrolyte material, where the optimal ball milling profile and calcination temperature are quantified for efficient and reliable production based on the powder crystallization behavior. Min also supported other students in on fabricating biomass derived electrode for supercapacitor and developing binder free porous electrode for water desalination." — *Yingchao Yang, Assistant Professor of Materials Science and Engineering* **Graduate Assistant Teaching Award Joshua Hamilton, Chemical and Biomedical Engineering** "Josh's relaxed personality and calm mentality is greatly appreciated by the students. When Murphy's Law plays havoc with their prototypes, Josh was there to help identify and rectify the issues. He is a favorite TA for many students. Students comment on Josh's openness to countless questions. Also of note is the high frequency with which the students made use of his office hours. Outside of his formal TA responsibilities, Josh actively mentors several biomedical engineering undergraduate students. He recently became president of the graduate Biomedical Engineering Society and one of his first acts as president was to host mentoring meetings between the undergraduate and graduate student chapters. He is truly invested in the growth of our undergraduate students as they progress as biomedical engineers. Students find him relatable, approachable, and knowledgeable all critical skills of an effective TA." — *Karissa Tilbury, Assistant Professor of Bioengineering*

McGillicuddy Humanities Center partnering with Minnesota Humanities Center to examine military service at the margins

20 Apr 2023

The Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center is partnering with the Minnesota Humanities Center, which was announced this week as one of three recipients of a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities' (NEH) Dialogues on the Experiences of War Program, which supports the study and discussion of humanities sources that address the experiences of military service and war from a wide variety of perspectives, and encourages Veterans and civilians to reflect collectively on such topics as civic engagement, Veteran identity, the legacies of war, service, and homecoming. The Minnesota Humanities Center was awarded $100,000 for their project, "Examining Military Service From the Margins" which encourages veterans and community members taking part in the discussion series to consider the experiences, and limitations placed upon, those who have served in the United States military that were women, immigrants, African American, LGBTQ, American Indian, or others serving bravely from the margins despite discrimination and frequent erasure. Discussion groups will take place at three partner locations across Minnesota in 2024: University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC), the Winona County Historical Society, and at Minnesota State University, Mankato. The McGillicuddy Humanities Center is one of two partner institutions that will test a national expansion of the Minnesota Humanities Center's program in 2025; the other is the African American Military History Museum in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The goal is to build a flexible framework that could be replicated and locally tailored anywhere in the U.S. in future years, from VFWs to college classrooms. Announcements will be made in late 2023 to recruit participants and paid discussion leaders. "We at the McGillicuddy Humanities Center anticipate that partnering with the Minnesota Humanities Center, with its long history of work in the veterans community, will be a fruitful connection to our work with communities in and around our campus in Orono, Maine, using the humanities to explore the human condition," says MHC director Beth Wiemann. "The 'Examining Military Service from the Margins' project fits into our center's mission very well

given our location on the homeland of the Penobscot Nation, and our work with that community, as well as our public outreach in the State of Maine more broadly, which has among the highest percentage of veterans among its population in the United States." Guiding this initiative is former McGillicuddy Humanities Center Humanities specialist and current historian and Minnesota Humanities Center humanities officer Karen Sieber, and U.S. Army Veteran and educator Miki Huntington. A team of top scholars and humanists currently embedded in similar work are also contributing to the project, including Beth Bailey, University of Kansas; Charissa Threat, Chapman University; Máel Sheridan Embser-Herbert, Hamline University, U.S. Army and Army Reserve; John Little, University of South Dakota; and David Mura, noted memoirist, poet and documentary producer. MHC's Veterans Advisory Board, and partners in the veterans community, will also provide insight throughout the project. For more information about the Examining Military Service from the Margins project, contact karen@mnhum.org. Contact: Brian Jansen, brian.jansen@maine.edu

Jacob Mulligan: Aspiring teacher and coach gains leadership experience at UMaine

20 Apr 2023

During his senior year at Noble High School in North Berwick, Maine, Jacob Mulligan was a teaching assistant with the school's health and physical education department. Although he had thought about becoming a teacher previously, that experience and a conversation with his head football coach and P.E. teacher made him realize that was the career path he wanted to pursue. "My coach said, 'Why don't you become a P.E. teacher? You love it and you love coaching, you're passionate about it," Mulligan recalls. "And I thought, you know what, you're right." Today, Mulligan is a junior majoring in kinesiology and physical education (KPE) with a concentration in teaching and coaching in the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development. Despite being a full-time student, he still finds time to volunteer with his old high school football team, working with defensive backs and wide receivers and helping the coaching staff break down film. He also helps coach the Noble wrestling team. In addition, he's gained valuable experience as a substitute teacher at schools in North Berwick and nearby Dover, New Hampshire. "Last year, I subbed every Monday and Friday back home and did as much coaching as I could fit into my schedule. My whole thing is I just want to make a positive impact on as many kids as I can," he says. After having the first couple years of college disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Mulligan says this year has felt like what he imagined college would be like. He currently serves as president of the Physical Education Student Organization (PESO). The group held a fundraiser for KPE students to attend the Maine Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MAPHERD) annual conference. PESO members also do community service projects, like a clothing drive that brought in several bags of children's clothes that were donated to the Old Town-Orono YMCA. "They were so appreciative and said they would take more clothes, so we decided to keep the clothing drive going," Mulligan says. "It's great to give back to the community and feel like you're helping make people's lives better." In addition to substitute teaching, Mulligan has done field experiences in K–12 classrooms In Bangor and Old Town. He'll do his final student teaching placement in the fall. UMaine has relationships with schools across the state, allowing him to do his placement in southern Maine, where he'll be able to coach football at Noble full-time as well. "Physical education and physical activity are so important to both physical and mental health, and I'm really grateful to have had so many experiences in the KPE program here at UMaine that have prepared me to be a teacher and coach," Mulligan says. **Why UMaine?** I was looking at a few different colleges and I toured UMaine in February of my senior year of high school. The last place we stopped was Lengyel Hall and the School of Kinesiology, Physical Education and Athletic Training. I went there and immediately it felt like home. So, even though UMaine was a little bigger than some of the other schools I looked at, that KPE building and the people there, it's such a tight-knit community. It was just awesome. **How would you describe the academic atmosphere at UMaine?** The biggest thing is that within the KPE program, there are so many opportunities to be hands-on and get into schools, rather than just reading from a book. It's really helped prepare me to be a teacher and coach. **What's the most interesting, engaging or helpful class you've taken at UMaine?** All of the methods of teaching PE classes have been super helpful in terms of how you can reach different learners, because different students have different learning styles and as a teacher you have to be able to adapt. Plus, those classes are great in terms of learning about classroom organization and creating lesson plans, understanding that if something doesn't work it's OK to move on and have a backup plan. KPE 367: Adapted Physical Education is incredibly important, because it teaches you how to work with students who have disabilities. **How has UMaine helped prepare you for your post-graduation goals?** After I graduate, I'll be certified to teach at both the elementary (grades K–6) and secondary (grades 7–12) levels, and I'll be certified to teach both PE and health. That's a big thing that UMaine will have helped me with, because it will make me more desirable to schools that are hiring. Also, just the networking, the opportunities to meet teachers and make connections. **Have you worked closely with a mentor, professor or role model who has made your UMaine experience better? If so, who and how?** Everybody in the School of Kinesiology, Physical Education and Athletic Training: Jesse Kaye-Schiess, Jen McNulty, Shannan Fotter, Doc Lehnhard, Lauren Jacobs, Alicia Lacy, Shannon Wright, Chris Nightingale. They're all amazing. They're all so down-to-Earth, they know all the students by name, and they've all helped me out in so many ways. **Have you had an experience at UMaine — either academically or socially — that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** Just being in schools and seeing the different situations that students face in their lives has been eye-opening for me. A lot of kids face really tough situations growing up. That wasn't my experience, so having the opportunity to see it in my field placements or when I'm subbing at different schools has helped me become a better teacher and coach. **What is your most memorable UMaine moment?** Going to MAPHERD with a lot of the KPE students and professors. We went for three days, so getting to be part of this community of PE and health teachers in Maine, networking and everything was so cool. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Ben Campbell: Sixth-generation Black Bear holds up family traditions

20 Apr 2023

When Duncan Aleister Benjamin Campbell — or "Billy Ben," as his friends and fraternity brothers know him — walks across the stage to graduate this spring, he will be continuing a family tradition. Campbell is part of the sixth generation University of Maine graduates from his family, whose Black Bear origins can be traced back to the earliest graduating class. Campbell's great-great-great-grandfather Edwin Haskell was one of the six men in the first-ever graduating class of 1872 at the university, then called the Maine State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts. Growing up in Wells, part of Campbell always knew that he would end up at UMaine. Coming to college, he planned on studying secondary education — and that is the degree he will be graduating with in May — but he wanted the wide breadth of academic options that UMaine had to offer. Once he arrived, he fell in love with the community, both in the school and with the surrounding community that he has experienced through student teaching. Like many men in his family before him, Greek life was a central part of Campbell's experience. He is a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity; his great-great grandfathers were in Phi Gamma Delta, his grandfather was in Sigma Phi Epsilon and his father was a Lambda Chi Alpha. Despite this, he says there is "no tension" in the family, only intergenerational "jokes." Campbell's experience was different from his relatives in one key respect, though: COVID-19. Throughout the lockdown, Campbell lived at the fraternity house, which he experienced as a unique opportunity to learn about people and communities that he will carry with him even after college. "It gave me time to really see people work in different ways," Campbell says. "It kind of put me in the mindset of, 'Yeah, every interaction that I have is important in some way or another.'" After graduation, Campbell plans to find a place to teach in central Maine. He says that he has "fallen in love" with the area during his time at UMaine, and eventually hopes to take over his grandparents' house in Brewer. Campbell won't be the last of the sixth generation to go to UMaine,

either. His brother Keenan is starting at UMaine in the fall. Campbell says that his family jokes that all the former Black Bear fraternity brothers — his father, grandfather and great-great-grandfathers' ghosts — are encouraging him to join their respective fraternities, "but obviously he'll end up [in Tau Kappa Epsilon]." In the midst of that, though, Campbell says he's been giving brotherly advice to just get out there to find community, whatever that may look like. "Coming to campus and getting the chance to meet all these different people and, you realize, 'Oh, there are a lot of people who have similar interests to me,'" Campbell says. "If you put yourself out there, you'll find your home." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

'The Maine Question' asks how AI will impact our lives

20 Apr 2023

Artificial intelligence, or "AI," is a hot topic in 2023. AI and machine learning make headlines every day, with stories ranging from the technology's helpful capabilities, like self-driving cars, to its scariest potential — think "deep fake" videos fooling the public, or human workers being made obsolete by tools like ChatGPT. At the University of Maine, AI is central to research and classroom activities across disciplines, from forestry and farming to sensors and satellites. Episode eight of season eight of "The Maine Question" features two UMaine researchers who are at the forefront of AI research. Salimeh Sekeh is an assistant professor of computer science who is studying how AI can learn to improve itself over time. Vikas Dhiman, assistant professor of computer and electrical engineering, is looking at how robots can use AI to perform more efficiently and safely. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Zoe Vittum: UMaine 2023 Salutatorian

21 Apr 2023

Zoe Vittum of Brewer, Maine is a University of Maine 2023 salutatorian. Vittum, who minors in bioinstrumentation and neuroscience, is a UMaine Presidential Scholar, and a 2022–23 Helen Louise Stinchfield '18 Memorial Scholar and Tau Beta Pi Scholar. Her numerous academic and research awards include two National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) — Sensor Science and Engineering at UMaine and Functional Genomics at The Jackson Laboratory. She also received a UMaine Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship and the Overall Best Poster Award at the Onshape Research Symposium. As an Early College student, Vittum was a student research assistant in the Advanced Manufacturing Center, where she collaborated with UMaine experts and industry clients on solution manufacturing and implementation. In addition to her REU at The Jackson Laboratory as a student research fellow, developing computational methods and workflows to analyze genetic architecture and translate large-scale data into genetic models, Vittum was a clinical engineering intern with Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center. Most recently, in her REU in the laboratory of professor Karissa Tilbury, she collaborated to develop and implement a polarization control module within a two-photon microscope and conducted cell culture assays to investigate collagen remodeling. On campus, Vittum has had leadership roles in the UMaine chapters of the Society of Women Engineers, Tau Beta Pi and the Biomedical Engineering Society, UMaine Black Bear Robotics and UMaine's NASA Lunabotics Mining Challenge Team, which competed at the Kennedy Space Center in 2022. Her volunteer efforts have included work at Challenger Learning Center, VEX Robotics and FIRST Robotics, and as a UMaine Cooperative Extension 4-H STEM Ambassador. Vittum plans to pursue a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering, concentrated in women's health, at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has made resources and opportunities such as undergraduate research and leadership accessible to me throughout the entirety of my undergraduate career — opportunities I believe I may not have received if I attended a different university. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** I think that for our graduating class, the majority of us were majorly impacted by the pandemic as we started in fall 2019, only one semester before everyone was sent off campus. After spending three semesters totally virtual, many of us returned to the hardest parts of our degree programs with much less peer academic support than is typically expected. For the majority of us, this, along with attending college during a global pandemic, changed our paths through college and altered our goals. However, these experiences and reflecting on them and where I am now has shown me how fluid life is and how changing a plan isn't necessarily bad and can even result in a better result. **Why UMaine?** I began attending UMaine as a junior high school student as part of the Early College program. This program allowed me to complete many of the prerequisite and general education courses for most of the prospective engineering programs I was exploring applying to. While taking these courses at UMaine, I was able to get involved with on campus research and clubs that I really enjoyed. These experiences made the decision to stay at UMaine for my official undergraduate coursework easy, as I felt I was already part of a community and at a university where I would have a lot of opportunities as an undergraduate as I was already involved with research. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** The opportunities at UMaine are extensive and exactly what you make of them. If you get involved and stay involved with on-campus organization and resource centers and participate in the opportunities for academic, professional and personal growth every student can be extremely successful. Staying involved has been one of the key ways I have continued to grow and be successful as a student and also how where some of my best memories during undergrad have come from. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** Throughout my time at UMaine, I have had three primary mentors who all played critical roles in guiding me through undergraduate education and helped me determine my path after graduation. John Belding, director of the Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC), was my first mentor at UMaine. John took a chance hiring me as a young high school student, and the opportunities, experience and mentorship I gained from my research at AMC was invaluable in helping me determine that I wanted to pursue research and biomedical engineering. My second key mentor was Anna Tyler of the Carter Laboratory at The Jackson Laboratory. Under hermentorship, I built my confidence in my own ability to be successful in a field of research that I have not specifically studied before. Her mentorship allowed me to be confident enough to pursue many influential opportunities. My final and current research mentor, Karissa Tilbury, has been instrumental in providing me the opportunities and means of attaining the skills and connections I've needed to set myself up for graduate school. All of my mentors together have played very individual yet essential roles in my undergraduate career. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** I think the best thing I did as an incoming student was get involved with many clubs and organizations. Pursuing a college degree is hard, regardless of your major and the classes you are taking, getting involved with clubs and organizations is a great way to learn from upperclassmen as well as from friend groups with similarly minded and motivated people which has proven to be invaluable as I have progressed through my undergraduate coursework. I also think it is important to join professional clubs for professional development that can't be provided through classes that is vital for getting internships and jobs for after graduation. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Lara Chern: UMaine 2023 Valedictorian

21 Apr 2023

Mechanical engineering major Lara Chern of Bow, New Hampshire is the 2023 University of Maine valedictorian. Chern is an Honors College student with minors in engineering leadership and management, and mathematics. She graduated from high school two years ahead of her class and enrolled at UMaine when she was 16. As a UMaine junior, she defended her honors thesis, "An Automated Process to Produce Rebar Reinforced Concrete Parts Using Additive Manufacturing." Her many scholarships and awards include the 2022 Servant Heart Award and the Ouellette Honors Thesis Fellowship. In her first year at UMaine, Chern was a special projects assistant at the Franco American Center. During her sophomore year, she collaborated in the laboratory of UMaine professor Yingchao Yang on nanomaterials research and on research with professor Bashir Koda on biobased gels for human organ growth and timed drug-release capsules. With professor Richard Kimball, Chern collaborated on research in large-scale additive manufacturing for use in wave energy converters. Since 2020, Chern has worked in the Advanced Structures and Composites Center's Project Management Office. In summer 2021, she was a project management intern with Weyerhaeuser Lumber Mill in Cottage Grove, Oregon and, in 2019–20, served as a mathematics instructor/tutor with Mathnasium in Manchester, New Hampshire. Chern has served as president of the UMaine chapters of Pi Tau Sigma and Engineers Without Borders, and vice president of the UMaine chapter of Circle K International. In the community, her volunteer work has included the Bangor Humane Society, Telstar Regional High School Think Tank Project and Hirundo Wildlife Refuge. In June, Chern will begin a job as a project manager at Procter & Gamble in Iowa City, Iowa. She plans to pursue an MBA and take a Law Certificate program. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has provided me with the stepping stones to pursue anything that my mind can think of. The faculty and staff are always willing to provide you with whatever support you need to make your ideas come to life. All you have to do is ask! **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** The most impactful experience I had at UMaine was my trip to Hurricane Island with the Honors College during my first year. I was fortunate to spend three days before move-in with my peers on the island off the coast of Rockland where we talked about community engagement, leadership and community service. Following the trip, we were able to pursue a semester-long community service project — mine was at Hirundo Wildlife Refuge — to apply what we had learned on our trip. This experience introduced me to all of the community service projects that this campus has to offer and set me up to have an impactful presence on my local community. **Why UMaine?** A favorite high school teacher of mine, Chris Namie, is an alumnus of UMaine and always spoke highly of the university. When I received my invitation to the Honors College, I was excited about the opportunity that it seemed to provide, allowing me to have a small liberal arts education along with the resources and opportunities of a large engineering institution. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** I have found that opportunities for success are readily available if you seek them out. Everyone at UMaine wants to see you succeed and is willing to help you in any way they can. My best recommendation for success is to make yourself known to your professors. Sit in the front of the classroom and introduce yourself early on in your courses. Before you know it, you will have a network full of people who want to help you succeed. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I am grateful to have had so many impactful professors and mentors at UMaine that I could not name them all in this response. Professor Stephen Abbadessa was the first mentor I had who was able to guide me to numerous research opportunities and has provided guidance throughout my college experience. Next, professors Bashir Khoda and Yingchao Yang taught me the foundations of what good research is and set the stage for my work at the Composites Center. Professor Richard Kimball, my Honors thesis advisor, has gone out of his way countless times to ensure that I am on the road to success. He has always had my best interests in his mind and he has heavily impacted my time here at UMaine. My Advanced Structures and Composites Center supervisors Rolando Luna, Matthew Tomasko and Peter Drown have all contributed greatly to my growth as a project manager. These three have taught me valuable life and work skills that I will carry with me throughout my life. Specifically, Peter has been a major supportive and encouraging mentor in my life. There has never been a moment where he has not been proud of my accomplishments and wanted what is best for me. Professor Jude Pearse has been impactful in my project management knowledge. She has never failed to be supportive and has gone above and beyond as a professor for me. Professor Alex Friess has been my academic advisor and personal cheerleader throughout my college years. Every meeting I had with him I left with a large smile on my face, feeling proud of my accomplishments. If I ever thought there was a challenge I could not face, he assured me that I could do it and provided the resources I needed to do so. Finally, professor. Melissa Ladenheim has had an impact on my college experience that simply cannot be put into words. Her willingness to support me through any challenge no matter the day or time has an impact that is not quantifiable. Dr. Ladenheim has provided me a light in the rough, ears to listen to, and a person to celebrate with over the last four years. She never fails to light up my day, always finding time to fit me into her very busy schedule. Without all of the mentors I have and have not listed, I would not have had such a memorable experience here at UMaine. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** My advice to others is to participate in activities that you are passionate about. Don't worry about your resume or what others may think, and join clubs and activities that resonate with your interests. Focus on the activities that you are passionate about and you will succeed. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Literacy nights highlight UMaine's service to schools and families

21 Apr 2023

On a recent Wednesday evening, Jerdon Kiesman and a couple dozen of his classmates from the University of Maine were in classrooms at Alton Elementary School, about a dozen miles up the road from Orono, playing word games with students and families. "We played Sight Word Bingo," says Kiesman. "Sight words are common words that kids who are learning to read should be able to identify just by looking at them. The game is like bingo. But instead of a card with letters and numbers, it has different sight words on it. We'd call out a word, and the students were supposed to color it in on their sheet until they got a bingo." Down the hall from Kiesman, UMaine student Gabrielle Langone was playing a game called Word Ladders with more children and families from Alton. "We would put a word on the board, for example 'seed,'" says Langone. "And then we'd give them a clue: 'Change one letter to make it a word for something that you ride in the winter' and they were supposed to say

'sled.' The goal of the game was to work their way up the ladder, changing one letter until they got to the word at the top." Langone of Lynnfield, Massachusetts is a junior double majoring in elementary education and child development and family relations with a concentration in early childhood education. Kiesman of Winterport, Maine is also a junior majoring in elementary education with a concentration in social studies and a minor in political science. They were among more than 50 UMaine students to help lead recent Family Literacy Nights held at both Alton Elementary School and Viola Rand Elementary School in Bradley. The College of Education and Human Development has incorporated literacy nights at area schools into the curriculum for education majors for more than 20 years. It's an opportunity for UMaine students taking their literacy methods courses to apply some of the knowledge and skills they have picked up in the classroom and to gain hands-on experience working with K–12 students and families. As an aspiring teacher, Langone says one of the main things she took away from her literacy night experience was the need to adapt on the fly. "One thing we learn in class is that it's OK to change the plan if the clues aren't working or if you need to modify the game for the kids you have in the room," she says. "Even though our activity was targeted at third grade, we had kids who were older and some who were younger." Education majors at UMaine have several opportunities during their undergraduate careers to do field experiences in schools or with K–12 students. For their first two years, that typically involves observation in public schools and other settings that provide education and related services to children and youth. For Kiesman, the literacy night was his first opportunity to practice hands-on instruction and to work with families. "We had kids with one parent, some who came with two parents, some who came with their parents and a grandparent. So, it was an interesting mix," he says. "Part of the idea behind the literacy night is getting families involved, because the more you can make what they're learning in school relevant to their lives outside of school, the more engaged they will be in learning." The Literacy, Language and Culture program in the College of Education and Human Development's School of Learning and Teaching puts an emphasis on literacy across the lifespan. To that end, the literacy nights also feature representatives from organizations that provide educational services to adults, such as the Riverside Adult Education Partnership and Literacy Volunteers of Bangor. "It's about what families can do at home to promote literacy in a fun way, not doing worksheets or taking quizzes," says professor of literacy William Dee Nichols, who teaches two courses that feature the literacy night field experiences, ERL 319: Teaching Reading and Language Arts in Preschool to Grade 3 and ERL 320: Teaching Reading and Language Arts in Grades 4–8. "The activities that our students are modeling shouldn't cost a lot of money," adds associate professor of literacy Susan Bennett-Armistead, whose ERL 319 students hosted the recent literacy night at Viola Rand school. "Families should be able to walk away from these events with new ways to spend time together and make memories that learners of all ages can enjoy." Although they took place a few weeks before Maine Days, UMaine's weeklong celebration of community-building, service and philanthropy, Nichols and Bennett-Armistead note that the literacy nights are a great example of the university's support for local schools and communities. "It's so important for our preservice teachers to interact with communities like this," Nichols says. "They get experience working with kids, and the schools get to engage families in some educational fun. It's a win-win."

UMaine receives $3.5M from NOAA Sea Grant to address marine debris

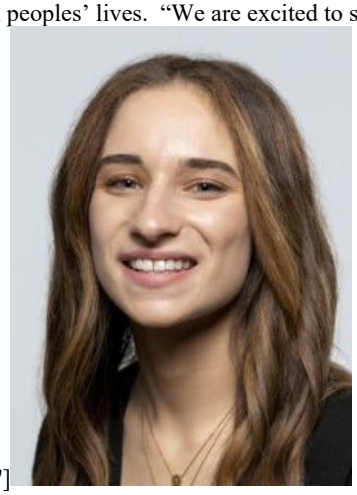
21 Apr 2023

Maine Sea Grant College Program, University of Maine researchers and partners throughout the state will receive funding for three projects that address the prevention and removal of marine debris in the Gulf of Maine. Using Sea Grant's partnered approach to bring science together with communities for solutions that work, the projects will support transformational research and the creation of local coalitions. "Marine debris negatively impacts our coastal communities, marine wildlife, and iconic ocean vistas — things we consider special about our state. It will take ingenuity, creativity and collaboration to find impactful solutions, and we are excited to have all three of these projects funded," said Maine Sea Grant Director, Gayle Zydlewski. "Whether it's preventing debris from going into the ocean or getting it out, we need to tackle this issue from multiple directions and perspectives. We are fortunate to work with a variety of partners and people, from engineers, social scientists and graduate students at UMaine to high school students, artists and recreational boaters in coastal communities so that we can, together, make a difference in Maine. " Projects were competitively selected through two opportunities supported by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and leveraging funds from the Inflation Reduction Act. The Marine Debris Challenge Competition selected projects that push the boundaries of existing marine debris prevention and removal technologies and approaches, change the current landscape of marine debris mitigation, and tie research to tangible outputs. The Marine Debris Community Action Coalitions opportunity selected projects that engage communities, groups and localities, especially those that have been traditionally underserved, to transfer research into action and inform collaborative on-the-ground marine debris removal and prevention efforts. Between the two opportunities, 29 projects were recommended for approximately $27 million in total funding. "It's estimated that there are about 50–75 trillion pieces of plastic and microplastics in the ocean. This widespread pollution is devastating marine environments. We need to get back to basics and realize that the convenience of plastics, particularly single-use plastics, is damaging our environment, our ecosystem, and our oceans," said Rep. Chellie Pingree. "Thanks to historic funding in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act, science- and education-focused projects like the ones the University of Maine and partners will undertake to prevent pollution on the local level and clean-up debris in the Gulf of Maine." For more information about the Maine-based projects, see the following project descriptions: **Reducing Marine Debris at the Source: Material Replacement and Source Reduction for Single-Use Food Packaging** The University of Maine, Maine Sea Grant, and project partners will be awarded $2,997,876 to lower the barriers for companies to enter the sustainable packaging market and understand slow resource loops that help reduce the inflow of plastics to the ocean. This project aims to reduce the burden of marine debris on human communities and coastal ecosystems in Maine and throughout the Gulf of Maine where the impacts of marine debris are disproportionately borne by small, rural coastal and island communities with limited capacity to support increasingly costly solid waste management systems and conservation planning initiatives. "I hope this project will generate new packaging materials that come from Maine's forests and oceans and are sustainable, can be recycled, and break down in the environment. The project will explore reusable container models that minimize use of materials and energy. Our work should break down the technical and social barriers to using these new packaging materials and present opportunities for companies to supply or use new packaging systems." - *Project Lead, Douglas Bousfield, University of Maine* **Reducing Derelict Fishing Gear in the Gulf of Maine: Educating and Empowering Boaters to be a Part of the Solution** Maine Sea Grant, The Maine Marine Trades Association, and project partners will be awarded $156,150 to form a coalition that will co-develop the first organized outreach campaign to Maine's recreational boaters and commercial fishing vessels on preventing derelict fishing gear accumulation and other marine debris, which result in losses to the local lobster industry as well as economic and environmental impacts to vulnerable communities. Resulting communications products will be shared with local, regional and national networks. "We're hoping to address the issue of marine debris before it makes it to the ocean, with education and awareness. Our campaign will engage boaters in Maine about the shared responsibilities of marine debris prevention and empower them to be part of a solution that benefits commercial fishermen, fishing communities, coastal wildlife and ecosystems in the Gulf of Maine."- *Project Lead, Keri Kaczor, Maine Sea Grant* **A Community Education and Research Development Initiative to Develop new Materials and Uses From Ghost Traps** Maine Sea Grant, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, and project partners will be awarded $299,707 to facilitate the recovery, recycling and refabrication of marine debris material in the Gulf of Maine, such as ghost lobster traps and derelict aquaculture farming gear, into new products with creative, practical and industry applications. The community created will connect Maine high school students and professionals with information exchange, professional development and networking opportunities to collaborate on new applications and markets for marine debris. "Coalition building is a powerful tool that brings more brains together to generate new ideas and to solve problems. In particular, we're excited to network with high school students involved in fabrication and 3D printing classes. Maine's high school students are incredibly bright and creative, and they have a lot to offer in this space. We're also excited to work with Buzz Scott and

build capacity for his Traps to Treasures program. The more people we have working together, the better it will be for Maine's coastal communities and marine-based industries." - *Project Lead, Dana Morse, Maine Sea Grant* The National Sea Grant College Program's full release, including links to projects funded across the country, is here. Contact: Hannah Robbins, hannah.robbins@maine.edu

UMaine names 2023 valedictorian, two salutatorians

21 Apr 2023

Mechanical engineering major Lara Chern of Bow, New Hampshire is the 2023 University of Maine valedictorian. UMaine's two 2023 salutatorians are Mikayla Reynolds of Winslow, Maine, a double major in business management and marketing, and biomedical engineering major Zoe Vittum of Brewer, Maine. The three will graduate May 6 at UMaine's 221st commencement ceremonies. "We are incredibly proud of the outstanding contributions that Lara, Mikayla and Zoe have made to UMaine and the state as members of our university community," says Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of the University of Maine. "Their leadership and success in and out of the classroom are inspirational. "Lara's multidisciplinary work included project management in our internationally recognized, state-of-the-art Advanced Structures and Composites Center and exceptional achievement in the Honors College. Mikayla has demonstrated outstanding leadership in community engagement on and off campus, including multifaceted peer education and multiple community service initiatives to meet needs. Zoe started her experiential learning in our Advanced Manufacturing Center as an Early College student and discovered her passion for biomedical engineering that has the potential to make a difference in peoples' lives. "We are excited to see just how far the talents of these three will take them." [caption id="attachment_97129" align="alignright" width="223"]  Lara Chern[/caption] Chern is an Honors College student with minors in engineering leadership and management, and mathematics. She graduated from high school two years ahead of her class and enrolled at UMaine when she was 16. As a UMaine junior, she defended her honors thesis, "An Automated Process to Produce Rebar Reinforced Concrete Parts Using Additive Manufacturing." Her many scholarships and awards include the 2022 Servant Heart Award and the Ouellette Honors Thesis Fellowship. In her first year at UMaine, Chern was a special projects assistant at the Franco American Center. During her sophomore year, she collaborated in the laboratory of UMaine professor Yingchao Yang on nanomaterials research and on research with professor Bashir Koda on biobased gels for human organ growth and timed drug-release capsules. With professor Richard Kimball, Chern collaborated on research in large-scale additive manufacturing for use in wave energy converters. Since 2020, Chern has worked in the Advanced Structures and Composites Center's Project Management Office. In summer 2021, she was a project management intern with Weyerhaeuser Lumber Mill in Cottage Grove, Oregon and, in 2019–20, served as a mathematics instructor/tutor with Mathnasium in Manchester, New Hampshire. Chern has served as president of the UMaine chapters of Pi Tau Sigma and Engineers Without Borders, and vice president of the UMaine chapter of Circle K International. In the community, her volunteer work has included the Bangor Humane Society, Telstar Regional High School Think Tank Project and Hirundo Wildlife Refuge. In June, Chern will begin a job as a project manager at Procter & Gamble in Iowa City, Iowa. She plans to pursue an MBA and take a Law Certificate program. [caption id="attachment_97130" align="alignright" width="223"]

 Mikayla Reynolds[/caption] Reynolds is a first-generation Honors College student. Her numerous honors include a 2022 Outstanding Student Leader award from the Division of Student Life, a Thomas E. Lynch '38 Honors Thesis Fellowship, and a Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship. In 2021, she was named the UMaine, state, and regional Student Employee of the Year. Reynolds has participated in the Maine NEW (National Education for Women) Leadership program and the Olympia Snowe Women's Leadership Institute (OSWLI). She now serves as operations chair for OSWLI's Alumni Council. Her honors thesis is: "Exploring the Influence of Work From Home and On-Site Benefits on Perceptions of Organizational Attractiveness." She was recently named the 2023 Business Research Category award winner for her UMaine Student Symposium research poster. Reynolds is a certified peer educator. Since 2020, she has been the lead peer coach in TRIO Student Support Services. Reynolds recently co-presented at the 2023 New England Educational Opportunity Association Conference, where she discussed the power of peer relationships. In addition, she has been a student ambassador and a teaching assistant in the Maine Business School, and a program leader in the Center for Student Involvement. She has been the Student

Success Initiatives Intern with the Maine Business School, and this semester, she is a student consultant with the Black Bear Consulting Corps in the Foster Center for Innovation. Reynolds is president of All Maine Women, co-president of the UMaine chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, and vice president of the 2023 Senior Class Council. She also is a founding officer and vice president of the UMaine chapter of Sigma Alpha Lambda. She was inducted into the Dirigo Leadership Society and is a mentor in the Emerging Leaders Program of the Center for Student Involvement. Reynolds also was appointed to the Maine Day Task Force. Reynolds served as the food bank liaison on the 2022 Maine Day Meal Packout Committee. She has been a core organizer of the Black Bear Mutual Aid Fund and is the food bank liaison for the 2023 Maine Days Food Drive Committee. She has served as the director of programs and outreach for Sunrise Creative Youth Theatre in Waterville since 2018. She founded the Vassalboro Mill Clothing Exchange Closet in 2016. In 2019, she was awarded the Hardy Girls Healthy Women Community Organizer award for her commitment to community service and creating change. Reynolds has been selected to be a Graduate School of Business Alfond Ambassador and will pursue a MaineMBA in the fall, concentrating her studies in sustainability, and public and nonprofit management. [caption id="attachment_97131" align="alignright" width="223"]  Zoe Vittum[/caption] Vittum, who minors in bioinstrumentation and neuroscience, is a UMaine Presidential Scholar, and a 2022–23 Helen Louise Stinchfield ’18 Memorial Scholar and Tau Beta Pi Scholar. Her numerous academic and research awards include two National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) — Sensor Science and Engineering at UMaine and Functional Genomics at The Jackson Laboratory. She also received a UMaine Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship and the Overall Best Poster Award at the Onshape Research Symposium. As an Early College student, Vittum was a student research assistant in the Advanced Manufacturing Center, where she collaborated with UMaine experts and industry clients on solution manufacturing and implementation. In addition to her REU at The Jackson Laboratory as a student research fellow, developing computational methods and workflows to analyze genetic architecture and translate large-scale data into genetic models, Vittum was a clinical engineering intern with Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center. Most recently, in her REU in the laboratory of professor Karissa Tilbury, she collaborated to develop and implement a polarization control module within a two-photon microscope and conducted cell culture assays to investigate collagen remodeling. On campus, Vittum has had leadership roles in the UMaine chapters of the Society of Women Engineers, Tau Beta Pi and the Biomedical Engineering Society, UMaine Black Bear Robotics and UMaine’s NASA Lunabotics Mining Challenge Team, which competed at the Kennedy Space Center in 2022. Her volunteer efforts have included work at Challenger Learning Center, VEX Robotics and FIRST Robotics, and as a UMaine Cooperative Extension 4-H STEM Ambassador. Vittum plans to pursue a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering, concentrated in women’s health, at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Aquaculture Research Institute awarded $2.25 million for recirculating aquaculture systems research

24 Apr 2023

The University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute (ARI) has been awarded $2.25 million per year of congressional programmatic funding for recirculating aquaculture systems research. The funding was awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS), and supports studies ARI scientists will conduct at the National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture Center. Recirculating aquaculture systems are land-based culture systems that boost production, strengthen domestic aquaculture, reduce dependence on coastal ecosystems and enhance resilience to changing environmental conditions. In conjunction with an existing USDA-ARS Non-Assistance Cooperative Agreement, the new funding will help establish ARI as a nationally recognized recirculating aquaculture system research facility, focusing on shellfish and finfish species. Visit the ARI website for more information. Contact: Corinne Noufi, corinne.noufi@maine.edu

UMaine Food Science and Human Nutrition Program didactic program in dietetics re-accredited

24 Apr 2023

The University of Maine Food Science and Human Nutrition Program’s Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD), which serves the undergraduate students in human nutrition, and the dietetic internship program, serving the graduate students pursuing a dietetic internship, recently underwent re-accreditation. The process involved completing a self-study and a site visit by reviewers that occurred in September 2022. The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Board voted to continue full accreditation of both of these programs for a seven-year term ending 2030. The ACEND Board commended the programs on their commitment to students and the quality and continued improvement of dietetics education. The DPD and dietetic internship program prepare students for the workforce of Maine and beyond by providing a pathway to achieving the credential of registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN). Employed in healthcare, community, food and management and other similar settings, RDNs play a vital role in addressing the nutritional needs of individuals and populations.

UMaine study abroad participation rebounds to pre-pandemic levels

24 Apr 2023

Education abroad programs at the University of Maine have seen significant growth in participation since the pandemic as cohorts for the summer, fall and academic year of 2023–2024 have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels. “Our first semester sending out students during the pandemic, fall semester of 2021,

was a group of just 17 students," says Erika Clement, assistant director of education abroad. "It's been a long time since we've held a pre-departure meeting with such a full room and it's wonderful to see. You could really feel the buzz in the air." A record number of students are preparing to depart for their studies abroad. Seventeen students will be studying abroad over the summer and 51 students will participate in the Fall 2023 semester abroad with 12 of them going for the full academic year. The top destinations include Spain, the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, Italy, Japan and South Korea. More students also applied for prestigious scholarships, such as the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship and the Killam Fellowship Program. "We are so thrilled to be sending the largest cohort of UMaine students abroad next year," said Orlina Boteva, director of International Programs. "When we surveyed students, who explored study abroad but did not apply to participate, about the barriers they encountered, financial resources were the number one reason for not pursuing this enriching opportunity." Support the Study Abroad Scholarship Fund through the Fill the Steins campaign on the Maine Day of Giving, April 26, 2023.

MHC Undergraduate Fellow to exhibit project at MiNOR Gallery

24 Apr 2023

The Fall 2022–Spring 2023 Maine Humanities Center (MHC) Undergraduate Fellow Donald Patten, a senior in the University of Maine Department of Art, will be exhibiting his MHC art project "Past Trauma in Modernity: Impressions of COVID-19" at the MiNOR Gallery at 282 Main Street in Old Town, Maine from June 3–30. There will be an open reception at the gallery from 4–6 p.m. on June 3.

UMaine Portland Gateway hosting Semiconductor Industry Day with IEEE

24 Apr 2023

The University of Maine Portland Gateway and Maine Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) will host a cross-sector event on May 18 exploring the region's existing programs, resources and capacity across the semiconductor industry. This event, to be held from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. at 300 Fore St., Portland, brings experts from academia and industry together with policymakers to plan for future workforce and research and development needs in this important sector of our regional and national economy. "These developing partnerships among university and industry collaborators are at the heart of the work the Gateway does every day," says Pips Veazey, director of the UMaine Portland Gateway. "We are thrilled to serve as a catalyst for our community and bring together talented people across sectors and institutions to advance work that we can only do as a team." A series of expert panelists and moderators will examine current and forthcoming needs, address the semiconductor workforce and R&D opportunities, discuss university strengths, explore industry needs and identify points of connection and possible gaps "Our goal with this event is to listen to the industry and find out what skills they need in the future semiconductor workforce. We need to take a fresh look at our curriculum and partner with industry to train the future workforce needed in the semiconductors field," says Ali Abedi, UMaine associate vice president for research and vice president of the IEEE Council on Radio Frequency Identification. The slate of panelists from across sectors will prompt conversations about the latest research and innovation, workforce development, funding opportunities and other related topics. Several faculty from UMaine, the Roux Institute at Northeastern University, the University of Southern Maine and the University of New Hampshire will present alongside industry experts and funding agencies program managers. Industry Speakers include:

- Moise Solomon, technical director for the Electronic Systems and Technologies Innovation Center at MITRE
- Yong Liu, principal member of the technical staff at Onsemi
- Steven Leibeger, principal technologist at Diodes Inc.
- Stephen Swan, MFAB site quality manager at Texas Instruments.

Funding agencies speakers are:

- Brian Whitney, president of the Maine Technology Institute
- Nadia El-Masry, program director for the National Science Foundation's Future of Semiconductors initiative
- Julia Upton, chair of the Maine Section of IEEE and associate professor at Husson University.

Members of the semiconductor manufacturing, research and business community are invited to attend the event for panel discussions and a chance to network across sectors. Participants will benefit from the opportunity to develop a multi-faceted and shared understanding of the regional semiconductor education, research and manufacturing system. Recent federal investments in semiconductor research, manufacturing and workforce development present an opportunity to build strategic expertise and enhance mutually beneficial partnerships across the state and region. Semiconductors are vital components in tools used every day from smartphones to medical devices. Visit the Portland Gateway website to register for the event by Friday, May 5.

UMaine Ph.D. candidate's new tool helps predict pollution vulnerability in coastal waters statewide

24 Apr 2023

A University of Maine Ph.D. candidate has created a new mapping tool that can help scientists and resource managers better predict how vulnerable different coastal estuary settings in Maine are to pollution. Pollution vulnerability in estuaries and bays can be determined by the source of contamination, how it is transported to coastal waters and how long it can last before flushing out to sea based on the physical and hydrological characteristics of the watershed, also known as residence time. The "Estuary Builder" tool, developed by Bea Van Dam from UMaine's School of Earth and Climate Sciences, provides related data for stream and river watersheds and embayments along the entire Maine coastline. Van Dam, who is advised by UMaine associate professor Sean Smith, developed the Estuary Builder to assist with the management of harmful coastal bacteria pollution events that affect shellfisheries. Bacteria and other contaminants on land can run off into estuaries during large rain events, and they travel through coastal waterways where they can be taken up by clams and other filter feeders. The consumption of these contaminated shellfish can cause sickness, so the Maine Department of Marine Resources temporarily closes mudflats where clams and filter feeders reside within the affected watersheds. The Estuary Builder allows users to draw an outlet line across an embayment mouth on an ArcGIS map to receive pollution-related information for the estuary and contributing watershed. It also identifies which of several archetypical Maine coastal setting types the delineated area belongs to, allowing managers to make comparisons to similar areas of the coast. Van Dam created the tool by incorporating one of the most comprehensive spatial datasets for Maine's coastal watersheds and estuaries, which she assembled, and using machine learning to teach it how to use those data to examine the vulnerability of varied coastal settings and conditions to estuary pollution. By providing a decision support tool with an extensive and accessible dataset, Van Dam's Estuary Builder can help officials better determine where to augment monitoring capacity and the

timing of shellfish flat closures, and how to respond to coastal pollution problems. By identifying the pollution culprits, the tool helps to protect consumers from harmful bacteria, limits the occurrence of closures and optimizes the capacity of coastal resource managers. All of these benefits also better support the livelihoods of shellfish harvesters, seafood businesses and coastal communities. “Shellfishing is such an integral part of both the economy and the culture of coastal Maine, and pollution problems threaten that,” Van Dam says. “This tool is a culmination of stakeholder engagement, data acquisition and synthesis and code development that puts managers just a few mouse clicks away from information about coastal settings to improve capacity to sustainably manage coastal resources into the future.” Van Dam’s project builds on a multiyear effort by an interdisciplinary team of UMaine scientists to develop several resources that would help predict bacterial pollution problems affecting shellfishing industries along Maine’s coast. The Watershed Process and Estuary Sustainability Research Group (WPES) is co-led by Smith and Lauren Ross, a UMaine associate professor of hydraulics and water resources engineering. The research was initiated by a National Science Foundation EPSCOR (Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) grant led by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions. The outgrowth of the effort has included extensive work funded by the Maine Water Resources Research Institute and the Maine Agriculture and Forest Experiment Station to measure, model and map conditions driving coastal bacteria pollution in thousands of stream and river watersheds draining into Maine’s tidal coastline. Smith and colleagues have identified many information gaps along the way, with several related to rainfall and snowmelt runoff pathways in more than 1,000 miles of Maine’s coast, including the entire Portland peninsula and other parts of the state’s most densely populated cities and towns. He and Van Dam have worked toward resolving those gaps, which resulted in the expanded flow path dataset that Van Dam created and used in the design of the Estuary Builder, as well as a Clustering and Vulnerability Analysis for hundreds of tidal embayments and sub-embayments along the length of Maine’s coast. The Estuary Builder tool establishes a solid foundation for a new generation of decision support tools for coastal resource managers in Maine that can be improved over time and adapted into other coastal regions. Research by WPES affiliates on land-sea connection dynamics in reference watersheds and estuaries has been a big part of that effort. The work has involved over a dozen graduate and undergraduate students who conducted watershed and estuary modeling, stream measurements, sediment sampling, water quality measurements, and stakeholder engagement that will provide information to expand on Van Dam’s foundational work in the future. “All of the investigative research work has led to a comprehensive assembly of land-sea connection information and knowledge in the form of Van Dam’s Estuary Builder that can benefit Maine communities now and in the future,” Smith says. Visit the WPES website for more information about the Estuary Builder, related research on harmful algal blooms in Frenchman Bay by Ph.D. candidate Taylor Bailey and other ongoing projects from the group. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Science media note UMaine role in eclipse project

24 Apr 2023

Phys.org, EurekAlert, Scienmag and Bioengineer.org noted that University of Maine researchers participated in a project that observed the recent solar eclipse in Australia in preparation for the 2024 total solar eclipse that will be visible from Maine.

Sen. King cites ASCC 3D-printed house in interview with Business Insider

24 Apr 2023

U.S. Sen. Angus King of Maine cited the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) 3D-printed house made of biobased materials as a potential solution to the lack of affordable housing in the state during an interview with Business Insider. Yahoo! News and MSN shared the Business Insider report

BDN notes UMaine participation in 50th Maine Biological and Medical Sciences Symposium

24 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that scientists from the University of Maine participated in the 50th anniversary meeting of the Maine Biological and Medical Sciences Symposium.

BDN shares Franco American Programs grant from National Endowment for the Humanities

24 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded $350,000 to the University of Maine Franco American Programs for a project to digitize historic materials and make them openly available online. All of the items will be hosted online at the Franco American Digital Archives/Portail franco-américain, which provides bilingual access to Franco American materials at institutions across North America

Media shares UMaine Extension bulletin about fiddleheads and rhubarb

24 Apr 2023

The Daily Bulldog, The Piscataquis Observer, CentralMaine.com and Morning Ag Clips shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension offers information and workshops to help consumers find, grow, use, preserve and store in-season fruits and vegetables in Maine. Seasonal foods for May are featured in several online bulletins and fact sheets about fiddleheads, edible wild greens, rhubarb and refrigerator pickles.

WABI interviews Dill about protecting pets from ticks

24 Apr 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) spoke to Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, for a story about protecting pets from ticks. “With the adults highly active, it’s important to be treating your pets, vaccinating your pets, and of course, checking them for ticks when [they] return indoors,” Dill said. The article also noted that the Tick Lab has added Powassan virus and Heartland virus to its testing panel.

Michaud speaks to BDN about religion and grief

24 Apr 2023

In an article about friends of Patti and Roger Eger, the victims of a recent shooting in Bowdoin, processing their grief, the Bangor Daily News spoke to Derek Michaud, a University of Maine professor who specializes in the philosophy of religion, the history of philosophy and philosophical theology. Michaud said that the Egers' position as leaders in their community can deepen the sense of loss their loved ones feel because people in leadership positions, formal or informal, would be the first ones to comfort people in tragic situations. When they're the ones who are lost, however, that only amplifies a community's loss, Michaud said.

McCarty speaks to PPH about boiling fiddleheads

24 Apr 2023

Kate McCarty, food systems professional at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Portland Press Herald about the importance of properly boiling fiddleheads. McCarty pointed to a 1994 outbreak of foodborne illness in New York and Canada caused by fiddleheads that led the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Health Canada to adopt their 15-minute boiling benchmark for fiddleheads. She also noted that experts aren't positive a particular toxin is responsible, and the contamination danger of fiddleheads may be "more about the conditions in which they're grown." Yahoo! News and CentralMaine.com shared the PPH report.

UMaine College of Education and Human Development faculty and staff awards announced

25 Apr 2023

The recipients of this year's University of Maine College of Education and Human Development faculty and staff awards were announced at a college-wide meeting on Friday, April 21. The awards recognize the hard work and dedication of those who work in the college, including their contributions to teaching, research and service at UMaine and beyond. This year's honorees are:

- Sara Flanagan, Full-Time Faculty Teaching Excellence Award
- Jamie Treworgy, Part-Time Faculty Teaching Excellence Award
- Catharine Biddle, Faculty Service Award
- Jo-Ellen Carr, Staff Service Award
- Timothy Reagan, Research and Creative Achievement Award

Read more about each of the winners on the College of Education and Human Development website.

Media notes UMaine role in Camp Mummichog summer day camp

25 Apr 2023

In an article about the Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust's Camp Mummichog summer day camp, the Boothbay Register and Wiscasset Newspaper noted that campers ages of 9–12 who are participating in "Marine Adventures" July 31–Aug. 4 will conduct their own experiments, dissect a squid, visit a lab at the University of Maine Darling Marine Center to learn from marine biologists in the field, and take a boat trip on the Damariscotta River.

Media report on UMaine ARI funding for recirculating aquaculture systems research

25 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News, The Ellsworth American, the Mount Desert Islander, Aquafeed.com, RASTech Magazine, the Fish Site and Intrafish reported that the University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute (ARI) has been awarded $2.25 million per year of congressional programmatic funding for recirculating aquaculture systems research. The funding was awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service, and supports studies ARI scientists will conduct at the National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture Center.

Seguin featured on Grounded in Maine podcast

25 Apr 2023

Margaruette Seguin, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H youth development professional, was featured on the Grounded in Maine podcast discussing how she is cultivating the next generation of Earth lovers through her work.

WFVX reports on UMaine ocean debris research grant form NOAA

25 Apr 2023

WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) granted $3.5 million to the University of Maine and other research partners to address the issue of marine debris.

UMaine seniors in social work pen op-ed about paid leave for CentralMaine.com

25 Apr 2023

Stacey Duran, MacKayla Faloon, Mariah Lockhart, Angela Rothwell and Emily White — all University of Maine seniors graduating with degrees in social work — wrote an opinion piece for CentralMaine.com about paid family and medical leave for Mainers.

Dumas speaks to BDN about alliums

25 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Rob Dumas, food science innovation coordinator at the University of Maine, about selecting alliums for a garden and how to use them in cooking. “In the world of [alliums] there is incredible variety. I am a real onion fanatic,” Dumas said.

Ellsworth American quotes Dagher in story about wind energy

25 Apr 2023

In a story about wind energy in Maine, the Ellsworth American quoted Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC), as saying “The only option for Maine for offshore wind is floating turbines,” in a 2021 webinar outlining the VolturnUS project. The Mount Desert Islander shared the Ellsworth American report.

Media report on UMaine naming valedictorian and salutatorians

25 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News and WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that mechanical engineering major Lara Chern of Bow, New Hampshire is the 2023 University of Maine valedictorian, and UMaine’s two 2023 salutatorians are Mikayla Reynolds of Winslow, a double major in business management and marketing, and biomedical engineering major Zoe Vittum of Brewer. The three will graduate May 6 at UMaine’s 221st commencement ceremonies.

UMaine floating offshore wind research featured in upcoming episode of PBS NOVA

26 Apr 2023

The University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center’s Habib Dagher will be featured on PBS NOVA's latest episode, “Chasing Carbon Zero: Here's how the U.S. could reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050,” highlighting UMaine's global leadership in floating offshore wind. The episode airs at 9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 26. The PBS NOVA episode will delve into the role of offshore wind in meeting President Joe Biden's Earth Shots initiative and the goal of achieving zero carbon emissions by 2050, which will require slashing emissions in half by 2030. With Maine's extensive coastline and wind resources, the state is poised to play a significant role in the country's transition toward a carbon-neutral future. Over the past 15 years, UMaine has been at the forefront of developing cutting-edge technology to harness the power of floating offshore wind. Dagher, the executive director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center, will showcase the advancements made by UMaine in the field, positioning the state as the next frontier of floating offshore wind. The episode will feature the perspectives of several experts, including Dagher, who are optimistic that the U.S. has the technical know-how to achieve carbon zero and avoid the worst impacts of climate change. It will also highlight the potential of Maine's floating offshore wind technology in addressing the energy needs of many communities in Maine and in becoming a significant export industry.

UMaine senior selected for 2023 ALL IN Student Voting Honor Roll

26 Apr 2023

University of Maine senior Ashley Brown has been selected for Civic Nation’s 2023 Student Voting Honor Roll as part of the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge. Brown, a political science and economics double major from Richmond, Maine, is among 175 college students across the U.S. who were inducted into this year’s honor roll, recognizing their extensive efforts to increase voter registration, education and turnout on their campuses. Brown, who also is working toward a master’s degree in global policy through the UMaine School of Policy and International Affairs 4+1 program, was a member of the UMaine UVote Student Voting Ambassador program this academic year, and spearheaded an ambitious social media campaign to register, educate and turn out her fellow students to vote. The Student Voting Ambassadors were co-lead by Ben Evans, associate director of student involvement, and professor Rob Glover in the Political Science Department. Civic Nation is a nonprofit that supports high-impact organizing and education initiatives that help make the U.S. more inclusive and equitable. Its All In Campus Democracy Challenge highlights participating colleges and universities for their work in boosting voter turnout among students and institutionalizing political engagement and civic learning. Civic Nation named UMaine one of its most engaged campuses for college student voting last year, and awarded the university a Highest Voter Turnout Award in 2021 for nonpartisan student voter participation efforts in the 2020 election. Both honors were also awarded through the All In Campus Democracy Challenge.

The Climate Daily cites Maine Sea Grant role in 2023 National Seaweed Symposium

26 Apr 2023

The Climate Daily podcast noted that Maine Sea Grant will host the 2023 National Seaweed Symposium in Portland.

The Herald cites Fuller study in article about fiddleheads

26 Apr 2023

In an article about fiddleheads, The Herald cited a 2020 study conducted by retired University of Maine Cooperative Extension expert David Fuller that found that removing all of the fiddleheads from a crown will cause a significant decline in growth, and death by the third year.

Inside Higher Ed speaks to Dym about Discord

26 Apr 2023

Inside Higher Ed interviewed Brianna Dym, lecturer in the University of Maine School of Computing and Information Science, about student Discord servers.

"The servers operate like little fiefdoms. You have the person who founded the server, and they have supreme administrator controls unless they relinquish them. Then you can appoint other administrators who have other powers," Dym said.

Haëntjens speaks to the Robb Report about traveling to the Arctic

26 Apr 2023

The Robb Report interviewed Nils Haëntjens, research assistant professor at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, about conducting Arctic research on the luxury ice breaker, Le Commandant Charcot.

WABI features Williams Hall mural, dedication

26 Apr 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) featured the mural and dedication of Williams Hall to Beryl Warner Williams, the first Black alumna of the University of Maine. "She has been committed from the earliest days as far as I can tell from reading her history and learning about her to making a difference in the world. To honor an African American woman in this way at the university of Maine, is critical and important to send the message that inclusion is what we are about at the university. We look at all of our alums and find places where we can celebrate their great success and this is one of those," said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy.

News Center Maine features Maine Days

26 Apr 2023

News Center Maine featured Maine Days, a weeklong event taking place April 24–28 that is focused on community-building and service activities, and philanthropic activities. "It's fantastic. You can see our students already today even on a kind of chilly day are out helping to make our campus more beautiful helping to be a part of the community helping to make a difference for the people they live and work and learn with at the University of Maine," said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. News Center Maine also featured University of Maine students reflecting on the importance of volunteerism during Maine Days.

News Center Maine reports on 'Project ITCH'

26 Apr 2023

News Center Maine featured Project ITCH, which stands for "Is Tick Control Helping?" The partnership between the University of Maine and the New England Center of Excellence in Vector-borne Diseases will collect ticks from properties where homeowners aren't doing anything to guard against the parasites in order to give scientists a better idea of what tick control methods are working and where ticks are emerging.

Media feature UMaine Estuary Builder tool to predict coastal water vulnerability to pollution

26 Apr 2023

WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) and the Bangor Daily News reported on a new mapping tool developed at the University of Maine that could help scientists predict how vulnerable different coastal estuary settings in Maine are to pollution. The Estuary Builder tool, developed by UMaine Ph.D. candidate Bea Van Dam, allows users to draw lines on a digital map that provide pollution-related information about that area'. "It provides a platform and a foundation, which could actually be grown over time. There are a lot of places that we have general knowledge about, but there are a lot of gaps to be closed in how land and sea connections work, and how they affect seafood business in Maine. Also, public health and coastal communities," said Sean Smith, an associate professor for the UMaine School of Earth and Climate Sciences.

UMaine to host summer educators institute with a focus on mental health and wellness

26 Apr 2023

After a successful launch in 2022, the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development and Summer University will host the second annual UMaine Educators Institute, June 22–23. The theme of this year's virtual event will be "Promoting Mental Health and Wellness." The institute will feature two strands: "Mental and Behavioral Health Best Practices," led by Jim Artesani, associate dean for graduate education, research and outreach at the College of Education and Human Development; and "Leading Educational Change," led by assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Rebecca Buchanan. Each strand will include workshops led by experts from Maine and beyond in areas such as social-emotional learning, building resilience among students, the needs of rural schools and communities, and outdoor education. "We know Maine teachers and educational leaders are committed to making our schools positive places for students to learn and grow," says Penny Bishop, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. "It was important that the 2023 UMaine Educators Institute reflect that commitment and offer presentations, panels and resources that can help them transform their school communities through evidence-based practices and leadership strategies." In addition to the workshops, the two-day virtual institute will have two keynote speakers:

- Nikole Hollins-Sims is an equity-focused and systems-level thinker, who is currently a special assistant to the Pennsylvania Secretary of Education. A certified school psychologist specializing in social justice, Hollins-Sims has conducted research around caregivers of children of incarcerated parents and their motivation to engage in family-school partnerships. In addition, she has been awarded a Moral and Courageous Leader for Education Award by Cabrini University and an American Psychology Association Anti-Racism School Psychology Emerging Professional Award.
- Steve Goodman is a partner with the Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and co-principal investigator with the Integrated MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) Research Network. He was previously director of Michigan's MTSS Technical Assistance Center, and currently serves on state, national and international advisory boards for the implementation of MTSS. Goodman has contributed to more than 50 publications and has presented for educators on PBIS and the integration of MTSS in K–12 schools across the U.S. and abroad.

Participants in the educators institute can earn 12 professional development contact hours/1.2 CEUs, or earn three graduate credits by enrolling in a course, EHD 590: Evidence-Based Social-Emotional Learning in Schools, through the College of Education and Human Development. The two-day institute is included with the course, which will be taught by Artesani and offered distance-synchronous with weekly online meetings June 14–July 19. The UMaine Educators Institute is one of three virtual professional development opportunities available to educators as part of Summer University. Also back for a second year is the University of Maine Climate Change Workshop, July 18–19. The 2023 Summer Technology Institute, now in its seventh year as a virtual event, will be held Aug. 1–3. Summer Tech is part of the collaborative graduate program in instructional technology offered through the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, the University of Maine at Farmington and the University of Southern Maine. More information about UMaine's summer workshops for educators can be found online.

UMaine's Master of Science in Athletic Training earns CAATE accreditation

26 Apr 2023

The Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) has granted accreditation to the University of Maine's new Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT) program through the 2030–31 academic year. As previously announced, UMaine's undergraduate athletic training program, with a long and distinguished history of producing certified athletic trainers, is transitioning to a graduate program in order to continue meeting CAATE's educational standards. Achieving accreditation means that MSAT graduates will be eligible to sit for the Board of Certification for Athletic Trainers (BOC) national credentialing exam, just as graduates of the undergraduate program have been eligible to do for more than 40 years. The accreditation process included a comprehensive review of the program, including a self-study report submitted to CAATE earlier this spring. "This is a major milestone for our program," says associate professor of physical education and athletic training Christopher Nightingale, the MSAT program coordinator. "CAATE has given our master's program its stamp of approval, so our incoming graduate students and prospective students know that when they come to UMaine they're getting the highest quality instruction and opportunities to succeed in the athletic training profession." Students in the program will be able to utilize the state-of-the-art Wes Jordan Athletic Training Complex in Lengyel Hall. MSAT students will also have access to diverse field experiences at Maine's only NCAA Division I institution, as well as smaller college and high school athletic programs, rehabilitation clinics and other health care facilities. The master's program will also feature an immersive clinical education experience for students during their final semester, which can be completed anywhere in the United States while they complete their final courses remotely. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says jobs in athletic training are growing faster than those in other industries. UMaine's athletic training program is housed in the College of Education and Human Development, which also has several CAEP (Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation) approved teacher preparation programs. The college is developing an accelerated 3+2 program that will allow undergraduate students majoring in kinesiology and physical education to earn a bachelor's degree and MSAT in five years rather than the traditional six. More information about the MSAT is online.

'The Maine Question' explores the music scene at UMaine

27 Apr 2023

The University of Maine is home to 18 formal vocal and instrumental ensembles and many informal musical groups, each one with a distinct sound that enriches the academic and cultural life on campus. Many of these groups welcome students of all majors and community members. These performers tour Maine, New England and beyond, promoting the artistic offerings of the university with their voices and instruments. In episode nine of season eight of "The Maine Question," Francis Vogt, director of choral programs, will discuss what the music scene is like at UMaine. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

UMaine researcher participates in TIDC study on monitoring bridges with drones

27 Apr 2023

Eric Landis, professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, partnered with researchers at the University of Massachusetts Lowell and the University of Vermont, who are all a part of the Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center (TIDC), for a project entitled "Advanced Sensing Technologies for Practical UAV-Based Condition Assessment" Their work, titled "Bridge deck underside evaluation with contacting and noncontacting UAS-mounted sensors," presents a revolutionary new way to inspect bridges using Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) or drones to inspect the undersides of bridges. The research was presented at the 2023 SPIE Smart Structures + Nondestructive Evaluation conference in Long Beach, California. Read more on the TIDC website.

Socolow to present at Radio Preservation Task Force conference

27 Apr 2023

Michael Socolow, associate professor at the Department of Communications and Journalism, will present at the 2023 Radio Preservation Task Force conference in Washington, D.C., which takes place April 27–30. Socolow, who was a member of the 2023 Conference Organizing Team, has been a member of the Library of Congress's Radio Preservation Task Force since its inception. At the "Century of Broadcasting" conference, he will be presenting research on radio pioneer Floyd Gibbons as part of the panel titled "Radio News and Commentary: Revisiting Developmental Modes of US Broadcast Journalism." The papers of Floyd Gibbons, who hosted the first network newscast in American history ("The Headline Hunter"), reside in the Special Collections of Fogler Library. Socolow was assisted in the preparation of his presentation by Fogler Library Special Collections Archivist Desiree Butterfield-Nagy.

BDN shares UMaine Hutchinson Center mediation training

27 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that registration is now open for a five-day professional development program, Mediation and the Art of Conflict Transformation, offered from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. June 26–30 at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. For more information about upcoming professional development programs, scholarships or to register, go online.

BDN reports on new digital display at Alfond Arena

27 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that the University of Maine Alfond Arena will install high-definition video displays. The upgrades are scheduled to be completed this fall.

Fox Weather shares UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in article predicting 'robust' El Niño

27 Apr 2023

In an article about the possibility of a "robust" El Niño through the rest of 2023 and into 2024, Fox Weather shared data from the University of Maine's Climate Reanalyzer showing that the average daily sea surface temperature has hovered around 70 degrees Fahrenheit, which is nearly 2 degrees warmer than the running multi-decade mean. Yahoo! News shared the Fox Weather report.

BDN features UMaine College of Education and Human Development literacy night

27 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News featured a literacy night at Alton Elementary School with University of Maine students at the College of Education and Human Development. The College of Education and Human Development has incorporated literacy nights at area schools into the curriculum for education majors for more than 20 years. It's an opportunity for UMaine students taking their literacy methods courses to apply some of the knowledge and skills they have picked up in the classroom and to gain hands-on experience working with K–12 students and families.

Socolow writes op-ed for The Conversation about archiving media history

27 Apr 2023

Michael Socolow, associate professor at the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, wrote an article for The Conversation about the importance of archiving media history. "Recognizing the need to preserve radio and TV's past marks an essential first step, so that the future will be properly informed about how we lived and communicated for over a century of American history," Socolow wrote. The piece is also part of Socolow's involvement with the Library of Congress's Radio Preservation Task Force project.

UMaine floating offshore wind research featured in PBS NOVA

27 Apr 2023

A recent episode of PBS NOVA featured floating offshore wind research being conducted at the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center. "Within 50 miles of the U.S. coast — both east and west coast — there's enough offshore wind capacity, theoretically, to power the country four times over," said Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the center.

Dartmouth Alumni Magazine features Grew

27 Apr 2023

The Dartmouth Alumni Magazine has featured School of Earth and Climate Sciences Research Professor Edward Grew in the May–June 2023 issue. Grew was a class of 1966 geology major at Dartmouth prior to his Ph.D. at Harvard in 1971. The Dartmouth Alumni Profile was written by Lizzy Strapp, Dartmouth Class of 2025. The magazine commissioned artist Robert Neubecker to create an illustration of Grew collecting minerals. Neubecker's illustrations appear in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, Science and other leading national publications. Grew is featured because he has discovered or assisted in the approval of 25 newly identified minerals.

Charney speaks to BDN about new fees for developing on wetlands

27 Apr 2023

Noah Charney, assistant professor in the University of Maine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology, spoke to the Bangor Daily News for an article about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers proposing new rules for smaller construction projects disrupting more than 5,000 square feet of wetland areas in Maine to require fees. "Wetland loss is an important issue, and we've seen a 50 percent loss of wetlands across the world. Many species depend on them from wildlife to plants," Charney said.

Peter Breigenzer: Preserving forests as a woodsman and scientist

27 Apr 2023

Peter Breigenzer of Glasgow, Montana, fell in love with forestry while working in the woods with multiple crews over the past several years. When he decided to attend graduate school, he searched for a program that would marry his passion for outdoor work and research, and teach him how to sustainably manage forests. Now more than 2,000 miles from home, Breigenzer is enhancing his knowledge and conducting biophysical and social science research to help scientists, foresters and landowners protect woodlands from climate change through a unique interdisciplinary training program at the University of Maine. Breigenzer, who is pursuing a master's degree in forest resources, is one of many students who are participating in a National Science Foundation Research Traineeship Program that aims to educate the next generation of environmental conservation leaders. Funded with $2.9 million from NSF, the program offers students interdisciplinary coursework, collaborative research opportunities and conservation internships with state and federal agencies and

other organizations. Breigenzer says he chose to study at UMaine to participate in the traineeship. As part of the NSF-funded program, Breigenzer is investigating how management decisions can affect forest responses to climate change with co-advisors Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions of natural resources, and Jay Wason III, assistant professor of forest ecosystem physiology. "After being here for almost two years, I know I made the right choice," he says. "I feel incredibly fortunate to have such great co-advisors. Jessica and Jay have provided me with valuable guidance and support at every stage of our project." In collaboration with Leahy, Breigenzer has interviewed private, noncommercial woodland owners — also called family forest owners — throughout Maine and toured their properties to learn about their concerns with climate change and how those worries may have shaped their forest management decisions. Breigenzer says he hopes the project will help instruct foresters on how to best communicate the importance of climate change adaptation to individual and family forest owners and assist with their implementation. "Prior to starting this project, I had done a lot of reading about 'new' ways to manage forests for climate change resilience, but I got the impression that much of this conversation was siloed within the academic community," Breigenzer says. "Therefore, I wanted to talk to family forest owners directly to see what they thought about managing their woodlands with climate change in mind." With Wason, Breigenzer has been researching how forest stand conditions affect understory microclimates. Over the past year, they bushwhacked through the Penobscot Experimental Forest and established 60 plots from which they measured microclimate and forest structure traits. "In general, when we think about future climate conditions, most of our assumptions are based on broad-scale climate projection models that use data from large weather stations established in fields or cities (i.e., Bangor Airport)," Breigenzer says. "These models are useful for landscape level planning; however, they don't reflect the fine-scale variability in temperature and humidity that naturally occurs beneath forest canopies. Therefore, if we want to understand how climate change will affect our future forests, we need to understand how the climate is changing within forests." While conducting his own research, Breigenzer also served as an intern at the Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park last year. He worked with its forest ecology division to collect and analyze remote sensing imagery for monitoring and evaluating the conditions of several forests across northern and eastern Maine. "My biggest takeaway from this internship was how it allowed me to develop my skills related to computer coding and data analysis," Breigenzer says. "Regardless of which career path I eventually take within forestry, these skills will be important for the planning and assessment of different land management regimes." When he's not conducting research, Breigenzer is out in the field training himself and others to be better foresters. In September 2022, he attended the two-week-long Prescribed Fire Training Exchange, or TREX. During the event, he and other researchers and foresters worked with wildland fire professionals to conduct prescribed burns at Wells Barrens and Kennebunk Plains, and exchanged ideas on how to restore fire-adapted ecosystems. Breigenzer also serves on the leadership team for the UMaine chapter of the Society of American Foresters, through which he helps facilitate chainsaw safety courses and other professional development opportunities for students studying forestry or other natural science-related subjects. "The experiences I've gained during my time here are invaluable to my future career trajectory," Breigenzer says. "From the skills I've gained in my classes, to developing multiple research projects, to the personal and professional connections I've made here, I feel prepared to pursue my forestry goals!" After receiving his master's degree, Breigenzer says he plans to pursue a career as a forester or researcher, and sustainably manage woodlands through "multiple forms of science with localized knowledge and human experience." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine announces 2023 Climate Change Workshop

28 Apr 2023

Correction: This post was updated May 1, 2023. The University of Maine will host the second annual Climate Change Workshop, titled "Communicating Climate Change Science," July 18–19. This two-day online professional development program, developed in partnership by the UMaine Climate Change Institute (CCI) and Division of Lifelong Learning, will feature keynote talks and interactive sessions on interdisciplinary climate change topics, led by experts from the CCI and University of Maine at Farmington. "Climate change impacts us all," says Seth Campbell, associate professor of glaciology at the CCI and School of Earth & Climate Sciences. "Improving climate education is one of the most important steps we can take to shift our trajectory towards a more sustainable future." Workshop participants are eligible to earn continuing education units (CEUs). There also is a concurrent three-week graduate course offered through Summer University, Seminar in Quaternary Studies (INT 500), from July 10–28 for those interested in a deeper exploration of best practices for climate science communication. Registration for the 2023 Climate Change Workshop is now open. For program and registration details, visit the Summer University website or email um.summerprograms@maine.edu.

BDN features UMaine Extension role in Age-Friendly Millinocket

28 Apr 2023

In an article about age-friendly programs in the state, the Bangor Daily News noted that the group Age-Friendly Millinocket partners with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension for gardening and food preservation classes.

BDN shares Campbell profile

28 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared a profile of Ben Campbell, a sixth-generation University of Maine Black Bear who will graduate this spring.

Daily Bulldog shares UMaine Extension May shiitake growing workshop

28 Apr 2023

The Daily Bulldog shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a workshop on mushroom production 5:30–7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 9, at the Franklin County Extension Office, 138 Pleasant Street, Farmington. Visit the website to register.

BDN shares BSO performance of Firefly's 'Militakwat' at Collins Center

28 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the Bangor Symphony Orchestra will perform "Militakwat," an orchestral piece by Wabanaki artist, Penobscot musician and multimedia creator Firefly, at 3 p.m. on April 30 at the Collins Center for the Arts. University of Maine alumnus Ben McNaboe also arranged Firefly's works for orchestra and chorus, "resulting in a kind of conversation between Beethoven's iconic 'Ode to Joy' and the musical heritage of the Wabanaki

people," according to the report.

BDN reports on UMaine naming 2023 Outstanding Graduate Students

28 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that twelve undergraduates have been named 2023 Outstanding Graduating Students at the University of Maine. Their full profiles can be found on the UMaine website.

News Center Maine reported on planting of wild blueberries for UMaine research

28 Apr 2023

News Center Maine shared that rows of wild blueberries were planted last week at the University of Maine Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center in Old Town to be used for research about the impact of climate change on wild blueberry crops.

Lindley, Hargest speak to PPH about gardening budgets

28 Apr 2023

Vina Lindley, food systems & home horticulture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and Pamela Hargest, an Extension horticulture professional, spoke to the Portland Press Herald about budgets for gardening. "There are so many different factors in play … It's like cooking. You could cook on any budget and you could garden on any budget," Lindley said. "Starting small and feeling like you are successful as opposed to going too big and being disappointed with the results would be my advice," Hargest said. Yahoo! News shared the PPH report.

BDN shares Howell NSF funding for research with Sappi

28 Apr 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that University of Maine research led by Caitlin Howell, associate professor of biomedical engineering, in partnership with Sappi North America has received a $550,000 award from the National Science Foundation to explore how existing mass produced technologies can be used to study and scale up microfluidic technology.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in article about ocean temperature spike

28 Apr 2023

In an article about a sudden spike in global ocean temperatures, the Associated Press and Futurism cited data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer showing that from early March to this week, the global average ocean sea surface temperature jumped nearly two-tenths of a degree Celsius, or 0.36 degree Fahrenheit. The Climate Reanalyzer was developed by Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute. The Washington Post, the Miami Herald, the Hawaii Tribune-Herald, The Sacramento Bee, the Sun Herald, the Idaho Statesman, the Seattle Post Intelligencer, Phys.org, The Philadelphia Tribune, the Portland Press Herald, CentralMaine.com, WTOP, WLNE-TV (ABC 6 in Rhode Island) and other outlets shared the AP report. Yahoo! News shared the Futurism report.

U.S. News & World Report boosts ranking for UMaine's graduate programs in education

28 Apr 2023

The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development is again ranked among the top graduate schools for education by U.S. News & World Report. For 2024, UMaine's overall graduate program in education ranked No. 120, up 11 spots from last year. UMaine is the only institution in the state to make the list for graduate education programming. The College of Education and Human Development offers several graduate programs for teachers and other educators, including master's, doctoral and education specialist (Ed.S.) degrees, as well as graduate certificates. Several programs, including the Master of Education degrees in Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction and Special Education are offered entirely online. The college's Educational Leadership program recently started offering all of its degrees virtually, including the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program for K-12 educators interested in becoming superintendents and other district-level administrators. Earlier this year, U.S. News & World Report ranked UMaine among the best online master's in education programs, naming it one of the top schools for veterans or active-duty service members. The 2024 overall graduate school rankings note that the College of Education and Human Development granted 18 doctoral degrees, up from four the previous year. Faculty members in the college also increased the amount of funded research received to $4.9 million, up from $4 million in the review period for the 2023 rankings. The rankings are included in the 2024 edition of U.S. News & World Report's Best Graduate Schools, which includes ratings for the top business, education, engineering, law, medicine and nursing schools and programs nationwide. More information is available on the U.S. News & World Report website.

UMaine Machias to hold its 112th commencement May 5

28 Apr 2023

The University of Maine at Machias will welcome students, family, faculty and staff to the 112th commencement at the Performing Arts Center on May 5 at 11 a.m. to watch 75 graduates receive their degrees. The ticketed event will be livestreamed, with two additional viewing areas available on campus — Science 102 and the Reynolds Center conference room. No tickets are required in the livestream viewing venues. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Rose Mondville, 207.255.1210.

In addition, WUMM Machias, 91.1 FM, will livestream the ceremony.
A car parade of graduates down Main Street will follow the ceremony. The parade begins at the Crandlemire Support Building on campus and ends in the

parking lot across from Pat's Pizza. [caption id="attachment_97289" align="alignright" width="223"]  Rachel Maker[/caption] [caption id="attachment_97287" align="alignright" width="223"]  Katie Leighton[/caption] Katie Leighton of Pembroke and Rachel Maker of Machiasport are the 2023 University of Maine Machias valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively. Both are education majors with concentrations in elementary education and minors in English. Leighton, who completed her coursework in December, plans on teaching within Washington County. Maker has been student teaching for the past semester and has worked at Elm Street School in East Machias for the past few years as an ed tech. The 2023 commencement address will be delivered by Leigh Alley, a 2002 UMaine Machias graduate and president of the university's Alumni Association. Alley is an assistant professor of education at the University of Maine at Augusta and executive director of Maine ASCD. The lifelong resident of the Jonesport and Beals Island area completed an Ed.D. in transformative leadership at the University of New England in 2016. Contact: Jacqueline Leonard, jacqueline.leonard@maine.edu

UMaine names 2023 Presidential Award recipients

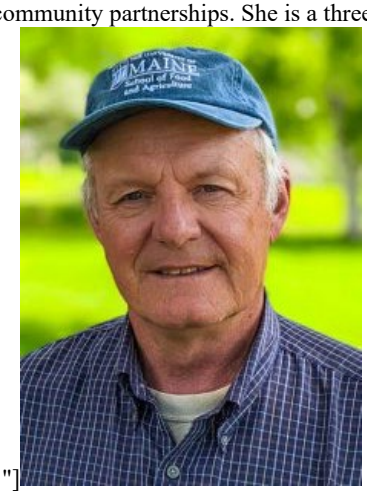
28 Apr 2023

The 2023 Presidential Awards recognize outstanding teaching in molecular and biomedical sciences, pioneering research in wireless sensor technology, public engagement and research focused on K–12 rural education, and innovation that has advanced Maine's potato breeding program. Sally Molloy, associate professor of genomics, received the Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award; Ali Abedi, professor of electrical and computer engineering, received the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award; and Catharine Biddle, associate professor of educational leadership, received the Presidential Public Engagement Achievement Award. Gregory Porter, professor of agronomy, is the inaugural recipient of the Presidential Innovation Award. "Sally is recognized by students and colleagues as an inspirational educator and exceptional leader of one of our first experiential research learning courses that has served as a model for STEM education campuswide and nationwide," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "Ali's internationally recognized research in wireless sensor and artificial intelligence technology has implications for advancing monitoring applications in space, in our forests and in biomedicine. Catharine's nationally known work in education fosters healthy and equitable youth development and contributes to community building. Greg's innovation has resulted in five new varieties of Maine potatoes in the past decade, including the popular Caribou Russet, which is good news for the state's potato industry and consumers. "The achievements of all of this year's Presidential Award recipients have an important, lasting effect on the UMaine students they teach and mentor, and exemplify the critical role of Maine's R1 research university statewide and beyond." [caption id="attachment_97299"


align="alignright" width="223"] Sally Molloy[/caption] Molloy has an unparalleled dedication and passion for teaching, and a commitment to transformative educational experiences. Since beginning her teaching career at UMaine in 2007, she has advanced new teaching and learning styles in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, and in the Honors College. She is recognized nationally for her ability to maximize student learning outcomes, provide exceptional student experiences with her focus on research learning and mindset, and provide a foundation that launches students into impressive postgraduate programs and careers. The alumna joined the UMaine community in 2000 to pursue a Ph.D. in microbiology. Molloy was a graduate teaching assistant and an instructor in the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Molecular Biology. In 2011, she was instrumental in helping launch the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Science Education Alliance-Phage Hunters Advancing Genomics and Evolutionary Science (SEA-PHAGES) curriculum at UMaine. Over the past 12 years, the experiential research learning course — Genome Discovery I and II — has been transformative for first-year students, preparing them to be involved in research during their undergraduate careers. From teaching phage genomics to honors civilization courses, Molloy employs an acute understanding of student-centered pedagogies and careful instructional design. Her teaching strategies promote knowledge acquisition, skill development and social-emotional growth in students, who then come to see themselves as scholars and researchers. Her leadership in teaching to improve inclusion and student success also informs her peers and collaborators, contributing to curricula and pedagogies in the UMaine Honors College and nationally in SEA-PHAGES and STEM education initiatives. In 2019, Molloy received the Faculty Mentor Impact Award. Students she has mentored in her classroom and in the laboratory have gone on to receive competitive research fellowships, awards and scholarships, and be accepted to the nation's top graduate and medical schools. In her laboratory, where she collaborates with student researchers, her focus is on bacteriophage biology. Last fall, Molloy received a National Institutes of Health grant to investigate the role of prophage-encoded gene products on mycobacterial gene expression and intrinsic antibiotic resistance. [caption


id="attachment_97300" align="alignright" width="223"] Ali Abedi[/caption] Abedi, an associate vice president for research and director of Center for Undergraduate Research, has a nearly 30-year career in research and teaching. He joined the UMaine community in 2005 and founded the WiSe-Net Lab, dedicated to research on wireless communications and sensor networks for structural monitoring, space exploration and biomedical applications. Student researchers in his lab have gone on to be lead engineers at NASA, SpaceX and top engineering firms. With a student team, Abedi recently completed building Maine's first CubeSat, MESAT1, to be launched to polar orbit in 2023. The miniaturized research satellite, funded by NASA and the Maine Space Grant Consortium, will circle Earth for 12 years, providing Maine K–12 and college students, educators and small businesses with access to space data from a ground station in Orono. His biomedical research has contributed to two patents for a system and method for early detection of mild traumatic brain injury, co-invented with UMaine professor of psychology Marie Hayes. The biomedical device is designed to help patients — from veterans and the elderly to athletes — with Alzheimer's disease, traumatic brain injury and mild cognitive impairment due to aging. Abedi and his research teams also have developed and tested wireless sensing instrumentation for air leak detection in NASA's first inflatable lunar habitat, sited at UMaine. That source localization using acoustic wireless sensor networks resulted in a product that was launched to the International Space Station in 2016. The technology, successfully operated for several months on the space station, was the first product to be launched into space and to use AI and signal processing for air leak detection, localization and signature recognition. In addition to his wireless sensor research for enabling deep-space missions, Abedi's cutting-edge technology research and development has implications for environmental monitoring, including the use of artificial intelligence to provide a cost-effective, energy-efficient tool to monitor and manage Maine's forests. Abedi is co-founder of two startup companies: Activas-Diagnostics and Nawindor. His extensive publication record includes six books. He is the co-founder of IEEE International Conference on Wireless for Space and Extreme Environments and serves as vice president of the IEEE Council on Radio Frequency Identification. [caption id="attachment_97301" align="alignright" width="223"]


Catharine Biddle[/caption] Biddle joined the UMaine community in 2015. In her work in rural education research, which involves undergraduate and graduate students, she has enhanced school-community relations, helped change K–12 educational paradigms and influenced the focus of rural education research nationwide. In particular, her collaboration in research-practice partnerships results in long-term changes for communities, including improvements in school climate, student attendance and achievement, and the formation of new local coalitions of nonprofits dedicated to addressing these issues. Biddle collaborated on a Washington County research-practice partnership to address the need to provide services and trauma-responsive education in schools focused on children's exposure to — and healing from — adverse experiences associated with substance use, poverty and other challenges facing families. She helped to secure $1.5 million in funding to co-design a pilot program, Transforming Rural Experience in Education, in three Washington County elementary schools, from 2017–21. The jointly designed approach to trauma-responsive practice, which refined the centering of the student voice as a primary vehicle for healing, has since been replicated in multiple school districts nationwide and is the subject of a book, "Trauma Responsive Schooling: Centering Student Voice and Healing," co-authored with Mark Tappan and Lyn Mikel Brown. The pilot program led to the formation of the Rural Vitality Lab, a cross-institutional partnership between Colby College and UMaine focused on conducting research to support the development of healthy ecologies for youth in Maine and beyond. Biddle now works in partnership with additional community development groups such as the Midcoast Community Collaborative to address rural vitality, including trauma-responsive practices in support of student success in schools. In addition, for the past two years, Biddle has worked with a team of researchers in partnership with the National Rural Education Association (NREA) to craft the 2022–2027 National Rural Education Research Agenda. An outcome of this collaboration was an invitation for UMaine to host the New England Rural Education Hub, part of the Rural Schools Collaborative National Hub Network. Biddle directs the New England Rural Education Hub, launched last fall as a national model for rural university-community partnerships. She is a three-time recipient of the NREA Best Research Award. [caption id="attachment_97302" align="alignright"



width="223"] Greg Porter[/caption] Porter, a UMaine alumnus, has been a member of the faculty for 38 years and has served as project leader for the university's Potato Breeding Program since 2007. The program, which involves student researchers at UMaine research facilities in Orono and Presque Isle, creates new potato varieties that provide improved quality and marketing opportunities for growers, while helping to solve pest management problems. It is the only one in the eastern United States with an emphasis on russets and long whites intended for the processing and fresh produce markets. Creating a successful new potato variety requires 10–12 years. In the past decade, the UMaine Potato Breeding Program, in partnership with the Maine Potato Board, has released five new varieties — Easton, Sebec, Caribou Russet, Pinto Gold and Hamlin Russet — that had the competitive yield and quality attributes necessary to move them from the laboratory to market shelves. Nationally, varieties released by the university and its eastern regional collaborators since 2007 were grown on 8,240 U.S. seed acres during 2022, with an approximate seed value of $28.8 million and potential production value of $267.8 million. During 2022, Caribou Russet at 1,874 seed acres was ranked 12th in the U.S. and its estimated crop value for 2023 is approximately $60 million. Pinto Gold continues to be a favorite for home gardeners, farmers markets, roadside stands and gourmet chefs. In his research, Porter prioritizes resistance to diseases such as late blight, scab and Potato Virus Y, and uses DNA-based markers to help select potato varieties with resistance to key potato pests. In addition, his work on crop rotations, soil management and supplemental irrigation has helped develop a better understanding of cropping systems that provide high yields and excellent crop quality while protecting and building the soil. Nutrient management research, particularly potassium fertilization, has led to greater understanding of most efficient use while maintaining or improving crop quality in potato production systems. For the significant impact of his applied research on potato growers and industry leaders in Maine and beyond, Porter has received numerous awards, most recently the Potato Association of America Honorary Life Membership and being named one of the 25 Mainers of the Year by Maine Magazine, both in 2022. The new Presidential Innovation Award established this year recognizes the university's mission of advancing learning and discovery through excellence and innovation. It will be an annual award to a UMaine or UMaine Machias faculty member or team that has translated research discoveries and scholarly activity into products or services that have resulted in economic impact and/or significant social and cultural benefit in Maine and beyond. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine shows water temperature impacts bacteria present on lobsters shells

28 Apr 2023

The health of Maine lobsters is always top of mind, and is becoming even more tenuous as the climate warms and changes the dynamics of ocean ecosystems. A University of Maine study found that the bacteria present on lobster shells is highly dependent on water temperature, indicating that climate change may have a direct impact on this important element of lobster's health. Populations of American lobster, *Homarus americanus*, have declined in southern locations along the North Atlantic coast in recent decades due to increasing ocean temperatures and disease. Such circumstances are progressing northward toward Maine as the climate continues to warm, so it is becoming even more pressing to pinpoint the exact causes of this decline, especially given the complexities of crustacean physiology and immunology. "Studying these shell bacteria can help us understand how bacteria might impact lobster health, and how the environment can affect which bacteria end up on shells at all. Even if those bacteria are just along for the ride, we hope that studies like these will help us understand the complicated relationship between animals, their environment, microbes and health," says Sue Ishaq, lead author of the publication and UMaine assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences. The researchers monitored 57 adult female lobsters, some which were healthy and some that exhibited epizootic shell disease, which causes erosion of the carapace that has been spreading up the North Atlantic coast over the last two decades. They looked at the subjects under three seasonal temperature cycles, each three months apart over the course of a year, and tracked the lobsters' shell bacterial communities using culturing and gene sequencing. The scientists also monitored the progression of the shell-diseased lobster visually and also analyzed the antimicrobial activity of hemolymph, the fluid equivalent of blood in the crustaceans. The results showed that the number of different species of bacteria and the abundance of bacteria in general were lower in warmer water, but being in cooler water didn't increase the diversity of bacteria significantly. Temperature wasn't solely responsible for the death of diseased lobsters, and some bacteria were found on all shells regardless of health status. However, several bacteria were prevalent on healthy lobster shells but missing or less abundant on diseased shells, which could indicate that shell-disease could cause the loss of a bacteria with a symbiotic relationship to lobster health. "Living for almost a year in tanks with warmer water decreased the number of different types of bacteria on lobster shells, but the ones that remained grew better in the lab. We were surprised to find that the lobsters living in tanks with colder water, which was the optimal temperature for lobsters, did not bring the shell bacterial community back to the diverse level it had been when we first caught these lobsters in the ocean," Ishaq says. Ishaq conducted the study with scientists from several different departments on campus, including M. Scarlett Tudor, education and outreach coordinator at the UMaine Aquaculture Research Institute (ARI); Deborah Bouchard, director of ARI; Heather Hamlin, director of the School of Marine Sciences; and Jean MacRae, associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. The research team also included Sarah Turner, Ph.D. candidate in aquaculture and aquatic resources, and Grace Lee, a former Bowdoin College undergraduate who had been participating in the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program. "Having a team with so many different areas of expertise helped us look at this complicated problem from multiple angles, and in addition to generating useful knowledge for the Maine community we were able to include student trainees who will be the next generation of interdisciplinary researchers," Ishaq says. The study is now published in iScience, and became available online April 8, 2023. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Intermedia MFA Thesis Exhibition 'no wear special' opens May 19

01 May 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated on May 10. University of Maine Intermedia Programs will host its Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition, "no wear special," from May 19–June 30 in the Lord Hall Art Gallery. A public opening reception will be held from 5–7 p.m. on May 19. This year's showcase will feature the works of four MFA students: Lia Davido, Walter Greenleaf, Thomas Griffith and Adam Ku¨ykendall. Davido's work includes participatory art created during events held on campus over the spring semester, which critically examines the current death culture in the U.S. Greenleaf's textile art highlights the principle of resource upcycling and focuses on textile management as a function of community health and social well-being. Griffith's installation of a threshold between the gallery and virtual worlds is meant to provoke thought and emotion, while challenging how the viewer sees the world around them from another angle. Ku¨ykendall's work, an online film, explores themes and elements that embody identity, connection and impact from the point of view of the detached outsider. "The Intermedia program is home to interdisciplinary students working in a wide variety of media, and this group is no exception," says Susan Smith, graduate coordinator for Internmedia Programs. "These students' research and creative production examines the world of virtual space and identity, non-linear narrative, our relationship with end-of-life, and notions of gift economy/recycle and exchange." Also on display in Lord Hall Art Gallery will be an exhibit titled "Activating Art & Science." The works are the result of transdisciplinary collaborations between the School of Forest Resources and the Process Development Center. "We are excited to share these projects as Intermedia Programs is committed to practice-based research, and art going beyond the studio and into the world," Smith says.

Times Record shares McCarty talk at Freeport Community Center

01 May 2023

The Times Record noted that Kate McCarty, food systems professional at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will present about food preservation methods at 6:30 p.m. on May 17 at the Freeport Community Center as part of the Freeport Community Services and Balsam Realty lecture series.

BDN shares 2023 UMaine Climate Change workshop

01 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine will host the second annual Climate Change Workshop, titled "Communicating Climate Change Science," July 10–19. This two-day online professional development program, developed in partnership by the UMaine Climate Change Institute and Division of Lifelong Learning, will feature keynote talks and interactive sessions on interdisciplinary climate change topics, led by experts from the CCI and University of Maine at Farmington. For program and registration details, visit the Summer University website.

Watertown Daily Times quotes Lilley about sugaring season

01 May 2023

The Watertown Daily Times quoted Jason Lilley, assistant Extension professor of sustainable agriculture and maple industry educator with University of

Maine Cooperative Extension, about this year's sugaring season. Lilley said in a U.S. Department of Agriculture news release that climate change was to blame for the early start of the season. "If we were experiencing this in a single season, I would say that it's just a result of an abnormally warm winter. However, this has been a widely recognized trend among the maple industry over several seasons," Lilley said in the release. Yahoo! News shared the Watertown Daily Times report.

BDN, Z107.3 note bird watching opportunities at UMaine

01 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Z107.3 shared information about two bird watching walks hosted by the Penobscot Valley chapter of Maine Audubon that will take place at the University of Maine. The first will take place at 8 a.m. on Thursday, May 25, starting at the Arboretum in the parking lot between the Versant Power Astronomy Center and the Jordan Planetarium and Observatory. The second will take place at 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 27, along the UMaine bike path, starting at Old Town Elementary School. The BDN noted that bird watchers have a good chance of spotting rails during the May 25 bird walk.

Dill speaks to PPH about ticks reemerging

01 May 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, about the reemergence of ticks in New England after a "slow start" at the beginning of the season. "I don't expect we will have a lower season overall, just a slightly slower start to the season. There are a myriad of factors that could negate this slow start, so it's hard to say whether one slightly later start to the spring is going to noticeably impact tick populations," Dill said. The Sun Journal, CentralMaine.com and Yahoo! News shared the Press Herald report.

WABI reports on UMaine launching Maine College of Engineering and Computing

01 May 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine has launched the Maine College of Engineering and Computing. "Engineering historically has always been leading change. And that [is] because every time that you take a problem, and you find a solution for that problem, you have changed the world and so that is really what we are trying to enable," said Giovanna Guidoboni, dean of the Maine College of Engineering and Computing.

Handley speaks to BDN about extreme weather impacting plants

01 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to David Handley, vegetable and small fruit specialist and cooperating professor of horticulture at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the impact of extreme temperature swings and weather on plants. "This time of year the buds are like coiled springs and with any warm weather they will break dormancy and explode out. We want them to slow down because we still have the likelihood for a killing frost and it's going to come down to what the next three weeks look like," Handley said. WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) and WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

Fernandez, Klein speak to Maine Monitor about heat pumps

01 May 2023

The Maine Monitor featured Ivan Fernandez, professor at the School of Forest Resources and Climate Change Institute, and Sharon Klein, associate professor at the School of Economics, in an article about the push for heat pumps and weatherization in Maine homes. "Everything we do, every increment we do, counts. I think we need to do this transition in a relatively quick way, recognizing that it will be imperfect, and spending a good part of our focus on realistic, data-driven, science-driven tracking of where we are at, so we're not telling ourselves fables that aren't substantiated by the science," Fernandez said. "There are communities who really do have the need to fund heat pumps beyond what Efficiency Maine is providing. Because there's still that last piece of it where money still needs to be put up, and some people don't have that money," Klein said. The Penobscot Bay Pilot and Energy News Network shared the Maine Monitor report.

Media cover Williams Hall dedication ceremony

01 May 2023

News Center Maine, WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported on the dedication ceremony of Williams Hall, formerly known as C. C. Little Hall. The Hall was named after Beryl Warner Williams, a Bangor native and the first Black woman to obtain a degree in mathematics at the University of Maine in 1935. "When Beryl Warner Williams' name came to the foreground and we were able to look at her extraordinary time at the University of Maine and beyond, the absolute commitment that she has had across her life to social justice, to equity, to making a difference for all people — I couldn't have found a better suggestion for this nomination," said University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy.

UMaine 2023 commencement ceremonies are May 5–6

02 May 2023

The University of Maine's 2023 commencement ceremonies for graduate and undergraduate students will be May 5–6 at Harold Alfond Sports Arena. The Graduate School Commencement begins at 4 p.m. May 5, featuring an address by Suzanne Ortega, president of the Council of Graduate Schools. An estimated 424 graduate students are expected to be on hand to receive advanced degrees, including 37 doctoral candidates. This year's ceremony, which will be livestreamed, will recognize the Graduate School's centennial anniversary. On May 6, 1,660 undergraduates are expected to participate in the 221st commencement ceremonies at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., with a total of nearly 10,000 expected to attend. The Saturday ceremonies are ticketed events. Both

ceremonies will be livestreamed, with additional on-campus viewing in the North Pod of Memorial Union. The morning ceremony on Saturday is for students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, College of Education and Human Development, Maine Business School and the Division of Lifelong Learning. The afternoon ceremony is for students in the College of Engineering and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. Alumna and retired U.S. ambassador Anne Hall will address the two undergraduate ceremonies and honorary degree recipient Carl Wieman, Nobel Prize-winning physicist and educator, will be recognized. Mechanical engineering major Lara Chern of Bow, New Hampshire is the 2023 University of Maine valedictorian. UMaine's two 2023 salutatorians are Mikayla Reynolds of Winslow, Maine, a double major in business management and marketing, and biomedical engineering major Zoe Vittum of Brewer, Maine. A news release about all of them is online. This year's 12 Outstanding Graduating Students are expected to attend their respective ceremonies on Saturday. The 2023 Distinguished Maine Professor, Roberto Lopez-Anido, the Malcolm G. Long '32 Professor of Civil Engineering, will address graduates at all three commencement ceremonies. In addition, at each ceremony, the 2023 Presidential Award winners will be recognized: Sally Molloy, associate professor of genomics, the Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award; Ali Abedi, professor of electrical and computer engineering, the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award; and Catharine Biddle, associate professor of educational leadership, the Presidential Public Engagement Achievement Award. Gregory Porter, professor of agronomy, is the inaugural recipient of the Presidential Innovation Award. UMaine's regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, will hold its 112th commencement ceremony at 11 a.m. on May 5 for 75 graduates. The ticketed event will be livestreamed, with two additional viewing areas available on campus — Science 102 and the Reynolds Center conference room. No tickets are required in the livestream viewing venues. A news release about UMaine Machias commencement is online. Tips for attending all commencement ceremonies are online. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

High Tunnel Workshop at Tidewater Farm May 8

02 May 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is holding a High Tunnel Workshop from 4–5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 8 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm in Falmouth. This detailed, hands-on workshop will teach techniques for building a structurally sound high tunnel. Topics discussed will include how to plan for success by squaring the site, setting ground posts and assembling the bows. Much of the workshop will focus on how to install baseboards and ends walls, and the different materials available. Registration is required and can be done online. The program fee is offered on a sliding scale from $0-$10 per person. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the event website or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

Concord Monitor publishes appreciation for Ngo Vinh Long

02 May 2023

The Concord Monitor published an opinion piece expressing appreciation of Ngo Vinh Long, a former professor of history at the University of Maine who died October 2022 after a brief illness.

BDN cites UMaine Extension in guide to fiddleheads

02 May 2023

In a guide to foraging and preparing fiddleheads, the Bangor Daily News cited recipes using fiddleheads from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

Wiscasset Newspaper shares Ranco talk at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens

02 May 2023

Wiscasset Newspaper shared that Darren Ranco, professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, will moderate a panel discussion 7-8:30 p.m. May 13 at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. The talk will feature six Wabanaki leaders discussing a growing movement to center Indigenous knowledge and leadership in conservation work.

Registration open for Summer Technology Institute for educators

02 May 2023

Education professionals are invited to attend a three-day virtual conference Aug. 1–3 sponsored by the University of Maine System's collaborative instructional technology program. The theme of this year's annual event is "Embracing Inquiry, Diversity, and Growth: Innovations in Education." The institute features speakers, workshops, plenary work sessions, networking opportunities and more. "The Summer Technology Institute is a unique opportunity to network with colleagues and explore important issues offered through our workshops," says Donna Karno, instructional technology program coordinator and professor of early childhood education at the University of Maine at Farmington. "Participants are from throughout New England and beyond, allowing for a rich exchange of ideas and a chance to meet new people." This year's conference has three plenary sessions featuring leaders in the field of educational technology: Emma-Marie Banks, Learning Through Technology Coordinator for the Maine Department of Education; Carla Jefferson, Principal of Darlington Virtual Academy in Darlington, South Carolina; and Aaron Schorn, Head of Community and Growth at Unrulr, an education technology company based in Honolulu, Hawaii, focusing on building community. The Summer Technology Institute is part of a three-credit course offered through the instructional technology graduate program, a partnership between the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, the University of Maine at Farmington and the University of Southern Maine, with instructors based at all three campuses. Courses are delivered remotely via UMaineOnline. Participants can also attend the institute for professional development and earn 25 contact hours or 2.5 continuing education units (CEUs). Last year, 65 pre-K–12 teachers, higher education instructors and other professionals took advantage of this dynamic learning experience. "The most valuable aspect of this course was the opportunity we had to communicate and collaborate with our peers," says Robert Hickey, a 2022 participant and pre-K–12 technology integration specialist. "Being able to get the perspective of someone who holds the same position in a different school or state is eye-opening and really helped solidify my drive and passion for the work I do." More information about the 2023 Summer Technology Institute, including registration options, is available online.

Brooke Camire and Cherylan Demers: Mother and daughter sharing 2023 Commencement

02 May 2023

Brooke Camire has always loved spending time with her mother, Cherylan Demers. Now, the mother and daughter duo will have a new memory to share: University of Maine commencement. In fall 2020, Demers decided that she wanted to pursue a master's degree in social work after working in the field for almost 30 years. She wanted to pursue more advanced opportunities, perhaps by opening her own practice for working professional women in helping professions, or someday teaching at the university level. UMaine's three-year hybrid program, with its cohort of other working adults and field experience opportunities, was perfect for her. Demers could complete the majority of the program from her home in Sanford, with twice-semesterly visits to the UMaine campus. "I always wanted to do it and the timing was right," Demers says. "UMaine has really good options for adult learners who are also working full time. It was a good match for my lifestyle and where I'm at." As an added bonus, her older daughter, Summer Camire, was finishing her engineering degree and youngest, Brooke Camire, was a sophomore at UMaine. Demers' daughters were part of her inspiration to pursue her masters degree in the first place. "They're so smart and they have a lot of the qualities that I've had inside me that I never had the confidence to do," Demers says. "In social work, you study social justice and policy. That's something that I've seen the girls have a passion for. It's made me want to learn more." The Camire sisters were thrilled to have their mom on campus, too. Summer graduated in spring 2021, but Brooke got to spend more time with her mom in Orono, going out to lunch, having "sleepovers," trips to Acadia, getting into "shenanigans" — and, of course, helping each other with their coursework. "I think for me, both being students here has definitely brought us closer," Camire says. "It gives us a shared bond. I'll be like, 'Mom, can you review this essay?' And she'll be like, 'Yeah, can you review mine?' It's been really great seeing my mom in action as a student." "I've always watched Brooke shine. It's kind of nice to get to shine next to her," Demers says. "She's just amazing." Camire does have to work to fit her mom into her busy schedule, though. She was social media and marketing chair of Her Campus for two years, and now serves as the treasurer of Women in Economics and a teaching assistant in the School of Economics. Camire is also a research assistant studying water insecurity in rural indigenous communities in the Arctic. This past summer, she traveled to Greenland to study freshwater security for sheep farmers experiencing drought. Camire notes that she grew up with an intrinsic value for education and community service, given her father and brothers careers as teachers, paired with her mothers passion for helping others. Mother and daughter also share a penchant for academic excellence. Demers is a member of the UMaine chapter of Phi Alpha National honor society. Her degree was supported in part by a $10,000 scholarship from the School of Social Work's Rural Integrated Behavioral Health in Primary Care Project as well as $2,000 from the John M. Romanyshyn Student Support Fund. Camire, a member of the UMaine chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, her mother notes proudly, will also graduate debt-free because of her academic scholarships. In May, Camire will graduate with a double major in political science and economics with a minor in climate science with the goal of working in sustainable development and resource management. The day before Camire walks across the stage at the undergraduate ceremony, Demers will graduate with her master's in social work. "I think it's unique that we're going to graduate together," Demers says. "For me this is just the end of my journey, but it's fun to see where she's at and all the options and the things she dreams about." Demers will be the first person in their family to receive a postgraduate degree, but Camire will follow in her mom's footsteps once more. In the fall, she will attend graduate school at the University of Southern Maine for a master's in policy, planning and management with a community planning and sustainable development concentration. Her sister Summer is now pursuing an MBA at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, too. "For me, that makes it feel a lot less daunting," Brooke says. "I'm about to start my masters degree, as well as working full time, and to know that my mom has accomplished that while also being a mom, I'm like, 'Oh, I can definitely do this.' I think she's really a trailblazer for our family as both Summer and I continue our journey in academia." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

BDN shares UMaine 2023 Commencement information

03 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine's 2023 Commencement ceremonies for graduate and undergraduate students will be May 5–6 at Harold Alfond Sports Arena. Tips for attending all commencement ceremonies are online.

Mount Desert Islander boosts Kids Can Grow program

03 May 2023

The Mount Desert Islander boosted the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's and Maine Coast Heritage Trust's Kids Can Grow youth gardening program for kids ages 7–12 who live on Mount Desert Island or in surrounding towns. Register online by May 12.

BDN features 'Jonesy,' retiring equipment manager at UMaine

03 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News featured retiring University of Maine equipment manager Steve Jones. Jones, 62, retired on Sunday after spending 43 years as an equipment manager at UMaine.

LeClair featured on 'Maine Calling' about protecting wildlife in road crossings

03 May 2023

Maine Public's radio program "Maine Calling" featured Greg LeClair, Ph.D. student in ecology and environmental sciences, at the University of Maine and coordinator of Maine Big Night, as a panelist on a show about protecting wildlife crossing the road.

Two conferences in May will celebrate literacy across the lifespan

04 May 2023

The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development will host a pair of conferences this month that highlight the many ways its Literacy, Language and Culture programs support schools and communities throughout the state. On May 12, the annual Literacy Connections Conference will return following a three-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is also the first year that UMaine will be hosting the conference, which was previously organized by the Maine Department of Education and the Barbara Bush Foundation. This year's event will be held at the Collins Center for the Arts and

Memorial Union. The theme is “No Bad Days: Returning to the Joy in Teaching,” and the conference will feature workshops and talks on literacy initiatives for early childhood, elementary, middle and high school-aged students, as well as adult and family literacy, community literacy planning and other general literacy topics. “The Literacy Connections Conference is for anyone with an interest in any aspect of literacy from birth to adulthood,” says conference organizer Susan Bennett-Armistead, UMaine associate professor of literacy. “We’re thrilled to be bringing it back and to welcome everyone to Orono to celebrate literacy in all its forms.” Jeff Wilhelm, founding director of the Maine Writing Project and currently distinguished professor of English education at Boise State University, will deliver the Literacy Connections keynote speech, “Planning Powerful Instruction: 7 Must-Make Moves of Transformative Teaching and Learning.” Several UMaine faculty members and graduate students are also scheduled to deliver workshops on topics including visual literacy, outdoor learning and journal writing. More information about the conference is online. The College of Education and Human Development will also host the 7th Annual Suzanne W. Cole Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Institute, May 18 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. The institute will feature a keynote speech by Betsy Kaye, associate professor in the Department of Reading at Texas Woman’s University, where she also serves as a Reading Recovery trainer. The event will also include a celebration of the Cole Family Foundation, which for more than 25 years provided grants to school districts in Maine to allow educators to receive training and professional development from UMaine experts in Reading Recovery and other literacy intervention programs aimed at K–12 students. The institute brings Reading Recovery teachers from across the state together. Melanie Ellsworth, an original Reading Recovery teacher leader in Maine, will be the guest speaker at lunch and will speak to 30 Years of Reading Recovery in the state. More information about the institute is online.

Meisler exhibits open at UMaine Zillman Art Museum May 19

04 May 2023

The University of Maine Zillman Art Museum in downtown Bangor will open two exhibits featuring the work artist Meryl Meisler, an American photographer known for documenting New York City life in the 1970s and 1980s, on May 19. “Meryl Meisler: 70s Suburban Sensibilities — Friends & Family,” features Meisler’s photographs of family life in 1970s suburban homes. The images in the series are steeped in humor, with Meisler’s lively friends and colorful family members photographed amid the over-the-top interior decor prevalent in many 1970s suburban homes. According to Meisler, “My parents and their friends were fun-loving, adventurous people. Like many victims of centuries of bigotry and oppression, the Jewish people might have developed a strong sense of humor as a survival mechanism.” The exhibit will be open until Aug. 19. “Meryl Meisler: Nightlife NYC, 1977–2024” is a series in which she immersed herself in the New York City nightlife scene to photograph the revelry and hedonism of its partygoers. In the 1970s and early 1980s, Meisler photographed fashionable late night revelers at legendary clubs like Studio 54, Copacabana, Paradise Garage, Hurrah, Xenon, GG’s Barnum Room and CBGB. Meisler’s monogamous relationship and full-time art teaching job, as well as the onset of the AIDS epidemic, prompted her to slow down her foray into nightlife culture around 1981. A 2014 encounter at the drag and burlesque bar BIZARRE in Bushwick, however, inspired her to document the new scene, which emphasized inclusion, costumed spectacles and over-the-top revelry. The exhibit will be open until Sept. 2. The Zillman Art Museum, located at 40 Harlow St., is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday–Saturday. Admission is free this year thanks to the generosity of Birchbrook.

Migratory bird walks to be held at Orono Bog Boardwalk May 13 and 20

04 May 2023

Two migratory bird walks will take place at the Orono Bog Boardwalk at 7 a.m. on May 13 and 20. Adrienne Leppold, state songbird specialist with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife and UMaine alumna, will lead the first bird walk on May 13. Brian Olsen, professor of ornithology at the UMaine School of Biology and Ecology, will lead the other walk May 20. Both walks meet at the Tripp Drive parking lot in the Bangor City Forest. Please register by emailing james.bird@maine.edu, and provide a phone number in case of cancellation.

‘The Maine Question’ asks how nature-inspired engineering can improve human health

04 May 2023

Antibiotic resistance has become a growing problem in the treatment of bacterial infections. In addition to minimizing or negating the effects of existing medicine, these antibiotic-resistant bacteria, or “superbugs,” are mutating faster than the development of new remedies. Caitlin Howell, University of Maine associate professor of biomedical engineering, is working on new tools that take notes from nature to combat antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Like the body’s living tissues, Howell’s devices use nontoxic, non-invasive surface-based technology to prevent bacteria from sticking, growing, and spreading. In the final episode of season eight of “The Maine Question” podcast, Howell discusses how nature can inspire engineers when developing new resources for improving human health. She elaborates on her research developing technology that can help reduce infections among hospital patients. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or “The Maine Question” website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Mayewski featured on Tim Talk discussing health impacts of climate change

04 May 2023

Paul Mayewski, professor and director of the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute, was featured on Northern Light Health’s podcast Tim Talk discussing the impact of climate change on human health with Northern Light Health president and CEO Tim Dentry.

Schwartz-Mette cited in Psychology Today in article about conversation self-focus

04 May 2023

An article in Psychology Today about conversation self-focus, the tendency for some people to consistently turn conversations to focus on themselves, cited the research of Rebecca Schwartz-Mette, associate professor of clinical and developmental psychology.

UMaine School of Nursing receives $550K for graduate scholarships

04 May 2023

The University of Maine School of Nursing received a $550,000 grant from the Helene Fuld Health Trust for scholarships to support students enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program, the largest gift that the UMaine School of Nursing has ever received. Established in 1951, the Helene Fuld Health Trust aims to support and promote the health, welfare and education of student nurses, primarily through financial aid to nursing students in the MSN program. In the first year, $50,000 will be immediately available for scholarship support and $200,000 will establish the endowment. In the second and third years, $30,000 will be awarded to students and another $120,000 each year will be added to the endowment. "This award from the Helene Fuld Health Trust is vitally important to the future of the UMaine School of Nursing because the Trust is providing both short-term and long-term support for nursing students," says Jeff Mills, University of Maine Foundation President and CEO. "Immediate scholarships over the next three academic years will be available for master's students who will, upon graduation, be qualified to teach future nursing students. Because more than $400,000 of the award will be endowed at the University of Maine Foundation, distributions from that endowment will provide scholarships in perpetuity for future students in the Master of Science in Nursing program." The UMaine School of Nursing offers one of the university's most sought-after degree programs, receiving upward of 1,400 applications for approximately 80 seats available in the fall semesters of the past five years. Meanwhile, Maine faces a severe shortfall of registered nurses, aggravated by the fact that only 8.7% of Registered Nurses in the state have earned a Master of Science in Nursing at a time when advanced practice nurses are in high demand. All 15 of Maine's Schools of Nursing need master's-prepared nurses to provide didactic, clinical, and laboratory instruction to nursing students. The critical shortage of qualified faculty further limits their ability to produce nurses for Maine's workforce. "The need for nurses is increasing at an alarming rate, and this funding will enable our School of Nursing to accelerate the number of master's-prepared nurses. This will help address the critical nursing faculty shortage Maine is experiencing," says Kathryn Robinson, associate director and assistant professor of the UMaine School of Nursing. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Warming waters could make bass more aggressive toward salmon, UMaine study finds

04 May 2023

Non-native smallmouth bass are more aggressive toward endangered juvenile Atlantic salmon and more voraciously eat local food supplies at higher temperatures, according to a University of Maine study. As a result of warming waters, more non-native warmwater fish species are invading watershed habitats, disrupting local freshwater food webs and competing with native species for limited resources. The combination of the two can be deadly for endangered fish in Maine, particularly the Atlantic salmon, which, in addition to their intrinsic value, is important to regional Indigenous cultures, recreation opportunities and the health of freshwater ecosystems in the state. Nicole Ramberg-Pihl led a team of researchers during her Ph.D. in ecology and environmental sciences at the University of Maine in an experiment to observe the interaction between Atlantic salmon and smallmouth bass at different temperatures. The scientists collected fish from rivers and hatcheries across Maine and put them in tanks at the Aquaculture Research Center — some segregated by species, and others combined — at two different temperatures, 18 and 21 degrees Celsius, and filmed the fishes' behavior. In reviewing the footage, the researchers found that salmon ate less in the presence of smallmouth bass in general, but ate even less at the higher temperature, 21 degrees Celsius. They also observed that smallmouth bass were most aggressive at 21 degrees Celsius, particularly when there were salmon present. "Our cameras provided a top-down view of the experimental tanks and this allowed us to observe aggressive interactions, such as chases (where a fish swims after another) and charges (where a fish quickly darts toward another) between individuals of both species at 18 and 21 degrees Celsius. We observed increased levels of aggression in smallmouth bass when salmon were present and when water temperature was higher," says Ramberg-Pihl. These findings illustrate the potential for invasive species like smallmouth bass to outcompete native salmonids for resources, especially under the warmer conditions predicted with climate change. The results could inform conservation efforts of the endangered Atlantic salmon in Maine. "We found that bass are bullies when it is hot," says Ramberg-Pihl. "Not only are factors such as temperature and food availability important for salmon performance, but smallmouth bass could outcompete Atlantic salmon in warmer temperature scenarios." The study was published in the journal Ecology and Freshwater Fish on March 22, 2023. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Tardy receives 2023 Black Bear Award for Extraordinary Impact

04 May 2023

James Tardy, the lead facilities maintenance worker for the University of Maine athletics complex, is the recipient of the 2023 Black Bear Award for Extraordinary Impact. The annual award, established in 2021, recognizes an individual or group at UMaine that exceeds expectations, contributes positively to the university community and makes an extraordinary impact through their efforts. Tardy has been a member of the UMaine community since 1974. For the past two decades, he has supported the custodial and event logistics needs of UMaine Athletics. As a lead facilities maintenance worker, Tardy is responsible for coordinating all planned custodial tasks and responding to related needs in the athletics complex. He also provides behind-the-scenes support for athletics programs. Countless members of the UMaine Athletics community appreciate Tardy's dedication to and passion for supporting student-athletes and Black Bear Nation events and programs. He is known for "taking ownership of his area," ensuring that any operational- or maintenance-based needs are addressed. That includes ensuring high standards are met during community use of athletics facilities for such critical events as commencement. Tardy is considered the knowledgeable, reliable go-to person for UMaine athletics facilities maintenance. He is organized, customer-focused and student-centered, and "takes pride in doing his part to help make Maine the university we all know it can be." Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

CEO Magazine ranks MaineMBA as a top tier global MBA program

05 May 2023

CEO Magazine has ranked the University of Maine's online MBA as a Top Tier program for the fifth consecutive year, with the UMaine Graduate School of Business ranking No. 31 globally. "The CEO Magazine ranking shows that the MaineMBA program is among the top online MBA programs in the world," says Norm O'Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business. "The emphasis on quality of faculty that CEO Magazine uses in this ranking speaks clearly to the incredible professors we have from the University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine who teach in our MaineMBA program. Bringing together business faculty within the University of Maine System to form the Graduate School of Business enables the incredible growth we have seen in the MaineMBA." CEO Magazine has been showcasing top business schools from around the globe since it first launched in 2008. In 2012, the publication launched its annual Global MBA Rankings, profiling MBA, Executive MBA, and Online MBA programs. This year, CEO Magazine contacted business schools across North America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa and ranked data from 121 schools. Using a ranking system entirely geared and weighted toward fact-based criteria, CEO Magazine aims to cut through the noise and provide potential students with a

performance benchmark for those schools under review. The complete CEO Magazine 2023 Global MBA Rankings can be found here: bit.ly/CEOMagRankings2023.

UMaine Extension's annual Master Gardener plant sale scheduled for May 27

05 May 2023

The 28th annual University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Plant Sale in Cumberland County will be held from 8 a.m.–noon. Saturday, May 27 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm in Falmouth. UMaine Extension Master Gardener Volunteers will be on hand to assist in selecting plants that best meet individual needs and to answer questions on how to care for them. Selections include native and pollinator plants, organic vegetable and herb seedlings, perennials, shrubs and annuals. Gently used gardening items, tickets to enter the annual Master Gardener Calendar Raffle and bags of local compost will also be available for purchase. There also will be vermiculture and peat-free alternative demonstrations, as well as a tour of the gardens at Tidewater Farm. Proceeds from the plant sale and calendar raffle support the group's seed grant program for community projects, which rely on Master Gardeners' expertise and volunteer time. These projects are found in communities across Cumberland County and include large undertakings such as demonstration gardens, Maine Harvest for Hunger initiatives, therapeutic gardens, school gardens, youth programs and more. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program website or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.781.6099.

UMaine CRSF announces final 2023 AMC Research Forests Webinar and Field Tour

05 May 2023

The University of Maine's Center for Research on Sustainable Forests (CRSF) will host the final event of its 2022–23 Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) Research Forests Webinar and Field Tour series on May 10 and 12. The program theme will be Climate & Carbon Friendly Forest Management, with panelists from the AMC's research team: David Publicover, AMC forest ecologist and senior staff scientist; Sarah Nelson, director of research; Steve Tatko, director of Maine conservation and land management; and Carolyn Ziegra, research forester. The webinar will be held from noon–1 p.m. on May 10. The field tour will take place on May 12, departing from Orono around 7:15 a.m. and returning around 4:30 p.m. The field tour will cover a variety of sites on AMC's Pleasant River Forestlands, including stops covering fish passage restoration project; ecological reserve in the Silver Maple Floodplain Forest; carbon project on the Silver Lake property; Wabanaki cultural use permits; PCT and sensor site; precommercial thinning; deer yard management and shelterwood systems. For more information and to register, visit the CRSF website.

Charney book 'These Trees Tell a Story' to publish May 16

05 May 2023

Noah Charney, assistant professor of conservation biology at the University of Maine, authored a new book titled "These Trees Tell a Story: The Art of Reading Landscapes" that will be published on May 16 by Yale University Press. Framed by a series of interactive field walks through ten New England ecosystems, "These Trees Tell a Story: The Art of Reading Landscapes," invites readers to see the world through the eyes of a trained naturalist. Charney ties together geology, forest ecology, wildlife biology, soil processes, evolution, conservation and more, and shows how and why landscapes appear in their current forms. With guided questions, immersive photography and a narrative approach, Charney reveals the landscapes' respective complexities, uncovering millions of years of forces at play. For more information, including available images for media use and book trailers, visit the book's website.

Republican Journal shares Pike being named 2023 Outstanding Graduating Student

05 May 2023

The Republican Journal reported that Aiden Pike of Searsmont, Maine is one of 12 undergraduates who have been named 2023 Outstanding Graduating Students at the University of Maine. Pike is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture. He is a double major in biochemistry, and molecular and cellular biology, with minors in French and chemistry.

BDN shares UMaine study about warming waters making bass more aggressive to salmon

05 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared a University of Maine study showing that non-native smallmouth bass are more aggressive toward endangered juvenile Atlantic salmon and more voraciously eat local food supplies at higher temperatures. These findings illustrate the potential for invasive species like smallmouth bass to outcompete native salmonids for resources, especially under the warmer conditions predicted with climate change.

PenBay Pilot highlights Belfast Area High School field trip to Hudson Museum

05 May 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot reported that Belfast Area High School students in Chip Lagerbom's Archaeology class recently visited the University of Maine Hudson Museum and explored its collection of Pre-Columbian and Wabanaki artifacts. A guided tour was provided as students learned of the material culture of early Mainers.

Dill speaks to BDN about crane flies

05 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, for an article about invasive crane flies. "It showed up a few years ago on coastal islands and can be a fairly serious lawn pest. They do lay some eggs in turf or grass and the larvae eat the foliage and roots," Dill said. WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

WABI features Local Foods Cooking Challenge

05 May 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) featured the the Innovative Local Foods Cooking Challenge hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture. The 11 Maine high school students who competed were introduced to their market basket, brainstormed ideas and then had an hour and a half to complete their dish. “If we get these students thinking about this when they’re the high school age and we get the instructors thinking about it, you know this is the future of Maine’s hospitality workforce, these are our next [restaurateurs], these are our next chefs. To have them thinking about being proud of where they live and the foods that their state produces, I think is the perfect time for that,” said Robert Dumas, food science innovation coordinator at UMaine.

Food Technology Magazine names Skonberg a food system changemaker

05 May 2023

Food Technology Magazine featured Denise Skonberg, a professor of food science at the University of Maine, in an article about five people who have made an impact on the global food system. Skonberg was recognized for her research that advances the sustainability of seafood and kelp, both by reducing food waste and innovating new products, like a savory fish-sauce style condiment made from invasive green crabs. “We’re at the forefront of the ‘eat the invader’ movement,” Skonberg said.

PNAS ‘Science Sessions Podcast’ features Ortega Jiménez research on springtails

05 May 2023

The ”Science Sessions Podcast” interviewed Victor Ortega Jiménez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology and biomechanics at the University of Maine, about his springtail research for a story about biologically-inspired robots. Ortega Jiménez led the project while at Georgia Tech with researchers in the Bhamla Lab and the Koh Lab at Ajou University in South Korea. The podcast, a production of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), the world's most-cited multidisciplinary peer-reviewed journal, also featured other biomechanics experts for the story.

MaggieBeth Turcotte Seavey: Research that’s out of this world

08 May 2023

MaggieBeth Turcotte Seavey always had dreams that went beyond this planetary sphere — and the University of Maine has been helping her achieve them. This summer, she will complete her fifth internship at NASA, where she will continue an impressive body of work that includes exoplanets research, instrumentation analysis and advocating for diverse voices in science. As a child, Turcotte Seavey says she was endlessly curious, if a bit escapist. She went through phases of obsessions, from Parisian life to ancient Egyptology. Astronomy was the one that stuck. “With our great night skies up here, my eyes just gravitated up,” Turcotte Seavey says. “I loved looking at the stars and the constellations. Children are the best scientists with their curiosity.” Turcotte Seavey grew up in Bangor, so UMaine has “always been familiar” to her. She has gone to UMaine hockey games “ever since [she] was born” and attended Maine Summer Youth Music Camp. She even conducted astronomy research on campus in the physics department during high school, where she mistakenly thought she had discovered an exoplanet, only to discover through summer research at Harvard University that it was a false positive — one that, nevertheless, fanned the flames of her passion for astronomy. After receiving a scholarship to the University of Maine through the Maine State Science Fair in 2018, she says UMaine was “a natural decision.” After her freshman year, Turcotte Seavey received a prestigious summer internship at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center outside of Washington, D.C., where she worked on troubleshooting data collection from spectrometer instruments. She had a magical summer, attending the 50th anniversary celebration of the Apollo 11 moon landing at the Kennedy Center — featuring the National Symphony Pops, astronaut Michael Collins and performer Pharell Williams — and living outside of Maine for the first time in her life. But back in Orono, Turcotte Seavey had some things to figure out. She had been studying physics, which she thought at the time would be the closest thing to astronomy, but had a nagging feeling it wasn’t right for her goal of researching exoplanets, planetary bodies orbiting stars outside of our solar system. On top of that, she failed Calculus II (which at the time was devastating, though she now knows that “math isn’t everything” when it comes to doing good science). The anxiety surrounding COVID derailed her, too. Turcotte Seavey took a semester’s leave of absence in 2021 in order to get back on track. After having time to reflect and recharge, Turcotte Seavey realized that UMaine’s programs at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences would be a better fit for her interest in exoplanets. She said that her academic advisers Alice Doughty and Katharine Allen have been especially helpful in navigating the academic switch. “They have been such incredible supporters of me with my journey through the sciences and the support has been immense; it means a lot,” Turcotte Seavey says. “It’s also really awesome to have women mentors, especially in the physical sciences. There are very few women in the field, so to be able to get advice from them is completely invaluable.” Turcotte Seavey admits that it’s been hard to watch friends and her younger sister graduate before her, but she has had many experiences that she wouldn’t have otherwise. “It’s all part of the learning process,” Turcotte Seavey says. “Everyone's journey is unique. Mine took a little longer. It’ll get me truly I think to a better outcome at the end by doing it at my pace.” Even though she was happy where she ended up, Turcotte Seavey wasn’t sure she’d ever get back to NASA after her rough patch academically. This past summer, though, she saw an internship posting for a position working on the New Great Observatories, which will develop the next generation of space telescopes to gather data and images from space. Turcotte Seavey had attended a talk about the project on campus in 2019 that had captivated her. Despite her doubts, she couldn’t help but apply. Her enthusiasm for the project was contagious; NASA offered her the position. Turcotte Seavey spent the summer researching how to mitigate the impact of solar flares on data collection from astronomical space observatories at NASA Headquarters. She loved the research, of course, but she said the real highlight of her summer was going to a release event for the first images from the James Webb Space Telescope. “I cried,” Turcoutte Seavey laughs. “Whenever each image came up on the screen, it was dead silence in a room of a couple 100 science nerds and industry professionals, and then you would hear ‘wows’ and gasps of breaths. This telescope that I’m working on will come online at the end of the lifespan of the Webb telescope. My mentor has been working on the telescope since the 90s. To know it takes thousands of people decades to make it happen makes the great stuff that we get from it even more meaningful, especially for me.” When the summer ended, Turcotte Seavey asked if she could continue working remotely throughout the fall 2022 semester. Then, in the spring, she transitioned to working on a project focusing on diversity, equity and inclusion in review panels of research proposals, which she has seen the importance of as a woman in science. This January, Turcotte Seavey also presented her summer research about stellar variability at the American Astronomical Society winter meeting in Seattle. “I’m literally living the dream, and I’m not even out of college yet,” she says. Despite her out-of-this-world internship experiences, Turcotte Seavey is equally excited about some of the Earthly

experiences as she goes into her final year at UMaine. She has loved her geology courses so far — How to Build a Habitable Planet was especially up her alley — but is most excited about her capstone course ERS410: Sea-to-Sky Experience, where she will travel to Alaska and the Yukon this May to assist with ice core research. “What makes her special is her obvious enthusiasm for science — all kinds of science, everything from astronomy to glaciology to biology and everything in between,” says Karl Kreutz, professor and director of the School of Earth and Climate Sciences who leads the capstone project. “That is always a sure sign of a great researcher: someone who sees things from a systems perspective and is looking for connections and relationships that bind our world together.” Of course, Turcotte Seavey sees the connection between her terrestrial research and her future career studying space. “There’s ice everywhere,” Turcotte Seavey says. “We’ve even found water on exoplanets. Getting experience analyzing snow and ice will be useful when we are able to more directly observe those processes through the Habitable Worlds Observatory we’re developing at NASA.” She is also excited for the personal development that her last year at UMaine has to offer. “If you asked me a year ago what I would do in the upcoming year, my answer would have been very different from what actually happened,” Turcotte Seavey says. “What I'm most excited about next year is the stuff I don't know about yet. I’m excited to see the outcome of the work I'm doing.” Turcotte Seavey will graduate in May 2024 with a degree in earth science. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in astrophysics or planetary sciences. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Phys.org notes Bingham involvement in study about magnetic energy strings

08 May 2023

In an article about research into magnetic energy strings, Phys.org noted that Nicholas Bingham, assistant professor in the University of Maine Department of Physics and Astronomy, worked on the bottom-up fabrication of "artificial spin ice" structures made of interacting magnetic nano-islands while at Yale University.

BDN notes fund for UMaine nursing graduate school scholarships

08 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine School of Nursing received a $550,000 grant from the Helene Fuld Health Trust for scholarships to support students enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing program, the largest gift that the UMaine School of Nursing has ever received.

Sun Journal notes UMaine role in aerial mapping

08 May 2023

In an article about the production of aerial maps, the Sun Journal noted that original film rolls of aerial images originally performed by James W. Sewall for the cities of Lewiston and Auburn were borrowed from the Special Collections Department at Fogler Library, where they now reside. For more information, visit the Fogler Library website.

BDN shares Intermedia MFA graduate exhibit ‘no wear special’

08 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine Intermedia Programs will host its Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition, “no wear special,” from May 10 to June 30 in the Lord Hall Art Gallery. A public opening reception will be held from 5–7 p.m. on May 19.

Media share 2023 UMaine Commencement livestream

08 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News, WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor), Z107.3 and Q96.1 reported on the 2023 University of Maine Commencement ceremonies and shared the livestream.

Allan speaks to KOB 4 about anti-hazing laws

08 May 2023

Elizabeth Allan, a professor of higher education at the University of Maine, was interviewed by KOB 4 (Albuquerque, New Mexico) about New Mexico’s proposed anti-hazing laws. “I think we are seeing increased awareness about the potential harm from hazing and therefore, I think we’re seeing more interest in prevention,” Allan said.

Times Record boosts May 13 panel of Wabanki leaders moderated by Ranco

08 May 2023

The Times Record noted that Darren J. Ranco, associate professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, will moderate a panel on Saturday, May 13 at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, during which six Wabanaki leaders will discuss a growing movement to center Indigenous knowledge and leadership in conservation work.

BDN features impact of COVID-19 on graduating UMaine students

08 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News published a feature about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on graduating University of Maine students. “You are a pandemic class. Your academic journey was disrupted more than anyone could have imagined but you remained connected and here you are today,” UMaine President

Joan Ferrini-Mundy said at the commencement ceremonies.

Times Record features Nixon's aquaculture research and business

08 May 2023

The Times Record featured Matt Nixon, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine and owner Muddy River Farm Aquaponics, and his work in designing the world's first 3D-printed, closed-loop, oyster-farming tank made from sustainable materials, the prototype of which was printed at UMaine. "Muddy River farm is the first company in the state to use this business model, but I certainly won't be the last given the trajectory of our marine resources industry as a whole and the problems compounding all working waterfronts in the state. I look forward to many years working together to bring well-paying jobs, marine biotechnology and 3D manufacturing to the city," Nixon said.

Kaye speaks to Sun Journal about homelessness in older adults

08 May 2023

The Sun Journal interviewed Lenard Kaye, director of the University of Maine Center on Aging, about homelessness in older adults, those aged 65 and older, which is the fastest growing age group of homelessness in the country. With 50 people retiring every day in Maine, Kaye said the aging population here is increasing rapidly. Among that older population, those on a fixed income are particularly at risk of becoming homeless. "Preventing homelessness among older adults requires increasing significantly the supply of affordable and adaptive housing environments that provide not just a place to live but are enriched by providing supportive services that meet people's health, functional, and social support needs, and intervening with needed help prior to a crisis or emergency," Kaye said. CentralMaine.com and Yahoo! News shared the Sun Journal report.

Media feature 70-year-old UMaine graduate Cyrus

08 May 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor), WBZ-TV (CBS News in Boston) and WFSB-TV (Channel 3 in Hartford, Connecticut) featured John Cyrus, who graduated from the University of Maine at the age of 70 after numerous setbacks prevented him from getting his degree for over 50 years. KLTV (Tyler, Texas), WDBJ-TV (Roanoke, Virginia), WSMV-TV (Nashville, Tennessee), KNOP-TV (North Platte, Nebraska), KOTA-TV (Rapid City, South Dakota), WAVE-TV (Louisville, Kentucky), WCTV-TV (Tallahassee, Florida) and other outlets nationwide shared the WABI report. Yahoo! News and MSN shared the WBZ report.

UMaine students, faculty recognized by Maine Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

08 May 2023

University of Maine students and faculty of food science and human nutrition were recognized at the Maine Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' annual conference, "Nourishing Nutrition Professionals," on April 28 in Freeport, Maine. Jade McNamara, assistant professor of human nutrition, received the Outstanding Dietitian of the Year award, and Kayla Parsons, Ph.D. student in food and nutrition science, won the Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year award. UMaine undergraduate student Jennifer Spann and Amelia Sullivan, graduate student and dietetic intern, received Outstanding Dietetic Student awards.

Lincoln County News cites UMaine role in Waldoberry Farm

09 May 2023

In an article about Waldoberry Farm in Waldoboro, Lincoln County News noted that owner Sue Simpson developed her traditional medicine recipes with product testing assistance from the University of Maine.

Harpswell Anchor cites UMaine Extension native plant resources

09 May 2023

In an article about removing invasive plants, the Harpswell Anchor cited University of Maine Cooperative Extension as a resource for more information about native species that can be planted once invasive species have been eliminated.

BDN shares photos from UMaine graduation ceremonies

09 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News published a series of photographs taken at the 2023 University of Maine commencement ceremonies.

Michigan Radio notes UMaine role in Anishinaabe tribes whitefish hatchery

09 May 2023

Michigan Radio noted that a researcher from the University of Maine is working with the Anishinaabe tribe to investigate deformities in the fish of a whitefish hatchery in Michigan. Circle of Blue shared the Michigan Radio report.

Morning Ag Clips boosts UMaine Extension plant sale

09 May 2023

Morning Ag Clips shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Plant Sale in York County, which will be held from 8:30 a.m.–noon on Saturday, May 20. The plant sale will take place outside the UMaine Extension office in Springvale, 15 Oak St.

Dill featured on Maine Public show about ticks

09 May 2023

Griffin Dill, integrated pest management professional and coordinator of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, was a VIP caller on a segment of Maine Public's radio show "Maine Calling" about ticks, vector-borne diseases and what individuals can do to protect themselves against them.

News Center Maine cites UMaine Extension information about last frost

10 May 2023

In an article about the final frost in Maine, News Center Maine noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Cumberland County compiled a list of dates for the average last frost in several towns.

Media boost UMaine Extension Master Gardener plant sale in Falmouth

10 May 2023

The Sun Journal, the Forecaster and CentralMaine.com shared that the 28th annual University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Plant Sale will be held from 8 a.m.–noon May 27 at the UMaine gardens at Tidewater Farm in Falmouth.

Yarborough speaks to PPH about wild blueberry crop

10 May 2023

David Yarborough, professor emeritus of horticulture at the School of Food and Agriculture and emeritus wild blueberry specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Portland Press Herald for an article reporting that the size of Maine's wild blueberry harvest dropped by 26%, or 27.5 million pounds, in 2022 after hitting a near-record harvest the previous year. "With wild blueberries, that variability is much greater, so the risk is much greater … we're really at the mercy of Mother Nature," Yarborough said. CentralMaine.com, The Ellsworth American, WCYY, WBLM 102.9, 92 Moose, Q106.5, B98.5, Q97.9 and 94.9 WHOM shared the PPH report.

Ellsworth American shares UMaine study about lobster shell disease

10 May 2023

The Ellsworth American reported on a University of Maine study that found the bacteria present on lobster shells is highly dependent on water temperature, indicating that climate change may have a direct impact on this important element of lobster's health.

BDN covers upgraded residence hall at UMaine Machias

10 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that this fall, the University of Maine Machias will unveil upgrades to Dorward Hall, including a new allergen-free kitchen to enable students with dietary restrictions to make their own meal; over $596,000 in repairs to windows and gutters; ADA access and new LED lighting.

The Week quotes Socolow in article about trust in media

10 May 2023

The Week quoted an essay that Michael Socolow, assistant professor in the University of Maine Department of Communications and Journalism, wrote for The Conversation about how "media criticism comprises an essential component of media literacy … and a vibrant democracy." Yahoo! News and Yahoo! Sports shared The Week article.

Erica Desjardins: Fulbright recipient to study international affairs in France

10 May 2023

Recent University of Maine graduate Erica Desjardins of Bangor, Maine received an award from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program to pursue a master's degree in European and International Affairs at Cergy Paris University in France. The Fulbright U.S. Student Program, a signature program from the U.S. Department of State, funds opportunities for U.S students to conduct research, earn a degree or teach English as a second language in one of more than 140 countries. Recipients like Desjardins, who is majored in international relations at UMaine with a concentration in international security and a minor in French, are selected based on their academic achievements and potential to be cultural ambassadors. Desjardins joins the ranks of the 32 other UMaine students who have participated in the Fulbright U.S. student program since its start in 1946. She also is the first in recent years to be awarded a Fulbright Study Research award to complete a degree. Desjardins needed to have advanced knowledge of French and German to earn her award and study at Cergy Paris University. She is a native German speaker and as part of her application to the university — which is a separate process from the Fulbright application — she was asked to interview in French and German. While at UMaine, Desjardins has studied a wide range of topics in international affairs, including American foreign policy, international relations, Central Asia and the South Caucasus, terrorism, European politics and the global political economy. She says she feels that her

“previous studies and professional experiences would help [her] to smoothly transition into this area of studies.” According to Fulbright, Cergy Paris University is a multidisciplinary teaching and research university located outside of Paris with five graduate schools that focus on law and political science; business and management; education; arts and humanities; and sciences, engineering and economics. Desjardins plans to begin her 10-month long graduate program there in August. She says she looks forward to studying abroad to help achieve her goal of working for a U.S. embassy anywhere in the world, as well as enhancing her ability to speak French. “I am extremely honored to have received this prestigious award. I feel very fortunate to have been given this amazing opportunity,” Desjardins says. “While I am in France, I want to make the most of my experience by getting involved as much as possible with my university and community. As one of the most diverse cities in the world, I am looking forward to meeting new people!” Desjardins’ application was supported by the UMaine Office of Major Scholarships and by Fulbright Program adviser and anthropology professor Christine Beitl. Several UMaine faculty members contributed to the success of her application by writing recommendation letters and by participating in the internal campus review process. “Erica is a brilliant and insightful student who has worked so hard during her time at UMaine to earn this opportunity,” says Kristin Vekasi, director of international affairs. “We are thrilled that she will be representing the U.S. abroad during the Fulbright program.” We spoke with Desjardins more about her goals and experiences at UMaine: **What motivated you to pursue a master’s degree abroad?** When my older brother attended UMaine, he studied abroad in Ankara, Turkey in 2014. As a 13-year-old, I was amazed by all of the incredible stories and pictures he had to share, and it was at that moment I promised myself that someday I would study abroad too. During my junior year at UMaine, I finally fulfilled my promise to myself and I studied abroad in Bulgaria. It was the best experience of my life. Being fully immersed in a new culture is not only exciting, but extremely rewarding. In fact, I enjoyed my time abroad so much that I came back to UMaine to work as a study abroad peer adviser because I wanted to help others embark on a study abroad journey like I did. With the thought in mind that my final year at UMaine would fly by, I began searching for post-graduation opportunities fairly early on. I had no clue where to begin, nor any idea of what I wanted to do after graduation. Eventually, however, I stumbled upon the Fulbright scholarship opportunity and began looking through the programs being offered. I discovered a particular program and I was convinced that it would be perfect for me, given the eligibility requirements. This program requires students to speak advanced levels of German and French, among other requirements. As a native German speaker and a student minoring in French, I was very drawn to this program and I know that studying in France will help heighten my language skills. I am a firm believer in going abroad and experiencing the world. It’s one thing to read about a culture in a textbook, but it’s another thing to go and experience it for yourself. **How will this program assist you with your academic or professional goals** For nearly my entire life, I have envisioned myself working in an embassy somewhere in the world. During my undergraduate career, I have developed a stronger understanding of what path I could take to reach my professional goal. My dream job is to become a foreign service officer for the United States Department of State, either as a political officer or a public diplomacy officer. As the Fulbright program is funded through the U.S. Department of State, I feel as though this award will work as a stepping stone and will help bring me closer to my career goal. Additionally, the Fulbright program grants alumni with a non-competitive eligibility hiring status within the federal government after the completion of the program, so I am hoping to take advantage of this incredible opportunity. **Why did you choose to pursue your undergraduate degree at UMaine?** I chose to pursue my undergraduate degree at the University of Maine because all three of my older siblings attended UMaine and I have always looked up to them, so I wanted to follow in their footsteps. **Describe any research, internships or scholarly pursuits in which you have participated.** In the summer of 2022, I interned for the Borgen Project, a nonprofit organization that battles global poverty by making it a priority of American foreign policy. I enjoyed this internship and it sparked a new subject of interest in me: battling global poverty. **Beyond academics, what extracurricular activities have occupied your time?** There are a few extracurricular activities that I have participated in at UMaine. I spent two years as a diver for the UMaine Women’s Swimming and Diving team and I spent three years as the German Club treasurer. I have also worked as a study abroad peer adviser for UMaine’s Office of International Programs. **Have you worked closely with a mentor, professor or role model who made your time at UMaine better?** I have worked closely with many mentors and professors at the University of Maine, all of which have helped me grow so much as an individual and I cannot thank all of them enough. One person in particular is Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler. Nives is the director of the Office of Major Scholarships and has greatly assisted me during my Fulbright scholarship application. I don’t think my application would have been so strong if it wasn’t for her help, and for that I am very grateful. She works really hard in advising students to submit their best work and her encouragement leaves students feeling hopeful and proud, no matter what. Recently, Nives hosted an event called “I Hit Submit” that recognized every student who submitted an application to any scholarship this year, regardless of whether the student received the scholarship or not. As many application processes are tedious, I think this event is remarkable because it celebrates the hard work of each student, which is very uplifting. **Did you have an experience at UMaine that shaped or changed how you see the world?** Before studying abroad in Bulgaria, I was originally planning to study abroad in Germany. I had been dead-set on that idea. I even received the Gilman Scholarship to study abroad in Mannheim, Germany. But as the time drew nearer, COVID-19 ruined all those plans for me. I remember the day the study abroad adviser called me bearing the news that they could no longer send students to Germany due to COVID issues, and then she told me I had about one week to decide where else to go. She recommended that I check out American University in Bulgaria. As deadlines were rapidly approaching, I didn’t really have any other option, so I followed her advice. Since the Gilman scholarship is program-specific, I was not able to transfer the award to a new program, meaning I lost all means of funding. My adviser, however, told me about many other scholarships that I could quickly apply for, which I was luckily able to receive. During this stressful situation, UMaine staff and friends supported and helped me, which was very comforting. This experience taught me that life is extremely unpredictable and challenging, but it is important to be flexible and make the most of the difficult situation. Little did I know that going to Bulgaria would have such a positive impact on my life, so this situation definitely shaped me into a more optimistic person. **Describe UMaine in one word** If I had to describe UMaine in one word, I would say “dedicated!” **Please explain** After my exchange semester in Bulgaria, I’ve stayed in contact with many students from all over the country and the world. I often tell them about various events and activities happening on campus. Their responses are often along the lines of, “I wish my university did that!” This is very eye-opening to me because it truly makes me realize how many universities, not just across the country, but even across the whole world, are not as involved as UMaine is. If you want to study abroad, the Office of International Programs is dedicated to making sure it happens, regardless of one’s financial needs or restrictions. If someone wishes to participate in a club, the UMaine community welcomes and accepts them into the club with open arms. If someone needs extra time or help, UMaine provides accommodations accordingly. If someone needs assistance with a scholarship application, the Office of Major Scholarships has a devoted team of advisers. Compared to other universities, UMaine has a lot to offer in services. UMaine does what it can to set students up for success because they are very dedicated to the student body and community. I think UMaine’s dedication is very evident in all areas of student life. **How has UMaine prepared you for your post-graduation endeavors?** The Political Science and International Affairs departments offer a wide range of courses that have expanded my knowledge and provided me with new perspectives. But my academic knowledge is not the only area where UMaine has shaped me and prepared me for my future. Being a part of such a supportive community has been highly motivating. Having a strong sense of belonging has further developed my connections with peers, professors and anyone I encounter. UMaine has prepared me to take challenges head-on, to treat everyone I meet with respect and kindness, and to always put forth my best effort. Overall, I am very grateful for the wonderful experience I have had at UMaine. I have taken so many interesting classes, I have worked with devoted professors and faculty members, I was able to have a memorable study abroad experience and I made many lifelong friends. Last weekend, I attended the University of Maine Foundation’s True Blue Toast, where graduating students who have donated to a UMaine organization are given a philanthropy cord and pin. I definitely intend to maintain a tradition of giving back to UMaine because UMaine has truly given so much to me. Students interested in applying for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program can contact the Office of Major Scholarships at nives.dalbowheeler@maine.edu for application support. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

PEAC opens nominations for 2023 Outstanding Professional Employee Award

11 May 2023

The Professional Employees Advisory Council (PEAC) is soliciting the University of Maine community for nominations for this year's Outstanding Professional Employee Award, given to a professional employee whose actions and achievements go beyond normal work responsibilities and have provided outstanding service to their field, the university and the community. A professional employee must be nominated by another UMaine employee. In order to be eligible for consideration, each nominee must meet the following minimum requirements:

- The nominee is a current professional employee.
- The nominee has worked at UMaine for a minimum of three continuous years.
- The nominee is not a past recipient of the award.

Selection will be based upon the nominees that best reflect the following criteria:

- Demonstrating a dedication to serving others.
- Maintaining the highest level of professional services and standards within their disciplines or areas of responsibility.
- Helping to create a better campus environment for students, faculty and staff.
- Having demonstrated public service through significant contributions to their field (e.g., professional associations, committees and boards), UMaine (e.g., university committees and councils) and their community (e.g., schools, nonprofit organizations).

In recognition of the employee's accomplishments and contributions, a cash stipend of $1,000 will be presented to the recipient. For more information and to submit a nomination, visit the UMaine PEAC website. The deadline for submission is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 31.

Media cite UMaine Extension information about managing drought

11 May 2023

In an article about managing drought in the garden, the Penobscot Bay Pilot and Wiscasset Newspaper noted information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension that says the critical time for vegetable production often coincides with our driest months of July and August.

Media boost UMaine Extension role in 2023 Twilight Meeting series

11 May 2023

The Daily Bulldog and Sun Journal shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host the 2023 Twilight Meeting Series with the Greater Franklin Food Council. The casual meetings will connect farmers and community members at local farms.

Media cite Stubbs, Cornerstone and UMaine Extension resources about native bees

11 May 2023

In an article about attracting native bees to home landscapes, the Penobscot Bay Pilot and Wiscasset Newspaper cited information by Constance Stubbs, University of Maine research assistant professor, and Nancy Coverstone, University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator, that was published in a UMaine Extension bulletin about native bees. According to the bulletin, native bees do not live in large hives and managing them is not possible, but habitats can be managed to help them survive, thrive, reproduce and pollinate.

Howard co-writes op-ed for BDN about post-pandemic policy

11 May 2023

Michael Howard, emeritus professor of philosophy at the University of Maine, co-wrote an opinion piece for the Bangor Daily News about COVID prevention and policy in the post-pandemic period. Howard is also a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications

School of Forest Resources faculty honored by Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District

11 May 2023

The Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District named faculty in the University of Maine's School of Forest Resources Outstanding Conservation Educators of the Year. Nicole Rogers, assistant professor of silviculture; Jay Wason, assistant professor of forest ecosystem physiology; Shawn Fraver, associate professor of forest ecology; Jessica Leahy, Henry W. Saunders Distinguished Professor in Forestry; Brian Roth, an external graduate faculty member; and Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in UMaine's Climate Change Institute and University of Maine Cooperative Extension, were all recognized for their contributions to the district over the past five years. "Since 2018, faculty and students from the School of Forest Resources have worked on numerous projects in Piscataquis County, which resulted in improved forest management, efforts to better connect local youth to natural resource careers, exciting new partnerships and opportunities for college students," said Kacey Weber, the district's educational coordinator. Rogers hosted a "Silviculture 101" workshop for the district and is currently pioneering red spruce silviculture techniques on Appalachian Mountain Club land in Piscataquis County. Wason collaborated with Birkel on a workshop for the district called "Climate Change: Forest & Ecosystem Impacts," and with Fraver on another one titled "Climate Change and Forest Ecology." Wason also is leading a Northeastern States Research Cooperative project on the district's Law Farm property to study how climate change impacts tree regeneration in Northern Forests. District staff are also collaborators on the project. Law Farm is also home to the American Chestnut Germplasm orchard, where Roth collaborates with staff at the district and the American Chestnut Foundation to explore the northern range of the species. Leahy worked with the district to create applied learning opportunities for UMaine students

that, in turn, helped inform stewardship of district-managed lands and updated the trail map for the Williamsburg Forest. Leahy co-hosted “Teas and Trees” with Maine Forest Service district forester Terri Cooling to foster discussion among women landowners about shared needs, the challenges they face and what resources may be available. She also hosted the district’s “Forestry for Maine Birds" program on one of her woodlands. The district also noted Leahy’s service to Piscataquis County, including establishing a new wood bank outreach coordinator that will be based there. Leahy also co-led a project with Mindy Crandall, a former UMaine assistant professor of forest landscape management, to ask high school students in rural forest communities about their aspirations and the obstacles they perceive to achieve them, as well as their perspectives on schools and where they live. The researchers published the study’s findings, which included insight from Piscataquis County students, in fact sheets for schools and local leaders to help them better meet rural students’ needs. The Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District awards an Outstanding Conservation Educator of the Year every other year to honor educators who connect students to conservation. School of Forest Resources faculty will be recognized by the district during an awards ceremony this fall. For more information, contact Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu.

Alumni Association interviews graduate student about gender representation in natural resources

11 May 2023

Abigayl Novak, who earned her Master of Science in Forest Resources from the University of Maine this May, spoke to the University of Maine Alumni Association about gender-diverse representation in the bioenergy and forestry sectors. “I’m really looking forward to seeing more women in forestry and us supporting each other in this industry. I want to continue being a mentor to people and I want them to know they can do this and it doesn’t matter who you are," Novak said. For her graduate thesis, Novak studied how woody biochar may be used as a soil amendment to improve drought resilience in wild blueberry crops. Her co-advisors were assistant professor Ling Li at the School of Forest Resources and assistant professor Yongjiang Zhang at the School of Biology and Ecology. Novak is also an alumna of UMaine's Ecology and Environmental Sciences program.

UMaine joins NSF-backed coalition for forestry research, product development in Northern New England

11 May 2023

The University of Maine has partnered with research institutions and community organizations across Northern New England to devise new forest products and management strategies using $1 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The Coalition of Northern Forest Innovation and Research (CONFIR), led by the Northern Forest Center in Concord, New Hampshire, is among the first recipients of the new NSF Engines Development Award, created to bolster research and development among robust partnerships that will accelerate technological, economic and workforce development at the regional level. With this funding, CONFIR will spend the next two years creating various research proposals to earn the title of NSF Engine and the opportunity to receive up to $160 million. That funding would allow the group to conduct research and design products that will open new markets for rural economies and preserve the Northern Forest for years to come. The goals for CONFIR’s research and development efforts include increasing the number of forestry workers with in-depth skill sets; creating and promoting new best practices for preserving forests from the effects of climate change; publishing new resource management strategies; and accelerating the production of innovative manufactured wood products and other forest-based goods and technologies. “We are pleased to be part of this coalition of leaders and innovators in forestry research and entrepreneurship, and that the National Science Foundation will support our work in preserving Maine forests and growing the regional economy,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “For more than a century, UMaine has stood at the forefront of science, technology and workforce development in the forest economy, all to help protect these vital ecosystems that serve as an economic, environmental and cultural foundation of our state. With this new funding, we look forward to strengthening our collaboration with other universities and community-focused organizations to build the research and development base to keep the forests of Northern New England resilient to climate change, create transformative bioproducts, further expand our rural economies and train the next generation of environmental stewards. The lead researchers from UMaine’s School of Forest Resources involved in CONFIR are Shane O’Neill, forest industry business development manager, and Aaron Weiskittel, director of the University of Maine's Center for Research on Sustainable Forests. In addition to the Northern Forest Center and UMaine, CONFIR’s core partner organizations include the University of New Hampshire, University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, the University of Vermont, Northern Vermont University, the Maine Development Foundation and the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund. “The Northern Forest is a regional ecosystem, and its forest economy spans state and national boundaries as well,” says Joe Short, vice president of the Northern Forest Center and director of the CONFIR initiative. “Our coalition and this award connect the leading work of the University of Maine and the FOR/Maine initiative with their counterparts in New Hampshire and Vermont. This combined expertise and regional network is crucial as our region’s forests and the businesses and communities that depend on them face climate change, dynamic wood markets, and other challenges. Collaborating regionally to chart solutions to those challenges will help forests and forest industries be resilient into the future.” Visit the Northern Forest Center CONFIR website for more information. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Study shows how writing helps young students engage more deeply with civics

11 May 2023

Recent results from an assessment known as the “Nation’s Report Card” found scores in U.S. history and civics among eighth graders across the country declined compared to previous assessments. Among students who took part in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in 2022, scores in history were the lowest on record while scores in civics dropped for the first time ever. Although a variety of factors likely contributed to the declines — including the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on K–12 students and schools — Esther Enright, an assistant professor of educational leadership at the University of Maine, notes that civics education in particular tends to be marginalized in elementary education. “Civics is a distinct discipline that requires specialized knowledge and concepts that differ from other aspects of social studies, such as history. But it rarely gets separate attention, especially at elementary grade levels,” says Enright, who helped lead a study published recently with colleagues William Toledo of California State University Fullerton and Katherine Landau Wright of Boise State University that looked at how discipline-specific writing can be used to get students to explore issues and topics related to civics. “Students need the ability to write across a variety of subjects. Not just language arts, but social studies, science, math and more,” Enright says. “What we wanted to do was examine what happens when teachers engage students in civic perspective-taking through writing, focused on locally relevant public issues.” As part of a larger four-year research collaboration across a state department of education, school districts and university-based researchers, Enright, Toledo and Landau Wright worked with district curriculum specialists and elementary teachers to collaboratively design units that would introduce students to civic perspective-taking. Lessons covered ideas such as fact and opinion, public issues, public good, multiple perspectives and argumentation. For example, the teachers had students practice presenting their own stance on an issue, as well as differentiating their stance from others using claims and evidence. Teachers also created opportunities for students to practice their arguments verbally before translating them into writing. The

civics writing study, which spanned two years of the four-year project (2018–20), examined three questions: How do second and third grade students engage with civic ideas and concepts in their argumentative writing? What differences exist between second and third grade students' civic writing and argumentation? And how does students' verbal and written argumentation in civics change between second and third grade writing samples? Second graders were asked to take a position on whether the school district should move to a year-round schedule. Third graders considered whether the local city council should allow developers to build on wetlands. The researchers' findings suggest that students' engagement with civic concepts became more complex and purposeful as they practiced argumentative writing. Both the sophistication of their civic perspective-taking and their writing developed from second to third grade. The findings also indicate that students in both grade levels were more motivated to engage in argumentative writing when asked to take positions on issues of local importance, though Enright says additional studies are needed to fully assess the impact of local issues on motivation. Although the study was conducted before the most recent NAEP assessment and focused on younger students, Enright believes there are implications for civics education at all grade levels. "We think this research shows the importance of teachers embedding writing instruction in all disciplines and we argue that more professional development could help educators do so across the curriculum," says Enright, who notes that the study presents one model where a university-based research team collaborated with district curriculum specialists and classroom teachers on professional development. The civics writing study was published in the Journal of Writing Research. A companion study examining the development of preservice teachers' civic identities, co-authored by Enright and Toledo, was recently published in the Journal of Social Studies Education Research. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers first webinar in food preserving series on June 8

12 May 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a new series of online workshops about preserving Maine foods throughout the summer and fall. The first in the series, Canning Low-Sugar Jams and Jellies, will be held from 1–1:45 p.m. June 8. Additional topics for webinars in the "Preserving the Maine Harvest" series will include canning, freezing, drying and fermenting. Instructors will provide research-based information and demonstrate recipes in an interactive format. Registration is required; a $5 donation per session is optional. Register on the program webpage to receive the webinar link and other resources. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Kate McCarty, 207.781.6099; kate.mccarty@maine.edu.

New resources available for Maine home gardeners in time for 2023 growing season

12 May 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension has released new resources and practical information for home gardeners getting ready for the 2023 growing season. New featured articles and videos include pruning forsythia and lilac bushes, information about the browntail moth mitigation fund and a new 2023 map of plant sales and garden tours. May is also the time to think about soil testing, purchasing plants and tuning up garden tools. Gardeners can begin to sow certain seeds outdoors and should be hardening off seedlings before planting. All of this research-based information is available year round on the UMaine Extension website. Gardeners also can receive the Maine Home Garden Newsletter, a monthly publication designed to provide timely articles about all aspects of horticulture in the region. Articles in the newsletter are written by UMaine Extension staff, Maine Master Gardener Volunteers and partners from organizations such as Maine Audubon. Topics have ranged from protecting a garden from deer, orchard maintenance and backyard birds to planting for pollinators and reviving rusty garden tools. More recent issues have included seed starting tips and a recipe for knotweed jam. Each issue includes a timely to-do list of activities gardeners may want to consider for the month ahead. Archived issues dating back to 2010 are available for viewing on demand. The Maine Home Garden Newsletter is free and available to all. To subscribe or peruse past issues for seasonal tips and research-based articles on all aspects of gardening, please visit the Maine Home Garden News website. In addition to this newsletter, UMaine Extension has an extensive listing of on-demand educational resources online, as well as knowledgeable staff in county offices available to help gardeners learn and grow. Those with questions are encouraged to review the Ask the Experts website.

UMaine and UMaine Machias graduates among Maine's 2023 County Teachers of the Year

12 May 2023

The Maine Department of Education and Educate Maine announced the 2023 County Teachers of the Year at a ceremony in the Hall of Flags at the Maine state capitol this week. Among the 16 members of the 2023 class were five teachers with degrees from the University of Maine or the University of Maine at Machias:

- Hancock County Teacher of the Year Miranda Engstrom '20G (UMaine), Reading Recovery and Gifted and Talented Teacher, Lamoine Consolidated School;
- Lincoln County Teacher of the Year Edith Berger '16G (UMaine), Writing and Social Studies Teacher, Miller School in Waldoboro;
- Penobscot County Teacher of the Year Jessica Archer '92, '09G, '13G (UMaine), Special Education and Adult Education Teacher, Orono Middle School;
- Washington County Teacher of the Year Colleen Maker '94 (UMaine Machias), Science and Engineering Teacher, Washington Academy in East Machias;
- York County Teacher of the Year Lisa Tripp '10 (UMaine), 6th Grade Science Teacher, Bonny Eagle Middle School in Buxton;

More than 500 teachers across the state were nominated for County Teachers of the Year by members of their school community. The honorees were selected by a panel of teachers, principals and business community members from each county. For the next year, they will serve as ambassadors for teachers, students and education throughout the state. They also will participate in the intensive Maine Teacher of the Year selection process, with finalists and a winner to be announced later this year. More information about this year's County Teachers of the Year is on the Maine Department of Education website and the Educate Maine website.

Wiscasset Newspaper notes UMaine role on Integrated Pest Management Council

12 May 2023

The Wiscasset Newspaper noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension co-hosts the website for the state's Integrated Pest Management Council,

established in 2002, with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.

PenBay Pilot shares UMaine Hutchinson Center mediation workshop

12 May 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot shared that registration is now open for a five-day professional development program, Mediation & the Art of Conflict Transformation, offered from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., June 26–30 at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. For more information about upcoming professional development programs, scholarships or to register, visit the Hutchinson Center website.

Politico quotes Socolow Tweet in article about Trump Town Hall

12 May 2023

In an article about CNN's Trump Town Hall, Politico cited a tweet from Michael Socolow, professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism, noting Trump's interviews with Chris Wallace, Lesley Stahl and Jonathan Swan.

News Center Maine notes UMaine Extension Tick Lab in article about Lyme Disease Awareness Month

12 May 2023

In an article about Lyme Disease Awareness Month, News Center Maine noted that there have been more than 450 submissions of ticks to the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab this year.

Media share UMaine Extension preserving workshop

12 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News, the Daily Bulldog, the Sun Journal, The Bethel Citizen, the Livermore Fall Advertiser, The Piscataquis Observer and Morning Ag Clips shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a new series of online workshops about preserving Maine foods throughout the summer and fall. The first in the series, Canning Low-Sugar Jams and Jellies, will be held from 1–1:45 p.m. June 8. Register on the program webpage to receive the webinar link and other resources.

Maddock featured on News Center Maine discussing teen mental health

12 May 2023

Casey Maddock, a student at the University of Maine, was a featured panelist on a News Center Maine segment about the mental health struggles faced by teenagers in the state.

BDN reports on Maine Business School ranking from CEO Magazine

12 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that CEO Magazine has ranked the University of Maine's online MBA as a Top Tier program for the fifth consecutive year, with the UMaine Graduate School of Business ranking No. 31 globally.

Fuller speaks to Franklin Journal about extending growing season for fiddleheads

12 May 2023

The Franklin Journal interviewed David Fuller, emeritus agriculture and non-timber forest products professional at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about recent flooding extending the season for fiddleheads. "They can withstand flooding. As long as it wouldn't be for like a month or something, of course. These floods around here are very fleeting, and they don't last long," Fuller said.

Media note UMaine role in Northern Forest Center coalition

12 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Vermont Business Magazine noted that the University of Maine is part of a coalition led by the Northern Forest Center that has been awarded $1 million from the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Regional Innovation Engines program. "This new investment allows taking our key research innovations in precision forestry and ecosystem services valuation to full commercialization, which opens new potential possibilities for this ecologically and economically important resource for this region. We are excited to join both old and new partners to help make this a reality," said Aaron Weiskittel, director of UMaine's Center for Research on Sustainable Forests.

Media share new UMaine Extension resources

12 May 2023

The Sun Journal, the Bangor Daily News, CentralMaine.com, Morning Ag Clips and the Daily Bulldog shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension has released new resources and practical information for home gardeners getting ready for the 2023 growing season. New featured articles and videos include pruning forsythia and lilac bushes, information about the browntail moth mitigation fund and a new 2023 map of plant sales and garden tours.

All of this research-based information is available year round on the UMaine Extension website.

Li and Ishaq write article for BDN about seeking study participants

12 May 2023

Yanyan Li and Sue Ishaq, researchers in the School of Food and Agriculture at the University of Maine, wrote an article for the Bangor Daily News about looking for healthy adults to participate in a 4-week study to examine the health effects of eating steamed broccoli sprouts. For more information about participating, email yanyan.li@maine.edu or sue.ishaq@maine.edu.

Belding featured on Maine International Trade Center panel

12 May 2023

John Belding, director of the University of Maine Advanced Manufacturing Center, was featured on a panel titled "Industry 4.0 and Maine's Future in the Global Market," hosted by the Maine International Trade Center on May 9. The panel was one of the organization's annual Maine International Trade Day events.

New model developed for predicting adsorption of PFAS by microplastics

12 May 2023

Rivers, lakes and oceans worldwide are home to trillions of pieces of plastic pollution that are smaller than five millimeters in length, known as microplastics, and their size allows them to easily enter humans and animals. Some can adsorb and transport other harmful toxicants that pollute waterways, including certain types of a more recently discovered set of toxic "forever chemicals" called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS. There are thousands of types of PFAS in freshwater and saltwater bodies, and testing whether microplastics can absorb each one requires costly, time-consuming and labor-intensive testing. That's why a University of Maine-led team of researchers developed a new type of model for predicting whether any given kind of microplastic would adsorb any specific type of PFAS and at what concentration. Dilara Hatinoglu, a Ph.D. student in civil and environmental engineering, spearheaded the project in collaboration with Onur Apul, assistant professor of environmental engineering and her adviser, and François Perreault, associate professor at the Arizona State University School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment. Their models are applicable for fresh and saltwater and account for the type, size, shape and ionic charge of the microplastics; the functional compound groups and chain length of PFAS; and the salinity, pH level and natural organic matter that make up the solution chemistry of the water. In addition to minimizing the need for extensive lab testing, these models could assist with the development of new technologies and resources for PFAS removal. "In water treatment plants, we use polymers that act as adsorbents, and they have the potential for removing PFAS from water. Our model can support the development of new adsorbent technologies," says Hatinoglu. "We can modify sorbents depending on the outcomes and findings of our model because it gives an idea of what are the mechanisms and contributors of the adsorption mechanisms." For their research, the UMaine-led team trained its models to determine whether polystyrene microplastics would absorb 12 different chemicals, all of which are part of a subset of PFAS known as perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs). In addition to validating the efficacy of their models, which accounted for both fresh and saltwater, they also obtained several insights into the adsorption mechanisms between PFAS and polystyrene microplastics. Among their findings were that polystyrene adsorbed greater concentrations of long chain PFAS than short chain ones, microplastics in saltwater adsorb more PFAS than those in freshwater, and the top contributing factors for whether a PFCA will be absorbed into a microplastic is the polarizability and hydrophobicity of the former. Their findings and other details about the model were published in the academic journal Science of The Total Environment. Researchers created their method for forecasting PFAS adsorption by microplastics through reconfiguring an existing type of model known as a linear solvation energy relationships (LSER)-based predictive model. Traditional LSER models are used for the adsorption mechanics between naturally-charged organic compounds, but PFAS are negatively-charged. Hatinoglu, Apul and Perreault are among the first researchers to apply LSER modeling to PFAS adsorption. Hatinoglu is building on her previous work by creating another model to predict the adsorbability of other pollutants into microplastics. The new model will factor in the extent of microplastic degradation. "The interactions can be significantly affected if the plastics are degraded, so I would like to know more about the effect of degradation on adsorption," she says. "That would be more realistic." The project led by Hatinoglu is part of a broader effort involving Apul, his students and colleagues, and researchers from Arizona State University to explore the interactions between microplastics and various chemicals. Their work is funded by a $242,000 National Science Foundation award. "We are trying to pioneer academic knowledge. We are trying to lead the world and line up with the needs of the state. It's just a good position to be at," says Apul. "We're making cut-throat research in this field, trying to publish the first-evers of this discipline that happens to be at the forefront of Maine and national needs." Many UMaine researchers are working together on several PFAS research projects as part of the UMaine PFAS+ Initiative. Apul is science lead and a steering committee member for the universitywide initiative to focus on the emerging PFAS pollution crisis and its cascading environmental and societal impacts. "We are trying to create a multidisciplinary, collaborative environment to tackle the PFAS problem. It's such a massive crisis, that a single discipline, a single person is not going to solve it," Apul says. "There are so many different aspects, so we are trying to bring a multitude of talented researchers. Dilara is one of them, and we're lucky to have her." Contact: Marcus Wolf; 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Katelyn Amero: UMaine junior named a 2023 Goldwater Scholar

12 May 2023

University of Maine junior Katelyn Amero of Mapleton, Maine has been named a 2023 Goldwater Scholar. Amero, a double major in biochemistry and microbiology, and a member of the Honors College, is one of 413 college students nationwide who were named Goldwater Scholars for the 2023–24 academic year, according to the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation website. This year, there were 1,267 nominees from 427 academic institutions. Amero is the sixth UMaine student to receive a Goldwater Scholarship since 2017. This scholarship, which honors U.S. Sen. Barry Goldwater, aims to identify and support college sophomores and juniors who demonstrate the potential to become the nation's leading researchers in the natural sciences, engineering and mathematics disciplines. UMaine students are nominated to participate in the national selection by a faculty committee led by Professor Robert Wheeler. "I feel incredibly honored to have been named a Goldwater Scholar out of such a large and competitive pool of applicants," Amero says. "It has truly boosted my confidence as a researcher, and I am very proud to be representing UMaine research at the national level." Amero, a Maine Top Scholar, has been conducting research on phage genomics in the lab of Sally Molloy, associate professor of genomics, since she was a sophomore. This year, she began her undergraduate thesis project to study how prophages, viral genomes that integrate into bacterial genomes, affect mycobacterial

survival inside macrophages, specialized cells that detect and destroy harmful bacteria. Researchers in Molloy's lab discovered two prophages that have been shown to impact gene expression and increase antibiotic resistance in pathogenic mycobacteria. For her project, Amero will test whether these prophages will help a bacteria called *Mycobacterium chelonae* survive in mouse macrophages. The Maine IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE), a collaborative coalition of education and research institutions, awarded Amero a Pre-Thesis Fellowship last year to begin her project, and a Summer Research Fellowship to help her continue working on it this summer. In summer 2022, she received a fellowship from the National Science Foundation's Research Experiences for Undergraduates program to study the antibiotic resistance and virulence of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* at Yale University. Additionally, Amero was awarded a UMaine Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship for her talents as a percussionist, and was recently inducted into Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective multidisciplinary collegiate honor society. "Katelyn has outstanding skills in independent thinking, and although just an undergraduate junior, she is already functioning like a graduate student," Molloy says. "The Molloy lab has established that prophages increase expression of mycobacterial genes that are involved in drug resistance and survival in macrophages. Katelyn is currently optimizing macrophage survival assays with strains of *M. chelonae* and will be ultimately testing the effect of prophages on the bacterium's ability to survive in the intracellular environment of the macrophage. With just one year of experience working in the lab, she has become incredibly independent in researching the protocols she will use and is fearless about carrying out new experiments. She applies her learning from the literature to her work and is comfortable and capable of troubleshooting experiments when they don't work. She is a dream to work with and her potential as a researcher is limitless." We spoke with Amero more about her goals and experiences at UMaine: **What motivated you to pursue the Goldwater Scholarship?** I first heard about the Barry Goldwater Scholarship from my research mentor Dr. Sally Molloy. I had joined the Molloy Lab as a rising sophomore after taking the Phage Genome Discovery courses in my first year, and I quickly fell in love with biomedical research after previously being on the pre-medicine track. I really enjoyed the element of discovery, problem solving and innovation, which made me become really passionate about research. Dr. Molloy took note of this and began encouraging me to apply for this competitive research scholarship during my sophomore year. As I expanded my research experience and took on more independent projects, I became very determined to apply and see how far my passion for research could take me. **How will it benefit you in your future academic goals?** While this honor does come with an award that will support my undergraduate thesis research, the greatest benefit will be the impact on my future graduate research opportunities and career. Being named a Goldwater Scholar signifies that I am passionate about research, have considerable undergraduate experience and am serious about pursuing a Ph.D. I am hopeful that this will open a lot of doors when I am applying to Ph.D. programs this coming year. **What extracurricular activities have occupied your time?** I have been a member of the Screamin' Black Bears Pep Band as a percussionist since my sophomore year. I've been a member of UMaine's Operation HEARTS club since my freshman year and was recently elected as next year's president. The club does medically-based community service in the Orono/Bangor area and offers mentorship and support to pre-medicine and biomedical science students. I am also a member of UMaine's Undergraduate Women in STEMM club and will be next year's treasurer. I was also a member and treasurer of the Sophomore Eagles honor and tradition society. Outside of college extracurriculars, I enjoy collecting vinyl records, photography and hiking. **Why did you choose to study at UMaine?** I chose to go to the University of Maine because it felt like an ideal stepping stone. I am from Aroostook County, Maine and wanted to pursue my undergraduate degree within the state, and the University of Maine had the greatest amount of opportunities. I was intrigued by the majors and research opportunities within the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, especially the Phage Genome Discovery courses, and also the opportunities to continue music and other extracurriculars. **Have you worked closely with a mentor, professor or role model who made your time at UMaine better?** Ever since my first semester at UMaine, I've worked closely with Dr. Sally Molloy who has been my professor, academic adviser, and research advisor. Dr. Molloy's effective and enthusiastic teaching style pulled me into research when I took her Phage Genome Discovery courses, and soon after I asked to join her lab. She has been great at noticing the skills I have to offer and placing me on projects that I can both execute and learn from. She has been incredibly supportive, always pushes me to my full potential and is always thinking ahead about the next experiments I should run or the next opportunity I should apply for. Her guidance has already set me up for many successes and has built me into a true researcher and scientist. **Did you have an experience at UMaine that shaped or changed how you see the world?** My worldview was changed by two different course sequences that I took in my first two years at UMaine. The first was the Phage Genome Discovery course sequence, which introduced me to biomedical research. I majored in biochemistry because I was fascinated by the role of chemistry in biology and medicine, but learning about the pressing issue of antibiotic-resistant bacteria made me realize how important, exciting and rewarding biomedical research is. This made me decide to pursue research and later led to me adding a second major in microbiology. My worldview was also changed significantly by the Honors Civilizations course sequence. Reading texts from the earliest human civilizations up to texts about fighting climate change put so many modern issues and concepts into perspective. I feel that being in the Honors College allowed me to become a well-rounded scholar as a student taking primarily STEM courses. **Describe UMaine in one word** If I had to describe UMaine in one word, I would describe it as impactful. **Please explain** There are so many students, especially undergraduates, that are contributing valuable knowledge to the world through their coursework and research. There is also a very strong sense of community at UMaine, as students care greatly about others and their environment and are always pushing for change. Despite our rural location, we definitely make huge contributions to the rest of the world. **What are your post graduation plans?** After I graduate next year, I hope to go to graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. in the biomedical sciences, perhaps in microbiology or molecular genetics. I think that UMaine has greatly prepared me for this academic pursuit by having so many undergraduate research opportunities available, especially in the biomedical sciences. UMaine has effectively prepared me for outside research experiences and for the Goldwater Scholarship, and I am confident that completing my honors thesis will greatly prepare me for graduate research. Students interested in learning more about the Goldwater Scholarship can reach out to the Office of Major Scholarships Director Nives Dalbo-Wheeler at nives.dalbowheeler@maine.edu. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension announces updated interactive plant sales map for 2023

12 May 2023

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteer program's interactive plant sales map has been updated just in time for planting season.

The "2023 Spring Plant Sale Fundraisers in Maine" map allows users to search for plant sales throughout the state by location, date or name in alphabetical order.The listings also include garden tours. Find more information about the map and how to add a plant sale on the UMaine Extension website.

Another timely resource is the UMaine Extension free downloadable publication "Best Practices for Plant Sale Donors and Buyers in Maine." Being an informed plant sale donor or buyer reduces the chance of spreading invasive pests and helps raise funds for organizations running sales like garden clubs, land trusts and conservation groups.

More information is available on the Extension Garden and Yard website, or by contacting 207.353.5550; isabella.viselli@maine.edu.

Sabrina Murray: Working toward diversity, equity and inclusion in higher ed

15 May 2023

Sabrina Murray is used to getting questions about her race and adoption. Murray, who is Chinese, was adopted by white parents, making her a transracial adoptee (TRA). “Strangers will often ask me questions about my birth family and why I was adopted,” she says. “Because I am a Chinese adoptee, I also get questions about my race and sense of belonging in a white family and my understanding of Chinese culture.” Murray grew up near Tacoma, Washington and went to Lewis & Clark College, a small, private, liberal arts college in Portland, Oregon, where she studied sociology and anthropology. It was at Lewis & Clark that Murray started to get interested in working in higher education. She was inspired by her mentor at the college’s Office of Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement (IME), where she worked as a peer education coordinator. “I was originally involved with IME as a mentee in a mentorship program for first-year students of color or first-generation students,” Murray says. “Then, as peer education coordinator I helped organize events for students on campus, did some public speaking and networking with faculty and students. It gave me a real sense of community and taught me so many skills.” After earning her bachelor’s degree in 2021, Murray came to the University of Maine to pursue a master’s in student development in higher education. She wanted to explore ways to support diversity and inclusion on college campuses, and UMaine’s program offered a welcoming and supportive atmosphere to do just that. “I like that it is a smaller program, where you can get to know the other students and your professors really well. It’s been a very caring and collaborative experience,” says Murray, who just earned her M.Ed. Another attractive aspect of the program was the required internship, which is designed to give early-career higher education professionals hands-on experience and networking opportunities. Murray did her internship at Central Maine Community College in Auburn, where she worked on diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. “It was so rewarding, shaping their DEI efforts and building a sense of belonging for all students and members of the college community,” she says. During her time at UMaine, Murray also worked in Residence Life as an assistant community coordinator, as an intern in the Office for Diversity and Inclusion, with Academic Support Services for Student-Athletes, and in the Office of Community Standards, Rights and Responsibilities. She was a co-recipient of the student development in higher education program’s 2023 Social Justice in Higher Education Award. Before she graduated, Murray also was able to publish her first academic work, a chapter titled “Evolution of a Transracial Adoptee” in an e-book “Transracial Adoptee and Multiracial Perspectives: Navigating Higher Education Spaces as our Authentic Selves” published by the Transracial Adoptee and Multiracial Knowledge Community of NASPA, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. The chapter explores Murray’s own TRA identity development and ways to better support TRA college students. “There’s been a lot written for and about biracial or multiracial identity, and that’s great. What I’m hoping to see is more representation of TRA in academia, whether that means more TRA student affairs professionals or more TRA identity development models in textbooks,” Murray says. Murray is headed back to the Pacific Northwest to work at Reed College as a program coordinator in the Office of Student Engagement. She says she is excited that Reed is working to become an antiracist institution and that all members of the college’s student life leadership team are people of color. She says Maine will always hold a special place in her heart as she continues her career and life journeys. “The past two years in grad school helped develop my sense of personal and professional identity,” she says. “I will always remember UMaine as a place of growth and with gratitude.” Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Field Day at Tidewater Farm scheduled for June 10

15 May 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a Field Day from 10 a.m.–noon on Saturday, June 10 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. Come experience the gardens at Tidewater Farm, learn about UMaine Extension’s work, ask gardening questions and participate in hands-on demonstrations with Extension staff and Master Gardener Volunteers. Demonstrations begin at 10:30 a.m. Child-friendly activities will be provided. No registration required. Hands-on demonstrations include when and how to properly divide plants, through which participants will be given a small plant to take home; how to maximize garden space with succession planting and tips for watering gardens during the summer. Colleagues from the Cumberland County Food Security Council will be on hand to share information about their gleaning initiatives, advocacy work and school programs. Participants also will hear how to help build nutrition security in the county and can take part in a child-friendly activity. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the UMaine Extension website or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

Institute of Medicine awards nine graduate summer fellowships for 2023

15 May 2023

The University of Maine Institute of Medicine has awarded summer fellowships to nine graduate students to support their research in health science and biomedicine. The fellowships, which include up to $6,000 for a stipend, one graduate credit and health insurance, will allow graduate students to conduct their research full time during the summer months alongside a faculty advisor. By providing summer research fellowships, the institute aims to assist faculty members who may generate new grant proposals for research funding from federal agencies. The summer fellowship recipients this year include:

- Liz Saavedra Perez, a microbiology Ph.D. student advised by Benjamin King, for a project titled “Environmental Factors That Alter Chemokine Signaling in the Innate Immune Response to Pseudomonas aeruginosa Infection.”
- Joshua David Hamilton, a biomedical engineering Ph.D. student advised by Andre Khalil, for a project titled “Breast cancer case-control pilot study on patient-matched mammograms and histological tissue slides for NCI grant renewal proposal.”
- Lucas Bennett, a biochemistry Ph.D. student advised by Melissa Maginnis, for a project titled “Identification of Cellular Receptor Remodeling during Viral Infection.”
- Bright Obeng, a Ph.D. student studying biochemistry and molecular biology advised by Julie Gosse, for a project titled “Mechanisms of Cetylpyridinium Chloride Inhibition of Immune Cell Function: Unraveling CPC Effects on Tyrosine Phosphorylation Events.”
- Krutika Rathod, a clinical psychology Ph.D. student advised by Patricia Goodhines, for a project titled “Social Determinants of Substance Use and Sleep Health in Rural Young Adults (NIDA R15 Application).”
- Morgan Tallman, a clinical psychology Ph.D. student advised by Rebecca MacAulay, for a project titled “The MAM Pilot study: Feasibility and preliminary efficacy of mindfulness as an intervention for cognitive decline.”
- Kathryn Patenaude, a biomedical science Ph.D. student advised by Melody Neely, for a project titled “Investigating the effect of increased serum glucose levels during Streptococcus agalactiae and Candida albicans co-infections.”
- Sean R. Sibley, a Ph.D. candidate advised by Kelley Strout, for a project titled "A Systematic Review of the Effectiveness of Objective Structured Clinical Examinations and Standardized Patient Simulation on Student Learning in Family Nurse Practitioner Education."
- Bailey Blair, a biomedical science Ph.D. student advised by Robert Wheeler, for a project titled “Identification of Candida immune evasion

mechanisms."

WFVX notes fast-track degree programs for high school students

15 May 2023

In an article about high school students earning college credit, WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) noted that high school students also have the option to complete different fast-track degree programs in partnership with the University of Maine.

Media share UMaine Extension 'adulting' workshop for teens

15 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News, CentralMaine.com, Sun Journal, The Franklin Journal and the Daily Bulldog shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a short-term online 4-H club for youth ages 13–18 about basic adult life skills from 4–5:30 p.m. Wednesdays from June 21 to July 26. Register on the event webpage by June 10 to receive the Zoom link and introductory email.

PenBay Pilot notes UMaine role in developing resources for Midcoast farmers during pandemic

15 May 2023

In an article about the ways that Midcoast communities responded to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Penobscot Bay Pilot noted that Waldoboro farmer Allison Lakin partnered with University of Maine Cooperative Extension to develop an online Maine farm products and pick-up directory.

House Digest cites UMaine Extension bulletin about soil tests

15 May 2023

In an article about fertilizer, House Digest cited a University of Maine Cooperative Extension bulletin explaining that garden soil should be tested at least once every three years to check its overall effectiveness.

Media share UMaine study about students engaging with civics

15 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Phys.org reported on a study co-authored by Esther Enright, an assistant professor of educational leadership at the University of Maine, that shows writing helps elementary school students better engage with civics.

PenBay Pilot shares Ranco talk for Megunticook River Citizens Advisory Committee

15 May 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot shared that Darren Ranco, associate professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, will present about Wabanaki land relations, caretaking and responsibility as part of the Megunticook River Citizens Advisory Committee's monthly speaker series from 4:30–5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, via Zoom. Register for the Monthly Speaker Series online.

BDN notes UMaine role in developing bridge technology

15 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that the Maine Department of Transportation may use GBeams, which were developed by Advanced Infrastructure Technologies in cooperation with the University of Maine, to repair the Llewellyn G. Estes Memorial Bridge.

Mech speaks to PPH about this year's browntail moth outbreak

15 May 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology at the University of Maine, about this year's browntail moth outbreak. "We haven't had this big of a browntail moth outbreak in 100 years. There are still so many questions we don't know the answers to," Mech said. The PPH noted that this summer, Mech will research whether the reproductive cycle of the browntail moth can be disrupted, similar to how scientists discovered a way to disrupt the mating of the spongy moth.

Socolow pens article for Slate about CNN's Trump Town Hall

15 May 2023

Michael Socolow, professor in the University of Maine Department of Communications and Journalism, wrote an article for Slate about how CNN'S Trump Town Hall could have been better and more ethically executed to give viewers access to accurate, fact-checked information. The Week cited the Slate article, and Yahoo! News shared The Week's report.

Media cover 2023 Simmons Windstorm Challenge

15 May 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and WFVX-TV (ABC 7/Fox 22 in Bangor) featured the 2023 Simmons Windstorm Challenge, which brought roughly 600 middle and high school students from across the state to the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center.

New findings revealed on how climate change impacts lobster ecology

15 May 2023

New information is emerging on how climate change is impacting American lobster populations and their connections to other species in the marine food web in the earliest stages of their life cycle. New research conducted by two graduate students at the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center (DMC) has revealed more information about how these economically and culturally important marine animals are responding to the changing ocean. [caption

id="attachment_97611" align="alignright" width="325"] Alex Ascher with an American lobster at the Darling Marine Center's flowing seawater laboratory.[/caption] Alex Ascher spent the last five years studying the American lobster as part of his Ph.D. program in marine biology through UMaine's School of Marine Sciences. Ascher conducted his research both at the DMC campus in Walpole and at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences in East Boothbay. Only a few miles apart on the Damariscotta River Estuary, the two marine laboratories have complementary facilities and research areas, making collaboration an attractive and powerful approach, particularly for students. Last month at his Ph.D. defense, Ascher shared his research with a roomful of scientists, students and family gathered on the DMC campus, as well as with individuals who attended the presentation remotely via Zoom. "While the abundance of adult lobsters has increased dramatically in the last several decades, there has been a surprising decline in the abundance of their juvenile offspring in coastal nurseries," Ascher explained. "In fact, the disconnect between the high levels of egg production and the low numbers of young lobsters 'recruiting' to monitored coastal study areas has been widespread in the Gulf of Maine." This previously published observation encouraged Rick Wahle of UMaine's Lobster Institute and David Fields of Bigelow Laboratory to investigate the factors influencing the survival of planktonic larvae before they settle to the seabed. They recruited Ascher and another UMaine graduate student, Evelyn Layland, to their collaborative project to evaluate the hypothesis that the decline in lobster recruitment may be related to changes in food available to larval lobsters. Their results could have important implications for the future of lobster populations in a changing climate. Others contributing to the collaboration include Pete Countway from Bigelow Laboratory and Rachel Lasley-Rasher from the University of Southern Maine. The work has been supported by Sea Grant, Maine's Department of Marine Resources and the National Science Foundation-sponsored Maine-eDNA program that is developing new ways to understand how DNA in the environment can inform people's understanding and management of our natural and cultural resources. During his seminar, Ascher presented new findings from field and laboratory studies that help people understand the multiple factors affecting the survival of the lobster's planktonic larval stages before they settle to the sea bed. Not only does his analysis provide a first glimpse of the diet of larval lobster in the coastal Gulf of Maine, but the DNA sequencing provides important insights on the identity of planktonic prey that conventional microscopy cannot. [caption id="attachment_97612" align="alignright"

width="325"]  Evelyn Layland conducted field and laboratory studies to learn how young lobsters capture their food. Here she is onboard Curt Brown's lobster boat in Casco Bay where she deployed collectors to survey the abundance of young lobsters.[/caption] Layland's studies focused on the feeding behaviors of larval lobsters and how those behaviors influence young lobsters. Last month, Layland defended her master's in marine biology thesis, less than three weeks after Ascher's defense. Her complementary research used video analysis to track the pursuit and handling of planktonic prey by larval lobsters in each of their four stages. They underscore how vulnerable the earliest larval stages may be to starvation compared to the later stages that are much better equipped to chase down and subdue their planktonic prey. In addition to the novel laboratory and field investigations on larval lobster behavior, Layland also produced a children's book about her scientific research. "When most people think of Maine lobster, they probably picture the lobster you would find in a restaurant or a tank at the grocery store, but lobsters' lives start several years earlier as tiny pea-sized larvae floating around in the water column," Layland says. "Learning about the complex interactions taking place in the ocean between these tiny animals and their environment has been fascinating. I hope what we've learned will help others to better understand the drivers behind larval survival and changes in recruitment." The work of both students will soon be available through Fogler Library's Digital Commons. Members of the public are invited to learn more about educational and research programs at the DMC and Bigelow Laboratory through the marine laboratories' websites and public programs. "It's wonderful to see Evie and Alex's work come together — they conducted complementary studies that add to our knowledge of lobster biology and ecology and also will help us more proactively manage the fishery," says Wahle, a professor of marine sciences and director of the UMaine Lobster Institute, which is also based at the DMC. Rick Wahle, richard.wahle@maine.edu and Steven Profaizer, sprofaizer@bigelow.org

Axios cites Climate Reanalyzer data about Pacific Northwest heat wave

16 May 2023

In an article about a record-breaking heat wave in the Pacific Northwest, Axios used data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer to create a map of forecast temperature departures from average during Monday through Wednesday May 17 in degrees Fahrenheit. The Climate Reanalyzer was developed by Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute.

Media share UMaine Extension monarch workshop

16 May 2023

Morning Ag Clips, the Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension workshop for adults and youth on monarch butterflies 4–5:30 p.m. June 8 in South Paris. Register online.

National Fisherman reports on UMaine seafood harvesters direct marketing survey

16 May 2023

The National Fisherman reported on a national survey about direct marketing practices among U.S. seafood harvesters, developed by the University of Maine, Agricultural Marketing Services of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and National Marine Fisheries Service.

Phys.org shares UMaine innovations in PFAS absorption models

16 May 2023

Phys.org shared that a University of Maine-led team of researchers developed a new type of model for predicting whether any given kind of microplastic would adsorb any specific type of PFAS and at what concentration.

News Center Maine features potato varieties developed by UMaine researchers

16 May 2023

News Center Maine featured potato variety testing at the University of Maine's Agricultural Research and Development Farm in Presque Isle. The process starts at the UMaine campus in Orono, where potato plants are cross-pollinated in greenhouses, which results in thousands of true potato seeds. After that, researchers and students use those seeds to grow 50,000 plants in Presque Isle. Plants are then selected over the course of two years, and they narrow it down to the best 250. "You can see this is just a really pretty smooth skin; it's bright in the marketplace. It would jump out on the shelf if someone was going to buy them. It has to yield well, [and] it has to have tolerance to some of the important pests and diseases, or more stress tolerant varieties which can help with warming, changing climate," said Greg Porter, professor of crop ecology and management at UMaine. Potato News Today shared the News Center Maine report.

UMaine researchers developing new method to quantify stress and flow rate in deforming rocks

16 May 2023

Creating new, more accurate methods for quantifying the stress and flow rate experienced by deforming rocks at the boundaries of moving tectonic plates is the goal of a University of Maine study funded with a $392,372 National Science Foundation grant. Scott Johnson, a professor of structural geology, and Senthil Vel, a professor of mechanical engineering, will develop these new calculations in collaboration with a postdoctoral researcher, a Ph.D. student and up to three undergraduates from the School of Earth and Climate Sciences or Department of Mechanical Engineering. They also will work with Greg Hirth, a professor at Brown University in Rhode Island, and David Prior, a professor at Otago University in New Zealand. The stress on rocks from tectonic plate movement causes them to flow, and this flow is what causes mountains to grow and also triggers earthquakes. More insight into these stresses and related flow leads to a better understanding of fundamental plate tectonic processes, and can inform decision making in construction, infrastructure maintenance and emergency preparedness. A common method for relating the stress and flow rate involves mathematical equations known as flow laws. These equations are derived through laboratory deformation experiments and are associated with specific microstructural characteristics such as mineral shape and size. For example, through these experiments, it has been shown that the average size of a mineral such as quartz that recrystallizes during deformation is directly proportional to the applied stress. While these existing flow laws are effective, they involve significant uncertainties related to estimates of average recrystallized grain size and the activation energy associated with the flow process, and there are currently no other methods available with which to compare results. UMaine researchers aim to develop a new method based on the roughness of mineral grain boundaries and explore how they can record stress and flow rates. This new method is based on the principle that the roughness of a grain boundary reflects the competition between elastic energy stored as defects in the crystal structure and surface energy stored at the grain boundary. The rougher the grain boundary, the more surface energy is being stored. According to researchers, this roughness is proportional to both applied stress and flow rate through a fractal dimension. “Fractal roughness is used extensively in the physical, natural and social sciences to evaluate properties as diverse as material strength, cloud formation and urban sprawl,” Johnson says. “The specific technique we are employing was proposed in the 1990s, but has not been further developed until now. Our preliminary data are exciting and we anticipate it will open up new avenues of research in material and Earth science that will benefit scientists, engineers and the general public.” The research has two main components focussing on laboratory deformation experiments and field-based measurements. The laboratory experiments involve the deformation of polycrystalline quartz samples under tightly controlled conditions of temperature, applied stress and resulting flow rate. The fractal dimension values measured in these deformed samples will be used to calibrate researchers’ new method. Simultaneously, fractal dimension values will be determined in deformed polycrystalline quartz aggregates from the Sandhill Corner shear zone, located in Somerville, Maine. The shear zone is part of the Norumbega fault system, which lies along the southern half of Maine and spans from its western border to the western edge of New Brunswick, Canada. As part of this work, new protocols are being developed for automated measurement of grain perimeters using electron backscatter diffraction techniques using the scanning electron microscope in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences. Applying their new, experimentally calibrated method to the Sandhill Corner rocks will allow researchers to compare results with those from existing flow laws and hopefully provide an alternative method for evaluating stress and flow rate. In addition, the Norumbega fault system serves as an ancient analog for the currently active San Andreas fault system in California, so the results will have direct application to earthquake faults. “This interdisciplinary project is the latest in a series of NSF projects involving faculty and students from Earth sciences and mechanical engineering to develop new computational techniques and codes that will help us understand the influence of microstructure on the macroscopic properties of heterogeneous material systems,” Vel says. “The outcomes are applicable beyond Earth Sciences and will allow materials scientists to engineer the strength of metals, ceramics and advanced composite materials.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Club Softball to compete in national championship

16 May 2023

The University of Maine Club Softball Team will compete in the 2023 National Club Softball Association World Series, which will be held May 18–21 in Columbus, Georgia. The Black Bears, led by club President Haley Clemons of West Newbury, Massachusetts, will enter the conference with an overall 18–0 record this season, which includes a 15–0 record in the New England — East Conference. The UMaine team is one of 16 collegiate club teams from across the country competing at the World Series. “I am so proud to be a part of this team and all of our accomplishments,” Clemons says. “This trip to Georgia is well deserved and is an amazing opportunity for us. All of our hard work has paid off this season and I’m excited to see how we compete in the NCSA World Series.” The UMaine Men’s Rugby Team and Men’s Volleyball Team also competed in national championships this spring. At the National Collegiate Volleyball Federation Championships, held April 13–15, the Black Bears played in men’s Division II and finished with a 1–6 record. In the small college division of the 2023 Collegiate Rugby Championship, held April 28–30, the Black Bears finished with a 3–2 record. “This has been the most successful year for the Sport Clubs in the time I have been at UMaine,” says Dale Russell, assistant director of sports clubs and youth programs at UMaine. “Not only did we have three teams qualify for nationals, we also had three others make it to their regional championships. On top of that, the clubs as a whole fundraised and completed more community service than any other year in program history. I am proud of all their accomplishments on and off the field.”

Media highlight updated plant sales map from UMaine Extension

17 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News, the Sun Journal and The Piscataquis Observer noted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteer program’s interactive plant sales map has been updated. Visit the UMaine Extension website to access the map and for more information about upcoming plant sales throughout the state.

Lee speaks with Maine Public about food waste and climate change

17 May 2023

Maine Public interviewed Susanne Lee, faculty fellow at the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, about what people can do to minimize food waste and the carbon emissions it generates. “It’s household food waste, that’s really our biggest problem,” Lee says. Connecticut Public, New England Public Media, New Hampshire Public Radio and WCAI shared the Maine Public report.

BDN highlights UMaine wild blueberry research

17 May 2023

In a story about Wyman’s Blueberries importing and raising bees, the Bangor Daily News highlighted the University of Maine’s Wyman’s Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center in Old Town. In time, the research opportunities created by the center will improve predictions about how the berries respond to field conditions, varying precipitation levels and climate change, and ultimately refine crop production techniques that benefit growers, consumers, and the environment. The story also highlighted wild blueberry production statistics produced by University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

USA Today interviews Birkel about accurately measuring global warming

17 May 2023

USA Today interviewed Maine State Climatologist Sean Birkel for a fact checking article titled “April 1895 v. April 2023 temperature comparison does not disprove climate change.” According to Birkel, also assistant professor with a joint appointment at University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, determining whether global warming has occurred by comparing two discrete and short time periods is ineffective. "To identify climate trends it is necessary to examine long-term observational records, not just recent months or seasons," he says.

Williams Hall Dedication Ceremony video and photos available online

18 May 2023

Photographs and a video recording of the Beryl Williams Hall dedication ceremony, which took place on April 28, are available to view online. The video recording of the full ceremony is available on the University of Maine YouTube page. The photos are available for download on Google Drive. In 2021, the University of Maine System Board of Trustees voted to change the name of C.C. Little Hall to Beryl Warner Williams Hall in honor of the first Black graduate to earn a degree in mathematics at UMaine in 1935, followed by a master’s degree in mathematics in 1940. The hall now features two large-scale murals painted in March 2023 by artists Rachel Gloria Adams and Ryan Adams in tribute to Williams and as a celebration of Black heritage in Maine. The 2023 ceremony included remarks by UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and presentations and performances by notable Black mathematicians, poets, artists, musicians and descendants of Bangor’s Black community, including:

- Leon Woodson, professor of mathematics at Morgan State University and executive secretary emeritus of the National Association of Mathematics.
- Rachael Keri Williams, member of the Williams Hall Visualization Committee, descendant historian, founder and executive director of SOAL: SavingOurAncestorsLegacy, and Beryl Warner Williams’ granddaughter.
- Eve Elizabeth Williams, award-winning poet and Beryl Warner Williams’ granddaughter, “Unfiltered,” publications include AfroPunk, SonofBaldwin, KinfolkKollective, Peach Mag and Sun Magazine.
- MYQ Farrow, singer-songwriter, street performer and reluctant poet, “Music is a joy, it is a revolutionary act, so joy is revolutionary,” founder and lead of FARROW — P-Funk, Jam, R&B/Soul and Old-School Folk, Albums: Agitate and Educate.
- Nancy Dymond, Bangor native, actor and educator, and first Maine-born African American to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from UMaine to teach in Maine.
- Scott Warner Williams, blacksmith, publisher, poet and author, professor emeritus of mathematics at the University at Buffalo and Beryl Warner Williams’ son, recipient of Ford Foundation, Fulbright and National Science Foundation awards, African Americans of the Diaspora author who has given over 85 invited lectures, colloquia and seminars at 58 institutions in eight countries.

UMaine Student Life hosts Clean Sweep Sale May 19 and 20

18 May 2023

University of Maine Student Life will host its annual Clean Sweep Sale from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. on Friday, May 19, and from 8 a.m.–noon on Saturday, May 20, at the Alfond Arena. Home furnishings left behind in residence halls during student move out, including furniture, decorations and appliances, will be available for sale, as well as a limited selection of dorm furniture. The Bear Necessities Fan Shop in the Alfond Arena will also have sales available 11 a.m.–5 p.m on Friday, May 19.

PPH cites Tick Lab in covering beginning of tick season

18 May 2023

In an article about ticks returning to Maine for the season, the Portland Press Herald noted the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab received 5,274 ticks from 380 towns in Maine to be tested for diseases last year, and 51.2% tested positive for at least one pathogen. The article also cited a report from the lab which notes that Lyme disease is the most commonly reported vector-borne disease in the U.S., and reported cases have been steadily increasing throughout much of the state. The Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared the PPH report.

Media note UMaine role in ecology study

18 May 2023

Phys.org, Scienmag and Bioengineer.org noted that Hamish Grieg, associate professor of stream ecology at the University of Maine, co-authored a study showing that resident species can continue managing some important ecological processes despite the arrival of newcomers that are similar to them, but resident species' role in ecosystem functioning changes when the newcomers are more different.

Media share Tick Lab information in article about death from Powassen virus

18 May 2023

In an article about a Sagadahoc County resident who died after contracting the tick-borne Powassan virus, the Bangor Daily News and Boston.com noted that ticks can be sent to the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Tick Lab, which tests for the majority of tick-borne diseases present in the state.

PenBay Pilot shares Apul webinar through Merryspring Nature Center

18 May 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot shared that Onur Apul, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, will lead an online presentation titled, "PFAS in Maine" in a webinar hosted by Merryspring Nature Center at noon on Tuesday, May 23.

Media note Howell partnership featured in Sappi North America 2022 Sustainability Report

18 May 2023

The Sappi North America 2022 Sustainability Report noted the company's collaboration with Caitlin Howell, associate professor of chemical and biomedical engineering at the University of Maine, to study the use of Sappi's texturing technology to build mass-manufactured, low-cost microfluidics that also have a low environmental impact. 3BL Media shared the report, and the Greenville Advocate, Times of San Diego, Austin Daily Herald, Clanton Advertiser, Salisbury Post, the LaGrange Daily News and other outlets shared the 3BL Media report.

Media boost June 10 field day at Tidewater Farm

18 May 2023

Morning Ag Clips, the Bangor Daily News and the Sun Journal shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a Field Day from 10 a.m.–noon on Saturday, June 10 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth.

Garland speaks to BDN about frost warnings

18 May 2023

Kate Garland, horticulturist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about the impact of recent frost on Maine gardeners. "Back in 2020, there were some very chilly nights in early June that caught a lot of gardeners by surprise. Years before that, I'll never forget the disappointment of having my hardened off tomato plants get hit by a cold evening shortly after Memorial Day weekend. It wasn't a full frost, but it was cold enough to really set them back to a point where I decided to replant," Garland said.

BDN shares Desjardins profile

18 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared a profile of Erica Desjardins, a recent University of Maine graduate from Bangor who received an award from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program to pursue a master's degree in European and International Affairs at Cergy Paris University in France.

PPH cites Dill in article about death from Powassen virus

18 May 2023

In an article about a Sagadahoc County resident who died from exposure to the rare tick-borne illness Powassan virus, the Portland Press Herald quoted Griffin Dill, an integrated pest management professional and manager of University of Maine Cooperative Extension's tick lab, about this year's tick season. "I don't expect we will have a lower season overall, just a slightly slower start to the season. There are a myriad of factors that could negate this slow start, so it's hard to say whether a slightly later start to the spring is going to noticeably impact tick populations," Dill said. Yahoo! News, the Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared the PPH report.

MacRae speaks to BDN about impact of Juniper Ridge Landfill fire

18 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, about the impact of Monday's fire at Juniper Ridge Landfill. MacRae said that during an uncontrolled burn, contaminants such as carbon dioxide, particulate matter and dioxins are released into the air. "It depends on how much [pollutants] got released, how long the fire went on, how much wind was blowing … . That affects the concentration of where the fire is, and the concentration and how long people were exposed would determine the degree of toxicity," MacRae said.

UMaine study shows why lane departure accidents are so prevalent in Maine

18 May 2023

In Maine, lane departure crashes, such as running off the road or head-on collisions, are the most prevalent source of road fatalities, accounting for nearly 70% of roadway deaths. A new study from the University of Maine shows how rural roads, deteriorating infrastructure, an aging population and cold weather can be a deadly combination for drivers. Ali Shirazi, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering, led a study published in February 2023 in the Journal of Safety Research about the factors influencing lane departure crashes as part of a project sponsored by the Maine Department of Transportation. The study analyzed the impact of roadway, driver and weather factors on the severity of single-vehicle lane departure crashes — ranging from fatal crashes to only property damage — that occurred between 2017 and 2019 on various types of roadways in Maine. "Lane departure crashes account for nearly 70% of roadway fatalities in Maine; and a vast majority of those are single vehicle crashes. It is therefore crucial to understand factors that impact road departure crashes to develop countermeasures or interventions to reduce the number or severity of these crashes," Shirazi says. The researchers used weather data from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) stations, and considered groups of variables like the driver's age, sex and whether they were speeding, operating under the influence or using their seatbelts; when the crash happened; the vehicles involved in the crash; and the roadway characteristics where the crash occurred, such as curves, speed limits and lane width. By modeling these variables together, researchers found that the odds of crashes increases as much as three times for older drivers above the age of 65 compared to young drivers aged 29 or less on all types of Maine roads. Still, failure to use a seatbelt was the most influential variable causing severe injuries. "In Maine, factors such as older drivers, operating under the influence, speeding, precipitation, and not wearing a seatbelt showed higher odds of leading to injury," says Shirazi. The researchers hope that this study will help MaineDOT and cities and towns throughout the state improve their maintenance strategies, enhance safety by using proper countermeasures and increase awareness of the factors causing accidents across the state. "The findings of this study provide insights for safety analysts, practitioners and agencies in Maine to better understand the factors impacting lane departure crash severities on rural roads. Removing utility poles and trees from the clear zone and beyond, and enforcing speed limits would be effective in reducing fatalities and serious injuries when people do go off the road. Providing guardrails where trees cannot be removed is an alternative," says Shirazi. The study's co-authors include Per Garder, professor of civil and environmental engineering; and Jonathan Rubin, professor of economics; and former graduate student Alainie Sawtelle. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

New report describes community resilience in Northern Border Region

18 May 2023

Describing the resilience to major economic, ecological and climate change by rural communities across northern New England and New York through qualitative and quantitative data is the objective of a new report written by University of Maine researchers Adam Daigneault and Aaron Weiskittel and their colleagues. The project team and partners will present key findings from the report during a free, public webinar at 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 25. Registration is available online. Cities, towns and villages throughout the Northern Border Region, which encompasses areas of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York that border Canada, are more likely to have higher levels of unemployment, population loss and lower incomes than neighboring areas. By providing objective metrics to explore these issues and how communities endure them, researchers hope their new report will help guide strategic investments from the federal and state governments to aid the region. Community resilience can be measured by the ability to support human well-being in the aftermath of disruptive events such as recession, local loss of industry or a global pandemic, according to researchers. In their report, researchers provide community-level insight by developing quantitative indicators of socioeconomic resilience and baseline data for people's views on assets and challenges. They also determined ways to use ecological data to help analyze community resilience. "Our study demonstrates the utility of using objective data to understand resilience trends at the community scale," says Daigenault, lead author of the report and University of Maine E.L. Giddings Associate Professor of Forest Policy and Economics. "The abundance of forestland in the region can be a blessing and a curse. While forests provide a range of ecosystem services like fiber, recreation, and clean water to local communities, we also found that highly resource-dependent communities can be less resilient than other parts of the region." Daigneault and Weiskitell, director of the UMaine Center for Research on Sustainable Forests, worked on the report with Kerry Daigle, Kelly Hamshaw, Meredith Niles and Claire Whitehouse from the University of Vermont; Sarah Garlick and Anthea Lavallee from the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation; and Christopher Woodall from the U.S. Forest Service's Northern Research Station. Visit the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests website for more information. Contact: Adam Daigneault, adam.daigneault@maine.edu

Longtime UMaine communications leader Margaret Nagle retires

19 May 2023

Margaret Nagle, former director of communications for the University of Maine, retired May 9 after nearly 40 years of service. Nagle joined the UMaine community in 1985. During her tenure, she led the news services staff within the Division of Marketing and Communications, generated countless stories and oversaw university media relations and crisis communications. She also managed UMaine Today, a magazine highlighting faculty and student research and creative works that had been distributed nationwide and won numerous awards. The search for a new director of communications is underway. "We are grateful for Margaret's dedication to promoting our university's stories and accomplishments to audiences throughout Maine and the nation," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "For decades, Margaret demonstrated what it means to be a strategic communicator and a strong leader. Her work elevated UMaine to be the important voice on issues of higher education, research and academia that it is today." In 2021, Nagle received the Steve Gould Award for demonstrating superior qualities of unselfishness and compassion in service to the university and its ideals. In 1994, the Professional Employees Advisory Council awarded her the Outstanding Professional Employee Award. Nagle also earned a master's degree in education at UMaine and taught journalism courses, including feature writing and public affairs reporting.

UMaine Graduate School of Business ranked 26 nationwide by Fortune

19 May 2023

Fortune magazine's 2023 online MBA rankings place the MaineMBA at 26th nationwide. The MaineMBA program, offered by the University of Maine's Graduate School of Business, is the only business school in Maine and one of four in New England to be ranked among the nation's best by Fortune. Fortune also ranked the MaineMBA program in four subcategories, which are new to this year's list:

- Fourth in Accounting
- Ninth in the Northeast

11th in Accelerated Programs
- 20th in Finance

"I'm thrilled about this year's Fortune rankings," says Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business. "I'm particularly pleased about where we stand in the new subcategories. Our MBA program is taught by world-class faculty at the University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine." The MaineMBA offers 13 concentrations, such as business analytics, outdoor industry management and engineering management. The program's new, interdisciplinary approach encourages a wide-ranging, tangible, hands-on education that gives learners a full spectrum of opportunities. The MaineMBA is part of the Maine Graduate and Professional Center based at 300 Fore Street in Portland Maine. It is a signature initiative of the Harold Alfond Foundation's $240M investment in the University of Maine System designed to prepare future leaders with the skills to solve the most pressing global and local challenges and strengthen Maine's economy and workforce. In its ranking process, Fortune analyzed 100 qualified business schools that completed their questionnaire for this year's ranking. Survey data, information from their research and a brand survey were all considered in the calculations. The methodology consists of Program Score, Fortune 1000 Score and Brand Score. Visit Fortune's website to learn more.

PenBay Pilot promotes new art gallery exhibit at Hutchinson Center

19 May 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot promoted "S.P.E.A.K.," or Students Promoting Equity, Art, and Knowledge, a new multimedia art exhibit created by Troy Howard Middle School's eighth grade social studies students located at the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast.

WGME reports on UMaine alum who received Distinguished Engineering Award

19 May 2023

WGME (Channel 13 in Portland) reported on University of Maine alumnus and Dielectric President Keith Pelletier receiving the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineering Award from the Maine College of Engineering and Computing.

Media highlight lobster ecology research by UMaine graduate students

19 May 2023

The Lincoln County News, Mount Desert Islander, Courier-Gazette and The Ellsworth American highlighted new research about how climate change affects lobster ecology led by University of Maine graduate students Alex Ascher and Evelyn Layland.

WFVX promotes Clean Sweep Sale

19 May 2023

WFVX (Channel 7 in Bangor) promoted the Clean Sweep Sale hosted by University of Maine Student Life from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. on Friday, May 19, and from 8 a.m.–noon on Saturday, May 20, at the Alfond Arena.

Scripps News cites UMaine research in logging industry story

19 May 2023

In a news story about the product demand and job losses experienced in the logging industry, and the possible ramifications they could have on the supply of building products, Scripps News cited a recent report by University of Maine researchers titled "The Economic Contribution of Logging and Trucking in Maine." According to Scripps News, the report describes how the "logging industry supported fewer jobs and generated less economic output and labor income in 2021 compared to the five years prior." The Billings Gazette, MSN, Furniture Today, WLEX-TV (Channel 18 in Lexington, Kentucky), KSBY-TV (Channel 6 in San Luis Obispo, California), KGTV (Channel 10 in San Diego), KMTV-TV (Channel 3 in Omaha, Nebraska), WMAR-TV (Channel 2 in Baltimore, Maryland) and other outlets shared the story from Scripps News.

Ranco speaks to Maine Public about CODE RED exhibit

19 May 2023

Darren Ranco, professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, spoke with Maine Public about the new CODE RED exhibit at the Maine Historical Society in Portland. The exhibit, which Ranco co-curated, explores Indigenous knowledge and environmental stewardship, how humans have previously shaped the environment and the ramifications of climate change. "The teaching, of course, from Wabanaki people is this notion that we take care of it [the planet], it takes care of us," Ranco said. The Bangor Daily News, New Hampshire Public Radio, Connecticut Public, New England Public Media and WCAI-FM (Woods Hole, Massachusetts) shared the Maine Public story.

CNN highlights floating offshore wind energy research at UMaine

19 May 2023

CNN interviewed Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, and Anthony Viselli, manager of offshore model testing and structural design at the facility, about floating offshore wind research being conducted at UMaine. "You're working on technology that can have huge societal effects and job creation. It's just checking all the boxes. It's not many problems where you can touch all those meaningful things and really sink your teeth into a great engineering problem," Viselli said. KESQ-TV (Channel 3 in Palm Springs, California) and WKBT (Channel 8 in La Crosse, Wisconson) shared the CNN report.

UMaine Extension 4-H introducing teens to adulting concepts in June

22 May 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a short-term online 4-H club for youth ages 13–18 about basic adult life skills from 4–5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, June 21–July 26. Required registration closes June 10. The "4-H Adulting 101" series will introduce basic adult life skills by exploring a different topic each week including personal values, building healthy relationships, buying and caring for a car, youth entrepreneurship, mindfulness and stress management, and a topic chosen by the participants. UMaine Extension 4-H staff and guest speakers will lead the discussions. The club is free; limited to 20 participants. Register on the event webpage by June 10 to receive the Zoom link and introductory email. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.324.2814; erin.mcdonald1@maine.edu. Additional information also is available on the Extension 4-H Virtual Learning webpage.

Piscataquis Observer highlights UMaine participation in Green Jobs Fair

22 May 2023

The Piscataquis Observer noted that the University of Maine is a partner organization in the Green Jobs Fair for two area middle school classes, Piscataquis Community Elementary School sixth grade and SeDoMoCha Middle School seventh grade, organized by the Piscataquis Environmental Education Collaborative and Maine TREE. Other UMaine-affiliated partners for the event include the School of Forest Resources, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the UMaine Extension Veterinary Diagnostics Lab and the UMaine Extension Tick Lab.

Media note upcoming Special Olympics games at UMaine

22 May 2023

The Wiscasset Newspaper and Boothbay Register shared that the University of Maine will host over 1,500 Special Olympics Maine athletes, coaches, and volunteers for the 2023 State Summer Games on June 9-11. For more information about Special Olympics Maine, questions about volunteering or to provide financial support to help make Special Olympics Maine programs possible, contact the state office at 207-879-0489 or visit the Special Olympics Maine website.

Good Housekeeping magazine shares June bug resource from UMaine Extension

22 May 2023

In an article about June Bugs and how to remove them from gardens, Good Housekeeping magazine cited an online resource about them from University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

BDN advances new UMaine-led report about Northern Border Region

22 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News advanced a new report written by University of Maine researchers Adam Daigneault and Aaron Weiskittel and their colleagues that describes the resilience to major economic, ecological and climate change by rural communities across northern New England and New York through qualitative and quantitative data.

Hargest discusses pests and plant sales with Press Herald

22 May 2023

Pamela Hargest, a horticulture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke with the Portland Press Herald for a story about how invasive pests have impacted plant sales. Hargest says a strategy that can help minimize the spread of pests like winter moth and jumping worms is to rinse the roots of any perennials dug from local gardens and replanting them in peat-free mix before bringing them to a sale. The article also noted the upcoming plant sale hosted by Cumberland County Master Gardeners at Tidewater Farm in Falmouth. "We have kind of transitioned to posting our plant sale on Saturday of the Memorial Day weekend because that is the earliest time to plant your tender summer crops," Hargest says. CentralMaine.com shared the Press Herald story.

BDN notes Talty remarks at Community Festival and Fun Run at Coe Park

23 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, will present at the Community Festival and Fun Run at Coe Park on June 10.

PPH notes Talty winning Maine Literary Award

23 May 2023

The Portland Press Herald reported that Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, won a Maine Literary Award for his debut novel "Night of the Living Rez."

Hargest speaks to PPH about invasive pests at local plant sales

23 May 2023

Pamela Hargest, a University of Maine Extension horticulturist, spoke to the Portland Press Herald about invasive pests infiltrating local plant sales. Hargest explained that volunteers at plant sales will rinse the soil from the roots of all perennials dug up from local gardens and repot them for the sale in a peat-free mix because it is the only way to ensure the sale doesn't unintentionally spread dangerous pests. CentralMaine.com shared the PPH report.

Dumas speaks to BDN about growing a 'recipe garden'

23 May 2023

Robert Dumas, food science innovation coordinator at the University of Maine, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about growing a "recipe garden," which focuses on growing crops for specific dishes or types of dishes, like salsa, pizza, kimchi, sauerkraut or Thai cuisine. "There is always the availability with your garden to grow things unique to certain recipes. The trick is planting so that all the various components are ripe and ready to harvest at the same time," Dumas said.

Daily Hampshire Gazette promotes Charney book

23 May 2023

The Daily Hampshire Gazette featured "These Trees Tell a Story: The Art of Reading Landscapes," a new book by Noah Charney, assistant professor in the University of Maine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology. The article explained that Charney's "richly illustrated" book is based on a college course he led called 'Field Naturalist," in which he took students on field trips to various natural settings "to examine and decipher their mysteries." The article also noted that there will be a book launch event for "These Trees Tell a Story" beginning at 5 p.m. May 19 at the Hitchcock Center for the Environment in Amherst, Massachusetts, with free food and live music.

Dill speaks to BDN about horsehair worm

23 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the parasitic horsehair worm. "Once they have parasitized the host and are mature, the horsehair worm tricks it to seek out water and jump in. The grasshopper or whatever bug is the host drowns and the worm comes out," Dill said. WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) and WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

Boston Globe names UMaine alumna as Tech Power Player

23 May 2023

Melissa Smith, an alumna of the University of Maine who studied business administration, was listed as one of the Boston Globe's Tech Power Players 50 for 2023. Smith is chair and CEO of WEX, which offers tools that help firms such as Expedia and Mastercard streamline and manage financial operations.

WABI reports on UMaine softball club competing in national championship

23 May 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine's club softball team competed in the National Club Softball Association (NCSA) National Tournament. It's the first-ever Nationals trip for the Black Bears' program since they joined the NCSA in 2015.

Simply Recipes quotes Calderwood, McCarty about storing blueberries

23 May 2023

Simply Recipes spoke to Kate McCarty, food systems professional at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and Lily Calderwood, Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, about best practices for storing blueberries. Calderwood explained the blueberries should not be washed before storing because they are covered in a waxy coating called 'bloom,' which fresh pack and fresh frozen growers preserve to prevent the fruit from rotting. McCarty said that blueberries can also be frozen. "Sometimes I just stick the whole flat in the freezer when they are in abundance in August but I don't actually recommend that! Instead, measure the berries into portions you'll use, like one cup for your favorite loaf cake or one pound for your favorite pie," McCarty said. Yahoo! News and MSN shared the Simply Recipes article.

Washington Post speaks to Socolow about CNN Trump town hall

23 May 2023

In an article about CNN's Trump town hall, the Washington Post quoted Michael Socolow, professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, as saying that the telecast "didn't move the needle" on any opinion polls. MSN and The Detroit News shared the Washington Post report.

Registration open for free Maine Summer Transportation Institute for middle school students

24 May 2023

The University of Maine College of Engineering and Computing is accepting rolling registrations for the Maine Summer Transportation Institute (MSTI), open to Maine middle school students. MSTI will run from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. during two, one-week sessions, July 10–14 and July 17–21. Participants will

engage in STEM related hands-on activities, on-campus presentations and field trips. This program is free and supported by the Federal Highway Administration, Maine Department of Transportation and UMaine College of Engineering and Computing. Only 12 applicants will be accepted for each week's program. For more information and application forms, visit the MSTI website. Applications and required documents can be mailed to Sheila Pendse, Dean's Office, College of Engineering and Computing, 5796 AMC Building, University of Maine, Orono, 04469.

BDN reports on Caron scholarship from Phi Kappa Phi

24 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that Meg Caron of Bangor was recently awarded a Study Abroad Grant worth $1,000 from The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi — the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Caron is one of 125 students nationwide to receive the award. Caron will use the grant to study abroad at University of Montpellier, Nimes, France. Phi Kappa Phi started at UMaine in 1897. As the founding institution, the university is home to chapter 1.

Ellsworth American boosts Newsom talk with Gouldsboro Historical Society

24 May 2023

The Ellsworth American shared that Bonnie Newsom, assistant professor of anthropology, will present "The Archaeology of Our Shell Middens" at Prospect Harbor Women's Club at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 5, as part of the Gouldsboro Historical Society's 2023 program season.

News Center Maine notes Tick Lab stats

24 May 2023

In an article about tick season, News Center Maine noted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab has already received more than 400 tick samples this year. Q 97.9, Q 96.1, WBLM 102.9, WCYY and 92 Moose cited the News Center Maine report.

Business Insider features ASCC BioHome3D, interviews Dagher

24 May 2023

Business Insider featured the Advanced Structures and Composites Center's (ASCC) BioHome 3D and spoke to Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the ASCC. "Our number one priority is to alleviate the societal problems [like housing and sustainable construction] we are facing right now … .[It's not] just the engineering of the home but the livability aspects," Dagher said. Yahoo! News shared the Business Insider report.

Adrenalin notes O'Reilly role in Ontario University Athletics economic impact study

24 May 2023

Adrenalin reported that Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business, partnered on a study that determined Ontario University Athletics (OUA) has an annual economic impact of $300–$600 million. "Whether attracting students from out of town, bringing people to town as tourists, or building cultures of volunteerism in town, the 20 athletic departments of the OUA are providing value to the communities in which they operate … . Within those communities, local event operators, facility managers, hotel operators, restaurant owners, and other consumer-facing local organizations benefit from the OUA," O'Reilly said.

Dill speaks to BDN about stable flies

24 May 2023

Jim Dill, pest management specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about stable flies. "If you have stable flies, they bite and that will bother the animals and will draw blood. If it gets bad enough, it can impact milk production in dairy animals," Dill said. Dill added that parasitic wasps can be used to control both stable and house fly populations.

News Center Maine speaks to Dill about tick borne illness

24 May 2023

Griffin Dill, the manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, spoke to News Center Maine about the rise in tick borne illness. "It's not a surprise to those of us working with ticks and tick borne illnesses. We have seen cases of babesiosis dating back to 2001. Now we are seeing a couple hundred a year of babesiosis in the state of Maine," Dill said.

'Maine Calling' features UMaine Extension Boots-2-Bushels program

24 May 2023

In a segment about new farmers in Maine, Maine Public's show "Maine Calling" featured Anne Martin, program coordinator of the Boots-2-Bushels market garden program at University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

BDN notes Laatsch role in Science Teacher Academy

24 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that Shawn Laatsch, director of the Versant Power Astronomy Center at the University of Maine, will assist with the Maine Discovery Museum's pilot of the Science Teacher Academy, a federally funded pilot program for kindergarten through fifth grade teachers. In the introductory conference on Monday, Laatsch gave teachers ideas on how to incorporate next year's total solar eclipse into classroom lessons and showed them how to build tools to view the eclipse safely with shoeboxes. Hands-on lesson ideas from Laatsch also included how to teach students what causes the moon phases using styrofoam balls and a flashlight.

Maginnis joins Women in Bioscience panel

24 May 2023

Melissa Maginnis, associate professor of microbiology at the University of Maine, will participate in a moderated panel discussion during the Women in Bioscience Event, hosted by the Bioscience Association of Maine (BioME) 4–7 p.m. Wednesday, May 24 in Portland. Visit the BioME website for more information.

Hope Shore: Building the student experience at UMaine Machias

24 May 2023

For Hope Shore, curating the student experience at the University of Maine at Machias is more than just her calling — it's just plain fun. The director of student life has been in the position for a little over a year, but is already making waves in planning activities and community-building on campus, while including students at every step of the process. Shore grew up in New England and lived in Vermont and New Hampshire before finally landing in Bethel, Maine. She studied sociology for her undergraduate degree at Castleton State College (now Castleton University), but realized that her true passion was in student life. "In college I was a resident assistant and also an orientation leader, so I worked in student affairs and really loved it," Shore says. "I found out from the people I worked with that you could have it as a job. I really liked being at the school and doing the activities and stuff."

Shore received her graduate degree in student affairs in higher education at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She worked for seven years at the University of Maine at Farmington as the assistant director of student life. When the director of student life position opened up at UMaine Machias, she immediately applied; she loved working in the University of Maine System, and the tight-knit community at UMaine Machias appealed to her sensibilities. "I love small institutions," Shore says. "Pretty much every place I've worked has been a small institution. I enjoy the relationships you can build with students and how you can help them grow. The campus community is really engaged and really wants to support and help the students." Shore was hired in January 2022. Since then, she has taken on a wide variety of roles, managing the Reynolds Murdock Fitness and Aquatics Center, Student Accessibility Services, the Counseling Center, the Career Center, Residence Life, Student Activities, Student Conduct, Campus Safety, Space Reservations, ID Card Services and Parking Services. She scours the internet for prizes for campus bingo games and raffles that the students will really enjoy. She said Squishmallows are especially popular right now, but she also tries to find items that are useful for school and for fun, like AirPods. In addition to regular weekly events like movie nights (which are also free and open the Machias community), bocce ball and karaoke, Shore planned the UMaine Machias' Winter and Spring Fests, with craft tables featuring students and community members selling their wares and bouncy houses for adults and children alike to enjoy. Shore is most proud, though, of the student experiences she has helped coordinate off-campus that they might not have been able to do otherwise, like the trip she planned for students to go to the New England Aquarium in Boston. "It was a big deal," Shore says. "We took 53 students with us. We got a big passenger bus and we had to get up really early and come back really late, but it was really fun to see everyone go to the aquarium, go to Quincy Market — it was just a fun opportunity to get out and go someplace different." Shore says that she works closely with students to make sure that activities (and even the prizes associated with student contests) are what they want. Shore works closely with the student group SAIL, which stands for Student Activities Innovation and Leadership. "They really help put on all these activities and implement them," Shore says. "It's really a collaboration. Our on-campus students are just really involved. There are 107 students and there are six fraternities and sororities. They want to do these activities, and they want to be a part of it." Tristin Hubisz is a senior studying creative arts at UMaine Machias and has been the president of SAIL since his sophomore year. Hubisz says that Shore has been instrumental the past year in helping the clubs on campus reach their full potential. "She has no qualms about us as an organization having free reign over what we decide to do, and works to make sure that our dreams can become a reality," Hubisz says. "She has allowed SAIL as a whole to work on building up their resumes with the versatility of the work that we do alongside her. Already, she has worked on making all of the organizations on campus able to make their feasible goals a reality, and continues to push the limits in order to let us continue to do that."

Megan Walsh, dean and campus director at UMaine Machias, said that even in a short period of time, Shore has made a big impact on the campus community. "Hope's positive impact on every aspect of student affairs was obvious from the outset," Walsh says. "I look forward to receiving Hope's weekly campus update on Student Affairs events — there is always something fun going on. Hope makes sure every aspect of student life on campus runs smoothly. Her work also impacts the community." Shore has big plans for the future of student life at UMaine Machias. She wants to work on getting commuter students at UMaine Machias more involved with events, perhaps with online crafting, and set up a shuttle to get students who live on-campus into town for day trips. Even so, the students already have recognized Shore's impact. This year, Shore was given the Unsung Hero Award, established in 2008 for members of the UMaine Machias senior class to honor staff members. "I couldn't believe it," Shore says. "I appreciate that they see how much I'm trying to work and do stuff. I appreciate the students how much they work and how much they appreciate others." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension donating tomato seedlings in Piscataquis County

25 May 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will be giving away tomato seedlings at various locations in Piscataquis County from May 30–June 7. Distribution sites will include Dover-Foxcroft, Greenville, Monson, Guilford and Milo. For a full list of locations, dates and times, visit the One Tomato website or follow Piscataquis County Extension on Facebook. To encourage more people to grow their own vegetables, the UMaine Extension Piscataquis County Executive Committee adopted the One Tomato project in 2014. Over the years, they have distributed more than 4,100 seedlings that gardeners used to grow cherry tomatoes valued at $9 per plant. The One Tomato Project is a program aimed at encouraging people to grow at least one tomato in their garden. One tomato is not expensive to grow, it's easy, and it can be grown just about anywhere, including a garden, a flowerbed, a container, a hanging basket or a front lawn. Plants will be distributed at the following locations while supplies last:

- Indian Hill Trading Post, Greenville: 11 a.m.–2 p.m. on May 30.
- Monson General Store: 11 a.m.– 2 p.m. on May 31.
- Guilford Memorial Library: 10 a.m.–noon on May 31st.
- Guilford Town Office: 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on June 1.
- Piscataquis Regional Food Center: 9–11:30 a.m. on June 2 and 6.
- Black Fly Festival, Milo: 9 a.m.–3 p.m. on June 3.
- Sangerville Food Cupboard: 8:30–11 a.m. on June 7.

Plants can also be picked up at the Piscataquis County Extension office, 165 East Maine St., from 8 a.m.–noon on Wednesday, May 31, and from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 1, and Friday, June 2. For more information, contact 207.564.3301, laurie.bowen@maine.edu or extension.piscataquis@maine.edu.

Charney featured on Yale University Press Podcast

25 May 2023

Noah Charney, assistant professor of conservation biology at the University of Maine, was featured on the Yale University Press Podcast discussing his new book "These Trees Tell a Story: The Art of Reading Landscapes."

News Center Maine highlights UMaine PFAS research

25 May 2023

News Center Maine featured University of Maine researchers studying ways to predict PFAS absorption. Spearheaded by Ph.D. student Dilara Hatinoglu, students and researchers found out that by using a statistical model, they can calculate if a specific microplastic would absorb PFAS chemicals. "So if you know the statistical properties of the PFAS you're interested in, you can simply run an algebraic operation to estimate how much it would absorb," said Onur Apul, the project advisor and assistant professor of environmental engineering.

Longtime UMaine French professor passes away

26 May 2023

Raymond Pelletier, longtime University of Maine French professor and former associate director of the Canadian-American Center, passed away on May 15 at the age of 80. Pelletier joined UMaine in 1979 as an assistant professor of education and Canadian studies and cooperating assistant professor of French. For more than 30 years, he taught many courses on the French Language, Canadian Studies, Francophone history and cultures, and French literature and business. He also took students and teachers on trips to Quebec and France. "He really cared about students," says Susan Pinette, professor of modern languages and director of Franco American Programs at UMaine. "He knew how to provide structure and get students to strive while at the same time made them feel supported. He was a kind, devoted, generous teacher." As associate director of the Canadian-American Center, Pelletier played a crucial role in grant writing efforts. He also served as both vice president and president of the Maine Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French, and as executive director, vice president and president of American Council for Quebec Studies. Canadian-American Center Director Frédéric Rondeau, recalls Pelletier "as extremely generous, welcoming, kind, and passionate about Québec and Franco-American cultures." "Ray's pedagogical approach was all about immersion, and learning the language by discovering the culture," he says. "Numerous students, faculty and K–12 educators have been inspired by the way he communicated his love of French-language novels and culinary arts of France and North America. He will be greatly missed'' Pelletier earned many awards and accolades of the years, including the honor of lauréat from the the American Association of Teachers of French in 1994, as well as the 20/20 Vision Award from the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States and the Richard Williamson Award for Leadership in Language Education from the Foreign Language Association of Maine, both in 2009. Read more about Pelletier's legacy in his obituary. A celebration of his life will be held from 4–6 p.m. on Thursday, June 1 at the University of Maine Buchanan Alumni House, 160 College Avenue. Gifts in his memory may be made to the Raymond J. Pelletier Scholarship, payable to the University of Maine Foundation, 2 Alumni Place, Orono.

Republican Journal notes Searsport students' participation in UMaine Windstorm Challenge

26 May 2023

The Republican Journal reported that Searsport District Middle School teacher Anna Ramgren and her eighth graders competed at the Windstorm Challenge at the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center.

News Center Maine notes UMaine Woodsmen Team

26 May 2023

In an article about the Great Maine Lumberjack Show, News Center Maine noted that performer Abigail Stevens got her start in the sport in college through the University of Maine Woodsmen Team, which she now coaches.

BDN shares Maine Business School ranking from Fortune

26 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that Fortune magazine's 2023 online MBA rankings place the MaineMBA, offered by the University of Maine's Graduate School of Business, at 26th nationwide.

TV News Check notes Pelletier award from Umaine

26 May 2023

TV News Check reported that Dielectric President and General Manager Keith Pelletier was recognized by his alma mater University of Maine with the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineer Award. Pelletier, who earned a B.S. in electrical engineering technology, was nominated by professor Ali Abdei in recognition of his achievements in engineering, research and public service.

Courier-Gazette, Lincoln County News share UMaine Extension call for Union Fair volunteers

26 May 2023

The Courier-Gazette and the Lincoln County News shared that the UMaine Extension 4-H is seeking volunteers for the Union Fair July 26–30, 2023.

Spectrum News quotes McCue-Quinn about Maine home prices

26 May 2023

Spectrum News spoke to Buffy McCue-Quinn, lecturer at the University of Maine Business School, about the spike in Maine home prices this past spring. "It was crazy. It was an absolute frenzy. There's no way to get ahead of that inventory curve unless a bunch of people decide to move out of the state of Maine," McCue-Quinn said.

BDN notes UMaine role in climate change adaptation partnership

26 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted the University of Maine is partnering with 10 municipalities and the Penobscot Nation to support residents and improve infrastructure in Penobscot County in the face of a changing climate as part of a new initiative called Penobscot Climate Action.

Talty, Gill win 2023 Maine Literary Awards

26 May 2023

Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English, and Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology & plant ecology, received 2023 Maine Literary Awards from the Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance (MWPA). Talty won the Book Award for Fiction for his debut novel "Night of the Living Rez," and Gill won the Short Works Competition in Nonfiction for her essay "Grief Almanac for an Apocalypse," published in The Sun magazine. For a full list of honorees, visit the MWPA website.

Media share UMaine Extension tomato seedling program

30 May 2023

Morning Ag Clips, The Piscataquis Observer and the Fiddlehead Focus shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will be giving away tomato seedlings at various locations in Piscataquis County from May 30–June 7 as part of the One Tomato project. The UMaine Extension Piscataquis County Executive Committee adopted the One Tomato project in 2014 and has since distributed more than 4,100 seedlings that gardeners used to grow cherry tomatoes valued at $9 per plant. For a full list of locations, dates and times, visit the One Tomato Project website or follow Piscataquis County Extension on Facebook.

Ellsworth American notes UMaine role in Saltonstall-Kennedy Program

30 May 2023

In an article about Maine groups that have been tapped for funding from the Saltonstall-Kennedy Competitive Grants Program, The Ellsworth American and Mount Desert Islander noted that NOAA Fisheries recommended around $230,000 in funding to the University of Maine to increase sustainability of the North Atlantic squid fishery “from processing waste to value-added seafood products.”

WFVX highlights Maine Learning Technology Initiative at UMaine

30 May 2023

WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) featured the 20th annual Maine Learning Technology Initiative student conference, which involved more than a thousand students and included over 40 sessions centered around engaging them in essential computer science skills and knowledge.

Media feature UMaine Extension 4-H Tick Project

30 May 2023

News Center Maine, Bangor Daily News, Morning Ag Clips, the Advertiser Democrat and the Daily Bulldog featured University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s 4-H Tick Project, a community science program open to K–12 students to learn about the life cycle of ticks, habitats, species, the pathogens they transmit and how tick migration is tied to climate change. "We get the ticks identified and tested for diseases at no cost to the educator, and that data gets sent back to the educators to share with the youth," said Carla Scocchi, UMaine Extension 4-H youth development professional.

Schine speaks to Northern Woodlands about working as a woman in forestry

30 May 2023

Elisa Schine, a graduate student in forestry at the University of Maine, spoke to Northern Woodlands about working in forestry professions as a woman. Although forestry has become much more inclusive of women during the past several decades, it remains a majority male profession. “There’s this incredible resource of potential employees, potential collaborators who are just not being invited in. And I think, in male-dominated fields, you have to actually invite people in, otherwise they won’t see a place for themselves. That doesn’t seem like a good trajectory to be on,” Schine said. The Maine Monitor shared the Northern Woodlands report.

Maine Monitor features UMaine wood energy research

30 May 2023

The Maine Monitor featured research at the University of Maine’s Forest Bioproducts Research Institute to develop alternatives to fossil fuels by using wood that might otherwise go to waste. Ian Toal, mechanical process engineer, spoke to the online publication about the project. “I’ve got a 5-year-old at home that I still can’t imagine what kind of world he’s going to grow up in. Anything I can do to help make that a world close to what we’re living in, or a better world, is motivation for me,” Toal said. The Portland Press Herald, Bangor Daily News and Penobscot Bay Pilot shared The Maine Monitor report.

UMaine Zillman Art Museum hosts panel on LBGTQ+ inclusive language June 8

31 May 2023

The University of Maine Zillman Art Museum will host a free panel on the importance of LGBTQ+ inclusive language with representatives from Bangor PRIDE, Health Equity Alliance (HEAL) and Northern Light Acadia Hospital 5:30–7:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 8, at 40 Harlow St., Bangor. “Words Matter: A Panel on the Importance of LGBTQ+ Inclusive Language” will cover a range of topics, from the proper use of pronouns to the stigmatizing language people use unconsciously every day. The panel will be set against the backdrop of Zillman Art Museum’s summer show, Nightlife NYC, 1977-2003, featuring the work of renowned photographer Meryl Meisler, who captured the diverse ages, races, ethnicities, sexual orientations and gender identities in the crowds of Studio 54 and other New York City nightclubs. A reception in the exhibit will be held starting at 5:30 p.m., and the panel will begin at 6:30 p.m. The panel will be moderated by Jill Henderson, director of communications at the Health Equity Alliance. Panelists include Misty Richardson, clinical supervisor of pediatric inpatient services at Northern Light Acadia Hospital; Tracy Stanley, accommodations coordinator at the UMaine; and Orion Tucker, committee member of the Bangor PRIDE Festival. The panel is an official event of the 2023 Bangor PRIDE Festival.

Ranco named 2023 Ford Foundation Senior Fellow

31 May 2023

Darren Ranco, professor of anthropology, chair of Native American Programs and faculty fellow at Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine, was named a 2023 Ford Foundation Senior Fellow. The Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs have been administered by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine since 1979. The Ford Foundation Senior Fellowship provides funding for selected fellows to conduct innovative research that advances its mission to "reduce poverty and injustice, strengthen democratic values, promote international cooperation, and advance human achievement" as described on the Foundation website. Ranco's fellowship will focus on a project titled "Decolonizing Land Relations in the Dawnland: Landback and Rematriation Across Wabanakik." The project is an extension of Ranco's previous research with Wabanaki rematriation movements, with a more explicit goal of building Indigenous institutional capacity to advance the health and well-being of Indigenous Nations. Ranco will study the tools and strategies of these landback and rematriation efforts and the supports offered by The Nature Conservancy and other land trusts to support this work and bring these tools back to the Wabanaki Commission to support its development For more information, visit the National Academies' Ford Foundation Senior Fellows webpage.

Munson Road construction starts June 5

31 May 2023

Munson Road construction work is scheduled to begin on Monday, June 5. The project includes asphalt paving, new sidewalks, granite curbing and street lighting. The estimated project duration is approximately one month. A section of roadway between Chadbourne Hall and Estabrooke Hall will be closed to all traffic. Chadbourne Hall and Lengyel Hall can be accessed via College Avenue. Estabrooke Hall and Balentine Hall can be accessed via Schoodic Road or Munson Road to the north. Estabrooke Drive will be closed, but the Estabrooke Hall parking lot will be open. For questions, contact Josh Young, facilities maintenance manager, at 207.581.5674.

Rowley speaks to BDN about compost

31 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Nicholas Rowley, sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension and staff member of the Maine Compost School, about what to do if non-compostable materials like glass or plastic end up in a compost pile. "For the most part it's nothing to be concerned about. … Mistakes do happen and it's kind of inevitable there will be little pieces of glass or plastic or metal that make it into the compost. There is only so much screening that can happen," Rowley said.

The Atlantic highlights Charney book

31 May 2023

In an article about books that present trees "on their own terms," The Atlantic highlighted "These Trees Tell a Story" by Noah Charney, assistant professor of conservation biology at the University of Maine. MSN shared the Atlantic report.

Media report on UMaine baseball team going to NCAA Regionals

31 May 2023

The Portland Press Herald, Bangor Daily News, WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) reported that the University of Maine Black Bears baseball team earned their trip to the NCAA Regionals tournament after winning the America East Championship, both firsts since 2011. The Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared the PPH report. KWCH-TV (Wichita, Kansas), WLOX-TV (Biloxi, Mississippi), WBRC-TV (Birmingham, Alabama) and other television outlets shared the WABI report.

BDN publishes Haedicke, MacRae op-ed about PFAS registry

31 May 2023

The Bangor Daily News published an op-ed by Michael Haedicke, associate professor of sociology at the University of Maine and a faculty fellow at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, and Jean MacRae, an associate professor of civil and environmental engineering and a Mitchell Center faculty fellow, titled "Producers and regulators must finalize PFAS registry." Haedicke is a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Smithsonian Magazine interviews Weiskittel about climate change impact on trees

31 May 2023

In an article about how researchers at the Ohio State University are using notes from a 19th-century Ohio farmer to learn more about growing seasons, Smithsonian Magazine spoke to Aaron Weiskittel, professor of forest biometrics and modeling and director of the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests at the University of Maine School of Forest Resources, about how longer growing seasons extended by climate change are impacting trees. "Farmers can adjust to longer growing seasons, but you can't cut down a forest and have it suddenly come back. The trees that are there have to adapt to these conditions," Weiskittel said.

Registration open for summer Undergraduate Responsible Conduct of Research Training

01 Jun 2023

The Office of Research Compliance has opened registration for summer Undergraduate Responsible Conduct of Research Training, which will be available from June 1–30 on Brightspace. Completion of this training is required for students participating in research sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and/or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA). Students who complete the training will receive a certificate of completion valid for four years. More information and a link to enroll is available on the Office of Research Compliance website.

South Portland Sentry notes UMaine role in offshore wind development

01 Jun 2023

In an op-ed about the potential for offshore wind energy generation in Maine, the South Portland Sentry noted that new offshore wind technology is still in development at the University of Maine's Advanced Structures & Composites Center.

LA Times highlights Gill participation in mass extinction research

01 Jun 2023

The Los Angeles Times reported that Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, analyzed fern and fungi spores, pollen grains, leaf fragments and other microscopic traces of prehistoric plant life from crushed mineral samples as part of a NASA-funded project to explore the recovery of ferns in the post-extinction world. MSN, Yahoo! News and Lookout Santa Cruz shared the LA Times report.

UMaine Extension offers workshop on pests in Christmas tree production

01 Jun 2023

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host Integrated Pest Management in Christmas Tree Production at Gooley's Christmas Tree Farm, 263 Cowen Road in Farmington on Tuesday, June 27 from 5–7 p.m. Brett Johnson and Nick Rowley, UMaine Extension sustainable agriculture and horticulture professionals, will present the workshop, which will focus on a systematic approach to pest management in Christmas tree production systems. Participants will learn about weed management and discuss the control of smooth bedstraw at Gooley's Farm. Participants will also learn about two significant Christmas tree insect pests and current research being carried out by Extension to control them. Workshop participants can earn two pesticide credits. This is a free workshop and registration is not required. For more information, visit the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.474.9622; emily.collins3@maine.edu.

New UMaine Field Hockey Complex scheduled to open in August

01 Jun 2023

Construction for the new University of Maine field hockey complex, scheduled to open in August, is well underway, with several developments completed through the winter and spring seasons. The underground utilities, including new perimeter drainage, have been installed, and concrete walls have been erected at the team bench areas and along the grandstand. Construction on the field surface, bleachers and press box all began in early May and will continue through the summer. The turf surface is scheduled to be laid in July. Visit the UMaine Athletics website to learn more about the new facility. The complex is part of the University of Maine's $110 million athletic facilities master plan, and is supported by $90 million from the Harold Alfond Foundation. That investment is part of an overall $240 million commitment from the foundation to the University of Maine System for UMS TRANSFORMS, a multifaceted initiative to bring transformative change in public higher education in the state, strengthen its economy and workforce, and prepare future leaders with the skills needed to solve the most pressing global and local challenges. Contact: Tyson McHatten, tyson.mchatten@maine.edu

UMaine offering summer outdoor leadership program for high school students

02 Jun 2023

The University of Maine Early College Program, in partnership with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will offer a four-credit summer program in outdoor leadership for high school students at the 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Greenland Point in Princeton, Maine. The 10-day intensive program will run August 7–16. Students will learn foundational knowledge and skills to deal with medical and traumatic emergencies in remote settings. They also will gain introductory knowledge in outdoor and adventure activities while completing two college courses: KPE 207 Wilderness First Aid and KPE 265 Outdoor and Adventure Activities. Students will build skills in four different activity categories: canoeing, climbing, hiking and orienteering, and backcountry trip leading. The canoeing portion of the course will include instruction in paddling techniques, expedition skills and safety considerations. The climbing portion of the course emphasizes the fundamental skills and safety knowledge needed for indoor top-rope climbing, including risk management and belay certification. During the orienteering portion, students will learn and practice essential map and compass skills. In the backcountry tripping portion, students will learn about trip planning, menu planning, backcountry cooking, packing, environmental concerns, trip-leading skills and risk management. These skills will be used on a two-night, three-day canoeing trip. The courses are tuition free for Maine public school and homeschool students, who are eligible to earn up to 12 credits per year tuition free. Students paying tuition to attend any school in the state of Maine and high school students from out-of-state (non-Maine residents) are eligible to take courses at a reduced Early College rate of $138.25/credit hour. There is a residence fee of $850 per student for the program. More information about the outdoor leadership program is on the UMaine Early College website. High school students interested in applying are encouraged to contact Kari Suderley, director of Early College Programs, at 207.581.8024 or um.earlycollege@maine.edu.

Media share UMaine Extension workshop on Christmas tree pests

02 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Daily Bulldog, Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host Integrated

Pest Management in Christmas Tree Production from 5–7 p.m on Tuesday, June 27 at Gooley's Christmas Tree Farm, 263 Cowen Road in Farmington. This is a free workshop and registration is not required. For more information, visit the event webpage.

News Center Maine notes UMaine role in developing American Unagi

02 Jun 2023

News Center Maine reported that Sara Redemaker started American Unagi, a company growing and selling eels, as an R&D project at the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center.

Media share UMaine outdoor leadership program for high school students

02 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Daily Bulldog shared that the University of Maine Early College Program, in partnership with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will offer a four-credit summer program in outdoor leadership for high school students at the 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Greenland Point. More information about the outdoor leadership program is on the UMaine Early College website.

New 4-H project collaboration uses ticks to teach kids about ecosystems and public health

02 Jun 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension recently launched its new 4-H Tick Project, a community science program where youth collect, identify and learn about ticks while contributing to university research. The project provides children and teenagers an opportunity to explore ticks and tick-borne diseases and understand the connections between climate, ecosystem change and public health. Led by 4-H professionals in Hancock County, the program is open to K–12 youth across the state. Registration is rolling and will be open for the next several months. Currently, nearly 1,400 youth in 11 counties are involved in the program, with 24 educators leading projects. These are a mix of formal classroom teachers, 4-H volunteers, informal educators (such as land trust staff and camp counselors) and homeschool parents/educators.  Project-based learning initiatives like the 4-H Tick Project allow youth to build knowledge and skills through active, hands-on participation. This experiential learning approach promotes a deep understanding of the subject matter and helps develop practical skills that can be transferred to other areas of life. "A 'learning by doing' philosophy is at the heart of all 4-H projects," says Carla Scocchi, 4-H professional and project lead. "Authentic learning happens when we connect kids with a real-world project that is meaningful for them and their communities." "Doing the tick project made me feel more comfortable going outside and safe in my yard. Now I know which ticks can be really bad, and I can identify them," says Alexis M., Hancock County 4-H member. Youth involved in the project collect tick specimens in their local area and submit them to the UMaine Extension Tick Lab for identification and disease testing. "By engaging youth participants in tick collection and identification, we are able to gather valuable data that helps us better understand tick populations and the distribution of their associated pathogens," says Tick Lab Coordinator Griffin Dill. Data collected also contributes to the Maine Forest Tick Survey, a multiyear, multidisciplinary research project led by faculty in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture to determine how forest land management practices impact tick populations and disease risk across the state. The project is a collaborative effort with 4-H, the UMaine Extension Tick Lab, the Maine Forestry Tick Survey and Learning Ecosystems Northeast, a NASA-sponsored partnership focused on building the climate and data literacy youth need to become the next generation of climate stewards. "This is a wonderful example of collaboration across the university and beyond," says Hannah Carter, associate provost of online and continuing education and dean of UMaine Extension. "Through these partnerships, we can engage more students in a broader learning community where they can connect with diverse perspectives and build the skills needed to become tomorrow's leaders." For more information about the 4-H Tick Project, visit the project website or contact Carla Scocchi at 207.667.8212 or carla.scocchi@maine.edu.

Help choose the next commercial dining experience at the Memorial Union

05 Jun 2023

UMaine Dining is seeking input from students, staff and faculty on the next fully-branded commercial dining experience to feature in the Memorial Union. Cast a vote for either Starbucks, Peet's Coffee or Shake Smart by filling out an online survey by June 9. The chosen retail dining concept is expected to launch in spring 2024. The survey includes links to the menus from each company that would be available at the Memorial Union location. A Starbucks concept would feature the coffee shop chain's full menu and the ability to use its app. A Peet's Coffee concept would offer a variety of hot, handcrafted beverages, while a Shake Smart concept would feature its shakes and all-natural sandwiches and bowls.

Maine Monitor cites UMaine use of eDNA for alewife recovery

05 Jun 2023

In an article about alewives recovery in the Presumpscot River, The Maine Monitor noted that the University of Maine is working to adapt environmental DNA, or eDNA, for coastal ecosystems

8 summer outdoor adventures recommended by UMaine forestry professors

06 Jun 2023

One of the best things about being in Maine during the summer (or any season, for that matter) is the wealth of outdoor opportunities it offers — they don't call it "Vacationland" for nothing. Faculty at the University of Maine School of Forest Resources (SFR) enjoy recreating in the great outdoors just as much as they love conducting field research in it. If you are looking for new outdoor adventures in Maine this summer, here are eight recommendations from UMaine SFS professors.

Hike Mount Battie in Camden Hills State Park

"One of my favorite hikes is up Mount Battie in Camden Hills State Park. The views over Camden Harbor and Penobscot Bay from the top are stunning. I take the incoming SFR Park and Recreation students hiking here every August as part of the Tanglewood Camp, and often hear that it's one of their highlights of the week. I grew up just down the road from the park, in Lincolnville, so there's a bit of nostalgia when I get the chance to hike near there too." — *Adam Daigneault, associate professor of forest policy and economics*

Fish for smallmouth bass in the Stillwater River

"My not-so-secret fishing hole for smallmouth bass is our very own Stillwater River, launching from right behind the Steam Plant. It's right under our noses and definitely an underappreciated fishing spot." — *Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions of natural resources*

Hike to Bubble Pond in Acadia National Park


“Every summer, I hike what we call the ‘Bubble Pond Trail’ in Acadia National Park with my sons, but technically we are hiking the Cadillac South Ridge Trail to the Cadillac West Face Trail to the shore of Bubble Pond and then back again. I started this doing a short piece with my oldest son Devon in a Gerry Pack when he was one year old and we progressed to the full trail and have hiked it every year for over 40 years. Later, his brother Isaac began to join the tradition. We do a lot of other hiking, and Devon through-hiked the Appalachian Trail last year, but we always do the ‘Bubble Pond Trail’ at some point each year for tradition!” — *Ivan Fernandez, professor of soil science*

Camp in Cobscook Bay State Park


“I think it is the nicest campground among Maine’s State Parks for a number of reasons, including its more ‘out of the way’ location from the busier summer tourist areas. It has access to fantastic hiking (e.g., the Cutler Coast Public Reserve and the Maine Coast Heritage Trust trails), paddling and biking (e.g., over on Campobello Island). But the real draw for me is probably just setting up a lawn chair to sit and watch the 20-foot tide come in-and-out twice a day. We go every year for the 4th of July to enjoy things like lobster dinner in Lubec and the festivities and fireworks in Eastport.” — *Daniel Hayes, associate professor of geospatial analysis and remote sensing*

Paddle the Dead River

 “The Dead River offers something for everyone (depending on the water levels) that cuts through the beautiful western forest of Maine with lots of history and excitement along the way.” — *Aaron Weiskittel, professor of forest biometrics and modeling*

Explore the Williamsburg Forest

“For hiking, I like the Williamsburg Forest which is about an hour from Orono and managed by the Piscataquis Soil & Water Conservation District. I like it because of its history and diverse terrain. It has hosted multiple UMaine student projects over the years (including an active one right now), and has demonstration forestry areas too.” — *Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions of natural resources*

Camp and hike in Gulf Hagas

 “If you are looking for scenic views, moderate hiking conditions, nice flora and fauna, and don't mind sharing the trail with others, then Gulf Hagas is a ‘must do’ hike as one of the natural wonders of Maine. The waterfalls are lovely, the geology is fascinating and the forest is inviting. It abounds with photo opportunities! I recommend camping nearby to hike the whole trail and to get an early start if you want to avoid the crowded part of the day.” — *Amber Roth, assistant professor of forest wildlife management*

Bike the Penobscot River Trails in Grindstone

“The trail system along the East Branch of the Penobscot River is great for cross-country skiing in winter and biking otherwise. This property is so amazing that you just need to see it for yourself — especially the spectacular view of Katahdin from the Long Meadow hut. This is [also] a great place to visit during the peak fall color season.” — *Daniel Hayes, associate professor of geospatial analysis and remote sensing*

These eight recommendations only scratch the surface of what the vast Maine outdoors has to offer in the summer. Grab a DeLorme Maine Atlas & Gazetteer, or hop on Maine Trail Finder, and set out on your own adventure! Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

PPH notes UMaine Extension PFAS research

06 Jun 2023

In an article about a watchdog group that found that PFAS is an active ingredient in 13% of Maine pesticides, the Portland Press Herald noted how scientists at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension have been researching alternative pesticide options for Maine's various crop, fruit and livestock sectors. CentralMaine.com shared the PPH report.

National Parks Traveler highlights UMaine role in dragonfly research

06 Jun 2023

In an article about research about dragonflies and mercury in Acadia National Park, National Parks Traveler noted that the Dragonfly Mercury Project was started in 2009 by researchers at the University of Maine and Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park, as well as Maine students and teachers. It has since expanded to more than 450 sites in 100 National Park Service units and other public lands, engaging thousands of citizen scientists in collecting dragonfly larva.

PPH notes UMaine Hudson Museum loan to Portland Art Museum

06 Jun 2023

The Portland Press Herald noted that the Portland Art Museum is displaying a birchbark canoe, attributed to Penobscot makers in the 1880s, that is on loan from the University of Maine's Hudson Museum.

The Dominion Post cites UMaine woodcock research

06 Jun 2023

In an article about efforts to conserve woodcock populations in West Virginia, The Dominion Post noted that the Eastern Woodcock Migration Research Cooperative is coordinated by the University of Maine. Yahoo! News shared the Dominion Post report.

BDN shares UMaine Pride month event at UMaine's Zillman Art Museum

06 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine's Zillman Art Museum will co-host "Words Matter: A Panel on the Importance of LGBTQ+ Inclusive Language" with the Health Equity Alliance and Northern Light Acadia Hospital. The panel will take place from 5:30–7:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 8 at the museum, which is located at 40 Harlow St. in downtown Bangor.

Chronicle of Higher Education interviews Roberts about online learning

07 Jun 2023

Richard Roberts, executive director of academic program support and online learning at the University of Maine, spoke with The Chronicle of Higher Education about the increased online learning opportunities. According to Roberts, UMaine expanded its offerings for online learning derived from increased demand for fully online degrees and a combination of in-person, hybrid, and fully remote courses. "We have a robust infrastructure to support fully remote students and in-person students seeking a variety of hybrid and remote options," Roberts said. "Most importantly, our online degrees and courses are not separate from the on-campus offerings, and so our fully remote students take the same classes, learn from the same prestigious research-intensive faculty, and earn the same degrees as our on-campus students." The publication also shared data about online learning at UMaine. In spring 2023, 28% of the credit hours were delivered online (synchronous, asynchronous, or hybrid). In 2019, that percentage was about 14%.

PenBay Pilot promotes summer grant writing program through Hutchinson Center

08 Jun 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot noted that registration is now open for Grant Writing Essentials, a five-week professional development program offered in July and August by the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. Visit the Hutchinson Center website to learn more.

Daily Bulldog notes UMaine supporting RSU 74 high altitude balloon project

08 Jun 2023

In an article about Regional School Unit 74 in North Anson, Maine launching a high altitude balloon for a school-wide STEAM project, the Daily Bulldog noted that the University of Maine High Altitude Ballooning program assisted in the effort. The program supports teachers by launching payloads for experiments aboard a high altitude balloon up to 118,000 feet or more and recovering them.

Concord Monitor highlights offshore wind workforce training at UMaine

08 Jun 2023

In a story titled "N.H. lags in luring offshore wind's economic benefits" the Concord Monitor highlighted offshore wind energy workforce training at the University of Maine. Since last year, UMaine has been working on new courses, micro-credentials and an undergraduate concentration in offshore wind energy, as well as opportunities to study it at the largest university in Norway.

Dill speaks with BDN about benefits of maggots

08 Jun 2023

Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Bangor Daily News for an article titled “Why maggots are critical to a healthy environment.” “They are very fast at decomposition,” he said.

WMTW features UMaine study on bass aggression toward salmon

08 Jun 2023

WMTW (Channel 8 in Portland) featured University of Maine research into how warming waters can make non-native smallmouth bass more aggressive toward endangered juvenile Atlantic salmon. Smallmouth bass also more voraciously eat local food supplies at higher water temperatures.

CBS News cites molting information from UMaine Lobster Institute

08 Jun 2023

In an article about a rare orange lobster with a missing claw found in Casco Bay and housed at the University of New England, CBS News cited an online resource with information about molting from the University of Maine Lobster Institute. According to the Lobster Institute, molting is a growth process that involves lobsters struggling“out of their old shells while simultaneously absorbing water, which expands their body size.” The lobster housed at UNE will likely grow its claw back during the molting process, according to CBS.

Four UMaine Ph.D. students win top awards in 2023 BioME showcase

08 Jun 2023

Four University of Maine Ph.D. students won the top awards in the college division of the 2023 Bioscience Association of Maine (BioME) Student Showcase on May 3. The annual competition tasks college and high school students, who participate in separate divisions, with presenting life-science focused research projects to win cash and academic prizes. According to BioME, eight college students, all from UMaine, delivered three-minute presentations and answered in-depth questions from judges. Caitlin Howell, a UMaine associate professor of bioengineering, served as a judge for the high school division. Cory Diemler, a Ph.D. student in biomedical sciences, won first place for a project titled “TREM2 Microglia: An Alternative Therapeutic Target for Glaucomatous Neurodegeneration.” Avery Bond, a Ph.D. student of microbiology, won second place for her project titled “Blocking host-cell calcium signaling pathways: a potential antiviral target for JC polyomavirus infection and beyond.” Junie Fong, a Ph.D. student in the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering, and Katie Ashley, a plant science Ph.D. student, tied for third place with their projects titled “Creating Efficient Anti-Bacterial Surfaces on Catheters with Antibiotic-Free Liquid Coatings” and “Repurposing lobster shell waste as a disease suppressive soil amendment in potato production,” respectively. Diemler, a native of Ohio, received his bachelor’s from Ball State University and his master’s degree at the University of South Florida. At USF, Diemler began his research into neurodegenerative diseases, looking at mechanisms to improve learning and memory in the face of cognitive impairments. He then went to The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor to study alternative therapeutic targets against neurodegenerative diseases, like glaucoma and Alzheimer’s disease. Now he is a predoctoral associate at the lab, and there he studies the molecular mechanisms that underlie the retinal ganglion cell loss associated with glaucoma. “This was an amazing opportunity to present work that I am excited about,” Diemler says. “BioME inspiring young potential scientists to, not only showcase their research, but also encourage scientific development within the state is incredible, and something I wish I had when I was younger, in my home state. It was really exciting to see all the fantastic work and passion of the other participants in the area.” Bond, a Jefferson, Maine native, researches virus-host cell interactions, specifically between JC polyomavirus and human brain and kidney cells, under the guidance of Melissa Maginnis, associate professor of microbiology. Prior to attending UMaine, she earned her bachelor’s degree in medical biology from the University of New England in 2019. She won the Best Presentation in Biomedical Sciences by a Graduate Student award at the 2021 and 2020 UMaine Student Symposiums. “BioME creates so many rewarding opportunities for students in the life sciences in Maine to practice their science communication skills, both oral and written,” Bond says. “I am thrilled to have had the chance to present my thesis research at the BioME Fast Pitch Competition. Compressing years of research into a three-minute pitch is a fun challenge that allows researchers to practice relaying their topics and findings in an easy-to-understand fashion. Plus, it's always great to hear about other exciting ongoing research in the state!” Fong, of Hong Kong, is developing novel liquid surface coatings on human catheters, which may reduce protein deposition that leads to urinary tract and bloodstream infections, in the laboratory of Howell. She earned both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Fong also is collaborating with Howell and Japhet Murenzi, a MaineMBA student, on commercializing the research. Their project, PROCatheter, is a bio-inspired coating that reduces the risk of infection by hindering protein and bacterial adhesion to the catheters. The project is supported by the university’s MIRTA accelerator program. “I am thrilled to have the opportunity to share this fascinating scientific idea with the audience and promote the progress of my project,” Fong says. “The fact that my work has garnered attention fills me with happiness, as it has the potential to significantly improve the well-being of many individuals. This experience has equipped me with valuable knowledge and skills in delivering precise and impactful presentations that resonate with the audience. This ability to effectively communicate my project’s goals and outcomes is a crucial skill set that I have gained throughout this process.” Ashley, a native of Vero Beach, Florida, studies biologically-based methods to cultivate soil microorganisms that can suppress diseases in potato crops under the guidance of associate professor Jianjun Hao. She also earned her master’s degree at UMaine and her bachelor’s degree at the University of Central Florida. “Participating in the BioME Student Showcase was a wonderful opportunity to share my research in a short format of only three minutes,” Ashley says. “I'm honored to be able to work towards overcoming real world challenges with innovative solutions in my research everyday. At this event, it was especially inspiring to see the work of my peers, fellow up and coming scientists working to make the world a better place.” The goal of the BioME Student Showcase is to support the innovation and commercialization of student ideas in Maine, and connect students with potential future employers and entrepreneurial resources in the state. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Sporer discusses hate group prosecution with News Center Maine

08 Jun 2023

Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology at the University of Maine, spoke with News Center Maine for a story about the civil rights charges against the ring leaders of neo-Nazi organization NSC-131 being dismissed in court. According to Sporer, since many cases involving the actions of hate groups are decided by the First Amendment, prosecutors need a large amount of evidence to back up their charges. "Prosecutors have to walk a fine line and have a lot of

evidence when it comes to free speech to ultimately using violence. And it just doesn't sound like they had anything remotely close to that with this group of guys," Sporer said.

Mackenzie Gillis: 2023 George J. Mitchell Peace Scholar

08 Jun 2023

Mackenzie “Kenzie” Gillis, a University of Maine rising senior from Glenburn, has been awarded the 2023–24 George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship to study abroad at University College Cork (UCC) in Ireland. UMaine partnered with UCC to create the scholarship that honors the 1998 Northern Ireland peace accord brokered by then-Senator George Mitchell between Ireland and the United Kingdom. The merit-based scholarship allows recipients to participate in semester-long student exchanges at UCC, with funds for 12–15 credits of study, housing and meal and airfare stipends. The award is granted annually to a UMaine student with high academic achievement, leadership skills, commitment to community service and the ability to promote the scholarship to the academic and wider community. “The George Mitchell Peace Scholarship is a signature program for the University of Maine which celebrates the legacy of the senator and educates our students about peace and cross-cultural understanding,” says Orlina Botiva, director of the Office of International Programs. “This full scholarship allows any student from Maine to be able to participate in this study abroad experience regardless of their socioeconomic level. Many past participants could not have afforded to study abroad without the support of this special scholarship.” Gillis is majoring in communication with a minor in business. Gillis’ application was supported by the Office of International Programs, the Office of Major Scholarships, Erika Clement, assistant director of education abroad, and the selection committee. “Kenzie has a robust background in community service as a long-time volunteer with Maine National Guard Child and Youth Program. She did an excellent job using this experience to connect with the mission of the George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship and the legacy of its namesake. We think she'll be a great ambassador for Maine over in Ireland and the community at UCC,” Clement says. **Why motivated you to study abroad?** I wanted to experience a new culture, whilst also studying at a foreign university. **How do you feel about earning the George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship?** I feel honored to have been awarded such an amazing scholarship and get the opportunity to study abroad. **What are you most looking forward to in your time abroad?** I am most looking forward to traveling across Ireland and learning more about the history and culture. **Which classes do you plan to take at UCC?** Mathematical Methods I, Celtic Literature, Modern Ireland: Culture, Politics and Society, Ireland and Scotland: The Gaelic World in the Middle Ages and Introduction to Food Science and Technology. **In which ways do you plan to engage with the local community and to further the peace and collaboration mission of this scholarship?** I plan to participate in their mountaineering club and further explore the city of Cork. I'm particularly interested in the English Market, as well as visiting the Donkey Sanctuary and exploring volunteering there. **Why did you choose to come to UMaine?** I chose to study at UMaine because growing up in the Bangor school system we’d take trips to the UMaine Orono campus and it always seemed like an amazing community. I decided I wanted to be a part of this community. **Is there any particular UMaine initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** The Office of Major Scholarships was a huge help throughout the process of applying to the George J. Mitchell Peace scholarship. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Use the resources we have on campus! **Describe UMaine in one word. Explain.** Rewarding. It's been a rewarding experience. I’ve learned a lot and have made many new friends from across the U.S. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMS, Maine DOE expand whole-student supports for Maine schools

08 Jun 2023

More K–12 students and educators in Maine are set to benefit from stronger social, emotional and behavioral supports thanks to Maine PBIS, a collaboration between the University of Maine System and Maine Department Education, which is adding 21 new schools to its professional development cohort. The schools, which will participate in the initiative over the next three years, are located in communities throughout the state, including Berwick, Boothbay Harbor, Brooksville, Bucksport, Damariscotta, Edgecomb, Litchfield, Madawaska, North Berwick, Sabattus, South Portland and Westbrook. “Teams of educators from these schools will learn and practice together for the next three years, joining more than 30 schools that are currently part of our professional development model and more than 75 schools statewide that have already implemented sustainable supports for Maine students,” says Courtney Angelosante, Maine PBIS coordinator at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development. Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, or PBIS, is a nationally recognized framework providing a multi-tiered continuum of supports in K–12 schools, promoting positive social and behavioral outcomes for all students. It is based on a community health promotion model. In schools that have implemented PBIS, it is expected that 95% of students will have most of their social, emotional and behavioral needs met before schools have to implement the third, or most targeted tier of interventions. Maine DOE, in collaboration with UMS, supports schools and districts to implement PBIS through a cohort model that matches Maine-endorsed PBIS trainers and coaches with district and school-level teams. Maine PBIS’s professional development efforts have received national and international attention as a particularly effective example for rural schools and communities. “Being able to work with our PBIS coaches multiple times a year made our school’s efforts towards Tier 1 implementation much smoother,” says Sierra Bloom, a first-grade teacher at Surry Elementary School, which has already taken part in the UMS-Maine DOE initiative. “Our coaches were always there to support our work directly and led us to a solid foundation for our work in PBIS.” Bloom adds that being able to work with other schools in the cohort model was beneficial. “We were able to collaborate and share ideas for success, while also gaining support towards common struggles,” she says. This summer, Maine PBIS will host a five-day training institute for educators who are part of its professional development cohort. The training, which is limited to 50 participants and will take place at Husson University from July 10–14, will be designed to help teachers identify why a behavior is happening through a variety of assessment tools and procedures, leading to the development of a positive behavior support plan individualized to a student’s strengths and needs. More information about the Maine PBIS Advanced Tiers Summer Institute is online. “The supportive and inclusive practices of PBIS have elicited overwhelmingly positive responses by administrators, educators, students and families. Our office looks forward to supporting and sustaining schools and districts in this work,” says Tracy Whitlock, Special Projects Coordinator in the Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education at the Maine Department of Education. The department provides funding for the Maine PBIS initiative through a federal State Personnel Development Grant. The funding is helping scale up capacity for PBIS in the state through a UMS Microcredential for PBIS Coaching and Training. The second cohort of educators seeking the micro-credential endorsement will begin in fall 2023. Applications, which are available online, are due June 15. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu; Marcus Mrowka, marcus.mrowka@maine.gov

UMaine students provide hearing screenings at Special Olympics event

12 Jun 2023

University of Maine students provided free hearing screenings for athletes who participated in the Special Olympics Maine 2023 State Summer Games on June 10. Through multiple tests, the screenings — administered in Dunn Hall — determined whether athletes were experiencing hearing loss. Every year, the

clinic benefits hundreds of competitors with intellectual disabilities at the summer games event, and has also been made available to their coaches and parents. Amy Booth, UMaine staff audiologist and principal lecturer, says 16 students from the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders — three undergraduates and 13 graduate students — volunteered for the event. They examined athletes' ear canals, tested how well their cochlea responded to sound, evaluated their middle ear function and identified the lowest sound they could hear, all while using various tools such as otoscopes, otoacoustic emission equipment, audiometers and tympanometers. With guidance from Booth, students decided whether each athlete they examined experienced hearing loss and the extent of the loss, determined if the loss was temporary or permanent, provided recommendations for additional treatment, and where athletes could receive follow-up services. Booth says the clinic also taught students how to act fast when their equipment malfunctioned or they experienced any other issues to maintain the flow of foot traffic. "We really couldn't do what we do without having the students and Amy helping out," says Phil Geelhoed, president and CEO of Special Olympics Maine. "People with intellectual disabilities are 50–60% less likely to get the health care they need, so it's really critical for us to help provide and expand their access to vital support services. Having students start out providing care at a young age will help ensure that people with intellectual disabilities can obtain the treatment they need from talented providers throughout their lives." Seraphina Hodgson, a rising junior studying communications and sciences disorders, served as the clinic coordinator. She helped Booth set up before the event, tested the equipment and answered questions from her peers as they evaluated the athletes. Hodgson says she volunteered as the clinic coordinator to gain hands-on experience in audiology and because she was confident Booth would support her. As an athlete and member of the UMaine Women's Basketball team, she also says she was excited to get a behind the scenes look at how the Special Olympics operates. "I've never done this before, and it was exciting working under Amy. And it was super cool getting the experience of working with all of the athletes," says Hodgson, also a member of the Honors College. "When you're in class, that's one thing. But to actually see it first hand, I think that makes a world of difference." Booth managed the audiology clinic at the summer games with help from Kirsha Jo Finemore, UMaine alumna and chief audiologist for Waldo County General Hospital. Service stations were held in classrooms used by the UMaine School of Nursing. "This is very generous of nursing to allow us to use their space," Booth says. The Healthy Hearing clinic is part of the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes program, for which Booth serves as clinical director in Maine. Healthy Hearing is one of eight Healthy Athletes programs offered globally by Special Olympics to provide competitors free health screenings and information in a fun and welcoming environment. Special Olympics Maine offered three programs at this year's summer games: Healthy Hearing, Special Smiles and Fit Feet. Athletes who participated in the audiology clinic this year received multiple gifts, and those who need hearing aids will receive them as well as follow-up services at no charge through Starkey Cares providers throughout Maine. Booth has coordinated audiology services for the Special Olympics Maine State Summer Games for about 20 years. Providing students hands-on learning experiences in audiology and helping people with intellectual disabilities who may otherwise not receive the treatment they need motivates Booth to help out. The Healthy Hearing services during the Special Olympics Maine event is one of several experiential learning opportunities offered at UMaine for students interested in studying audiology, alongside classes with hands-on learning activities, volunteering at the at the Audiology Clinic — directed by Booth — and internships with local organizations like the Penobscot Community Health Center. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

BDN highlights UMaine support for AI patient monitoring at PCHC

12 Jun 2023

In a story about Penobscot Community Health Center implementing an artificial intelligence program for monitoring and helping manage patients' health remotely, the Bangor Daily News noted that the University of Maine provided the center with $50,000 through a grant to pay for the monitoring equipment.

Media promote UMaine Extension 4-H summer learning series

12 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News, The Piscataquis Observer and the Daily Bulldog promoted a hands-on virtual summer learning series offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension from July 5–Aug. 5. Visit the UMaine Extension website for more information.

Maine Monitor interviews MacRae about PFAS elimination technologies for op-ed

12 Jun 2023

The Maine Monitor spoke with Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, for an opinion piece about reimagining the creation and reuse of material goods in order to phase out PFAS, or "forever chemicals." Maine has put itself at the forefront of researching how to break down these chemicals fully, a process for which the technology does not yet exist, according to the report. MacRae, however, says "In the long run, it's going to be good for Maine to have done this [work]." The Maine Monitor also highlighted PFAS research being conducted at UMaine.

Undiscovered Maine website featured in National Geographic travel story

12 Jun 2023

In a story titled "Visiting Maine: Here's what the locals love," National Geographic shared a list of farms and farm stands on the Undiscovered Maine website, a student research initiative of the Maine Business School intended to create interest in visiting lesser known areas of the state and supporting small local businesses.

Media featured Special Olympics event held at UMaine

12 Jun 2023

WABI (Channel 5 in Bangor), WFVX (Channel 7 in Bangor), the Bangor Daily News and the Boothbay Register featured the Special Olympics Maine 2023 State Summer Games, held on June 10 at the University of Maine. WBRC (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama) shared the WABI report.

National Geographic interviews Brady for story on top activities in Maine

12 Jun 2023

Damian Brady, professor of marine sciences at the University of Maine, spoke with National Geographic for a story titled "10 best things to do in Maine." Brady discussed oyster sampling in Maine, saying "the Wabanaki knew that the Damariscotta was a special place for oysters, since they built towering middens, or shell towers, here between 2,200 and 1,000 years ago."

Boothbay Register reports on UMaine students teaching kids marine science, sailing

13 Jun 2023

The Boothbay Register reported on University of Maine students and graduates joining the Boothbay Sea and Science Center's summer program as marine science and sailing instructors. UMaine students will teach kids of various ages respect for the marine environment through hands-on experiences.

WABI features EMCC, UMaine partnership to bring transfer opportunity to EMS students

13 Jun 2023

WABI TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on a collaboration between the University of Maine and Eastern Maine Community College to create a pathway for Emergency Medical Service (EMS) students to transfer all of their community college credits over to the university. This partnership eases the transition from a two-year degree to a four-year degree, ensuring all classes taken at the community college will count toward the students' bachelor's degrees. WTVY (Channel 4 in Dothan, Alabama) shared the WABI story.

Penobscot Bay Pilot reports on Rockland rain barrel installation effort

13 Jun 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot featured a story on University of Maine Cooperative Extension working with Maine Sea Grant to provide rain barrels to the City of Rockland to assist in their goal of reducing sewer discharges during heavy rain and saving water. One of these barrels can save a homeowner up to 1,300 gallons of water each year, water that can be repurposed for use in their gardens, according to the article.

Spectrum News interviews UMaine Extension expert on PFAS and farmers' mental health

13 Jun 2023

In a story on state funding for eliminating PFAS contamination and how it should be used, Spectrum News interviewed Leslie Forstadt, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor and child and family development specialist, about how the situation affects farmers' mental health. "I can't emphasize how important mental health and wellbeing is in consideration of all this work you are doing," she said. "On a good day, farmers are stressed and many could benefit from mental health counseling and behavioral health supports."

MBS students travel to England to study sports marketing

13 Jun 2023

In May, 15 undergraduate students from the Maine Business School participated in a nine-day travel study trip to England to learn about the business of sports. They visited the stadiums where Premier League football teams Manchester United and Manchester City play. They also stopped at the National Football League (NFL) London headquarters and explored other attractions throughout England's capital. The trip was led by Susan Myrden, associate professor of marketing, and Jason Harkins, executive dean of the Maine Business School. Visit the school website to learn more.

UMaine granted $650K to study climate change impacts on wild blueberries from USDA NIFA

14 Jun 2023

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has awarded $650,000 to a University of Maine project investigating the impacts of climate change on wild blueberry ecosystems and economics. Wild blueberry fields provide important crops for the state of Maine. They also support ecosystems by providing water regulation, nutrient cycling, carbon sequestration, pollination and food for wildlife. Climate change is altering these wild blueberry agroecosystems, but the exact effects are unclear. Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the School of Food and Agriculture, is the principal investigator of the study. The project will investigate how probable future climate scenarios will impact the ecosystem services provided by wild blueberry fields. The researchers, including graduate and undergraduate students, will conduct climate manipulation experiments at the Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center in Old Town. They will test temperature and precipitation to see how it impacts soil-water dynamics, crop health, the relationship to root fungi, pollinators and disease. The results of these experiments will be used to validate a new model to project possible future outcomes based on changing climate scenarios. Maps produced through the modeling will be shared with wild blueberry growers and processors. The researchers will also hold grower focus groups to identify perceptions of production and financial risks, as well as the benefit of climate risk mitigation strategies like supplemental irrigation. "Our approach to this work is transdisciplinary in nature, meaning that we are pulling from the expertise and experience of our diverse team to answer big questions that no single discipline could answer on its own. It's a project grounded by the needs of wild blueberry growers and their communities," Schattman says, whose lab is part of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. The interdisciplinary team of researchers will deliver actionable recommendations to the wild blueberry industry with climate smart agricultural management strategies, particularly in socioeconomically challenged rural communities. Additional UMaine researchers on the project include YongJiang Zhang, assistant professor of plant physiology; Lily Calderwood, assistant professor of horticulture and Extension wild blueberry specialist; Jonathan Malacarne, assistant professor of economics; Brian McGill, professor of biological science; Phil Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology; Seanna Annis, associate professor of mycology; Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor; and Stephanie Miller, postdoctoral research assistant. Bruce Hall, director of agroecology at Jasper Wyman & Son, is also a collaborator. The award started May 1, 2023, and was officially announced May 31, 2023. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers food preserving workshops July 11 and 12

14 Jun 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part, hands-on food preservation workshop from 6–9 p.m. on July 11 and 12 at the Somerset County office, 7 County Drive, Skowhegan. Part one will cover the basics of canning and water bath canning, while part two will focus on pressure canning, freezing and dehydrating garden produce. UMaine Extension professional Lisa Fishman will lead the workshop. Fresh produce and canning jars will be provided. The class size is limited, and registration is required and available on the program website. The cost is $15 for both workshops or $10 per class. The fee includes all materials. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sharon Paradis, 207.834.3905; sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension 4-H offers hands-on workshops during summer learning series

14 Jun 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer its hands-on virtual summer learning series July 5–Aug. 5. The series presents more than 20 workshops on a wide variety of topics. Originally launched in 2020 to provide additional educational opportunities for youth during the pandemic, it continues to play an important role in helping to alleviate some of the learning loss that occurs each summer. The series features engagement-building activities in the fields of arts and crafts, food and nutrition, STEM, marine science and aquaculture, animal science and agriculture, and more. Participants logon and learn from a diverse range of knowledgeable UMaine staff and volunteers. The workshops also provide opportunities to learn more about the 4-H program and to connect with other youth from across Maine. Workshops are free with optional sliding scale fee and open to all youth ages 5–18. Registration is required, and can be done on the UMaine Extension 4-H Summer Learning Series webpage. All materials needed to complete the hands-on activities will be mailed to participants at no cost. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jessy Brainerd, 207.581.3877; jessica.brainerd@maine.edu.

MaineCard Services reopening in DTAV Community Center June 15

14 Jun 2023

MaineCard Services has relocated from the Hilltop Dining Hall to a joint space at the University of Maine Parking and Transportation Services Office in the DTAV Community Center, and will reopen there on June 15.

Media share UMaine Extension preserving workshop

14 Jun 2023

The Daily Bulldog, Bangor Daily News and CentralMaine.com shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part, hands-on food preservation workshop from 6–9 p.m. on July 11 and 12 at the Somerset County office, 7 County Drive. The class size is limited, and registration is required and available on the program website.

BDN notes UMaine Extension soil testing services

14 Jun 2023

In an article about the importance of gardeners knowing the type of soil in their gardens, the Bangor Daily News noted that soil testing kits are available from any county office of University of Maine Cooperative Extension. More information is available on the UMaine Extension website.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data about North Atlantic sea temperatures

14 Jun 2023

In an article about sea surface temperature anomalies in the North Atlantic in early March, The Independent, CBC, Quartz and Jersey Evening Post cited data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer showing that the North Atlantic temperature rose above previous records and is now 1 C warmer than the 1981–2011 mean average for this time of year. Yahoo! News UK shared The Independent's report.

Frankel writes op-ed for BDN about parole in Maine

14 Jun 2023

Amy Frankel, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine, wrote an opinion piece for the Bangor Daily News about bringing parole back to Maine. Frankel is a member of the Maine chapter of the Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data from June

14 Jun 2023

The New York Times, The Guardian, Forbes and the Boston Globe cited data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer about high global and sea surface temperatures in June 2023.

WMTW speaks to Hobbs about rent control rollback

14 Jun 2023

Kelsi Hobbs, assistant professor at the University of Maine School of Economics, was interviewed by WMTW (Channel 8 in Portland) about the impact of Portland's proposed rent control rollback on rental prices. "We'll definitely see rents rise maybe more than we would have seen in the last two years," Hobbs said.

Researchers investigate how climate change affects spruce forests on Maine's coast

15 Jun 2023

Determining how climate change will affect spruce forests along Maine's coastline and inspiring new ways to conserve them is the goal of a new study by University of Maine faculty and students. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) awarded $643,848 for the project, led by Jay Wason III, a UMaine assistant professor of forest ecosystem physiology. Master's students Colby Bosley-Smith, Emily MacDonald and Gregoray McHale will assist with data collection and analysis, as will three undergraduates the research team plans to recruit. Spruce forests house unique plant and animal communities, store carbon and allow for outdoor recreation, but they also are among the forest types that are the most sensitive to climate change. While Maine's coastline has provided cool conditions that protected spruce forests from extreme weather for millenia, the land and the surrounding ocean waters have experienced unprecedented temperature spikes that now threaten these climate-sensitive ecosystems.

Little is known about how a changing climate will reshape coastal spruce forests, but with that knowledge, scientists and conservation groups may be able to determine the right strategies and management practices to promote them. "Spruce forests characterize the eastern coast of Maine. They are a basis of the coastal ecosystem, and a core of local identity, economy and recreation," says Jane Arbuckle, director of stewardship for the Maine Coast Heritage Trust. "Hopefully, the findings from this study will help us manage these forests in climate resilient ways. We are pleased to partner with the University of Maine in this effort." Other UMaine researchers involved in the study are Daniel Hayes, Barbara Wheatland Associate Professor of Geospatial Analysis and Remote Sensing; Shawn Fraver, associate professor of forest ecosystems science; and Nicole Rogers, assistant professor of silviculture. Through their latest project, Wason and his colleagues aim to identify the factors influencing the location of coastal spruce forests, quantify their sensitivity to climate-based stressors and determine how a warming planet may reduce spruce tree germination, establishment, growth and survival. Researchers will use drones to collect data from locations throughout the state, from the Casco Bay region to Downeast Maine. With that and satellite data, they will create models that will evaluate where and how climate, topography, management and disturbance regimes have affected coastal spruce distribution and identify the vulnerability of the tree canopy to climate stress. The team will also conduct detailed forest inventories, install remote sensors for data collection, analyze tree rings and collect soil samples to elucidate the dynamics of coastal spruce forests and learn how climate change has affected them. The group will then plant experimental tree saplings at 10 locations across the state and monitor them to learn how climate in different regions inhibits germination, establishment, growth and survival. With their findings, the group plans to create fine-scale maps of the current distribution of spruce forests along Maine's coast and potential locations for conservation, management and restoration. Researchers hope their findings will elucidate the climate stressors that threaten coastal spruce forests and help inform management strategies to prevent their decline. "These forests are iconic to coastal Maine and provide key ecological and recreational value to the state. This work is a critical step toward promoting their long-term persistence " Wason says. In addition to Maine Coast Heritage Trust, the team will work on the project with Acadia National Park, the Blue Hill Heritage Trust, the Downeast Coastal Conservancy, the Maine Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, the New England Forestry Foundation and the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine to host national experts on inclusive education for students with autism and developmental disabilities

15 Jun 2023

Educators and other professionals in Maine who support people with autism, intellectual disabilities and other developmental conditions will have the opportunity to learn from some of the country's leading researchers and practitioners at the University of Maine next month. The Council for Exceptional Children Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (CEC DADD) is hosting its summer board meeting at UMaine on July 20. The next day, July 21, the division, in collaboration with the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and Maine Department of Education Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education, will host its Summer Symposium on campus. "A few years ago, the leadership of the Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities decided that wherever we hold our summer board meeting, we also would host a symposium, or mini-conference, at a minimal cost to local educators," says Bree Jimenez, CEC DADD president and associate professor of special education at the University of Texas at Arlington. "Part

of the reason we selected Maine as the site for this year's symposium was because of the strong partnership between UMaine's College of Education and Human Development and the Maine DOE, and both organizations' commitment to inclusive educational practices for people with autism and developmental disabilities," Jimenez adds. Sarah Howorth, associate professor of special education at UMaine, has long been involved with the CEC DADD. Howorth is director of Maine Access to Inclusive Education Resources (MAIER), an information and resource clearinghouse for professionals and families to assist in accessing and navigating programs and services related to inclusive education of students with autism and other disabilities. MAIER was established at UMaine in 2014 with significant financial support from Maine DOE, and continues to receive the bulk of its funding from the Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education. "There's critical work happening in Maine right now to ensure equitable and sustainable access to education for all individuals," says Howorth. "By bringing its summer symposium here, CEC DADD is recognizing these efforts and providing an important learning opportunity for the teachers, caregivers and others who support people with autism and intellectual disabilities in the state everyday." The symposium will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on July 21, and will feature two strands related to inclusive practices for students with autism and other disabilities: "Access to the Curriculum" and "Quality of Life." Workshops, led by experts from the CEC DADD, include "Evidence-Based Practices for Implementing Physical Activity and Motor Development Programs in Pre-K and Elementary Classrooms" and "Planning for Life After High School." Rachel McInnis is program coordinator for Woodfords Family Services, which operates a preschool and special purpose private school in Waterville for students who have disabilities. She registered to attend the CEC DADD symposium to learn more about inclusive practices for her students. She says she's particularly interested in learning more about implementing new physical activity and motor development activities in Woodfords' K–5 program. "I find that opportunities like this can give teachers confidence in the things we already know, but also give us a new perspective or angle on an approach, as well as teach us something we've never thought of before," McInnis says. "I hope to share the knowledge gained with our teachers and empower them in their teaching. I also hope for our students to engage in new and exciting activities." Registration for the 2023 CEC DADD Summer Symposium is $30 for individuals planning to attend in-person, $40 for virtual, or $100 for schools or other organizations that would like to host a group attending virtually. The cost for vendors wishing to attend the conference is $40 per table. More information and a link to register is online.

TIDC to host 2023 Transportation Infrastructure Durability Conference Aug. 8–10

15 Jun 2023

The Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center (TIDC) at the University of Maine will host the 2023 Transportation Infrastructure Durability Conference August 8-10 at the Wells Conference Center. The conference brings together university researchers, industry professionals and state and municipal government leaders to discuss a broad range of topics, including the successful research and deployment of advanced materials, structures and more. Tours of UMaine's state-of-the-art research labs will also be available. Visit the TIDC website for more information and to register.

Media cover UMaine grant to study impact of climate change on wild blueberries

15 Jun 2023

News Center Maine, the Bangor Daily News, MaineBiz, WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) and Energy News Network reported that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has awarded $650,000 to a University of Maine project investigating the impacts of climate change on wild blueberry ecosystems and economics.

Weiskittel speaks to CNN about forest fires

15 Jun 2023

CNN interviewed Aaron Weiskittel, professor of forest biometrics and modeling at the University of Maine, about the increased risk of wildfires in the Northeast this year. "Wherever there's forests, there's always a risk of forest fires," Weiskittel said. Weiskittel also explained that climate change and milder winters in the Northeast are contributing to an influx of pests — since winters aren't always cold enough to kill the insects — and allowing some species to move further north. "The trees will survive three to five years of defoliation, but after that it's a struggle," Weiskittel said.

Brewer speaks to PPH about absentee voting

16 Jun 2023

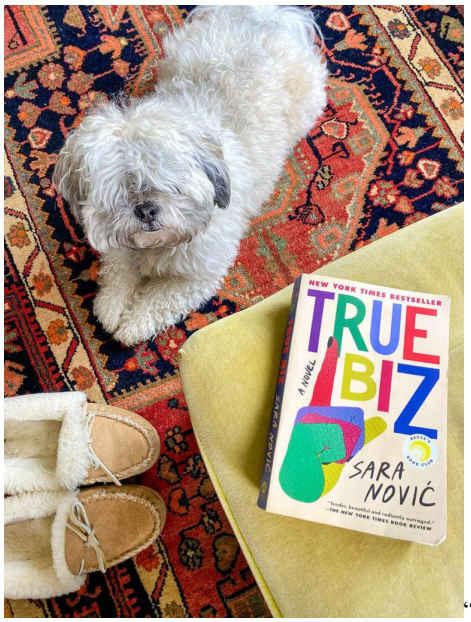
Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to the Portland Press Herald about Maine Republicans embracing absentee voting as key to winning special elections. "I'm sure that in areas where it is feasible that Republicans will continue to try and limit/eliminate absentee and early voting, but in places where these are entrenched and not going anywhere, e.g. Maine, they really have no choice but to try and use absentee and early voting to their advantage. If you can't change the rule, you have to try and use the existing rules to your fullest advantage," Brewer said. Yahoo! News shared the PPH report.

7 summer reading recommendations from UMaine English faculty

16 Jun 2023

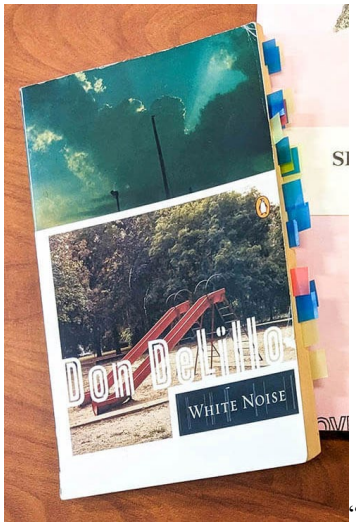
Summer is the best time to catch up on reading for fun. University of Maine's English professors always take advantage of this season to immerse themselves in literature that they aren't teaching in class — and they are experts on what's great to read during the long, warm days of summer. If you are looking for a beach read, camp read or any read in between, here are seven suggestions from faculty in the UMaine Department of English that will have you turning pages all summer long.

"True Biz" by Sara Novic (2022)



"'True Biz' is set at River Valley School for the Deaf, a boarding school run by February Waters, a CODA (child of Deaf adults). Fifteen-year-old Charlie, who is deaf but has never learned sign language — she was raised by hearing parents and received a cochlear implant as an infant — transfers to River Valley after her parents' divorce. The chapters alternate in terms of perspectives, providing readers access to the minds of February, Charlie and other students at the school. Interspersed among these chapters are other 'documents' — illustrated guides to learning basic A.S.L. —and February's lesson plans on Deaf culture and history, for example. While this is both a coming-of-age story and a love story (of sorts), it is an activist novel at its core, critiquing institutions such as education and health care that are systematically ableist. Anyone with an interest in education, language, and/or disability rights will appreciate this novel!" *— Hollie Adams, assistant professor of English, author of "Things You've Inherited from Your Mother" (NeWest, 2015) and "Deliver Me from Swedish Furniture" (Zed, 2017)*

"White Noise" by Don DeLillo (1985)



"I re-read Don DeLillo's 1985 novel 'White Noise' at least once a year. It's broadly about a college professor, his career and his family, but the book is loosely plotted and it's maybe more accurate to say that it's a funny and frightening (and frighteningly prescient) satire of the totality of American life — of consumerism, media spectacle, technology, and the fear of death." *— Brian Jansen, lecturer in the Department of English, humanities specialist for the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center*

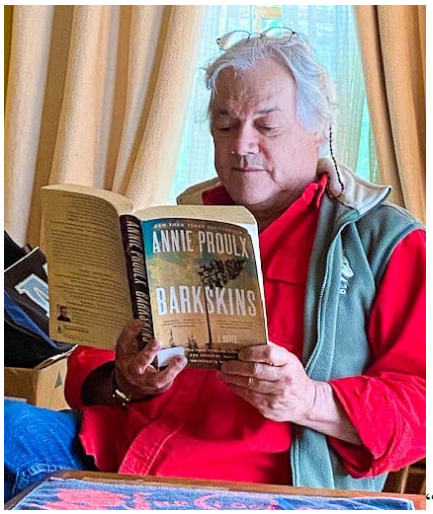
"Sea Change: A Novel" by Gina Chung (2023)

"I'd recommend 'Sea Change: A Novel' by Gina Chung. It's such a striking, daring, and propulsive novel that I think anyone would find it delightful and captivating." *— Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English, author of "Night of the Living Rez" (Tin House, 2022)*

"Severance" by Ling Ma (2018)

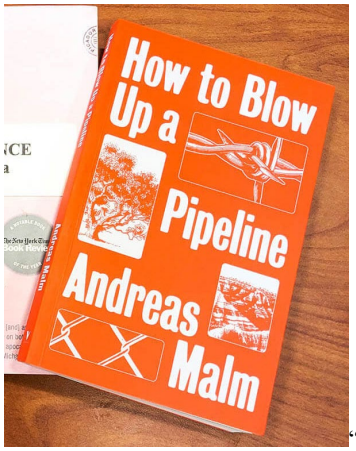
“On the topic of prescience, Ling Ma's ‘Severance’ is a brilliant novel about a global pandemic: a flu-like illness which reduces the infected to a zombie-like state of compulsive repetition. A lot of accounts of the book focus on the eerie parallels to COVID-19, which the novel predates by two years, but I think those accounts tend to miss that it's also about the immigrant experience, work and the circuits of global trade. It's also beautifully written.” — *Brian Jansen, lecturer in the Department of English, humanities specialist for the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center*

“Barkskins” by Annie Proulx (2016)



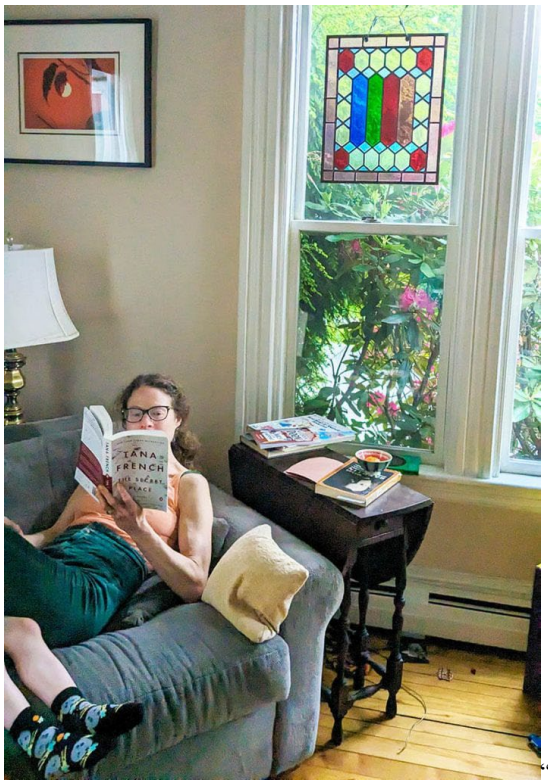
“The novel spans 400 years through a pantheon of characters, all involved in the logging industry of North America. There's even a segment that takes place in New Zealand. Through the centuries and generations, the reader never loses the thread of the story.” — *Hank Garfield, lecturer in the Department of English, author of “The Lost Voyage of John Cabot” (Simon & Schuster, 2004), “Tartabull’s Throw” (Simon & Schuster, 2001) and more*

“How to Blow Up a Pipeline” by Andreas Malm (2021)



“Despite the title, Andreas Malm's work of nonfiction ‘How to Blow Up A Pipeline’ is not a user's guide to eco-terrorism; rather, it is an incisive and well-written provocation about the history and limits of peaceful protest. The book's core argument: if we accept, per the scientific consensus, that climate change is a genuine crisis for humankind and that current efforts are not likely to keep us within the 1.5- to 2-degree target of temperature increase that would avert total catastrophe, at what point does sabotage become morally acceptable?” — *Brian Jansen, lecturer in the Department of English, humanities specialist for the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center*

Tana French's Dublin Murder Squad series (2007–2016)



"As a scholar of the British Romantic period and with a focus on the novel, I always have so many books I want and need to read or reread, it is hard to make extra time for outside reading. This is especially true now as a mother of two. But every summer I allow myself the familiar and luxurious pleasure of a few tantalizing just-for-pleasure reads, a throw-myself-on-the-couch kind of read, no pen in hand. Last weekend I read nearly half of one of Tana French's [Dublin Murder Squad] books, 'The Secret Place,' while my five-year old son was sitting nearby building with a new set of Legos. I bought him a second set later in the weekend so that I could read more! French's series, which I started two summers ago, includes six books, each one as riveting as the last. I loved mysteries and books with fantastic or supernatural thrills as a kid, and French's books make me an avid page-turner once more. French's gift is to interweave the developing investigation at hand with the complexities of the detective's internal world so that readers are working to figure out what drives or haunts the detective as much as and often in relation to whatever crime the detective is aiming to solve. Worlds collide in these novels: that of the criminal's, the suspect's, the detective's. Past and present intersect. One book often interconnects with another, providing new insight or nuance — and startlingly given the genre, almost pushing readers to rethink and reread an earlier book in the series." — *Elizabeth Neiman, associate professor of English and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies* These seven suggestions are sure to get you started on your summer reading list. Happy reading! Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Sun Sentinel cites Climate Reanalyzer data in article about hurricane season

20 Jun 2023

The Sun Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale, Florida) cited data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer in an article about the impact of recent high ocean temperatures on this year's hurricane season.

Media boost Tidewater Farm field day July 8

20 Jun 2023

The Portland Press Herald, Bangor Daily News and Morning Ag Clips shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a Field Day from 10 a.m.–noon on July 8 at the University of Maine Gardens at Tidewater Farm in Falmouth. The event will feature a walking tour of the gardens that will highlight plants and practices to support the lifestyle of pollinators, as well as how to scout for pests and encourage beneficial insects in vegetable gardens.

Media report about upcoming Talty novel

20 Jun 2023

The Portland Press Herald and Bangor Daily News reported that Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine and author of "Night of the Living Rez," will publish his novel "Fire, Exit" in summer 2024.

Media note UMaine role in hosting experts on inclusive education

20 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Penobscot Bay Pilot reported that the Council for Exceptional Children Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities

(CEC DADD) is hosting its summer board meeting at the University of Maine on July 20. The next day, July 21, the division, in collaboration with the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and Maine Department of Education Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education, will host its Summer Symposium on campus. “There’s critical work happening in Maine right now to ensure equitable and sustainable access to education for all individuals,” says Sarah Howorth, associate professor of special education at UMaine. “By bringing its summer symposium here, CEC DADD is recognizing these efforts and providing an important learning opportunity for the teachers, caregivers and others who support people with autism and intellectual disabilities in the state everyday.”

Media cite Climate Reanalzyer ocean temperature data

20 Jun 2023

Mashable and International Business Times cited data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer in an article about recent above average ocean temperatures. Aol shared the Mashable article.

Maine Monitor cites Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center data about opioid overdoses

20 Jun 2023

In an article about Mainers receiving $235 million in settlements from companies that fueled the opioid epidemic, The Maine Monitor cited information from the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center about overdoses. The reports from the center show that in 1997, just one year after OxyContin came on the market, 30 people in Maine died from a pharmaceutical drug overdose, 16 involving opioids; this April alone there were nearly 800 fatal and nonfatal overdoses in Maine. The Bangor Daily News news shared the Maine Monitor report.

Handley speaks to media about strawberry crop

20 Jun 2023

The Portland Press Herald and WMTW-TV (Channel 8 in Portland) interviewed David Handley, vegetable and small fruit specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the impact of late May frost on Maine’s strawberry harvest this year. Handley said he expected a later start to the season than usual for many Maine strawberry growers, particularly those in the central part of the state. “But if we get good weather for picking, I think we’re looking at a really good season. We just can’t seem to string more than a couple of sunny days together. We need some sunny days to ripen the fruit and get the pickers out in the fields,” Handley told the PPH.

Media share UMaine Extension 4-H hands-on virtual workshops

20 Jun 2023

The Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H plans to offer its hands-on virtual summer learning series from July 5 through Aug. 5. The series presents more than 20 workshops on a wide variety of topics arts and crafts, food and nutrition, STEM, marine science and aquaculture, animal science and agriculture, and more. Online registration is required.

Wason speaks to BDN about foaming trees

20 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Jay Wason, assistant professor of forest ecosystem physiology, about foamy discharge from trees caused by heavy rains. “Plants and trees produce all kinds of different chemicals they use in the biological process of being alive. Certain ones have waste products that are distributed to the [outer] bark of the tree. … The rain is washing off that layer of residue the tree produces. Plants are also producing pollen [and] this is an active time of year with a lot of metabolic things going on inside the trees,” Wason told the BDN.

Hutton speaks to WABI about Maine strawberry crop

20 Jun 2023

Mark Hutton, associate professor and vegetable specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) about this year’s strawberry season in Maine, which has been impacted by late May frosts. “One cold night at the wrong time can really do a number. In a lot of areas, we were down below 28°, and it came just at the time blossoms were developing, and so, even though that temperature is not cool enough to kill the plant, it is cold enough to kill the blossoms … There are certainly going to be some growers who either did not have frost protection or did not have enough frost protection, and so, some of their yields may be impacted” Hutton said. HortiDaily shared the WABI report.

Bon Appétit interviews Handley about corn earworm

20 Jun 2023

David Handley, vegetable and small fruit specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to Bon Appétit about the parasitic corn earworm. “They’re cannibalistic. This aggressive tête-à-tête, which happens in secret beneath corn’s pale green husks, is why you’ll often find just one single critter feasting on your cob,” Handley said.

PenBay Pilot shares Bicks’ upcoming talk with author James Shapiro

21 Jun 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot shared that Caroline Bicks, professor of English at the University of Maine, will host a talk with author James Shapiro about his book “Shakespeare in a Divided America” at 5 p.m. on June 27 as part of the Pascal Hall author series.

UMaine Ph.D. student and Maine Big Night founder wins award from National Wildlife Federation

26 Jun 2023

The National Wildlife Federation has awarded Greg LeClair, a Ph.D. student with the University of Maine’s Ecology and Environmental Sciences Program and founder of Maine Big Night, the National Conservation Young Leader Award. According to the organization, LeClair was recognized, "for his tireless dedication to protecting wildlife through innovative solutions and collaboration throughout Maine." His efforts including organizing Maine Big Night, a program in which participants monitor amphibian populations, identify locations where many are killed in vehicle collisions and help escort live frogs and salamanders across the road in an effort to reduce mortalities. Over the years, LeClair has recruited more than 400 volunteers and monitored more than 300 survey sites statewide, and he has collaborated with the Maine Department of Transportation to install wildlife crossings throughout the state. Visit the National Wildlife Federation website to learn more.

Mount Desert Islander notes UMaine research about blue crabs

21 Jun 2023

In an article about blue crab populations increasing in the Gulf of Maine, the Mount Desert Islander cited research from the University of Maine which concluded that blue crabs are beginning to populate coastal areas in Maine, particularly in Casco Bay, at a time when the population in Chesapeake Bay has seen record low numbers. These findings signal a future shift in the commercial fishery. “This project may offer a window into how other creatures may be shifting their ranges. It’s a really great way of getting an early insight into what impacts climate change may have in the Gulf of Maine,” said Brandon Henry, a graduate student at the University of Maine researching blue crabs.

Gill speaks to media about the anthropocene

21 Jun 2023

The Washington Post and Science News interviewed Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, for an article about geologic records in Canada’s Crawford Lake reflecting human history’s impact on the environment. “Formalizing the Anthropocene creates a hard and bright line, and you either exist on one side or the other. But really, it’s been a long gradient, a long process of changing how we live,” Gill said.

Reuters notes UMaine role in offshore wind development

22 Jun 2023

In an article about the potential for offshore floating wind energy farms off the East Coast of the U.S., Reuters noted that New England Aqua Ventus, which aims to have a long-term power purchase agreement in place with the Maine Public Utilities Commission to start construction of 12 wind turbines by 2024, uses a concrete-based substructure designed by the University of Maine that reduces steel usage and sources material from local manufacturers.

New Scientist cites Ortega-Jiménez research about nematodes

22 Jun 2023

In an article about the nematode worm *C. elegans* using static electricity to jump into the air, New Scientist cited previous research from Víctor Ortega Jiménez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology and biomechanics at the University of Maine, showing that a different nematode worm, *Steinernema carpocapsae*, uses static electricity to jump onto insects it parasitises.

May Session courses provide students new perspectives on education, immersive learning opportunities

22 Jun 2023

Before Sally Stead graduated from the University of Maine this spring, she had one more class to take: The long-running travel-study course CHF 404: Human Sexuality in Europe, taught by professor of family relations and human sexuality Sandra Caron. The three-week May Session course takes students to London, Amsterdam and Stockholm to see first-hand how citizens and policymakers in the United Kingdom, The Netherlands and Sweden deal with issues such as teen pregnancy, contraception, abortion, sexuality education, sexually transmitted diseases and other topics. “It was incredibly immersive,” says Stead of Cumberland, Maine, who earned her bachelor’s degree in child development and family relations. “In Europe, they’re much more open about sex and sexuality education than we are.” Stead, the student coordinator for Sexual Health and Reproductive Education (SHARE) during her time at UMaine, was one of 14 students in the Human Sexuality in Europe course this year, the first time it has been offered since 2019 due to COVID-19 pandemic travel restrictions the previous three years. For Stead, it was her first time abroad. In addition to finding Europeans to be much more candid in talking about sex and sexuality, she says one of the things that struck her was how they don’t talk down to young people. “In Sweden, we went to a youth clinic where, starting at puberty, they offer young people access to sexual and mental health and wellness services and products,” says Stead. “Eighth graders visited the clinic as part

of their classes, so they were already familiar with it and all that it provided." Caron, a highly regarded expert on sexuality education, has taught the European travel study course since 1996. Her contacts at organizations like the International Planned Parenthood Federation in London make the class a unique learning experience for students. "It really opens their eyes to other ways of thinking about sexuality and sex education," Caron says. "I like to say that in Europe, they are more realistic, and less moralistic. Their policies related to sexuality tend to be driven more by research than they are in the U.S." Harjot Singh, a rising senior majoring in biochemistry and microbiology, also took a May Session class, KPE 280: Introduction to Paddling Instruction and Safety. The course, which counted toward his minor in outdoor leadership, covered the fundamentals of paddling and paddling instruction for canoeing, kayaking and stand-up paddle boarding, as well as fresh water safety, trip planning, on-water group management and equipment management. It included a two-day Level 4 Swiftwater Rescue certification course, completed on Kenduskeag Stream, as well as two days of leading K–12 students from East Millinocket in canoeing instruction on Jerry Pond. Other locations used in the course were Pushaw Stream, Birch Stream and Perch Pond. "The fact that it was hands-on really helped me retain the information," says Singh, who took the class despite not knowing how to swim. "You can read about different paddling strokes or watch videos about rescue techniques. But the best way to learn is to do them in the water." Singh was born in India and moved to Medford, Massachusetts with his family when he was nine. When deciding which college to attend, he wanted to study somewhere close to forests with "easy access to nature." "I love the outdoor leadership minor, because it gets my mind off the biochemistry and microbiology stuff," he says "The classes have really helped get me out of my shell. I can be kind of shy, so being in a group setting and learning leadership skills I wouldn't have gotten in my other classes has been great." Lecturer in outdoor leadership Lauren Jacobs, who has taught the paddling course since 2019 when the outdoor leadership program was established in the College of Education and Human Development, says part of the appeal for students is the bond they form as a group and the intensive nature of a course that lasts less than a month. "This year's class did a great job and learned a lot in some very challenging, windy conditions," Jacobs says. "I'm most proud of the work they did with students from East Millinocket, applying the group leadership and instructional skills we worked on earlier in the class." Visit the Summer University website for more information. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Taylor Britt and Sarah Zachariason: JET-ting off to teach in Japan

23 Jun 2023

University of Maine alumni Taylor Britt and Sarah Zachariason were selected for the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program, a prestigious teaching exchange program managed by the government of Japan. Since 1987, JET has welcomed to Japan more than 35,000 Americans and more than 70,000 participants from around the world. JET participants sign a one-year contract, with the option of renewing for up to five years. Benefits include paid airfare to and from Japan, enrollment in Japan's national health insurance, a minimum of 10 days paid vacation and an annual starting salary of $30,000. Britt majored in international affairs with a concentration in culture conflict and globalization and a minor in education, and graduated in spring 2023. He spent a semester at Hirosaki University in Japan during his sophomore year — his yearlong program was cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic — and learned Japanese during college with hopes of returning to the country. Zachariason graduated with a bachelor's degree in social work in 2022. During her time at UMaine, she competed with the UMaine Women's Swimming and Diving Team and worked as a social work intern in the critical care unit, intensive care unit and emergency department at Eastern Maine Medical Center, now known as Northern Light Health. In this Q&A, the two UMaine alumni explain what drew them to the JET program, the things they are most looking forward to about living in Japan and the mentors at UMaine that guided them along the way.

[caption id="attachment_98212" align="alignright" width="425"] 

Taylor Britt[/caption] **How did you find out about the JET program?** Taylor Britt: I found out about the JET program in middle school through watching YouTube videos. Sarah Zachariason: I tried to study abroad quite a few times during my time at school. COVID ended up canceling every program I got into. My study abroad adviser recommended looking into programs like JET, and since then I've been pretty stuck on doing JET! **Why were you drawn to the JET program, and why did you think it was a good fit for you?** TB: I always wanted to live in Japan. It's a beautiful country full of amazing food, culture, sights to see, kind people and a rich history. The JET program is a good fit for me because I am a highly independent and responsible person with a strong understanding of the Japanese language and culture. I am also very confident about navigating both urban and rural Japan. I enjoy working with students and can be a strong cultural ambassador for both America and Japan. SZ: I love traveling, especially being able to immerse myself in a culture unfamiliar to what I know. It gives so much opportunity to learn about the world and grow as a person. JET is able to not only provide an opportunity to travel, but also allow me to try out a new field of work. I love the idea of teaching the younger generation and hope I can learn a lot from this experience. **How did you feel about being accepted into the program?** TB: Being accepted into the program was a huge relief. The JET program is highly competitive to get into and is a sought after opportunity worldwide. I had been dreaming, and preparing for my acceptance since middle school. SZ: This is actually my second year applying to the program. It was a bit of a shock when I got the email that I was shortlisted. I was unbelievably excited for all the opportunities ahead of me. **Why Japan? What about living and working in that country appealed to you?** TB: Japan is one of the safest countries in the world. In addition to this, the Japanese people have one of the longest life expectancies in the world. This is because they value exercise and high quality food that tastes amazing. Japan has the most Michelin star restaurants in the world, and the food is highly affordable. Health care in Japan is practically free and there is a strong sense of community throughout the country with a strong emphasis on the family household. SZ: Japan has a beautiful culture filled with deep rooted values of respect and harmony. I am also interested in living in a society that functions more from a community-based culture. I think that perspective could help me in the future as a social worker. [caption id="attachment_98213" align="alignright" width="325"]  Sarah Zachariason[/caption] **What are you most excited about for the next year teaching through the JET program?** TB: I am most excited to start this new chapter in my life. Every aspect of my life for the next five years is currently a mystery: where will I be living? What school will I be teaching at? What car will I be driving? What bank will I open an account with? What grocery stores will I be shopping at? What is the commute like in my city? What people will I meet? All these factors are currently unknown and will not be discovered until I am in Japan with my suitcases ready to start a new life. SZ: I am excited to explore the entire county and find some good hiking trails. I also cannot wait to enjoy all the different types of food! **Is there any particular UMaine mentor, initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** TB: John Mascetta, my academic adviser, was the greatest help during my time at the University of Maine. He was always available to take my calls, answer my questions and explain the inner workings of the university. John has vast knowledge of both the student and faculty requirements at UMaine and should be valued and appreciated at the university. We kept in touch all five years and I will continue to keep in touch while I'm in Japan. SZ: My field seminar professor, Kelly Jaksa, was an amazing role model for me. Working in a hospital was definitely a challenge at times. She was always there to help me work through the emotional difficulties that social work can bring. Being a part of the swim and dive team provided a built-in support system. I had a whole team of friends and coaches that always had my back to support me. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** TB: Professors will most likely only talk about assignments, tests and exams once. This means you need to stay on top of these assignments and know that all because the teacher isn't reminding you of crucial due dates does not

mean they are irrelevant. This goes for your fellow students, some students may give a false reassurance that there's no homework, it's important to be independent and on time. It's also important to keep an open line of communication with your professors. SZ: My biggest advice for incoming students is to actively search out activities. These activities can include sports, jobs, clubs and volunteer programs. It's important to find a community that works for who you are. **Describe UMaine in one word and explain.** TB: Outlet. As in, UMaine is an outlet for you to do or become whoever you want. Whether you want to use the school as an outlet to party or an outlet to better yourself and create the future you want. SZ: Home. UMaine became my home away from home. The community that I built for myself made my experience better than I could ever imagine. I am so thankful for all of the people I met while studying at UMaine. Students and alumni interested in applying for the JET Program can contact the Office of Major Scholarships at nives.dalbowheeler@maine.edu for application support. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Autos for Autism raises more than $10K for inclusive education program at UMaine

26 Jun 2023

Maine NAPA auto parts stores raised more than $10,000 for Maine Access to Inclusive Education Resources (MAIER) during a month-long fundraiser earlier this year. The annual Autos for Autism event is held during April, which is Autism Awareness Month. MAIER, formerly the Maine Autism Institute for Education and Research, provides information and resources for families, educators and service providers to assist individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities navigate and access inclusive education programming. Based at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, it was established in 2014 with a grant from the Maine Department of Education and continues to receive the bulk of its annual funding from the Maine DOE Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education. Autos for Autism began five years ago. The Mid-Coast Business Development Group (Mid-Coast BDG) – a collective of 10 independent NAPA Auto and Truck Care Centers in Maine from Ellsworth to Warren – and Coastal Auto Parts – which owns 29 NAPA stores from Caribou to southern Maine – collect donations from customers. They also seek to raise awareness about autism by posting flyers and sharing information at their stores throughout the month of April. The fundraiser supports MAIER's family partnership activities and resources. This year's total of $10,320 is a new record for the event, beating last year's total of just over $7,000. The UMaine Foundation helped to facilitate the gift transaction. MAIER research associate and family partnership director Anica Miller-Rushing accepted a check from Mid-Coast BDG at a ceremony last month. For more information about MAIER, contact Miller-Rushing at anica.miller.rushing@maine.edu.

Shellfish lovers invited to sample mussels at UMaine on June 28

26 Jun 2023

Food scientists at the University of Maine are seeking taste testers for a new mussel recipe on Wednesday, June 28. Sarah Gundermann, a Master's of Food Science student in the lab of Professor Denise Skonberg, developed a new marinating and cooking process to prepare ready-to-eat mussels. Testers will spend 15–20 minutes tasting three different mussel preparations and providing feedback. Participants will receive $5 for completing the testing process. They must be at least 18 years old and able to eat shellfish, white wine, garlic powder, onion powder, salt, pepper, paprika, cornstarch and honey. Testers who enjoy eating shellfish are preferred. Taste testing appointments are available from 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. and 4–5:30 p.m. on June 28. All testing will be held in the University of Maine's Sensory Evaluation Center in Hitchner Hall, Rooms 158A and 158B. Participants must sign up for their time slot in advance. Registration is available online. Contact: Sara Gendermann, sara.gundermann@maine.edu

University of Maine Graduate School Celebrates Centennial June 29

26 Jun 2023

The University of Maine Graduate School is celebrating 100 years of advanced training and workforce development in the state and beyond on June 29, the same day the first Graduate Faculty meeting took place in 1923. While the Graduate School was formed in 1923, UMaine has actually granted graduate degrees since 1881, when the Maine State College (now University of Maine System) Board of Trustees awarded the first master of science degree to Walter Balentine in the subject of agriculture. At that time, graduate degrees were only offered in five disciplinary areas: agriculture, chemistry, civil engineering, mechanical engineering and science and literature. One successful student whose impact is still felt today was Elizabeth Johnson Levinson. She was the first woman to receive a Ph.D. from the University of Maine and the founder of the Levinson Center, which houses medically fragile children and adults with significant cognitive and medical needs. She was the first woman to earn a doctor of philosophy degree at UMaine, and the first recipient of a psychology Ph.D. degree from the university. UMaine Graduate School has a long history of graduate education and research, supporting a highly successful and diverse group of graduate students for a century. Over the years, its academic offerings have expanded to 150 graduate programs that encompass additional areas of study, including offshore wind and other renewable energy sources, biomedical sciences, business administration, teaching, psychology and more. Today, the university's graduate student population contains representation from 74 countries and conferred a record-breaking 769 graduate degrees during the previous school year. As a leader in workforce development, the Graduate School is laser-focused on making a global impact while staying locally relevant. UMaine is designated an R1 university by the prestigious Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. The R1 designation signifies "very high research activity" and is the highest possible tier a doctoral research university can achieve in the Carnegie Classification. Only 146 of the nation's 3,982 degree-granting postsecondary institutions, or 3.7%, are classified as top-tier doctoral research universities. UMaine Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School Kody Varahramyan says that "the Graduate School's Centennial is a wonderful time to reflect on the impact that research and graduate education have had on Maine's workforce and economic development in the past 100 years, and to support further student access to graduate education. In commemoration of the Graduate School Centennial and through collaboration with the University of Maine Foundation, the Graduate Centennial Impact Fund has been established as part of a fundraising campaign to advance graduate education at the University of Maine, and for providing our graduate students with the premier graduate programs and the resources that they need to be successful, both in and out of the classroom."

Morning Ag Clips promotes UMaine Extension workshops in Presque Isle

26 Jun 2023

Morning Ag Clips highlighted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part, hands-on food preservation workshop with sessions on July 20 for part one and July 27 for part two at 57 Houlton Road in Presque Isle. Participants can choose whether to attend each portion at either 1–4 p.m. or 6–9 p.m. on both days. Register on the Cooperative Extension website.

Garland provides pruning tips to BDN

26 Jun 2023

Kate Garland, a horticulture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke with the Bangor Daily News for a story about pruning. “Regular pruning is an important part of tree and small fruit development,” she said. “It really benefits them.”

Ashley discusses internship experiences with MaineBiz

26 Jun 2023

In a story about employers expanding internship opportunities to recruit prospective employees, University of Maine alumna Bethany Ashley, now a senior auditor at BerryDunn, spoke to MaineBiz about her own summer internship experiences at the firm in between semesters.

Graduate School Centennial highlighted in BDN

26 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that the University of Maine Graduate School is celebrating 100 years of advanced training and workforce development in the state and beyond on Thursday, June 29, the same day the first Graduate Faculty meeting took place in 1923.

Charney discusses ecological history and stewardship on ‘Maine Calling’

26 Jun 2023

Noah Charney, University of Maine assistant professor of conservation biology, was featured on the Maine Public program “Maine Calling” to discuss ecological history and how it can help guide environmental stewardship.

BDN highlights research into how climate change will affect coastal spruce forests

26 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News highlighted a new research project by University of Maine students and faculty to determine how climate change will affect spruce forests along Maine’s coastline. The U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture awarded $643,848 for the project, led by Jay Wason III, a UMaine assistant professor of forest ecosystem physiology.

Funding for upcoming PFAS Center of Excellence featured in Maine media

26 Jun 2023

News Center Maine, the Bangor Daily News, WABI-TV (Channel 5), WGME (Channel 13 in Portland) and WPFO (Channel 23 in Portland) reported on funding secured in an appropriations bill by U.S. Sen. Susan Collins for the upcoming PFAS Center of Excellence at the University of Maine. The funds will assist with the modernization, renovation and expansion of existing facilities at the USDA New England Plant, Soil, and Water Laboratory — located at UMaine — to support the creation of the new center.

STAT interviews Armstrong about disparities in access to opioid addiction treatment

26 Jun 2023

STAT, the medical news arm for the The Boston Globe, interviewed Elizabeth Armstrong, an assistant professor of social work, for a story about the disparities in opioid addiction treatment access among Medicaid recipients. “It’s a vulnerable slice of the population,” Armstrong said. “People’s socioeconomic status, as well as access to secure and stable housing, food security, mental health issues; these are all challenges that tend to cluster together.”

UMaine partners with Maine farm to study PFAS

27 Jun 2023

The University of Maine established a new partnership with Sue Hunter to advance research on per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, on her farm in Unity, Maine. The agreement provides faculty and staff within UMaine’s Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station access to Hunter’s property to advance replicated, experimental research focused on how PFAS moves through living organisms and potential remediation techniques for these so-called “forever chemicals.” PFAS have been used widely in industrial and consumer products since the 1940s for their resistance to grease, oil, water and heat. The human-made chemicals are linked to a growing list of medical concerns and can bioaccumulate in plants, animals and people. The research at Hunter’s farm will complement statewide efforts to characterize the extent of this global issue in Maine. The progressive response led by the state of Maine has brought together several agencies including the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF), and the Department of Environmental Protection; food system leaders such as the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association and the Maine Farmland Trust; and scientists across UMaine. Until recently, Hunter said that she cultivated organic vegetable crops and forage for dairy cows on approximately two-thirds of the 150-acre property. The farm’s business screeched to a halt in early 2022, she said, when a neighboring farmer who purchased hay from her said that it tested positive for PFAS. Hunter and her son Keith rose to action, methodically collecting dozens of soil and water samples to find out where and how much PFAS had accumulated on the farm. Lab results from Northern Tilth arrived in April 2022, and they were jarring. Most of the property was contaminated, including the unfarmed wetlands and groundwater used for irrigation and drinking water. “It was devastating, it really was,” Hunter says. “We’re farmers and we love our land. We love this place. It’s home to us. I’ve been a farmer since I was 17 years old.” Once she processed the news, Hunter started to study the results. She noticed that soil contamination levels varied widely between parcels, and wondered if that may make the property well-suited for conducting experiments about PFAS. She

reached out to Nancy McBrady, deputy commissioner of the Maine DACF, who, in turn, connected Hunter with Diane Rowland at UMaine. “The property is perfectly suited to the types of questions that we need to ask and answer about PFAS,” says Rowland, dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture and director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station who also serves on the state PFAS Fund Advisory Committee. “Setting up an experimental condition with variable PFAS levels and past data collection like Sue has on her farm would take millions of dollars and decades to create. Farmers like Sue are extremely brave to come forward and turn a tragic situation into an opportunity to accelerate vital research on this issue.” The site access agreement between Hunter and UMaine will provide researchers access to the farm’s land, water and equipment to study PFAS bioaccumulation factors in natural and farm settings. Landowners interested in hosting research on their properties should email nsfaresearch@maine.edu. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers home food preservation workshops in Falmouth

27 Jun 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer several workshops on preserving Maine foods from 5:30–8:30 p.m. on July 11, Aug. 15 and Sept. 19 at the UMaine Regional Learning Center, 75 Clearwater Drive, Suite 104, in Falmouth. “Preserving the Harvest” topics include canning jam, pickles, and tomato salsa, as well as freezing and fermenting. Extension professional Kate McCarty will lead the workshop; fresh produce and canning jars will be provided. Registration is required; the cost is $20 per workshop. Register on the program webpage to receive the link and resources. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Kate McCarty, 207.781.6099; kate.mccarty@maine.edu.

Field Day at Tidewater Farm scheduled for July 8

27 Jun 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a Field Day from 10 a.m.–noon on Saturday, July 8 at the University of Maine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. Come experience the gardens at Tidewater Farm, learn about UMaine Extension’s work, ask gardening questions and participate in hands-on demonstrations with Extension staff and Master Gardener Volunteers. Demonstrations begin at 10:30 AM. Child-friendly activities will be provided. No registration required. Hands-on demonstrations include a walking tour of the gardens that highlight plants and practices to support the life cycles of pollinators. Additional topics include how to scout for pests and encourage beneficial insects in the vegetable garden. Representatives from Maine Audubon will be on hand to offer native and pollinator-friendly garden resources. Attendees will learn how you can support wildlife in their own backyard through native plantings and participate in a child-friendly activity. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the UMaine Extension website or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

Brawley becomes first inductee in Maine Seaweed Council’s Wall of Fame

27 Jun 2023

[caption id="attachment_98283" align="alignright" width="243"] Susan Brawley holds a plaque recognizing her induction into the Maine Seaweed Council Wall of Fame.[/caption] The Maine Seaweed Council has named Susan Brawley, professor emerita of plant biology and marine biology, the first inductee into its Hall of Fame. She was inducted on June 13 during the organization’s 30th anniversary celebration. Visit the council’s website to learn more.

Rangeley Highlander shares Rowley presentation at Rangeley Public Library

27 Jun 2023

The Rangeley Highlander shared that Nick Rowley, sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will present about pest management in the garden at 6 p.m. on July 5 at Rangeley Public Library. Visit the Rangeley Public Library or call 207.864.5529 to sign up for the free presentation.

BDN shares UMaine Extension youth food preserving program

27 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension program that teaches youth ages 9 and up how to grow and preserve the garden’s harvest 9–11 a.m. every Thursday from July 20 to Aug. 17. Register on the program webpage.

Garland speaks to BDN about perennial herbs

27 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to Kate Garland, horticulturist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about perennial herbs that Maine gardeners can grow. “There are a fantastic array of perennial herbs you can successfully grow here in Maine, but you do need to be careful because some can be more aggressive than others and take over,” Garland said.

Jacobson featured on ‘Maine Calling’ discussing mammoths in Maine

27 Jun 2023

George Jacobson, professor emeritus of biology, ecology and climate change at the University of Maine, was a panelist on the Maine Public show “Maine Calling” interviewing Gary Hoyle, author of “Mystery Tusk: Searching for Elephants in the Maine Woods,” which tells the story of the first paleontological excavation of a mammoth in Maine, as well as the discovery of the history of an African elephant that inspired P.T. Barnum.

Bishop presents keynote, workshop at symposium in Australia

27 Jun 2023

College of Education and Human Development dean Penny Bishop presented at the University of Canberra (Australia)’s Symposium on Personalised Learning in early June. Bishop gave the symposium’s keynote address, “Personalised Learning: A U.S. Perspective” and co-presented a workshop with University of Canberra assistant professor of teacher education Maya Gunawardena, “Personalised Learning: Demystifying the myths for practicality, possibility, and improved success.” More information about the international research collaboration between Bishop and Gunawardena is online.

Sophie Dean: Leading on campus and beyond

27 Jun 2023

Sophie Dean may only be a rising junior studying communication sciences and disorders at the University of Maine, but she is already taking on national leadership roles in her field. Last year, Dean served as Maine’s student state officer for the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA), the only student organization for pre-professionals studying communication sciences and disorders that is recognized by the field’s credentialing organization, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Established in 1972, NSSLHA supports nearly 11,000 members and over 340 chapters at colleges and universities nationwide. The University of Maine has the only affiliated chapter in the state. State officers for NSSLHA serve as a liaison between the national organization and the state chapter, connecting the chapters with different programs, scholarships and accolades that they could earn as part of their volunteer work and events. For Dean, this was a perfect role. She has a natural aptitude for leadership in everything she does at UMaine. Dean heard about the position through one of the chapter meetings at UMaine in the spring 2022 semester. She asked for a letter of recommendation from Cam McDonnell, area coordinator for the Department of Residence Life who Dean worked for as a resident assistant, and by July 2022, she had been selected for the position. Dean spent the year as a liaison between the national organization at the chapter in Maine, as well as chapters in New Hampshire and Vermont. Dean was also one of the youngest members in a state leadership position. “I’ve gotten more vocal in terms of being in leadership, laying down what needs to be done and making sure it gets done and staying on top of things,” Dean says. “Organization is key in a lot of these things.” Dean says her degree program is her true passion. Dean decided to attend UMaine in part because it offers the only undergraduate and graduate programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders in the state. Getting into the field was personal for Dean; she was born prematurely and spent time with a speech-language pathologist during her formative years to make sure she was developing correctly. When Dean heard her mother telling stories about the doctor that helped her as a child, she became more interested in the field. “I have just thoroughly enjoyed my major so much,” Dean says. “We have some really good professors in the department who are really great examples of working in the field and are very knowledgeable in aspects of it.” Next year, Dean is stepping down from her leadership role at NSSLHA to focus on getting some research and volunteer experience under belt — and to focus on other elements of her UMaine studies. Dean is also pursuing a minor in Native American studies. She is a member of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs and says she has been interested in learning about her culture since she was a child. Her favorite classes have been with associate professor Micah Pawling and lecturer John Bear Mitchell, the latter of whom she hopes to conduct an independent study with in the fall. “It’s something that you don’t learn about in elementary and middle school,” Dean says. “If I can someday find a way to mesh the two in terms of serving indigenous populations and other underserved minority groups with speech services someday, that would be great.” Besides her studies, Dean’s favorite thing about UMaine is the time that she gets to spend outdoors exploring the trails or participating in group activities through the Backcountry Squatters, a women’s and gender-queer outdoors club that focuses on inclusivity in all aspects. “Even if you’re not the most experienced person in the outdoors, you have a spot here,” Dean says. “I just think creating that space for people and creating the opportunities to meet people where they’re at, like having multiple pace groups [for hikes]. It’s been a good experience so far.” Dean is only a rising junior, but she has her eyes set on graduate school at UMaine to study speech-language pathology. Once she enters the field of communication sciences disorders, there are lots of options, from working as a speech therapist in schools, to opening a private practice, to pursuing a Ph.D. to teach and focus on a specific area, like swallowing or articulation. “What I like about the field is that there’s lots of options,” Dean says. “You don’t have to find a niche, but you could find a niche if you wanted to within it. I’m really open to most things. I think there is something that there will always be a need for.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine promotes mental health and wellness in schools with summer educators institute

27 Jun 2023

Over 100 Maine teachers and school administrators participated in the University of Maine Educators Institute last week, exploring evidence-based practices and strategies around the theme of “Promoting Mental Health and Wellness” with experts from UMaine and various state and national organizations. “I enjoyed being in a group of like-minded people very much,” says Lana St. Cyr, an educational technician at Enfield Station School. “It was inspiring and refueling to chat with others that have the same passion for helping our students (and ourselves) address mental health issues. It was one of the best trainings I have ever attended.” The annual summer institute is offered by the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and the Division of Lifelong Learning. This year’s event included workshops on social-emotional learning, partnering with families to address mental health concerns, outdoor- and place-

based learning, and the needs of rural schools and communities. There also were two keynote speakers: Nikole Hollins-Sims, a certified school psychologist specializing in social justice and a special assistant to the Pennsylvania Secretary of Education, and Steve Goodman, a partner with the Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and co-principal investigator with the Integrated Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Research Network. Educators who took part in the event received contact hours or continuing education units, which Maine teachers are required to earn to stay up-to-date with their certifications. About 20 UMaine graduate students also participated in the institute as part of a month-long summer course being offered by the College of Education and Human Development via UMaineOnline: "EHD 590: Evidence-Based Social-Emotional Learning in Schools." "Teachers are critical to making sure Maine's children grow up in strong, healthy and resilient communities," says Penny Bishop, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. "This institute is just one way our college, home to the largest and most comprehensive teacher education program in the state, supports schools and helps educators meet the social, emotional and behavioral needs of students." UMaine will have two more virtual summer workshops for educators this year. The University of Maine Climate Change Workshop, July 18-19, is back for a second year. The annual Summer Technology Institute, part of the collaborative graduate program in instructional technology offered through the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, the University of Maine at Farmington and the University of Southern Maine, will be held Aug. 1-3. Contact: Lindsey McMorrow, lindsey.h.mcmorrow@maine.edu; Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu.

Daily Bulldog shares Franklin County 4-H Fair

28 Jun 2023

The Daily Bulldog shared information about the Franklin County 4-H fair, a daylong event beginning at 8 a.m., July 1 at the Farmington Fairgrounds, 292 High St. Visit the Franklin County 4-H website to register and view a schedule of events.

Media quote Handley in article about apple crop

28 Jun 2023

The Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com noted that David Handley, small fruit specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, consulted with Rob Boothby of Boothby's Orchard and Farm Winery in Livermore about his grape crop. According to the article, Handley said the crops "might look fine now but will show damage later."

Media report on UMaine partnership with farm to study PFAS

28 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Morning Ag Clips reported that the University of Maine has established a new partnership with Sue Hunter to advance research on per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, on her farm in Unity, Maine. The agreement provides faculty and staff within UMaine's Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station access to Hunter's property to advance replicated, experimental research focused on how PFAS moves through living organisms and potential remediation techniques. Landowners interested in hosting research on their properties should email nsfaresearch@maine.edu.

Dill speaks to News Center Maine about deer tick nymphs

28 Jun 2023

News Center Maine interviewed Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, about the threat of emerging deer tick nymphs, which cause the most cases of Lyme disease. Dill said the parasites are so tiny they are practically invisible, making this part of their life cycle the most lethal. "That's what makes this stage a particular concern, they can easily go unnoticed as they feed on us, our kids, and our pets," Dill explained.

Hobbs writes op-ed for BDN about rent control

28 Jun 2023

Kelsi Hobbs, assistant professor of economics at the University of Maine, wrote an opinion piece for the Bangor Daily News about rent control and affordable housing. Hobbs is a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications. "To solve Maine's affordable housing crisis, we need to make sure that we understand which policies will help solve the affordable housing crisis and which policies won't. We then need to make sure that we vote for and support candidates that will help bring these policies to fruition. If we are not willing to do these things, then we are not going to see an end to Maine's affordable housing crisis any time soon," Hobbs wrote.

Bolton speaks to Consumer Reports about sustainable seafood

28 Jun 2023

Consumer Reports interviewed Jason Bolton, seafood safety specialist and associate dean at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about sustainable seafood. Bolton told Consumer Reports that farmed fish may be less likely than wild fish to be exposed to harmful pollutants, such as mercury, and more likely to have consistent levels of omega-3s and other nutrients, but they may be raised in crowded conditions, making them susceptible to disease and parasites, like sea lice. Bolton also said that some places sell fish labeled "organic," but "there's no such thing."

UMaine students competing in Greenlight Maine season finale

29 Jun 2023

A team of University of Maine students will be featured in the upcoming season eight finale of Greenlight Maine College Edition, a show in which participants pitch their business ideas to a panel of judges for a chance to win funding, at 8:30 p.m. July 6 on Maine Public television. In the episode, Alex

Mehre, Dyllon Dunton and Jacob Wildes, all seniors studying engineering at UMaine, competed against other aspiring entrepreneurs from the University of New England and University of Southern Maine for the top cash prize of $10,000 to finish developing and launch their startup, My Pocket Workshop. My Pocket Workshop is an online platform for streamlining product design and supporting upcoming entrepreneurs. The team launched a preliminary website to present their business concept. Once established, the website will take its users' sketches or descriptions of the product they wish to create and use artificial intelligence to produce a template and dimensions they can then refine. Mehre, Dunton and Wildes also envision their platform being able to identify the materials their users would need and from where they can be purchased — primarily from Maine suppliers — and automate order forms. The team would then oversee the orders and provide quality control support. [caption id="attachment_98291" align="aligncenter" width="750"]

Dyllon Dunton and Alex Mehre[/caption] Mehre of Port Washington, Wisconsin, says My Pocket Workshop will empower aspiring product creators who lack in depth design knowledge and other skills to bring their ideas into reality. To support the business, he has connected with wood, sheet metal and piping suppliers in the state, but hopes to expand his team's business partners so they can offer 3D-printed materials, plastic and other materials. "I've been kicking around the idea since I was 15 of how to enable aspiring makers to be able make things, because there are so many hurdles," says Mehre, a mechanical engineering major. "We're trying to make design fun again." The three friends and business partners met each other early in their college careers. Wildes met Dunton and Mehre separately in class, and Dunton and Mehre met during an internship with General Electric. After becoming friends, Mehre decided to share his idea for My Pocket Workshop with Dunton and Wildes, and all three decided to build the business together. All three serve now as officers of the Black Bear Robotics club, and Dunton and Wildes also work together as interns with the UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Mehre also is an intern with the company Andritz, an opportunity secured through the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation. "I've been around the block a couple of times, and haven't gone anywhere because of the lack of opportunities. UMaine is a great place to get opportunities like this, just the fact that it's so conducive to connection," Mehre says. For My Pocket Workshop, Mehre manages the business-side of the operation, including market research and connecting with manufacturers. Dunton and Wildes work together on coding, software and AI design, bouncing ideas off of each other and using their individual strengths to tackle development challenges. "We've balanced each other out throughout the entire process," says Wildes, a computer engineering major from Carmel, Maine. All three teams who competed during the final episode of the season received a cash prize, with third place earning $5,000, second place being awarded $7,500 and first place winning $10,000. To make it to the finale, the team first competed in episode three of season eight of Greenlight Maine College Edition. After delivering their three-minute pitch and slides describing My Pocket Workshop, the judges chose for them to advance to the finale. While competing, Dunton says the judges provided constructive feedback that allowed them to improve their business model and design for My Pocket Workshop. "We were able to build up the idea way more than if we hadn't gone," says Dunton, a computer and electrical engineering double major from Pittsfield, Maine. Before competing on Greenlight Maine College Edition, the team visited the Foster Center for Innovation to present My Pocket Workshop and receive assistance with developing the business. Foster Center staff helped them develop a pitch, gave them $500 for participating in the center's Bring Your Own Brain hackathon and encouraged them to apply to compete on the television show. "We are excited to see the progress this team has made, refining their idea in Bring Your Own Brain to reaching the finale for Greenlight Maine," says Foster Center Director Renee Kelly. "These students have taken advantage of the resources at the Foster Center to realize their entrepreneurial vision." Students and community members seeking support services for developing a business or nonprofit can contact the Foster Center at uminnovation@maine.edu. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Progressive Farmer notes UMaine funding from USDA NIFA

29 Jun 2023

The Progressive Farmer noted that the University of Maine is one of five universities awarded investment in youth development projects to advance understanding of climate change and nutrition security challenges from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). With the funding, the University of Maine will increase the number of youth studying food and agriculture, increase the capacity of communities to promote food and agriculture and increase the capacity of the Cooperative Extension System through the 4-H youth development program to better connect with youth and parents from immigrant, refugee and asylum-seeking communities.

92 Moose notes UMaine Extension information about dobsonflies

29 Jun 2023

In an article about dobsonflies, 92 Moose and B98.5 noted information from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension noting that dobsonflies are nocturnal and live near bodies of water. Dobsonflies can also raise their heads and open and close their jaws to establish dominance and try to intimidate other prey.

Media report on incoming UMaine freshman recruited to NHL

29 Jun 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Portland Press Herald, Sun Journal, CentralMaine.com, WGME (Channel 13 in Portland), North State Journal (Raleigh, North Carolina), News and Observer (Raleigh, North Carolina), Charlotte Observer (Charlotte, North Carolina), Herald Online (Rock Hill, South Carolina) and other outlets reported that incoming freshman Bradly Nadeau became the fourth University of Maine player in its hockey history to be selected in the first round of the National Hockey League draft when the Carolina Hurricanes chose him with the 30th overall pick. Yahoo! Sports shared the PPH report.

New data shows importance of agritourism for Maine farmers

29 Jun 2023

In-depth statistical and demographic information about Maine farms and others across the nation that offer agritourism-related activities, direct-to-consumer sales or both are available in a new set of fact sheets co-authored by a University of Maine researcher. Led by Claudia Schmidt, assistant professor of marketing and local/regional food systems at Penn State, a team of researchers including Jason Entsminger from UMaine created fact sheets that present data for the total number of farms engaging in agritourism, direct sales or both for every state and the nation. These resources also provide various demographic and business information about these farms, including crops grown, farmer age and gender, farm size and income generated by agritourism and direct sales. The data indicates that of the 7,600 total farms in Maine, 1,954 had engaged in direct sales, 156 in other agritourism activities only and 91 in both direct sales and other agritourism activities. Maine farm operations with agritourism and direct sales are typically producing on less than 50 acres and making less than $10,000 in revenue per farm. Entsminger, assistant professor of entrepreneurship and innovation with the Maine Business School and small business specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and his colleagues hope that their work will support efforts by farmers, organizations and decision-makers to bolster agritourism. "This data shows the importance of agritourism and direct sales for Maine farms," Entsminger says. "Among the 50 states, Maine had the third-highest proportion of our farms engaged in these activities, with 29% of the state's farms inviting people onto the operation or selling directly to consumers. These activities accounted for roughly $44.5 million to Maine farms, most of whom are small, family-owned operations." The team developed its fact sheets using data obtained by a special request to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture. "Maine welcomes millions of tourists each year and the ability for farmers and those in food-based businesses to engage with these visitors is an important strategy to move food and farming forward. There's a statewide effort to create new growth opportunities for farmers and value-added food ventures and these fact sheets provide helpful data as these businesses continue to adjust and adapt in an ever-changing world," says Hannah Carter, associate provost of continuing and online education and dean of UMaine Extension. Read the full release on the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development website. The center is based at Penn State. Contact: Melissa Arndt, melissa.arndt@maine.edu

New York Review features Talty book

30 Jun 2023

The New York Review featured a review of "Night of the Living Rez" by Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine.

MaineBiz cites UMaine study about snowmobiling industry

30 Jun 2023

In an article about racing snowmobiles and ATVs at the Caribou Spud Speedway, MaineBiz cited a University of Maine study commissioned by the snowmobile program of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry showing that snowmobiling brings adds an estimated $600 million to Maine's economy annually.

Wired cites Climate Reanalyzer data in article about El Niño

30 Jun 2023

Wired cited data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer showing extremely warm Atlantic Ocean temperatures in an article about whether a forming El Niño will be able to stem this year's hurricane season. Hakai Magazine shared the Wired article.

Media share Callaway talk about British officers in Maine during the War of 1812

30 Jun 2023

The Ellsworth American and Mount Desert Islander shared that Patrick Callaway, lecturer in the University of Maine Department of History, will present a lecture titled "Embargoes, War, and Downeast Maine: the View from British Eyes 1805-1815" at 6 p.m. on Monday, July 3, at Northeast Harbor Library.

Ars Technica interviews Weaver about Myst 'demake'

30 Jun 2023

Ars Technica interviewed Vincent Weaver, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Maine, about a "demake," or a

remake of an old video game that converts it to an older graphical and gameplay style, of the 1993 point-and-click adventure game Myst that he has developed for the Atari 2600. "Making demakes is a hobby of mine," Weaver told Ars Technica in an email interview. "In the past, I've mostly done them for the Apple II platform, but about a year ago, I started making some for the Atari 2600. The demake sort of started out as me making a sort of small proof-of-concept version of things as a joke, but then when I get positive feedback, I get a bit carried away."

Brewer speaks to WFVX about recent legislation

30 Jun 2023

WFVX-TV (Fox 23/ABC 7 in Bangor) spoke to Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about 36 bills that Gov. Janet Mills officially signed into law as legislation approaches the end of its latest session. "Sheer number or output doesn't necessarily tell you everything or even the most important thing to know about the impact you need to know about the legislative session. [It's] really the substance of that legislation that is enacted," Brewer said.

Ranco speaks to Food Tank about impacts of ICWA on food sovereignty

30 Jun 2023

Food Tank interviewed Darren Ranco, associate professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, about the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision to uphold the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) on the wellbeing of Native children and communities, tribal sovereignty and Indigenous food sovereignty. Ranco told FoodTank that he believes that the knowledge sharing that takes place when living with one's community is critical. "[Penobscot] elders are the caretakers of our knowledge and our connection to the past. There have been lots of disconnections that, in terms of just even learning from elders, have happened because of colonization and modern educational systems," Ranco said.

UMaine Extension earns $6.5M for new 4-H workforce development program

05 Jul 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H was recently awarded $6.5 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) to nurture future leaders of northern New England's food system. The new program, called "Oh Yea! 4-H Grows True Leaders," will provide experiential learning, practical knowledge and life skill development to hundreds of young Mainers over the next five years. The funding will increase involvement from traditionally underrepresented communities in the Maine food system. UMaine Extension 4-H will partner with community organizations such as Mano en Mano in Milbridge and the Somali Bantu Community Association in Lewiston. The Maine True Leaders program is an innovative approach to nurturing future advocates of food production and healthy living in Maine. It focuses on migrant, immigrant and refugee families, promoting evidence-based indicators important for families learning to navigate a new country. The program's key indicators include openness to challenge and discovery, hopeful purpose, positive emotions, resource maximization and cultural membership. The goal of the program is to prepare youth from underrepresented communities for careers in the Maine food system and help them understand the role of food in their daily lives. "This project is a meaningful example of Extension's ongoing work to meet the state's ever-changing needs," said Hannah Carter, associate provost of online and continuing education and dean of UMaine Extension. "An important factor in solving our ongoing workforce challenges is to embrace and support the growing number of people who want to build a life here. At Extension, one way we can do that is through the lens of Maine's food system, which plays an important role in a strong economy and thriving population." Maine True Leaders employs a model of youth development that features hands-on educational and outreach opportunities conducted in a safe and welcoming environment. Activities are designed and developed by the participants. "Over the course of the project, teens will develop learning tools and activities based on their own interests in the food system, which might include food equity, cultural food systems and career exploration," explained Mitch Mason, UMaine Extension professor, 4-H youth and family development. "With these tools in hand, the teens will then go out to local schools and teach youth in grades K–8. Along the way, we expect to recruit and train adults who will build positive relationships with participants and help facilitate engagement with local communities." Throughout the project, UMaine Extension faculty and community partners will also be co-conducting research aimed at understanding how Maine youth programs can be welcoming and adaptive for youth and adults of all backgrounds and cultures. The research will identify systemic and cultural barriers, as well as promising mitigation strategies, to participation in 4-H and food system education. Five northern New England communities will be selected to host the program. UMaine Extension is currently hiring several new staff and recruiting volunteers to deliver the program. AFRI is a program of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture at USDA. University of Vermont Extension is a subrecipient of the grant and will receive $1.6 million; the remaining $4.9 million will go to UMaine Extension. Contact: Mitch Mason, 207.781.6099; mitchell.mason@maine.edu

Laura Curioli: Madison Fellow learning how to teach the Constitution

05 Jul 2023

As an aspiring high school teacher, Laura Curioli, a University of Maine master's student in history, wants to educate future students about the Constitution so they can learn their rights and become effective voters and leaders. "A lot of people underestimate high schoolers, in my opinion," she says. "They also fail to remember that these kids, who are 14- to 15-years-old, will be adults and will be voting pretty much right after they graduate." In recognition of her passion and talent, Curioli was awarded the $24,000 James Madison Graduate Fellowship, which will help finance her master's degree and attend an in-depth institute about the principles, framing and impact of the Constitution in summer 2024 at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation was established by Congress in 1986, and every year provides the opportunity for one student or in-service teacher applying from the state of Maine to receive the fellowship. Curioli is the third UMaine student since 2003 to earn it. The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation Summer Institute, a monthlong, six-credit program held from June to July, will feature lessons from constitutional scholars from across the U.S., tours of the capitol, meetings with political leaders and visits to the Supreme Court, the White House and various monuments. Curioli says she hopes to gain knowledge and experiences she can later apply in the classroom. "I think going to Georgetown offers a new perspective and allows me to get to meet different people," she says, "I'll be able to learn about educators from other states and how they teach in their classrooms, and that can help me move forward as an educator." Curioli earned her undergraduate degree in history and secondary education from UMaine in the spring, and participated in the 2023 commencement. Curioli's passion for history stems from growing up in Eastport, Maine and finding pieces of old pottery, utensils, fossils and other relics in her backyard and around the city. She has also always enjoyed reading historical fiction and nonfiction. Her desire to become an educator came from a fifth and sixth grade teacher she had at Eastport Elementary school who always supported students and engaged with their individual interests and talents. Curioli says she has a

natural inclination to help others, and enjoys assisting her classmates with coursework and tutoring at TRIO Student Support Services. “I’d like to be a very interactive and immersive teacher,” Curioli says. “I just don’t want kids to just have to read a textbook and memorize things. I want kids to really make connections and see how history has shaped our world, how it even affects them today. I want them to think critically about the past and the present and then the future.” While at UMaine, Curioli won a history writing award for her essay titled “Bridging the Gap Between Popular and Elite Catholic Practices,” which was published in the Black Bear Undergraduate History Journal. She received another award from the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) for an essay titled “A Study in The Evolution of Educational Philosophies Across Three Centuries,” which she also presented during the 2023 UMaine Student Symposium. She has also served on the Class of 2023 Student Council as history and secretary, designed the 2023 Summer University poster, worked as a photographer for UMaine Auxiliary Enterprises and the Division of Marketing and Communications, and was a counselor for Summer RAD campus. Additionally, she was chosen to be the 2023 class correspondent for the UMaine Alumni Association. Curioli says she came to UMaine because it’s affordable, close enough to home to allow her to commute from her hometown in Hampden and exhibited a “great sense of community.” Her older sister, Sarah Curioli, also attended UMaine. She credits Joel Anderson, an assistant professor of history, for serving as a mentor during her undergraduate career and helping expand her love of history with the class he taught. Anderson now serves as her graduate advisor. “UMaine offers a very large variety of degrees and opportunities to all of their students,” she says. “It’s also very individualized, and you can have a very immersive experience. You also have the opportunity, despite your major, to experience other classes, or you can practice your other interests.” Political Science Professor Mark Brewer, UMaine Faculty Representative for the James Madison Graduate Fellowship says that “Laura was an excellent candidate and is a very deserving recipient of the Madison Fellowship. This will be very beneficial in her future career as an educator.” Students interested in learning more about the James Madison Graduate Fellowship and in applying to major external scholarships and fellowships can reach out to the Office of Major Scholarships’ Director Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler at nives.dalbowheeler@maine.edu. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers food preserving workshops on July 20 and 27 in Presque Isle

05 Jul 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part, hands-on food preservation workshop with sessions on July 20 for part one and July 27 for part two at 57 Houlton Road in Presque Isle. Participants can choose whether to attend each portion at either 1–4 p.m. or 6–9 p.m. on both days. Part one will cover the basics of canning and water bath canning. Part two will focus on pressure canning, freezing and dehydrating garden produce. UMaine Extension professional Lisa Fishman will lead the workshop, and fresh produce and canning jars will be provided. Class size is limited and registration is required. Register on the program website. The cost is $15 for both workshops or $10 per class. The fee includes all materials. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sharon Paradis, 207.834.3905; sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offers food preserving program for youth

05 Jul 2023

Strawberry jam, pickles and salsa — all of these foods can be made from scratch with fruits and vegetables grown in the home garden. Join University of Maine Cooperative Extension staff and volunteers in an interactive program that teaches youth ages 9 and up how to grow and preserve the garden’s harvest 9–11 a.m. every Thursday from July 20 to Aug. 17 in Falmouth. Each session will begin in the University of Maine Gardens at Tidewater Farm as youth harvest the fruits and vegetables needed to make jam, pickles, salsa and more. Then the class moves to the UMaine Regional Learning Center Demo Kitchen to prepare a batch of seasonal preserved foods. Each participant will take home a jar of what they make. Current 4-H enrollment is not required for participation. The $5 fee per child covers all classes. Register on the program webpage. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 4-H Cumberland staff at 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine).

BDN notes UMaine role in Maine Potato Blossom Festival

05 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that the University of Maine is sponsoring the Potato Dish in The County competition at the Maine Potato Blossom Festival starting at 5:30 p.m. July 12 in Fort Fairfield. The 76th anniversary of the festival starts Friday, July 7, and ends Sunday, July 16.

Media share Porter honor from Maine Potato Board

05 Jul 2023

The County, MaineBiz and Potato News Today reported that the Maine Potato Board announced that Gregory Porter, professor of agronomy at the University of Maine, would receive the inaugural Maine Potato Industry Recognition Award.

BDN shares agrotourism fact sheets co-authored by Entsminger

05 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that Jason Entsminger, assistant professor of entrepreneurship and innovation with the Maine Business School and small business specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, co-authored fact sheets that present data for the total number of farms engaging in agritourism, direct sales or both for every state and the nation for the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development. “Among the 50 states, Maine had the third-highest proportion of our farms engaged in these activities, with 29 percent of the state’s farms inviting people onto the operation or selling directly to consumers. These activities accounted for roughly $44.5 million to Maine farms, most of whom are small, family-owned operations,” Entsminger said.

PPH cites UMane Extension market report tool

05 Jul 2023

In an article about beets thriving due to this year’s cold, rainy spring, the Portland Press Herald used data from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s market report, a tool in which farmers across the state self-report the prices they’re charging for their fruits and vegetables, showing that beets

sold in June cost, on average, $4.20 a pound.

The Guardian cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in article about El Niño

05 Jul 2023

The Guardian cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in an article about concerns over extreme weather due to recent record high ocean temperatures and the impending El Niño. The Guardian also cited UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in reporting about the United Nations World Meteorological Organization declaring the arrival of a climate-heating El Niño event, with officials warning that preparation for extreme weather events is vital to save lives and livelihoods.

Talty featured on 'Maine Calling' discussing summer reading

05 Jul 2023

Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, was featured on Maine Public's show Maine Calling discussing his book "Night of the Living Rez," which was selected for the Maine Humanities Council's statewide reading program ReadME, as well as his summer reading recommendations.

Dill speaks to Outdoor Life about identifying ticks

05 Jul 2023

Outdoor Life spoke to Griffin Dill, coordinator of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Tick Lab, about how to identify different types of ticks. There are two primary categories of ticks out there: hard ticks and soft ticks. Dill says that most of us will only ever interact with hard ticks. In fact, if you were to Google an image of a soft tick, you would encounter a small, mite-looking bug that you've likely never seen before. "It's not to say you can't encounter soft ticks, because of course people can and do," Dill tells Outdoor Life. "But certainly not to the extent that we're encountering these hard ticks like the American dog tick, the black-legged tick, and the Lone Star tick." Yahoo! Life shared the Outdoor Life report.

PPH reports on UMaine browntail moth research

05 Jul 2023

The Portland Press Herald reported on University of Maine research investigating whether it's possible to disrupt the mating patterns of the browntail moth as a way to curtail populations and limit the range of the forest pests. The research team, led by Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology at the UMaine, has landed $325,000 in grants to test whether dispersing a synthetically made product designed to mimic the sex pheromones of the female browntail moth can confuse enough male moths to drastically reduce their ability to reproduce. The goal of the university researchers is to find out how to drive down the browntail moth population in an environmentally friendly way. Mech sums up the mission in six words: "Save our trees. Save our skin." Yahoo! Sports shared the PPH report.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in reporting about 'unofficial hottest day on record'

05 Jul 2023

The Associated Press, CNN, The Guardian, The Independent, Mother Jones, Marketplace, Forbes, The Hill, IFLScience, New Scientist, People, Washington Post, the Boston Globe, UPI, Vox and Maine Public cited the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer to report that July 3 and 4 were Earth's unofficial hottest days on record. The record is preliminary, pending approval from gold-standard climate measurement entities like the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association. The Climate Reanalyzer was developed by Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute. When speaking with AP, Birkel said while the daily figures are unofficial, they provide a useful snapshot of what's happening as a result of global warming. According to AP, "think of it as the temperature of someone who's ill, he said: It tells you something might be wrong, but you need longer-term records to work like a doctor's exam for a complete picture.". Time, U.S. News and World Report, Politico, PBS News Hour, the Los Angeles Times, the Bangor Daily News, WGME (Channel 13 in Portland), NBC News, CBC, Australian Broadcasting Company, Africa News and other outlets shared the AP report. MSN shared the New Scientist report.

Explore the cosmos through Galileo at Versant Power Astronomy Center

05 Jul 2023

An Italian astronomer will discuss the discoveries of Galileo Galilei and how his lens — literally and figuratively — shaped our understanding of the universe in two upcoming talks at Versant Power Astronomy Center. Elena Lazzaretto, a science communicator at the Planetarium of Padova in Padua, Italy, will present "Discover the Sky with Galileo" at 2 p.m. on July 7 and 14, during which she will discuss how the renowned Renaissance astronomer laid the foundation for modern astronomy. Also on July 14, Lazzaretto will present "From Galileo to JWST: Uncovering the Universe," at 7 p.m., in which she will describe the astronomical revelations achieved by using telescopes, including the groundbreaking images from the James Webb Space Telescope. Tickets may be purchased at the door, online, or by phone at 207.581.1341. These shows are made possible by the International Planetarium Society, which named Lazzaretto the winner of its 2023 Week in the United States professional development competition. The society is a global association of planetarium professionals and has nearly 700 members from 40 countries who represent schools, colleges and universities, museums and other public facilities.

Maine Business School appoints new associate and assistant deans

06 Jul 2023

The Maine Business School has appointed Patti Miles and Meghan Gardner associate dean and assistant dean of business, respectively. Miles, professor of

management, has been interim associate dean of business since July 2022. She joined the MBS faculty in fall 2008 after completing her Ph.D. at the University of Texas, Arlington. Gardner joined the Maine Business School in May 2022 as the academic advisor and student support specialist for the Graduate School of Business. Gardner, also a UMaine alumna, assumed the role of assistant dean of business in April 2023. Read the full story on the Maine Business School website.

Media report on funding to UMaine Extension 4-H workforce development program

06 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Morning Ag Clips, Daily Bulldog and WAGM/WWPI (Channels 8 and 16 in Presque Isle) shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H was recently awarded $6.5 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative to nurture future leaders of northern New England's food system. The new program, called "Oh Yea! 4-H Grows True Leaders," will provide experiential learning, practical knowledge and life skill development to hundreds of young Mainers over the next five years.

University of Maine announces spring 2023 Dean's List

07 Jul 2023

The University of Maine recognized 3,016 students for achieving Dean's List honors in the spring 2023 semester. Of the students who made the Dean's List, 2,002 are from Maine, 932 are from 44 other states and 82 are from 33 countries other than the U.S. To be eligible for the Full-time Dean's List, a student must have completed 12 or more calculable credits in the semester and have earned a 3.50 or higher semester GPA. Students who have part-time status during both the fall and spring semesters of a given academic year are eligible for Part-time Dean's List. They must have completed 12 or more calculable credits over both terms and have earned a combined GPA in those terms of 3.50 or higher. Also available is a breakdown of the Dean's List by Maine counties.
Please note that some students have requested that their information not be released; therefore, their names are not included.

Last name	First name	City	State	Country
Abbott	Emily	Brookline	MA	
Abbott	Matthew	Orrington	ME	
Accurso	Karly	Bangor	ME	
Adams	Abby	Orono	ME	
Adams	Bridget	Yarmouth	ME	
Adams	Ileana	Bradley	ME	
Adams	Jack	Westerly	RI	
Adams	Matthew	Irvine	CA	
Adams	Mikayla	North Brookfield	MA	
Adams	Paige	Bedford	NH	
Adams	Shannon	Warren	VT	
Adelman	Noah	Winterport	ME	
	Hezekiah			

Agbuya	Gabriel	Waldo	ME	
Agneta	Monica	Windham	ME	
Agostino	Larissa	Dracut	MA	
Ahlin	Shane	Wilmington	MA	
Ahmad	Arius	Gorham	ME	
Albert	Matthew	Bradford	ME	
Albert	Sam	Fort Kent	ME	
Aldrich	Ayla	Biddeford	ME	
Aldrich	Matt	Middleton	MA	
Aldrich	Patrick	Rome	ME	
Alexander	Cole	Orono	ME	
Alexander	Peter	Orono	ME	
Ali	Ethan	Cumberland Center	ME	
Allard	Alexis	Levant	ME	
Allen	Allura	Brewer	ME	
Allen	Benjamin	Johnston	RI	
Allen	Nick	Minot	ME	
Allen	Paige	Mendon	MA	
Allen	Phil	Vassalboro	ME	
Allen	Ryan	Chapel Hill	NC	
Allen	Seth	Wales	ME	

Alley	Connor	Oakland	ME	
Alley	Makenzie	Frankfort	ME	
Almonte	Niomi	Orono	ME	
Alofs	Zachary	Scarborough	ME	
Altimore	Jessica	York	PA	
Alyokhin	Philip	Old Town	ME	
Ambrosio	Hannah	Northport	NY	
Amendola	Isabella	Westbrook	CT	
Amero	Katelyn	Mapleton	ME	
Ames	Amelia	Greensboro	NC	
Ames	Ashley	Moultonborough	NH	
Ames	Mike	Hollis Center	ME	
Ammerman	Ian	Bangor	ME	
Amon	Ashlynn	Yuma	AZ	
Amos	Tyler	New Gloucester	ME	
Andersen	Allie	Hewitt	NJ	
Andersen	Kenzie	Plymouth	MA	
Andersen	Mike	Beverly	MA	
Andersen	Patty	Durham	NH	
Anderson	Ben	Topsham	ME	

Anderson	Bonnie	Harrisville	NH	
Anderson	Chris	Lincoln	ME	
Anderson	Garrett	Hermon	ME	
Anderson	John	Bangor	ME	
Anderson	Leo	Lewiston	ME	
Andre	Brooke	Gardiner	ME	
Andresen	Tyler	West Bath	ME	
Andrew	Colin	Beverly	MA	
Andrews	Aidan	Cushing	ME	
Andrews	Gary	Wells	ME	
Andrews	Riley	Brewer	ME	
Andrews	Rowan	Brewer	ME	
Androlewicz	Connor	Lewiston	ME	
Andrus	Cedar	Hope	ME	
Anghel	Octavian	Windham	ME	
Annable	Seana	Glenburn	ME	
Antonacci	Luke	Skillman	NJ	
Apon	Donato	Portland	ME	
Archambault	Emma	Southampton	MA	
Archer	Cathryn	Stillwater	ME	
Ardito	Ava	Belgrade	ME	

Arledge	Bryn	Edmond	OK	
Arman	Katelyn	Moorhead	MN	
Armstrong	Isabelle	Falmouth	ME	
Arnold	Abigail	Eliot	ME	
Arnone	Brian	Trumbull	CT	
Arnott	Grayson	King City	ON	Canada
Arscott	Alyssa	Lincoln University	PA	
Arsenault	Emilee	Alton	ME	
Ashby	Seth	Hallowell	ME	
Ashey	Noah	Milford	ME	
Aspinall	Jensen	Thorndike	ME	
Assis	Greg	New York	NY	
Atkinson	Ben	Orono	ME	
August	Caelie	O'Fallon	IL	
Austin	Jay	South China	ME	
Austin	Kathryn	Brewer	ME	
Auxier	Riley	Veazie	ME	
Avci	Hira	Konak		Turkey
Avery	Cameron	Bradley	ME	
Axelson	Owen	South China	ME	

Ayasin	Israk	Portland	ME	
Aylesworth	Connor	Warwick	RI	
Aylesworth	Emme	Lake Stevens	WA	
Baartvedt	Mille Sofie	Oslo		Norway
Babb-Brott	Rebecca	Camden	ME	
Bach	Samuel	Surry	ME	
Bach	Steven	Haddon Heights	NJ	
Bacon	Jack	Reading	MA	
Badger	Mourgan	Attleboro	MA	
Baez-Vazquez	Estephanie	Milford	ME	
Bagley	Abby	Newport	ME	
Bailey	Madi	Topsham	ME	
Baird	Jake	Colchester	VT	
Bairos	John	Taunton	MA	
Bajracharya	Siddhartha	Orono	ME	
Baker	Nichole	Dover	NH	
Balch	Danielle	Great Mills	MD	
Baldwin	Anna	Hampden	ME	
Baldwin	Ella	Hampden	ME	
Baldwin	Mailer	Greenville Junction	ME	
Baldwin	Wilder	Portland	ME	

Bamberger	Rae	Brunswick	ME	
Banks	Joey	Naples	ME	
Banner	Alexis	Port Charlotte	FL	
Baptista	Alexia	Carver	MA	
Barbee Bamford	Shay	Columbia	ME	
Bard	Jenna	North Andover	MA	
Bardini	Ilaria	Salem	MA	
Barker	Hayden	Wells	ME	
Barnes	Brevin	Caribou	ME	
Barrett	Cooper	Oakland	ME	
Barrett	Sam	South Weymouth	MA	
Barron	Carter	Sarnia	ON	Canada
Barry	Jordyn	Peabody	MA	
Bart	Phillip	Bar Harbor	ME	
Barth	Riley	Winthrop	ME	
Bartie	Odin	Westport	CT	
Bartlett	Quinn	Carmel	ME	
Bartley	Alexa	Winslow	ME	
Basile-Maslowe	Jasper	Newton Center	MA	
Bassett	Alexia	New Hampton	NH	

Bassett	Caleb	Windham	ME	
Bates	Patrick	Quincy	MA	
Batoosingh	Leah	Scarborough	ME	
Batson	Nathanael	Fairfield	ME	
Bauling	Grace	Dekalb	IL	
Baylis	Matt	Ipswich	MA	
Beady	Peyton	Weymouth	MA	
Bear	Jake	Standish	ME	
Beard	Savannah	Old Lyme	CT	
Beaucage	Andrew	Waldoboro	ME	
Beaudoin	Christy-Lynn	Livermore	ME	
Beaulieu	Mychal	Hampden	ME	
Beaulieu	Sarah	Caribou	ME	
Beaumier	Ken	Standish	ME	
Beauregard	Emma	Bath	ME	
Beauregard	Mark	Avon	CT	
Becker	Keely	Old Town	ME	
Beckwith	Gordon	Lewiston	ME	
Belanger	Shelby	Madison	ME	
Belden	Chris	North Billerica	MA	
Belenger	Tony	Bangor	ME	

Bell	Aidan	Gorham	ME	
Bell	Darius	Hamilton	ON	Canada
Bell	Eli	Leeds	ME	
Bellavance	Cindy	Sanford	ME	
Bellavance	Jade	Sanford	ME	
Bellavance	Mae	Bradley	ME	
Bellemare	Patrick	Winthrop	ME	
Bellenoit	Gamma	West Warwick	RI	
Bena	Sean	Dexter	ME	
Bendoraitis	Kathleen	New Milford	NJ	
Benham	Brett	Brooklin	ON	Canada
Benider	Calvin	Portland	ME	
Benoit	Alyssa	Rutland	MA	
Benson	Bruce	Westfield	MA	
Benson	Emily	Middleboro	MA	
Benson	Tamra	Turner	ME	
Bent	Lucas	Berwick	ME	
Bentley	Jacob	Vassalboro	ME	
Bentley	Veronica	Quincy	MA	
Berez	Ellie	Camden	ME	

Berger	Hadley	Camden	ME	
Berger	Luke	Cape Neddick	ME	
Bergeron	Lucas	Topsham	ME	
Berkes	Anna	Winthrop	ME	
Berkovitz	Ilana	North Chelmsford	MA	
Bernard	Ryan	Tolland	CT	
Bernheisel	Katie	Cumberland Foreside	ME	
Bernier	Hannah	Raymond	ME	
Berrouet	Alex	Acton	MA	
Berry	Graham	Ashland	ME	
Berry	Ryan	Brunswick	ME	
Berry	Thomas	Freeport	ME	
Bertsch	Thomas	Ledyard	CT	
Beyenberg	Caitlyn	Mattawamkeag	ME	
Beyer	Emily	Mount Chase	ME	
Beyer	Ethan	Paducah	KY	
Bhosale	Anisha	Old Town	ME	
Bialas	Sarah	Carpentersville	IL	
Bickerstaff	Natalie	Corinth	ME	
Bierman	Samantha	Sorrento	ME	
Billings	Lauren	Ellsworth	ME	

Bilodeau	Sophie	Veazie	ME	
Bina	Jonathan	Quincy	MA	
Bindell	Scott	Wantagh	NY	
Binette	Joe	Sanford	ME	
Birch	Peter	Barrington	RI	
Birkett	Hannah	Chebeague Island	ME	
Birks	Cameron	Falmouth	ME	
Birmingham	Jack	Waterbury	VT	
Biro	Esther	Louisville	KY	
Birri	Nicole	Shrewsbury	MA	
Bisecco	Morgan	North Haven	CT	
Bishop	Briton	Mexico	ME	
Bishop	Olivia	East Sandwich	MA	
Bishop	Patrick	Orono	ME	
Bissell	Jeremy	Orono	ME	
Bissonnette	William	Bucksport	ME	
Blackie	Layla	Milford	ME	
Blackwood	Hannah Marie	Castine	ME	
Blake	Lily	Liberty	ME	
Blanc	Sam	Westford	MA	

Blanchard	Amy	Saco	ME	
Blanchard	Grace	Hermon	ME	
Blanchard	Jane	Hallowell	ME	
Blanchard	Lizzie	Gorham	ME	
Blanchard	Sam	Hermon	ME	
Blanchette	Hannah	Fall River	MA	
Blanda	Daniel	Colchester	CT	
Blease	Elsa	Freeport	ME	
Bledsoe	Payton	Holden	ME	
Blejeru	Teodora	Winterport	ME	
Blohm	Julian	Camden	ME	
Blondin	Faith	Westfield	MA	
Blood	Lindsey	Belfast	ME	
Bloom	Josiah	Waterville	ME	
Bloom	Sydney	Scarborough	ME	
Bloomquist	Mason	Camden	ME	
Bock	Phil	Yarmouth	ME	
Bodak	Matthew	Matawan	NJ	
Bodkin	Porter	Acton	ME	
Bogner	Molly	Milford	MA	
Bogue	Justin	Wichita Falls	TX	

Bohun	Tahj	Mashpee	MA	
Bois	Oliver	Hampden	ME	
Bois	Paige	Steep Falls	ME	
Boissonneault	Owen	Saco	ME	
Bolduc	Gillianne	North Haven	CT	
Bolduc	Justin	Winslow	ME	
Bolosky	Sam	Glenburn	ME	
Bonanno	Allie	Burlington	MA	
Bonarrigo	Vincent	Belmont	ME	
Bond	Kacie	Blue Hill	ME	
Bontatibus	Emily	Topsham	ME	
Boos	Meghan	Orono	ME	
Borodaenko	Danila	Camden	ME	
Boscarino	Adam	West Stockbridge	MA	
Bouchard	Abby	New Gloucester	ME	
Bouchard	Emily	Syracuse	NY	
Bouchard	Natalie	Kingston	MA	
Boucher	Abby	Carmel	ME	
Boucher	Hana	Presque Isle	ME	
Boucher	Konner	Hermon	ME	

Boudreau	Abby	Westminster	MA	
Boudreau	Gage	Benton	ME	
Boudreaux	Emma	Essex Junction	VT	
Bourdon	Sarina	Hudson	NH	
Bourgeois	Abby	York	ME	
Bourgeois	Will	York	ME	
Bourgoin	Alex	Madawaska	ME	
Bourgoin	Cadence	Freeport	ME	
Bourgoin	Grace	Oakland	ME	
Bourgoine	Ellyson	York	ME	
Bourne	Mchale	New Gloucester	ME	
Bourque	Casey	Gardiner	ME	
Bourque	David	Biddeford	ME	
Bourque	Ryan	Benton	ME	
Bowden	Nathaniel	Old Town	ME	
Bowden	Scott	Lebanon	ME	
Bowdle	Sarah	Denton	MD	
Bowen	Kate	Norway	ME	
Bowen	Katherine	Rockport	ME	
Bowers	Ian	Augusta	ME	
Bowman	Shawn	Bear	DE	

Bowser	Abigail	Whiting	ME	
Boxall	Ella	Kennebunkport	ME	
Boyes	Chloe	Windham	ME	
Boynton	Cassidy	Thomaston	ME	
Boynton	Emily	Thomaston	ME	
Braden	Carmen	Lawrence	KS	
Bradfield	Amelia	Sidney	ME	
Bradfield	Lydia	Sidney	ME	
Bradish	Elizabeth	Wells	ME	
Bradish	Grace	Lyman	ME	
Bradish	Hannah	Lyman	ME	
Bradley	Grace	Chester	CT	
Bradley	William	Stockton Springs	ME	
Bradstreet	Leah	Pittsfield	ME	
Braga	Haley	Stockton Springs	ME	
Bragg	Julianne	Hartland	ME	
Brahan	Christopher	North Sutton	NH	
Brainerd	Nate	Bangor	ME	
Brame	Nathan	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Brannelly	Caitlin	Franklin	MA	

Brasile	Jenna	East Haddam	CT	
Brask	Rachel	Kennebunkport	ME	
Braun	Lilly	Portland	ME	
Breazeale	David	Jenison	MI	
Brennan	Elizabeth	West Chester	PA	
Brennan	Noah	Wakefield	MA	
Brennan	Riley	Manasquan	NJ	
Brennan	Ryan	Osterville	MA	
Brenner	Jonathan	Livermore	ME	
Bressette	Gavin	Oakland	ME	
Brich	Tea	Glenwood	NJ	
Bridges	Graham	Wells	ME	
Bridges	Kelsey	Hermon	ME	
Briggs	Alex	Bangor	ME	
Briggs	Beau	Newport	ME	
Briggs	Paul	Lamoine	ME	
Briley	Anna	Old Town	ME	
Brinegar	Wes	Livermore Falls	ME	
Brinn	Declan	Searsmont	ME	
Brisard	Taylor	New Sharon	ME	
Britt	Taylor	Orrington	ME	

Brittain	Katie	Wilton	ME	
Britton	Olivia	Islesboro	ME	
Broadaway	Taylor	Tulsa	OK	
Broadbent	Samuel	Freeport	ME	
Brodeur	Ben	Waterbury	CT	
Brogan	Maddi	North Attleboro	MA	
Brooks	Audra	Orrington	ME	
Broughton	Alana	Hermon	ME	
Brown	Alex	Bangor	ME	
Brown	Bella	Bar Harbor	ME	
Brown	Camryn	Orono	ME	
Brown	Chance	South Berwick	ME	
Brown	Jon	Wells	ME	
Brown	Kaitlyn	Weare	NH	
Brown	Kaz	Trenton	NJ	
Brown	Margaret	Orono	ME	
Brown	Matt	Clinton	ME	
Brown	Peta-Gay	Manchester	CT	
Brown	Ruby	Bar Harbor	ME	
Brown	Ryan	Tulsa	OK	

Brown	Sam	South Portland	ME	
Brown	Sydney	Saco	ME	
Brown	William	West Enfield	ME	
Brucker	Theo	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Brunetti	Olivia	Warner	NH	
Brusie	Emma	Orono	ME	
Bryant	Aedan	Harrison	ME	
Bryggare	Eloise	West Hartford	CT	
Bryson	Joseph	Lumberton	NJ	
Bubniak	Thomas	Oak Ridge	NJ	
Bucher	Julius	Lincolnville	ME	
Buck	Luke	Sidney	ME	
Buckley	Anna	Mansfield	MA	
Bui	Morgan	Ottawa	ON	Canada
Burby	Noah	Belgrade	ME	
Burgartz	Tim	Orono	ME	
Burke	Jenna	Manchester	CT	
Burke	Lauren	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Burmeister	Rory	Ellsworth	ME	
Burnham	Jaden	Monmouth	ME	
Bursey	Sarah	Naugatuck	CT	

Burt	Travis	Windham	ME	
Burton	Jack	Marlborough	CT	
Bush	Scout	Blacksburg	VA	
Bushy	Emily	Arthur	ND	
Buskey	Elly	Hyannis	MA	
Bustamante	Olivia	Evanston	IL	
Butler	Henry	East Granby	CT	
Buzzell	Madeline	Surry	ME	
Byrd	Ryleigh	Plymouth	ME	
Byrne	Emily	Standish	ME	
Cabral	Erin	Pelham	NH	
Caccese	Anthony	Levant	ME	
Caccese	Gino	Bangor	ME	
Caddell	Randy	Corbin	KY	
Cadorette	Abby	Bangor	ME	
Cako	Ersilda	Vlore		Albania
Caldwell	Ben	Marshfield	MA	
Caldwell	Ethan	Albion	ME	
Call	Aspyn	Kenduskeag	ME	
Callaghan	Owen	Dedham	MA	

Callahan	Ivalani	Waterboro	ME	
Camire	Brooke	Acton	ME	
Camire	Kyle	Winslow	ME	
Camp	Makayla	Landing	NJ	
Campagna	Samantha	York	ME	
Campbell	Aileen	South Portland	ME	
Campbell	Alexis	Orono	ME	
Campbell	Emma	Winterport	ME	
Campbell	Killian	Kittery	ME	
Campo	Nora	Woodbury	NJ	
Canders	Caleb	Brewer	ME	
Cannell	Wyatt	Readfield	ME	
Canning	James	Warwick	RI	
Cantwell	Ashley	Merrimack	NH	
Cao	Jacob	Sanford	ME	
Caouette	Ally	Derry	NH	
Capelle	Ashleigh	Hyannis	MA	
Card	Katie	Woolwich	ME	
Carey	Jameson	Winslow	ME	
Carey	Sean	Attleboro	MA	
Carlson	Grace	Dover Foxcroft	ME	

Carman	Abby	Highland Park	NJ	
Carney	Aidan	Paradise Valley	AZ	
Carney	Ashley	York	ME	
Carney	Mia	Ashland	ME	
Caron	Ashton	Corinna	ME	
Caron	Charlotte	Hermon	ME	
Caron	Meg	Bangor	ME	
Caron	Vanessa	Bradley	ME	
Carpenter	Erica	Trumbull	CT	
Carrier	Kayla	Burlington	CT	
Carrier	Kylie	Buckfield	ME	
Carroll	Ben	Limerick	ME	
Carroll	Hope	Portland	ME	
Carroll	Jacob	Owls Head	ME	
Carroll	Noah	Brookhaven	GA	
Carrolton	Eleanor	Bath	ME	
Carter	Evan	Bucksport	ME	
Carter	Lauri	Bucksport	ME	
Carter	Max	Orono	ME	
Carter	Teegan	Tewksbury	MA	

Cartwright	Joy	Ellsworth	ME	
Caruson	Jacob	Bangor	ME	
Carver	Brooke	Eastbrook	ME	
Casavant	Meg	Mapleton	ME	
Casella	Angie	Orono	ME	
Cassidy	Will	Auburn	ME	
Caster	Ethan	Falmouth	ME	
Castillo Parkman	Kassidy	Falmouth	ME	
Castonguay	Abby	Livermore	ME	
Castro	Dillon	Tolland	CT	
Castro-Rovira	Gabriella	Andover	MA	
Catalano	Jessica	Chicopee	MA	
Cataldi	Nick	Kennebunk	ME	
Cavilla	Robert	Tenafly	NJ	
Cavo	Maura	Springfield	VA	
Ceccarelli	Camilla	Bangor	ME	
Cecelya	Jack	Hudson	MA	
Celani	Lydia	Auburn	ME	
Cesarini	Gabriella	Newport	RI	
Chadburn	Autumn	Sabattus	ME	
Chaffee	Jackson	Auburn	MA	

Chalande	Christopher	Cape Neddick	ME	
Chalifoux	Olivia	Kirkland	QC	Canada
Chalmers	Brooke	Framingham	MA	
Chalmers	Matthew	Framingham	MA	
Chamberlain	Sebastien	Windsor	ME	
Chamberland	Andrew	Topsham	ME	
Champagne	Hailey	Lewiston	ME	
Champney-Brown	Emily	Corinth	ME	
Chan	Makylee	Falmouth	ME	
Chandler	Lindsey	Greenville	ME	
Chandler	Nicole	Lee	ME	
Chaney	Chase	Scarborough	ME	
Chaplin	Jacob	Blackstone	MA	
Chaplin	Louise	Northeast Harbor	ME	
Chapman	Autumn	Auburn	ME	
Chapman	Max	Old Town	ME	
Chappelle	Christopher	Milford	ME	
Chard	Brewster	Topsham	ME	
Charette	Cody	East Waterboro	ME	
Charpentier	Luke	Cape Neddick	ME	

Chase	Kelsey	Holden	ME	
Chase	Mackenzie	Holden	ME	
Chase	Rachel	Orono	ME	
Chasse	Camden	Old Town	ME	
Chasse	Mason	Madawaska	ME	
Chau	Nhan	Hermon	ME	
Chavaree	Alanna	Indian Island	ME	
Chavez de Paz Solis	Daniela	Caribou	ME	
Chazin-Knox	Kalina	Washington	ME	
Chen	Esther	Auburn	ME	
Chen	Kiley	Hillsborough	NJ	
Cheney	Sarah	Wilmington	MA	
Chern	Lara	Webster	NH	
Cherry	Haley	Whiting	ME	
Chesley	Catherine	Holden	ME	
Chew	Corinne	Litchfield	NH	
Chhoeuk	Kimmy	Shrewsbury	MA	
Childs	Lindsey	Palermo	ME	
Childs	Sophie	Litchfield	ME	
Chintakuntla	Shashank Reddy	Orono	ME	

Cholod	Caleb	Portland	ME	
Chouinard	Ben	Windham	ME	
Chretien	Noah	Shapleigh	ME	
Christakis	Colby	Gorham	ME	
Christensen	Erin	Brant Rock	MA	
Christian	Logan	Hampden	ME	
Christiansen	Erik	Naples	ME	
Christopher	Jaycie	Skowhegan	ME	
Chute	Addison	Auburn	ME	
Cielinski	Cameron	Keene	NH	
Cilley	Gianna	York	ME	
Cilley	Mike	Chesterville	ME	
Cilley	Tristan	Woolwich	ME	
Clancy	Kat	North Yarmouth	ME	
Clark	Eli	Milford	ME	
Clark	Elisa	Hampden	ME	
Clark	Fisher	New Fairfield	CT	
Clark	Julia	Old Town	ME	
Clark	Riley	Prospect	CT	
Clarke	Reg	Hampden	MA	
Claybaugh	Juliette	Brooklin	ME	

Clement	Libby	Monmouth	ME	
Clements	Lindsay	Newburgh	ME	
Clements	Wesley	Auburn	ME	
Clemmer	Caroline	Gastonia	NC	
Cliffe	Julia	Woolwich	ME	
Clifford	Jack	Franklin	MA	
Clifford	Michael	Ipswich	MA	
Clifford	Quincy	Lincoln	ME	
Climo	Cassidy	Bradley	ME	
Cline	Tori	Bangor	ME	
Clowes	Tyler	Indian Trail	NC	
Clukey	Katherine	Bangor	ME	
Cobb	Benjamin	Saco	ME	
Cobb	Johnny	Holden	ME	
Cobb	Nicole	Gray	ME	
Coburn	Jamie	Orono	ME	
Cochran	Dakota	North Yarmouth	ME	
Cochran	Julia	Kennebunk	ME	
Cochrane	Molly	Raymond	ME	
Coffey	Devin	Glen Mills	PA	

Coffey	Toby	Bangor	ME	
Coffin	Jonah	Sudbury	MA	
Coffin	Maddie	Mars Hill	ME	
Colarullo	Courtney	Ayer	MA	
Cole	Michela	Killingworth	CT	
Cole	Sarah	Etna	ME	
Coleman	Peter	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Collard	Braden	Missoula	MT	
Colley	Libby	Bangor	ME	
Collins	Abigail	Port Deposit	MD	
Collins	Ellie	Presque Isle	ME	
Collins	Michael	Plymouth	MA	
Colliver	Elijah	Blacksburg	VA	
Comeau	Lindsey	Winslow	ME	
Comeau Duran	Stacey	Glenburn	ME	
Commeau	Jack	Glenburn	ME	
Congdon	Caleb	Kennebunk	ME	
Conley	Matthew	South Portland	ME	
Connell	Shelbee	Bucksport	ME	
Connelly	Chantal	Hampden	ME	
Connolly	Caeli	Elizabethtown	PA	

Connor	Tobey	Sullivan	ME	
Conroy	Jordan	Halifax	MA	
Contento	Caroline	Camden	ME	
Conway	Cricket	Butler	TN	
Conway	Kjer	Rutland	VT	
Cook	Colby	Amesbury	MA	
Cook	Danielle	Goodyear	AZ	
Cook	Hayden	Canaan	NH	
Cook	Isabella	Scarborough	ME	
Cook	Jacob	Perry	ME	
Cook	Jacquelyn	Perry	ME	
Coombs	Rachel	Randolph	NJ	
Cooper	Aiden	Manchester	ME	
Corbett	Patrick	Calais	ME	
Corcione	Nicholas	Scituate	MA	
Corlett	Caleb	Livermore Falls	ME	
Cormican	Meghan	Quincy	MA	
Cormier	Alana	Orono	ME	
Cormier	Heather	Wareham	MA	
Cormier	Madeleine	Ipswich	MA	

Cormier	Paige	Wolcott	CT	
Cornbau	Travis	Orono	ME	
Cornell	Grace	Greenfield Center	NY	
Corradi	Mia	Winsted	CT	
Cortez	Nicole	Deer Isle	ME	
Corzo	Ryan	Howell	NJ	
Cosgrove	Brian	East Greenwich	RI	
Costa	Isabella	Taunton	MA	
Costanza	John	Brick	NJ	
Costigan	Hugh	Appleton	ME	
Cote	Breece	Saco	ME	
Cote	Elaina	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Cote	Hannah	Bellingham	MA	
Cotner	Stella	Wakefield	RI	
Cotroneo	Raist	Bangor	ME	
Coulombe	Adia	Lisbon	ME	
Cournane	Samson	Hampden	ME	
Courtois	Madi	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Cousins	Alex	Augusta	ME	
Coviello	Benjamin	Pepperell	MA	
Covino	Ariana	Milford	MA	

Cowan	Caleb	Madison	ME	
Cowan	Casper	Westbrook	ME	
Cox	Amanda	Hermon	ME	
Cox	Jenna	North Granby	CT	
Coxen	Amber	Dayton	ME	
Coyle	Noah	Bangor	ME	
Craig	Ailsa	Dorchester	MA	
Craig	Bradan	New Gloucester	ME	
Crawford	Connor	Sullivan	ME	
Crawford	Emma	Bridgton	ME	
Cray	Ashley	Orono	ME	
Creaser	Max	Auburn	ME	
Cremens	Lilian	Weatogue	CT	
Cripps	Nate	Kennebunk	ME	
Crisci	Joseph	East Haven	CT	
Croce	Chloe	Portland	ME	
Crone	Jennifer	Orono	ME	
Cronin	Ainsley	Plymouth	MA	
Cronister	Ian	Robbinston	ME	
Cropper	Rhett	Daphne	AL	

Crosby	Jordan	Scarborough	ME	
Crosby	Kendra	Winthrop	ME	
Cross	Julia	Orono	ME	
Crossman	Fallon	Hampden	ME	
Crowley	Julia	Andover	MA	
Crowley	Lauren	Jonesport	ME	
Cruz	Aaliyah	Waterville	ME	
Cummings	Brandon	Windham	ME	
Cummings	Connor	Windham	ME	
Cummings	Kasey	Casco	ME	
Cunningham	Alex	Sagamore Beach	MA	
Cunningham	Maya	Stoneham	MA	
Cunningham	Will	Portland	ME	
Currie	Rissa	Colchester	CT	
Curry	Kalley	Hermon	ME	
Curry	Natalie	Morrill	ME	
Curtis	Ben	Portland	ME	
Curtis	Calvin	Brewer	ME	
Curtis	Jacob	Dedham	ME	
Curtis	Susannah	Madison	ME	
Cusson	Lauren	Eliot	ME	

Cusson	Nate	Scarborough	ME	
Cutshall	Trinity	Fairfield	ME	
Cyr	Chantal	Auburn	ME	
Cyr	Matthew	Madawaska	ME	
Cyrus	John	China Village	ME	
Czarnecki	Andrew	North Branford	CT	
Czerwinski	Fred	Bowdoinham	ME	
Dagenais	Branden	Orono	ME	
Daigle	Connor	Union	ME	
Daigle Thompson	Juliette	Bangor	ME	
Dalton	Cameron	York	ME	
Daly	Cameron	Brunswick	ME	
Daly	Quin	Marshfield	MA	
Damboise	Emma	Winterport	ME	
Damboise	Sairah	Winterport	ME	
Danaher	Dylan	Oakville	CT	
Danner	Ben	Waterville	ME	
Daries	Eve	Brewer	ME	
DaSilva	Chloe	Orono	ME	
DaSilva	Sophia	Arlington	MA	

Davenport	Erin	Orono	ME	
Davenport	James	Cumberland Center	ME	
Davenport	Mason	Wiscasset	ME	
David	Hunter	Bow	NH	
Davids	Leila	Orono	ME	
Davids	Silvia	Orono	ME	
Davie	Maxwell	Bennington	NH	
Davis	Abby	Arundel	ME	
Davis	Abraham	Gardiner	ME	
Davis	Amanda	Middleboro	MA	
Davis	Caroline	Kenduskeag	ME	
Davis	Holly	South Weymouth	MA	
Davis	Jinny	Addison	ME	
Davis	Nate	Freeport	ME	
Davis	Sadie	Guilford	ME	
Davis	Sam	Belfast	ME	
Davison	Emily	North Waterboro	ME	
Davison	Katie	Charlton	MA	
Dawson	C.J.	Plymouth	MA	
Day	Clyde	Garland	ME	
Day	Julianna	Rockport	ME	

Day	Matthew	Garland	ME	
Day	Riley	Poland	ME	
Day	Ruby	Belfast	ME	
De Vries	Kaia	Fryeburg	ME	
Dean	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Dean	Natalie	Nobleboro	ME	
Dean	Sophie	Keene	NH	
Dean	Thomas	Madison	ME	
DeAngelis	Zoey	North Waterboro	ME	
deBest	Madie	Baroda	MI	
DeBlois	Brenda	Newington	CT	
Decker	Isabelle	Chesterville	ME	
DeGeorge	Bella	Ellicott City	MD	
Deighan	Hannah	Beverly Hills	MI	
Del Signore	Jake	Reading	MA	
Delaney	Arianna	Mansfield	MA	
Delaney	Drew	Livermore	ME	
Delaney	Jamie	Bangor	ME	
Delano	Chloe	Portland	ME	
DeLap	Daniel	Dekalb	IL	

Delile	Zack	Clinton	ME	
Delmonte	Sarah	West Brookfield	MA	
DeMarte	Venae	Naperville	IL	
Demeny	Olivia	Wiscasset	ME	
DeMerchant	Dylan	Bath	ME	
DeMerchant	Heather	Orono	ME	
DeMoura	Ethan	Berwick	ME	
Denico	Aubrey	Standish	ME	
DeRosby	Bryce	Hampden	ME	
Desautell	Cece	Charleston	ME	
Desbois	Eric	Orono	ME	
Desjardins	Erica	Bangor	ME	
Desrosiers	Dawson	Saco	ME	
Devallance	LouLou	Jersey City	NJ	
Devaney	Jack	Leominster	MA	
Dever	Griffin	Bath	ME	
Devers	Finn	North Attleboro	MA	
Dexter	Troy	New Gloucester	ME	
DiBiase	Lauren	South Portland	ME	
DiChiara	Jennifer	Burlington	CT	
Dickey	A.J.	Alton	NH	

Dickinson	Garrett	Kennebunk	ME	
Dieffenbacher-Krall	Nick	Old Town	ME	
DiFrumolo	David	Woburn	MA	
DiGirolamo	Emma	Belgrade	ME	
Dill	Todd	Lake Havasu City	AZ	
Dill	Zack	Milford	ME	
Dillon	Lauren	Boxford	MA	
Dimek	Isabel	Dixmont	ME	
Dimick	Hannah	Gorham	ME	
Dimond	Lucas	Topsham	ME	
Dimoulas	Greg	Stillwater	ME	
Dingley	Rachel	Hebron	CT	
DiNicola	Deano	Warren	CT	
Dionne	Colby	Raymond	ME	
Dionne	Emma	Williston	VT	
Dionne	Isabel	Raymond	ME	
DiPreta	Tony	Norwalk	CT	
Dix	Nathan	Gorham	ME	
Dixon	Ellen	Mendon	MA	
Dixon	Seth	Falmouth	ME	

Doak	Kody	Brewer	ME	
Dodge	Sarah	Orono	ME	
Dodson	Hannah	Frankfort	ME	
Doherty	Liam	Brunswick	ME	
Dolan	Claudia	Pottstown	PA	
Doliber	Tyler	Old Town	ME	
Domin	Natalie	Freeport	ME	
Donahue	Alexis	Bangor	ME	
Donenbayev	Kaidar	Nur-Sultan		Kazakhstan
Donnell	Tyler	Kittery	ME	
Donnelly	Abigail	Searsport	ME	
Donovan	Shane	Dorchester Center	MA	
Doody	Hannah	Caribou	ME	
Doore	Georgia	Brewer	ME	
Dorey	Sarah	Dedham	ME	
Dorr	Erin	Stockton Springs	ME	
Doten	Alexis	Baring Plantation	ME	
Doucette	Brianna	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Doucette	Bryan	Reading	MA	
Doucette	Cathryn	Oakland	ME	
Dougherty	Olivia	Warren	ME	

Doughty	Ian	Union	ME	
Doughty	Katie	Winslow	ME	
Doughty	Sara	Winslow	ME	
Dow	Kylie	Sebec	ME	
Dowd	James	Leopold	MO	
Downing	Abigail	Holden	ME	
Doyle	Veronica	Groveland	MA	
Drage	Aidan	Wiscasset	ME	
Draghi	Emma	Wallingford	CT	
Drayer	Mallory	Hummelstown	PA	
Drelich	Elizabeth	Portland	ME	
Drew	Freya	Lafayette	NJ	
Drews	Kelby	Milo	ME	
Drillen	Ethan	Dedham	ME	
Drinkert	Daisy	Orono	ME	
Driscoll	Ryan	Eliot	ME	
Drislane	Harrison	Rowley	MA	
Drumm	Emilyann	Oxford	ME	
Dualan	Joshua	Wiscasset	ME	
Duarte	Henry	Brentwood	NH	

Dube	Asia	Brewer	ME	
Dube	Avery	Windham	ME	
Dube	Brady	Orrington	ME	
Dube	Bryanna	Orrington	ME	
Dube	Jonathan	Arundel	ME	
Dube	Laura	Framingham	MA	
Dube	Sophie	Winterport	ME	
Dubuc	Samuel	Windham	ME	
Dudley	Amanda	North Waterboro	ME	
Duerr	Sam	Burr Ridge	IL	
Duffy	Colin	Orono	ME	
Dumas	Sofie	Arundel	ME	
Dumond	Alex	Caribou	ME	
Dumont	Lauren	Fulshear	TX	
Dumont	Noah	Wolcott	CT	
Dunbar	Ashton	Lee	ME	
Dunham	William	Saco	ME	
Dunkle	Wesley	Rockland	ME	
Dunn	Ana	Holden	ME	
Dunn	Ashleigh	Waterville	ME	
Dunn	Liz	Hebron	ME	

Dunn	Olivia	Hampden	ME	
Dunphy	Ashley	Hermon	ME	
Dunton	Brennan	Winslow	ME	
Dunton	Dyllon	Old Town	ME	
Duong	Olivia	Portland	ME	
Duprey	Benjamin	Presque Isle	ME	
Dupuis	Darby	Hooksett	NH	
Durand	Donovan	Minneapolis	MN	
Durocher	Sarah	Buxton	ME	
Durost	Julia	Edinburg	ME	
Dustin	Bram	Hebron	ME	
Dutton	Juliette	Derry	NH	
Dutton	Mariah	Old Town	ME	
Dworkin	Liam	Newcastle	ME	
Dwyer	Philip	Melrose	MA	
Dyer	Alex	Buxton	ME	
Dymowski	Matt	Elkton	MD	
Eastman	Matthew	Wells	ME	
Economy	Sara	Hampden	ME	
Edgerly	Emily	Madison	ME	

Edwards	Ariana	Brunswick	ME	
Edwards	Donald	Napa	CA	
Edwards	Lauren	Gorham	ME	
Edwards	Madison	South Salem	NY	
Edwards	Tyler	Embden	ME	
Eichorn	Victoria	Hebron	ME	
Elder	Brooks	Bowling Green	OH	
Eldridge	Lucy	Warwick	RI	
El-Hajj	Catrina	Swanville	ME	
Elkadi	Adam	Bangor	ME	
Elkhariji	Fatima	Myrtle Beach	SC	
Elling-Wilson	Taylor	Kittery	ME	
Elliott	Grace	Belgrade	ME	
Ellis	Colby	Kennebunk	ME	
Ellis	Zackery	Farmingdale	ME	
Emanuel	Will	Falmouth	ME	
Emerson	Carter	Hampden	ME	
Emond	Brynn	Wales	ME	
Empsall	Chase	Saint Johnsbury	VT	
Enck	Abby	Gorham	ME	
Engel	Caroline	East Hartford	CT	

English	Zachary	Berwick	ME	
Engstrom	Garrett	Alton	ME	
Eno	Mya	Fort Kent	ME	
Eom	Jeongwon	Seoul		Korea
Erb	Christopher	Readfield	ME	
Erickson-Harris	Josh	Kennebunk	ME	
Erikson	Theo	Orono	ME	
Ernenwein	Max	York	ME	
Ernst	Emily	Marblehead	MA	
Eshleman	Will	Norway	ME	
Esposito	Tehya	Scarborough	ME	
Estes	Chloe	Hebron	ME	
Eugene	Anna	South Portland	ME	
Evans	Amelia	Chelsea	ME	
Evans	Mckenzie	Old Town	ME	
Evans-Ralston	C.J.	Oxford	PA	
Fabrizio	Anthony	Old Town	ME	
Fahey	James	Bangor	ME	
Falci	Natalie	Brookfield	CT	
Fallon	Caitlyn	Warwick	RI	

Falone	Samantha	Hermon	ME	
Faloon	MacKayla	Bangor	ME	
Fargo	Allie	Key Largo	FL	
Farino	Brian	Scarborough	ME	
Farnsworth	Colby	Orono	ME	
Farris	Kenny	Bourne	MA	
Farrow	Max	Orono	ME	
Faulkingham	Hannah	Hillsborough	NH	
Favreau	Gretchen	Falmouth	ME	
Fazendin	Carly	Sarasota	FL	
Fazli	Maha	Al Gharafa Ar Rayyan	AD	Qatar
Fazli	Mohammed	Al Gharrafa Ar Rayyan	AD	Qatar
Fecteau	Ben	Gorham	ME	
Fecteau	Zachery	Westbrook	ME	
Feely	Michael	South Portland	ME	
Feeney	E	Winthrop	ME	
Fegela	Nadia	Sandwich	MA	
Feid	Julia	North Attleboro	MA	
Feierbergs	Kristians	Riga		Latvia
Fein	Gabe	Fayette	ME	

Fennelly	Meg	Bethlehem	CT	
Ferguson	Maia	Poland	ME	
Fernandez	Grace	Carmel	IN	
Fernandez-Faucher	Annie	Orono	ME	
Ferreira	Aalliyah	South Portland	ME	
Ferreira	Daniel	North Dighton	MA	
Fessenden	Maddox	Sabattus	ME	
Fessler	Wyatt	New Gloucester	ME	
Fetha	Allison	Hermon	ME	
Figueroa	Cheyenne	Pawtucket	RI	
Filipovity	Peter	Kaposvar		Hungary
Finley	Olivia	Kittery	ME	
Fiore	Alexiis	Portland	ME	
Firkin	Kieran	Orono	ME	
Firstenberg	Jessica	Marlton	NJ	
Firth	Connor	Vienna	ME	
Fisher	Sam	Pembroke	NH	
Fisher	Zoe	Beverly	MA	
Fiske	Will	Orono	ME	
Fitzgerald	Colin	Lititz	PA	

Fitzmaurice	Ordis	Bath	ME	
Fitzmaurice	Ryan	Bath	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Emma	Fayette	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Gabe	Houlton	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Liv	Buzzards Bay	MA	
Fitzpatrick	Riley	Skowhegan	ME	
Flaherty	Rory	Braintree	MA	
Flanagan	Joshua	Orono	ME	
Flannery	Benjamin	Presque Isle	ME	
Fleischner	Leah	Trumbull	CT	
Fleming	Patrick	Enfield	CT	
Fletcher	James	Portland	ME	
Fletcher	Madyson	East Falmouth	MA	
Fletcher	Michael	Castlegregory		Ireland
Flint	Sam	Danvers	MA	
Flores	Chantelle	Oakland	ME	
Flubacher	Riley	Winter Harbor	ME	
Flynn	Kate	Lee	NH	
Fogg	Jamie	Dedham	ME	
Folger	Amber	Millbury	MA	

Folley	Anna	South Portland	ME	
Fong	Kylie	Hope	ME	
Fonger	Emma	Jackson	ME	
Fonger	Morgan	Jackson	ME	
Ford	Emma	Orono	ME	
Ford	Josie	Hodgdon	ME	
Foreman	Haley	Portland	ME	
Fortin	Blair	Benton	ME	
Fortin	Emma	Vassalboro	ME	
Fossett	Natalie	Gardiner	ME	
Foster	Atticus	Veazie	ME	
Fountain	Jordan	Hancock	ME	
Fournier	Kendra	Glenburn	ME	
Fournier	Ketan	Henniker	NH	
Fournier	Will	Gray	ME	
Foust	Sarah	West Gardiner	ME	
Fox	Simon	Owls Head	ME	
Fracassa	Lauren	Warwick	RI	
Frager	Laini	Portland	ME	
Francis	Anna	Alton Bay	NH	

Francis	Landyn	Bangor	ME	
Francisco	Antonio	Orono	ME	
Franey	Kyra	Pittston	ME	
Frank	Josh	South Portland	ME	
Frankian	Riley	Shrewsbury	MA	
Fraser	Emily	Bethel	ME	
Frazer	Devin	Danbury	NH	
Fred	Sean	Loveland	CO	
Freedman	Jared	Holliston	MA	
Freel	Thomas	Ottawa	ON	Canada
Freeley	Kevin	Hanover	MA	
Freeman	Cam	Manchester	ME	
Freeman	Dylan	Ellsworth	ME	
Freeman	Jessica	Veazie	ME	
Freeman	Julia	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
French	Audrie	Hampden	ME	
French	Jasmine	New Gloucester	ME	
Freudig	Ben	Bernard	ME	
Friel	Hayden	Millinocket	ME	
Friend	Tristin	Bangor	ME	

Fuller	Grace	Weymouth	MA	
Fuller	Megan	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Fuller	Sean	Eliot	ME	
Furber	Zoe	Vancouver	BC	Canada
Furlong	Julia	Weymouth	MA	
Gadsby	Gabby	Blue Hill	ME	
Gagne	Alyssa	Minot	ME	
Gagne	Gabby	Gorham	ME	
Gagnon	Katrina	East Millinocket	ME	
Gagnon	Mackenzie	Brewer	ME	
Gagnon-Victor	Eliott	Ellsworth	ME	
Gaidola	Alexander	Topsham	ME	
Galgano	Sierra	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Galipeau	Piper	Presque Isle	ME	
Galipeau	Sierra	Presque Isle	ME	
Gallant	Joe	Fort Worth	TX	
Gallego	Paula	Orono	ME	
Gambardella	Gianni	West Haven	CT	
Gamble	Jaxon	Haverhill	MA	
Gambol	Addie	Broken Bow	OK	

Gannett	Brianna	Hollis Center	ME	
Ganzel	Autumn	Linneus	ME	
Garcia	Natalie	Auburn	ME	
Gardner	Logan	Old Town	ME	
Gardner	Sloane	Columbus	GA	
Gardner	Sophia	Portland	ME	
Garfein	Laura	Walnut Creek	CA	
Garrison	Sydney	Mars Hill	ME	
Gatewood	Kathryn	Boxford	MA	
Gato	Nshuti	Bangor	ME	
Gauthier	Nick	Hampden	ME	
Gavin	Madeline	Milltown	NJ	
Geary	Izzy	Lynnfield	MA	
Geddes	Reece	Northfield	CT	
Geiser	Nick	Holden	ME	
Geisler	Maren	Camden	ME	
Gellis Morais	Bell	Montevideo		Uruguay
Genereux	Adam	Sanford	ME	
Geng	David	Scarborough	ME	
Geniti	Olivia	Scotia	NY	

Genrich	Jonathan	Bar Harbor	ME	
Genrich	Loren	Bar Harbor	ME	
Gentle	Jadon	Houlton	ME	
Gentle	Keegan	Houlton	ME	
Gerrie	Elyana	Corinna	ME	
Gerrish	Dylan	Bangor	ME	
Gerson	Jeff	Prospect Harbor	ME	
Getchell	Olivia	Fairfield	ME	
Geydoshek	Ashley	Newton	NJ	
Gibson	Jack	Oakland	ME	
Gichana	Maria	Haverhill	MA	
Giftos	Gabriella	Scarborough	ME	
Giguere	Emily	Oakland	ME	
Gil	Annika	South China	ME	
Gilbreath	Bailey	Fulshear	TX	
Gilgan	Chelsea	Bangor	ME	
Gill	Avani	Surrey	BC	Canada
Gill	Madeline	Moorestown	NJ	
Gillette	Andrew	Brewer	ME	
Gillette	Cameron	Wakefield	RI	

Gillis	Kenzie	Glenburn	ME	
Gilman	Ali	West Enfield	ME	
Gilman	Madison	West Enfield	ME	
Gilmore	Callie	Marshfield	MA	
Gilmore	Lydia	Brewer	ME	
Gingras	Rowan	Bangor	ME	
Ginsburg	Max	Clinton	MA	
Gladstone	Deanna	Stamford	CT	
Gleason	Gavin	Beverly	MA	
Glendinning	Nuala	South Bristol	ME	
Glidden	Ivy	Milford	CT	
Glover	Emma	Cheshire	CT	
Glueck	Molly	Waterville	ME	
Godin	Dan	Bangor	ME	
Godin	Melissa	Old Town	ME	
Godinez	Joe	Tarentum	PA	
Goff	Claire	Hampden	ME	
Goff	Jeremiah	Smyrna Mills	ME	
Goff	Zoe	Rockland	ME	
Golder	Josh	Searsport	ME	

Gomez Lawson	Juliette	Winthrop	ME	
Gomm	Makenzie	Bradley	ME	
Gondelman	Josh	Walpole	MA	
Gonick	Aaron	Novi	MI	
Gonzalez	Derrick	Whiting	NJ	
Gonzalez Merrill	Angel	Skowhegan	ME	
Good	Julia	Presque Isle	ME	
Goodell	Raven	Orono	ME	
Goodman	Connor	Miami Beach	FL	
Goodwin	Drew	Bass Harbor	ME	
Goodwin	Jake	South Portland	ME	
Goodwin	Mike	Danvers	MA	
Goodwin	Summer	Merrimac	MA	
Goodwin-Whitmore	Audrey	Ellsworth	ME	
Goraj	Ava	West Gardiner	ME	
Gordesky-Hooper	Tovin	Burlington	VT	
Gormley	T.J.	North Kingstown	RI	
Gorneau	Aidan	South Portland	ME	
Gosselin	Avery	Burnham	ME	
Gould	Rhiannon	Washington	ME	

Goulette	Anita	West Gardiner	ME	
Gousha	Kenny	Glenburn	ME	
Gousha	Natalie	Glenburn	ME	
Gouveia	Conall	Medway	ME	
Gowell	Jordyn	Monmouth	ME	
Graffam	Gretchen	Wells	ME	
Graham	Ryder	Houlton	ME	
Grampone	Julianna	Orono	ME	
Grande	Zack	Boxford	MA	
Grant	Emalee	Union	ME	
Grant	Riley	Addison	ME	
Gray	Jasmine	La Mirada	CA	
Gray	Johnny	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Greco	Avery	Lewiston	ME	
Greeley	Emily	Kingston	MA	
Green	Erick	East Millinocket	ME	
Green	Wyatt	Augusta	ME	
Greene	Serena	Steep Falls	ME	
Greenlee	Amelia	Cumberland Center	ME	
Greenwood	Richard	Portland	ME	

Gregor	Maxwell	Easton	CT	
Grenier	A.J.	Dracut	MA	
Griebel	Anna	Hope	ME	
Grierson	Anna	South Thomaston	ME	
Griffin	Emma	Poland	ME	
Griffin	Eric	North Berwick	ME	
Griffin	Madison	Brownfield	ME	
Griffith	Ruth	Parkman	ME	
Griffith	William	Maplewood	NJ	
Griffiths	Eva	Portland	ME	
Grindle	George	Old Town	ME	
Grindle	Riley	Ellsworth	ME	
Groneman	Alyssa	Barkhamsted	CT	
Gross	Katherine	Scarborough	ME	
Grous	Emma	Ashford	CT	
Grover	Alex	West Gardiner	ME	
Grover	Dakota	Brewer	ME	
Grover	Kevin	Bangor	ME	
Gruitch	Alex	Englewood	CO	
Guarnieri	Martin	Belgrade	ME	

Gudaitis	Juliana	Winslow	ME	
Guenzel	Krista	Ewing	NJ	
Guerrette	Nickolas	Caribou	ME	
Guerrette	Ronald	Caribou	ME	
Gurnell	Emma	Old Saybrook	CT	
Gurney	Lauren	Melvin Village	NH	
Gushue	Niall	Raymond	ME	
Guzzi	Melissa	Boothbay	ME	
Gylstorff	Caroline	Risskov		Denmark
Ha	Trizzie	Gray	ME	
Hachey	Cameron	Winthrop	ME	
Hafeez	Bareera	Karachi	SIN	Pakistan
Hafford	Colby	Dedham	ME	
Haggerty	Jacob	Scarborough	ME	
Haggerty	Jillian	Houlton	ME	
Haines	Jazzmyne	Bernard	ME	
Hale	Molly	Cumberland Center	ME	
Hales	Caitlin	Plymouth	MA	
Hall	Abigail	Olympia	WA	
Hall	Alex	Jefferson	ME	

Hall	Chappy	Brunswick	ME	
Hall	Charlie	Bangor	ME	
Hall	Kevin	Marietta	MS	
Hall-Arnett	Caleb	Belfast	ME	
Halle	Kaitlin	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Hallee	Emma	Portland	ME	
Hallett	Alexis	Blue Hill	ME	
Hallett	Laura	Pembroke	MA	
Halloway	Alissa	Windham	ME	
Ham	Melissa	Teaticket	MA	
Hamby	Emily	Andover	MA	
Hamel	Margaret	Cape Neddick	ME	
Hamilton	Cal	Orono	ME	
Hamilton	Colby	Ellsworth	ME	
Hamilton	Erik	Orono	ME	
Hamilton	Zach	Yarmouth	ME	
Hamina	Lucca	Orono	ME	
Hamlin	Luke	Searsmont	ME	
Hammill-Nordfors	Camryn	Bangor	ME	
Hammond	Caroline	Auburn	ME	

Hammond	Nick	Lyman	ME	
Handral	Swaroop	Brewer	ME	
Hankinson	Gabe	Braintree	MA	
Hanley	Patience	Middlebury	VT	
Hannan	Kaleb	Gray	ME	
Hannan	Lauren	East Brunswick	NJ	
Hannon	Rory	Ellsworth	ME	
Hanscom	Emily	Bethel	ME	
Hanscom	Sophie	West Bethel	ME	
Hanselmann	Steve	Sanford	ME	
Hansen	Heather	Melrose	MA	
Hanson	Trevor	Madawaska	ME	
Harden	Ian	Augusta	ME	
Harder	Katie	Orono	ME	
Hardina	Oliver	Nobleboro	ME	
Harding	Courtney	Presque Isle	ME	
Harding	Seth	Biddeford	ME	
Hardy	Amy	Deer Isle	ME	
Hardy	Caitlyn	Old Town	ME	
Hare	Sarah	Raymond	ME	

Hargraves	Cam	Sun Prairie	WI	
Harkness	Alex	Orono	ME	
Harmatys	Grace	Livermore	ME	
Harmon	Camden	Greenville Junction	ME	
Harmon	Danielle	Lincoln	RI	
Harper	Anna	Bangor	ME	
Harper	Haily	Woolwich	ME	
Harper	Hannah	Mariaville	ME	
Harrigan	Lori	Bangor	ME	
Harriman	Bri	Augusta	ME	
Harriman	Parker	Winterport	ME	
Harrington	Emalee	Bethel	ME	
Harrington	Jack	York	ME	
Harris	Brendan	Hanover	MA	
Harris	Colin	Gray	ME	
Harris	Jesiah	Bangor	ME	
Harris	Shailey	Windham	NH	
Harris	Trace	South China	ME	
Hart	Chloe	Orrington	ME	
Hart	Cooper	Waterville	ME	

Hart	John	Shirley	MA	
Hart	Zakary	Milford	CT	
Harthorne	Maggie	Dyer Brook	ME	
Hartley	Mary	Randolph	ME	
Hartley	Weston	Auburn	ME	
Hartmann	Emily	Sparta	IL	
Hartt	Bill	Carmel	ME	
Harvey	Talia	Bangor	ME	
Haskell	Avery	North Waterboro	ME	
Hasselbaum	Cam	Bellingham	MA	
Hatch	Aidan	Dover	NH	
Havey	Alicia	Surry	ME	
Hayden	Amelia	Surry	ME	
Hayes	Aidan	North Yarmouth	ME	
Hayes	Kenzie	Presque Isle	ME	
Hayes	Lorenzo	Las Vegas	NV	
Hayes	Michael	New Hyde Park	NY	
Hayes	Nate	Durham	ME	
Hayward	Riley	Farmingdale	ME	
Hayward	Tatum	Scarborough	ME	

Heartquist	Jacob	Lowell	MA	
Hebda	Owen	Rehoboth	MA	
Hebert	Cheyenne	Stockton Springs	ME	
Hebert	Keri	Madawaska	ME	
Helinski	Mina	Whitinsville	MA	
Hellen	Sarah	Oakland	ME	
Hellender	Courtney	Winthrop	MA	
Helms	Maggie	Lincoln	NE	
Hemingway	Madi	Northport	ME	
Henderson	Ian	Goshen	IN	
Henderson	Kathryn	Hartford	ME	
Henderson	Olivia	Houlton	ME	
Henderson	Reed	Gorham	ME	
Hendrick	Caleb	Owls head	ME	
Hendricks	Shea	So. Thomaston	ME	
Hendrickson	Jesse	Sanford	ME	
Hendrigan	Emily	Brockton	MA	
Hendrix	Kolby	Otis	ME	
Henry	Jacob	Bangor	ME	
Henry	Jozelyn	Jackson	NH	

Hepler	Ada	Orono	ME	
Herrick	Peter	Washington	DC	
Herrington	Dasha	Surry	ME	
Hersey	Mickey	Brewer	ME	
Hewson	Riley	Brunswick	ME	
Heyland	Lily	Wells	ME	
Hickey	Alexei	Monroe	CT	
Hickey	Allyssa	Old Town	ME	
Higgins	Aedan	Orono	ME	
Higgins	Declan	Natick	MA	
Higgins	Hannah	Albion	ME	
Higgins	Nick	Old Town	ME	
Higgins	Sean	Pittsfield	ME	
Hillgraf	Max	Portland	ME	
Hills	Emily	Searsmont	ME	
Hilyard	Drew	Lee	NH	
Hinkley	Amos	Waldoboro	ME	
Hirsch	Jacob	Bangor	ME	
Hixon	Noah	Orono	ME	
Hobbs	Emily	South Portland	ME	

Hodgdon	Aurora	Orono	ME	
Hodgdon	Chloe	South Paris	ME	
Hodge	Mark	Lee	NH	
Hodge	Rachel	Delmar	NY	
Hodgkin	Grace	Manchester	ME	
Hodgkins	Alexander	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Hodgkins	Desiree	Westbrook	ME	
Hodgkins	Molly	Windham	ME	
Hodgman-Burns	Lucy	Fryeburg	ME	
Hodgson	Sera	Rindge	NH	
Hodson	John	Wiscasset	ME	
Hogan	Jack	Saunderstown	RI	
Hogg	Kayleigh	Palmyra	PA	
Holiday	Nate	Alton Bay	NH	
Hollander	Evan	Saco	ME	
Holmes	Alex	Winterport	ME	
Holmes	Ashley	Waldoboro	ME	
Holmes	Nathaniel	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Holmquist	Ethan	Caribou	ME	
Holt	Allison	Orono	ME	

Holt	Brandon	Grand Forks	ND	
Holt	Chase	Cape Neddick	ME	
Holubcova	Tereza	Praha		Czech Republic
Holyoke	Lauren	Holden	ME	
Holzweiss	Eric	Stamford	CT	
Homa	MacKenna	Westbrook	ME	
Hooper	Elliott	Portland	ME	
Hooper	Jorja	Bowdoinham	ME	
Hoovler	Olivia	Bangor	ME	
Hopkins	Dominique	Orono	ME	
Hopp	Zach	Maple Grove	MN	
Ho-Rezvani	Saba	New Rochelle	NY	
Horn	Joseph	Trenton	NJ	
Horne	Joe	Berwick	ME	
Horte	Andrew	Norwell	MA	
Horton	Chris	Bar Harbor	ME	
Horton	Karen	Stillwater	ME	
Horton	Thomas	Standish	ME	
Horvat	George	Saco	ME	
Hosford	Zoe	Bucksport	ME	

Hotham	Jimmy	Blaine	ME	
Hotham	Lizzy	Blaine	ME	
Houk	Paige	East Waterboro	ME	
House	Natalee	Farmington	ME	
Hovda	Catherine	Littleton	ME	
Howatt	Lauren	Farmington	ME	
Howe	Amanda	Fryeburg	ME	
Howe	Andy	Dedham	ME	
Howe	Ethan	Hampden	ME	
Howell	Aaron	Cumberland Center	ME	
Howell	Cadi	Mount Desert	ME	
Howell	Kasey	Garland	ME	
Howell	Ryan	Portland	ME	
Howes	Morgan	Sandwich	MA	
Howland	Mikyla	Haynesville	ME	
Howland	Sara	Houlton	ME	
Howlett	Madison	Mars Hill	ME	
Howorth	Madeline	Orono	ME	
Hoxie	Jared	Brewer	ME	
Hoy	Gus	Old Town	ME	

Hoyt	Ben	South Portland	ME	
Huard	Briar	Windham	ME	
Hubbard	Freddy	Sandy Hook	CT	
Huchel	Abby	South Portland	ME	
Hull	Allie	Orleans	MA	
Hull	Drew	Mendham	NJ	
Humphrey	Ben	Bowdoin	ME	
Humphrey	Maddy	Winterport	ME	
Humphrey	Tucker	Belchertown	MA	
Humphrey	Tyler	Cape Neddick	ME	
Hunnewell Dunphe	Bekah	Steep Falls	ME	
Hunt	Kaitlin	Monmouth	ME	
Hunter	Bobby	Beverly	MA	
Hunter	Jason	Northport	ME	
Huntington	Marissa	Hudson Falls	NY	
Hureau	Tess	Fort Collins	CO	
Hurlburt	Rowan	Lincolnville	ME	
Hussey	Kaylee	Milford	ME	
Hussey	Madox	Bangor	ME	
Hutchins	Garret	Somerville	ME	

Hutchins	Samuel	Swanville	ME	
Hutchins	Wesley	Swanville	ME	
Hutchinson	Olivia	Canton	MA	
Hutzler	Drew	Hanahan	SC	
Hyde	Alex	Caribou	ME	
Hyora	Ava	Brewster	MA	
Iles	Andrew	Wells	ME	
Ilvonen	Karl	Owls Head	ME	
Ingalls	Brendan	Melrose	MA	
Ingersoll	Dianna	Windham	ME	
Ingersoll	Nate	North Yarmouth	ME	
Inman	Estella	Windham	ME	
Inman	Morgan	Wales	ME	
Irani	Isabelle	Spring	TX	
Irasubiza	Joshua	Orono	ME	
Ireland	Meghan	Hampden	ME	
Ireland	Morgan	Thorndike	ME	
Irish	Kollin	Houlton	ME	
Irvine	Emily	Bangor	ME	
Irving	Kamryn	Washburn	ME	

Ismail	Alexis	Glenburn	ME	
Isnor	Erika	Baileyville	ME	
Ivanicka	Dominika	Slusovice		Czech Republic
Ives	Amanda	Newburyport	MA	
Ives	Andrew	Portland	CT	
Ivey	Sam	Argyle Township	ME	
Jacey	Elena	Arlington	MA	
Jacobo	Dante	Rockport	ME	
Jacobs	Finn	Brunswick	ME	
Jacobs	Lizzie	Glenburn	ME	
Jacobs	Nathan	Westbrook	ME	
Jacobs	Nicholas	Glenburn	ME	
Jacobson	Alicia	Bangor	ME	
Jacquet	Erin	Scarborough	ME	
Jakacky	David	Orono	ME	
Jalbert	Noah	Orono	ME	
Jameson	Lucy	Waldoboro	ME	
Jancsy	Kurt	Malden	MA	
Jarvis	James	Kennebunk	ME	
Jendian	Anais	San Diego	CA	

Jenkins	Kristin	Bangor	ME	
Jensen	Dustin	Old Town	ME	
Jensen	Joseph	Naples	ME	
Jensen	Katie	South Weymouth	MA	
Jerome	Mike	Halifax	MA	
Jerose	Maya	Enosburg Falls	VT	
Jeskey	Rita	Newport	ME	
Jestel	Eric	Slingerlands	NY	
Jimenez	Jordy	Auburn	ME	
Jipson	Storm	Auburn	ME	
Johanson	Chelsea	Old Town	ME	
Johanson	Chris	Old Town	ME	
Johanson	Katie	Old Town	ME	
Johnson	Abby	Richmond	ME	
Johnson	Anna	Springvale	ME	
Johnson	Hana	Maple Grove	MN	
Johnson	Hannah	Kennebunk	ME	
Johnson	Henry	Brunswick	ME	
Johnson	Jared	Westbrook	ME	
Johnson	Madelyn	Melrose	MA	

Johnson	Maggy	Kittery Point	ME	
Johnson	Mei Li	Port Jefferson Station	NY	
Johnson	Mollie	Wareham	MA	
Johnson	Riley	Gorham	ME	
Johnson	Sam	Houlton	ME	
Johnson	Samantha	Fryeburg	ME	
Johnson	Sarah	Clifton	ME	
Johnson	Will	Boxborough	MA	
Johnson	Will	Falmouth	ME	
Jones	Audrey	Scarborough	ME	
Jones	Brenna	Old Town	ME	
Jones	Elizabeth	Mount Desert	ME	
Jones	Hannah	Brewer	ME	
Jones	Haven	Orrington	ME	
Jones	Kiersten	North Berwick	ME	
Jones	Liana	Saint Louis	MO	
Jones	Madison	Lamoine	ME	
Jones	Maria	Stockton Springs	ME	
Jones	Matthew	Lamoine	ME	
Jones	Miles	Scituate	MA	

Jones	Trinity	Perry	ME	
Jordan	Hanna	Surry	ME	
Jordan	Hope	Walpole	MA	
Jordan	Nate	Winterport	ME	
Joseph	Bennett	Freeport	ME	
Josephson	Nikolaus	Cumberland Center	ME	
Jovovic	Savo	Podgorica		Republic of Montenegro
Joy	Daniel	South Portland	ME	
Joyce	Hannah	Brewer	ME	
Judson	Caileigh	Pembroke	MA	
Kachmar	Sydney	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Kackmeister	Amanda	Gray	ME	
Kackmeister	Jake	Gray	ME	
Kaftan	Phil	Old Lyme	CT	
Kahelin	Anna	Helsinki		Finland
Kahkonen	Tyler	Brewer	ME	
Kalonji	Moise	South Portland	ME	
Kalume	Nicolas	London	ON	Canada
Kane	Emily	Pembroke	MA	
Kane	Hannah	Natick	MA	

Kaphle	Apurba	Fort Kent	ME	
Karamousadakis	Emmanouil	Winthrop	ME	
Karkheck	Matt	Bridgewater	NH	
Karpinski	Kenzie	Boonville	NY	
Kasacek	Jess	Canterbury	CT	
Katsube	Taylor	Delta	BC	Canada
Kauffman	Hannah	Warrenton	VA	
Kaufman	David	Westborough	MA	
Kaufman	Sophie	Gorham	ME	
Kaulenas	Corey Aras	Salem	MA	
Kaurin	Aleksandar	South Portland	ME	
Kazilionis	Aaron	Scarborough	ME	
Keebler	Gabrielle	Bangor	ME	
Keebler	Isabella	Bangor	ME	
Keebler	Paul	Bangor	ME	
Keirstead	Carina	Henniker	NH	
Keliher	Caitlin	Freeport	ME	
Kelleher	Julianna	Melrose	MA	
Keller	Molly	Cummington	MA	
Kelley	Ethan	Yarmouth	ME	

Kelley	Meaghan	Old Town	ME	
Kelley	Myles	Appleton	ME	
Kelly	Dalton	Montvale	NJ	
Kelly	Kristina	Lincolnville	ME	
Kelly	Mckenzie	Merrimac	MA	
Kelly	Owen	Westborough	MA	
Kelly	Regan	Wilbraham	MA	
Kelton	Peter	Metuchen	NJ	
Kemper	Kate	Rockport	ME	
Kempkes	Pierce	Gardiner	ME	
Kennedy	Bhreagh	Skowhegan	ME	
Kennedy	Erin	Monmouth	ME	
Kennedy	Jessie	Williston	VT	
Kenney	Alyssa	Wells	ME	
Kenney	Kayleigh	Belchertown	MA	
Kenney	Wyatt	Gray	ME	
Kenny	Adam	Milford	ME	
Keresey	Jillian	Alton	ME	
Key	Brandon	Nicholasville	KY	
Khalil	Hubert	Orono	ME	

Khoury	Christina	Waltham	MA	
Khusnutdinova	Aelita	Almaty		Kazakhstan
Kidd	Emily	Freeman Township	ME	
Kiecker-Olson	Killian	Andover	MN	
Kiesman	Jerdon	Winterport	ME	
Kilborn	Chloe	Wiscasset	ME	
Kilby	Kaylah	Calais	ME	
Kiley	Andrew	Holden	ME	
Kiley	Sarah	Holden	ME	
Kilger	Kaden	Cornwall	ON	Canada
Killarney	Noelle	Grantham	NH	
Kim	Donghoon	Incheon	IOJ	Korea
Kim	Jade	Burlington	MA	
Kim	William	Orono	ME	
Kimball	Avery	Buxton	ME	
Kimball	Diana	North Yarmouth	ME	
Kincaid	Robert	Barrhead	AB	Canada
Kindler	Henry	Kennebunk	ME	
King	Ashley	Bangor	ME	
King	Parker	Palermo	ME	

Kinnarney	Molly	Tunbridge	VT	
Kinney	Ryan	Bangor	ME	
Kintner	Ben	Farmington	CT	
Kirkby	Lara	Orono	ME	
Kirkpatrick	Ethan	Colchester	CT	
Kirkpatrick	Willoe	Belfast	ME	
Kirouac	Kayden	Auburn	ME	
Kissinger	Corbin	Fairfield	ME	
Kjellander	Olivia	Kingston	MA	
Klaibe	Elo	Orono	ME	
Kleeman	Michael	West Yarmouth	MA	
Klenert	Helen	Norton	MA	
Knapp	Dawson	Sanford	ME	
Knapp	John	Farmington	ME	
Knapp	Willow	Old Town	ME	
Knedler	Blake	New Gloucester	ME	
Kneissler	Casey	Fryeburg	ME	
Knight	Lucy	Hampden	ME	
Knight	Mike	Orono	ME	
Knowles	Liam	Topsham	ME	

Knox	Sophie	Buzzards Bay	MA	
Koblenzer	Laura	Goffstown	NH	
Koczkodan	Jon	Poland	ME	
Koenig	Abbye	Old Town	ME	
Kogler	Kaleigh	Lexington	KY	
Kohr	Maddie	Palmyra	PA	
Kohtala	Jordyn	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Kollman-Veit	Piper	Gardiner	ME	
Kolodziej	Cam	Salem	MA	
Kolodziej	Christopher	Salem	MA	
Kondax	Andrea	Plymouth	ME	
Korasadowicz	Bogumil	Baileyville	ME	
Kostelnick	Isabelle	El Paso	IL	
Kotliarov	Antonia	Arlington	VA	
Kousky	Anna	Brunswick	ME	
Koval	Elizabeth	Brunswick	ME	
Kowalsky	Caden	Topsham	ME	
Kozikowski	Jack	Bristol	CT	
Kraemer	Abby	Waterloo	ON	Canada
Kraemer	Kayla	Waterloo	ON	Canada

Kraft	Sydney	Rochester	NY	
Krebs	Nik	Turner	ME	
Kreeger	Rebecca	Wadsworth	OH	
Kronberg	Karin	Tibro		Sweden
Krull	Alexis	Old Town	ME	
Kruse	Emma	Greenwood	ME	
Kubinsky	Bryn	Allentown	PA	
Kugler	Strix	Orono	ME	
Kull	Grant	Kennebunk	ME	
Kummer	Sophie	Fryeburg	ME	
Kuoppala	Ida	Pietarsaari		Finland
Kuras	Lia	Houston	TX	
Kusnierz	Brett	Garland	ME	
La Casse	Gus	Trenton	ME	
Labb	Tommy	Wells	ME	
Labbe	Emily	Scarborough	ME	
Labonte	Delaney	York	ME	
LaBrier	John	Orland	ME	
LaCasse	Cassie	Bangor	ME	
LaCasse	Lily	Old Orchard Beach	ME	

LaChance	Clark	Harmony	ME	
LaChance	Megan	Rumford	ME	
LaChance	Olivia	Scarborough	ME	
Lacroix	Kelsy	Williamsburg Township	ME	
Lacroix	Thomas	Wrentham	MA	
Ladd	Roland	Bangor	ME	
Ladd	Sophie	Byron	ME	
Laffey	Kaycee	Brewer	ME	
Laffler	Garrett	Ocean	NJ	
LaFlamme	Joey	Granby	CT	
LaFontaine	Zack	Bangor	ME	
LaFrance	Thomas	Lancaster	MA	
LaFrancois	Aidan	Mapleton	ME	
Lagace	Dominic	Orono	ME	
LaGodna	Carl	Clinton Township	MI	
Lai	Peter	Waterville	ME	
Lajoie	Jack	Bangor	ME	
Lajoie	Josh	Hebron	ME	
Laliberte	Casey	East Walpole	MA	
Lalime	Jack	New York	NY	

Lally	Aidan	Lebanon	CT	
Lambert	Levi	North Berwick	ME	
Lambert	Miranda	Fairfield	ME	
Lambert	Poppy	Greytown		New Zealand
Lambert	Sophia	Presque Isle	ME	
Lambrecht	Isaac	Winslow	ME	
Lammert	Devon	Bangor	ME	
Lamoureaux	Hannah	Georgetown	MA	
Lamson	Aiden	Bangor	ME	
Lancaster	Lauren	Pittsfield	ME	
Lander	Jack	Orrington	ME	
Landry	Hunter	Lewiston	ME	
Landry	Madison	Freeport	ME	
Landry	Robert	Freeport	ME	
Landsman	Baylor	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lane	Ash	Falmouth	ME	
Lang	Kassidy	Lyman	ME	
Lange	Walter	Bar Harbor	ME	
Langone	Gabrielle	Lynnfield	MA	
Languet	Noelle	Sidney	ME	

LaPerriere	Caroline	Orono	ME	
Lapierre	Luke	Sanford	ME	
LaPietra	Julian	New Castle	PA	
LaPlante	Austin	Caribou	ME	
LaPlante	Maxim	Westbrook	ME	
LaPointe	Jillian	Stow	MA	
LaPointe	Renee	Van Buren	ME	
Lariviere	Connor	Lewiston	ME	
Larkin	Fiona	River Edge	NJ	
Larochelle	Sam	Durham	ME	
LaRose	Anna	Albertville	MN	
Larrabee	Ariel	Deer Isle	ME	
Larson	Danielle	Bellingham	MA	
Laskey	Enoch	Eddington	ME	
Lasky	Morgan	Portland	CT	
Laslie	Katie	Lewiston	ME	
Lasorsa	Jolene	Ashby	MA	
Latham	Tristan	North Andover	MA	
Laubscher	Alec	Simsbury	CT	
Laurita	Louis	Hope	ME	

Lausier	Bryce	Glenburn	ME	
LaValley	Elizabeth	Greenfield	MA	
Lavigueur	Luc	Newport	RI	
Lavin	Madison	Ashland	MA	
Lavin	Mya	Milford	ME	
Lavoie	Isabelle	Madawaska	ME	
Lavoie	Lee	Old Town	ME	
Lawrence	Abbie	Orrington	ME	
Lawrence	Griffin	Mattapoisett	MA	
Lawrence	Wynonia	Malone	NY	
Lawson	Erika	Penfield	NY	
Lawson	Jenna	Corpus Christi	TX	
Le	Khiana	Portland	ME	
Le	Phuoc	Da Nang		Vietnam
Leahy	Annie	Marshfield	MA	
Leary	Griffin	Needham	MA	
Leary	McKayla	South Berwick	ME	
Leavitt	Alison	Haverhill	MA	
Leavitt	Audrey	Tenants Harbor	ME	
Leavitt	McKenzie	Orono	ME	

Leavitt	Nick	Eliot	ME	
Lebel	Paige	Richmond	ME	
LeBlanc	Josie	Westbrook	ME	
LeBlanc	Nicole	Boylston	MA	
LeClair	Hannah	Waterville	ME	
Lecomte	John	Melrose	MA	
LeDuc	Ellie	Rumford	ME	
Lee	Kyle	Skowhegan	ME	
Lee	Olivia	Old Town	ME	
Lee	Payeng	Saint Paul	MN	
Leeman	Dillon	Oakland	ME	
Lees	Justin	Naples	ME	
Lefebvre	Kerry	Freeport	ME	
Lefkowitz	Stephen	Blue Hill	ME	
Lehan	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Lehr	Katherine	Readfield	ME	
Leighton	Gavyn	Wells	ME	
Lekborg	Cooper	Georgetown	MA	
Leland	Zoe	Portland	ME	
Lemarier	Brianna	Wells	ME	

Lembree	Hannah	Claremont	NH	
Lemieux	Charese	Cape Neddick	ME	
Lemieux	Rollan	Cape Neddick	ME	
Lennon	Colin	Topsham	ME	
Leonard	Evan	Portland	ME	
Leonard	Rachel	Mount Desert	ME	
Leone	Sonia	Fryeburg	ME	
Leschey	Grace	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Leschey	Nick	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Lessard	Alexandra	Jackman	ME	
Lessard	Jenna	Owls Head	ME	
Lessard	Makayla	Fairfield	ME	
Lessard	Niko	Raymond	ME	
Lester	Tim	Cumberland Center	ME	
Lettre	Carly	Augusta	ME	
Leveille	Isaac	Kennebunk	ME	
Lever	Maggie	Bangor	ME	
Levesque	Amanda	Swansea	MA	
Levesque	Chelsea	Orono	ME	
Levesque	Emily	Sidney	ME	

Levesque	Jacob	Orrington	ME	
Levesque	Tyler	Lewiston	ME	
Levinson	Adam	Yarmouth	ME	
Lewandowski	Ruth	Portland	ME	
Lewin	Reeseanne	Bridgewater	NJ	
Lewis	Bailey	Skowhegan	ME	
Lewis	Katherine	Windham	ME	
Lewis	Owen	Eagle Lake	ME	
Lewis	Shelby	Oakfield	ME	
Leys	Jack	Middletown	RI	
Libby	Aurelia	Hampden	ME	
Libby	Grace	Durham	ME	
Libby	Katie	Rancho Palos Verdes	CA	
Libby	Owen	Bow	NH	
Libby	Rowan	Saco	ME	
Libuda	Casey	Moultonborough	NH	
Lick	Trent	Orono	ME	
Liem	Kendrick	Palo Alto	CA	
Lieu	Dylan	Freeport	ME	
Light	Allie	Gorham	ME	

Light	Wyatt	Saco	ME	
Lilly	Eve	Oakland	ME	
Lilly	Myles	Bethel	ME	
Lin	Kelvin	Saco	ME	
Lin	Vincent	Saco	ME	
Linardos	Caitlin	Bradley	ME	
Lindauer	Parker	Verona	WI	
Lindholm	Ryan	Rowley	MA	
Lindstrom	Hannah	Plainville	MA	
Lindstrom	Kelsie	Plainville	MA	
Lindyberg	Jack	Stockton Springs	ME	
Linkel	Reilly	Orland	ME	
Lipka	Skyler	Shrewsbury	MA	
Lipp	Anastasia	New Gloucester	ME	
Lipson	Jacob	Franklin	MA	
Littlefield	Cameron	Fairfield	ME	
Littler	Alicia	Downingtown	PA	
Livengood	Gabe	Orono	ME	
Lizzotte	Hunter	Farmingdale	ME	
Lobdell	Brady	Hampden	ME	

Lobley	Jordan	Orrington	ME	
Locke	Tyler	Brookfield	MA	
Lockhart	Mariah	Winterport	ME	
Loeser	Claire	Saco	ME	
Loftus	Riley	Winslow	ME	
Longchamps	Nevaeh	Auburn	ME	
Longtin	Kate	Brewer	ME	
Looney	Brody	Vienna	ME	
Lopez	Joshua	Jay	ME	
Lopez	Sabrina	Bridgton	ME	
Lopez Garcia	Carlos	Solidaridad		Mexico
Lopez-Mata	Maddie	East Falmouth	MA	
Loranger	Jake	Portland	ME	
Lord	Anika	West Baldwin	ME	
Lord	Christiana	Danforth	ME	
Lord	Griffin	Orono	ME	
Loredo	Angelica	Bangor	ME	
Lorenc	Kayla	Oakland	NJ	
Lorenzo	Jacob	Falmouth	ME	
Losquadro	Emily	Bar Harbor	ME	

Losquadro	Katie	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lossius	Julie	Kristiansand		Norway
Loughman	Kayla	Reading	MA	
Lounsbury	Sydney	Southbury	CT	
Love	Johnny	Reading	MA	
Loveland	Brandon	Bangor	ME	
Low	Sarah	Orland	ME	
Lozinski	Brynn	Sidney	ME	
Lozowicki	Xavier	Ridley Park	PA	
Lucia	Tori	Fairfield	CT	
Luciano	Ian	Gorham	ME	
Lufkin	Mallory	Brandon	VT	
Lugo	Melissa	Searsmont	ME	
Luick	Roshan	New Sharon	ME	
Lunedei	Jake	Monument Beach	MA	
Lupien	Allison	Waldoboro	ME	
Lupien	Emily	Waldoboro	ME	
Luu	Mai	Auburn	ME	
Lydon Shay	Colton	Braintree	MA	
Lyford	Jennah	Hampden	ME	

Lynch	Ryan	Rockland	ME	
Lyons	Abby	Hampden	ME	
Mabry	Eric	Wells	ME	
MacAskill	Erin	New Fairfield	CT	
MacDonald	Amelie	Portland	ME	
MacDonald	Brianna	Holliston	MA	
MacDonald	Cam	Seabrook	NH	
MacDonald	Clare	Harpswell	ME	
MacDonald	Maddie	Manchester	ME	
Mace	Emily	Norwood	MA	
Mack	Jada	Cornville	ME	
MacKay	Megan	Dracut	MA	
MacKay	Stuart	Bangor	ME	
Mackeldey	Seana	Dennysville	ME	
MacKinnon	Ian	Presque Isle	ME	
MacLean	Cam	Augusta	ME	
MacMillan	Charlotte	Brunswick	ME	
MacVane	Chloe	South Portland	ME	
Madden	Kaelyn	Saco	ME	
Madden	William	Haverhill	MA	

Maddock	Casey	Scarborough	ME	
Maddox	Audrey	Dixmont	ME	
Madison	Zach	Turner	ME	
Madore	Joe	Bridgewater	MA	
Maguire	Anthony	Westbrook	ME	
Mahani	Arianna	Chevy Chase	MD	
Mahar	Alexander	Rockland	ME	
Mailey	Trinity	Old Town	ME	
Mailloux	Jack	Hermon	ME	
Mailloux	Ryan	Hermon	ME	
Maissel	Stephen	Port Washington	NY	
Majka	Justin	West Newbury	MA	
Makowski	Jasper	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Malcolm	Adam	Palmyra	ME	
Malia	Patrick	Fryeburg	ME	
Malieswski	Ryan	Framingham	MA	
Malkin	Julian	Woodbury	CT	
Maloney	Liv	Worcester	MA	
Mancinelli	Michael	Northville	MI	
Mandy	Olivia	Camden	ME	

Mankirba	Boubacar	Orono	ME	
Manning	Madison	Uxbridge	MA	
Manning	Sarah	East Hampstead	NH	
Mansfield	Sarah	Annandale	VA	
Mantini	Gianna	Dunbarton	NH	
Mara	Keith	Suva		Fiji
Maranto	Nicholas	Orono	ME	
Marchessault	Brady	Thomaston	ME	
Marchessault	Mike	Cumberland Center	ME	
Marden	Brenden	Hampden	ME	
Margetis	Anna	Wesley Chapel	FL	
Marino	Kyle	Pawcatuck	CT	
Mark	Sara	Old Town	ME	
Marks	Charlie	Orono	ME	
Marks	Jacob	Falmouth	ME	
Marsanskis	Olivia	Cumberland Center	ME	
Marsh	Bryant	Cutler	ME	
Marshall	Ella	Old Town	ME	
Marshall	Kai	White Lake	NY	
Martell	Kyle	Gray	ME	

Martin	Brandon	Biddeford	ME	
Martin	Gabe	Monmouth	ME	
Martin	Ian	Kennebunk	ME	
Martin	Laura	Bar Harbor	ME	
Martin	Matthew	Hopkinton	MA	
Martin	Mchenna	Stonington	ME	
Martin	Peter	Scarborough	ME	
Martin	Samantha	Pittsfield	ME	
Martin	Sarina	Orland	ME	
Martin	Sofia	Salem	MA	
Martinez	Ashley	Paterson	NJ	
Marty	Hannah	Harwich	MA	
Maslaczynska-Salome	Sara	Green Brook	NJ	
Mason	Alden	Owls Head	ME	
Masselli	John	Casco	ME	
Massey	Kursten	Leesburg	GA	
Masterson	Jackson	Kingfield	ME	
Mastrorillo	Brandon	Old Town	ME	
Mathews	Lindsay	Fayetteville	NY	
Mathieu	Hannah	Sidney	ME	

Mathieu	Lilo	Farmingdale	ME	
Matsuyama	Itsuki	Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture		Japan
Matteo	Spencer	Portland	ME	
Matthews	Olivia	Kittery	ME	
Mattson	Timber	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Maurais	Hannah	Jay	ME	
Max	Theresa	Ottsville	PA	
Maybury	Michele	Brewer	ME	
May-Fleming	Oliver	Nashville	TN	
Mayhew	Zoe	Unity	ME	
Mayotte	Kaylee	Lebanon	ME	
Mazzarelli	Carlo	Bangor	ME	
McA'Nulty	Danny	Milton	MA	
McAuliffe	Maggie	Foxboro	MA	
McBreairty	Meaghan	Hampden	ME	
McBreairty	Riley	Hampden	ME	
McBrierty	Emma	North Berwick	ME	
McBrine	Ethan	Biddeford	ME	
McCann	Hannah	Holden	ME	
McCann	Jack	Rehoboth	MA	

McCarthy	Billy	Norton	MA	
McCarthy	Madi	Orono	ME	
McCarthy	Ryan	Halifax	MA	
McCarthy	Tessa	Northville	MI	
McCauley	Justin	Randolph	MA	
McClellan	Kyle	Orono	ME	
McClung	Ruby	Fircrest	WA	
McConaughy	Finn	Hopewell	NJ	
McCullough	Nolan	Gorham	ME	
McCullough	Sarah	North Haven	CT	
McDevitt	Griffin	Sandwich	MA	
McDonald	Meghan	Orono	ME	
McDowell	Yvey	Bristol	RI	
McElroy	Brian	Carmel	ME	
McFarland	Harry	North Yarmouth	ME	
McGarry	Morgan	Scarborough	ME	
McGee	Bailey	Durham	ME	
McGee	Lexi	South Berwick	ME	
McGhee	Alexandra	Scarborough	ME	
McGibbon	Sean	Millinocket	ME	

McGinnis	Raine	Orono	ME	
McGlauflin	Chase	Mount Vernon	ME	
McGlone	Aidan	Limington	ME	
McGovern	Nick	Methuen	MA	
McHatten	Paige	Mapleton	ME	
McIntire	Cassidy	Winslow	ME	
McIntosh	Micah	New Providence		Bahamas
Mckay	Regan	Bangor	ME	
McKenney	Eliza	Phippsburg	ME	
McKenzie	Darius	Old Town	ME	
McKinney	James	Newbury	MA	
McLagan	Kayla	Hackettstown	NJ	
McLaughlin	Caitlin	Orono	ME	
McLaughlin	Chase	Gardiner	ME	
Mclaughlin	Delani	Greenbush	ME	
McLaughlin	John	Manchester	ME	
McLaughlin	Lily	Bradley	ME	
McLaughlin	Maria	Brewer	ME	
McLellan	Ivy	Calais	ME	
McLeod	Hayley	Harrison	ME	

McManus	Marina	Edgecomb	ME	
McMerty	Tristan	Freehold	NJ	
McNamara	Joe	Bangor	ME	
McNeil	Karen	Hartford	ME	
McPhee	Eliza	Old Town	ME	
McPhee	Will	Winchester	MA	
McQuarrie	Jamie	Brewer	ME	
Mcvearry	Caeley	Belfast	ME	
McWilliams	Sean	Plymouth	MA	
Mead	Mackenzie	Westford	MA	
Meader	Cortney	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Mealey	Jacob	Farmington	ME	
Meaney	Lauren	North Reading	MA	
Medeiros	Josh	Scarborough	ME	
Meggison	Teagan	West Baldwin	ME	
Megna	Casey	Plainville	MA	
Melanson	Andrew	Orono	ME	
Mellor	Rebekah	Stockton Springs	ME	
Melton	Michael	Blacksburg	VA	
Melzl	Vienna	Combined Locks	WI	

Membrino	Lilia	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Mendoza	Keira	Robbinston	ME	
Mendoza	Manny	North Yarmouth	ME	
Mendoza Yanes	Karla	Auburn	ME	
Mercado	Rene	Orono	ME	
Merenberg	Liv	Old Town	ME	
Merrill	Isabella	Hope	ME	
Merz	Nolan	Rocklin	CA	
Messersmith	Maria	Marshfield	MA	
Messier	April	Camden	ME	
Metivier	Jacob	Lewiston	ME	
Meyer	John	Brick	NJ	
Mezzadri	Dom	Blackstone	MA	
Michalko	Emily	Port Republic	MD	
Michaud	Adreanna	Leeds	ME	
Michaud	Beau	Fort Kent	ME	
Michaud	Conner	Presque Isle	ME	
Michaud	Dante	North Berwick	ME	
Michaud	Ella	Winthrop	ME	
Michaud	Isaac	Wells	ME	

Michaud	Jacob	Wells	ME	
Michaud	Marc	Machiasport	ME	
Miester	Ethan	East Windsor	NJ	
Milan-Bryant	Kaitlyn	Brewer	ME	
Millay	Chanthu	Brewer	ME	
Miller	Benjamin	Hudson	ME	
Miller	Brody	Embden	ME	
Miller	Jenna	Charlton	MA	
Miller	Jeremy	Hudson	ME	
Miller	Jordyn	Dedham	ME	
Miller	Katelyn	Trumbull	CT	
Milligan	Mary	Summerfield	FL	
Mills	Nic	Chelsea	ME	
Mills	Riley	Livermore Falls	ME	
Mills	Sam	Biddeford	ME	
Milne	Hannah	Buxton	ME	
Miltenberger	Julia	Longmeadow	MA	
Minas	Katarina	Cranston	RI	
Minkin	Grace	Camden	ME	
Misiaszek	Katy	West Boylston	MA	

Misler	Zara	Winterport	ME	
Mitchell	Sam	Bar Harbor	ME	
Mittelstadt	Lexi	Wilton	ME	
Mock	Benjamin	Orono	ME	
Moery	Katie	Alexandria	VA	
Moeykens	Caitlin	Orono	ME	
Mohawass	Marina	Bangor	ME	
Molina	Justin	Elizabeth	NJ	
Moline	Brendan	Northport	ME	
Monios	Michael	Saint-Laurent	QC	Canada
Moniz	Kyle	Salem	NH	
Monroe	Mabel	South Thomaston	ME	
Monson	Lauren	Biddeford	ME	
Monteiro	Luke	Mystic	CT	
Monteleone	Zac	Farmingville	NY	
Monzo	Parni	Colonia	NJ	
Moody	Kylee	Lincoln	ME	
Moon	India	Bangor	ME	
Mooney	Amelia	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Mooney	Katie	Chepachet	RI	

Moore	Cole	Old Town	ME	
Moore	Max	Camden	ME	
Moore	Myles	Biddeford	ME	
Moore	Taylor	Wales	ME	
Moores	Kristin	Amherst	ME	
Moreau	Sarah	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Morgan	Aleigha	Dover	DE	
Morgan	Alex	Perry	ME	
Morgan	Curtis	Kennebunk	ME	
Morgan	Evan	Scarborough	ME	
Morgan	Noah	Auburn	ME	
Morgus	Matthew	Orono	ME	
Morin	Abby	Winthrop	ME	
Morin	Andrea	Ipswich	MA	
Morin	Emily	Lyman	ME	
Morin	Theodore	Wells	ME	
Morley	Sara	Belchertown	MA	
Morneault	Garrett	Washburn	ME	
Morneault	Hollie	Madawaska	ME	
Morphy	Elise	Regina	SK	Canada

Morrell	Avery	Cornwall	NY	
Morrell	Dylan	Gorham	ME	
Morrell	Isabella	Gorham	ME	
Morrill	Jillian	Gorham	ME	
Morrill	Sam	Falmouth	ME	
Morris	Kahlysta	Robbinston	ME	
Morrison	Emily	Sanford	ME	
Morrison	Tegan	Waterloo	ON	Canada
Morrison	Trevor	Hancock	ME	
Morrissette	Alexander	Brookfield	CT	
Morrissey	Felix	Orono	ME	
Morrissey	Lilly	Woodbridge	CT	
Morro	Sabrina	Guilford	CT	
Morse	Madisyn	Brewer	ME	
Morton	Sam	Norway	ME	
Morton	Ziggy	Bangor	ME	
Mosca	Caroline	Augusta	ME	
Moseley	Kendra	North Berwick	ME	
Moser	Matisse	Falmouth	ME	
Mosqueda	Peter	Reading	MA	

Moulton	Greg	Cutler	ME	
Mourad	Charles	Union City	CA	
Moyes	Katie	Georgetown	ME	
Mrenna	Brigid	Batavia	IL	
Mullally	Jacquie	Millis	MA	
Mullan	Kari	Downingtown	PA	
Mulligan	Abigail	Thunder Bay	ON	Canada
Mulligan	Jacob	Berwick	ME	
Mulligan	Kacie	West Enfield	ME	
Mullin	Natalie	Cumberland Center	ME	
Mullin	Rachel	Bridgewater	MA	
Munroe	Heather	Penobscot	ME	
Murdock	Peter	Peterborough		United Kingdom
Murphy	Bart	Biddeford	ME	
Murphy	Fiona	Bridgton	ME	
Murphy	Fiona	York	ME	
Murphy	Maegan	South Portland	ME	
Murphy	Nicole	Dedham	MA	
Murphy	Noah	Bangor	ME	
Murphy	Will	Longmont	CO	

Murray	Brenna	North Billerica	MA	
Murray	Emily	Scarborough	ME	
Murray	Maggie	Farmington	ME	
Murray	Marion	Goffstown	NH	
Murray	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	
Murray	Seán	Goffstown	NH	
Myers	Hagen	Portland	ME	
Myers	Sabina	Rehoboth	MA	
Myles	Allie	Gorham	ME	
Myron	Amanda	Durham	ME	
Naamani	Mohsin	Masqat		Oman
Nachamie	Eddie	North Andover	MA	
Nadeau	Larry	Fort Kent	ME	
Nahas	Natalie	Dover	NH	
Namujju	Elizabeth	Old Town	ME	
Nangle	Sydney	Windham	ME	
Nappi	Logan	Scarborough	ME	
Nascimento	Ryan	Somerset	MA	
Nash	Ellie	Falmouth	ME	
Nash	Liv	Hermon	ME	

Nasiff	Hannah	Tiverton	RI	
Natalizia	Jake	Saunderstown	RI	
Nault	Anna	Gorham	ME	
Ndong	Alikali	Brikama		Gambia
Nedder	Reagan	Attleboro	MA	
Needham	Dominic	Veazie	ME	
Negley	Jaidyn	Greene	ME	
Nelson	Amelia	Kennebunk	ME	
Nelson	Jacob	Walpole	MA	
Nelson	Vi	Howland	ME	
Nenadic	Milana	Kitchener	ON	Canada
Neri	Katerina	Palmyra	PA	
Neufeld	David	Topsham	ME	
Neuhauser	Liv	Falmouth	ME	
Nevells	Kaden	Hermon	ME	
Newcomb	Madilyn	Perry	ME	
Newsom	Kahlan	Eddington	ME	
Newton	Jake	Cheyenne	WY	
Ney	Connor	Brunswick	ME	
Ngo	Vinh-Nhan	Bangor	ME	

Nguyen	Kelly	Portland	ME	
Nicholas	Annika	Littleton	ME	
Nicholas	Nathaniel	Mechanicsville	MD	
Nichols	Addison	Bangor	ME	
Nichols	Isabella	Manchester	NH	
Nichols	Kate	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Nickel	Trip	Spicewood	TX	
Nickerson	Emma	Brunswick	ME	
Nieblas	Izzy	Bakersfield	CA	
Nielsen	Tyler	North Grafton	MA	
Ninteau	Emily	Dracut	MA	
Nitsche	Shawn	Shelton	CT	
Nkulikiyinka	Theophile	Orono	ME	
Noble	Maddy	Lincoln	ME	
Noddin	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Noonan	Sydney	Old Town	ME	
Nordman	Connor	Auburn	MA	
Norman	Ian	Holden	ME	
Norment	Lukas	Glenburn	ME	
North	Zoe	Warren	RI	

Novak	Kathryn	South Paris	ME	
Nowak	Claire	Geneva	IL	
Nowak	Lilian	Bangor	ME	
Nuesslein	Hisarya	Bar Harbor	ME	
Nunes	Nicole	Danvers	MA	
Nurgozhin	Turan	Nur-Sultan		Kazakhstan
Oakes	Breanne	Hermon	ME	
Oakes	Brooklyn	Keswick	ON	Canada
Oakes	Deanna	Millinocket	ME	
Oarr	Josie	Brookeville	MD	
Obenauer	Samara	Glenburn	ME	
Ober	Julian	Tulsa	OK	
Obertas	Andrii	Orono	ME	
O'Brien	Seamus	Falmouth	ME	
Ocaya	Jimmy	Presque Isle	ME	
Ochoa	Israel	Clermont	FL	
O'Connell	Megan	Sanford	ME	
O'Connor	Caitlin	North Weymouth	MA	
O'Donnell	Emmakate	Orono	ME	
O'Donnell	Laura	Tewksbury	MA	

O'Donnell	Mackenzie	Portland	ME	
O'Dowd	Kristin	Millis	MA	
Offerdahl	Ella	Circle Pines	MN	
Ogata	Mana	Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture		Japan
Ogle	Allison	Oxford	CT	
Oglesby	Wyatt	Black Hawk	CO	
O'Hagan	Caroline	Middletown	RI	
O'Halloran	Patrick	Yarmouth	ME	
Ohmeis	James	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Oja	Zachariah	Standish	ME	
O'Keefe	Armand	South Orange	NJ	
O'Kelly	Luke	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Oliveira	Elijah	Lincoln	RI	
Oliveira	Isabella	Boxford	MA	
Oliver	Tyler	North Berwick	ME	
Olshin	Jasmine	Scarborough	ME	
Olski	David	Sherborn	MA	
Olson	Camden	Yarmouth	ME	
Olson	Chase	West Simsbury	CT	
Olson	Zoe	Trenton	ME	

ONeil	Luke	Orono	ME	
O'Neil	Shauna	Pembroke	MA	
O'Reilly	Eileen	Norwood	MA	
Orio	Mimi	Medfield	MA	
O'Rourke	Courtney	Paxton	MA	
Ortiz Albor	Ana	Milbridge	ME	
Orwig	Gracie	Manvel	TX	
Osborne	Reilly	Northampton	MA	
Ostman	Victor	Danderyd		Sweden
O'Sullivan	Julianna	Belfast	ME	
O'Sullivan	Molly	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Ouellette	Aimee	Orono	ME	
Ouellette	Dominique	Brewer	ME	
Ouellette	Ellie	Old Town	ME	
Ouellette	Emma	Derry	NH	
Ouellette	Rachel	Woolwich	ME	
Ouimet	Allie	Orono	ME	
Outwater	Andrew	Millbrook	NY	
Owen	Mads	Belfast	ME	
Ozlanski	Sarah Renee	Beflast	ME	

Pagliaro	Maria	Sandy Hook	CT	
Paine	Daniel	South Paris	ME	
Palazzo	Gavin	West Springfield	MA	
Palazzo	Riley	Orange	CT	
Palmer	Brett	West Gardiner	ME	
Papushka	Gabrielle	Surrey	BC	Canada
Paquin	Alyssa	Waterboro	ME	
Paquin	Ethan	Waterboro	ME	
Parajuli	Shreyash	Kathmandu		Nepal
Pardilla	Jerry	Rio Rancho	NM	
Parent	Drew	Orono	ME	
Parent	Jeffery	Waldoboro	ME	
Park	Jiyeon	Bangor	ME	
Parke	Jayci	Bangor	ME	
Parker	Anya	Orono	ME	
Parker	Garrett	Brooksville	ME	
Parker	Jonah	Portland	ME	
Parks	Gavin	Calais	ME	
Parrotta	Emma	Cape Neddick	ME	
Parshley	Kiera	Collinsville	CT	

Parsons	Alia	Old Town	ME	
Parsons	Dylan	Kittery	ME	
Parsons	Miko	Dixfield	ME	
Pateman	Nicole	St. Thomas	ON	Canada
Patenaude	Justin	Harvard	MA	
Patria	Alexa	Framingham	MA	
Patten	Noelle	Hermon	ME	
Pattershall	Garrett	Bradley	ME	
Patterson	Jaida	Gray	ME	
Patterson	Jake	Benton	ME	
Paul	Ashley	Orono	ME	
Pavlik	Zoe	Durham	NH	
Peacock	Hannah	Old Town	ME	
Peakes	Olivia	Dexter	ME	
Pearson	Trevor	Holden	ME	
Pease	Lydia	Springvale	ME	
Pease	Nick	Palmyra	ME	
Peck	Alexa	Westport Island	ME	
Peitz	David	Fairfield	ME	
Pelkie	Shelby	Fryeburg	ME	

Pellegrino	Kelly	Bangor	ME	
Pelletier	Gabe	Unionville	CT	
Pelletier	Justin	Madawaska	ME	
Pelletier	Melissa	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Pelletier	Zachary	Dover	NH	
Peloteau	Melina	Quebec	QC	Canada
Peluso	Gabriella	Dumont	NJ	
Pendergast	Annie	Sudbury	MA	
Pendleton	Annabelle	Auburn	ME	
Penlington	Patrick	Bangor	ME	
Penza-Clyve	Ana	Cumberland Center	ME	
Perez-Simons	Dean	Grand Rapids	MI	
Perkins	Annah	Cornville	ME	
Perkins	Dominic	Kittery	ME	
Perkins	Kyla	Stockton Springs	ME	
Perkins	Logan	Exeter	ME	
Perkins	Shaelea	Marshfield	ME	
Perron	Wyatt	Pownal	ME	
Perrotta	Margaret	Freeport	ME	
Perrotti	Kristin	Cheshire	CT	

Perry	Riley	Veazie	ME	
Perry	Ryan	Middleboro	MA	
Persinger	Chris	Bangor	ME	
Peters	Aidan	Old Town	ME	
Peters	Audrey	Lee	ME	
Peters	Blake	Lynnfield	MA	
Peters	Max	Falmouth	ME	
Petherick	Andrew	Groton	CT	
Petrovich	Matthew	Shelton	CT	
Peyton	Madeline	Herkimer	NY	
Phalon	Max	Mason	NH	
Pham	Keiara	Peabody	MA	
Phelps	Kai	Ellsworth	ME	
Philbrick	Bailey	Newburgh	ME	
Philbrook	Carly	Winterport	ME	
Phillips	Bella	Fairfield	CT	
Phillips	Elizabeth	Houlton	ME	
Phinney	Cameron	Hollis Center	ME	
Phinney	Sam	Raymond	ME	
Picard	Stephen	Saco	ME	

Pickard	Renee	Sabattus	ME	
Picone	Jojo	Bangor	ME	
Pierce	Adrian	Camden	ME	
Pierce	Alex	Rome	ME	
Piers	Noah	Falmouth	ME	
Piette	Isaac	Littleton	NH	
Pigott	Sean	Tyngsboro	MA	
Pike	Aiden	Searsmont	ME	
Pilon	Ava	Lunenburg	MA	
Pineau	Nick	North Dartmouth	MA	
Pino	Nick	Corinth	ME	
Pinto	Stephen	Attleboro	MA	
Pitcairn	Joshua	Lincolnville	ME	
Pitcher	Mason	Cumberland Center	ME	
Pitman	Ava	Gorham	ME	
Pitt	Kaitryn	Westbrook	ME	
Place	Eliott	Eliot	ME	
Plant	Ingrid	Hampden	ME	
Plante	Colin	Stoughton	MA	
Platt	Jayden	Dix Hills	NY	

Plummer	Nathan	Raymond	ME	
Plummer	Sydni	Windsor	ME	
Pochepan	Charlie	Falmouth	ME	
Poirier	Mia	Slidell	LA	
Poirier	Samantha	Auburn	ME	
Poissant	Tristan	Les Coteaux	QC	Canada
Poitras	Brennan	Caribou	ME	
Poitras	Whitney	Westbrook	ME	
Pokhrel	Saurav	Orono	ME	
Pokhrel	Swarnim	Orono	ME	
Poling	Tom	Stetson	ME	
Pollard	Mark	Old Town	ME	
Polley	Devon	Vassalboro	ME	
Pollier	Kayla	Ware	MA	
Pomroy	Mason	Daytona Beach	FL	
Poole	Wei Wei	South Berwick	ME	
Poole	Will	Brownville	ME	
Porras Claudios	Alberto	Cantabria		Spain
Porter	Cody	Old Town	ME	
Porter	Jonah	Orono	ME	

Porter	Kevin	Hingham	MA	
Porter	Sam	Sebago	ME	
Pothier	Mia	Biddeford	ME	
Potter	Ben	Falmouth	ME	
Potter	Kylar	Washington	ME	
Potter	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Potvin	Amelia	Webster	NY	
Poulin	Gabe	Stockton Springs	ME	
Poulin	Katharine	Kennebunk	ME	
Poulin	Lauren	Kennebunk	ME	
Poulin	Nathalie	Bradley	ME	
Poulin	Nick	Augusta	ME	
Poulin	Shaelyn	Scarborough	ME	
Poulliot	Nick	Belgrade	ME	
Powell	Carleton	Rumson	NJ	
Power	Joshua	Auburn	ME	
Powers	Abby	Brunswick	ME	
Powers	Caitlin	Old Town	ME	
Powers	Katie	Fort Fairfield	ME	
Prats	Zoe	York	PA	

Praul	Hunter	South China	ME	
Prejean	Desiree	Saco	ME	
Prentice	Audrey	Auburn	ME	
Prescott	Joshua	Hollis Center	ME	
Preston	Dean	Windham	ME	
Preston	Roxy	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Priess	Meredith	Burnham	ME	
Priest	Kennedy	Orono	ME	
Prince	Maggie	York	ME	
Pullen	Ryan	Oakland	ME	
Pullias	Izzy	Robbinston	ME	
Purple	Spencer	Westford	MA	
Pustizzi	Kacey	Burlington	MA	
Pyle	James	Fort Wainwright	AK	
Qiu	Renxuan	Freeport	ME	
Quinn	Logan	Braintree	MA	
Quintal	Aja	Sedgwick	ME	
Quint-Wood	Mia	South Portland	ME	
Quirion	Myles	Orono	ME	
Radel	Sean	Kennebunk	ME	

Radzaj	Adam	Deer Park	NY	
Rae	Josh	Monroe	ME	
Rafford	Kit	North Yarmouth	ME	
Rainsford	Jakob	Rowley	MA	
Ralston	Isabel	Roslindale	MA	
Ramos	Jordan	Tiverton	RI	
Ramsay	Nathaniel	South Gardiner	ME	
Ramsburg	Thomas	Canonsburg	PA	
Rancourt	Kristen	Winslow	ME	
Rand	Caleb	Brunswick	ME	
Randall	Megan	Bangor	ME	
Ransley	Sam	New Harbor	ME	
Ransom	Gabriel	Windham	ME	
Rapp	Savannah	Farmington	CT	
Rasco	Zale	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Rath	Reagan	Glens Falls	NY	
Rathbun	Molly	Gorham	ME	
Ratib	Abdulrahman	Westbrook	ME	
Raval	Ria	Voorhees	NJ	
Raymond	Kayla	Standish	ME	

Rayner	Mae	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Ray-Smith	Joseph	Milbridge	ME	
Ready	Colin	Eliot	ME	
Real	Isabella	Kennebunk	ME	
Reardon	Austin	Norwood	MA	
Reardon	Shannon	Franklin	MA	
Reed	Myah	Newport	ME	
Reed	Sydney	Skowhegan	ME	
Reed	Zack	Scarborough	ME	
Regan	Adam	Old Town	ME	
Regan	Ashley	Pepperell	MA	
Regan	Fiona	Orchard Park	NY	
Regan	Nate	Bangor	ME	
Reilly	Tyler	Bangor	ME	
Renshaw	Brianna	Marshfield	ME	
Reynolds	Dana	Kents Hill	ME	
Reynolds	Garrit	Milford	ME	
Reynolds	Sara	Winterport	ME	
Rezack	Stephen	South Berwick	ME	
Rheault	Riley	Portland	ME	

Rhodes	Michael	Beverly	MA	
Rice	Anora	Bangor	ME	
Rice	Jaylee	Hampden	ME	
Rice	Keagan	New Gloucester	ME	
Rice	Olivia	Kenduskeag	ME	
Rich	Kaily	Lebanon	ME	
Rich	Maxwell	Boston	MA	
Richard	Jacob	Arundel	ME	
Richard	Maxwell	Ipswich	MA	
Richard	Sawyer	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Richards	Alicia	South Berwick	ME	
Richards	Sam	Madawaska	ME	
Richardson	Kate	Edinburgh		United Kingdom
Richardson	Sadie	Milton Township	ME	
Ricker	Kyle	Westport Island	ME	
Ridenour	Olivia	Richmond	ME	
Rider	Benjamin	Saint Augustine	FL	
Rider	Rebecca	Presque Isle	ME	
Rieth	Alysen	Lake Havasu City	AZ	
Riley	Andrew	South Portland	ME	

Rinehart	Emerson	Lakeville	CT	
Riordan	Declan	Bangor	ME	
Rispoli	Matt	Robbinsville	NJ	
Ritchie	Katie	Northport	ME	
Ritter	Clayton	Middletown	DE	
Rivers	Nilan	Clermont	FL	
Robbins	Allison	Ellsworth	ME	
Robbins	Lily	Searsmont	ME	
Robbins	Will	Dafter	MI	
Roberts	Abigail	Orono	ME	
Robertson	Derek	Hartsdale	NY	
Robin	Cas	Goffstown	NH	
Robinson	Ashley	Kennebunk	ME	
Robinson	Chris	Plymouth	ME	
Robinson	Natalie	Wells	ME	
Rock	Amanda	Glenburn	ME	
Rockey	Neil	Chicago	IL	
Rockwood	Olivia	Windsor	VT	
Roderick	Kayla	Waldoboro	ME	
Rodrigue	Collin	Falmouth	ME	

Rodrigue	Grace	Augusta	ME	
Roebuck	Lewis	Wakefield	RI	
Rogers	Kira	Fort Fairfield	ME	
Roise	Mike	Ivoryton	CT	
Rolfe	Avery	Windham	ME	
Rolfe	Sophia	Farmingdale	ME	
Ronco	Lucas	Dover-Foxcroft	ME	
Rosa	Lily	Conway	NH	
Roseman	Ben	Ellicott City	MD	
Rosen	Sarah	Arundel	ME	
Rosenberg	Alexa	Bethany	CT	
Rosenbluth	Marisol	Burlington	VT	
Ross	Bella	Trenton	ME	
Ross	Callie	Walpole	MA	
Ross	Julia	Vancouver	BC	Canada
Ross	Stephanie	Scarborough	ME	
Rothbacher	Anna	Vassalboro	ME	
Rothbacher	Luke	Vassalboro	ME	
Rothwell	Angela	Camden	ME	
Rousseau	Meagan	Exeter	NH	

Rovers	Gillian	Kitchener	ON	Canada
Rowe	Wyatt	Wells	ME	
Roy	Abby	Scarborough	ME	
Roy	Hayley	Holden	ME	
Roy	Katherine	Scarborough	ME	
Roy	Lauryn	Brewer	ME	
Roy	Lydia	Monmouth	ME	
Roy	Mike	Albion	ME	
Roy	Sydney	Lewiston	ME	
Rozzi	Bethany	Portland	ME	
Rubin	Leo	Norwich	CT	
Rudai	Andi	Phoenix	MD	
Rulon	Charles	Manahawkin	NJ	
Rumsey	Roisin	Orono	ME	
Runstrom	Evelyn	Paxton	MA	
Ruocco	Emily	Saco	ME	
Ruona	Ian	Standish	ME	
Rush	Adam	Hermon	ME	
Rusiecki	Aaron	Freeport	ME	
Rusk	Eleanore	Exeter	RI	

Rusnak	Juliana	Fletcher	NC	
Russell	Alexander	Acton	MA	
Russell	Brad	Readfield	ME	
Russell	Chloe	Gorham	ME	
Russell	Gabe	Portland	ME	
Russo	Laura	Yarmouth	ME	
Russo	Sophia	East Freetown	MA	
Rutherford	Nick	Farmington	CT	
Ryan	Eryn	Leeds	ME	
Ryan	Shea	Buffalo	NY	
Ryder	Candice	Stratford	CT	
Ryder	Greg	Cumberland Center	ME	
Ryder	Maggie	Sabattus	ME	
Ryder	Veronica	Sanford	ME	
Ryzhov	Daniel	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Sabourin	Cat	Stow	MA	
Saleh	Ahmed	Cumberland Center	ME	
Salesky	Gwyn	Nashua	NH	
Salgado	Barb	Medway	MA	
Salley	Kyle	Smithfield	ME	

Salom	Stu	Raymond	ME	
Sanchez	Brian	Soledad	CA	
Sanders	Robbie	Kennebunkport	ME	
Sandler	Ilanah	South Berwick	ME	
Santamaria	Sophia	Orono	ME	
Santana	Samantha	Hudson	MA	
Sargent	Howard	Bridgewater	ME	
Sathler	Symon	Woburn	MA	
Saucier	Wayne	Houston	TX	
Saunders	Brendan	Brewer	ME	
Savage	Annika	Voluntown	CT	
Savage	Dagan	Bangor	ME	
Savage	Emily	Plainville	CT	
Sawitsky	Brygid	Milford	CT	
Sawyer	Camden	Gorham	ME	
Sawyer	Isaac	Orono	ME	
Sawyer	Nayan	Cherryfield	ME	
Schambach	Ethan	Branford	CT	
Schiavo	Katerina	Norwood	MA	
Schlett	Evalynn	Alto	MI	

Schmidt	Ana	Parkman	ME	
Schmidt	Benjamin	Glenburn	ME	
Schmidt	Eric	Bangor	ME	
Schmitt	Michael	Orefield	PA	
Schnaitmann	Elizabeth	Monroe	CT	
Schneider	Emma	Calgary	AB	Canada
Schneider	Julia	Oak Ridge	NJ	
Schneider	Myla	Calgary	AB	Canada
Schneider	Ty	Orono	ME	
Schofield	Morgan	Stoneham	MA	
Schroeter	Ingrid	Orono	ME	
Schueler	Jason	Topsfield	MA	
Schueller	Karleigh	Middleton	MA	
Schulitz	Ella	Weatogue	CT	
Schultz	Amber	Medfield	MA	
Schwartz	Nate	Hanover	NH	
Schweikert	Elyeah	Henderson	NV	
Schweizer	Sean	Old Town	ME	
Scinto	Christian	Trumbull	CT	
Scobie	Collin	Hampden	ME	

Scott	Caroline	York	ME	
Scott	Nicholas	Downingtown	PA	
Scott	Olivia	Hampden	ME	
Scott	Shannon	New Sharon	ME	
Scott	Zachary	Hampden	ME	
Scrapchansky	Lea	Brunswick	ME	
Scruton	Taylor	Holliston	MA	
Seams	Nicholas	South Paris	ME	
Sears	Justyn	Scarborough	ME	
Seeber	Jason	Rockport	ME	
Seekins	Katie	Oakland	ME	
Seeley	Lilli	Bangor	ME	
Seiders	Brooke	Orono	ME	
Selser	Jules	South Portland	ME	
Semonian	Gabe	Pembroke	MA	
Sequeira	Roman	Barrington	RI	
Serappa	Livia	Portland	ME	
Seregely	Mira	Budapest		Hungary
Sernyk	Gabs	Windham	ME	
Sewell	Joshua	Saco	ME	

Sgrosso	Allison	Gilford	NH	
Shair	Sydney	Dedham	MA	
Shamus-Udicious	Ella	Plantsville	CT	
Shannon	Julia	Lee	ME	
Shanz	Ryan	Bristow	VA	
Shapiro	Alexandra	Litchfield	NH	
Shapiro	Gil	Arlington	MA	
Sharon	Alex	Brunswick	ME	
Shaw	Claire	Bernard	ME	
Shaw	Jordyn	Glenburn	ME	
Shaw	Liana	Orono	ME	
Shaw	Parker	Charleston	ME	
Shay	John	Cornville	ME	
Shea	Molly	Centerville	MA	
Sheehan	Daniel	West Roxbury	MA	
Sheehan	Nicole	Newbury	MA	
Sheikh	Hamza	Lewiston	ME	
Shell	Ethan	Wells	ME	
Shepherd	Lucas	Old Town	ME	
Sheridan	Grace	East Greenwich	RI	

Sherwood	Clement	Brookline	NH	
Sherwood	Hannah	Bangor	ME	
Sherwood	Jessy	Bangor	ME	
Shiber	Morgan	Port Deposit	MD	
Shields	Dylan	West Baldwin	ME	
Shimizu	Hitomi	Aomori, Aomori Prefecture		Japan
Shlush	Idan	Gedera		Israel
Shook	Alyson	Camden	ME	
Shorey	Colby	Clinton	ME	
Shortsleeves	Sophie	Parsonsfield	ME	
Shubert	Liam	Mountain View	CA	
Sickles	Rachael	Corinna	ME	
Sidaway	Jaymie	Dedham	ME	
Siegfried	Q	Lee	ME	
Silvia	Matalin	Westport	MA	
Simmons	Katie	North Yarmouth	ME	
Simon	Anne	Sandweiler		Luxembourg
Sinderson	Donne	Orrington	ME	
Singaram	Dharani	Oakland	ME	
Singer	Alyssa	Oxford	MA	

Singer	Violet	Falmouth	ME	
Singh	Harjot	Medford	MA	
Sirois	Thomas	Buxton	ME	
Sites	Harrison	Athens	ME	
Skehan	Amelia	Farmingdale	ME	
Skehan	Garret	Sabattus	ME	
Skibbee	Olivia	West Newbury	MA	
Skyrme	Nathan	Trumbull	CT	
Slater	Abigail	Hebron	OH	
Slaven	Jeremy	Westbrook	ME	
Slavin	Sam	Orono	ME	
Small	Faith Marie	Auburn	ME	
Smalley	Bay	Portland	ME	
Smalley	Jamison	Orono	ME	
Smaracko	Marshall	Rollinsford	NH	
Smart	Bailey	Auburn	ME	
Smart	Dom	Bangor	ME	
Smiley	Ford	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Adrianna	Reston	VA	
Smith	Chloe	Roslindale	MA	

Smith	Colin	Brooklyn	CT	
Smith	Colin	Tenants Harbor	ME	
Smith	Corey	Sidney	ME	
Smith	Dan	Scarborough	ME	
Smith	Dorothy	Greenbush	ME	
Smith	Felicia	Lee	NH	
Smith	Hope	North Smithfield	RI	
Smith	Jackson	West Suffield	CT	
Smith	Jason	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Jason	Howell	NJ	
Smith	Joshua	Bradley	ME	
Smith	Kevin	Orono	ME	
Smith	Lexi	Rockport	ME	
Smith	Lily	Berwick	ME	
Smith	Marissa	Rockland	MA	
Smith	Mary-Kate	Orono	ME	
Smith	Maxx	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Megan	Sheffield	MA	
Smith	Meghan	Saint Paul	MN	
Smith	Naomi	Holden	ME	

Smith	Travis	Belgrade	ME	
Smy	Isabelle	Cumming	GA	
Snell	Al	Freeman Township	ME	
Snow	Aaron	Mattawamkeag	ME	
Snow	Alyx	Bangor	ME	
Snow	Madalyn	Hopkinton	MA	
Soares	Mason	Bar Harbor	ME	
Sockalexis	Emmett	Indian Island	ME	
Soctomah	Brooke	Bradley	ME	
Soctomah-Holmes	Sienna	Glenburn	ME	
Soler Marques	Anna	Barcelona		Spain
Soliz	Shelby	Brownville	NE	
Solomon	Justin	Veazie	ME	
Solorzano	Pablo	Old Town	ME	
Sossong	Brooke	Old Town	ME	
Soucia	Kailee	Orrington	ME	
Soucy	Evan	Bangor	ME	
Soucy	Gracie	Orrington	ME	
Soule	Danica	Winslow	ME	
Soule	Taylor	Bangor	ME	

Soulliere	Keegan	Waterbury	CT	
Sousa	Ross	Somerset	MA	
Southworth	Katie	Bangor	ME	
Southworth	Thomas	Old Town	ME	
Spach	Sam	Portland	ME	
Spann	Jennifer	Newburgh	ME	
Spaulding	Ashley	Clinton	ME	
Spear	Kathleen	Portland	ME	
Spears	Kimberley	Sidney	ME	
Spears	Paige	Waterville	ME	
Speliotis	Alexandria	Danvers	MA	
Spencer	Caroline	Falmouth	ME	
Sperrey	Alaina	Presque Isle	ME	
Spiegel	Charlie	Searsport	ME	
Spiegel	Emma	Searsport	ME	
Spink-O'Brien	Bonnie	Orono	ME	
Spressart	Debra	Bernard	ME	
Springer	Marissa	Bar Harbor	ME	
Springer	Tom	North Berwick	ME	
St. John	Neil	Bangor	ME	

St. Laurent	Brook	Rockport	ME	
St. Paul	Angie	York	ME	
St. Peter	Abby	Caribou	ME	
St. Pierre	Aubrey	Slidell	LA	
St. Pierre	Elyse	Old Town	ME	
St. Pierre	Keenan	Poland	ME	
St. Pierre	Zack	Biddeford	ME	
St.Onge	Elias	Lewiston	ME	
Stahl	Ashlynn	Bangor	ME	
Stamey	Mia	Westbrook	ME	
Stanard	Mark	Center Tuftonboro	NH	
Stanford	Taylor	Burlington	ON	Canada
Starchenko	Anastasiia	Ivano-Frankivsk	26	Ukraine
Starks	Lauren	Holden	ME	
Staton	Sean	Waterville	ME	
Stearns	Vicki	Veazie	ME	
Stec	Jordan	Rockland	MA	
Steele	Keelan	Caledon	ON	Canada
Steeves	Jacob	Skowhegan	ME	
Steigert	Zach	Bangor	ME	

Steinman	Kim	Cumberland Center	ME	
Sterling	Rachel	Minneapolis	MN	
Sterner	Kaitlyn	Sandy	UT	
Stevens	Abby	Orono	ME	
Stevens	Braedon	Hermon	ME	
Stevens	Chase	Old Town	ME	
Stevens	Conor	Kennebunk	ME	
Stevenson	Ava	Grosse Pointe	MI	
Stewart-Crystal	Tyshawn	Harrisburg	PA	
Stiverson	Camille	West Lafayette	IN	
Stock	Danika	Pittsfield	ME	
Stockman	Emily	Northborough	MA	
Stockman	Madeline	Northborough	MA	
Stoelzel	Liz	Trumbull	CT	
Stokes-Dana	Kaden	Bangor	ME	
Stone	Addie	Old Town	ME	
Stone	El	Bangor	ME	
Stone	Kayla	Burlington	ME	
Stone	Wendy	Orrington	ME	
Storer	Bree	Poland	ME	

Storer	Patrick	Avon	ME	
Storman	Natalie	Alton	ME	
Stormann	Noel	Milford	ME	
Stover	Lindsey	Enfield	CT	
Stow	Courtney	Niantic	CT	
Stow	Kaitlyn	Niantic	CT	
Straub	Max	Florence	AL	
Streeter	Cassidy	Scarborough	ME	
Streinz	Abigail	Hersey	ME	
Stromsky	Alexa	Scarborough	ME	
Strong	Sadie	Old Town	ME	
Strout	Justin	Limington	ME	
Sturdivant	Bryan	Hermon	ME	
Sturgis	Julia	Gorham	ME	
Sturgis	Liza	Gray	ME	
Sturtevant	Levi	Bangor	ME	
Stutzman	Sarah	Harmony	ME	
Suderley	Ethan	Winterport	ME	
Sudimick	Camryn	Seymour	CT	
Sullivan	Drew	Standish	ME	

Sullivan	Jordan	Peabody	MA	
Sullivan	Nick	Old Town	ME	
Sullivan	Riley	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Sullivan	Zackary	Kennebunk	ME	
Suriano	Sophia	Old Town	ME	
Sutherland	Gabrielle	Woodland	ME	
Suttie	Elsie	Fairfield	ME	
Sutton	John	Gorham	ME	
Sutton	Kearson	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Swain	Bradley	Bellingham	MA	
Swanson	Parker	North Yarmouth	ME	
Swartzbaugh	Nevada	Hermon	ME	
Sylvain	Johnny	Portland	ME	
Sylvanus	Noah	Kennebunk	ME	
Szczechowicz	Jack	North Berwick	ME	
Szczechowicz	Nate	North Berwick	ME	
Tabor	Ahlwynn	Richmond	ME	
Taggart	Emma	Raymond	ME	
Talalay	Miriam	Lutherville Timonium	MD	
Talcove	Hannah	Old Town	ME	

Tallapureddy	Arihant	Bolton	CT	
Tallgrass	Jack	Gloucester	MA	
Talon	Gabe	Old Town	ME	
Talon	Sarah	Windham	ME	
Tanguay	Ashley	Bangor	ME	
Tanner	Desiree	Brunswick	ME	
Tanous	Marla	South Paris	ME	
Tash	Hannah	Hampden	ME	
Tassinari	Maddison	Kennebunk	ME	
Tate	Henry	Holliston	MA	
Taylor	Erica	Winthrop	ME	
Taylor	James	Portland	ME	
Taylor	Jillian	Winthrop	ME	
Taylor	Kyla	Camden	ME	
Taylor	Ryan	Holliston	MA	
Tejeda	Natalie	Weatherford	TX	
Tengstrom	Thea	Brookhaven	GA	
Terry	Grace	Gray	ME	
Testa	Lauren	Orono	ME	
Testerman	Noah	West Simsbury	CT	

Teta Tessa	Ella	Lewiston	ME	
Tetlow	Cody	Sebec	ME	
Thackeray	Noah	Camden	ME	
Thatcher	Jayson	Scarborough	ME	
Thayer	Jagger	Hampden	ME	
Thelen	Finnegan	Bath	ME	
Thibert	Alli	North Andover	MA	
Thibodeau	Abby	Dixfield	ME	
Thielman	Emelia	Fargo	ND	
Thieme	Sophie	Topsham	ME	
Thom	Guinevere	Brunswick	ME	
Thomas	Curtis	Lakeville	ME	
Thomas	Vince	Old Town	ME	
Thompson	Caroline	Topsham	ME	
Thompson	Gage	Sabattus	ME	
Thompson	Garrison	Hermon	ME	
Thompson	Jordan	Caswell	ME	
Thompson	Kadia	Wells	ME	
Thompson	Olivia	Bridgton	ME	
Thompson	Rebecca	Broomfield	CO	

Thompson	Ryan	Cumberland Center	ME	
Thompson	Ryan	Howland	ME	
Thompson	Shannon	North Kingstown	RI	
Thompson	Sommer	Lebanon	ME	
Thorman	Shelby	Bethel	ME	
Thorpe	Joseph	Falmouth	ME	
Throckmorton-Hansford	Willow	Somerville	ME	
Thurber	Henry	Brattleboro	VT	
Thurlow	Ryan	Cape Neddick	ME	
Thurston	Caleb	Durham	ME	
Tibbetts	Elizabeth	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Tiemann	Maddie	Feasterville Trevose	PA	
Tiensivu	Brennon	Orrington	ME	
Tiernan	Holly	South Glastonbury	CT	
Tijerina	Santiago	Old Town	ME	
Tillson	Ashley	Saco	ME	
Timms	Angie	Orono	ME	
Tiner	Lincoln	Orono	ME	
Tittle	Morgan	Skowhegan	ME	
Tkacs	Aislyn	Glenburn	ME	

Toman	Matt	Secaucus	NJ	
Torre-Nieto	Sebastian	Groton	MA	
Tosi	Alex	Harwich	MA	
Towey	Zahra	Bangor	ME	
Town	Matt	Londonderry	NH	
Townsend	Abby	Fairfield	ME	
Townsend	Lydia	Fairfield	ME	
Townsend	Mackenzie	Sanford	ME	
Townsend	Sarah	Fairfield	ME	
Tracy	Jack	Standish	ME	
Tracy	Olivia	Fairfield	ME	
Trafton	Izzy	Scituate	MA	
Tran	Sara	Da Nang		Vietnam
Trask	Riley	Alna	ME	
Treadwell	Jameson	Auburn	ME	
Treat	Emily	Carmel	ME	
Trefry	Kinsey	Beverly	MA	
Troxell	Alec	Portland	ME	
Trumbull	Katherine	Fryeburg	ME	
Truong	Khang	Sanford	ME	

Truso	Luc	Morrisville	VT	
Trussell	Zoey	Orono	ME	
Tschirhart	Julie	North Andover	MA	
Tucker	Emily	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Tucker	Jake	Freeport	ME	
Tucker	Reilly	Falmouth	ME	
Tupper	Emma	Old Town	ME	
Tupper	Madelyn	Holden	MA	
Turcotte	Hannah	Old Town	ME	
Turcotte	Lily	Litchfield	ME	
Turcotte Seavey	Lauren	Bangor	ME	
Turgut	Ata	Ankara		Turkey
Turmel	Sarah	Westbrook	ME	
Turner	Blake	North Yarmouth	ME	
Turner	Kathrina	Old Town	ME	
Turner	Myles	Royersford	PA	
Turturici	Tyler	Wilmington	DE	
Twombly	Megan	Hollis Center	ME	
Ulland	Sydney	Lakeville	MN	
Upham	C.J.	Hampden	ME	

Upton	Sean	Arlington	VA	
Utsler	Zoe	Valley Village	CA	
Vaccaro	Emily	Kingston	NH	
Vaccaro	Sam	Kennebunk	ME	
Vacchiano	Riley	Cornish	ME	
Vadas	Jeremiah	Orrington	ME	
Vadnais	Riley	Highland	CA	
Valentin	Sylvia	Saint Paul	MN	
Valenzano	Josh	Buzzards Bay	MA	
Valleli	Luke	Boylston	MA	
Van Beek	Skye	Fairfax Station	VA	
Van Leer	Keldan	Brunswick	ME	
Van Ommen Kloeke	Ciaran	Danby	VT	
Vancil	Mello	Dedham	ME	
Vandereb	Schuyler	Orland	ME	
VanDyke	Andrew	Oakland	NJ	
Vannini	Heidi	Hope	ME	
VanNorwick	Ash	Bloomfield Hills	MI	
VanValkenburg	Emily	Ellenburg Center	NY	
Vargas	Andres	Lyman	ME	

Vargas	Mia	Milford	ME	
Varghese	Karun	Ras Al Khor		United Arab Emirates
Varley	Jackson	Frederick	MD	
Varneke	Pierce	Toms River	NJ	
Varney	Ethan	Pittsfield	ME	
Varney	Everet	Turner	ME	
Varney	Jake	Augusta	ME	
Vasiliadis	Demetra	Whitestone	NY	
Vatis	Lizzie	Fairfield	CT	
Vaughn	Seth	Colts Neck	NJ	
Veal	Marek	Perry	ME	
Vecchione	Hayley	Millville	MA	
Vecera	Colin	Iowa City	IA	
Vegas	Guy	Portsmouth	RI	
Veilleux	Brandon	Belgrade	ME	
Veilleux	Emma	Bucksport	ME	
Verdin	Sierra	Augusta	ME	
Verrill	Alden	Bangor	ME	
Verrill	Patrick	Carmel	ME	
Victoria	Steff	Dover Foxcroft	ME	

Vigo Pigueiras	Lucia	Stamford	CT	
Villeneuve	Donavan	Montreal	QC	Canada
Vincent	Lily	Auburn	ME	
Vincent	Molly	Auburn	ME	
Viola	Caleb	South Portland	ME	
Violette	Isaac	Oakland	ME	
Violette	Suzy	Bangor	ME	
Vira	Boris	Somerville	MA	
Virgin	Matt	Lewiston	ME	
Vissering	Phillip	North Andover	MA	
Vital	Macy	West Haven	CT	
Vittum	Richard	Burlington	MA	
Vittum	Zoe	Brewer	ME	
Viveiros	Richard	Boxford	MA	
Voight	Emily	Sebastopol	CA	
Von Oesen	Noah	Waterville	ME	
Voner	Taylor	West Wareham	MA	
Wagner	Shea	Freeport	ME	
Wagner	Will	Gibsonia	PA	
Waite	Mark	Turners Falls	MA	

Walden	John	Cumberland	RI	
Walden	Sophie	Pittsfield	ME	
Walker	Ellie	Scarborough	ME	
Walker	Nicole	Gorham	ME	
Walker	Shaan	Salem	NH	
Wallace	Ben	Bridgewater	MA	
Wallace	Bradley	Westbrook	ME	
Wallace	Ella	Lamoine	ME	
Wallace Murphy	Calvin	Orono	ME	
Walsh	Alexandra	Old Town	ME	
Walsh	Jessie	Benton	ME	
Walsh	Mikey	Kennebunk	ME	
Walsh	Ryan	Franklin	MA	
Warburton	Evan	Cape May Court House	NJ	
Ward	Ashley	Williamsburg	VA	
Wardwell	Finn	Dedham	ME	
Wasylyna	Ethan	Exeter	NH	
Waterhouse	Ethan	Dayton	ME	
Waterman	Sadie	Sabattus	ME	
Watkins	Gwen	Brewer	ME	

Watras	Julia	Seal Cove	ME	
Watson	Josh	Glenburn	ME	
Weafer	Sam	Orono	ME	
Weaver	Dan	Orrington	ME	
Webber	Adrian	Stratham	NH	
Webber	Cora	Johnston	RI	
Webber	Isaac	Orono	ME	
Webber	Lily	Westbrook	ME	
Webber	Meg	Leeds	ME	
Weed	Colin	Scarborough	ME	
Weigand	Isabella	Belle Mead	NJ	
Weinheimer	Erica	Richmond	ME	
Weinstein	Myky	Orono	ME	
Weirich	Maizy	Orrington	ME	
Weiss	Ma'ayan	Mount Kisco	NY	
Welch	Lily	Readfield	ME	
Welcke	Lilli	Heidelberg		Germany
Welcke	Luisa	Heidelberg		Germany
Wentworth	Emma	Sidney	ME	
Wentworth	Molly	Vinalhaven	ME	

Wentworth	Sarah	Falmouth	ME	
Wentworth	Zachary	Calais	ME	
West	Heather	Freeport	ME	
Westbrook	Katie	Chester	NH	
Westbrook	Phoebe	Binghamton	NY	
Westhaus	Taylor	Saco	ME	
Westhaver	Caroline	Weatogue	CT	
Weymouth	Allison	Scarborough	ME	
Wheeler	Mary	Bowdoin	ME	
Whetham	Emily	Simsbury	CT	
White	Courtney	Kennebunk	ME	
White	Emily	Jay	ME	
White	Eva	Orono	ME	
White	Grady	Cumberland Center	ME	
White	John	Bangor	ME	
White	Katie	Welcome	MD	
White	Noah	Orono	ME	
White	Penelope	Brunswick	ME	
Whiting	Sophie	Saco	ME	
Whitley	Hannah	Londonderry	NH	

Whitman	Reva	Cheshire	MA	
Whitney	Emma	Surry	ME	
Whitney	Katherine	Bangor	ME	
Widman	Mikey	Rochester	MN	
Wilbur	Joshua	Frankfort	ME	
Wilde	Aaron	Hermon	ME	
Wilkinson	Aaron	Norfolk	MA	
Wilkinson	Sara	New Gloucester	ME	
Willard	Bethany	Eddington	ME	
Willard	Henry	Winterport	ME	
Williams	Aaron	Worcester	MA	
Williams	Cooper	Liberty Township	OH	
Williams	Emma	Fremont	NH	
Williams	Hunter	York	ME	
Williams	Jacob	Irvine	PA	
Williams	Juliet	Orono	ME	
Williams	Lily	Westport	CT	
Williams	Maddie	Windham	ME	
Williams	Madeline	Mason Township	ME	
Williams	Stephen	Medfield	MA	

Williamson	Dean	Teaneck	NJ	
Willis	Hayden	Rensselaer	NY	
Willis	Kyle	West Paris	ME	
Wilson	Ben	Levant	ME	
Wilson	Carl	Kingfield	ME	
Wilson	Catrina	Harrison	ME	
Wilson	Culley	Hampden	ME	
Wilson	Jackson	South Portland	ME	
Wilson	Mackenzie	Lasalle	ON	Canada
Wilson	Matt	Fenton	MI	
Wimer	Merrick	Cranberry Township	PA	
Wind	Meadow	Rumford	ME	
Wind	Willow	Orono	ME	
Wing	McKade	Manchester	ME	
Winiarski	Emma	Orono	ME	
Wise	Sophia	Orono	ME	
Wisell	Mary Isabelle	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Witkowski	Jason	Woodbury	NJ	
Wittmer	Torria	Hermon	ME	
Wogan	Grace	Harpswell	ME	

Wogelius	Kyle	Farmington	CT	
Wohlstrom	Augusta	Clinton	CT	
Wolfenden	Anne	North Andover	MA	
Wolotsky	Isabella	Freeport	ME	
Wolverton	Derek	Lewiston	ME	
Wood	Cassondra	Milford	ME	
Wood	Marie	Acton	ME	
Wood	Marissa	Machiasport	ME	
Woodbury	Theo	Swans Island	ME	
Wood-McGuckin	Gabby	Belgrade	ME	
Woodruff	Tristan	Camden	ME	
Woods	Ethan	Orono	ME	
Wooldridge	Angelique	Orono	ME	
Worden	James	Minot	ME	
Worgull	Tessa	Bangor	ME	
Worster	Jason	Bangor	ME	
Worthen	Andrew	Mercer	ME	
Wright	Silvia	Orrington	ME	
Wright	Trey	Scarborough	ME	
Wyatt	Bruce	Gorham	ME	

Wyman	Ethan	Lamoine	ME	
Wynott	Christian	Norway	ME	
Yacoe	Zuber	Belfast	ME	
Yagiz	Yasmin	San Clemente	CA	
Yanko	Jack	Amherst	MA	
Yaskula	Mackenzie	Gorham	ME	
Yates	Anna	Casco	ME	
Yeaples	David	Linesville	PA	
Yeaton	Lily	Wiscasset	ME	
Yeldan	Ece	Kadikoy		Turkey
Yelle	Hannah	Carlisle	MA	
Yoder	Marlee	Durham	NH	
York	Sara	Topsham	ME	
Young	Audrey	Owls Head	ME	
Young	Haleigh	Ellsworth	ME	
Young	Ivan	Lincolnville	ME	
Young	Kenzie	Alton	ME	
Young	Lauren	Bangor	ME	
Young	Megan	Gorham	ME	
Young	Patrick	North Yarmouth	ME	

Young	Tommy	Cumberland Center	ME	
Zaenger	Calista	San Diego	CA	
Zajac	Antoni	Derry	NH	
Zanoni	Jude	Brewer	ME	
Zanotta	Alessio	Lee	ME	
Zanotta	Davide	Lee	ME	
Zelmanow	Jacob	Gorham	ME	
Zemotel	Ryan	Plymouth	MA	
Zeno	Joe	Hampden	MA	
Zenuh	Dylan	New Hartford	CT	
Zhao	Xianyu	Collegeville	PA	
Zhu	Garrison	Orono	ME	
Zhu	Jie Ning	Belfast	ME	
Ziemer	Madison	Lombard	IL	
Zimet	Lam	Portland	ME	
Zippert	Tristan	Hillsborough	CA	
Zizza	Eden	Cushing	ME	
Zlamany	C.J.	Shelton	CT	
Zollars	Ava	North Wales	PA	
Zoorob	Marc	Orono	ME	

Zumwalt	Evelyn	Ellsworth	ME	
Zuras	Holden	Presque Isle	ME	
Zybert	Kaiver	Bangor	ME	
Zybert	Steven	Bangor	ME	

Spring 2023 Dean's List by Maine counties

Androscoggin County
Aroostook County
Cumberland County
Franklin County
Hancock County
Kennebec County
Knox County
Lincoln County
Oxford County
Penobscot County
Piscataquis County
Sagadahoc County
Somerset County
Waldo County
Washington County
York County

Androscoggin County

Auburn: Will Cassidy, Lydia Celani, Autumn Chapman, Esther Chen, Addison Chute, Wesley Clements, Max Creaser, Chantal Cyr, Natalie Garcia, Caroline Hammond, Weston Hartley, Jordy Jimenez, Storm Jipson, Kayden Kirouac, Nevaeh Longchamps, Mai Luu, Karla Mendoza Yanes, Noah Morgan, Annabelle Pendleton, Samantha Poirier, Joshua Power, Audrey Prentice, Faith Marie Small, Bailey Smart, Jameson Treadwell, Lily Vincent, Molly Vincent **Durham**: Nate Hayes, Sam Larochelle, Grace Libby, Bailey McGee, Amanda Myron, Caleb Thurston **Greene**: Jaidyn Negley **Leeds**: Eli Bell, Adreanna Michaud, Eryn Ryan, Meg Webber **Lewiston**: Leo Anderson, Connor Androlewicz, Gordon Beckwith, Hailey Champagne, Avery Greco, Hunter Landry, Connor Lariviere, Katie Laslie, Tyler Levesque, Jacob Metivier, Sydney Roy, Hamza Sheikh, Elias St.Onge, Ella Teta Tessa, Matt Virgin, Derek Wolverton **Lisbon**: Adia Coulombe **Lisbon Falls**: Timber Mattson, Amelia Mooney, Sarah Moreau **Livermore**: Christy-Lynn Beaudoin, Jonathan Brenner, Abby Castonguay, Drew Delaney, Grace Harmatys **Livermore Falls**: Wes Brinegar, Caleb Corlett, Riley Mills **Mechanic Falls**: Brianna Doucette, Jordyn Kohtala, Elizabeth Tibbetts **Minot**: Nick Allen, Alyssa Gagne, James Worden **Poland**: Riley Day, Maia Ferguson, Emma Griffin, Jon Koczkodan, Keenan St. Pierre, Bree Storer **Sabattus**: Autumn Chadburn, Maddox Fessenden, Renee Pickard, Maggie Ryder, Garret Skehan, Gage Thompson, Sadie Waterman **Turner**: Tamra Benson, Nik Krebs, Zach Madison, Everet Varney **Wales**: Seth Allen, Brynn Emond, Morgan Inman, Taylor Moore

Aroostook County

Ashland: Graham Berry, Mia Carney **Blaine**: Jimmy Hotham, Lizzy Hotham **Bridgewater**: Howard Sargent **Caribou**: Brevin Barnes, Sarah Beaulieu, Daniela Chavez de Paz Solis, Hannah Doody, Alex Dumond, Nickolas Guerrette, Ronald Guerrette, Ethan Holmquist, Alex Hyde, Austin LaPlante, Brennan Poitras, Abby St. Peter **Caswell**: Jordan Thompson **Dyer Brook**: Maggie Harthorne **Eagle Lake**: Owen Lewis **Fort Fairfield**: Katie Powers, Kira Rogers **Fort Kent**: Sam Albert, Mya Eno, Apurba Kaphle, Beau Michaud, Larry Nadeau **Haynesville**: Mikyla Howland **Hersey**: Abigail Streinz **Hodgdon**: Josie Ford **Houlton**: Gabe Fitzpatrick, Jadon Gentle, Keegan Gentle, Ryder Graham, Jillian Haggerty, Olivia Henderson, Sara Howland, Kollin Irish, Sam Johnson, Elizabeth Phillips **Linneus**: Autumn Ganzel **Littleton**: Catherine Hovda, Annika Nicholas **Madawaska**: Alex Bourgoin, Mason Chasse, Matthew Cyr, Trevor Hanson, Keri Hebert, Isabelle Lavoie, Hollie Morneault, Justin Pelletier, Sam Richards **Mapleton**: Katelyn Amero, Meg Casavant, Aidan LaFrancois, Paige McHatten **Mars Hill**: Maddie Coffin, Sydney Garrison, Madison Howlett **Oakfield**: Shelby Lewis **Presque Isle**: Hana Boucher, Ellie Collins, Benjamin Duprey, Benjamin Flannery, Piper Galipeau, Sierra Galipeau, Julia Good, Courtney Harding, Kenzie Hayes, Sophia Lambert, Ian MacKinnon, Conner Michaud, Jimmy Ocaya, Rebecca Rider, Alaina Sperrey, Holden Zuras **Smyrna Mills**: Jeremiah Goff **Van Buren**: Renee LaPointe **Washburn**: Kamryn Irving, Garrett Morneault **Woodland**: Gabrielle Sutherland

Cumberland County

Bridgton: Emma Crawford, Sabrina Lopez, Fiona Murphy, Olivia Thompson **Brunswick**: Rae Bamberger, Ryan Berry, Cameron Daly, Liam Doherty, Ariana Edwards, Chappy Hall, Riley Hewson, Finn Jacobs, Henry Johnson, Anna Kousky, Elizabeth Koval, Charlotte MacMillan, Connor Ney, Emma Nickerson, Abby Powers, Caleb Rand, Lea Scrapchansky, Alex Sharon, Desiree Tanner, Guinevere Thom, Keldan Van Leer, Penelope White **Cape Elizabeth**: Nathan Brame, Theo Brucker, Sierra Galgano, Johnny Gray, Nathaniel Holmes, Grace Leschey, Nick Leschey, Lilia Membrino, Luke O'Kelly, Molly O'Sullivan, Zale Rasco, Mae Rayner, Sawyer Richard, Daniel Ryzhov, Mary Isabelle Wisell **Casco**: Kasey Cummings, John Masselli, Anna Yates **Chebeague Island**: Hannah Birkett **Cumberland Center**: Ethan Ali, James Davenport, Amelia Greenlee, Molly Hale, Aaron Howell, Nikolaus Josephson, Tim Lester, Mike Marchessault, Olivia Marsanskis, Natalie Mullin, Ana Penza-Clyve, Mason Pitcher, Greg Ryder, Ahmed Saleh, Kim Steinman, Ryan Thompson, Grady White, Tommy Young **Cumberland Foreside**: Katie Bernheisel **Falmouth**: Isabelle Armstrong, Cameron Birks, Ethan Caster, Kassidy Castillo Parkman, Makylee Chan, Seth Dixon, Will Emanuel, Gretchen Favreau, Will Johnson, Ash Lane, Jacob Lorenzo, Jacob Marks, Sam Morrill, Matisse Moser, Ellie Nash, Liv Neuhauser, Seamus O'Brien, Max Peters, Noah Piers, Charlie Pochepan, Ben Potter, Collin Rodrigue, Violet Singer, Caroline Spencer, Joseph Thorpe, Reilly Tucker, Sarah Wentworth **Freeport**: Thomas Berry, Elsa Blease, Cadence Bourgoin, Samuel Broadbent, Nate Davis, Natalie Domin, Bennett Joseph, Caitlin Keliher, Madison Landry, Robert Landry, Kerry Lefebvre, Dylan Lieu, Margaret Perrotta, Renxuan Qiu, Aaron Rusiecki, Jake Tucker, Shea Wagner, Heather West, Isabella Wolotsky **Gorham**: Arius Ahmad, Aidan Bell, Lizzie Blanchard, Colby Christakis, Hannah Dimick, Nathan Dix, Lauren Edwards, Abby Enck, Ben Fecteau, Gabby Gagne, Reed Henderson, Riley Johnson, Sophie Kaufman, Allie Light, Ian Luciano, Nolan McCullough, Dylan Morrell, Isabella Morrell, Jillian Morrill, Allie Myles, Anna Nault, Ava Pitman, Molly Rathbun, Chloe Russell, Camden Sawyer, Julia

Sturgis, John Sutton, Nicole Walker, Bruce Wyatt, Mackenzie Yaskula, Megan Young, Jacob Zelmanow **Gray**: Nicole Cobb, Will Fournier, Trizzie Ha, Kaleb Hannan, Colin Harris, Amanda Kackmeister, Jake Kackmeister, Wyatt Kenney, Kyle Martell, Jaida Patterson, Liza Sturgis, Grace Terry **Harpswell**: Clare MacDonald, Grace Wogan **Harrison**: Aedan Bryant, Hayley McLeod, Catrina Wilson **Naples**: Joey Banks, Erik Christiansen, Joseph Jensen, Justin Lees **New Gloucester**: Tyler Amos, Abby Bouchard, Mchale Bourne, Bradan Craig, Troy Dexter, Wyatt Fessler, Jasmine French, Blake Knedler, Anastasia Lipp, Keagan Rice, Sara Wilkinson **North Yarmouth**: Kat Clancy, Dakota Cochran, Aidan Hayes, Nate Ingersoll, Diana Kimball, Harry McFarland, Manny Mendoza, Kit Rafford, Katie Simmons, Parker Swanson, Blake Turner, Patrick Young **Portland**: Donato Apon, Israk Ayasin, Wilder Baldwin, Calvin Benider, Lilly Braun, Hope Carroll, Caleb Cholod, Chloe Croce, Will Cunningham, Ben Curtis, Chloe Delano, Elizabeth Drelich, Olivia Duong, Alexiis Fiore, James Fletcher, Haley Foreman, Laini Frager, Sophia Gardner, Richard Greenwood, Eva Griffiths, Emma Hallee, Max Hillgraf, Elliott Hooper, Ryan Howell, Khiana Le, Zoe Leland, Evan Leonard, Ruth Lewandowski, Jake Loranger, Amelie MacDonald, Spencer Matteo, Hagen Myers, Kelly Nguyen, Mackenzie O'Donnell, Jonah Parker, Riley Rheault, Bethany Rozzi, Gabe Russell, Livia Serappa, Bay Smalley, Sam Spach, Kathleen Spear, Johnny Sylvain, James Taylor, Alec Troxell, Lam Zimet **Pownal**: Wyatt Perron **Raymond**: Hannah Bernier, Molly Cochrane, Colby Dionne, Isabel Dionne, Niall Gushue, Sarah Hare, Niko Lessard, Sam Phinney, Nathan Plummer, Stu Salom, Emma Taggart **Scarborough**: Zachary Alofs, Leah Batoosingh, Sydney Bloom, Chase Chaney, Isabella Cook, Jordan Crosby, Nate Cusson, Tehya Esposito, Brian Farino, David Geng, Gabriella Giftos, Katherine Gross, Jacob Haggerty, Tatum Hayward, Erin Jacquet, Audrey Jones, Aaron Kazilionis, Emily Labbe, Olivia LaChance, Casey Maddock, Peter Martin, Morgan McGarry, Alexandra McGhee, Josh Medeiros, Evan Morgan, Emily Murray, Ryan Murray, Logan Nappi, Jasmine Olshin, Shaelyn Poulin, Zack Reed, Stephanie Ross, Abby Roy, Katherine Roy, Justyn Sears, Dan Smith, Cassidy Streeter, Alexa Stromsky, Jayson Thatcher, Ellie Walker, Colin Weed, Allison Weymouth, Trey Wright **Sebago**: Sam Porter **South Portland**: Sam Brown, Aileen Campbell, Matthew Conley, Lauren DiBiase, Anna Eugene, Michael Feely, Aalliyah Ferreira, Anna Folley, Josh Frank, Jake Goodwin, Aidan Gorneau, Emily Hobbs, Ben Hoyt, Abby Huchel, Daniel Joy, Moise Kalonji, Aleksandar Kaurin, Chloe MacVane, Maegan Murphy, Mia Quint-Wood, Andrew Riley, Jules Selser, Caleb Viola, Jackson Wilson **Standish**: Jake Bear, Ken Beaumier, Emily Byrne, Aubrey Denico, Thomas Horton, Zachariah Oja, Kayla Raymond, Ian Ruona, Drew Sullivan, Jack Tracy **Steep Falls**: Paige Bois, Serena Greene, Bekah Hunnewell Dunphe **West Baldwin**: Anika Lord, Teagan Meggison, Dylan Shields **Westbrook**: Casper Cowan, Zachery Fecteau, Desiree Hodgkins, MacKenna Homa, Nathan Jacobs, Jared Johnson, Maxim LaPlante, Josie LeBlanc, Anthony Maguire, Kaitryn Pitt, Whitney Poitras, Abdulrahman Ratib, Jeremy Slaven, Mia Stamey, Sarah Turmel, Bradley Wallace, Lily Webber **Windham**: Monica Agneta, Octavian Anghel, Caleb Bassett, Chloe Boyes, Travis Burt, Ben Chouinard, Brandon Cummings, Connor Cummings, Avery Dube, Samuel Dubuc, Alissa Halloway, Molly Hodgkins, Briar Huard, Dianna Ingersoll, Estella Inman, Katherine Lewis, Sydney Nangle, Dean Preston, Gabriel Ransom, Avery Rolfe, Gabs Sernyk, Sarah Talon, Maddie Williams **Yarmouth**: Bridget Adams, Phil Bock, Zach Hamilton, Ethan Kelley, Adam Levinson, Patrick O'Halloran, Camden Olson, Laura Russo

Franklin County

Avon: Patrick Storer **Chesterville**: Mike Cilley, Isabelle Decker **Farmington**: Natalee House, Lauren Howatt, John Knapp, Jacob Mealey, Maggie Murray **Freeman Township**: Emily Kidd, Al Snell **Jay**: Joshua Lopez, Hannah Maurais, Emily White **Kingfield**: Jackson Masterson, Carl Wilson **New Sharon**: Taylor Brisard, Roshan Luick, Shannon Scott **Wilton**: Katie Brittain, Lexi Mittelstadt

Hancock County

Amherst: Kristin Moores **Bar Harbor**: Phillip Bart, Bella Brown, Ruby Brown, Jonathan Genrich, Loren Genrich, Chris Horton, Baylor Landsman, Walter Lange, Emily Losquadro, Katie Losquadro, Laura Martin, Sam Mitchell, Hisarya Nuesslein, Mason Soares, Marissa Springer **Bass Harbor**: Drew Goodwin **Bernard**: Ben Freudig, Jazzmyne Haines, Claire Shaw, Debra Spressart **Blue Hill**: Kacie Bond, Gabby Gadsby, Alexis Hallett, Stephen Lefkowitz **Brooklin**: Juliette Claybaugh **Brooksville**: Garrett Parker **Bucksport**: William Bissonnette, Evan Carter, Lauri Carter, Shelbee Connell, Zoe Hosford, Emma Veilleux **Castine**: Hannah Marie Blackwood **Dedham**: Jacob Curtis, Sarah Dorey, Ethan Drillen, Jamie Fogg, Colby Hafford, Andy Howe, Jordyn Miller, Jaymie Sidaway, Mello Vancil, Finn Wardwell **Deer Isle**: Nicole Cortez, Amy Hardy, Ariel Larrabee **Eastbrook**: Brooke Carver **Ellsworth**: Lauren Billings, Rory Burmeister, Joy Cartwright, Dylan Freeman, Eliott Gagnon-Victor, Audrey Goodwin-Whitmore, Riley Grindle, Colby Hamilton, Rory Hannon, Kai Phelps, Allison Robbins, Haleigh Young, Evelyn Zumwalt **Hancock**: Jordan Fountain, Trevor Morrison **Holden**: Ana Dunn **Lamoine**: Paul Briggs, Madison Jones, Matthew Jones, Ella Wallace, Ethan Wyman **Mariaville**: Hannah Harper **Mount Desert**: Cadi Howell, Elizabeth Jones, Rachel Leonard **Northeast Harbor**: Louise Chaplin **Orland**: John LaBrier, Reilly Linkel, Sarah Low, Sarina Martin, Schuyler Vandereb **Otis**: Kolby Hendrix **Penobscot**: Heather Munroe **Prospect Harbor**: Jeff Gerson **Seal Cove**: Julia Watras **Sedgwick**: Aja Quintal **Sorrento**: Samantha Bierman **Southwest Harbor**: Elaina Cote, Sydney Kachmar, James Ohmeis, Roxy Preston **Stonington**: Mchenna Martin **Sullivan**: Tobey Connor, Connor Crawford **Surry**: Samuel Bach, Madeline Buzzell, Alicia Havey, Amelia Hayden, Dasha Herrington, Hanna Jordan, Emma Whitney **Swans Island**: Theo Woodbury **Trenton**: Gus La Casse, Zoe Olson, Bella Ross **Winter Harbor**: Riley Flubacher

Kennebec County

Albion: Ethan Caldwell, Hannah Higgins, Mike Roy **Augusta**: Ian Bowers, Alex Cousins, Wyatt Green, Ian Harden, Bri Harriman, Carly Lettre, Cam MacLean, Caroline Mosca, Nick Poulin, Grace Rodrigue, Jake Varney, Sierra Verdin **Belgrade**: Ava Ardito, Noah Burby, Emma DiGirolamo, Grace Elliott, Martin Guarnieri, Nick Poulliot, Travis Smith, Brandon Veilleux, Gabby Wood-McGuckin **Benton**: Gage Boudreau, Ryan Bourque, Blair Fortin, Jake Patterson, Jessie Walsh **Chelsea**: Amelia Evans, Nic Mills **China Village**: John Cyrus **Clinton**: Matt Brown, Zack Delile, Colby Shorey, Ashley Spaulding **Farmingdale**: Zackery Ellis, Riley Hayward, Hunter Lizzotte, Lilo Mathieu, Sophia Rolfe, Amelia Skehan **Fayette**: Gabe Fein, Emma Fitzpatrick **Gardiner**: Brooke Andre, Casey Bourque, Abraham Davis, Natalie Fossett, Pierce Kempkes, Piper Kollman-Veit, Chase McLaughlin **Hallowell**: Seth Ashby, Jane Blanchard **Kents Hill**: Dana Reynolds **Litchfield**: Sophie Childs, Lily Turcotte **Manchester**: Aiden Cooper, Cam Freeman, Grace Hodgkin, Maddie MacDonald, John McLaughlin, McKade Wing **Monmouth**: Jaden Burnham, Libby Clement, Jordyn Gowell, Kaitlin Hunt, Erin Kennedy, Gabe Martin, Lydia Roy **Mount Vernon**: Chase McGlauflin **Oakland**: Connor Alley, Cooper Barrett, Grace Bourgoin, Gavin Bressette, Cathryn Doucette, Chantelle Flores, Jack Gibson, Emily Giguere, Sarah Hellen, Dillon Leeman, Eve Lilly, Ryan Pullen, Katie Seekins, Dharani Singaram, Isaac Violette **Pittston**: Kyra Franey **Randolph**: Mary Hartley **Readfield**: Wyatt Cannell, Christopher Erb, Katherine Lehr, Brad Russell, Lily Welch **Rome**: Patrick Aldrich, Alex Pierce **Sidney**: Amelia Bradfield, Lydia Bradfield, Luke Buck, Noelle Languet, Emily Levesque, Brynn Lozinski, Hannah Mathieu, Corey Smith, Kimberley Spears, Emma Wentworth **South China**: Jay Austin, Owen Axelson, Annika Gil, Trace Harris, Hunter Praul **South Gardiner**: Nathaniel Ramsay **Vassalboro**: Phil Allen, Jacob Bentley, Emma Fortin, Devon Polley, Anna Rothbacher, Luke Rothbacher **Vienna**: Connor Firth, Brody Looney **Waterville**: Josiah Bloom, Aaliyah Cruz, Ben Danner, Ashleigh Dunn, Molly Glueck, Cooper Hart, Peter Lai, Hannah LeClair, Paige Spears, Sean Staton, Noah Von Oesen **West Gardiner**: Sarah Foust, Ava Goraj, Anita Goulette, Alex Grover, Brett Palmer **Windsor**: Sebastien Chamberlain, Sydni Plummer **Winslow**: Alexa Bartley, Justin Bolduc, Kyle Camire, Jameson Carey, Lindsey Comeau, Katie Doughty, Sara Doughty, Brennan Dunton, Juliana Gudaitis, Isaac Lambrecht, Riley Loftus,

Cassidy McIntire, Kristen Rancourt, Danica Soule **Winthrop**: Riley Barth, Patrick Bellemare, Anna Berkes, Kendra Crosby, E Feeney, Juliette Gomez Lawson, Cameron Hachey, Emmanouil Karamousadakis, Ella Michaud, Abby Morin, Erica Taylor, Jillian Taylor

Knox County

Appleton: Hugh Costigan, Myles Kelley **Camden**: Rebecca Babb-Brott, Ellie Berez, Hadley Berger, Julian Blohm, Mason Bloomquist, Danila Borodaenko, Caroline Contento, Maren Geisler, Olivia Mandy, April Messier, Grace Minkin, Max Moore, Adrian Pierce, Angela Rothwell, Alyson Shook, Kyla Taylor, Noah Thackeray, Tristan Woodruff **Cushing**: Aidan Andrews, Eden Zizza **Hope**: Cedar Andrus, Kylie Fong, Anna Griebel, Louis Laurita, Isabella Merrill, Heidi Vannini **Owls Head**: Jacob Carroll, Simon Fox, Caleb Hendrick, Karl Ilvonen, Jenna Lessard, Alden Mason, Audrey Young **Rockland**: Wesley Dunkle, Zoe Goff, Ryan Lynch, Alexander Mahar **Rockport**: Katherine Bowen, Julianna Day, Dante Jacobo, Kate Kemper, Jason Seeber, Lexi Smith, Brook St. Laurent **South Thomaston**: Anna Grierson, Shea Hendricks, Mabel Monroe **Tenants Harbor**: Audrey Leavitt, Colin Smith **Thomaston**: Cassidy Boynton, Emily Boynton, Brady Marchessault **Union**: Connor Daigle, Ian Doughty, Emalee Grant **Vinalhaven**: Molly Wentworth **Warren**: Olivia Dougherty **Washington**: Kalina Chazin-Knox, Rhiannon Gould. Kylar Potter

Lincoln County

Alna: Riley Trask **Boothbay**: Melissa Guzzi **Boothbay Harbor**: Cortney Meader, Riley Sullivan **Edgecomb**: Marina McManus **Jefferson**: Alex Hall **New Harbor**: Sam Ransley **Newcastle**: Liam Dworkin **Nobleboro**: Natalie Dean, Oliver Hardina **Somerville**: Garret Hutchins, Willow Throckmorton-Hansford **South Bristol**: Nuala Glendinning **Waldoboro**: Andrew Beaucage, Amos Hinkley, Ashley Holmes, Lucy Jameson, Allison Lupien, Emily Lupien, Jeffery Parent, Kayla Roderick **Westport Island**: Alexa Peck, Kyle Ricker **Wiscasset**: Mason Davenport, Olivia Demeny, Aidan Drage, Joshua Dualan, John Hodson, Chloe Kilborn, Lily Yeaton

Oxford County

Bethel: Emily Fraser, Emily Hanscom, Emalee Harrington, Myles Lilly, Shelby Thorman **Brownfield**: Madison Griffin **Buckfield**: Kylie Carrier **Byron**: Sophie Ladd **Dixfield**: Miko Parsons, Abby Thibodeau **Fryeburg**: Kaia De Vries, Lucy Hodgman-Burns, Amanda Howe, Samantha Johnson, Casey Kneissler, Sophie Kummer, Sonia Leone, Patrick Malia, Shelby Pelkie, Katherine Trumbull **Greenwood**: Emma Kruse **Hartford**: Kathryn Henderson, Karen McNeil **Hebron**: Liz Dunn, Bram Dustin, Victoria Eichorn, Chloe Estes, Josh Lajoie **Mason Township**: Madeline Williams **Mexico**: Briton Bishop **Milton Township**: Sadie Richardson **Norway**: Kate Bowen, Will Eshleman, Sam Morton, Christian Wynott **Oxford**: Emilyann Drumm **Rumford**: Megan LaChance, Ellie LeDuc, Meadow Wind **South Paris**: Chloe Hodgdon, Kathryn Novak, Daniel Paine, Nicholas Seams, Marla Tanous **West Bethel**: Sophie Hanscom **West Paris**: Kyle Willis

Penobscot County

Alton: Emilee Arsenault, Garrett Engstrom, Jillian Keresey, Natalie Storman, Kenzie Young **Argyle Township**: Sam Ivey **Bangor**: Karly Accurso, Ian Ammerman, John Anderson, Tony Belenger, Nate Brainerd, Alex Briggs, Alex Brown, Gino Caccese, Abby Cadorette, Meg Caron, Jacob Caruson, Camilla Ceccarelli, Tori Cline, Katherine Clukey, Toby Coffey, Libby Colley, Raist Cotroneo, Noah Coyle, Juliette Daigle Thompson, Jamie Delaney, Erica Desjardins, Alexis Donahue, Adam Elkadi, James Fahey, MacKayla Faloon, Landyn Francis, Tristin Friend, Nshuti Gato, Dylan Gerrish, Chelsea Gilgan, Rowan Gingras, Dan Godin, Kevin Grover, Charlie Hall, Camryn Hammill-Nordfors, Anna Harper, Lori Harrigan, Jesiah Harris, Talia Harvey, Jacob Henry, Jacob Hirsch, Olivia Hoovler, Madox Hussey, Emily Irvine, Alicia Jacobson, Kristin Jenkins, Gabrielle Keebler, Isabella Keebler, Paul Keebler, Ashley King, Ryan Kinney, Cassie LaCasse, Roland Ladd, Zack LaFontaine, Jack Lajoie, Devon Lammert, Aiden Lamson, Connor Lehan, Maggie Lever, Angelica Loredo, Brandon Loveland, Stuart MacKay, Carlo Mazzarelli, Regan Mckay, Joe McNamara, Marina Mohawass, India Moon, Ziggy Morton, Noah Murphy, Vinh-Nhan Ngo, Addison Nichols, Connor Noddin, Lilian Nowak, Jiyeon Park, Jayci Parke, Kelly Pellegrino, Patrick Penlington, Chris Persinger, Jojo Picone, Megan Randall, Nate Regan, Tyler Reilly, Anora Rice, Declan Riordan, Dagan Savage, Eric Schmidt, Lilli Seeley, Hannah Sherwood, Jessy Sherwood, Dom Smart, Ford Smiley, Jason Smith, Maxx Smith, Alyx Snow, Evan Soucy, Taylor Soule, Katie Southworth, Neil St. John, Ashlynn Stahl, Zach Steigert, Kaden Stokes-Dana, El Stone, Levi Sturtevant, Ashley Tanguay, Zahra Towey, Lauren Turcotte Seavey, Alden Verrill, Suzy Violette, John White, Katherine Whitney, Tessa Worgull, Jason Worster, Lauren Young, Kaiver Zybert, Steven Zybert **Bradford**: Matthew Albert **Bradley**: Ileana Adams, Cameron Avery, Mae Bellavance, Vanessa Caron, Cassidy Climo, Makenzie Gomm, Caitlin Linardos, Lily McLaughlin, Garrett Pattershall, Nathalie Poulin, Joshua Smith, Brooke Soctomah **Brewer**: Allura Allen, Riley Andrews, Rowan Andrews, Kathryn Austin, Caleb Canders, Calvin Curtis, Eve Daries, Kody Doak, Georgia Doore, Asia Dube, Mackenzie Gagnon, Andrew Gillette, Lydia Gilmore, Dakota Grover, Swaroop Handral, Mickey Hersey, Jared Hoxie, Hannah Jones, Hannah Joyce, Tyler Kahkonen, Kaycee Laffey, Kate Longtin, Michele Maybury, Maria McLaughlin, Jamie McQuarrie, Kaitlyn Milan-Bryant, Chanthu Millay, Madisyn Morse, Dominique Ouellette, Lauryn Roy, Brendan Saunders, Zoe Vittum, Gwen Watkins, Jude Zanoni **Burlington**: Kayla Stone **Carmel**: Quinn Bartlett, Abby Boucher, Bill Hartt, Brian McElroy, Emily Treat, Patrick Verrill **Charleston**: Cece Desautell, Parker Shaw **Clifton**: Sarah Johnson **Corinna**: Ashton Caron, Elyana Gerrie, Rachael Sickles **Corinth**: Natalie Bickerstaff, Emily Champney-Brown, Nick Pino **Dexter**: Sean Bena, Olivia Peakes **Dixmont**: Isabel Dimek, Audrey Maddox **East Millinocket**: Katrina Gagnon, Erick Green **Eddington**: Enoch Laskey, Kahlan Newsom, Bethany Willard **Edinburg**: Julia Durost **Etna**: Sarah Cole **Exeter**: Logan Perkins **Garland**: Clyde Day, Matthew Day, Kasey Howell, Brett Kusnierz **Glenburn**: Seana Annable, Sam Bolosky, Stacey Comeau Duran, Jack Commeau, Lauren Dean, Kendra Fournier, Kenzie Gillis, Kenny Gousha, Natalie Gousha, Alexis Ismail, Lizzie Jacobs, Nicholas Jacobs, Bryce Lausier, Lukas Norment, Samara Obenauer, Lauren Potter, Amanda Rock, Benjamin Schmidt, Jordyn Shaw, Sienna Soctomah-Holmes, Aislyn Tkacs, Josh Watson **Greenbush**: Delani Mclaughlin, Dorothy Smith **Hampden**: Anna Baldwin, Ella Baldwin, Mychal Beaulieu, Oliver Bois, Logan Christian, Elisa Clark, Chantal Connelly, Samson Cournane, Fallon Crossman, Bryce DeRosby, Olivia Dunn, Sara Economy, Carter Emerson, Audrie French, Nick Gauthier, Claire Goff, Ethan Howe, Meghan Ireland, Lucy Knight, Aurelia Libby, Brady Lobdell, Jennah Lyford, Abby Lyons, Brenden Marden, Meaghan McBreairty, Riley McBreairty, Ingrid Plant, Jaylee Rice, Collin Scobie, Olivia Scott, Zachary Scott, Hannah Tash, Jagger Thayer, C.J. Upham, Culley Wilson **Hermon**: Garrett Anderson, Grace Blanchard, Sam Blanchard, Konner Boucher, Kelsey Bridges, Alana Broughton, Charlotte Caron, Nhan Chau, Amanda Cox, Kalley Curry, Ashley Dunphy, Samantha Falone, Allison Fetha, Jack Mailloux, Ryan Mailloux, Liv Nash, Kaden Nevells, Breanne Oakes, Noelle Patten, Adam Rush, Braedon Stevens, Bryan Sturdivant, Nevada Swartzbaugh, Garrison Thompson, Aaron Wilde, Torria Wittmer **Holden**: Payton Bledsoe, Kelsey Chase, Mackenzie Chase, Catherine Chesley, Johnny Cobb, Abigail Downing, Nick Geiser, Lauren Holyoke, Andrew Kiley, Sarah Kiley, Hannah McCann, Ian Norman, Trevor Pearson, Hayley Roy, Naomi Smith, Lauren Starks **Howland**: Vi Nelson, Ryan Thompson **Hudson**: Benjamin Miller, Jeremy Miller **Indian Island**: Alanna Chavaree, Emmett Sockalexis **Kenduskeag**: Aspyn Call, Caroline Davis, Olivia Rice **Lakeville**: Curtis Thomas **Lee**: Nicole Chandler, Ashton Dunbar, Audrey Peters, Julia Shannon, Q Siegfried, Alessio

Zanotta, Davide Zanotta **Levant**: Alexis Allard, Anthony Caccese, Ben Wilson **Lincoln**: Chris Anderson, Quincy Clifford, Kylee Moody, Maddy Noble **Mattawamkeag**: Caitlyn Beyenberg, Aaron Snow **Medway**: Conall Gouveia **Milford**: Noah Ashey, Estephanie Baez-Vazquez, Layla Blackie, Christopher Chappelle, Eli Clark, Zack Dill, Kaylee Hussey, Adam Kenny, Mya Lavin, Garrit Reynolds, Noel Stormann, Mia Vargas, Cassondra Wood **Millinocket**: Hayden Friel, Sean McGibbon, Deanna Oakes **Mount Chase**: Emily Beyer **Newburgh**: Lindsay Clements, Bailey Philbrick, Jennifer Spann **Newport**: Abby Bagley, Beau Briggs, Rita Jeskey, Myah Reed **Old Town**: Philip Alyokhin, Keely Becker, Anisha Bhosale, Nathaniel Bowden, Anna Briley, Max Chapman, Camden Chasse, Julia Clark, Nick Dieffenbacher-Krall, Tyler Doliber, Dyllon Dunton, Mariah Dutton, Mckenzie Evans, Anthony Fabrizio, Logan Gardner, Melissa Godin, George Grindle, Caitlyn Hardy, Allyssa Hickey, Nick Higgins, Gus Hoy, Dustin Jensen, Chelsea Johanson, Chris Johanson, Katie Johanson, Brenna Jones, Meaghan Kelley, Willow Knapp, Abbye Koenig, Alexis Krull, Lee Lavoie, Olivia Lee, Trinity Mailey, Sara Mark, Ella Marshall, Brandon Mastrorillo, Darius McKenzie, Eliza McPhee, Liv Merenberg, Cole Moore, Elizabeth Namujju, Sydney Noonan, Ellie Ouellette, Alia Parsons, Hannah Peacock, Aidan Peters, Mark Pollard, Cody Porter, Caitlin Powers, Adam Regan, Sean Schweizer, Lucas Shepherd, Pablo Solorzano, Brooke Sossong, Thomas Southworth, Elyse St. Pierre, Chase Stevens, Addie Stone, Sadie Strong, Nick Sullivan, Sophia Suriano, Hannah Talcove, Gabe Talon, Vince Thomas, Santiago Tijerina, Emma Tupper, Hannah Turcotte, Kathrina Turner, Alexandra Walsh **Orono**: Abby Adams, Cole Alexander, Peter Alexander, Niomi Almonte, Ben Atkinson, Siddhartha Bajracharya, Patrick Bishop, Jeremy Bissell, Meghan Boos, Camryn Brown, Margaret Brown, Emma Brusie, Tim Burgartz, Alexis Campbell, Max Carter, Angie Casella, Rachel Chase, Shashank Reddy Chintakuntla, Jamie Coburn, Alana Cormier, Travis Cornbau, Ashley Cray, Jennifer Crone, Julia Cross, Branden Dagenais, Chloe DaSilva, Erin Davenport, Leila Davids, Silvia Davids, Heather DeMerchant, Eric Desbois, Sarah Dodge, Daisy Drinkert, Colin Duffy, Theo Erikson, Colby Farnsworth, Max Farrow, Annie Fernandez-Faucher, Kieran Firkin, Will Fiske, Joshua Flanagan, Emma Ford, Antonio Francisco, Paula Gallego, Raven Goodell, Julianna Grampone, Cal Hamilton, Erik Hamilton, Lucca Hamina, Katie Harder, Alex Harkness, Ada Hepler, Aedan Higgins, Noah Hixon, Aurora Hodgdon, Allison Holt, Dominique Hopkins, Madeline Howorth, Joshua Irasubiza, David Jakacky, Noah Jalbert, Hubert Khalil, William Kim, Lara Kirkby, Elo Klaibe, Mike Knight, Strix Kugler, Dominic Lagace, Caroline LaPerriere, McKenzie Leavitt, Chelsea Levesque, Trent Lick, Gabe Livengood, Griffin Lord, Boubacar Mankirba, Nicholas Maranto, Charlie Marks, Madi McCarthy, Kyle McClellan, Meghan McDonald, Raine McGinnis, Caitlin McLaughlin, Andrew Melanson, Rene Mercado, Benjamin Mock, Caitlin Moeykens, Matthew Morgus, Felix Morrissey, Theophile Nkulikiyinka, Emmakate O'Donnell, Andrii Obertas, Luke ONeil, Aimee Ouellette, Allie Ouimet, Drew Parent, Anya Parker, Ashley Paul, Keiara Pham, Saurav Pokhrel, Swarnim Pokhrel, Jonah Porter, Kennedy Priest, Myles Quirion, Abigail Roberts, Roisin Rumsey, Sophia Santamaria, Isaac Sawyer, Ty Schneider, Ingrid Schroeter, Brooke Seiders, Liana Shaw, Sam Slavin, Jamison Smalley, Kevin Smith, Mary-Kate Smith, Bonnie Spink-O'Brien, Abby Stevens, Lauren Testa, Angie Timms, Lincoln Tiner, Zoey Trussell, Calvin Wallace Murphy, Sam Weafer, Isaac Webber, Myky Weinstein, Eva White, Noah White, Juliet Williams, Willow Wind, Emma Winiarski, Sophia Wise, Ethan Woods, Angelique Wooldridge, Garrison Zhu, Marc Zoorob **Orrington**: Matthew Abbott, Taylor Britt, Audra Brooks, Brady Dube, Bryanna Dube, Chloe Hart, Haven Jones, Jack Lander, Abbie Lawrence, Jacob Levesque, Jordan Lobley, Donne Sinderson, Kailee Soucia, Gracie Soucy, Wendy Stone, Brennon Tiensivu, Jeremiah Vadas, Dan Weaver, Maizy Weirich, Silvia Wright **Plymouth**: Ryleigh Byrd, Andrea Kondax, Chris Robinson **Stetson**: Tom Poling **Stillwater**: Cathryn Archer, Greg Dimoulas, Karen Horton **Veazie**: Riley Auxier, Sophie Bilodeau, Atticus Foster, Jessica Freeman, Dominic Needham, Riley Perry, Justin Solomon, Vicki Stearns **West Enfield**: William Brown, Ali Gilman, Madison Gilman, Kacie Mulligan

Piscataquis County

Brownville: Will Poole **Dover Foxcroft**: Grace Carlson, Megan Fuller, Jasper Makowski, Kate Nichols, Kearson Sutton, Steff Victoria, Lucas Ronco **Greenville**: Lindsey Chandler **Greenville Junction**: Mailer Baldwin, Camden Harmon **Guilford**: Sadie Davis **Milo**: Kelby Drews **Parkman**: Ruth Griffith, Ana Schmidt **Sebec**: Kylie Dow, Cody Tetlow **Williamsburg Township**: Kelsy Lacroix

Sagadahoc County

Bath: Emma Beauregard, Eleanor Carrolton, Dylan DeMerchant, Griffin Dever, Ordis Fitzmaurice, Ryan Fitzmaurice, Finnegan Thelen **Bowdoin**: Ben Humphrey, Mary Wheeler **Bowdoinham**: Fred Czerwinski, Jorja Hooper **Georgetown**: Katie Moyes **Phippsburg**: Eliza McKenney **Richmond**: Abby Johnson, Paige Lebel, Olivia Ridenour, Ahlwynn Tabor, Erica Weinheimer **Topsham**: Ben Anderson, Madi Bailey, Lucas Bergeron, Emily Bontatibus, Andrew Chamberland, Brewster Chard, Lucas Dimond, Alexander Gaidola, Liam Knowles, Caden Kowalsky, Colin Lennon, David Neufeld, Sophie Thieme, Caroline Thompson, Sara York **West Bath**: Tyler Andresen **Woolwich**: Katie Card, Tristan Cilley, Julia Cliffe, Haily Harper, Rachel Ouellette

Somerset County

Athens: Harrison Sites **Cornville**: Jada Mack, Annah Perkins, John Shay **Embden**: Tyler Edwards, Brody Miller **Fairfield**: Nathanael Batson, Trinity Cutshall, Olivia Getchell, Corbin Kissinger, Miranda Lambert, Makayla Lessard, Cameron Littlefield, David Peitz, Elsie Suttie, Abby Townsend, Lydia Townsend, Sarah Townsend, Olivia Tracy **Harmony**: Clark LaChance, Sarah Stutzman **Hartland**: Julianne Bragg **Jackman**: Alexandra Lessard **Madison**: Shelby Belanger, Caleb Cowan, Susannah Curtis, Thomas Dean, Emily Edgerly **Mercer**: Andrew Worthen **Palmyra**: Adam Malcolm, Nick Pease **Pittsfield**: Leah Bradstreet, Sean Higgins, Lauren Lancaster, Samantha Martin, Danika Stock, Ethan Varney, Sophie Walden **Skowhegan**: Jaycie Christopher, Riley Fitzpatrick, Angel Gonzalez Merrill, Bhreagh Kennedy, Kyle Lee, Bailey Lewis, Sydney Reed, Jacob Steeves, Morgan Tittle **Smithfield**: Kyle Salley

Waldo County

Belfast: Sarah Renee Ozlanski, Lindsey Blood, Sam Davis, Ruby Day, Caleb Hall-Arnett, Willoe Kirkpatrick, Caeley Mcvearry, Julianna O'Sullivan, Mads Owen, Zuber Yacoe, Jie Ning Zhu **Belmont**: Vincent Bonarrigo **Burnham**: Avery Gosselin, Meredith Priess **Frankfort**: Makenzie Alley, Hannah Dodson, Joshua Wilbur **Islesboro**: Olivia Britton **Jackson**: Emma Fonger, Morgan Fonger **Liberty**: Lily Blake **Lincolnville**: Julius Bucher, Rowan Hurlburt, Kristina Kelly, Joshua Pitcairn, Ivan Young **Monroe**: Josh Rae **Morrill**: Natalie Curry **Northport**: Madi Hemingway, Jason Hunter, Brendan Moline, Katie Ritchie **Palermo**: Lindsey Childs, Parker King **Searsmont**: Declan Brinn, Luke Hamlin, Emily Hills, Melissa Lugo, Aiden Pike, Lily Robbins **Searsport**: Abigail Donnelly, Josh Golder, Charlie Spiegel, Emma Spiegel **Stockton Springs**: William Bradley, Haley Braga, Erin Dorr, Cheyenne Hebert, Maria Jones, Jack Lindyberg, Rebekah Mellor, Kyla Perkins, Gabe Poulin **Swanville**: Catrina El-Hajj, Samuel Hutchins, Wesley Hutchins **Thorndike**: Jensen Aspinall, Morgan Ireland **Unity**: Zoe Mayhew **Waldo**: Hezekiah Gabriel Agbuya **Winterport**: Noah Adelman, Teodora Blejeru, Emma Campbell, Emma Damboise, Sairah Damboise, Sophie Dube, Parker Harriman, Alex Holmes, Maddy Humphrey, Nate Jordan, Jerdon Kiesman, Mariah Lockhart, Zara Misler, Carly Philbrook, Sara Reynolds, Ethan Suderley, Henry Willard

Washington County

Addison: Jinny Davis, Riley Grant **Baileyville**: Erika Isnor, Bogumil Korasadowicz **Baring Plantation**: Alexis Doten **Calais**: Patrick Corbett, Kaylah Kilby, Ivy McLellan, Gavin Parks, Zachary Wentworth **Cherryfield**: Nayan Sawyer **Columbia**: Shay Barbee Bamford **Cutler**: Bryant Marsh, Greg Moulton **Danforth**: Christiana Lord **Dennysville**: Seana Mackeldey **Jonesport**: Lauren Crowley **Machiasport**: Marc Michaud, Marissa Wood **Marshfield**: Shaelea Perkins, Brianna Renshaw **Milbridge**: Ana Ortiz Albor, Joseph Ray-Smith **Perry**: Jacob Cook, Jacquelyn Cook, Trinity Jones, Alex Morgan, Madilyn Newcomb, Marek Veal **Robbinston**: Ian Cronister, Keira Mendoza, Kahlysta Morris, Izzy Pullias **Whiting**: Abigail Bowser, Haley Cherry

York County

Acton: Porter Bodkin, Brooke Camire, Marie Wood **Arundel**: Abby Davis, Jonathan Dube, Sofie Dumas, Jacob Richard, Sarah Rosen **Berwick**: Lucas Bent, Ethan DeMoura, Zachary English, Joe Horne, Jacob Mulligan, Lily Smith **Biddeford**: Ayla Aldrich, David Bourque, Seth Harding, Brandon Martin, Ethan McBrine, Sam Mills, Lauren Monson, Myles Moore, Bart Murphy, Mia Pothier, Zack St. Pierre **Buxton**: Sarah Durocher, Alex Dyer, Avery Kimball, Hannah Milne, Thomas Sirois **Cape Neddick**: Luke Berger, Christopher Chalande, Luke Charpentier, Margaret Hamel, Chase Holt, Tyler Humphrey, Charese Lemieux, Rollan Lemieux, Emma Parrotta, Ryan Thurlow **Cornish**: Riley Vacchiano **Dayton**: Amber Coxen, Ethan Waterhouse **East Waterboro**: Cody Charette, Paige Houk **Eliot**: Abigail Arnold, Lauren Cusson, Ryan Driscoll, Sean Fuller, Nick Leavitt, Eliott Place, Colin Ready **Hollis Center**: Mike Ames, Brianna Gannett, Cameron Phinney, Joshua Prescott, Megan Twombly **Kennebunk**: Nick Cataldi, Julia Cochran, Caleb Congdon, Nate Cripps, Garrett Dickinson, Colby Ellis, Josh Erickson-Harris, James Jarvis, Hannah Johnson, Henry Kindler, Grant Kull, Isaac Leveille, Ian Martin, Curtis Morgan, Amelia Nelson, Katharine Poulin, Lauren Poulin, Sean Radel, Isabella Real, Ashley Robinson, Conor Stevens, Zackary Sullivan, Noah Sylvanus, Maddison Tassinari, Sam Vaccaro, Mikey Walsh, Courtney White **Kennebunkpor**t: Ella Boxall, Rachel Brask, Robbie Sanders **Kittery**: Killian Campbell, Tyler Donnell, Taylor Elling-Wilson, Olivia Finley, Olivia Matthews, Dylan Parsons, Dominic Perkins **Kittery Point**: Maggy Johnson **Lebanon**: Scott Bowden, Kaylee Mayotte, Kaily Rich, Sommer Thompson **Limerick**: Ben Carroll **Limington**: Aidan McGlone, Justin Strout **Lyman**: Grace Bradish, Hannah Bradish, Nick Hammond, Kassidy Lang, Emily Morin, Andres Vargas **North Berwick**: Eric Griffin, Kiersten Jones, Levi Lambert, Emma McBrierty, Dante Michaud, Kendra Moseley, Tyler Oliver, Tom Springer, Jack Szczechowicz, Nate Szczechowicz **North Waterboro**: Emily Davison, Zoey DeAngelis, Amanda Dudley, Avery Haskell **Old Orchard Beach**: Lauren Burke, Peter Coleman, Madi Courtois, Julia Freeman, Kaitlin Halle, Alexander Hodgkins, Lily LaCasse, Melissa Pelletier, Emily Tucker **Parsonsfield**: Sophie Shortsleeves **Saco**: Amy Blanchard, Owen Boissonneault, Sydney Brown, Benjamin Cobb, Breece Cote, Dawson Desrosiers, William Dunham, Evan Hollander, George Horvat, Rowan Libby, Wyatt Light, Kelvin Lin, Vincent Lin, Claire Loeser, Kaelyn Madden, Stephen Picard, Desiree Prejean, Emily Ruocco, Joshua Sewell, Ashley Tillson, Taylor Westhaus, Sophie Whiting **Sanford**: Cindy Bellavance, Jade Bellavance, Joe Binette, Jacob Cao, Adam Genereux, Steve Hanselmann, Jesse Hendrickson, Dawson Knapp, Luke Lapierre, Emily Morrison, Megan O'Connell, Veronica Ryder, Mackenzie Townsend, Khang Truong **Shapleigh**: Noah Chretien **South Berwick**: Chance Brown, McKayla Leary, Lexi McGee, Wei Wei Poole, Stephen Rezack, Alicia Richards, Ilanah Sandler **Springvale**: Anna Johnson, Lydia Pease **Waterboro**: Ivalani Callahan, Alyssa Paquin, Ethan Paquin **Wells**: Gary Andrews, Hayden Barker, Elizabeth Bradish, Graham Bridges, Jon Brown, Matthew Eastman, Gretchen Graffam, Lily Heyland, Andrew Iles, Alyssa Kenney, Tommy Labb, Gavyn Leighton, Brianna Lemarier, Eric Mabry, Isaac Michaud, Jacob Michaud, Theodore Morin, Natalie Robinson, Wyatt Rowe, Ethan Shell, Kadia Thompson **York**: Abby Bourgeois, Will Bourgeois, Ellyson Bourgoine, Samantha Campagna, Ashley Carney, Gianna Cilley, Cameron Dalton, Max Ernenwein, Jack Harrington, Delaney Labonte, Fiona Murphy, Maggie Prince, Caroline Scott, Angie St. Paul, Hunter Williams *Back to full list*

Researchers invited to join Zebrafish Symposium at UMaine on July 13

07 Jul 2023

The diminutive, transparent zebrafish powers discoveries that may ultimately unveil new ways to diagnose, prevent and treat human diseases. Zebrafish and zebrafish-curious researchers are invited to join the Zebrafish Symposium from 9 a.m.–4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 13 in Room 57 of Stodder Hall at the University of Maine. Scientists from UMaine, the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, the University of New England, Bowdoin College and Bates College will present talks and host poster sessions. Participants will discuss research techniques, challenges and collaboration opportunities related to zebrafish. The event is sponsored by the University of Maine's Institute of Medicine and the UMaine COBRE project grant. The event is free, but advance registration is required. Registration is available online. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Robert Wheeler at robert.wheeler1@maine.edu.

BDN shares UMaine Extension sustainable agriculture research tour at Rogers Farm

07 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold its annual Sustainable Agriculture Research Tour on Wednesday, July 26 at the UMaine Rogers Farm Forage and Crop Research Facility, 914 Bennoch Road. The free event is geared toward farmers, crop advisors and others interested in agricultural production. Visit the event webpage for more details.

Media share Umaine food preservation workshops in Falmouth

07 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Morning Ag Clips shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer several workshops on preserving Maine foods from 5:30–8:30 p.m. on July 11, Aug. 15, and Sept. 19 at the UMaine Regional Learning Center in Falmouth. Register on the program webpage to receive the link and resources.

Newsom featured on 'Maine Calling' discussing archaeology in Maine

07 Jul 2023

Maine Public featured Bonnie Newsom, assistant professor of archaeology at the University of Maine, as a panelist on a 'Maine Calling' segment about how archaeology can provide insights into Maine's past, present and future, and how the field is changing to include Indigenous perspectives and voices.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in reporting about hottest week on record

07 Jul 2023

The Associated Press, New York Times, CNN, Fortune, Axios, Mother Jones, CBS News, USA Today, Maine Monitor, The Globe and Mail, Phys.org, Space.com, Science News, The Pointer, Spectrum News 1 (Austin, Texas) and The Nation cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in reporting about how Earth's average temperature set a new unofficial record high on Thursday, the third such milestone in a week that has already been rated as the hottest on record. The UMaine Climate Reanalyzer shows that the planetary average hit 63 degrees Fahrenheit, surpassing the 62.9-degree mark set Tuesday and equaled Wednesday. U.S. News and World Report, Marketwatch, ABC News, Yahoo! News, Aol, The Independent, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, The Washington Post, the Baltimore Sun, the Omaha World-Herald, The Boston Globe, the Houston Chronicle, The Seattle Times, the Miami Herald, the Las Vegas Sun, The Charlotte Observer, the Bozeman Daily Chronicle, The Sacramento Bee, the Portland Press Herald, the Bangor Daily News, WABI (Channel 5 in Bangor) and other outlets shared the AP report.

UMaine MET students designed an adaptive wheelchair for shooting competitions

07 Jul 2023

The University of Maine's Mechanical Engineering Technology (MET) program is all about real-world problem solving. When athlete and activist Enock Glidden came to the MET capstone with a unique challenge — to adapt his wheelchair for shooting competitions — students met the task with skill, creativity and an open-mindedness that resulted in a useful finished project, and a lifelong bond. All students in the MET major are required to take the yearlong capstone class. The capstone offers students a variety of real-world projects to choose from. This past year, that included restoring an old lathe, a pedal powered catamaran, a robotic mouse trap, a 3D printed rocket nozzle and more. One of the projects offered to students was to work with Glidden, an activist who catalogs his adventures and athletic endeavors in his wheelchair through the website Go Beyond the Fence. Glidden, who grew up in Maine and earned his degree from the University of Maine at Augusta (where he recently returned as the 2023 Commencement speaker), started entering adaptive shooting competitions about four years ago. He used to go shooting with his dad when he was younger, and liked the independence that the sport offered. "Normally when I do something adaptive it has to involve a whole bunch of people or someone helping me," Glidden says. "With adaptive shooting I can just go up to a range. I don't need a whole bunch of help except a firearm and ammunition." Shooting from a wheelchair still presents a few challenges, though. The ranges have rough terrain that are difficult for wheelchair wheels to traverse. Glidden has a tendency to lean forward when holding heavy objects in front of him like a firearm, and the recoil from the gun throws off his stance and makes it difficult for him to lock on to the next target. [caption id="attachment_98399" align="alignright" width="325"]  Enock Glidden's updated wheelchair design[/caption] Glidden described these issues to his friend and MET alumna Kim Lawton, who knew that UMaine MET students would be more than up to the task of helping him solve these issues through intelligent engineering. Keith Berube, associate professor of mechanical engineering technology who co-teaches the MET capstone class, was thrilled to add the project to the capstone lineup. "We love there to be a community outreach portion of our senior capstone projects, but they are often difficult to come by, so we were thrilled when Kim approached us in August 2022 about this project," Berube says. "These types of projects are usually the more popular options with our students as well." Four students signed up for the project: Conor Stevens, Alexander Hyde, James Terrill and Hunter Quirrion. They met virtually with Glidden to determine what adjustments needed to be made to his existing apparatus. Stevens, who was drawn to the project because he had competed in shooting sports himself, even joined Glidden at the range in Hollis to see the technical challenges first-hand. The students narrowed their tasks down to a few key areas: a magnetic footplate to hold Glidden's feet in place, a holster, a backrest to push him forward into a more comfortable shooting position, a propulsion system with lever arm action instead of push rims and improved tires for the terrain. The students divided up the responsibilities on the project between them and got to work — and they were really starting from scratch. "The wheelchair industry is relatively small and it gets even smaller when you get to competition shooting from the wheelchair," says Stevens. "There weren't a whole lot of resources. We couldn't really use wheelchair specific components; everything for wheelchairs is really expensive. We had to come up with a way to make our own." Student teams in the MET capstone are given a budget of $150 to help them purchase needed materials. But this team had an ambitious vision for their project — so they reached out to community partners for support. T.Rex Arms provided holsters, the Advanced Structures and Composites Center donated water jet cutting services, Bangor Steel provided material and Rose Bike in Orono helped hook the young engineers up with wheelchair-sized wheels with extra heft and treads. Jim Rose, owner of Rose Bike who graduated from UMaine in 1983, says that he has helped with projects like this in the past, and hopes to continue doing so in the future. "We're always excited to do these things," Rose says. "We enjoy doing that and we try to offer some discounts if they're using used parts. It's a great way to learn. A lot of the simple technologies for bicycles can be used for a lot of other applications." Some of the elements were harder to figure out than others, particularly the propulsion system with the lever arm action, but allowing students to figure things out for themselves is part of the learning process in the MET capstone. Quirron says that the advisers in the MET capstone "let you flounder a little bit and then helped you get up and make sure you were on the right path." "This year's team did an excellent job of determining the needs of the client, exploring engineering options, and then producing solutions that met those needs," Berube says. At the end of the course, the students met with Glidden in person to add their new components to his wheelchair and watch him test it. Hyde says

the experience was nerve-wracking for the fledgling engineers. “We’re kind of working with sensitive technology because it was all engineered for him,” he says. “We didn’t really want to mess up what he had going on in his wheelchair.” Despite their nerves, Glidden was impressed with the results. “They were really very professional. They took really good care of my wheelchair and things were going to be as good as possible when they were finished,” Glidden says. “A lot of things came out of it that other people might use: the bigger tires, the pad behind my back, they made really good side guards that I wanted my entire life, the magnets on my feet plate. Most of the modifications did exactly what they wanted and I'll keep using them.” To cap off the experience, Glidden invited the team of students to a shooting event that he held with his club, the Great Equalizer Challenge, where every participant had to compete in a wheelchair. He showed off his new chair, and the students also had the opportunity to try to navigate the course in wheelchairs themselves, to see what a challenge it really is and the difference that their engineering made. “He was laughing so hard at all of us trying to move around in the dirt that normally don’t use wheelchairs. I almost went over and face-planted several times,” Stevens says. “Going through a series of stages shooting from a wheelchair, I definitely learned a lot.” The students who worked on the project say that the capstone project has come up in every job interview they have had since. Even beyond the job prospects, though, this capstone project will always be a valuable memory for these young engineers. “The biggest thing for me was seeing the big smile on his face when he was rolling around in the wheelchair with everything on. That was amazing,” Stevens says. “It was really good being able to make a difference to someone who would be able to appreciate it.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Maggie Lincoln: Building on her associate’s degree at UMaine

07 Jul 2023

One of Maggie Lincoln’s cousins earned a bachelor’s degree at the University of Southern Maine in three years, but she wants to obtain hers in two. When she graduated from Brewer High School, Lincoln, an incoming first-year University of Maine student from Brewer, Maine, also earned an associate’s degree in career studies with a small business development certificate from Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC). She obtained the degree through a program offered by United Technologies Center (UTC) in Bangor, which allowed her to spend half her school days taking college-level courses in marketing, business law, insurance, management, accounting and customer relations. “Going into my first year of college, I’ll have 60 more college credits than most first-years, which will put me in higher level classes,” she says. “I was like ‘Wow, I just finished four years of school in two! I just finished my first and second year of college. This is crazy!’” Lincoln is taking the next step in higher education and pursuing a bachelor’s degree in marketing with a minor in business education for additional experience and employment opportunities. Studying at UMaine will allow Lincoln to continue working as a hostess at Hero’s Sports Grill in Bangor, she says. Another selling point for the University of Maine System for Lincoln was the positive experiences shared by several family members, including her cousin Nate Henry, the one who graduated from USM in three years and now works for Bangor Savings Bank. “We both strive for really great things. I really see him as a role model. He got internships at a very young age and is very driven,” Lincoln says. Lincoln says she is drawn to marketing because she likes the creativity involved in it, whether the work involves designing new products and logos, crafting business plans, revamping market strategies or using social media. While working on the marketing team for Maine Coast Hemp, a company that produces full spectrum hemp oil, Lincoln’s aunt, Rebecca Henry, would constantly discuss her work. Listening to her and the passion she had for her job, where she helped to design the packaging for products, inspired Lincoln to consider a future in marketing and social media management. “Social media and digital media are very much on the rise, and everyone going into business should know how to promote a business on social media,” she says. “I grew up in a generation where everything is on social media. It’s just one of things I know and I’m good at, and I feel like it’s something I could do for businesses.” While taking courses at UTC, Lincoln was able to take field trips to local business offices like the headquarters of Bangor Savings Bank. While there, she learned about how the bank and its employees give back to the community, participating in events and offering tours of the office. As someone who has volunteered at the Bangor YMCA for years, witnessing the bank’s outreach inspired Lincoln, and encouraged her to someday work for an employer that gives back. “I’ll definitely continue going and helping out at the YMCA because I think its important to stay connected to your community,” she says. When she graduates, Lincoln says she hopes to work on the marketing team for a major events venue like TD Garden in Boston; she loves attending concerts. She also says she would enjoy teaching at a technical school like UTC. “While I was there, I definitely realized that the people who worked there not only liked their jobs, but took time outside of work hours to help kids,” she says. “I loved every minute there!” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Will Kolbenson: From the greenhouse, to the lab, to the field

07 Jul 2023

Will Kolbenson is spending his summer with spuds. Thanks to a statewide job creation program, the rising sophomore has taken his love for botany to a University of Maine lab to study potato pathogens, with work that takes him into the greenhouse and even into the field. Prior to enrolling at UMaine, Kolbenson attended Academy for Science and Design in Nashua, New Hampshire. He developed an interest in botany after experimenting with growing succulents, which “opened up entire worlds around plants.” When he realized that the University of New Hampshire did not have a botany program, he applied to UMaine through the New England Board of Higher Education’s Reduced Tuition for New England Students program, which matches in-state tuition for certain degrees. Kolbenson jumped right into the UMaine campus community his freshman year. He joined the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity, where, he admits, he has a room full of plants, including aloes, a peperomia, an African violet and a small palm tree (his roommate sometimes grumbles about the

balmy temperatures Kolbenson keeps the room at so the plants will thrive). Kolbenson was looking for summer jobs when his adviser, Michael Kinnison, sent along information about a research assistant position at associate professor Jay Hao's plant pathology lab. The position was made possible thanks to funding from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, provided by Governor Janet Mills and the Maine State Legislature to the University of Maine System for workforce development. Kolbenson rushed to apply. He didn't have research experience, but was excited to absorb as much knowledge as he possibly could through working alongside graduate students in his chosen field of study. Still, he didn't know he would be working with potatoes until his first day. "They're pretty cool plants though," Kolbenson says. "They're very resilient. You can take a potato and stick it in the ground, and if you water it enough, it will grow." Kolbenson assists with a project comparing two different bacteria that impact potato plants: Dickeya, which causes potato black leg, and Pectobacterium, which causes potato tuber soft rot. The project looks at the propensity of these bacteria to cause disease, the evolution of the infection over time, co-infections that may occur and more. Kolbenson spends most of his days in the greenhouse watering plants, injecting specimens with the pathogens and studying the way the disease impacts infected plants' stems. He also conducts experiments in the lab about the temperature and growth rate of the bacteria in the lab. "It's an awesome opportunity for me to get lab experience this early," Kolbenson says. "It's been a great opportunity." Kolbenson works closely with Xiuyan Zhang, a Ph.D. student in plant pathology. Zhang says that Kolbenson is now independently leading the experiment on the relationship between temperature and bacterial pathogenicity. "These research papers will be published before Will ends his summer work, and he will also serve as a co-author of them," Zhang says. "I believe that this summer's work experience will make him have better experiment design thinking, and also makes him special as an undergraduate student. I'm so glad to work with him."

Kolbenson's favorite part of the experience, though, has been the chance to go up to Aroostook Farm to plant potatoes at UMaine's field experiment station. "It is a lot harder work and longer days, but actually being outside in the field driving around in the trucks and planting the potatoes is pretty nice," Kolbenson says. "When we do field trips, everybody helps everybody just to make it go quicker. There are a bunch of fields that need to be planted." As an added bonus, Kolbenson has had a chance to engage with his passion for ethnobotany, the relationships between cultures and plants, by engaging with the historical and cultural roots of potatoes in Maine through speaking with older farmers in Aroostook County. Kolbenson says that the job has reinvigorated his love for science after a challenging freshman year of introductory courses. Before this summer, he even questioned whether he wanted to change his major, but after this experience, he knows he wants to stick with botany. "I've learned way more through the hands-on than sitting through lectures. I would definitely like to work outside if possible, and the lab work is interesting, too," Kolbenson says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Sustainable agriculture research tour planned for July 26 at UMaine farm in Old Town

10 Jul 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold its annual Sustainable Agriculture Research Tour on Wednesday, July 26 at the UMaine Rogers Farm Forage and Crop Research Facility, 914 Bennoch Road. The free event is geared toward farmers, crop advisors and others interested in agricultural production. UMaine agricultural researchers from the School of Food and Agriculture and UMaine Extension will present their field research on a variety of crops. Specific topics will include interseeding cover crops in vegetables, weeding tools for small and mid-scale vegetable farmers, crop rotations for hemp production, organic no-till dry bean production and variety trials on forage legumes, potatoes and dry beans. Rogers Farm is part of the J.F. Witter Teaching and Research Center, one of several facilities that comprise the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. This event is free and pre-registration is not required. Participants will receive two pesticide certification credits and two Certified Crop Advisor credits. Registration begins at 2:30 p.m., and the event will run from 3–5:30 p.m. Visit the event webpage for more details. For additional information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ellen Mallory; 207-581-2942; ellen.mallory@maine.edu.

UMaine offers unique educational event for area horse owners on July 21 and 22

10 Jul 2023

The University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture, University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Animal Health Fund will present a two-day educational event focusing on equine biomechanics, anatomy and the use of technology in the industry. The event is scheduled for Friday, July 21 at Zillman Art Museum, 40 Harlow St., in Bangor and Saturday, July 22 at J.F. Witter Teaching and Research Center, 160 Witter Farm Road in Old Town. A wine tasting and lobster lunch are also on the agenda. Presenters include German equine expert Maren Bohleber, who will lead a hands-on saddle fitting workshop; associate Extension professor and state livestock specialist Colt W. Knight, who will discuss the future of sensor technology for horses; and associate professor of animal and veterinary sciences and director of the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture Robert Causey, who will answer questions about equine reproduction, infectious diseases, anatomy, biomechanics and the economic sustainability of equine farms in Maine. Cost of the event is $85 per person, which includes the wine tasting and lobster lunch. Register and read the full agenda on the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Melissa Babcock at melissa.libby1@maine.edu or 207.581.2788.

The Star reports on UMaine partnership with HELP University in Malaysia

10 Jul 2023

The Star (Kuala Lumpar, Malaysia) reported that the University of Maine and HELP University in Malaysia unveiled a partnership that expands business and psychology educational opportunities for students at the pre-college, undergraduate and MBA graduate levels, and integrates credit transfer, micro-credentials and courses designed to equip students with the comprehensive skills and knowledge required for success in today's global market.

News Center Maine features UMaine Climate Reanalyzer

10 Jul 2023

News Center Maine featured the work of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer and Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute. Birkel discussed the warning signs presented by the recent spate of record hot weather. "There's an El Nino in the Pacific that's a contributing factor," Birkel said. "But this latest event is something that fits into the overall pattern that we've been observing towards a warming climate and we're going to be seeing more of these warm periods that do have real impacts."

Dill speaks to BDN about slugs

10 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Jim Dill, pest management specialist with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension about the exceptional activity of slugs this summer in Maine gardens due to soggy, wet conditions."They will eat any vegetation. From strawberries to leaves to hostas to bedding plants — you name it, they are not fussy at all," Dill said. WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

Media interview Lindley about community-driven food insecurity programs

10 Jul 2023

The Maine Monitor and WABI (Channel 5 in Bangor) spoke to Vina Lindley, a food systems professional at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about community-led programs to fight food insecurity in Maine, like Waldo County Bounty. According to Lindley, "They're community-led, community-driven" and are kept "Maine-style: pretty low-tech," so program costs are low, making the method easy to replicate. Lindley also told The Maine Monitor that "growing your own is absolutely a way to be more resilient in the face of all sorts of changes."

UMaine featured in Fiske Guide to Colleges 2024

11 Jul 2023

The Fiske Guide To Colleges 2024 named the University of Maine one of the "best and most interesting" four-year higher education institutions in America. The publication, authored by former New York Times education editor Edward Fiske and updated annually for 40 years, spotlights more than 300 of its top schools in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain and Ireland, according to publisher Sourcebooks. The 2024 edition includes a profile for UMaine with various facts, statistics and demographic information that also highlights its academic programs, experiential learning opportunities, facilities and extracurricular activities.

The latest edition describes UMaine as offering “strong academic programs at a reasonable cost” and a cozy atmosphere with a “friendly, medium-sized student body and an emphasis on undergraduate learning.” One senior told the publication, “In the winter, students will go around scraping the snow off other students’ cars, even if they don’t know them.” The guide also notes UMaine’s safe campus, accessible and attentive faculty, small class sizes (41% of all classes have less than 20 students), Division I athletics, over 200 student groups and numerous on-campus events. “Seeing UMaine consistently included in the annual Fiske Guide to Colleges is a testament to our top-tier academic, research and recreational offerings that create a welcoming, collaborative and engaging learning environment for learners of all interests at an affordable cost,” says President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “Thank you to the students who choose UMaine, and the faculty and staff who represent the top in their fields and ensure UMaine is among the best and most interesting institutions of higher education in New England, North America and beyond.” The most popular majors at UMaine are management, finance, marketing and psychology, according to Fiske. The guide also noted strong programs in engineering, marine sciences, Earth and climate sciences, forestry and nursing. The university’s growth in out-of-state enrollment to 39%, nearly double from eight years prior, was also commended in the publication. It also highlighted UMaine as a global leader in the development of offshore wind power with a solid honors program and “one of the top varsity hockey programs in the nation.” When describing residence halls, one student said, “First-year residence halls are very well kept and have plenty of room,” while another described dorms on campus as “very well-secured and can only be accessed with our student ID cards.” In addition to the extensive outdoor recreation opportunities available to students statewide, including Acadia National Park, Sugarloaf Mountain and Mount Katahdin, Fiske highlighted the activities available nearby. One nursing major told the publication that Orono and the surrounding area offer “cute shops, cozy libraries, indoor and outdoor ice skating, music stores, bowling, movie theaters, a variety of restaurants and vibrant museums.” The guide concluded UMaine’s profile by writing that “Combine the state’s natural beauty with an increased emphasis on top-quality facilities and more intimate student/faculty interaction, and it’s no surprise that this campus draws more die-hard ‘Maine-iaks’ each year — more and more of them from other states.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine professor Brian McGill receives top German research award

11 Jul 2023

University of Maine ecology professor Brian McGill was awarded the Humboldt Research Award, one of the most prestigious scientific honors in Germany. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation awards the prize annually to internationally-renowned scientists who reside outside of Germany. In addition to the cash award of 60,000 euros, or about $71,000, Humboldt awardees are invited to conduct research in Germany. McGill plans to spend the fall of 2024 in the laboratory of Professor Jonathan Chase at iDiv, the German Center for Integrative Biodiversity Research. “Understanding biodiversity and how human activity shapes it requires a global perspective. iDiv is one of the premier research centers in the world for these subjects. My past research visits, which usually lasted just one week, proved very productive,” McGill says. “I am excited to be able to spend more time there, engaging in deeper and hopefully more creative research on how to reach a sustainable relationship between biodiversity and humans.” A professor of biological sciences, McGill studies biodiversity at large scales of space and time across many species. His research aims to refine predictions about how species’ ranges and community structures respond to climate change and human activity. McGill’s ideas have a wide-ranging impact in his field of macroecology. His work established the importance of prediction in ecology and identified unifying principles in the field. He also pioneered solutions to conceptual issues in his discipline related to the widely-used and vaguely-defined term biodiversity. McGill and his colleagues developed a series of scientifically measurable concepts to resolve this long-standing source of ambiguity in the field of ecology and provided concrete tools to better measure and assess biodiversity in management contexts. Through the blog “Dynamic Ecology,” McGill and two co-authors shape the way research is conducted in labs across the planet and provide mentorship globally on successfully navigating academic cultures. The blog, with 700,000 visits per year, is the most widely read in academic ecology. In addition to the recent Humboldt Award, McGill was named one of the most cited researchers in the world in 2019, 2020 and 2021 by Web of Science. His research is also featured in textbooks from high school to the graduate level. McGill is a lifetime honorary fellow of the Ecological Society of America, which is bestowed to approximately 250 of the organization’s 9,000 members. He also received the 2020 Outstanding Faculty Research Award from UMaine’s College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. McGill, whose lab is part of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, has been a faculty member in the School of Biology and Ecology since 2010. He also holds a joint appointment in the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions and a cooperating appointment in the Climate Change Institute. He served until recently as editor-in-chief of Global Ecology and Biogeography and formerly as associate editor of Frontiers of Ecology and Environment, American Naturalist, and Global Ecology and Biogeography. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation sponsors distinguished international scientists and scholars and maintains an international network of academic cooperation and trust. Humboldt Research Award nominees are evaluated for their lifetime academic achievements. Past recipients include 59 Nobel Prize winners. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

UMaine Extension announces sugarbush management conference in Waterville

11 Jul 2023

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is hosting a Maple Sugarbush Management Conference from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Aug. 11 at Governor’s Restaurant, 376 Main St., Waterville. Participants will learn about optimizing the health and productivity of maple sugarbushes from research specialists and operations managers. Topics will include climate projections and risks to hardwood forests; approaches for maximizing maple forest regeneration and overall health; pest monitoring and prevention strategies; mapping sugarbushes and tubing systems to support management decisions; and financial and marketing opportunities related to enhancing sugarbush resilience. Cost of the conference is $45 which includes lunch and refreshments. For a full agenda and to register, visit the event webpage. This program is intended for maple sugarbush owners and managers, foresters, loggers and those interested in learning more about this specialized use of Maine woods. To request reasonable accommodation, please contact Jason Lilley at jason.lilley@maine.edu or call 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1495 (in Maine) by Aug. 1. This program is supported by the USDA Rural Resources Extension Act (RREA).

HortiDaily shares Kolbenson profile

11 Jul 2023

HortiDaily shared a profile about rising sophomore Will Kolbenson, who is studying potato pathogens this summer thanks to a lab position created using an award from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan.

BDN reports on UMaine alumni inducted into Maine Swimming Hall of Fame

11 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that University of Maine alumni and former members of the Black Bear Women's Swimming and Diving Team Katrine Alcaide and Margaret Honan were inducted into the Maine Swimming and Diving Hall of Fame.

BDN shares UMaine event for horse owners

11 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Sun Journal shared that the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture, University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Animal Health Fund will present a two-day educational event focusing on equine biomechanics, anatomy and the use of technology in the industry. Register and read the full agenda on the event webpage.

Media report on San Francisco Giants drafting McDaniel

11 Jul 2023

Sports Illustrated, the Portland Press Herald, the Bangor Daily News, the Portsmouth Herald, CBS Sports, WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that University of Maine junior and second baseman Quinn McDaniel was chosen in the fifth round of the Major League draft on Tuesday by the San Francisco Giants. The Sun Journal shared the Portland Press Herald report. Yahoo! Sports shared the Portsmouth Herald report. WLOX-TV (Biloxi, Mississippi) and KWCH-TV (Wichita, Kansas) shared the WABI report.

BDN reports on UMaine research about PFAS on farms

11 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News featured a partnership between University of Maine researchers and Maine organic farmer Sue Hunter, whose land in Unity, Maine, is highly contaminated with toxic PFAS, to determine how much or how little specific crops absorb the toxins. The research is focusing on three specific areas — how PFAS are absorbed by forage crops, how the chemicals are absorbed by specific market crops and if the addition of charcoal-like substance to the soil could prevent the toxins from getting into the plants at all. "These projects are not similar to anything being done in Maine so far. There is research going elsewhere in the country, but it's looking at the big commodity crops," said Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture. "Setting up an experimental condition with variable PFAS levels and past data collection like Hunter has on her farm would take millions of dollars and decades to create. "The property is perfectly suited to the types of questions that we need to ask and answer about PFAS," said Diane Rowland, dean of the UMaine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture and director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station.

BDN shares UMaine Extension 4-H Open Farm Day

13 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is hosting a free Open Farm Day on July 23 at Lone Spruce Farm, 306 Bald Mountain Road in Dedham. This is an outdoor event held in conjunction with Maine Open Farm Day.

Talty book featured on LitHub list of 'New England Noir'

13 Jul 2023

"Night of the Living Rez" by Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, was included on a LitHub list of "New England Noir."

BDN reports on UMaine inclusion in Fiske Guide to Colleges 2024

13 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that the Fiske Guide To Colleges 2024 named the University of Maine one of the "best and most interesting" four-year higher education institutions in America.

The County features UMaine professional development for culinary art instructors

13 Jul 2023

The County reported that the University of Maine brought culinary art instructors from their career tech high schools around the state to see what is happening in agriculture in Aroostook County. The program was supported by a Professional Development in Agriculture Literacy grant for $300,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded in January 2021. "I felt like Aroostook County was underrepresented in the conversation about local food in Maine," said Rob Dumas, food science innovation coordinator at the University of Maine. "[Aroostook County] is an exciting part of where Maine's local food scene is coming from," said Kathy Savoie, professor at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

The State cites UMaine Extension information about PFAS

13 Jul 2023

In an article about a South Carolina community whose health was impacted after using PFAS-laden sludge fertilizer, The State (Columbia, South Carolina) cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension showing that forage grass, which is eaten by cows, has a high potential to take in PFAS from contaminated soil, which in turn creates a risk that PFAS will show up in cows' milk.

New 4-H teen leadership program seeks to increase civic engagement

13 Jul 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is accepting applications for a new civic engagement program called Youth Have a Voice. This nine-month program is open to all Maine teens and recent high school graduates who are interested in taking a more active role in serving their local communities, the state or the country. Participants will learn leadership skills and ways to take part in civic action by completing a service project in a topic of their interest in one of three categories: board member, policy leader or public service leader. Youth board members will serve on a board, committee or advisory council where they will learn about public boards, the issues they address and how to effectively participate. Policy leaders will learn about the impact of a local, state or national policy and write a response or opinion about it. Public service leaders will learn about community needs and how to follow a strategy while coordinating a service project. Teens will be mentored by adults to assist their understanding of civic processes and ways to meet their project goals. The program will run from September 2023 to May 2024, and the total time commitment may vary from 30–80 hours depending on the type of project. Teens 14–19 years old or entering high school in fall 2023 can register for the program by completing a non-competitive application available on the program webpage. The information will be used to match teens with the resources they need to complete the program. A three-credit Early College course in leadership development at UMaine may also be available for interested students. Registration is open until July 31. The program will be limited to 16 youth. For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, please contact Andrew Hudacs, andrew.hudacs@maine.edu; 207.581.8204.

Roeder awarded 2023 Switzer Environmental Fellowship

13 Jul 2023

Mackenzie "Kenzie" Roeder, a Ph.D. student studying ecology and environmental science at the University of Maine, is one of 20 environmental scholars to receive the 2023 Switzer Environmental Fellowship. The fellowship is a program of the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation that awards environmental leaders a $17,000 cash award and leadership training to support their graduate studies and career development at 16 universities in New England and California. Switzer Fellows are chosen based on demonstrated innovation and collaboration, as well as commitment to advance social equity as a fundamental part of their environmental work. Roeder and the other 2023 Switzer Fellows join a network of over 700 Switzer Fellows working across the U.S. and around the world. Roeder's research focuses on the ecology and conservation of tidal saltmarsh endemic birds, integrating genomic techniques with measures of performance and fitness to understand the genomic architecture underlying the birds' complex traits. She is a member of both the Saltmarsh Habitat and Avian Research Program (SHARP) and the National Science Foundation-funded Genomic Ecology of Coastal Organisms (GECO) working group. Beyond the realm of research, Kenzie is deeply committed to pedagogy and community outreach. She is on the leadership team of her local chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and is the Program Manager at Hirundo Wildlife Refuge. During their fellowship year, Switzer Fellows cultivate their personal leadership skills toward advancing social equity, build relationships and expand their networks through shared experiences with the 2023 cohort and the Switzer Network. Switzer Fellows receive support throughout their careers to pursue interdisciplinary and collaborative work, positioning them for leadership in the nonprofit, government, philanthropic, private and academic sectors.

Media share UMaine Extension 4-H teen leadership program

13 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Sun Journal, CentralMaine.com and the Daily Bulldog shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is accepting applications for a new civic engagement program called Youth Have a Voice. Teens 14–19 years old or entering high school in fall 2023 can register for the program by completing a non-competitive application available on the program webpage.

BDN reports on UMaine professor emeritus expanding Craig Brook Atlantic Salmon Museum

13 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News featured Richard Jagels, an emeritus professor in forest biology at the University of Maine and a longtime angler, who has spent the past several years acquiring and expanding the Craig Brook Atlantic Salmon Museum with a treasure trove of fishing-related items. The New Hampshire Union Leader shared the BDN report.

Cosmos reports on World Meteorological Organization confirming UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data

13 Jul 2023

Cosmos reported that the World Meteorological Organization has confirmed the world's hottest recorded week, following unofficial reporting of a string of record-beating days from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer.

BDN cites UMaine Extension information about potato crop

13 Jul 2023

In an article about constant wet weather threatening Aroostook County's potato crop, the Bangor Daily News cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension saying that, despite the wet and humid conditions, potatoes are mostly in full bloom in central Maine, with Aroostook County showing plants of varying sizes.

Discover features citizen science involvement in UMaine tick research

13 Jul 2023

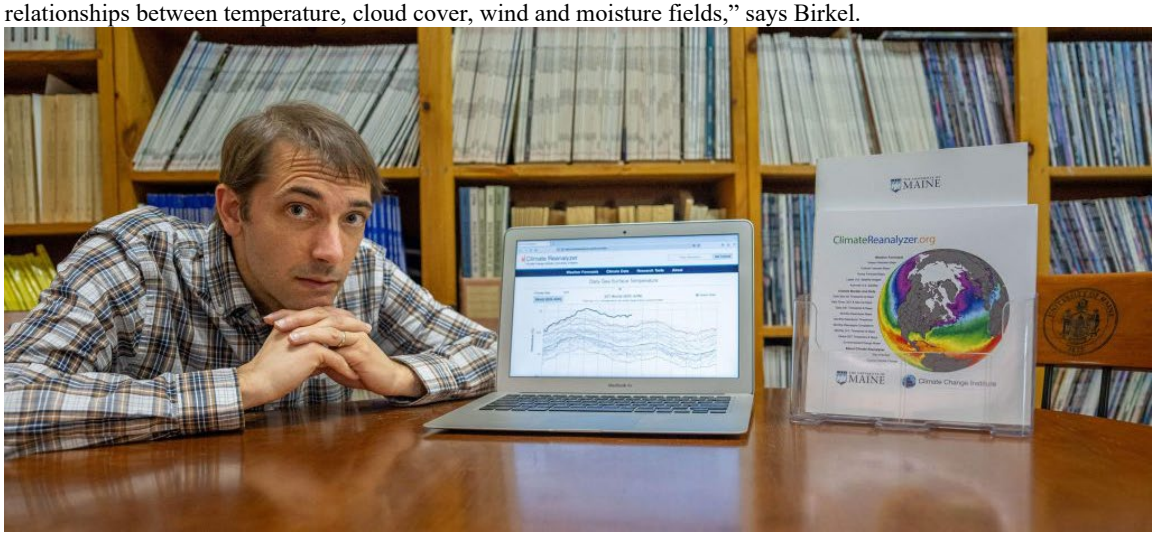
Discover reported on the Maine Forest Tick Survey, led by researchers at the University of Maine, which trained hundreds of woodland owners in Maine to systematically comb their properties for disease-toting ticks to discern how forest management may influence the pest's prevalence. The survey approach

pioneered by Allison Gardner, a UMaine medical entomologist and associate professor, and colleagues involved using active survey techniques, a first among tick community science projects. “The involvement of community scientist volunteers in data collection allowed us to quantify tick densities and habitat at an unprecedented scale. Individual research labs simply lack the capacity to visit hundreds of properties in a single year. We anticipate that this extensive data set will provide new insight into landscape features and forest management approaches that ultimately may inhibit tick-borne pathogen transmission,” Gardner said.

UMaine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer connects centuries of climate data to illustrate the future

13 Jul 2023

Figuring out how to use the wealth of climate and weather data gathered by various scientists and agencies around the world has become a herculean task. A tool developed at the University of Maine’s Climate Change Institute brings together a variety of these datasets into digestible charts, maps and animations that anyone can use — and indeed thousands do each day. Using climate data ranging from the mid-1800s to today, and models projecting into this century, the UMaine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer makes climate change comprehensible through captivating visualizations of the past, present and future environment. A centerpiece of this site is reanalysis, a type of climate datasets that estimate the state of the overall climate over past decades. Using the real-world observations from surface stations, weather balloons and satellites, this framework creates invaluable tools that researchers can use to understand climate variability and change. The datasets that are accessible on Climate Reanalyzer come primarily from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), as well as from the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and other sources. This climate and weather data visualization website features many models and maps to explore. Each map represents different aspects of variables that affect the climate, including precipitation, temperature, wind and snow. Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor at the University of Maine with a joint appointment to the Climate Change Institute and Cooperative Extension, has been developing Climate Reanalyzer since 2012 and is constantly thinking of ways he can expand the site and improve its functionality. Climate Reanalyzer can be used for research or in the classroom, and also has pages such as “Today’s Weather Maps” that give a daily snapshot of weather along with some climate context. The site also includes weather forecast maps that update throughout the day and include a slider animation feature. “You can learn so much about climate and weather by watching animations of different variables. You can see relationships between temperature, cloud cover, wind and moisture fields,” says Birkel.



Birkel ensures that variables the average viewer may not be familiar with are clearly defined on the site. At the bottom of the page entitled “today’s weather maps,” for example, is an explanation of “2M temperature,” a variable that represents air temperature two meters above the surface. The idea for Climate Reanalyzer was seeded at a research meeting in Cambridge, England, in 2011 organized by Paul Mayewski, distinguished professor and director of the Climate Change Institute at UMaine. Mayewski asked Birkel, who was at the time a postdoctoral associate learning to run climate models, if he could develop a website for the Institute that could make visualizations for a then-new ECMWF reanalysis dataset. Birkel says that while UMaine’s research collaborators in Cambridge had developed internal software for accessing the particular reanalysis product, there weren’t many tools available at the time where other researchers could easily access the data themselves. Birkel was selected for this task due to his background in Linux and coding, which began with two programming courses in high school, a C++ course as an undergraduate, and MATLAB and FORTRAN experience gained while a graduate student at UMaine. He also had been building computers from parts and learning how to run different operating systems since middle school. “That was invaluable – my experience with computers and programming from a young age,” Birkel says. “Climate Reanalyzer came up as a merger between my research interests and my ability to sit for hours and hours and write code.” Soon after getting the basic website running, Birkel realized that he could not only add other reanalyses, but also detailed weather forecasts, which “would give people a reason to visit the site everyday, not just once a month.” Birkel has written thousands of lines of code that allow for the maps on the site to automatically update when NOAA and ECMWF publish their latest datasets. In order to avoid overloading his computer systems, he staggers the times at which the maps update throughout the day. “When I add a new variable or I add a new model, I have to make sure to schedule it carefully,” Birkel says. There are multiple parts to the Climate Reanalyzer, requiring that it uses four servers to operate. Almost all of the data processing for the site is done using NCAR Command Language (NCL), which was recommended to Birkel by his postdoctoral mentor, Kirk Maasch, professor at the Climate Change Institute and School of Earth and Climate Sciences. “NCL is absolutely wonderful for data analysis and producing high-quality 2D visualizations from these datasets,” says Birkel. Birkel has received some help with writing codes for the Climate Reananlyzer from students over the years, including most recently the implementation of a 3D movable globe with image overlays. As the Maine state climatologist and a member of the Maine Climate Council, there are many ways Birkel incorporates this technology into his climate services work, too. This trove of past data contains the vital information for creating accurate predictions of the future. “This is very much integrated with both my role as state climatologist where I provide weather and climate information to Maine stakeholders, and my role as a researcher because I use Reanalyzer for analyzing datasets all the time,” Birkel says. “Many of the papers I have authored and co authored have used data accessed through the Climate Reanalyzer.” The maps on the site not only aid research, but also help the public to understand and garner support for work in climate science. Now, with an average of 2,000 to 4,000 visitors to the site each day, the research tool is gaining national attention for its usefulness. “There have been spikes, say if there was an extreme weather event, it can see several thousand [visitors] on certain days. I also see [Climate Reanalyzer graphics] on Twitter, and other social media posts, and I’m aware of a number of well known scientists who have referred to data and graphics from the site,” says Birkel. “Just in the last week, I was contacted by the Boston Globe, New York Times, Washington Post and Bloomberg about air

and sea surface temperatures." In early July this year, a page on Climate Reanalyzer showing global data caught international attention as daily temperatures began to rise to record levels, triggering a surge of site traffic, including a day with nearly 80,000 visits. UMaine's community of researchers invested in climate studies is only part of what made it the ideal place to develop this project. The diversity of workers and researchers in Maine creates an opportunity to connect this technology with students, teachers, agricultural producers and other stakeholders and the state as a whole. As the site grows, Birkel would like to make more resources available to aid teachers of all grade levels in using the Climate Reanalyzer as part of lessons on climate and weather. "I do want to emphasize the education component of the website," Birkel says. "I am working with colleagues who are helping to develop site tutorials, and who are also interested in developing learning modules that would help teachers use Climate Reanalyzer in the classroom." Birkel also hopes to increase accessibility features on the website. His focus is primarily on ensuring the accessibility of maps for those with colorblindness and other visual impairments. "A significant number of people have red-green color blindness. One of my colleagues is red-green colorblind and, sometimes, when I make a new colormap I'll send over the image and ask if he can distinguish the colors." Birkel has also been reviewing accessibility resources, and has received helpful suggestions and critique from site users over the years, which have led to usability improvements. Although the Climate Reanalyzer may appear intimidating at first, Birkel says the system truly can be used by anyone, whether a visitor is looking for updates on the big storm approaching or just viewing the daily forecast or a researcher extracting data from reanalysis. "It's like the old saying: a picture is worth a thousand words — but, if you have an animation of any pictures, it's worth ten thousand words," Birkel chuckles. *This story was written by Erin Cabral, 2023 Summer Intern at the UMaine Division of Marketing at Communications.* Contact: Sam Schipani, at samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine School of Nursing expanding programming for aspiring family nurse practitioners

13 Jul 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated on July 14. The University of Maine School of Nursing received a $1.96 million grant to provide financial assistance and new educational opportunities to aspiring family nurse practitioners who can help improve access to primary care in rural and underserved regions of Maine. The four-year grant from the Health Services Resources Administration's Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) Program will allow UMaine Nursing to provide financial support to approximately 40 students pursuing a Master of Science in Nursing degree with a family nurse practitioner concentration. It also supports a new preceptor training program, continuing education and enhanced learning offerings that will train these students to help address critical health care gaps in Maine, including LGBTQ+ care, substance use disorder treatment and services for childhood obesity and other weight-related issues. Students interested in enrolling for fall 2023 can review admission requirements on the School of Nursing website and contact program coordinator Sean Sibley (sean.sibley@maine.edu) for more information. For the 2023–24 academic year, participants in the ANEW program can expect tuition and living expenses to be $23,000, with additional funding available for those who serve as clinical and lab instructors for the bachelor's in nursing program. With the offerings funded by this grant, UMaine Nursing aims to strengthen its recruitment and graduation of diverse family nurse practitioners. The grant also will support clinical education expansion initiatives within Maine Indian Health Services locations and Federally Qualified Health Centers. "Our nurse practitioner students and alumni have always been dedicated to the care of Mainers; this support means more nurses advancing their education to address our urgent primary care needs in the state," says Sibley, clinical assistant faculty and ANEW program director at UMaine. UMaine Nursing is committed to educating family nurse practitioners who provide essential primary care services in all parts of Maine, including rural and underserved areas. The program's track record of success and dedication to excellence is reflected in its 100% first-time pass rate for family nurse practitioner program graduates. Since graduating its first cohort of masters-prepared practitioners in 1994, the school has consistently demonstrated its commitment to improving healthcare access and quality in the state. "UMaine Nursing is excited about the opportunities presented by this grant and remains committed to improving health equity and access to quality health care for all Mainers," says school Director Kelley Strout. "By expanding clinical education experiences, enhancing educational offerings and strengthening partnerships, UMaine Nursing is taking significant strides toward creating a brighter and healthier future for rural communities in Maine." This Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) Program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $485,641 — the first year of funding for a four-year grant — with 0% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Ocean color changes illuminate impacts of climate change

13 Jul 2023

Our blue planet is becoming greener, which may indicate that climate change is reshaping surface ocean ecosystems, says a global study co-authored by a University of Maine oceanographer that was published in Nature this week. The research team, led by scientists from the United Kingdom-based National Oceanography Centre and including UMaine oceanography professor Emannuel Boss, used 20 years of global MODIS-Aqua satellite data to track how the amount of green plankton at the ocean's surface changed over time. Ocean research powered by color-sensing satellites traditionally use a single data parameter derived from phytoplankton's green color. Other factors, like decaying matter and mineral particles, can also affect the light emanating from the ocean, diluting the data. This approach is thought to require more than 30 years of continuous monitoring to detect climate-driven change. The NASA-funded study published this week is the first to harness data from seven bands of color reflected by the sunlit ocean. This reduced the time required to discern changes that can only be attributed to climate change by one-third, to 20 years. The team observed that, in general, oceans are greener worldwide, especially in tropical regions, which they reported is likely reflective of changes to plankton communities. Plankton is the bedrock of the marine food webs and carbon storage. Understanding current and future changes to this bastion of marine life at a global scale can inform ocean conservation programs, the authors concluded. "It's the first evidence that ecosystems on the surface of the open ocean are changing on a large scale. Fundamentally, we're developing methods to be able to better observe the planet, to understand how the global ecosystem is changing. This is the only tool with which we can observe the whole ocean ecosystem on a quasi-daily basis, to see something about how it is changing," says Boss, who led the interpretation of color data for the study. The international collaboration behind the study grew, in part, from a NASA-funded Ocean Optics course that Boss and colleagues teach every other summer in Maine. "The Ocean Optics course changed my career trajectory. This paper, as with others I have published with colleagues I met there, would not have ever come about if not for that summer course," said the study's lead author, B. B. Cael of the National Oceanography Centre. Cael, as well as co-author Kelsey Bisson of Oregon State University, completed the course in 2015. The NASA-funded course, which UMaine faculty and colleagues have coordinated and taught in Maine since 2001, hosted up and down Maine's coast including at UMaine's Darling Marine Center. In the Gulf of Maine, Boss and other UMaine oceanography faculty including Damian Brady, hone this global, space-based approach to help identify site locations for aquaculture. "We can see the coast — the whole coast. Instead of putting resources in the water in every nook and cranny, we use remote sensing technologies and develop algorithms to tell us what is happening in the water. By using these space-based assets, we're able, in a cost-effective fashion, to tell people where to put oyster farms," Boss says. Co-author Stephanie Henson was a postdoctoral researcher in the lab of UMaine professor Andy Thomas prior to her current role at the National Oceanography Centre. Stephanie Dutkiewicz of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology also contributed to the study. A news release issued by the

National Oceanography Centre on the research is online. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

Field Day at Tidewater Farm scheduled for Aug. 12

14 Jul 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a Field Day 10 a.m.–noon on Saturday, Aug. 12 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. Come experience the gardens at Tidewater Farm, learn about UMaine Extension's work, ask gardening questions and participate in hands-on demonstrations with Extension staff and Master Gardener Volunteers. Demonstrations begin at 10:30 AM. Child-friendly activities will be provided. No registration required. With the wide variety of flowers blooming in August, visitors will enjoy a walk through the gardens and participate in a hands-on demonstration of deadheading annuals and perennials. Additional topics include how to extend the gardening season by planting vegetable crops well into the late summer and early fall and various setups for protecting your crops against frost. Representatives from the Falmouth Land Trust will be on hand to share information about local trails and nature-based programming. Learn how the Land Trust protects natural resources through conservation easements and participate in a child-friendly activity. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the UMaine Extension website or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

Calling all Mainers: UMaine researchers want to hear your opinion on browntail moth control

14 Jul 2023

Researchers at the University of Maine are seeking public input on browntail moth control methods. Devin Rowe, a Ph.D. student in the lab of UMaine forest entomologist Angela Mech, and McKenna Mollner, a master's student in the lab of UMaine economist Mariano Teisl, developed the survey to help researchers, as well as government and community leaders, understand Mainers' views on how to control browntail moths. The study may ultimately inform widespread response to this growing threat to people and plants. Maine is experiencing its worst browntail moth outbreak since the invasive pest first arrived more than a century ago. In their caterpillar phase, browntail moths shed delicate, venomous hairs that can irritate skin and lungs. The bristles are light enough to float on air, making them easy to inhale, and persist in the environment for years. The caterpillars also defoliate trees which, when occurs repeatedly, may stress them to the point of death. The anonymous, 15-20-minute survey is available online until Friday, Aug. 4. Those who complete the survey may enter a raffle for one of ten $75 gift cards to L.L. Bean. This research is funded by the National Science Foundation's Research Traineeship (NRT) program (Proposal #1922560) to support UMaine's Initiative for One Health and the Environment. Mech's and Teisl's labs are both supported by UMaine's Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station.

Media share UMaine Extension sugarbush management conference in Waterville

14 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Daily Bulldog and CentralMaine.com shared the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Maple Sugarbush Management Conference, which will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Aug. 11 at Governor's Restaurant in Waterville. For a full agenda and to register, visit the event webpage.

Media cite UMaine role in study about global temperatures impacting ocean color

14 Jul 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot, The World (Coquille, Oregon), Oregon Capital Chronicle (Salem, Oregon), Oregon Coast Beach Connection and KTVZ-TV (Channel 21 in Deschutes County, Oregon) cited the University of Maine's role in a study showing that the ocean's color has changed significantly over the last 20 years, likely as a consequence of human-induced climate change. CNN, CBS, Time, Vice, Inertia, Men's Journal and other outlets also reported on the study.

Gill speaks to PNAS about the Anthropocene

14 Jul 2023

PNAS interviewed Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology & plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, about defining the Anthropocene, a proposed geological epoch dating from the commencement of significant human impact on Earth's geology and ecosystems. "It's challenging to agree on a start date for the Anthropocene. Any one choice almost seems arbitrary," Gill said.

WFVX-TV features UMaine hotel project

14 Jul 2023

WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine will be converting two historic buildings — Coburn and Holmes Halls — and also constructing a brand new building to form a boutique hotel complex on their campus. The 28 million dollar project will be home to 95 hotel rooms, suites, café bistro and more.

Media cite Allan in news about Northwestern football hazing allegations

14 Jul 2023

University of Maine professor of higher education Elizabeth Allan was interviewed by Chicago news outlets covering reports of hazing in the Northwestern University football program. "One thing we've found that continues to emerge in study after study that we do is that there's a real disconnect between students' experiences of hazing and their willingness to label it as hazing," Allan said to Chicago Tribune. The newspaper cited the 2008 National Study of Student Hazing, led by Allan and fellow UMaine researcher Mary Madden, which was the first large-scale attempt to document hazing on college campuses

across the U.S. Allan was also interviewed by CBS 2 Chicago about an Illinois lawmaker's plan to introduce legislation creating a College Athlete Bill of Rights. The proposal would establish an ombudsman where student athletes could report hazing incidents without fear of retribution. "There is such a fear of coming forward," Allan said. She added that higher education institutions and policymakers "also need to look at shifting the culture to support the likelihood that those laws and policies will be used." The Associated Press, Inside Higher Ed and The Hill also interviewed Allan for an article about the Northwestern football hazing allegations, and Wisconsin Public Radio featured Allan as a guest on a show about this topic. USA Today shared the AP report. WGN shared The Hill report.

Lee selected for NSF early-career STEM education scholars program

14 Jul 2023

Jooyoung Lee, postdoctoral research associate with the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, has been selected for the 2023–24 National Science Foundation Quantitative Research Methods for STEM Education Scholars Program. The annual program offered through the University of Maryland pairs 20 early-career education researchers with mentors to help them develop skills in research design, measurement and analysis. It includes an initial intensive virtual training institute on fundamental quantitative methodology, on-going virtual and in-person workshops and access to quantitative expertise through regular interaction between participants and their mentors. The institute and subsequent workshops focus specifically on the data analysis skills, measurement issues and research design principles most applicable to STEM education researchers. In addition, scholars receive access to a state-of-the-art statistical computation and software server for the duration of the program. Throughout the year, scholars will design and implement a study of their choice with the support from their mentor and share their findings with members of their cohort. Lee's proposed project is titled "Cognitive Profile of Students with Learning Disabilities in Geometry Problem-Solving." Lee's application was supported by the College of Education and Human Development administration and the Office of Research Development.

Intensive English Institute students participate in Earn-a-Bike Program

14 Jul 2023

Students from the University of Maine Intensive English Institute (IEI) participated in the recently developed Earn-A-Bike program offered by the Bicycle Coalition of Maine as a way to enhance their English language skills in the community. Under facilitator Erik daSilva's guidance, IEI students, who traveled to Maine from the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Dominican Republic, Chile, the Ivory Coast, China, Japan and Russia, were able to foster meaningful connections with their peers and the community while learning valuable skills. They learned first-hand how to repair and maintain bicycles and received comprehensive instruction on traffic safety rules and regulations, equipping them with the necessary knowledge to navigate the roads responsibly. Upon completing the free program, students were rewarded for their hard work and dedication with a fully refurbished bicycle, a new helmet, bike-lock, safety lights and an at-home repair kit. Recognizing that English language learning extends beyond the confines of the classroom, IEI strives to offer its students a comprehensive experience that includes experiential learning, community building, and integration. By combining language learning, bicycle mechanics and traffic safety, the Earn-a-Bike program allowed students to experience personal growth and community integration. "Through this initiative, the Bicycle Coalition of Maine and Erik daSilva have made a lasting impact on the lives of these multilingual learners, empowering them to explore their surroundings, foster healthy habits and embrace the joys of cycling while ensuring their safety on the road," says Gwyneth Esty-Kendall, adjunct IEI instructor. Learn more about the IEI online.

11 UMaine students named Gilman Scholars in 2022–23 academic year

14 Jul 2023

An unprecedented 11 University of Maine students were awarded the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship during the 2022–23 academic year. The Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship Program encourages students from all academic backgrounds to participate in study abroad programs, gain professional skills and immerse themselves in a new culture. Since the inception of the program in 2001, more than 41,000 scholarships of up to $5,000 have been awarded to students participating in study abroad programs and internships around the world, according to the program website. The countries in which UMaine recipients from the past academic year will travel using their scholarship funds include the United Kingdom, Japan, Australia, Spain, Costa Rica and France. Sixteen students from UMaine applied for the program this academic year. Trevor Morrison, a Maine Business School student from Hancock, Maine, double majoring in finance and business information systems and security management, is one of the UMaine recipients from the 2022–23 academic year. He plans to study at University of Mannheim in Germany this fall through the exchange program UMaine has for over 10 years with this prestigious institution. "As competitive as the Gilman scholarship is, I am deeply honored that the fund chose to give me assistance for my study abroad experience. The funds will enable me to be in a completely new environment, one that I've never experienced before, surrounded by a plethora of different people, knowledge and some of the world's greatest professors," Morrison says. "The Gilman scholarship will help me to realize my full potential as an individual, student and soon-to-be professional cohort. I couldn't recommend the Gilman scholarship enough for students looking to study abroad!" The scholarship program seeks to foster students' engagement as global citizens. It's sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is administered by the Institute of International Education. The 38,000 alumni from the program have studied or interned in more than 160 countries, according to its website. "I am thrilled to see such a large cohort of UMaine students receiving the prestigious Gilman award to study abroad," says Orlina Boteva, director of the UMaine Office of International Programs. "The scholarship provides critical financial resources to underrepresented students who otherwise cannot study abroad. Studying abroad is a transformational learning experience for any college student, and I am so excited to hear from the students about their academic and cultural experiences abroad. Upon the completion of their program abroad, Gilman recipients complete a project as a way to give back to their local community and share what they have learned abroad." The late Congressman Benjamin A. Gilman, for whom the scholarship is named, served in the House of Representatives for 30 years and chaired the House Foreign Relations Committee. The program was created with his support through the International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000. With the Gilman scholarship, Brooke Toole, civil and environmental engineering major from Naples, Maine, will be able to study abroad at the Polytechnic University of Valencia in Spain through the University Studies Abroad Consortium. "I am delighted to be honored as a Gilman Scholar!" Toole says. "The connections I will be able to make through this honor are irreplaceable. The Gilman Scholarship is making it possible for me to fulfill my goals of studying abroad and I am forever grateful for this opportunity! I am so excited to share my experience with others and encourage more stem students to go abroad!" Students interested in learning more about the Gilman scholarship and in applying to major external scholarships and fellowships can reach out to the Office of Major Scholarships' Director Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler at nives.dalbowheeler@maine.edu. To explore study abroad opportunities offered through UMaine, visit the Education Abroad website and contact the Office of International Programs at studyabroad@maine.edu. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Media report on UMaine role in study on reversing effects of aging

18 Jul 2023

Fortune Well, MIT Technology Review, SciTech Daily, Medical News, Hindustan Times and News Nation noted the University of Maine's role in Harvard University-led research about a possible chemical method for reversing cellular aging, which offers a potential alternative to gene therapy for age reversal.

WFVX reports on UMaine School of Nursing expanding nurse practitioner program

18 Jul 2023

WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine School of Nursing received $1.96 million in funding to support its nursing students amid a growing need for healthcare workers. "This money will help us provide financial support to these students to lessen the burden of going back to school," said Kelley Strout, director and associate professor of nursing at UMaine. Students interested in enrolling can review admission requirements on the UMaine School of Nursing website.

Birkel speaks to BDN about flooding in Vermont

18 Jul 2023

Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about the recent storms and flooding in Vermont. "I didn't think it would be this extreme. Most people were surprised. … If this particular weather system had the plume of moisture just a little farther to the east, Maine would have had more impacts. It gives us pause that a precipitation event of that magnitude could happen here," Birkel said.

Media share UMaine call for browntail moth survey

18 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News, News Center Maine, the Penobscot Bay Pilot, Daily Bulldog, Spectrum News and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) shared that researchers at the University of Maine are seeking public input on browntail moth control methods. The anonymous, 15-20-minute survey is available online until Friday, Aug. 4. Those who complete the survey may enter a raffle for one of 10 $75 gift cards to L.L. Bean.

McKay, Pendse featured on Maine Public discussing new forest products

18 Jul 2023

Susan MacKay, senior R&D program manager at the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, and Hemant Pendse, professor of chemical engineering and founder of the UMaine Forest Bioproducts Research Institute, were featured as panelists on a segment of Maine Public's show "Maine Calling" focusing on the emerging uses of forest products in Maine.

The Hill cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in article about El Niño

18 Jul 2023

In an article about the arrival of El Niño, The Hill noted data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer showing that last Thursday's worldwide average temperature marked a new high of 63.01 degrees Fahrenheit, surpassing the records set in the preceding days.

Socolow featured on Deutschlandfunk discussing U.S. sports pages

18 Jul 2023

Michael Socolow, professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, spoke to German public radio station Deutschlandfunk about the end of the sports pages in U.S. newspapers.

BDN features explainer on UMaine Climate Reanalyzer

18 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News featured the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer, which uses climate data ranging from the mid-1800s to today, and models projecting into this century to create visualizations of the past, present and future environment.

Daily Bulldog shares upcoming UMaine Extension Franklin County Twilight Meeting events

18 Jul 2023

The Daily Bulldog shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension and The Greater Franklin Food Council will host meetups on July 18, July 20 and Aug. 15 as part of its 2023 Twilight Meeting Series. For more information or a reasonable accommodation, please contact Nick Rowley at 207.778.4650 or Nicholas.rowley@maine.edu.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in report on record heats in Death Valley

18 Jul 2023

The Associated Press and PBS NewsHour cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in a report about record high temperatures in California's Death Valley. The Seattle Times, Spectrum News NY 1, The Independent Tribune (Concord, North Carolina), The Daily Courier (Prescott, Arizona) and other outlets shared the AP report.

Q106.5 shares UMaine Extension 'Wine & Equine' event

18 Jul 2023

Q106.5 shared information about the Maine Wine & Equine Event, two days filled with workshops and a chance to mingle with fellow horse lovers and experts in the equine industry, hosted by the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture, University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Animal Health Fund. The event starts with a reception and presentations beginning at 4 p.m. on July 21 at the Zillman Art Museum in Bangor, and continues July 22 with hands-on workshops at the UMaine J. F. Witter Teaching and Research Center in Old Town starting at 8:50 a.m. Colt Knight, associate Extension professor and state livestock specialist, will present about the future of sensor technology for horses, and Robert Causey, associate professor of animal and veterinary sciences and director of the School of Food and Agriculture, will be available to answer questions about equine reproduction, infectious diseases, anatomy, biomechanics and the economic sustainability of equine farms in Maine. Register online.

AP cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data about record temperatures in June 2023

18 Jul 2023

The Associated Press cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in a report about record global temperatures in June. The Los Angeles Times, the Connecticut Insider, The National Desk, Southern Minnesota News, The Manchester Times, Yeshiva World, AM NY, WTGS (Fox 28 in Savannah, Georgia) and other outlets shared the AP report.

Hutton speaks to Spectrum News about vertical farming

18 Jul 2023

In a report about Vertical Harvest building a four-story building in Westbrook that will grow the produce, Spectrum News interviewed Mark Hutton, a vegetable specialist and associate professor of vegetable crops at University of Maine Cooperative Extension about the mechanics of vertical farming that the facility will utilize. "You're controlling all the variables, really. Temperature, light intensity, light duration, fertility, humidity — you just have complete control over the environment. Actually, they could do it inside a brick building, if they wanted to," Hutton said.

Ross embarks on Fulbright to expand estuary research beyond U.S. borders

18 Jul 2023

Lauren Ross's research on the physics of estuaries has brought her all over the world, from France to Frenchman Bay along Mount Desert Island. With her recently-awarded Fulbright, Ross will lead a team of scientists to Chile to look at these transition points between freshwater rivers and the salty sea in a place where so many livelihoods depend on the health of these complex ecosystems. The project will not only continue a budding partnership between UMaine and Chilean scientists, but the data that it gleans may even provide unique insights to Maine's estuaries thousands of miles away. Ross grew up on the sunny beaches of Florida, and sensed from an early age that she wanted to devote her life studying the dynamics of coastal ecosystems. After receiving bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics, she contacted the Department of Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering at the University of Florida to see if there would be a place for a mathematician in their department for Ph.D. work. Luckily for her, that is exactly what the department needed to study estuarine physics. "Fluid mechanics is inherently a mathematical problem," Ross says. "It's putting context and meaning to equations." Ross quickly fell in love with the work — and saw the potential for its real-world impacts. "Land-sea connections are super important because the majority of people live on the coast," Ross says. "The coasts of estuaries support coastal communities, shipping ports, aquaculture activities, and a delicate ecosystem, all of which are susceptible to anthropogenic effects such as coastal pollution and of course climate change. It's super complex, and that is what's so intriguing. Every estuary behaves so differently. Even along the same estuary the physics can change from day to day, to year to year. There is something to constantly discover." During her Ph.D. program, Ross volunteered to deliver an instrument measuring turbulence to Chilean scientists working with her adviser (despite, she admits, the fact that she "really didn't know" much about the tool). She spent two weeks with fellow scientists on a boat in the Chilean fjords and realized how much the area had to offer for her own research. "I had an awesome Ph.D. adviser that really wanted us to travel and gave us every opportunity to go and do research and get us a little bit out of our comfort zone," Ross says. "That opened my eyes to new experiences and cultures, the fieldwork opportunities helped me learn how to be more accepting and open, and to see and study remote coastal places that the majority of the world will never get to see." [caption id="attachment_98596"

align="alignright" width="325"] Lauren Ross using a Rockland Scientific MicroCTD that measures turbulence, salinity, temperature, chlorophyll and turbidity.[/caption] Ross wound up collecting data for her Ph.D. on that trip, and returned twice more to complete her project. She even presented a separate defense of her thesis at University of Concepción in Chile. After her Ph.D., Ross completed a postdoctoral program at the University of Bordeaux in France. As she was finishing up papers and projects there, Maine caught her eye as a potential next move. While there are many estuaries along Maine's jagged coastline, she noticed that few scientists were doing research in her field. She wrote a proposal for the Water Resources Research Institute to study coastal bacterial pollution in the Jordan River estuary in Frenchman Bay along with Sean Smith from the UMaine Department of Earth and Climate Sciences. "On the coast of Maine, if there's two inches of rainfall in 24 hours, shellfish harvesting is closed for two weeks because there's pollution from the land that runs into the ocean and it brings bacterial pollution. We wanted to understand if that was a good rule or not and how we could assess that," Ross says. Ross's project grew, and she was brought on at UMaine as an assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering in 2016. Since then, she has donned many more hats across the many disciplines touched by estuarine physics. She is a faculty fellow at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions and a cooperating faculty member in the School of Marine Science and at the Advanced Structures and Composites Center. She became an associate professor of hydraulics and water resources engineering in 2022. The bulk of Ross's research focuses on the circulation patterns that can lead to the transportation of harmful materials in the water, from algal blooms to microplastics. In 2021, Ross was awarded a National Science Foundation CAREER Award, the organization's most prestigious for early career faculty, for her research to improve scientists' understanding of how estuary shape, river discharge and tides influence fresh and saltwater mixing. "Don't underestimate the importance of salt: you have freshwater meeting with salt water and the mixing of those two waters of different salt content cause long term circulation patterns," Ross says. "I'm digging in a little more now to the theory behind how salt content that's really driven by tides interacting with rivers can influence circulation. This can be important for transport in the estuary as well as salt intrusion upstream" Outreach and mentorship is an important part of her work, too. She not only has UMaine students working with her on research, but also students at Islesboro High School helping collect data in the Penobscot River estuary. In fact, it was that commitment to partnerships and mentorship that helped her earn a prestigious Fulbright award in 2022. She is using that funding to return to Chile for research about how circulation in estuaries influences harmful algal blooms. This will allow her to draw links between harmful algal bloom issues faced in Chile and Maine estuaries. Starting at the end of the summer, Ross will spend four months working with colleagues she met during her Ph.D. program, who are now at the University of Los Lagos. Ross gathered her graduate students and the Chilean researcher she is collaborating with on the Fulbright project, Ivan Perez-Santos — plus other estuary scientists Ross met during her time at the University of Bordeaux in France and the University of Florida, as well as researchers from the Federal University of Rio Grande in Brazil — to spend a week together in Stockton Springs, Maine, at the end of June to collect data that will be analyzed as part of the Fulbright in Chile. During this week, Ross also organized a workshop for everyone to present their work, get feedback and talk about next steps for collaborations. "Everyone participated in fieldwork on the Penobscot River estuary and in a mini-symposium on estuarine and fjord physics aimed to better understand circulation and salinity variations in Maine estuaries," Ross says. "The goal is to draw links to other estuaries that my colleagues are studying around the world, since we are all facing similar challenges with climate change. During the week we collected and discussed some interesting data, initiated new scientific collaborations, and also had a great time!" [caption id="attachment_98591" align="aligncenter" width="700"]


Elias Pinilla, a University of Maine Ph.D. student from Chile studying coastal engineering with associate professor Lauren Ross.[/caption] Elias Pinilla is a UMaine Ph.D. student studying coastal engineering from Chile who is working with Ross on the Fulbright research. "I have been fortunate to collaborate with Lauren Ross for approximately a year now," Pinilla says. "Her mentorship has proven to be immensely valuable and enriching. Beyond her profound understanding of estuarine physics, her empathy and support were crucial during my transition and adaptation to life in the U.S. I am eager to contribute to the establishment of a robust, long-term research collaboration between Chilean researchers and the research group at the University of Maine, led by Lauren [Ross]." Ross, for her part, is equally excited about the connections that the partnership can bring between Chile and UMaine — not just because it's good for the students, but also because it's good for science. When Maine had a harmful algal bloom event in 2016, the fjord that the project will study had a similar event that made their salmon industry collapse. There could be a connection in the way these two systems behave on opposite sides of the world. [caption id="attachment_98598" align="aligncenter" width="701"]


Lauren Ross with University of Maine students and estuary scientists from University of Los Lagos in Chile, the University of Bordeaux in France, the Federal University of Rio Grande in Brazil and and the University of Florida.[/caption] "We seem to have the same problems in Maine, with the same species in the same years," Ross says. We're going to try and draw links between the two locations and also bring some of the new techniques to Chile." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Tips for protecting home air quality from wildfire smoke by UMaine researcher

19 Jul 2023

With smoke from wildfires across North America now blowing into Maine, a University of Maine researcher has tips on how to protect home air quality from

the incoming haze. Smoke particles are light enough to linger in the air for hours or days, which is how they can travel to Maine even if they ignite in farther away places. As a result, if they enter a house, they can stay there and build up over time, says Nicholas Whiteman, a Ph.D. student with the UMaine School of Earth and Climate Sciences and Climate Change Institute. And during a wildfire event, an open window won't necessarily bring in fresh air. Luckily, harmful particles can also be easily corralled by the trajectory of recirculated air flow from fans, and captured by a filter, Whiteman says. "It's simply effective because you're pairing a filter with an air mover," Whiteman says. "A personal fan with a filter fitted to its cage, placed nearby, can go a long way for protecting someone who is at risk." Installing any type of air filter — including an inexpensive MERV13 or similar product that can be found in hardware stores — and turning on any type of fan available can help remove the harmful materials from smoke that may enter your home, Whiteman says. Large scale filtration systems like Corsi-Rosenthal Boxes and HEPA systems can also be helpful, but some people may not tolerate the space they take up or the noise they generate, Whiteman says. Equipment of that size and cost isn't necessary for protecting vulnerable individuals from wildfire smoke pollutants. For example, MERV13 filters, which can cost as little as about $20, or even less from a bargain-bin, have capture rates of 75% or above, and can be as effective as a HEPA system over time. "Any filtration effort is better than none," Whiteman says. "A furnace filter from your local hardware store can be cut to size, taped to practically any fan that's already on hand, and be put to work scrubbing harmful materials from your air." Whiteman is researching the kinematics of airflow indoors and how it governs the trajectory of hazardous particles. The work involves using high-performance computing technology at the Facility for Geodynamics, the procurement for which was supported by a $350,000 award from the National Science Foundation.

BDN cites UMaine Extension information about wild blueberries

19 Jul 2023

In an article about the wild blueberry industry in Maine, the Bangor Daily News cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension noting that wild blueberry production in Maine has increased exponentially in recent decades, as the demand for one of nature's super fruits, loaded with antioxidants, has been high.

Fish Site notes Sen. King tour of UMaine CCAR facility

19 Jul 2023

The Fish Site reported that U.S. Senator Angus King from Maine toured Kingfish Maine's recirculating aquaculture system operating at the University of Maine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research in Franklin, where he viewed the company's broodstock operations as the company continues its pre-design phase for its Jonesport facility.

AP cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in story about record-breaking heat in Phoenix

19 Jul 2023

The Associated Press cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in an article about record-breaking heat in Phoenix this week. ABC News, U.S. News and World Report, Fortune, the Honolulu Star Advertiser, The Gazette (Colorado Springs, Colorado), the South Florida Sun Sentinel, Arizona's Family (Channel 3 and 5 in Phoenix, Arizona), KSL TV (Channel 5 in Salt Lake City, Utah) and other outlets shared the AP report

Media share Field Day at Tidewater Farm on Aug. 12

19 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Morning Ag Clips, CentralMaine.com and WMTW (ABC 8 in Portland) shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a Field Day 10 a.m.–noon on Saturday, Aug. 12 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the event webpage.

Savoie speaks to BDN about safety protocols when canning with vinegar

19 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to Kathy Savoie, professor at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the importance of choosing the right vinegar when preserving foods by canning. "The issue now is the vinegar products you can find have different acidity levels. You cannot substitute any of those for 5 percent acidity," Savoie said.

Livingston speaks to News Center Maine about the impact of Canada wildfires on timber industry

19 Jul 2023

News Center Maine interviewed William Livingston, director of the School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine, about how wildfires in Canada could impact the price of lumber. Livingston said that burning forests have slowed timber production in Canada, leading to a decrease in supply to the U.S., which in turn would drive up prices. "It's disrupting mills, it's disrupting harvest operations … the expectation is that [the supply of] wood from that area is going to go down this summer … which will affect the short-term price of lumber," Livingston said.

News Center Maine features Mech, UMaine browntail moth research

19 Jul 2023

News Center Maine featured research led by Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology at the University of Maine, looking at ways to control and decrease browntail moth populations by disrupting their mating patterns with specialized pheromones. "It's a public health concern as well as a forest health concern," Mech said.

Times Record cites UMaine Extension resources about gardening and preserving

20 Jul 2023

In a column about digital help for gardeners, the Times Record noted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension website is a good place to start to learn about preserving food and gardening.

Sarah Sparks named 2023 Outstanding Professional Employee

20 Jul 2023

Sarah Sparks, 4-H youth development professional at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, has been named the 2023 Outstanding Professional Employee by the University of Maine Professional Employees Advisory Council. The award is based on a professional employee's demonstrated dedication to serving others, maintaining the highest level of professional services, creating a better campus environment and public service engagement in their field and community. Award recipients are recognized for their accomplishments with a $1,000 stipend. Sparks started at UMaine Extension in 2008. Over the past 15 years, she has become one of the leaders for the 4-H Youth Development program and became the first statewide 4-H science professional in Maine. Sparks provided leadership for a number of initiatives, including the 4-H STEM Ambassador program, in which she provides training, coordinating and support for college students at various University of Maine System campuses. Since 2014, the program has reached over 6,500 youth, and more than 550 university student volunteers have completed the training. In 2014, Sparks also developed the model for the 4-H Science Toolkits, which include free curricula with associated materials available for loan to formal and informal educators from UMaine Extension offices. The toolkit lending library currently has nearly 200 individual kits in almost 50 unique STEM subjects. Annually, over 150 adults borrow the 4-H Science/STEM toolkits, reaching more than 2,000 youth with free hands-on STEM learning. Toolkit development is part of 4-H's role in the $20 million National Science Foundation grant to UMaine/Maine EPSCoR focused on environmental DNA. Sarah has facilitated workshops on the development and use of 4-H Science Toolkits at multiple state and national conferences, including the Maine Science Teachers Association conference, the Positive Youth Development Institute, the 4-H Afterschool Academy, the National Science Teachers Association's regional and national conference, and the Kids, Kids, Kids conference. Between 2018 and 2022, Sparks recruited, trained and supervised college interns to deliver weekly 4-H Summer of Science activities through more than 150 workshops at each of the five Southern Maine YMCA camps, and she led workshops for all Southern Maine YMCA camp counselors on STEM instruction. This program model has been shared widely, including through a presentation at the National Extension Conference on Volunteerism in 2019 and a published article that Sparks co-authored, "Programming Where the Kids Are: An Informal STEM Series at Day Camps to Improve Attitudes Towards Science and Engineering" in the Journal of STEM Outreach. Sparks was recognized as a regional and national award winner by the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals. In addition, she is part of a NASA-funded project called Learning Ecosystems Northeast (LENE). The LENE project includes education partners from around the northeast, including classroom teachers, librarians, science centers, 4-H, WaYS, Gateway Community Services and other educators to create learning ecosystems for educators and youth, building climate and data literacy skills. Under her leadership, UMaine Extension 4-H received $785,000 through a five-year grant, in partnership with the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. In her multiple letters of nomination for the award, Sparks was cited for her unique ability to recruit and manage volunteers, such as for the "4-H Unconference" for 4-H volunteers, National 4-H Youth Science Day and Maine 4-H Days, where she created volunteer role descriptions and put together a planning committee. As a result of the volunteer system she designed, the statewide event grew from 150 participants to over 500 participants. She is now co-leading a pilot training for librarians to partner with STEM content volunteers to bring additional programs to youth throughout the state via summer library programs. "One of the most impressive skills Sarah possesses is her ability to work with and engage volunteers in all levels of her work," one nominator noted. "Sarah has worked to increase her understanding of volunteer systems and has participated in many professional development opportunities. Sarah's quality of work showcases her understanding of how to develop relationships with our volunteers, and her ability to listen to them and include their ideas and feedback to improve programming efforts." Sparks was also commended for her exceptional service during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sparks provided leadership for the virtual 4-H summer learning program. Maine 4-H continues to offer virtual programs to young people around the state, currently providing leadership for the 4-H Summer Learning Series. "When the pandemic stopped everyone in their tracks, Sarah stepped up to lead us in delivering experiential, hands-on, virtual programs during a time of great instability — no easy task!" another nominator wrote in their letter. "Sarah's clear and visionary ideas came to life because of her leadership and facilitation skills; she was the compass that guided our team through the storm. I truly believe that we owe the significant 'pandemic success' of Maine 4-H to Sarah's ability to bring us all together to get it done." Sparks was also cited for her positive community impact. She has served on the Maine Science Teachers Association board for many years, leading the connection for UMaine 4-H between formal and informal science learning constructs. She regularly engages with local librarians, school staff, after school coordinators, YMCA, Boys and Girls club staff and other community partners. "All of Sarah's work has a positive impact on the communities in which she works, and ultimately on the children in those communities," a nominator wrote. "Sarah's ability to work in partnership with schools, volunteers, non profit organizations, and government agencies has always led to a directly positive impact on youth in Maine, often in rural and underserved communities. The skills that Sarah employs to facilitate groups of people through tough projects is the same skill she draws on to stay focused on her purpose — which is to create positive youth development opportunities for kids."

The Guardian cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in article about extreme weather

20 Jul 2023

In an article about the rise in extreme weather due to climate change, The Guardian cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer showing an increase in average global temperature and sea surface temperatures.

CTV interviews O'Reilly about Hockey Canada losing Nike sponsorship

20 Jul 2023

CTV interviewed Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business, about Nike ending its sponsorship from Hockey Canada over allegations of sexual harassment involving the latter. "Sponsorship is really an important part of revenue for Canadian national sport organizations," he said, "they really have to change, but they've got the reach. They're Canada's number one sport still, from a marketing perspective. So I think the hope from the Hockey Canada perspective is that you really have some change, you clean up your image and then down the road, Nike or one of their competitors is willing to kind of come back and take this category in their sponsorship portfolio."

Mayewski, Birkel speak to USA Today about warming world

20 Jul 2023

USA Today featured Paul Mayewski, professor and director of the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute, and Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, about data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer showing that the Earth is getting hotter. "July 4th-July 6th of this year we saw the largest daily global mean temperature increase on record for that day. There's no doubt that the continents and the oceans are warming," Mayewski said.

BDN reports on McGill receiving Humboldt Research Award

24 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that University of Maine ecology professor Brian McGill was awarded the Humboldt Research Award, one of the most prestigious scientific honors in Germany. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation awards the prize annually to internationally-renowned scientists who reside outside of Germany. In addition to the cash award of 60,000 euros, or about $71,000, Humboldt awardees are invited to conduct research in Germany. McGill plans to spend fall 2024 in the laboratory of professor Jonathan Chase at iDiv, the German Center for Integrative Biodiversity Research.

WFVX features UMaine Extension 4-H Open Farm Day

24 Jul 2023

WFVX (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) featured the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H's Open Farm Day event at Lone Spruce Farm in Dedham. "We don't do anything that these kids can't do themselves, all of it is about being involved in hands-on work so they're getting practical experience and also just getting to have fun," said Leah McCluskey, community education assistant at UMaine Extension.

Dill speaks to The Healthy about land changes and ticks

24 Jul 2023

Griffin Dill, integrated pest management professional and manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, spoke to The Healthy about how land changes have led to the proliferation of ticks this summer. "Changes in land use can result in a patchwork of forest and residential landscapes that ultimately provide new tick habitat," Dill said.

BDN interviews Hill about the impact of heat on chickens

24 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to Dana Hill, assistant Extension professor and veterinarian at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the impact of heat on chickens. "Heat is always a concern because they don't handle heat stress well. They need access to clean, fresh water at all times and access to shade," Hill said.

Dill speaks to CentralMaine.com about mosquitoes

24 Jul 2023

In an article about mosquitoes being worse this year, CentralMaine.com spoke to Jim Dill, a pest management specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, who explained that weeks of record summer rainfall meant lots of standing water, which is where mosquitoes lay their eggs.

Maine Public features Morse, Robidoux on 'Maine Calling' segment on aquaculture

24 Jul 2023

In a segment for the program "Maine Calling" about changes in Maine aquaculture, Maine Public featured Dana Morse, senior extension program manager and aquaculture lead at Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension, as a panelist, and Jaclyn Robidoux, marine extension associate at

Maine Sea Grant and UMaine Extension, as a VIP caller.

Media report on UMaine Sustainable Aquaculture Workforce and Innovation Center

24 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Maine Public and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine is designing an aquaculture center on campus that would expand research and provide workforce training to meet growing industry needs in the state, which will be called the Sustainable Aquaculture Workforce and Innovation Center. “What we’ve heard from the aquaculture industry is that they would like students to be trained on systems that resemble what they actually have in place. Our facility will be much smaller, but it will give students hands-on, technical experience,” said Deborah Bouchard, director of UMaine’s Aquaculture Research Institute.

Brewer speaks to PPH about foreign spending ban

24 Jul 2023

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to the Portland Press Herald about a proposal in the Maine state legislature to ban foreign campaign spending. “I do think it will be one of the most expensive, if not the most expensive, referenda of all time in Maine,” Brewer said. Yahoo! News shared the PPH report.

Tillotson awarded Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship

24 Jul 2023

Stephanie Tillotson, who previously received a bachelor’s degree in Spanish from the University of Maine, was awarded a $8,500 fellowship from Phi Kappa Phi — the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Tillotson, a former UMaine Honors College student of Cumberside, Maine, plans to pursue a Juris Doctor degree in immigration law at the University of Maine School of Law. Visit the Phi Kappa Phi website for more information. Phi Kappa Phi started at UMaine in 1897. As the founding institution, the university is home to chapter 1.

BDN reports on UMaine hiring deputy athletic director

26 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that Jason Grunkemeyer, a former Miami University (Ohio) basketball captain and assistant coach, has been named UMaine’s deputy athletic director. He will start on Aug. 8.

Media share UMaine Extension role in Northern Maine Fair

26 Jul 2023

The County, the Bangor Daily News and Morning Ag Clips reported that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will give talks on crops, potato pests, soil health and food preservation at the Northern Maine Fair, which will take place from Thursday, Aug. 3, through Sunday, Aug. 7, at the Presque Isle fairgrounds.

History-Computer features largest 3D printer at UMaine

26 Jul 2023

History-Computer featured that the largest 3D printer in the world is housed at the Advanced Structures and Composites Center at the University of Maine.

Media note Ciolfi presentation at 2023 Aging Well Living Well Expo

26 Jul 2023

The Daily Bulldog and Sun Journal reported that Mary Lou Ciofli, senior program manager at the University of Maine Center on Aging, will be the keynote speaker at the 2023 Aging Well Living Well Expo, presented by SeniorsPlus. The expo will be held from 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29, at the Grand Summit Hotel and Conference Center at Sunday River in Newry, Maine.

WABI covers UMaine golf fundraiser for student athletes

26 Jul 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine hosted its seventh annual golf fundraiser to benefit student athletes. WLOX-TV (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi), KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) and WBRC-TV (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama) shared the WABI report.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in article about July heat waves

26 Jul 2023

The Associated Press, Politico, The Economist and Carbon Brief cited calculations from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer about July 2023 heat waves. The Climate Reanalyzer data show that the global average temperature has been hotter in 22 of the first 24 days of

July than on any other single day recorded. Spectrum News 1 shared the AP report.

Savoie speaks to BDN about summer produce

26 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Kathy Savoie, professor at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about summer produce in the state. “I believe we have a robust production of Maine foods. People here used all sorts of growing methods and now we are getting the hot, sunny days we need,” Savoie said.

Media feature UMaine Dining Kiwibots

26 Jul 2023

Mainebiz and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) featured the University of Maine Dining’s Kiwibots, robots programmed with GPS systems which will allow them to deliver food on the UMaine campus this fall. The Kiwibots are the latest project between UMaine Dining and food management service company Sodexo. "The Kiwibot team is mapping the whole campus and after the mapping is finished each robot will have destinations that they know they can travel for pick up and drop off spots," said Santiago Rave, innovation manager for UMaine Dining. The Bangor Daily News shared the WFVX report.

Newsweek cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data about melting ice in Antarctica

26 Jul 2023

In an article about Antarctica’s rapidly melting ice, Newsweek cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer from July 19 showing that there is almost 2 million square kilometers (about 772,000 square miles) less sea ice in Antarctica compared to the same point last year. Salon cited the Newsweek report.

Mount Desert Islander shares UMaine Extension vermicomposting workshop

27 Jul 2023

The Mount Desert Islander shared a free workshop on vermiculture at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Hancock County at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 12. Master Gardener volunteers Lavon Bartel and David Struck will explain the value of composting with worms. Registration is required by calling 207.667.8212 or emailing sue.baez@maine.edu.

Maine Public cites UMaine Extension gardening resources

27 Jul 2023

Maine Public cited resources from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension in a segment for the show Maine Calling about summer gardening advice.

Morning Ag Clips features Leahy research about managing invasive species

27 Jul 2023

Morning Ag Clips featured research co-authored by Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions of natural resources at the University of Maine, about the factors motivating family forest landowners to manage invasive species on their land.

Boothbay Register features Olivera research about white shark DNA

27 Jul 2023

The Boothbay Register featured the research of University of Maine postdoctoral student Kyle Olivera, who is working at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences to develop detection methods for white sharks. Part of his work is quantifying how much eDNA white sharks shed into the environment, as well as how that eDNA moves and degrades, to better understand how eDNA can be used as a tool for monitoring sharks. “Each species is going to be different in terms of how much eDNA they shed, which also changes with how active an organism is, and what happens to that eDNA once it’s shed. We’re trying to understand all of that while at the whims of the ocean,” Olivera said.

Socolow speaks to PPH about Portland Phoenix’s last issue

27 Jul 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Michael Socolow, professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, about the Portland Phoenix releasing its last issue. Socolow said that the loss of an alternative news source in Portland at this time — when Maine’s largest city is growing and residents need to be well-informed — is disheartening, but is also a “sign of the times” in the media business. “The Portland Phoenix played an important but understated role in Maine journalism. It performed a vital political and civic function in the city of Portland, covering local politics in depth and in alternative ways from other media,” Socolow said. Yahoo! Finance shared the PPH report.

New York Times features Talty’s ‘Night of the Living Rez’ in article about Maine books

27 Jul 2023

The New York Times featured “Night of the Living Rez” by Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, in an article about

"[reading] your way through Maine."

Kaye speaks to Next Avenue about rural caregivers

27 Jul 2023

Next Avenue interviewed Lenard Kaye, director of the University of Maine Center on Aging and professor in the University of Maine School of Social Work, about the increased burden on caregivers for elderly people in rural areas. "Immediately available, locally residing individuals who can assist are at a premium. But yet it remains a family affair, putting those who are locally situated under the gun to step up and deliver it under whatever stress and strain they may feel. … We would benefit greatly from more preparation and more appreciation for the complexities and the responsibilities that caregiving gives, such that we don't minimize it and we appreciate the fact that it's likely going to be knocking at each and every one of our doors at some point in our lives," Kaye said.

Washington Post highlights Field's work on Appalachian Trail

28 Jul 2023

The Washington Post featured the work of David Field, professor emeritus at the University of Maine School of Forest Resources, in an article about the expanding and caring for the Maine section of the Appalachian Trail.

New Scientist cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data about July

28 Jul 2023

In reporting about how July 2023 is poised to be the hottest month on record, the New Scientist cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer suggesting that this past week has been the hottest on record.

Spectrum News speaks to Brewer about Biden visiting Auburn, Maine

28 Jul 2023

Spectrum News interviewed Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about President Joe Biden visiting Auburn, Maine. Brewer said that the fact that Biden is coming to Maine at all is "a little bit of a head scratcher," but noted that Auburn has a long history of organized labor and is an immigrant community, things Biden often references. "It's got a lot of the things he's emphasized in the past. It would make sense if there was more than one electoral vote," Brewer said.

Brewer speaks to WGME about voter turnout for Maine ballot

28 Jul 2023

WGME-TV (CBS 13 in Portland) and spoke to Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about how the eight questions on the upcoming Maine ballot may lead to higher voter turnout. "Generally, when you have that many questions, it's a smaller subset of those, they get the most attention and also attract the most money," Brewer said. WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the WGME report.

CNBC cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in article about protection from extreme heat

28 Jul 2023

In an article about the steps that people can take to protect themselves from extreme heat, CNBC cited information from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer showing that globally, July 6 was the hottest day ever recorded, and during the week starting July 3, the record for the highest average temperature on Earth was broken four days in a row.

WFVX interviews Dill about efforts to track the Japanese beetle

28 Jul 2023

WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) spoke to Jim Dill, pest management specialist with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the Japanese beetle. "This year I've seen them feeding on plants that I've never seen them feeding on like azaleas, and actually rhubarb leaves, which is highly unusual for them. I have no reason as to why they are doing that," Dill said. To get rid of the beetles, Dill recommended placing special traps far enough away from what you want to protect, placing them in soapy water and using lawn friendly nematodes or insecticides.

Maine Public speaks to MacRae about PFAS in wastewater treatment plants

28 Jul 2023

Maine Public interviewed Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, about new testing that has found "forever chemicals" at every wastewater treatment facility in Maine. MacRae told Maine Public that the numbers are consistent with what's being found in other parts of the country. "There's a lot of data coming out of Maine that doesn't exist for other states. So we're more knowledgeable about what the conditions are here, but I'm not getting a sense from the numbers that I've seen that we're a particularly bad example," MacRae said. MacRae also noted that filtering wastewater will be more challenging because of the other contaminants present.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data about sea surface temperatures

28 Jul 2023

The Washington Post and Bloomberg used data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in a report about record-breaking ocean temperatures.

AP speaks to Dagher in report on UMaine role in offshore wind plans for Maine

28 Jul 2023

The Associated Press reported that Maine will procure at least 3,000 megawatts of electricity from offshore wind turbines by 2040 under a bill signed Thursday by Gov. Janet Mills, enough to power about half of the state's electricity load. State officials hope companies will utilize technology from the University of Maine, which has been pioneering precast floating turbines and has tested prototypes off the coast. "The clear message to the clean energy industry is that Maine is ready to lead, come work with us," said Habib Dagher, director of the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Spectrum News NY 1, ABC News and Fox News shared the AP report.

Inaugural whoopie pie contest planned for Northern Maine Fair

28 Jul 2023

The Aroostook County Extension Homemakers will host a new event at the Northern Maine Fair: The Flavor of Aroostook Whoopie Pie Contest. The contest will be held on Thursday, Aug. 3, at the fairgrounds located at 84 Mechanic St., Presque Isle. Entries will be accepted at the Agriculture Exhibition Hall from 4–4:30 p.m. with judging to begin at 4:35 p.m. Whoopie pies must represent Aroostook County in some way. Points will be awarded based on taste, appearance and how well the whoopie pie represents Aroostook County. Cash prizes will be awarded: $75 for first place, $50 for second and $25 for third. There is no fee to enter the contest; however, participants must pay entrance to the fair. For more information, contact Janie Schaefer at schaeferbrianjs@gmail.com or Lisa Fishman at lisa.fishman@maine.edu.

PPH cites UMaine Climate Futures Report in article about Portland heat wave

31 Jul 2023

In an article about the heat wave in Portland breaking after 32 days, the Portland Press Herald cited information from the University of Maine's 2020 update to its Maine's Climate Future report showing that a changing climate could continue to transform Maine and its waterfronts in the coming years.

BDN, The County report on Zillman passing

31 Jul 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Mainebiz and The County reported that Donald Zillman, former University of Maine at Presque Isle president and namesake of the University of Maine art museum in Bangor, died Thursday at the age of 79.

PPH speaks to Brewer about Biden executive order

31 Jul 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about the executive order that President Biden signed in Maine Friday encouraging companies to manufacture what is invented in the United States. "Keeping American jobs in America is a winning message for any candidate," Brewer said.

Bishop speaks to Harpswell Anchor about teacher shortages

31 Jul 2023

The Harpswell Anchor interviewed Penny Bishop, dean of the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine, about teacher shortages in Maine. Bishop said that Maine's relatively low wages have made it harder for school districts across the state to remain fully staffed. "I wouldn't write off paying people more, because it matters a lot," Bishop said.

Dill speaks to PPH about rise in Lyme disease

31 Jul 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Griffin Dill, integrated pest management specialist and director of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Tick Lab, about the rise in Lyme disease in Maine. "Conditions were good for deer tick activity, but people were not outdoors as much during June, so there was not as many chances for ticks to interact with humans. … When the weather is hot and dry, the nymphs are susceptible to drying out, but with the ground saturated, the leaf litter contains high levels of moisture, which allows the ticks to quest for longer periods of time than they might have been able to otherwise," Dill said. The University of Maine landed $6.2 million in federal funding to research ways to control tick populations, identify emerging tick species and expand public health efforts. Dill said the research tied to the federal money is expected to begin this fall. The Sun Journal shared the PPH report.

Maine Public features Calderwood discussing wild blueberries

31 Jul 2023

Lily Calderwood, Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, was a panelist on Maine Public's show Maine Calling for a

segment about wild blueberries in Maine.

Handley featured on News Center Maine's Gardening with Gutner

01 Aug 2023

David Handley, vegetable and small fruit specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was featured on News Center Maine's show Gardening with Gutner discussing how to grow wild blueberries in backyard gardens. "The lowbush blueberry is what we consider the wild blueberry of Maine. So when we're talking about those classic cans of Maine wild blueberries for your pies or nowadays the frozen berries, those are coming from the lowbush, which is a different species, mostly grown in the Down East area, harvested mechanically or with rakes. The highbush blueberry is a different species, although it is also native to Maine. This one is largely used for pick-your-own farms or retail stands," Handley explained.

Sydney Morning Herald uses UMaine Climate Reanalyzer sea ice data

01 Aug 2023

In an article about scientists not knowing why Antarctica is missing an Argentina-sized amount of sea ice, the Sydney Morning Herald used visualizations of Antarctic sea ice from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer. They also noted that from the Climate Reanalyzer showing that on July 6, the global daily average temperature hit 17.2 degrees – the hottest ever recorded, surpassing the 17.18-degree record set just days earlier on July 4 and again on July 5.

Maine Monitor reports on UMaine drug overdose data

01 Aug 2023

The Maine Monitor reported on the latest monthly overdose report from the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and the Maine Office of the Attorney General, which shows that the number of Mainers dying from drug overdoses appeared to decrease in the first half of the year. News Center Maine, the Bangor Daily News and Seacoastonline shared the Maine Monitor report.

Zillman Art Museum hosts talk with featured artist Sochor Aug. 3

02 Aug 2023

The University of Maine Zillman Art Museum will host a free public presentation with featured artist Lesia Sochor 5:30–7 p.m. on Aug. 3 at 40 Harlow St., Bangor. Sochor will discuss her paintings inspired by textiles, clothing and the meanings we assign to them. Sochor's works are showcased in her popular solo exhibition titled "Body Language," on view through Sept. 2 at the museum. Reception will be at 5:30 p.m. followed by artist talk at 6 p.m. The event is supported in part by a grant from the Onion Foundation.

President Ferrini-Mundy testifies at 2023 Farm Bill congressional listening session in Freeport

02 Aug 2023

University of Maine President and University of Maine System Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation Joan Ferrini-Mundy made remarks at a listening session of the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture in Freeport hosted by committee chairman Rep. Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-Pa.) and Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-Maine) on July 31. The listening session was held to gather input from Mainers on policies, programs and investment to prioritize in the 2023 Farm Bill. "The reauthorization of the Farm Bill, including increased funding, will position our land grant university for even greater state and national impact, including through UMaine's Cooperative Extension offices statewide and our Maine Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Station research farms, forests, gardens and greenhouses," Ferrini-Mundy said. "These organizations work with folks across this room today and we couldn't be more proud than to be representing the importance of agriculture in the state of Maine." Ferrini-Mundy highlighted UMaine's research, outreach and workforce development initiatives to advance farms and food systems, such as the Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center; the world-class potato breeding program at Aroostook Farm, which developed the successful gourmet potato variety, the Caribou Russet; and the Wabanaki Youth in Science (WaYS) program, which supports Indigenous student persist in STEM and is funded through the USDA's New Beginnings for Tribal Students program. She noted that past federal funds secured by Sens. Collins and King are being used for the establishment of a PFAS testing lab and technical assistance program for farmers, set to open this year, and called for more federal investment in university agriculture research facilities. Ferrini-Mundy also emphasized that UMaine's "signature strengths" including climate science, clean energy technology, biobased material development, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine sciences including aquaculture, food systems and more are closely connected to the needs of Maine and the federal programs authorized by the Farm Bill. The listening session was moderated by Hannah Carter, dean of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. A video recording of the listening session can be found on the House Committee on Agriculture website and on YouTube; Ferrini-Mundy's testimony begins at 12:08 and ends at 14:47. In a formal written testimony to the committee, Ferrini-Mundy, who also chairs the Council of Presidents of the Association of Public & Land Grant Universities (APLU) further detailed the importance of investments in land grant education, research and service to the success of Maine and the nation. "Perhaps nowhere is the success of agriculture and dependent rural communities more intertwined with the activities and capacity of a land grant university than here in Maine with our flagship university," she wrote. "Undergirding Maine's and our nation's farms and food systems is cutting-edge research and a skilled, highly innovative workforce produced by America's land grant universities. This country's ability to maintain our global leadership and economic competitiveness and ensure equitable prosperity for all people; address climate change and cyberthreats, advance rural communities, food safety and security, and energy independence; and solve problems not yet imagined is dependent upon the investments in our institutions you can help make possible in the next Farm Bill."

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in reporting on July 2023 breaking heat records

02 Aug 2023

The Associated Press, Fox Weather, IFL Science and The Business Standard cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in reporting about how July 2023 broke records as the hottest month on record. The AP reported that climate change made July hotter for "4 out of

5 humans on Earth." Yahoo! News, Anchorage Daily News and SBS News shared the AP report.

Sporer speaks to News Center Maine about neo-Nazis buying property in Maine

02 Aug 2023

News Center Maine interviewed Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology at the University of Maine, in a report about Neo-Nazis buying Penobscot County land to build a "white supremacist community." "All of them ended in some sort of violent interaction. These spaces provide an escape from the mainstream, where they can spew their rhetoric without being doxed or outed from the community," Sporer said.

WABI interviews Pitt about odds and strategy of winning Mega Millions

02 Aug 2023

WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) interviewed Nigel Pitt, University of Maine mathematics professor and mathematics and statistics department chair, about the odds of winning the Mega Millions jackpot. "For winning everything, all five numbers up to 70 and the golden one, you've one chance in 302,575,350. So, it's slim indeed … If you pick something that's like a birthday, then it increases the chance that somebody else with the same birthday is going to pick the same number. So you can argue that there's a slight advantage to picking something that's recognizably a birthday or anything that's of personal significance to you," Pitt said.

UMaine, USM experts form one-stop-shop for aging policy research

03 Aug 2023

Experts from the University of Maine and University of Southern Maine have formed a one-stop shop for independent research, analysis, guidance and technical assistance for policy issues related to aging and older adults. The Consortium for Aging Policy and Research (CAPRA) is available for exploring a wide variety of issues relevant to aging Mainers, including health care, transportation, housing and social services. CAPRA co-directors and staff will explore policy solutions at the state and national levels. By bringing cross-campus expertise on aging-related issues, the group aims to engage government officials, business owners and other public and private sector leaders on policy decisions impacting older people, and ensure that everyone is better supported as they age. "Despite that we are all aging, issues relevant to current and future older Mainers often go unnoticed in policy discussions. As an older state, Maine is well-poised to be a leader in modeling an 'aging-in-all-policies' approach," says Mary Lou Ciolfi, co-director of the consortium and senior program manager with the UMaine Center on Aging. "With access to deep aging and policy expertise, this new cross-campus partnership is ready to support that effort." Patricia Oh, senior program manager from the Center on Aging, and Kimberly Snow, senior research associate of the Cutler Institute, also serve as co-leaders of the consortium. Other participating researchers include Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging; Jonathan Rubin, director of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center; Kris Sahonchik, director of the Cutler Institute; and UMaine's Institute of Medicine. Visit the consortium's website for more information. Anyone interested in working with the consortium can contact Ciolfi, Oh, or Snow at marylou.ciolfi@maine.edu, patricia.oh@maine.edu, and kimberly.i.snow@maine.edu respectively. Contact: Marcus Wolf; 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Ivan Young: Interning at the foundation that awarded him a scholarship

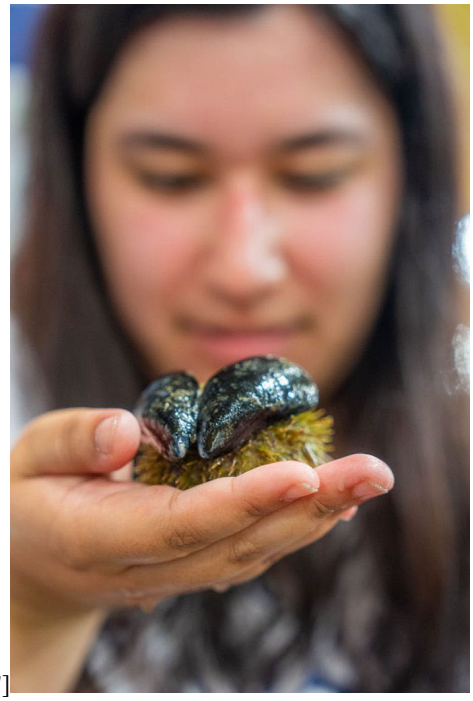
03 Aug 2023

In 2020 when he was a student at Camden Hills Regional High School, Ivan Young of Camden, Maine received a scholarship from the Worthington Scholarship Foundation to help him pursue a college degree. Three years later, he is working for the organization that helped as a summer business analyst intern. For his full-time internship, Young, who is majoring in business information systems and security management and marketing, collects, organizes and prepares applicants' information for analysis, and presents reports to the foundation's board. He says it feels good to be working for an organization that has done so much for the community and his personal, educational journey. Read the full story on the Maine Business School website. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

Katarina Minas: Teaching with aquaponics

03 Aug 2023

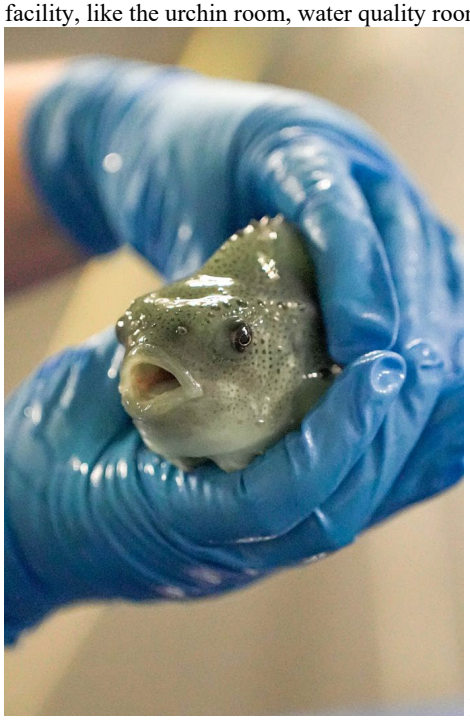
For Katarina Minas, aquaponics is more than an innovative system to produce food — it is a tool for teaching. Minas has spent her time at the University of Maine figuring out how to integrate her love of marine sciences and teaching through aquaponics, culminating in a project this summer to create a virtual tour of UMaine's aquaculture facilities for Wabanaki students throughout the state. Aquaponic systems, in which waste produced by farmed fish supplies nutrients for plants grown hydroponically in the water, brings together a variety of skill sets. Setting up tanks and equipment takes engineering skills, raising the fish brings in marine sciences and growing plants requires an understanding of plant biology and food systems. When Minas was in high school in Cranston, Rhode Island, she participated in a technical program with a focus on aquaculture. Minas likes the balance in aquaculture of learning about fishes' physiology while also developing practical skills to take care of them. "My middle school was right next to the high school, and we often did tours to the high school," Minas says. "When we looked at the aquaculture program, I was like, 'I want to be here so bad.' It was like being in an aquarium, but in a high school



setting.” [caption id="attachment_98781" align="alignright" width="300"] Katarina Minas examining a specimen at the Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research (CCAR).[/caption] Minas decided to attend UMaine after learning about the prestigious marine sciences program, and now studies marine science with a concentration in marine biology and aquaculture. She met M. Scarlett Tudor, education and outreach coordinator of the Aquaculture Research Institute (ARI), through a professor of one of her aquaculture classes. Tudor’s work in science education intrigued Minas, so she asked if there were projects through ARI that she could take on. Tudor happily accepted the help. Minas’ first project was to create useful graphics about aquaculture that are suitable for kids on basic skills, like how to acclimate a fish to a tank, run a water quality test or quarantine a sick fish. Minas says she watched “a lot of YouTube videos” to learn how to create simple graphics that would resonate with young minds. “I like to play around and see what’s best,” Minas says. “For me I like to see it all colorful and see all the pictures and everything. I think it’s important to learn that way.” Tudor was impressed with Minas’ ingenuity and creativity, in addition to her science knowledge and skills. “This work that we do is in this intersection between science and education,” Tudor says. “She can make some of these concepts more tangible to kids. She has shown an aptitude and even more important for me an

interest in doing this sort of work.” [caption id="attachment_98784" align="alignright" width="300"] Katarina Minas and Melissa Malmstedt, aquaculture research and education program coordinator and industry recruiter at the Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research (CCAR).[/caption] Tudor and her colleagues earned a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for a new project integrating aquaponics into UMaine Cooperative Extension 4-H programs (which is personally resonant with Tudor, as a former 4-Her herself) and bring the project to Wabanaki youth. “We spent the last four years having conversations with tribal groups to understand where their needs were and how UMaine could support those things. We had clear interest from the tribes around this and we do a lot of work with kids in aquaponics. The way we think about aquaculture is broad, including habitat restoration and fisheries, so there is already this context in which it is culturally relevant and is of interest to the tribes.” When it was time to start implementing the project, Tudor knew she wanted Minas on the job. “She’s passionate about doing this,” Minas says. “It takes a long time to form these relationships and having one student that isn’t fit for the program can be detrimental. Having students that I know are vested in Indigenous perspectives and how we can really co-create research is really critical for a student to be successful. Kat was an easy choice.” Minas is spending the summer working with ARI and the Wabanaki Youth in Science (WaYS) program to design lessons about aquaponics fisheries and habitat restoration. She is also creating a virtual field trip for UMaine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture (CCAR) in Franklin so that even kids from the furthest northern reaches of Maine will be able to

connect with this coastal facility and the work that it does. For the tour, Minas uses special equipment to take 360-degree photos of the various rooms at the facility, like the urchin room, water quality room and — of course — the aquaponics room. [caption id="attachment_98797" align="alignright" width="300"]



Lumpfish.[/caption] Minas says her personal favorite, though, is the lumpfish room. “They are so cute,” Minas says. “They’re a globe-shaped fish and they have these pelvic fins underneath and they can suck onto the wall. Everyone loves them.” Once Minas collects the images, she uses a program called Thinglink to tag the organisms. She also plans to record interviews with workers at the facility so virtual field trippers can learn more about the experience of working at CCAR. “We hope to spread it to teachers so they can show it to their students that this is a possible career pathway that you can do,” Minas says. Minas has also been meeting with tribal leaders and schools to make sure that the program is culturally relevant to the students who are using it. “Every week with this internship, I am relearning,” Minas says. “For example, we had these weekly seminars, and we had one about climate change and incorporating Indigenous knowledge. We have been traveling to different tribes around Maine. It helps me see a new perspective of it.” Minas will incorporate everything she learns this summer into her capstone project this upcoming semester, which she will complete before she graduates in December 2023. After graduating, she hopes to continue teaching youth about science by attending graduate school for a masters degree in science education. [caption id="attachment_98799" align="aligncenter" width="725"]

CCAR student employees Daniel Russell, Xander LaComb and Katarina Minas.[/caption] “I learned marine science, and now I want to learn how to teach people science,” Minas says. “I hope to create more awareness that marine science doesn’t have to be just research. You can do so many other things, like make your own aquaponics tank and grow your own tomatoes and fruits and vegetables and stuff like that.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Center on Aging launches online Age-Friendly Resources hub

03 Aug 2023

The University of Maine Center on Aging has launched the Age-Friendly University Resources (AFU Resources) hub, a centralized repository for educational materials, services, events, volunteer opportunities and other activities for older people offered by UMaine, the University of Maine at Machias and University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The various resources are sorted into categories, which websites users can find and select on the website homepage. Each activity has a location, cost, link, contact information and details about what is being offered. Beyond resources, the UMaine AFU Resources hub also outlines the history of the Age-Friendly movement and how it has propelled universities toward offering more inclusive services. The website helps promote personal and career development in the second half of life and intergenerational learning. These are two of the 10 principles of age-friendly universities, which UMaine and all Age-Friendly Universities follow. "The roster of resources that have been organized on this website confirms in no uncertain terms the significant progress being made at Maine's flagship university to provide older adults in the larger community with an exceedingly rich array of opportunities to benefit from," says Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging and professor of social work at UMaine. The website will be continuously updated as new older adult engagement programming becomes available.

Wired cites data from the UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in article about marine food webs

03 Aug 2023

In an article about global record heat impacting marine food webs, Wired cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer illustrating trends in daily sea surface temperature.

KUOW cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in reporting about ocean temperatures

03 Aug 2023

In an article about ocean heat waves in the Pacific Northwest, KUOW cited information from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer showing that global ocean temperatures reached record highs in 2023, with the surface of the world's seas in April nearing an average of 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Jefferson Public Radio shared the KUOW report.

NPS features Brawley's research in Acadia National Park

03 Aug 2023

The National Park Service featured Susan Brawley, professor emerita of plant biology and marine biology at the University of Maine, and her research career studying seaweed and algae in Acadia National Park for the Summer 2023 issue of Park Science magazine. "The rocky shores of Acadia National Park harbor a thriving community of marine algae. That can tell us something about the past and future of life on Earth," Brawley said.

UMaine researchers using precision technology to help Maine dairy farmers

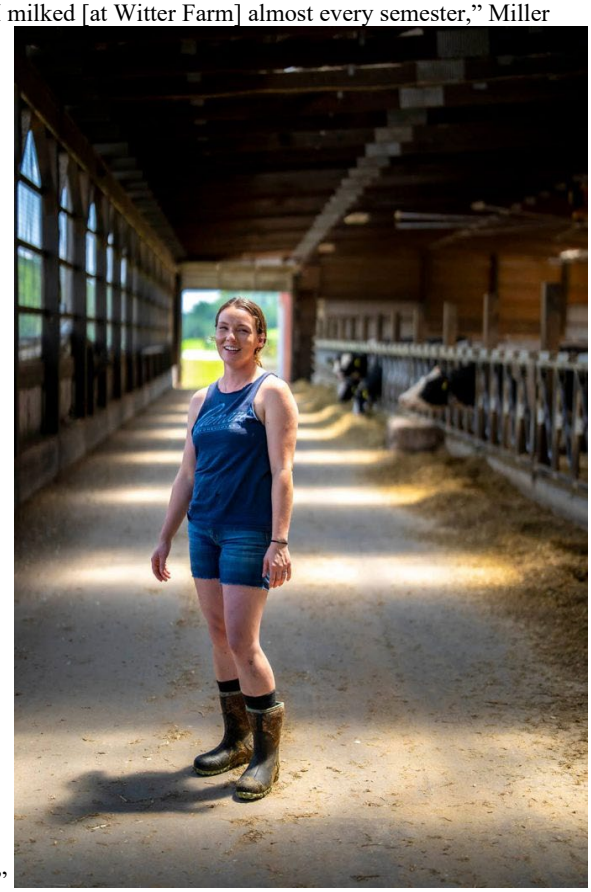
03 Aug 2023

With new developments in so-called "precision technology," farmers can use high-tech tools to learn more about their land and animals — and improve their practices. Glenda Pereira, assistant extension professor and dairy specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and assistant professor of animal science at the School of Food and Agriculture, is leading a project with Maine dairy farmers that uses electronic ear tags that track cow movements with the hopes of learning more about how to best care for them. The project brings together UMaine researchers, alumni and the dairy farming community for research that is just as much about interpersonal connections as it is about connecting to new technology. Pereira joined the staff at UMaine as a dairy specialist about two years ago. Coming from Minnesota, the Maine dairy scene was somewhat familiar — she had worked with many organic dairy farms, for example — but also unique in the diversity of its systems. "I've lived in a lot of places, but specific to Maine, there's so much potential for diversification — not only in a production system but if you're wanting to diversify just outside of producing milk, you can sell beef, you can make products on your farm and you can sell those products to the consumers, there's a lot of potential for agritourism," Pereira says. "Maine has the clientele and consumerism to support local farms to be able to have that opportunity."

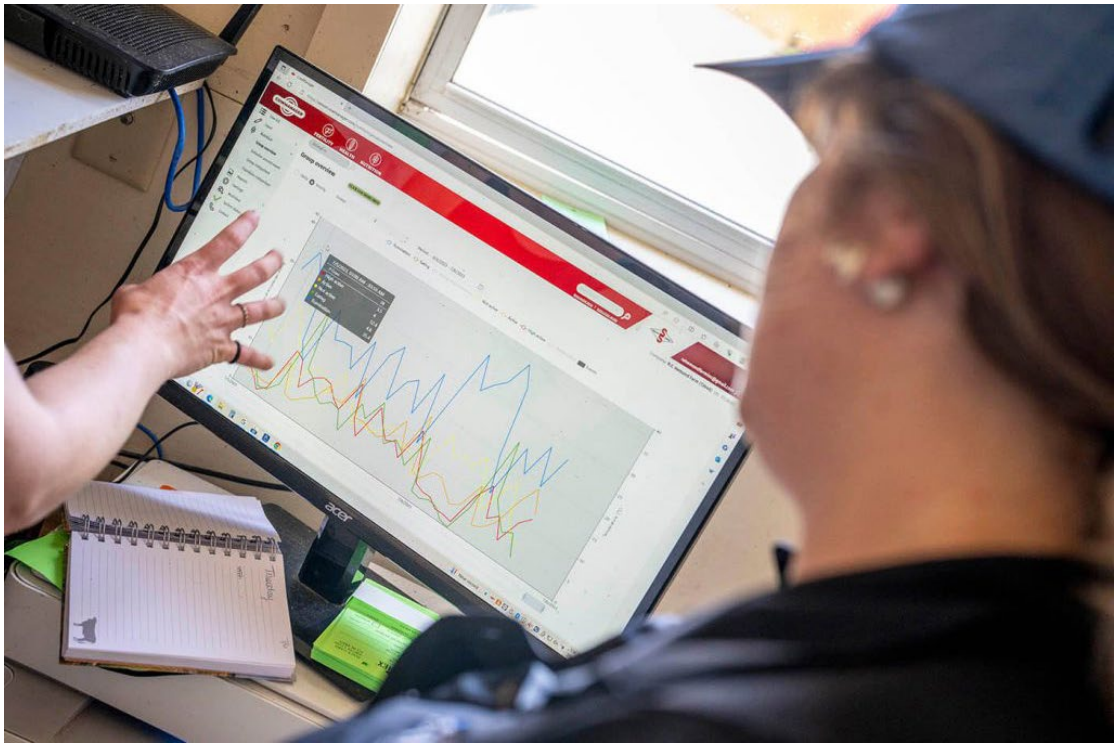
Before arriving at UMaine, Pereira also had some research experience looking into the use of precision technology on dairy farms. Her master's work at the University of Minnesota focused on the potential use for electronic ear tags and collars on organic and low-input conventional farms because, unlike some other innovations in farming practices, precision technology does not butt up against the requirements of organic certifications. "[Organic farms] don't have all the tools conventional farmers use, like reproductive technologies such as estrus synchronization programs to be able to set their ovulation period," Pereira says. "What a great opportunity to see how these technologies work in that space." Soon after she started at UMaine, the Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC) invited Pereira to submit a proposal for a technical assistance project that involved at least five farmers. The organization was looking to do more work in Maine, and Pereira's previous research intrigued them. She was mulling over what exactly she wanted to propose, when she was inspired by a presentation at the Maine Dairy Seminar by Rick Grant at the Miner Institute in New York about rumination time, lying time and the improvement of cow welfare and production. Grant used precision technology to track when cows are standing up versus lying down, which is when they rest, ruminate and produce milk. "You have to find this perfect happy medium, and using that behavioral data, you're able to make those management decisions," Pereira says. "When I collected the evaluation forms at the end of the seminar, a lot of people wrote down that they really loved this rumination presentation. I kind of sensed this need for more education of precision dairy technology because I had this background it was a perfect fit. I wrote up the project and the rest is history." Pereira's idea was to see if ear tag data could be used to accurately observe and optimize the "cow time budget," or the way that the cows spend their days given the space and resources they are provided. Pereira gathered a cohort of five dairy farmers across the state to participate in the research starting in February 2023.

Pereira says that one of the biggest assets for getting the program off the ground was the support from — and networks developed by — UMaine's retired Extension dairy specialists, including Rick Kersbergen, Gary Anderson and David Marcinkowski. "Their relationship with the Maine dairy industry was so strong and they really had connected with

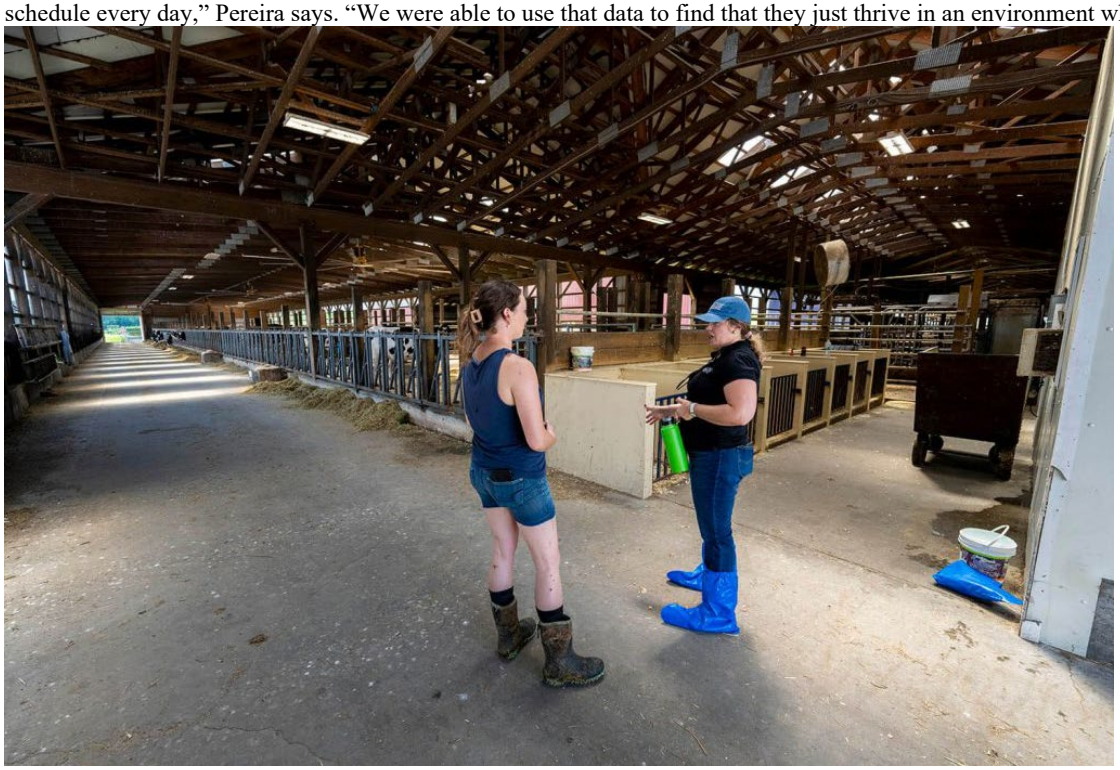
and created those relationships. I think it really set me up for success to be able to conduct my work with the dairy farmers," Pereira says. Once Pereira had her cohort, the farmers were trained on how to use the new technology, which comes from a company called CowManager, as well as how to collect data from the ear tags that Pereira could use in her research. The tags can track the animals' temperatures and detect when they are doing certain activities, like chewing cud or running around the barn. "We're still seeing how it works on some farmers versus other farms and learning a little bit about what works and what doesn't," Pereira says. "Not all farms are the same and some farms have issues with internet connection like the one farm that's near the airport and it has issues with radio frequency. There's some work to still work through and learn." One of the farmers that Pereira recruited was Heather Miller, herdswoman at R.E. Hemond Farm, Inc., in Minot. Miller is a UMaine alumna of the animal sciences program who graduated in 2017. She minored in equine sciences at school but learned that she wanted to work with cows after milking them for a class. "I milked [at Witter Farm] almost every semester," Miller says. "I was there for five years and milked there for nine semesters. I was at the farm all the time."



Miller says that so far, she loves the new precision technology on her farm — and, as a bonus, she has also enjoyed her time with Pereira and the opportunity to continue contributing research to the program that helped her figure out her path. "She's very personable and she's easy to work with, especially when it comes to cows," Miller says. "You can tell she has a love for cows. She's in it for the cows, and she's in it to help us." Indeed, Pereira makes sure that she gets out in the field as much as possible. She and her graduate student Ana Jimenez spend their time traveling around the state helping the cohort of dairy farmers run this project. "One of the things that impacts me a lot about this particular project is not just about the system or the goals that we have — it's being able to see Dr. Glenda [Pereira] and how easily she can connect with all the farmers," Jimenez says. "She cares about their needs in a really genuine way. That's one of the most important things I'm learning from her. When we go to the farms it's two or three hours driving. She drives happy because she loves her job." Jimenez was working as a veterinarian at a clinic in Lima, Peru, when one of her colleagues — who knew she always wanted the chance to study in the United States — sent along a job posting from UMaine looking for a researcher with a background in animal science. She started working on research about the nutrition of feed stock with Juan Romero, associate professor of animal nutrition, and then joined Pereira's research, where she assists with research as well as designing graphics and other communications information for the project. Jimenez enjoyed the experience so much, she will continue her work with Pereira and Romero next year. Pereira says she hopes that undergraduate students will be able to get involved through the project, too, through the Animal and Veterinary Science capstone program in the fall.



Though the project is set to run through February 2024, Pereira, Jimenez and the farmers have already learned a lot from the data they've gathered. For example, Pereira explains, the behavioral data demonstrated that when cows are fed every day at the same time, they also eat right away after exiting the milking parlor, then ruminate and lie down for longer following that feeding, which promotes milk production and udder health. "Cows are really habit animals and they really like to have the same schedule every day," Pereira says. "We were able to use that data to find that they just thrive in an environment where they have that consistency."



Beyond the data, though, the most valuable part, Pereira says, is the peer-to-peer connections that she has been able to facilitate between dairy farmers. "I think that has been so successful," Pereira says. "For a lot of farmers — specifically dairy farmers because of their schedules and having to milk — it's tough to get off the farm and socialize. I can sit here and lecture them about feeding management all day, but when they're learning from people who are in their same shoes they can really take that home with them and say, 'Hey this works at this farm. I think I can try it.'" Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

ABC News uses map from UMaine Climate Reanalyzer about high winter temperatures in South America

04 Aug 2023

In an article about anomalously high mid-winter temperatures in South America, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) News used a map of data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer.

Media share information about UMaine role in CAPRA

04 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Sun Journal reported that the University of Maine and University of Southern Maine have formed a one-stop shop for independent research, analysis, guidance and technical assistance for policy issues related to aging and older adults, known as the Consortium for Aging Policy and Research and Analysis (CAPRA). CAPRA is available for exploring a wide variety of issues relevant to aging Mainers, including health care, transportation, housing and social services.

PPH cites UMaine Extension information about bees

04 Aug 2023

A Portland Press Herald column about saving Maine's native bees cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension showing that 500 colonies of honeybees were brought into the state in 1965 to supplement native pollinators ahead of the blueberry harvest. By 2016, that number had skyrocketed to 80,000 colonies.

BDN shares Zydlewski presentation at sturgeon at mural dedication ceremony

04 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that University of Maine professor of marine sciences and director of Maine Sea Grant Gayle Zydlewski will present about sturgeon at the dedication ceremony for a new mural on the Belfast Waterfront by artist David Hurley, who consulted Zydlewski for background on the sturgeon's historical presence in the region. The ceremony will be held at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 16 at Bayview Point Event Center.

Morning Ag Clips notes Ferrini-Mundy testimony about 2023 Farm Bill

04 Aug 2023

Morning Ag Clips reported that University of Maine President and University of Maine System Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation Joan Ferrini-Mundy made remarks at a listening session of the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture in Freeport. The listening session was held to gather input from Mainers on policies, programs and investment to prioritize in the 2023 Farm Bill.

Media share UMaine Age-Friendly University Resources hub

04 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared that the University of Maine Center on Aging has launched the Age-Friendly University Resources (AFU Resources) hub, a centralized repository for educational materials, services, events, volunteer opportunities and other activities for older people offered by UMaine, the University of Maine at Machias and University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

New York Times cites data from UMaine Climate Reanalyzer about ocean temperatures

04 Aug 2023

In an article about rising ocean temperatures, the New York Times cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer about daily average sea surface temperatures.

PPH speaks to Calderwood about heat impact on wild blueberries

04 Aug 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Lily Calderwood, wild blueberry specialist for University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the impact of June and July rain on this year's wild blueberry crop. "This was perfect timing for the blueberries, they love rain," Calderwood said. Yahoo! News shared the PPH report.

Allan pens op-ed for MSNBC about hazing

04 Aug 2023

Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, wrote an opinion piece for MSNBC about sexual assault and hazing in light of allegations at Northwestern University. "Hazing prevention is not only about eliminating harm and senseless suffering, but it's also about gaining something. In the absence of hazing, we can build stronger and healthier groups, more ethical and caring leaders, and more inclusive communities that support student mental health and well-being. The alarming reports of hazing at Northwestern are a clarion call for prevention and, with that, an opportunity for each of us to transform the hazing culture and create safer schools and campuses for our students," Allan wrote. The Highland County Press cited the MSNBC article.

Savoie speaks to BDN about 'toxic foaming watermelons'

04 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to Kathy Savoie, professor at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about foaming watermelons purchased by

consumers in Maine. “There have been increases in hot weather in those parts of the country. Fruits have a natural sugar called fructose and under extended and undesirable storage conditions, it will ferment. … The foaming indicates a real food safety issue. People should not knowingly bring it into their home and certainly not eat it,” Savoie said. Food & Wine, All Recipes, WGME (Channel 13 in Portland), The Messenger and B98.5 shared the BDN report. Yahoo! Life and WROK 96.1 shared the Food & Wine report. KOST 103.5, 94.5 PST and 92.7 WOBM (Toms River, New Jersey) shared the WGME report.

UMaine hires new director of communications

07 Aug 2023

[caption id="attachment_98911" align="alignright" width="223"]  Eric Gordon[/caption] Longtime Bangor-area public relations leader Eric Gordon has been named the new director of communications for the University of Maine, effective Aug. 9. In his new role, Gordon, the current executive director of communications for Husson University, will serve as the public information officer for UMaine and lead the news development, public affairs and media relations work of the Division of Marketing and Communications. He replaces Margaret Nagle, who retired May 9 after nearly 40 years of service to the university. “We look forward to Eric joining UMaine and leading an exceptional team in finding more ways to tell the incredible stories of our UMaine community,” says Meredith Whitfield, chief marketing and communications officer. “With more than three decades of communications and public relations experience, I know Eric will provide a strong institutional voice that will reflect UMaine’s mission and values, and showcase its impact in Maine and beyond.” Prior to joining UMaine, Gordon worked at Husson for over 10 years. Over the course of his decade-long tenure with the institution, he led the team that created and implemented internal and external communications, advertising, social media and strategic online messaging. Before Husson, Gordon held public relations roles at The American College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania and the health insurance company CIGNA. While at CIGNA, he created a public service announcement about domestic violence that took gold at the Worldfest-Houston International Film Festival. He also has years of experience in broadcast television news, and directed two regional Emmy Award-winning public affairs programs for WPHL-TV in Philadelphia. Gordon earned his Master of Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and a Bachelor of Science in speech from Northwestern University. “The professionalism of the marketing and communications team and the commitment of the faculty and staff to transform students’ lives has made the University of Maine the state’s premier public educator,” says Gordon. “I look forward to bringing more national attention to the important research and education being conducted here. These ongoing efforts are producing tangible results that improve the lives of our community, our state, our nation and the planet.”

Media share Talty event at Monhegan Memorial Library

07 Aug 2023

The Courier-Gazette and Boothbay Register reported that Morgan Talty, assistant professor English, will present at the Monhegan Memorial Library’s 5th Annual Distinguished Writers Series at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 12.

The County reports on winners of UMaine Extension whoopie pie contest

07 Aug 2023

The County reported on the winners of the inaugural whoopie pie contest hosted by the Aroostook County Extension Homemakers at the Northern Maine Fair. Judges for the whoopie pie competition were Ibrahim Kutay Ozturk, professor of potato pathology for University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and David Lowe, sustainable agriculture and horticulture professor at Extension.

Maine Monitor reports on Climate Reanalyzer’s role in reporting extreme heat

07 Aug 2023

The Maine Monitor featured the work of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer in reporting about recent record-breaking high temperatures. “The whole point of Climate Reanalyzer is, it brings together a variety of weather and climate data sets, and it’s used to explore those data sets — and there’s really not interpretation with that. I never thought … that seemingly an innocuous daily temperature page would capture so much attention,” said Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute.

Handley speaks to PPH about impact of early season weather on summer crops

07 Aug 2023

David Handley, vegetable and small-fruit specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Portland Press Herald about the different impacts of early season weather on this year's summer crops, particularly corn. Handley said that corn planted before the onset of heavy rain made it too muddy to plant more. Once it could be planted, the weather got very hot, speeding up growth for what had already gone in the ground and creating "a real distribution problem." Handley said he's impressed with how well farmers have handled the season's many challenges and with the quality of the crops they've managed to produce. If you go to certain stands looking for fresh corn, however, "Just don't be surprised if farmers say, 'Next week,'" Handley said.

NSF awards $6M for Maine-led project to develop secure electric grids in communities disproportionately impacted by climate change

07 Aug 2023

A new collaborative research project led by the University of Maine called STORM: Data-Driven Approaches for Secure Electric Grids in Communities Disproportionately Impacted by Climate Change, has been awarded $6 million from the National Science Foundation. Over the next five years, the project team will conduct studies and create new tools that will grow research infrastructure and leverage data science to improve electrical grids and develop more resilient communities across the United States. Researchers will also focus on building strong relationships with community members to ensure solutions meet the needs of the people they are intended to serve. NSF is supporting the project with an EPSCoR Track-2 FEC award. Previous Track-2 awards in Maine supported projects involving forestry and data science, adaptation to climate change, advanced manufacturing and biodiversity, among other topics. Maine is one of several states awarded new EPSCoR funding this August. "As evident from EPSCoR's impact, investing in research infrastructure is a powerful catalyst for strengthening our nation's security, competitiveness, and fostering groundbreaking scientific advancements," said NSF Director Sethuraman Panchanathan in a news release. "I'm thrilled to announce this year's EPSCoR Track-2 awards, which will strengthen community and regional efforts to understand the impacts of a changing climate and enhance the resilience of disproportionately affected communities. By addressing these critical challenges, and engaging with communities impacted by climate change, we have the potential to advance innovation and promote economic stability and recovery in EPSCoR jurisdictions and beyond." The project began as researchers and stakeholders became increasingly concerned about the impact climate change was having on electric grids. In 2021, a winter storm hit Texas, compromised its electric grid and caused millions of people to go without power. The entire grid nearly collapsed. [caption id="attachment_98873" align="alignright" width="300"]  Reinaldo Tonkoski[/caption] "With climate change, everything we expected to be a one in 100-year event, are happening more often and with higher intensity," says Reinaldo Tonkoski, STORM's principle investigator and UMaine Robert N. Haskell Power Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, "how we design the grid to cope with those events is a big research question for us." While Maine is no stranger to winter weather, grid operators must deal with challenges posed by the state's geography and climate change. The state, particularly its coastal and rural communities, is at the edge of the New England's power grid. Add forests and difficult terrain and some communities become even harder to reach. Climate change will continue to cause more frequent severe weather events like flooding, extreme temperatures and high winds. These factors result in outages which disproportionately impact the state's most vulnerable communities who have less access to support systems. In addition to Maine, researchers are working in Alaska, South Dakota and Puerto Rico. These jurisdictions all deal with their own climates and power grids, each with unique features and challenges. Tonkoski sees this as a major strength of the project. "We are poised to have a variety of experiences to share on how to deal with different types of events," he says. "This will help us develop holistic and complete solutions that can be deployed both nationwide and worldwide." Tonkoski says in the short term, "our goal is to foster collaboration in Maine to address major issues in reliability and cost effectiveness of the grid for Mainers. We also will build research and workforce capabilities for the state to tackle these challenges." In the long term, the team will focus on creating and deploying community-centered solutions that are sustainable, reliable and affordable. These results will be disseminated across the country and beyond to cultivate resilient and sustainable systems that serve everyone. Tonkoski and co-principal investigator Sharon Klein, associate professor of economics, will work with other researchers at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez (UPRM) and South Dakota State University (SDSU). Additionally, the project team will collaborate with partners from various school districts, Indigenous Nations, municipalities, electrical utilities/cooperatives, nonprofits, startup and established companies and federal laboratories. "Many of our partners are already working on community energy projects," said STORM Co-PI Dayne Broderson, who also serves as the UAF ARCTIC program administrator. "Partners in Galena, Alaska for example, are already pursuing community energy projects and recently finished creating a 3D map of their system that will help assess their grid. Working with them we can learn what works and collaborate on new projects." The number of partners and range of expertise is an important part of the project. STORM Co-PI Adriana Luna Hernández, UPRM associate professor of electrical and computer engineering. says, "One of the biggest goals of this project is bridging the connection between affected communities and researchers. We want to listen to and work with them to ensure solutions meet their needs." In addition to conducting research, the team will help prepare undergraduate and graduate students for the workforce, and mentor early career faculty. "We are at a crossroads in the electric industry with much of the power engineering workforce retiring at the same time," says STORM Co-PI Tim Hansen, an associate professor with SDSU's Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. "This project is happening at the perfect time to train the next generation workforce in the necessary skills for the future electric grid that go beyond traditional electrical engineering topics, such as machine learning and cyber-security. Grid resiliency is not a one-size-fits-all solution; engaging with local communities to build the skills they will need is crucial to improving the grid and bringing economic prosperity to our jurisdictions." In addition to Tonkoski, Klein, Hansen, Hernandez and Broderson, associate professor Daisy Huang from UAF is a member of the STORM leadership team. *This story was written by Daniel Timmermann, communications manager for Maine EPSCoR.* Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

News Center Maine interviews Turcotte-Seavey about Mitchell scholarship

07 Aug 2023

In reporting about the 2023 Mitchell Scholars, a program founded by former Maine Sen. George Mitchell, News Center Maine spoke to Lauren Turcotte-Seavey, a 2019 Mitchel Scholar and a 2023 UMaine graduate. "When it came to COVID, it was really hard to connect with students and staff on campus, but the Mitchell Institute always had my back," Turcotte-Seavey said. Mitchell held a welcome breakfast for the new scholars on Saturday at the UMaine Wells Conference Center.

Maine Monitor interviews Soucier about providing naloxone in schools

07 Aug 2023

The Maine Monitor spoke to Daniel Soucier, a research associate at the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, about the benefit of having medication like naloxone that rapidly counteracts drug overdoses available in schools. "In a lot of ways it's like having a fire extinguisher on site or say a life preserver on a boat. In case an emergency arises, especially in the current fentanyl wave of the overdose crisis, the sooner you can respond to an overdose the better. … It may not necessarily be for students. Although if a student were to overdose in the school, immediate response would be the best-case scenario," Soucier said.

Sporer speaks to PPH about Maine law enforcement shifting strategies on drug arrests and overdoses

07 Aug 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology at the University of Maine, for an article about law enforcement in Maine shifting their resources in response to rising drug arrests and overdoses. "The reality is that the opioid epidemic in Maine touches every single person here. While it may not be a family member, everyone has a neighbor or a friend that's been affected by it. More than a person a day died from some sort of overdose last year. … People are dying all around us — and it got way worse during the pandemic. That's why the need for a wider conversation about this is so important," Sporer said.

Media report on UMaine precision technology research for dairy farmers

07 Aug 2023

Morning Ag Clips, Mainebiz, Dairy Business and CompsMag reported that Glenda Pereira, assistant extension professor and dairy specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension and assistant professor of animal science at the School of Food and Agriculture, is leading a project with Maine dairy farmers that uses electronic ear tags that track cow movements with the hopes of learning more about how to best care for them. The project brings together UMaine researchers, alumni and the dairy farming community for research that is just as much about interpersonal connections as it is about connecting to new technology. Edairynews shared the Mainebiz report.

Xander LaComb: Binding books and tending to fish tanks

07 Aug 2023

At the University of Maine Machias, Xander LaComb unlocked many hidden talents, from book arts to aquaponics. Between his major program and his summer internship developing science programs for Wabanaki youth, LaComb is a shining example of how UMaine students can explore interdisciplinary interests and discover new passions. LaComb, now a rising junior, grew up in Norway, Maine. He chose to attend UMaine Machias for its creative arts program, specifically its focus on book arts. "It's a pretty unique program," LaComb says. "We're doing a lot of things. We physically put together books, take papermaking classes, do creative writing, printmaking and have some traditional art courses like painting and drawing." LaComb is very involved on UMaine Machias's campus, including through the Residence Hall Association, 100% Society LGBTQ+ outreach club and the Student Health Initiative, Education, Leadership and Diversity (SHIELD) club, which promotes student health on campus, provides services such as free contraception and menstruation products and hosts events like Health Fair and Prom. LaComb is also a member of the Penobscot Tribe and is a member of the Kinap Mentorship Program, where he works with other Native students to promote Native culture on campus as well as conducting outreach with Native high schoolers in the local community. LaComb says that the support of Jennifer Isherwood, assistant coordinator of Native American student outreach and development, was essential to finding his place and passions at UMaine Machias. Isherwood also says that she has watched LaComb blossom during his time at college. "[Xander] is a talented artist and has a clear love for the natural world," Isherwood says. "Xander takes initiative and dives into projects with enthusiasm and focus. He has led the growing efforts to nurture the Wabanaki student community at UMaine Machias, bringing in new students and being a proactive, creative and steadfast Kinap Mentor." On top of that, Isherwood notes that LaComb has "killer style" and a "refined taste in '80s new wave music." "He is a wonderful human," she laughs. Isherwood connected LaComb to tish carr of the Wabanaki Youth in Science (WaYS) Program, which eventually put him in touch with M. Scarlett Tudor, education and outreach coordinator at the Aquaculture Research Institute (ARI). Tudor and her colleagues at ARI and WaYS earned a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to develop programs for Wabanaki youth that integrate aquaponics into UMaine Cooperative Extension 4-H programs. Tudor was looking for a student to assist with the project through ARI's Research and Extension Experience for Undergraduates program, also known as the Aquaculture Experiential Opportunities for Undergraduate Students (AquEOUS) fellowship. LaComb's background and experience made him the perfect fit to assist with the daily tasks of the project, such as creating learning materials for CCAR's Mobile Touch Tank program or helping students in the programs put their fish tanks together, while making sure Indigenous perspectives remained at the forefront of their work. "Working with Xander has been amazing," Tudor says. "Xander's clear love of the natural world and aquatic organisms makes him a perfect teacher to engage younger generations and show them career pathways that align with their own interests." [caption id="attachment_98881" align="aligncenter" width="725"]

CCAR student employees Daniel Russell, Xander LaComb and Katarina Minas.[/caption] LaComb says the days vary greatly in his internship. Sometimes he is helping with youth programs at the various tribes around the state (he says seeing what young people pick out for their own fish tanks is the part he most enjoys), working on projects at Libby Hall in Orono or conducting outreach in Bar Harbor with the Center of Cooperative Aquaculture Research (CCAR) and its mobile touch tank. LaComb says he has always been interested in science, but couldn't see himself pursuing research. Working with Wabanaki youth and other outreach projects throughout the state gave him an opportunity to engage with science and community in a way that was remarkably fulfilling — and utilizes the book arts skills he's learned, too. "There's a lot of clashing of worlds here, not just in what I'm working on but the projects I'm helping with. The touch tank information is building on what I'm learning in book arts. I'm putting together information cards for each of the species in CCAR's touch tank." LaComb is hoping to continue this work through next semester — and maybe help set up a new marine aquaponics system on UMaine Machias's campus, too. "I've really come into my own doing this," LaComb says. "I found that it's something I really do enjoy." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine granted $1.5M from USDA to assist farmers and agricultural advisers with climate adaptation and mitigation

07 Aug 2023

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has granted $1.5 million to the University of Maine and collaborators to carry out a series of programs that will educate and aid farmers in climate adaptation and mitigation. Agricultural producers anticipate an onslaught of challenges due to climate change, such as increases in flooding, drought, pest and disease pressures and weather variability. Faculty and staff at UMaine have developed a three part program to prepare farmers to deal with these difficulties. This project has been developed in close partnership with the USDA Northeast and Midwest climate hubs, the USDA National Agroforestry Center, Rutgers University, the University of Vermont, American Farmland Trust, the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, and Michigan State University. Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the School of Food and Agriculture, is one of the designers of the Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Fellowship (CAMF) program. The project will focus on educating farmers and their communities about climate science and management strategies by running three 24-month-long peer-to-peer learning programs on a variety of farms in the Midwest and Northeast. The first program will focus on row crop producers and advisers in the Midwest, the second program will focus on female vegetable and small fruit producers and advisers in the Midwest and Northeast, and the third will focus on diversified and agroforestry producers and advisers in the Northeast. "We're very excited to expand our curriculum to be useful to several different types of land managers and the agricultural advisers who support them," says Schattman, whose lab is part of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. "The unique aspect of the CAMF program is that farmers and advisers work closely in pairs over two years to develop risk assessments, climate adaptation and mitigation plans, and more. We find that this creates a community in which farmers and advisers can learn from each other and support one another." Pairs of farmers and agricultural advisers, referred to as "fellows," will attend workshops based in climate science, weather and climate information, risk assessments, adaptation and mitigation planning to give them the tools to cooperatively create an effective management plan. Each program introduced in this project will be backed by an education team and a program coordinator. Those groups are also supported by a CAMF project coordinator, a leadership team and the advisory committee. The collaborators working on these teams come from nonprofit organizations, Extension services, state or federal agencies and private companies. Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, also is involved in the project. "Data underlies the development of effective climate adaptation and mitigation strategies," says Birkel. "I am eager to collaborate with the project team and fellows, and to help make climate and weather information readily available to farming communities as they undertake this important work." *This story was written by Erin Cabral, 2023 Summer Intern at the UMaine Division of Marketing at Communications.* Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine researchers explore the power in peatlands

08 Aug 2023

Peatlands are a treasure trove of organic material. Researchers at the University of Maine are using their knowledge of hydrogeology and computer modeling to understand exactly what these overlooked areas contribute to the greater environment and how to ethically manage them. Peatlands are marshy collections of dead and decaying plant matter. They are often referred to as fens or bogs, such as the Orono Bog in Orono, Maine. These ecosystems provide habitats for threatened species with nowhere else to go and act as water reservoirs for surrounding areas in times of drought. They are also a heavily influential part of the carbon cycle because they both release methane and store about a third of all the carbon in soil globally. When damaged, peatlands emit large amounts of greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere that contribute to climate change. Andy Reeve, hydrogeologist and professor at the School of Earth and Climate

Sciences at UMaine, is collaborating with others on a grant they received from the National Science Foundation to study how the surrounding geology influences groundwater flow within Maine peatlands, including Caribou Bog in Orono, Maine. These factors influence the emission of methane and carbon dioxide, two common greenhouse gasses, from the bog.  “If we want to control global warming, we need to understand where carbon is coming from and where it’s going,” says Reeve. Much of his work involves installing and monitoring wells in the peatlands, which create an access point for him to measure the peat’s hydraulic properties. Using the data he collects working in the bog, Reeve creates computer models to simulate possible scenarios for the movement of chemicals in the groundwater. “In hydrogeology, because you’re using wells you only have sparse data, you need something to combine all of that data in a sensible way and a model lets you do that,” says Reeve. “You can run a model and try to get the water levels and pressures to measure up with reality. It may not be realistic, but it's a plausible model of what might be going on. You can run simulations that give you a way of testing ideas about how different factors influence the peatland, [like] how increased rainfall will affect the peatland, [or] how increased evaporation will influence the peat.” Computer models can be configured to simulate the consequences of climate change or the development of flow patterns in peatland ecosystems. These changes in groundwater flow impact the exchange of carbon-based gas between the peatland and the atmosphere. Reeve’s hydrogeology career began in the late 1980s, when environmental regulations, put in place due to concern over environmental contamination, drove an urgent need for hydrogeology specialists. He recalls a rapid turnover in the environmental business, a period of ‘wild west-like’ growth in opportunities. He conducted research in the Mangrove Swamps of Mexico and the Hudson Bay Lowlands before finding his way to Maine in 1996, where he still works as a mentor to the next generation of hydrogeologists. “Most students I teach don’t go into peatland science — that's a tiny niche field — but by going out and seeing how a well is installed and monitored, they get the gist and then they can go out and work on other issues,” Reeve says. “I see the peatland system work and the modeling we do as a good way for them to understand what hydrogeology is, and they can apply those things to waste sites or developing a municipal well field or whatever else they go off and do.” Ph.D student Victoria Niedzinski works closely with Reeve on this project, mainly learning to structure efficient groundwater models using the coding language Python. She describes Reeve as a ‘Python wizard’ and has gained valuable knowledge from him in coding as well as hydrology and carbon cycling.

“When you walk in [to the bog], [Andy] will be able to point out the different plants and vegetation, he’ll know why certain plants are the way they are just because of the hydrology of the system,” says Niedzinski. “He has a great sense of humor, so it’s always lots of jokes, lot’s of trying to keep things light while we're slogging through the bog for eight hours.” Niedzinski intends to use what she has learned to continue with a career in understanding climate change through hydrology. While overall interest and funding for the field of hydrogeology has decreased since its ‘boom’ in the late ’80s and ’90s, Reeve expects a resurgence in the need for professionals with this specific set of knowledge in light of approaching challenges to the environment. “Climate change is going to drive a need for hydrologists that can mitigate the problems. We know there's climate change, that problem has been defined and now it's time to engineer solutions. Whether it’s providing irrigation water to Maine crops or figuring out what to do in the south when there are droughts, groundwater is going to be a part of that solution,” says Reeve. *This story was written by Erin Cabral, 2023 Summer Intern at the UMaine Division of Marketing at Communications.* Contact: Sam Schipani samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers ServSafe food protection course in September

08 Aug 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering an eight-hour ServSafe Food Protection Manager course on Tuesday, Sept. 19, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The course, held at the Cumberland County Extension office, 75 Clearwater Drive in Falmouth, will help prepare students for the ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification exam. The exam will immediately follow the course. This nationally-recognized certification is for anyone working in the food industry, including nonprofit organizations. The course covers topics such as food safety; personal hygiene; preventing cross-contamination; cleaning and sanitizing; time and temperature control; and receiving and storing food. Students will receive the ServSafe Manager book 7th Ed., diagnostic exam and practice exam approximately two weeks prior to the course. No refunds for the course will be issued. Registration closes Sept. 5. The $140 fee covers the cost of the class, materials, and exam. Register and find more details on the program webpage. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, call the Cumberland County office at 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine) or email ksavoie@maine.edu.

WBUR cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in article about ocean warming

08 Aug 2023

WBUR cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer in an article about the Gulf of Maine contradicting the overall trend of global ocean warming.

Mainebiz reports on Maine Business School hiring associate dean and assistant dean

08 Aug 2023

Mainebiz reported that the Maine Business School has appointed Patti Miles and Meghan Gardner as associate dean and assistant dean, respectively. Miles, a professor of management, has served as the interim associate dean of business since July 2022. She joined Maine Business School in the fall of 2008 after completing her doctorate at the University of Texas, Arlington. Gardner joined Maine Business School in May 2022 as an academic advisor and student support specialist for the Graduate School of Business. She assumed the role of assistant dean in April.

Cosmos uses UMaine Climate Reanalyzer visualizations for article about winter temperatures

08 Aug 2023

Cosmos used visualizations from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in an article about high winter temperatures in the

Southern Hemisphere. The Echo shared the Cosmos report.

Garland speaks to BDN about late season rhubarb

08 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Kate Garland, horticulturist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about late season rhubarb. Garland said the idea among gardeners that rhubarb is done producing viable stalks in early July likely comes from misinformation that has been passed down for generations. “[The lore is] part of the tradition of what people learned from people before them…You can harvest it into August as long as you harvest just a little bit at a time,” Garland said.

Media share funding to UMaine for study about electrical grid resilience

08 Aug 2023

Maine Public, Spectrum News, Mainebiz and WVII (Channel 7 in Bangor) reported that a University of Maine climate change research project called STORM: Data-Driven Approaches for Secure Electric Grids in Communities Disproportionately Impacted by Climate Change was recently awarded a $6 million grant from the National Science Foundation. “With climate change, everything we expect to be a one in 100-year event, are happening more often and with higher intensity,” said Reinaldo Tonkoski, professor of electrical and computer engineering and STORM’s principal investigator. “How we design the grid to cope with those events is a big research question for us.”

Meisler presenting artist talk Aug. 10 at Zillman Art Museum

09 Aug 2023

The University of Maine Zillman Art Museum in downtown Bangor will host a free public presentation with featured artist Meryl Meisler from 5:30–7 p.m. Aug. 10. Meisler will discuss her acclaimed photography career and some of the fascinating subjects she has photographed through the years. Her works are currently showcased in two popular exhibitions titled "70s Suburban Sensibilities — Friends and Family," and ”Nightlife NYC 1977–2023,"on view at the museum through Aug. 19 and Sept. 2, respectively. Reception will be at 5:30 p.m. followed by artist talk at 6 p.m. The event is supported in part by a grant from the Onion Foundation. More information is available on the museum website.

Leahy speaks to Maine Science Podcast about human dimensions of climate change

10 Aug 2023

Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions of natural resources at the University of Maine, was featured on the Maine Science Podcast’s latest episode. Leahy discussed her research about environmental attitudes and behaviors toward forests, forestry and other natural resource management topics using a social psychology and communication approach. She said that her work focuses on four populations: outdoor recreationists, forest landowners, natural resource managers and the general public. The podcast, a production of the Maine Science Festival, has featured other experts from the UMaine community in previous episodes.

Composites World reports on carbon fiber weaving technology at UMaine ASCC

10 Aug 2023

Composites World reported that the U.K.-based company Optima 3D is delivering weaving technology to the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) for the processing of carbon fiber yarns. ASCC engineer James Stahl said that the “new Optima 3D weaving system will be a cornerstone of a new textile lab we are developing here. We chose the loom to take advantage of the design flexibility the shuttle-based weft/fill insertion will provide for fabrics that will be used in soft and hard composite structures and materials.”

Media share UMaine Extension ServSafe training in Falmouth

10 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Daily Bulldog and Morning Ag Clips shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering an eight-hour ServSafe Food Protection Manager course 9 a.m.–5 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 19. The course, held at the Cumberland County Extension office, 75 Clearwater Drive in Falmouth, will help prepare students for the ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification exam. The exam will immediately follow the course. Register and find more details on the program webpage.

Knight speaks to BDN about the importance of fly control for livestock

10 Aug 2023

Colt Knight, state livestock specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about the importance of fly control for the health of livestock. “There are some really important reasons to control flies. They are not just an irritant — flies can be disease vectors, too,” Knight said.

LearningWell magazine features Research Learning Experiences at UMaine

10 Aug 2023

An article in LearningWell magazine featured Research Learning Experiences (RLEs), courses that allow first- and second-year students to engage in research and other forms of hands-on learning at the start of their college careers. “We know that engaging in research makes you a part of something bigger,

something important, and it allows you to form relationships with peers and professors who are in this with you," said John Volin, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost at the University of Maine, who spearheaded the effort. "Why wouldn't we want students to experience this right as they enter college?" The article also highlighted other efforts from UMS TRANSFORMS, a multifaceted initiative from the University of Maine System to bring transformative change in public higher education in the state, strengthen its economy and workforce and prepare future leaders with the skills needed to solve the most pressing global and local challenges. The initiative is supported by a $240 million commitment from the Harold Alfond Foundation.

UMaine researchers awarded 2023 CERF Achievement Award

10 Aug 2023

The Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation (CERF) announced that associate professors Lauren Ross and Sean Smith received the 2023 Donald W. Pritchard Outstanding Physical Oceanography Paper Award for "Coastal Hydrodynamics and Timescales in Meso-Macrotidal Estuaries in the Gulf of Maine: a Model Study." Ross and Smith co-authored the paper with Sohaib Alahmed, former UMaine student and graduate civil engineer at Halff Engineering and Architecture Firm. CERF recognizes excellence in and service to the fields of coastal and estuarine science, management and education through eight awards given biennially. The recipients of the awards embody the mission of CERF to advance understanding and wise stewardship of estuarine and coastal ecosystems worldwide by promoting research in estuarine and coastal ecosystems; supporting the education of scientists, decision-makers and the public; and facilitating communication among these groups. The 2023 CERF Awards Ceremony will be held Nov. 12 at the 27th Biennial Conference at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon. More information about the awards and recipients, including past recipients, can be found on the CERF website.

Aces for Inclusion golf event raises money for inclusive education program at UMaine

10 Aug 2023

More than 50 golfers, including over 30 University of Maine alumni and students, took part in the inaugural Aces for Inclusion benefit tournament in late July at Fairlawn Golf and Country Club in Poland, Maine. The event raised more than $4,400 for Maine Access to Inclusive Education Resources (MAIER), which provides information and resources for families, educators and service providers to assist individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities navigate and access inclusive education programming. Formerly the Maine Autism Institute for Education and Research, the program was established at the UMaine College of Education and Human Development in 2014 with a grant from the Maine Department of Education. It continues to receive the bulk of its annual funding from the Maine DOE Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education. Organizer Chris Smith organized the tournament as a way to give back to MAIER, whose services his family has utilized. Smith's son, Patrick, was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in July 2020 when he was 4-years-old. "When we got the news, we had a wave of emotions," says Smith. "We didn't know what the diagnosis meant for Patrick's future or where exactly to turn to get him the best and most appropriate support possible. We were worried about our sweet boy being treated differently by people. Then we found MAIER and discovered a number of resources for parents of children with ASD that we were able to utilize right from our home, which we were incredibly grateful for during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are lucky to have MAIER in our Maine community and happy to give back to this important organization." The money raised will go toward MAIER's family partnership programs, helping make events offered throughout the state free of charge for Maine families; providing support for sensory kits, activities and educational materials; and training staff on how to make events more inclusive for everyone. The University of Maine Foundation helped to facilitate the gift transaction. MAIER research associate and family partnership director Anica Miller-Rushing attended the tournament and thanked the Smith family and all the golfers for their support. "Thanks to their thoughtful and generous philanthropic efforts, more Maine families of children with autism and other disabilities will be able to access inclusive educational services and programming," Miller-Rushing says. The tournament included a team scramble, hole-in-one competition, 50/50 raffle and several prizes. Business sponsors included RLC Engineering, Gray Family Vision Center, TRSS Wealth Management, Port Property Management, Pine Tree Events, the Kitchen Network, POWER Engineers, Phil Kilcollins Farms and Stone Coast Handyman. For more information about MAIER, contact Miller-Rushing, anica.miller.rushing@maine.edu, or MAIER director Sarah Howorth, sarah.howorth@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension accepting applications for Master Gardener Volunteer training

11 Aug 2023

Mainers looking to learn more about gardening and volunteering in their community can do so by becoming a certified Master Gardener Volunteer. University of Maine Cooperative Extension is now accepting applications for the Master Gardener Volunteers training program that begins in October. The 2023–24 Master Gardener Volunteer training includes online self-paced learning modules coupled with live virtual sessions through which participants will have direct access to dozens of horticultural experts across the state. There also will be a half-day in-person opportunity to meet program participants and obtain hands-on experience. The course, designed to train volunteers for horticulture- and food-system-related community service projects, will cover vegetable and fruit production, plants for the Maine landscape, soil health, composting, pesticide safety, food security and other similar topics. Participants will be expected to volunteer for a community project for at least 40 hours to complete their certification. Applications for the 2023 program are due at 4:30 p.m. Sept. 1. Course fees, a schedule and more information is available online. For more additional details or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact at 207.581.3188 or extension.mastergardeners@maine.edu.

Sun Journal promoting UMaine Extension's final Twilight meeting Aug. 15

11 Aug 2023

The Sun Journal noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Franklin County, along with the Greater Franklin Food Council, will host the final session of the Twilight Meeting series at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 15 at Martin Woods Farm in Starks. The series began June 20 for people to learn from and connect with farmers and community members, and visit local farms. For more information, contact Nicholas Rowley, 207.778.4650; nicholas.rowley@maine.edu.

Valleli featured in Telegram & Gazette for helping beautify Worcester

11 Aug 2023

Luke Valleli, a University of Maine sophomore majoring in ecology and environmental sciences, with a minor in ethics, was featured in a Worcester Telegram & Gazette article about the New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill and their intens, including him, working to beautify the city and combat urban heat islands. Valleli said it's important to learn about the relationship between plants, people and the natural world, and share that insight with others. "Having that body of knowledge is an important mission but being able to communicate it and help people understand all the beautiful things around us, that's equally as important and one would not be valuable without the other," he said.

WABI features UMaine alumna Swan and her children's book

11 Aug 2023

Bella Swan, a University of Maine alumna and former Women's Basketball forward, spoke with WABI (Channel 5 in Bangor) about her first children's book titled "Do You Know Your Hair is Like Magic?" "I want people to feel good about themselves to know that all hair is good hair and there's not one hair texture that's better or more desirable than the other. I think that you can be anything you want to be regardless of your skin color or the type of hair that you have," she said. WRDW-TV (Channel 12 in Atlanta), WBRC-TV (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama), WLOX-TV (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi) and KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) shared the WABI report.

Media interview Boss about ocean color change and warming world

11 Aug 2023

Emmanual Boss, University of Maine professor of oceanography, spoke to Eos, Science News and Hunan TV's program "Seeking Truth in News" about a new global study he co-authored showing that the ocean's color has changed significantly over the last 20 years, likely as a consequence of human-induced climate change. "The bacteria are very happy. There is a whole microbial community that I think is having a blast," Boss told Science News.

Dill discusses Japanese beetles on 'Good Day Seattle'

11 Aug 2023

Jim Dill, pest management specialist with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, discussed Japanese beets with Fox 13 for its program "Good Day Seattle." "They do have a voracious appetite and can do a major amount of damage," he said. Big Country News shared the Fox 13 report.

AP reports global temperature drop citing Climate Reanalyzer

11 Aug 2023

The Associated Press cited the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in reporting how Tuesday, Aug. 8 was the first day since July 2 in which the global average temperature fell below the record-breaking 16.92 degrees Celsius. According to AP, that means "that Earth just spent 36 days straight above the previous hottest day on record." ABC News, The Washington Post, The Hill, The Independent and many other news outlets share the AP report.

Ozturk speaks to WAGM about late blight in the garden

14 Aug 2023

Kutay Ozturk, potato pathologist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to WAGM-TV (Channel 8 in Presque Isle) about the dangers of late blight in the garden. Ozturk said late blight "starts in home gardens and jumps from there to the commercial growers. Late blight can be a pretty devastating disease."

Media share UMaine Extension Master Gardener training

14 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News, The Piscataquis Observer, The Rangeley Highlander and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension is now accepting applications for the Master Gardener Volunteers training program that begins in October. Course fees, a schedule and more information is available online.

Media feature symposium hosted by Aquaculture Research Institute, Educate Maine

14 Aug 2023

Spectrum News, WABI (Channel 5) and WVII (Channel 7) featured the first Annual Student Symposium for the Advancement of the Blue Economy, hosted by the University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute in partnership with Educate Maine. It was so interesting," said UMaine Ph.D. student Tess Hureau during the symposium. "I learned about what it takes to run a farm, basically."

Williams featured on WABI discussing UMaine Collins Center events

14 Aug 2023

Danny Williams, executive director of the University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts, was featured on WABI-TV (Channel 5 in Bangor) discussing the upcoming events hosted there.

New York Times features UMaine Composites Center

14 Aug 2023

The New York Times featured the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) in an article about the clean energy future. “All of us would like to think that we can have renewable energy with zero impact on the environment — as you know, it’s not possible, right? So our goal, and our challenge, is, how do we minimize impact on environment as we embark on this transformational energy system?” said Habib Dagher, founding director of the ASCC.

Wheeler named new director of Forest Bioproducts Research Institute

14 Aug 2023

Clayton Wheeler, a University of Maine professor of chemical engineering, was appointed as the new director of the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute (FBRI), effective July 1. He succeeds Hemant Pendse, who founded FBRI in 2010. Read the full story on the UMaine Research website.

Aroostook County Extension shares resources at open house event

15 Aug 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host an open house from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 26 at the Aroostook County Extension Office, 57 Houlton Road, Presque Isle, rain or shine. The event is free to the public and will showcase some of the many programs and services UMaine Extension offers. Extension staff will deliver presentations on a variety of topics including preparing gardens for fall, making meals in an electric pressure cooker and nutrition education. Crafts and activities, including a 4-H plant printing station, will be available, along with useful resources and information. Herb seedling plants will be given out to the first 20 attendees. For more information, or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.834.3905 or sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

News Center Maine speaks to Calderwood about late May frost on wild blueberry crops

15 Aug 2023

News Center Maine spoke to Lily Calderwood, University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, about the impact of late May frost on wild blueberry crops. Calderwood said the low temperatures hurt harvests in southern Maine more than farms located in central or northern Maine. She said some wild blueberry farms along with apple orchards felt the impacts of the frost.

WFVX cites Lobster Institute information about blue lobsters

15 Aug 2023

In an article about a rare blue lobster caught off Beal’s Lobster Pier in Southwest Harbor, WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) noted information from the University of Maine Lobster Institute explaining the blue hue comes from a genetic defect that causes the lobster to make excessive amounts of a protein that creates the color.

Boston Globe cites UMaine study about autonomous cars

15 Aug 2023

The Boston Globe cited a study drawn from a collaboration between the University of Maine VEMI Lab, the Toyota Research Institute and the Carroll Center which examines how car companies can design the coming wave of self-driving cars with vision-impaired drivers in mind. A “truly accessible experience must enable user input, for all people, in many driving scenarios,” the paper argues.

News Center Maine features Sporer in segment about Neo-Nazi protests

15 Aug 2023

Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology at the University of Maine, spoke to News Center Maine about neo-Nazi protests in Augusta. Sporer said that media coverage on hate groups needs to continue because their threats need to be taken seriously. "I don't think [the protest] was unusual, we have these organizations mobilizing and this is not a new issue or a new problem. While some express concern increased coverage will fuel recruitment, I think the reality is that increased coverage is one tool among many we have to educate our communities about the very real threat extremism has in Maine," Sporer said.

Birkel, Handley speak to BDN about volcanic eruptions

15 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, and David Handley, vegetable and small fruit specialist at Extension, about how a volcanic eruption in Tonga 18 months ago is impacting Maine growing seasons. “That single [Tonga volcano] eruption added another 10 percent of moisture to the atmosphere. That is one possible part of warming that we are seeing this summer. … The extremes we see here are connected to extremes elsewhere on the planet. Natural systems respond to those changes — like lakes [in Maine] freezing later and ice-outs coming sooner,” Birkel said. “The last three years have been years of extreme droughts in Maine. It’s made more sense to only plant what you have the ability to water, and now this year it’s been quite the opposite,” Handley said.

AP features Allan survey in article about college football camps

15 Aug 2023

In an article about how fewer college football programs are leaving campus for training camps, the Associated Press spoke to Elizabeth Allan, a University of Maine professor of higher education, about a 2018 study she conducted with colleague Mary Madden in which 57.1% of students reported hazing was most likely to happen off campus. Allan said her survey wasn't limited to athletes and didn't collect data specifically focusing on off-campus training sites, so it couldn't determine whether there was any indication these types of camps increased the risk of hazing. USA Today, Bally Sports, The Toronto Star and other outlets shared the AP report.

Piscataquis Observer notes UMaine Extension One Tomato partnership at Guilford Memorial Library

16 Aug 2023

In a roundup of events at the Guilford Memorial Library, The Piscataquis Observer noted that the library is partnering with University of Maine Cooperative Extension for the One Tomato Project and will host an event for the program on at 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 25.

Porter, Ozturk speak to BDN about growths on potatoes

16 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Gregory Porter, professor of crop ecology and management at the University of Maine, and Kutay Ozturk, potato pathologist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about lenticels on potatoes. "The tubers have adapted to grow below the ground where there is less air available. When the soil gets saturated there is less [oxygen] and more water, and the common response from the potatoes is that the lenticels will enlarge," Porter said. "I would recommend not storing these tubers for too long and consume them quickly," Ozturk said. Potato News Today and WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

Gill speaks to Maine Public about Montana climate decision

16 Aug 2023

Maine Public interviewed Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology & plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, about a Montana case where the judge sided with 16 young plaintiffs in their landmark court case against the state over its climate policies. "They are getting inroads into changing policy and in this case, we have a successful lawsuit here, where other efforts have either failed or stalled out before they even got off the ground," Gill said.

Camille Lockwood: Global marketing intern for 3D printer maker

16 Aug 2023

Camille Lockwood, a Maine Business School student from Boston, is working as a global marketing intern at Formlabs, which manufactures 3D printers, models and prototypes for a variety of industries. Throughout the summer, Lockwood has been collecting user data, creating digital designs and promotional marketing and planning corporate events. The internship has not only provided knowledge that will benefit her future career endeavors, but also helped shape her views on what makes an ideal work environment. "When I first began my internship in mid-May, the team at Formlabs was incredibly welcoming," she says. "The environment I work in is flexible and diverse and always caters to the needs of its employees. That is something I value in the work world." Read more about Lockwood's internship experience on the Maine Business School website. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

Christian Hartling: Helping Maine businesses grow global presence

16 Aug 2023

From an office in downtown Portland, MaineMBA student Christian Hartling is helping entrepreneurs across the state engage in worldwide commerce. Hartling of Burlington, Massachusetts, is interning with the Maine International Trade Center (MITC) this summer through its Future Global Leader program. Part of his work involves providing various services to member businesses, such as conducting market research, determining product classifications and identifying tariff rates and taxes on imported and exported goods. He also contacts other entrepreneurs in Maine and promotes ways the center could assist them. "The two parts I've liked most about my internship have been the relationships I've developed and the several events I've been fortunate to attend," Hartling says. Read more about Hartling's internship experience on the Maine Business School website. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

New multimedia exhibit opening in Lord Hall Gallery

17 Aug 2023

Lord Hall Gallery at the University of Maine will feature a new multimedia exhibition by artist and researcher Nina Elder titled "HOLD" from Aug. 21–Oct. 13. In this exhibition, Elder explores the various implications of holding. Hold means many things: to support, to embrace, to detain, to stop and to remain secure. A hold can be a measure of capacity, a fortress, a wrestling move or a method of belief. Comprising three bodies of work — "Fray," "Uplift" and "Overburden" — the exhibition brings attention to what people hold as well as what holds them. Elder also will present a free artist talk at 7 p.m., Sept. 5 in room 104 of the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center. The gallery is open from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Monday–Friday. For more information, contact Diana Baumbach, diana.baumbach@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension announces opioid overdose community first responder training in partnership with Rhode Island

17 Aug 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a new online training program to help combat the opioid overdose crisis in collaboration with the University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension. The Community First Responder Program aims to provide education and resources to rural Mainers to help recognize and respond to an opioid overdose. "Drug overdose is now the leading cause of death in adults under 50 and we are feeling the effects of the epidemic acutely here in Maine," says Lisa Phelps, Extension program administrator. "Just two years ago, we recorded the highest number of overdose deaths ever at nearly 630. That's a big increase over previous years and is largely due to synthetic opioids. This short, easy-to-use training teaches people how to recognize an opioid overdose and how to administer the simple, life-saving antidote." The training consists of a series of online modules and videos that take 25-30 minutes to complete. Learning objectives for the course include recognizing signs, symptoms and risk factors for a bad reaction to opioids; understanding how naloxone (Narcan) works and how to use it; and knowing how to handle intense situations. At the end of the course, there is additional information on where to find over-the-counter naloxone at low or no cost. Interested parties can also request a free live training seminar for groups or a continuing education program accredited for pharmacists, nurses or licensed mental health counselors. UMaine Extension is also partnering with Bangor-based Health Equity Alliance (HEAL) and Husson University School of Pharmacy to offer this important training to Maine residents. More information can be found on the program website. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.356.3851 or lisa.phelps@maine.edu.

Media share UMaine Extension opioid overdose first responder training

17 Aug 2023

The Daily Bulldog, Sun Journal, Penobscot Bay Pilot, CentralMaine.com, WFVX-TV (ABC 7/Fox 22 in Bangor) and WAGM-TV/WWPI-TV (Channels 8 and 16 in Presque Isle) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a new online training program to help combat the opioid overdose crisis in collaboration with the University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension. The Community First Responder Program aims to provide education and resources to rural Mainers to help recognize and respond to an opioid overdose. More information can be found on the program website.

Ohio Capital Journal quotes Allan in article about Ohio universities' new report on hazing

17 Aug 2023

In an article about Ohio universities issuing a new report on hazing, the Ohio Capital Journal spoke to Elizabeth Allan, a University of Maine professor of higher education. "When students realize or recognize that they have been hazed, there's a lot of fear about reporting. Sometimes students might not recognize what's happened as hazing until later, when they gain a better understanding about hazing," Allan said.

National Fisherman notes Goode role in lobster gear study

17 Aug 2023

The National Fisherman reported on a study co-authored by Andrew Goode, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, that estimates the cost of ropeless lobster gear in Massachusetts.

Ciolfi speaks about second careers for older Mainers on 'Maine Calling'

17 Aug 2023

Maine Public featured Mary Lou Ciolfi, senior program manager at the University of Maine Center on Aging and co-director of the Consortium for Aging Policy Research & Analysis, as a panelist on their show "Maine Calling" for a segment about second careers for older Mainers.

UMaine hosting Cellulose Nanomaterials Researchers Forum Aug. 22–24

18 Aug 2023

The University of Maine Process Development Center is hosting a three-day Cellulose Nanomaterials Researchers Forum Aug. 22–24. Attendees will hear updates from researchers who are developing new applications for cellulose nanomaterials and from companies that are using them. There will also be a rapid fire Q&A session with the presenters and student poster presentations. Also during the forum will be an exhibition of artwork that incorporates nanocellulose 4:30–6:30 p.m. Aug. 23 at the Wells Conference Center. Featured artists include Augusta Sparks Farnum, Shahab Andarva, Tanja Kunz and Walter Greenleaf. Visit the Process Development Center website for more information and to register for in-person or virtual attendance.

Parking and road closure information for Maine Hello

18 Aug 2023

To accommodate for Maine Hello, a day of welcome for incoming students, and other events on Aug. 25, the University of Maine will implement various parking lot closures, road closures and road changes throughout campus Aug. 23–25. The following parking areas will be closed:

- The Belgrade Lot, which will be reserved for Maine Hello family parking, Aug. 23–25
- The Collins Center for the Arts Lot, which will be reserved for Maine Hello Family parking, Aug. 23–25
- The Murray Lot, Aug. 23–25
- The Versant Power Astronomy Center Lot, which will be reserved for Hilltop and New Balance Student Recreation Center employees only, Aug. 23–25
- The Hilltop Lot, Aug. 23–25
- The New Balance Recreation Center Lot, which will be open only to center patrons, Maine Hello volunteers and Hilltop employees who need handicap parking, Aug. 24–25
- The Jenness North and South lots, Aug. 23–25
- The Gannett/Cutler lot, Aug. 23–25
- The Stewart Quad parking areas, Aug. 23–25

The Knox Hall Lot, from 6 a.m.–4 p.m. on Aug. 25
- The Somerset Hall Lot, Aug. 23–25
- The Deering Hall Lot, which will be partially closed, Aug. 23–25

The Tennis Court Lot also will be closed Aug. 24–28. Road closures and changes happening Aug. 25 include:

- A portion of Long Road between Androscoggin Road and the Knox Hall Lot that will be closed both ways until 4 p.m.
- Flagstaff Road from Long Road, which will have one-way flow southbound across Flagstaff Road
- Belgrade Road from Rangeley Road:, which will have one-way flow westbound across Belgrade Road
- Square Road in front of York Hall and York Hall Lot, which will have one-way flow westbound
- Hilltop Road from the recreation center entrance to Androscoggin Road, which will be one way heading West and down the hill

Maine Hello takes place from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on Aug. 25. There also will be events happening on campus beginning at 4 p.m. Be prepared for high levels of traffic throughout downtown Orono and in Old Town. Students and their families who are traveling to campus along Interstate 95 were informed to use exits 191 and 193 onto Kelley Road and Stillwater Avenue, respectively. Employees driving to work on Aug. 25 are encouraged to avoid Long Road and that area of campus. For any questions about where to park during Maine Hello, contact UMaine Parking and Transportation Services at 207.581.4047.

Gill speaks to Scientific American about fossils in La Brea tar pits

18 Aug 2023

Scientific American spoke to Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, about new research into the famed La Brea Tar Pits published on Aug. 17 in Science. “We know that in modern systems, extinction is very rarely unicausal. You often need to have some force that’s stressing this population. Then there’s often an element of bad luck or some other stressor that comes in. We see that over and over again,” Gill said.

Researchers investigate how alpine plants endured extreme climate change for millennia

21 Aug 2023

About 13,000 years ago at the end of the last ice age, glaciers that pushed arctic plant life across the northern hemisphere receded and left some behind on mountain tops in the Northeastern U.S. The alpine plants — now far away from their original tundra habitats — have endured millenia of extreme seasonal climate changes and several warm periods, despite living at the edge of their species range and physiological tolerance in small, isolated populations. Over the next few years, a team of researchers spearheaded by University of Maine paleoecologist Jacquelyn Gill will investigate how these plant species persisted through extensive climate changes in the Northeast and whether they will survive the unprecedented global warming occurring today. The team will use their findings to develop tools that can help natural resource managers care for these species in the coming century. Their work will also help identify the forces that drive biodiversity among fragmented plant populations amid periods of climate change. Additionally, their research can provide insight into how modern global warming affects other kinds of isolated wildlife because these alpine plant species serve as a great analog for biodiversity, much of which exist in small isolated populations. [caption id="attachment_99032" align="aligncenter" width="725"]

Bog bilberry; or Vaccinium uliginosum; on a mountain.[/caption] “Millions of people come to Maine every year to visit our natural heritage, like the iconic alpine landscapes of Katahdin or Acadia National Park. These mountains have been culturally important for as long as there have been people here, and our hope is that this research will help

contribute to their stewardship for millennia to come," Gill says. "And by studying how small, fragmented populations can survive climate change, our work may help us to understand — and protect — other kinds of biodiversity too." The National Science Foundation awarded $2.5 million for their work, which is co-led by University of Vermont associate professor Stephen Keller, through its Biodiversity on a Changing Plant program. A postdoc, three Ph.D. students and several undergraduate students from UMaine and UVM will also participate in the project, as well as assistant professor Dudu Meireles and researcher Isaac Overcast from UMaine, Andy Rominger from the University of Hawaii and Caitlin McDonough MacKenzie from Bennington College. [caption id="attachment_99033" align="aligncenter" width="725"]

Andrea Tirrell conducts research on Mount Mansfield, the tallest mountain in Vermont.[/caption] "I feel incredibly lucky to be working on this project at such a critical time," says Andrea Tirrell, a Ph.D. student with the UMaine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute. "What we learn about the past and present of these alpine plant communities will affect how we manage them in a future defined by climate change and disturbance. I hope this project will build meaningful relationships between the many different agencies and universities working in northeastern alpine zones, because without those collaborations, how can we properly protect them?" The team will focus on alpine plants residing in high elevations of Baxter State Park in Maine, the White Mountains of New Hampshire, the Green Mountains of Vermont and the Adirondacks in New York. Species of interest include the Bigelow's sedge (*Carex bigelowii);* highland rush (*Juncus trifidus)*; Greenland stitchwort (*Mononeuria Groenlandica);* three-leaved cinquefoil (*Sibbaldiopsis tridentata)*; bog bilberry (*Vaccinium uliginosum)*; and the lingonberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea)*. [caption id="attachment_99034" align="aligncenter" width="725"]


Alpine plant life on Mount Katahdin. [/caption] Researchers will travel to these mountainous regions and collect lake sediment cores containing samples of ancient plant DNA. They also will gather historic and contemporary population, plant trait, genomic, climate and soil data; conduct modern plant and microclimate surveys; and execute common garden experiments with these plants in greenhouses and in the field to track their growth at different temperatures. Their work will culminate in the creation of simulation models that can predict what may happen to these tundra-alpine plant species as the planet warms. The researchers hope to elucidate the interactions between these isolated populations and their changing environment over the past 13,000 years, and uncover how adaptation, the alteration of their physical and genetic characteristics, and the geological and climatic forces of the mountains have influenced their survivability. The group also plans to share their findings through multiple workshops, a podcast titled “Alpine Plant Love Stories” and a website. “Our research team is deeply committed to making our work accessible to the public, and podcasts are a great way to do that,” Gill says. “These tiny plants are not only beautiful, they have stories to tell. We’re so excited to share our love for the alpine, and to highlight the work of the many people who have researched and managed these mountain ecosystems.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Package and Postal Center moves to University Bookstore

21 Aug 2023

The University of Maine Package and Postal Center has moved from Room 151 in Memorial Union to its new location inside the University Bookstore. The Package and AND Postal Center is where residential students pick up packages and special deliveries. It also serves as a U.S. Postal Substation, allowing anyone to mail letters, packages and priority and express mail or purchase stamps. "The move to the Bookstore is an added convenience for the people who use the Center," says Nicole Levesque, mail services supervisor. "Now in addition to picking up packages or sending them, they will have access to the store and supplies they need. We're also excited to make the bookstore an even more important destination for students and staff." Information on the center, open 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday, can also be found on the center website.

Ferrini-Mundy moderating book talk with author Shannon Mullen and Gov. Mills

21 Aug 2023

University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy will moderate a book talk featuring Maine Gov. Janet Mills and author Shannon Mullen about the latter’s latest publication, “In Other Words, Leadership,” at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24, at BookSpace by The Briar Patch, 48 Columbia St., Bangor. “In Other Words, Leadership” tells the true story of a year-long correspondence between Mills and a constituent during the global COVID-19 crisis. For 12 months, Ashirah Knapp sent weekly handwritten letters of support to Mills that helped her stay grounded and connected to Maine people during a fraught period of extreme isolation and rancor. More information is available on the Penguin Random House website. Mullen, a longtime public radio journalist, drew the book’s narrative from Knapp’s letters as well as strikingly candid excerpts from the governor’s personal journals to tell an uplifting story that explores human connection and the power of civility and agency in the face of great uncertainty. The talk, which also includes a book signing at the end, is free and open to the public. Registration is required, and can be done on the event webpage on Eventbrite.

Media highlight field day at Rogers Farm

21 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Morning Ag Clips highlighted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension is hosting a Field Day and kids’ Harvest Fun Run

10 a.m.–1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9 at Rogers Farm.

PenBay Pilot quotes Steneck, Jekielek in Hurricane Island center story

21 Aug 2023

In a story about the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership, Maine's newest field research station, the Penobscot Bay Pilot quoted Robert Steneck, professor with the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, and UMaine doctorate candidate and the center's lead scientist Phoebe Jekielek. "What I'm seeing now through the state of Maine and throughout the world is the rise of aquaculture, which has all these new questions that arise from it and we've got to have the science to know what's going on and that's why I'm so passionately in favor of this program," Steneck said. "We have a 3.2 acre aquaculture site where we mostly grow scallops but we have oysters growing and we have kelp. It is one of the only experimental research leases along the coast of Maine," Jekielek said.

Birkel and Climate Reanalyzer featured in Press Herald

21 Aug 2023

The Portland Press Herald published a feature story about Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, and his work involving the UMaine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer. "It's a difficult thing to do," Birkel said. "You have to do a lot of coding. You need the data from all your official sources, you need scripts to visualize it and it has to be put on the web page in such a way that a layperson can easily understand it."

Maine Public, WABI highlight UMaine faculty developing new resource for energy transitions in underserved communities

21 Aug 2023

Maine Public and WABI (Channel 5) reported on the Environmental Protection Agency awarding $1.125 million to Sharon Klein and Caroline Noblet, both University of Maine associate professors of economics, to develop a new resource for addressing the drivers and environmental impacts of energy transitions in underserved and Tribal communities. They will engage with indigenous, rural and low-income communities in Maine to understand the role of statewide Local Energy Action Networks (LEANs) in supporting and advancing renewable energy and energy efficiency adoption. "A lot of what the EPA grant is focused on is how are LEANS, in Maine and other states, helping underserved communities get the support they need to do the local energy action they want to do for themselves," Klein told Maine Public.

Moran discusses peach crop woes with BDN, Press Herald

21 Aug 2023

Renae Moran, professor of pomology with the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture and fruit tree specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Bangor Daily News and Portland Press Herald about the peach crop bust happening in the state. "We lose the peach crop every four to five years," Moran said to the BDN. "The fact we even have a peach crop is new to Maine."

Media report on grand opening for new field hockey complex

21 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News, WABI (Channel 5), News Center Maine and BVM Sports reported on the grand opening of the new field hockey complex at the University of Maine. "The women you see here are a part of a great legacy at the University of Maine and they continue to burnish and advance that legacy on the playing field and as leaders within the university community," said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy in a speech. The complex is part of the University of Maine's $110 million athletic facilities master plan, and is supported by $90 million from the Harold Alfond Foundation. That investment is part of an overall $240 million commitment from the foundation to the University of Maine System for UMS TRANSFORMS, a multifaceted initiative to bring transformative change in public higher education in the state, strengthen its economy and workforce, and prepare future leaders with the skills needed to solve the most pressing global and local challenges. WLUC (Negaunee, Michigan) and KNEP (Scottsbluff, Nebraska) shared the WABI report.

New field hockey complex opens at UMaine

22 Aug 2023

The University of Maine officially unveiled its new field hockey complex at a grand opening ceremony on Aug. 18. The 70,000-square-foot, $8.3 million complex features a synthetic turf playing surface, two new scoreboards, LED lights, brick dugouts and bleacher seating for up to 512 patrons, with chairback seats placed in the center of the stadium layout. It also includes UMaine branding surrounding the stadium and an enclosed three-level press box at midfield, the final level of which has a covered canopy for film. Spideo cameras will be installed in three locations to allow for video replay. "We take great pride in the Black Bear field hockey team," UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy says. "Going forward, this new facility will stand as a testament to the talented student-athletes, coaches and staff who have contributed to this conference dominating program. We invite fans of all ages to come out and cheer on our team!" The complex is part of the UMaine's $110 million athletic facilities master plan, and is supported by $90 million from the Harold Alfond Foundation. That investment is part of an overall $240 million commitment from the foundation to the University of Maine System for UMS TRANSFORMS, a multifaceted initiative to bring transformative change in public higher education in the state, strengthen its economy and workforce, and prepare future leaders with the skills needed to solve the most pressing global and local challenges. Contact: Tyson McHatten, tyson.mchatten@maine.edu

Field day at Tidewater Farm scheduled for Sept. 9

22 Aug 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a field day from 10 a.m.–noon on Saturday, Sept. 9 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. Come experience the gardens at Tidewater Farm, learn about UMaine Extension employees' work, ask gardening questions and participate in hands-on demonstrations with Master Gardener Volunteers and staff. Demonstrations begin at 10:30 a.m. Child-friendly activities will be provided. No registration required. Enjoy a guided walk through the gardens as staff highlight native plants for various growing conditions and how plants are grown from seeds. Additional activities include a hands-on demonstration preserving produce from the gardens with a discussion of food safety practices for food preservation. Representatives from the Wayside Food Programs will also be on hand to offer samples and recipes using fresh produce from Tidewater Farm. Learn about the organization's food programs aimed to increase food access across Cumberland County and beyond. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the Tidewater Farm Events webpage or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

UMaine Extension announces field day and fun run at Rogers Farm

22 Aug 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is hosting a Field Day and kids' Harvest Fun Run 10 a.m.–1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9, at Rogers Farm, 914 Bennoch Road, Old Town. The event will be a celebration of the season with demonstrations, tastings and art in the garden. Visitors will have the opportunity to try out favorite garden tools and learn about certifying home gardens as pollinator-friendly with UMaine Extension. Youths up to 12 years old can register for a 1K Harvest Fun Run, which travels through farm fields next to the demonstration garden. This family-friendly event also includes other children's activities, as well as resources on pest management and soil testing. The Field Day and Harvest Fun Run is free and open to the public. Registration for the fun run can be found on the event website. Paper registration forms will be available on the day of the event. In the event of inclement weather, check the website for updates. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Kate Garland, katherine.garland@maine.edu; 207.942.7396. Rogers Farm is part of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station at the state's R1 public research university.

Media cite UMaine Machias study about 'whiskey fungus' and Wiggly Bridge Distillery expansion

22 Aug 2023

In an article about "whiskey fungus" preventing the expansion of the Wiggly Bridge Distillery in York, the Portland Press Herald, Portsmouth Herald, News Center Maine, Spectrum News, WMTW-TV (ABC 8 in Portland) and WGME-TV (CBS 13 in Portland) reported on a University of Maine study published last month in which researchers took 100 samples within a mile radius of the distillery and found the fungus in several locations. The Bangor Daily News, MSN, WCYY, WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland), 92 Moose and The U.S. Sun shared the WGME report. Yahoo! Finance and CentralMaine.com shared the PPH report. Whiskey Raiders shared the Portsmouth Herald report.

BDN shares UMaine Extension Aroostook County open house

22 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host an open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 26 at the Aroostook County Extension Office, 57 Houlton Road, Presque Isle.

BDN shares UMaine Mass, Newman Center renovations

22 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that weekly Mass will resume at the University of Maine at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 27. Masses will be held in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union at 5 p.m., with confessions offered at 4 p.m. in the Davis Room. The BDN also reported that renovations continue at the Newman Center on College Avenue, the home of Black Bear Catholic, with the re-opening of the center expected at the start of the 2024 school year.

Fried speaks to CNN about upcoming election season

22 Aug 2023

CNN interviewed Amy Fried, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about the potential impact of Republicans' embrace of former President Donald Trump this upcoming election season. "There's really been this effort on the right, among Republicans, to use distrust to stoke their base and to mobilize their base," Fried said.

Maine Public speaks to Moran about Maine apple season

22 Aug 2023

Maine Public interviewed Renae Moran, professor of pomology with the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture and fruit tree specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about Maine's "hit-or-miss" apple season. "What I'm seeing is a high variation in yield from orchard to orchard. Some have a full crop. Some have a ripe crop. And a few actually don't have any apples," Moran said. Moran also noted that Maine's peach farmers have fared far worse this year, because of a few days of extreme cold in February.

Media features UMaine alpine flora study

22 Aug 2023

The Portland Press Herald, the Bangor Daily News, The Piscataquis Observer, Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com reported on a study led by Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology & plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, that will examine 13,000 years' worth of lake sediment containing ancient plant DNA found at four Northeast mountain ranges to determine how alpine plants carried

here by glaciers in the last ice age have persisted through extensive climate change, and whether they will survive the unprecedented global warming occurring today. “The challenge of having to save a million species from climate change can make you feel like we’re in uncharted territory, that we don’t know how to do this, but the planet has gone through climate change before. The fossil record is our blueprint,” Gill said.

Glover, Sporer write op-ed about lessons from Portugal’s drug decriminalization

22 Aug 2023

Robert Glover, associate professor of political science with a joint appointment in the Honors College, and Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology, wrote an opinion piece for the Bangor Daily News about what Maine can learn from Portugal’s drug decriminalization. “Portugal reminds us to calibrate expectations for what one policy can do. … Decriminalization alone won’t fix underlying gaps in access to health care or economic opportunity, as architects of the Portuguese policy frequently warn. In fact, short term, it will likely make gaps painfully obvious,” they wrote. Glover and Sporer are members of the Maine chapter of the Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications. Members’ columns appear in the BDN every other week. Glover and Sporer will also host an upcoming University of Maine study abroad program in Portugal for students interested in studying drug policy.

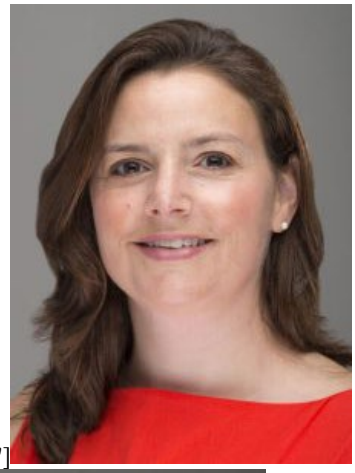
Ippolito speaks to Inside Higher Ed about AI

22 Aug 2023

Inside Higher Ed spoke to John Ippolito, professor of new media and director of the digital curation graduate program at the University of Maine, about the issue of AI and authorship. “Postimpressionism inspired Cubism, but Picasso didn’t physically cut up all of Cézanne’s paintings to make his own,” Ippolito said.

UMaine economists developing new resource to help tribal and underserved communities in Maine implement renewable energy

22 Aug 2023

[caption id="attachment_99089" align="alignright" width="223"]  Caroline Noblet[/caption] [caption id="attachment_99090" align="alignright" width="223"]  Sharon Klein[/caption] University of Maine researchers are working with Wabanaki and rural low-income communities to co-develop a new resource for helping them implement renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. The Environmental Protection Agency awarded $1.13 million to Sharon Klein and Caroline Noblet, both associate professors of economics, so they can investigate the effectiveness of Local Energy Action Networks (LEANs) while creating one for Maine. They will have at least four graduate students and two undergraduates working on the project, with possible opportunities to recruit more. LEANs are networks of local government committees that engage in peer-to-peer learning and access to technical, financial and educational assistance relating to renewable energy and energy efficiency technology. Network partners also assist in securing funding and navigating policies at the state and federal levels. As they develop a LEAN for Maine, Klein, Noblet and their team will work with the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point and Indian Township, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Mi'kmaq Nation, the Town of Millinocket and several other underserved communities in the state. The grant includes a subaward to the Penobscot Nation for a new Wabanaki Sustainable Energy Coordinator that will serve all five Wabanaki governments over the next four

years, building the capacity needed to help them reach their goals. “The main focus of this project is how to support communities that historically have experienced outsized energy burdens and/or have not had access to energy solutions, two key components of energy justice,” says Klein, also a faculty fellow with Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions. “These communities often lack capacity for accessing the benefits of a sustainable energy transition. We are researching how statewide LEANs can provide the support these communities need to reach their own energy goals.” Klein and her former undergraduate research assistant, Wendy Crosier, previously found that there were about 50 LEANs in the U.S. as of 2021, including one in Vermont and Massachusetts and several in Connecticut and New Hampshire. Out of the about 50 LEANS, 13 appeared to support Indigenous, low-income or rural communities. The LEAN Klein and Noblet hope to form would specifically serve these communities in Maine. To help establish a LEAN in Maine, Klein and Noblet will conduct an in-depth study of the benefits and challenges associated with existing networks nationwide; identify the barriers, opportunities and drivers involved in renewable energy and energy efficient technology adoptions; assess the role of targeted interventions; and conduct surveys and interviews with members of underserved communities. The UMaine research team also will collaborate on the project with many organizations throughout the state, including the Mitchell Center, the Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, A Climate To Thrive, Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation Systems (BACTS), the Natural Resource Council of Maine, the Nature Conservancy, the Sunrise County Economic Council, Region 1 Coordinator Collaborative (R1CC), Eastern Maine Development Corp., the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments, WindowDressers and the Sipayik Resilience Committee. “It will be very powerful to work directly with Maine communities, and see them set up for future success in energy solutions” Noblet says. While no LEAN exists in Maine, the Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future launched the Community Resilience Partnership, which offers members opportunities to apply for biannual grants for various projects. Klein and Noblet say they hope their LEAN will help underserved communities capitalize on the grants the partnership offers and other funding opportunities. Klein has helped many communities enter the Community Resilience Partnership. She also serves as a voluntary board member for WindowDressers, and she and her students have facilitated several of the nonprofit’s workshops on building window inserts that help reduce home heating waste. “This project builds on iterative efforts to understand the energy needs and challenges in Wabanaki nations and remote Maine communities that began in 2018,” Klein says. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hosting Garden Tool Maintenance Workshop Sept. 12 at Tidewater Farm

23 Aug 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a Garden Tool Maintenance Workshop 5–6 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 12, at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. Proper tool care is an important step for enhancing the longevity and safety of garden tools. In this workshop, UMaine Extension staff will demonstrate best practices for maintaining garden tools during and at the end of the growing season. Participants will gain hands-on experience with cleaning and sharpening tools of their own and learn how to store them during the winter months. Space is limited. Registration is required, and can be done online. The program fee is offered on a sliding scale of $5–$15. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the Tidewater Farm Events webpage or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

Aquaculture Research Institute, Educate Maine host blue-economy-themed student symposium

23 Aug 2023

The University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute (ARI), in partnership with Educate Maine, recently hosted the first Annual Student Symposium for the Advancement of the Blue Economy in Belfast. This symposium spotlighted the work of dozens of students, including 12 externs and six Aquaculture Experiential Opportunities for Undergraduate Students (AquEOUS) Program Fellows from the institute who completed diverse research projects across the state. There was also a panel discussion that featured young professionals who are still shaping their career paths with a shared sentiment of exploration and discovery. Read the full story on the ARI website.

BDN shares UMaine Extension tool workshop

23 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a Garden Tool Maintenance Workshop 5–6 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. Registration is required, and can be done online.

Knoxville Sentinel cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data about record hot temperatures

23 Aug 2023

In an article about heat waves in Knoxville, the Knoxville Sentinel cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer that shows Earth had its hottest day on record when the global average reached 63 degrees in July, surpassing the previous 62.9 record.

ABC cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer sea surface temperature data

23 Aug 2023

In an article about the impact of warming oceans, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer illustrating the increase in sea surface temperatures.

Allan featured on WBBM NewsRadio discussing hazing

23 Aug 2023

Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, was featured on WBBM NewsRadio segment discussing the dangers of hazing. Allan explains that hazing is not just what people see in the headlines. "The definition of hazing — that we use, that is a general foundational definition — is that it's any activity expected of someone participating in a group that humiliates, abuses or potentially endangers them regardless of their willingness to participate," says Allan.

Meet the Kiwibots, UMaine Dining's new food delivery robots

23 Aug 2023

University of Maine students, faculty and staff will see some new faces on campus this fall — but, unlike the first years beginning their college experience, these newcomers will have smiles made of pixels. UMaine Dining is launching 15 food delivery robots, called "Kiwibots," in order to meet the student demand for food delivery services. The semiautonomous Kiwibots will navigate the campus using a camera and GPS system to deliver food ordered through UMaine Dining's Everyday app. UMaine students, faculty and staff can sign up for Kiwibot subscription plans that cover a certain number of deliveries (and include other perks like free birthday rewards, in-app discounts, waived delivery fees and loyalty points). Individual orders without a subscription are also available. The Kiwibots will be scattered around campus, and when a call comes in for an order, the robot closest to the retail or residential location will be assigned to it. The recipient can track the robot's journey on the app until it arrives outside their building, at which time they can scan a QR code and open the robot to receive their food. But the Kiwibots are more than just useful — they're also adorable. "The robots themselves have really cool personalities," says Tadd Stone, UMaine Dining resident district manager. "When they see each other they have different emojis that pop up on their eyeballs. If a Kiwibot gets in the way of the other way, it makes exclamation points. They gather up with hearts in their eyes hanging out with each other." The Kiwibots will also be customized with "skins" and special flags throughout the year for events, like UMaine Homecoming and Halloween. On other campuses, Stone says Kiwibots have even performed "dances" at Homecoming celebrations and cheerleading competitions. [caption id="attachment_99114" align="aligncenter" width="1024"]

Kiwibots in front of UMaine's bear statue.[/caption] Students will have the opportunity to submit names for the 15 UMaine Kiwibots at New Student Orientation. Jonathan Warren, marketing manager at UMaine Dining, also says that the Kiwibots also will be conducting giveaways on campus at orientation and other events throughout the year. Stone says that he and his team decided the Kiwibots were a good fit for UMaine after a listening campaign they conducted last year, where students expressed that they were looking for more delivery options on campus. Stone says that they couldn't find enough student employees for delivery jobs — despite an increase in student wages from $14.10 to $16, Stone says that only 158 students could be found for about 300 open positions — so the robots seemed like a good way to fill that demand. Stone says the robots have an average turnaround time of 25 minutes, including food preparation. The robots are also adorned with bright flags so people can easily see them when they're traveling; the lights on the flags blink when the robot is out for delivery. Warren says that the Kiwibots' intelligent software improves navigation the longer the robots are on campus. As far as finding their way around campus during the winter, Stone says that Kiwibots have already been implemented at schools where they have to navigate snow and icy conditions, including at the University of Vermont, University of Southern Maine and Southern Maine Community College. "The wheels almost look like they have paddles on them so they can go in the snow better," Stone says. "The robots themselves only go in ADA-compliant locations, like wherever the roads are plowed for wheelchair access." There have been delivery mishaps in the past, though, like Kiwibots getting stuck in potholes or falling off curbs. The robots can send distress signals to an on-campus technician based out of the Memorial Union, who can manually direct the robots out of tricky situations or rush to the scene for trickier situations. Stone says that thefts and damage to Kiwibots "happens very infrequently," but the robots are equipped with protective measures, including making loud sounds if they are tampered with and also having built-in mechanisms that call the police and send a GPS signal so that the robots can be found. If something happens to a robot during an active order, Stone says the recipient will receive a replacement for free, "just for the inconvenience." The food delivered by the Kiwibots will be prepared at the Bear's Den Kitchen during the day, and will also be available from 7–10 p.m. through the Den After Dark. Additionally, the Kiwibots will bring exclusive virtual dining options to the UMaine campus, like partnerships through Mariah Carey cheesecake and Nascar wings that can be purchased only through the delivery app. For their launch year at UMaine, there will still be some limitations to the Kiwibots. They can only deliver to campus currently, as permits are needed to cross major roads (which Stone says UMaine Dining is actively working on, particularly for fraternities on campus). They also are still troubleshooting the proper packaging for certain combinations for food — Stone, for example,

doesn't recommend ordering a hot pizza with a pint of ice cream — but the robots are equipped with air cushions to, for example, prevent drinks from spilling on food. Stone says that the Kiwibots on other campuses have been "extremely popular." After the first year, the UMaine Dining team will evaluate the popularity of the program to see if more than 15 robots are needed; they can get new robots "within a day or two" to subsidize the need if the demand for memberships is overwhelming. More than anything, though, Stone and his team are hoping that the Kiwibots will be welcomed onto campus like any other newcomers: with a Hearty Maine Hello. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine, UMaine Machias alumni among Maine Teacher of the Year finalists

23 Aug 2023

Edith Berger, the 2023 Lincoln County Teacher of the Year and a two-time University of Maine alumna, and Colleen Maker, 2023 Washington County Teacher of the Year and University of Maine at Machias alumna, have been named finalists for 2024 Maine Teacher of the Year. Berger is a sixth-grade writing and social studies teacher at Miller School in Waldoboro, part of the RSU 40 school district. She was a 2013 Maine Writing Project fellow and earned both a graduate certificate as a teacher-consultant in writing and a Master of Education in literacy education from UMaine in 2014 and 2016, respectively. The Maine Writing Project, a site of the National Writing Project, is housed at the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. Berger also has a bachelor's degree from Ithaca College in New York. "Being a part of the Maine County and State Teachers of the Year program is an opportunity to lift the voices and amplify the experiences of all teachers in Maine and beyond," Berger said in a Maine Department of Education press release announcing the Teacher of the Year finalists. "My school, administration, colleagues, and district have supported me in my growth as a teacher leader and I owe the same to others in education no matter where they teach." Maker teaches biology and marine biology at Washington Academy in East Machias. She has been teaching for 19 years, the last four at Washington Academy. She was the 2022 recipient of the University of Maine Volunteer Pen Award for her dedication to the Washington Academy Community Garden, which donates all produce to the Machias Food Pantry. Maker is also a member of the Maine Master Gardener Volunteer Program, the Algae Academy, the Downeast Institute, the Coastal Science Academy, the University of Maine 4-H Cooperative Extension and the Downeast Salmon Federation Research Center salmon stocking program. She incorporates these real-world partnerships into her curriculum to encourage students to be lifelong learners, productive community members and responsible stewards of their environment. "It's an honor to represent Washington Academy and Washington County in the Maine Teacher of the Year Program, and I'm thankful to my students, colleagues, administrators, community partners, family, and husband, Joshua, for fueling and nurturing my passion and love for teaching," Maker said in the Maine DOE press release. "Being part of a program that celebrates teachers across Maine is truly exciting, especially in a state where incredible things are unfolding in our classrooms and communities." The state Teacher of the Year program is a partnership between Maine DOE, Educate Maine, the Maine County and State Teacher of the Year Association and the Maine State Board of Education. Cumberland County Teacher of the Year Joshua Chard of East End Community School in Portland and Oxford County Teacher of the Year Lacey Todd of Mountain Valley Middle School in Mexico are the other finalists. The 2024 Maine Teacher of the Year will be announced in October.

UMaine Extension offers Cooking for Crowds workshop throughout the fall

24 Aug 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer food safety training for volunteer cooks at the Cumberland County Office in Falmouth throughout the fall. Visit the program website for exact dates and location. The workshop offers up-to-date information on how to handle, transport, store and prepare foods safely for large group functions such as soup kitchens, church suppers, food pantries and community fundraisers. Participants receive "Cooking for Crowds," a manual specifically designed for volunteer cooks; a certificate of attendance; posters; and an instant-read thermometer. This class meets the Good Shepherd Food Bank food safety training requirements. The $15 per person fee includes all materials. Find the full schedule and register at the event website. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine).

WindTech International notes UMaine role in developing offshore wind turbines in Rhode Island

24 Aug 2023

WindTech International noted that researchers at the University of Maine are working with a team of University of Rhode Island to develop a remote sensing and computational system to control the motion of floating wind turbines in irregular ocean conditions through a $750,000 grant provided through the Department of Energy's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) program.

Media cite UMaine role in monitoring algal blooms in the Gulf of Maine

24 Aug 2023

The Boston Globe, Portland Press Herald and National Fisherman noted the University of Maine's role in an informal consortium to share observations and data about an unusually large and long-lived algae bloom extending more than 100 miles across the Gulf of Maine. Maine Public, News Center Maine, the New Hampshire Bulletin and WGME-TV (Channel 13 in Portland) also reported on the research. The Bangor Daily News and New Hampshire Public Radio shared the Maine Public report. Saving Seafood shared the National Fisherman report. WPFO-TV (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the WGME report. The Eagle-Tribune and Granite Geek shared the New Hampshire Bulletin report.

Media report on federal funding to UMaine for sustainable manufacturing center

24 Aug 2023

The Portland Press Herald, News Center Maine, Spectrum News, Republican Journal, WABI-TV (CBS 5 in Bangor) and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) was one of more than a dozen Maine organizations awarded a combined $11 million in federal funding from the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) to help strengthen economic opportunity in rural communities. The ASCC will receive $1 million to help establish a new immersive manufacturing center called the Green Energy & Materials research Factory of the Future , which will house flexible manufacturing spaces with a focus on producing sustainable, bio-based materials. "This project will enable the growth of a new, innovative and sustainable form of wood residual manufacturing and the preparation of an innovation-ready Maine workforce," said

UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. Yahoo! News shared the PPH report.

New NSF-funded program will train future leaders in the face of rapidly changing oceans

24 Aug 2023

With Earth's oceans facing rapid climate and ecological change, University of Maine faculty will use a $3 million award from the National Science Foundation to create a new training program for graduate students that will support the next generation of marine science and conservation professionals. Over the next five years, Joshua Stoll, an associate professor of marine policy, and his colleagues will design and implement a new traineeship program for master's and doctoral students focused on ecosystem science amid rapid ocean change. Their work will support members of coastal communities throughout the Gulf of Maine region, particularly those dependent on fishing and other natural resources, to adapt to climate change. This new graduate education opportunity, which is funded through NSF's Research Traineeship (NRT) program, will support at least 45 master's and doctoral students, including 23 NSF-funded trainees, in the fields of marine ecology, oceanography, genomics, computational and social sciences. The training will incorporate an emerging discipline called ecosystem-based management. Ecosystem-based management is place-based management of human interactions with marine species and ecosystems that contributes to the resilience and sustainability of the whole system. Practitioners use a variety of expertise — including biophysical and social sciences, and indigenous and local knowledge — to help solve societal problems and inform responses to environmental challenges, such as rapid ocean change. Throughout the five-year grant, these students and faculty will generate new data, tools and information about the effects of a rapidly changing ocean on local ecosystems and the people who rely on them in collaboration with many community and government partners. Their work can empower local, state, tribal and federal resource managers to take further action toward protecting coastal ecosystems and their communities. "Our training program will prepare graduate students to be confident and effective leaders who are poised to support communities in Maine and beyond prepare for and adapt to climate change impacts," Stoll says. Other UMaine faculty participating in the NSF-funded initiative are Christine Beitl, associate professor of anthropology; Kristina Cammen, associate professor of marine mammal science; Sudarshan Chawathe, associate professor of computer science; Chaofan Chen; assistant professor of computer science; Tora Johnson, professor of GIS and environmental studies at the University of Maine at Machias; Heather Leslie, professor of marine sciences; Darren Ranco, professor and chair of Native American Programs; and Anthony Sutton, assistant professor of Native American Programs and University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The team will also work with multiple organizations to conduct collaborative research and establish field experiences for students. These partners include the Governor's Office for Policy Innovation and the Future, Department of Natural Resources for the Penobscot Nation, Sipayik Environmental Department, Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries, Maine Department of Marine Resources, Nature Conservancy in Maine and Northeast Fisheries Science Center. This NRT is the fourth awarded by NSF to a UMaine faculty-led initiative since 2018; the first three are the One Health and the Environment initiative, Enhancing Conservation Science and Practice and Systems Approaches to Understanding and Navigating the New Arctic. All of these traineeships were created to develop new curricula and experiences that equip future leaders to solve current and emerging problems while generating research in support of Maine people. The latest initiative also launches the same year the UMaine Graduate School celebrates 100 years of advanced training and workforce development in the state and beyond. Formed in 1923, the Graduate School has a long history of supporting a highly successful and diverse group of graduate students such as Stoll, who earned his Ph.D. from UMaine in 2016. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu; Joshua Stoll, 207.581.4307; joshua.stoll@maine.edu

Q97.9 cites UMaine Extension information about lakes in Maine

25 Aug 2023

In an article about Echo Lake in Acadia National Park, WBJQ/Q97.9 noted information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension that there are over 6,000 bodies of water in Maine.

Media share UMaine Extension 'Cooking for Crowds' workshop

25 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a workshop called Cooking for Crowds that provides food safety training for volunteer cooks at the Cumberland County office in Falmouth throughout the fall. Visit the program website for exact dates and location.

Media highlight Ferrini-Mundy moderating book discussion in Bangor

25 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News and WABI-TV (CBS 5 in Bangor) reported that University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy moderated a book talk for "In Other Words, Leadership: How a Young Mother's Weekly Letters to Her Governor Helped Both Women Brave the First Pandemic Year," written by Shannon A. Mullen, at the Bookspace in downtown Bangor. The book features handwritten letters between Maine Gov. Janet Mills and Ashirah Knapp, a constituent who wrote the governor letters through the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ferrini-Mundy said she's grateful for the reflective novel because now it puts current days in a different perspective. "For me reading the book made it clear that the pandemic is not behind us, the book just brings it all back and then it causes at least for me some reflection on what the world is like right now," Ferrini-Mundy said.

Apul featured on 'Maine Calling' segment on PFAS

25 Aug 2023

Maine Public featured Onur Apul, assistant professor of environmental engineering at the University of Maine, as a VIP caller for a "Maine Calling" segment on PFAS, also referred to as "forever chemicals," and water quality.

UMaine Extension open house in Falmouth to feature pie bake-off and beekeeping talk

28 Aug 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Cumberland County will host an Open House and Annual Meeting 5-6 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 6, at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. The public is invited to learn about UMaine Extension's work, explore the gardens, hear a short presentation by local beekeeper Peter Richardson and participate in a King Arthur's Flour Pie Bake-Off. Presentations begin at 5:30 p.m. Light refreshments and locally-made ice cream will be provided. No registration required. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the UMaine Extension website or contact Sarah Davenport, extension.cumberland@maine.edu, 207.781.6099.

Sydney Morning Herald cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data about Antarctic sea ice

28 Aug 2023

In an article about the loss of emperor penguin chicks in parts of Antarctica, the Sydney Morning Herald featured visualizations from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer comparing sea ice extent in July 2014 to July of this year. The loss of the chicks coincides with record low sea ice coverage which was predicted as the world warmed. However, the collapse in numbers has happened faster and sooner than expected, prompting fears for the future of the animal.

AZ Animals features UMaine campus

28 Aug 2023

AZ Animals featured the University of Maine as the most "sprawling" college campus in the state. The article highlighted the spacious campus, facilities, history and the wildlife that can be encountered at UMaine.

Daily Kos highlights UMaine graduate student documentary about Ukraine

28 Aug 2023

The Daily Kos highlighted a new documentary by Vitalia Tomakhiv, graduate student with the School of Policy and International Affairs at the University of Maine, shot in the Donetsk region in Ukraine not far from the frontline. "The film is in English, because the goal was to make it accessible to an international audience. Prior to the Independence Day, let these interviews with our soldiers inspire us to remember once again what wonderful people protect us, and let us see in them the ordinary people — who have a cat at home or their favorite hobby, despite all the extraordinary things that they do every day to protect global values," Tomakhiv said.

Maine Monitor quotes Gilbert in article about salmon escape impact on seals

28 Aug 2023

In an article about the recent escape of 50,000 juvenile salmon from a fish farm off Cutler, The Maine Monitor quoted James Gilbert, professor emeritus at the University of Maine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology, about the impact of the escape on local seals. Gilbert said that coastwide surveys in Maine from 1981 through 2018 indicate that gray seal numbers have been increasing, while harbor seal populations have remained steady or are declining slightly.

News Center Maine notes UMaine Tick Lab in reporting about alpha-gal syndrome

28 Aug 2023

In an article about the Alpha-Gal Syndrome, a red meat allergy linked to bites from Lone Star ticks, News Center Maine reported that experts at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab say the number of Lone Star ticks found in Maine is minimal.While Lone Star ticks have no established populations, more are being brought in from other parts of the country with higher numbers.

Mainebiz lists UMaine, Foster Center in resource guide for entrepreneurs

28 Aug 2023

Mainebiz listed the University of Maine and its Foster Center for Innovation in an entrepreneur's guide to Maine's regions. Mainebiz also interviewed Renee Kelly, associate vice president of the UMaine Office of Strategic Partnerships, Innovation, Resources and Engagement, for insider tips to the region. "The economic development directors in the area work really well together, so no matter which one you start with, they will work to find a business owner a good option. Joining Fusion: Bangor or participating in the Bangor Region Leadership Institute are the best ways for newcomers (or boomerangs like myself) to get to know the area and make strong connections," Kelly said.

Chronicle of Higher Education features Hart, Silka in article about community-focused research

28 Aug 2023

In an article about how the insular world of academia can prevent community-focused research, The Chronicle of Higher Education spoke to David Hart, director of the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions and professor of biological sciences, and Linda Silka, senior fellow at the Mitchell Center. When Hart and Silka started the Mitchell Center, advisers from the National Academy of Science told them to not let untenured faculty members take part in the project because it could be a strike against them in tenure review. Hart and Silka decided to ignore the advice from senior scientists and allow junior faculty members to join the Mitchell Center's work while committing to mentoring those researchers. Over a decade, everyone who has come up for tenure has been successful, Hart said.

Media cover 2023 Maine Hello

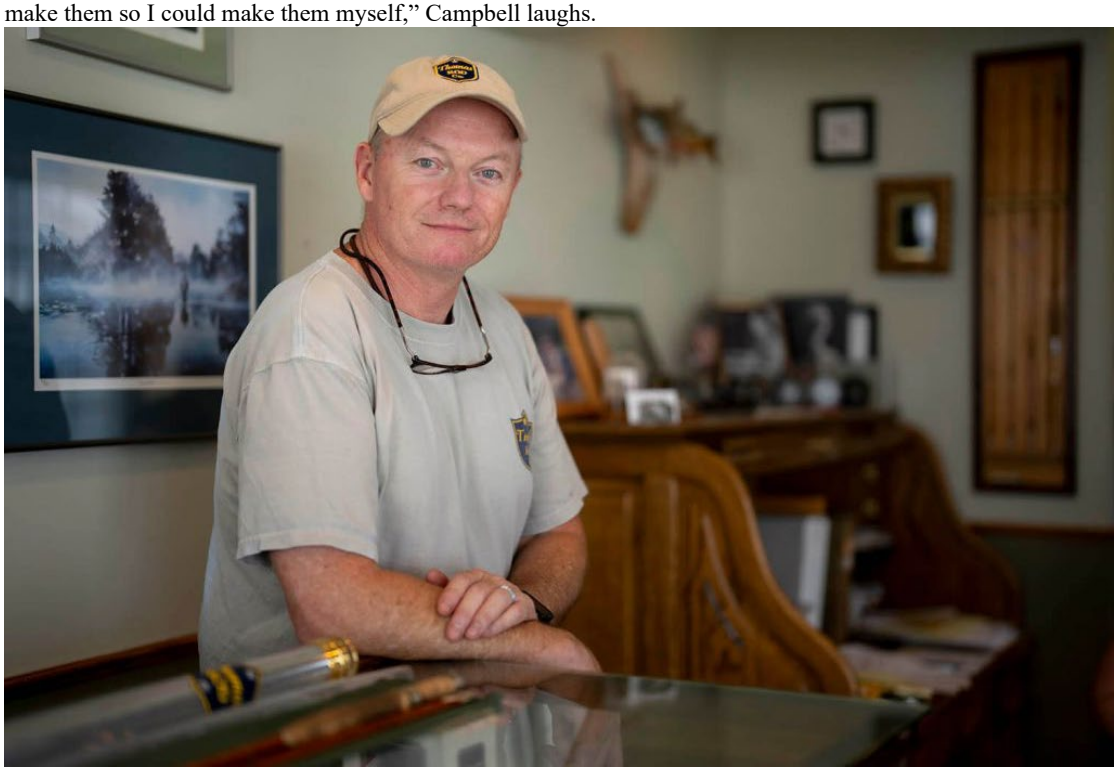
28 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News, News Center Maine, WABI-TV (CBS 5 in Bangor) and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine welcomed first-year students to campus as part of Maine Hello on Friday, Aug. 25. Returning students, faculty and staff helped the incoming Class of 2027 get settled into their residence halls. “I always look forward to Maine Hello with a great sense of anticipation. With the start of every new academic year, the university renews our promise to our students and reaffirms our commitment to delivering knowledge and transformational learning opportunities. This transformation is awe-inspiring,” said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. WBRC-TV (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama), KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) and WLOX-TV (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi) shared the WABI report.

UMaine IMRC uses its tools to preserve historic fly rods — including Teddy Roosevelt's

29 Aug 2023

Fly fishing is an essential piece of Maine’s history and culture. The artists at the University of Maine’s Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center knew this when they were approached with the task of using the tools at their disposal to help Thomas Rod Co., a historic fly rod maker based in Brewer, preserve and recreate its legacy designs — including the one personally used by President Theodore Roosevelt over 100 years ago. Steve Campbell, the owner of Thomas Rod Co., has always liked the old version of things, like vintage cars and wooden canoes. When Campbell bought the company, which has been making traditional bamboo fly rods (as opposed to their modern graphite, fiberglass and composite counterparts) for over 100 years, he knew he wanted to bring back some of the traditional models that had made the company legendary. “I’ve been fly fishing since I was about 10 years old. I found out about these old bamboo fishing rods and started reading about them, and it turned out I couldn't afford them, so I started trying to learn how to make them myself,” Campbell laughs.



The dilemma, though, was that Campbell didn’t have access to all the materials that he needed to bring these designs back to life. In order to make the Thomas-style fly rods, Campbell has to prepare six strips of bamboo, which are eventually bundled into a hexagonal rod, using a milling machine that shapes pieces with a narrowed tip, known as the rod’s “taper.” Fly rod tapers look the same to the untrained eye, but they are ever-so-slightly different, often at the scale of thousandths of an inch. Those discrepancies make a huge difference for the dynamics of the rod. “You have dry fly rods that are meant to cast flies over the surface, streamer rods which are meant to go under the water,” Campbell explains. “It’s a different action to get the fly moving if it’s under water as opposed to being right on the surface,

so the rods have a different taper to them."

The machine that cuts the bamboo into these tapers uses templates made of a strong plastic called delrin. Campbell had the specs for the three tapers he was missing — an eight-and-a-half-foot dry fly rod, eight-and-a-half-foot wet fly rod and a nine-foot dry fly rod — but he didn't have the templates that he needed to make the rods a reality. Based on past experience, he knew that a CNC, or computer numerical control, machine would be a good fit to get the precision that he needed. Campbell first reached out to the Advanced Manufacturing Center, and was eventually put in touch with Drew Hooke, operations manager, and Sean Michael Taylor, research engineer at the IMRC Center, which is a part of UMaine's Coordination Operation Research Entities (CORE). The IMRC Center was equipped with a CNC machine that could accomplish what Campbell needed. The center was a better fit for the boutique task at hand — and the project appealed to their multidisciplinary sensibilities.

"We do like the fact that it's still tied to part of history and antiquity — that makes it even better for us," Taylor says. "We love studying technology, especially ancient ones. That's still where we get a lot of our ideas. There's something we can learn from this, and that's the part of creativity I love studying."

Once the IMRC Center ironed out the details with Campbell, the fly rod maker sent over the existing files that he had related to the tapers. Taylor refashioned the files to work with the CNC machine, and he and graduate student laboratory technician James LeBlanc practiced cutting the tapers out of wood. Once they had perfected the process, they cut the final tapers out of delrin. “The CNC is a powerful and accurate machine that enables us to create precise, measured cuts necessary for a project such as this. It is always exciting to collaborate with companies that are so ingrained in classic Maine pastimes,” LeBlanc says. Taylor says that one of the great things about this project is now the files will exist and preserve these historical designs for generations to come. “As long as you keep a good history of the files you have you don’t have to go and reinvent the wheels,” Taylor says. “It’s a fantastic opportunity to support a local business that has been here for many years.”

The tapers made at the IMRC Center have also helped Campbell with one of his highest profile projects yet. A client recently came to Campbell with the original Thomas fly rod used by President Teddy Roosevelt dating back to 1913, looking to make a pair of replicas for him and his son. That rod is an eight-and-a-half-foot wet fly rod — one of the tapers that Campbell had been missing until he was put in touch with the IMRC Center. “It’s great because now I have those templates for those tapers the customers ask about. I was worried I wasn't going to be able to until I found [the IMRC Center]. I was pretty happy to have them be able to do it,” Campbell

says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Fogler Library launching discussion series on contemporary issues at the Salon

29 Aug 2023

Fogler Library will launch a new discussion series focusing on a variety of contemporary issues starting Sept. 12 at the Salon, formerly known as the University Club, in the Lynch Room. Each event in the Salon Series will feature a conversation between guest speakers and attendees, both in person and virtual. Topics include envisioning the next-generation university, responsible ways to use generative artificial intelligence and how Maine libraries are grappling with censorship. Jon Ippolito, professor of New Media and director of the Digital Curation program, will participate in two salons. He says "Today's university, like society at large, faces challenges that individual disciplines can't solve on their own. Salons are a time-honored — and fun — way to brainstorm fresh solutions to vexing problems." This academic year's salons were developed through conversations with colleagues and Fogler friends, including conservationist Ken Olson, who will discuss public-private partnerships for protecting Acadia National Park with Acadia Superintendent Kevin Schneider. Rajika Bhandari, author of "America Calling: A Foreign Student in a Country of Possibility," a UMaine Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning CITL Book Club pick in spring 2023 and 2024, will join Orlina Boteva, director of the Office of International Programs, and Karen Pelletreau, CITL director of faculty educational development, to discuss how the university community can better support the international students. In winter 2023, the former University Club in the Lynch Room was nicknamed the Salon and opened to all Fogler Library patrons as an eating, studying and event space. The hybrid Latin American Film Festival was hosted there. The Salon is the re-envisioning of the Lynch Room as a place for the university community to congregate, discuss and collaborate on ideas. In the coming months, the Salon will be outfitted with comfortable new seating and technology. With the newly minted multidisciplinary Salon Series, the library aspires to foster the kind of conversations and action that will be remembered for a lifetime. "Libraries have historically been the heart of a campus and the Salon is one tangible invitation to manifest this anew," says Dean of Libraries Daisy Domínguez Singh. "Other examples of how we are opening our arms to the university and public are the open scholarship and GIS librarians who will support our institution's open access digital scholarship and GIS projects. We're evolving right alongside the university, and we're still the heart of the campus. Please join us!"

Virtual 'Self-Care is a Verb' program returns in Sept.

29 Aug 2023

Registration is open for an online professional development program, "Self-Care is a Verb." This workshop, part of University of Maine Cooperative Extension's professional development program, will be held from 1-3 p.m. on Sept. 19 and 20 via Zoom. Participants will join clinical psychologist Wendy Rapaport in learning or getting a refresher on integrating self-care into their lives. In this interactive training, participants will develop strategies pertaining to resilience, hardiness and emotion processing. This self-care program is designed to support anyone who is facing burnout and could use help integrating self-care routines, including administrators in health care and education; clinicians, dieticians, doctors, nurses, surgeons and other medical professionals; educators, ed techs and teachers; human resource professionals; lawyers; social workers; and midwives, doulas and birth workers. Rapaport is a licensed clinical psychologist and faculty member at the UMaine School of Social Work and University of Miami School of Medicine Diabetes Research Institute. She is a professional writer with more than 65 published articles who delivers lectures across the country. She has specialized in individual, martial, family and group therapy for 40 years. Participants will receive a certificate of completion, and 0.4 CEUs/4 contact hours are available upon request. The program cost is $140 per person. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program website or contact Kimberly Lai, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002.

The Conversation cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in reporting about Hurricane Idalia

29 Aug 2023

In an article about Hurricane Idalia intensifying in warm Gulf of Mexico waters, The Conversation cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer about global ocean temperatures.

PenBay Pilot shares Garland presentation about pollinators with Rockport Garden Club

29 Aug 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot shared that Kate Garland, horticulturist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will present at the Rockport Garden Club meeting at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7, at West Rockport Baptist Church. Garland will discuss the best plants to plant in a garden to attract and provide food for pollinators.

BDN reports on UMaine research about energy projects

29 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News reported that University of Maine researchers Sharon Klein and Caroline Noblet, both associate professors of economics, were awarded $1.13 million from the Environmental Protection Agency to work with Wabanaki and rural low-income communities to develop and investigate the effectiveness of Local Energy Action Networks, or LEANs, in Maine. LEANs are networks of local government committees that engage in peer-to-peer learning and access to technical, financial and educational assistance relating to renewable energy and energy efficiency technology. As they develop a LEAN for Maine, Klein, Noblet and their team will work with the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point and Indian Township, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Mi'kmaq Nation, the Town of Millinocket and several other underserved communities in the state.

Hudacs writes op-ed for BDN about engaging youth

29 Aug 2023

Andrew Hudacs, assistant extension professor for 4-H teen leadership and workforce development at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, wrote an opinion piece for the Bangor Daily News about the importance of engaging youth in order to prepare for a better future. "Bringing youth voices to the table is not about giving up power, adding risk to high-stakes decision making or inviting distractions from an agenda. Rather, it is about being better informed in important conversations that impact public resources and plan for the future. Under-representation in civic life can easily lead to marginalization, oppression and apathy. Our communities and world become more just and equitable when all people have an opportunity to be involved," Hudacs wrote. Hudacs is part of the Maine chapter of the Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications. Members' columns appear in the BDN every other week. The Piscataquis Observer shared the BDN column.

Axios Columbus quotes Socolow in article about AI sports reporting

29 Aug 2023

In an article about The Columbus Dispatch pausing its use of artificial intelligence as a sports writing tool due to criticism, Axios Columbus quoted Michael Socolw, professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism. "The future is now: Journalism without journalists," Socolow posted on X above a list of AI-generated high school football stories published in four newspapers, including the Dispatch.

Washington Post interviews Leahy about shifting baselines

29 Aug 2023

The Washington Post spoke to Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions of natural resources at the University of Maine, about "shifting baselines," the new normal of ecosystems as the environment is degraded over generations. Speaking of the 600 acres of forest Leahy manages, she said, "The ground isn't freezing in the winter, the mud season is extending, and our roads are washing out. Everything I do now is not called a climate change project, but it is driven by it." Leahy is creating a new baseline for Maine by ordering new tree saplings from nurseries in warmer climates such as New Hampshire and diversifying the species of trees. The Washington Post also spoke to Chuck Loring Jr., the Penobscot Nation's director of natural resources and a UMaine School of Forest Resources alum. "We have a seven-generation approach. … The tribe has made ensuring a viable forest in the future the priority, even if we're not generating income from the forest," Loring said.

UMaine Extension faculty honored on national stage for local impact

29 Aug 2023

Two University of Maine Cooperative Extension specialists were recently honored with several awards from a national organization recognizing the impact their work and research has had on Maine agriculture. At the 2023 National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) annual meeting in early August in Des Moines, Iowa, Glenda Pereira, UMaine Extension dairy specialist and assistant professor of animal science, received a National Achievement Award for Excellence in Extension Programming. Pereira was recognized for her applied research program integrating precision dairy management technologies and her work to define how per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, affect dairy animals. UMaine associate Extension professor and state livestock specialist Colt Knight was also recognized as a national award finalist in the Search for Excellence in Livestock Production category for his workshops about raising pastured pork. Additionally, Knight was presented with a Regional Communications Award for his "Alternative Fencing Method" video. "NACAA is the national professional development organization for Extension county agricultural agents and educators. And because of that, these recognitions are something we take great pride in," says UMaine Extension Dean Hannah Carter. "Each one shows an actual, real-world impact that our educators have made in their communities." NACAA is composed of members from state agricultural agent associations for the purpose of promoting professional development, recognizing professional excellence and representing professional interests of its members. This year's annual meeting featured tours that focused on animal science, horticulture and sustainable agriculture. It included professional development in the form of seminars, as well as oral and poster presentations. "I found the meeting extremely beneficial. Getting involved in a national organization like this one provides great opportunities to learn from colleagues across the country and bring new ideas back to farmers here in Maine," says Knight.

Allan partnering with PBS filmmaker on hazing prevention materials

29 Aug 2023

Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, will partner with acclaimed PBS filmmaker Byron Hurt to develop a collection of hazing prevention resources to accompany Hurt's 2022 documentary, "HAZING." The materials will include a viewing guide that will accompany the film and offer an overview of hazing as a form of interpersonal violence, as well as discussion questions and a series of short-form resources that focus on prevalent themes from the film, such as mental health, bystander intervention, leadership and power dynamics. Each resource will connect the film to hazing prevention and provide suggested activities to extend reflection and learning from the film's content. "HAZING" is a 90-minute first-person documentary in which Hurt weaves his story with those of a diverse mix of individuals whose lives have been impacted by hazing, including victims, their family members and perpetrators. Throughout the film, Hurt makes the case that hazing is a widespread, far-reaching and systemic problem, fueled by tradition, secrecy, groupthink, power, control and the desire to belong. It also offers voices hopeful for and resistant to a hazing-free culture. The film cites Allan's research and features an interview with former UMaine faculty member Mary Madden, who collaborated with Allan on the landmark 2008 National Study of Student Hazing. "'HAZING' is a powerful film that ignites reflection and dialogue that can help shift cultures," says Allan, who will work with colleagues from StopHazing, an organization she founded to work on hazing prevention, as well as Hurt and the film's producer Natalie Bullock Brown to develop the viewing guide and other resources. StopHazing's operations manager Meredith Stewart will coordinate the project. Stewart earned her bachelor's degree in secondary education in 2017 and her master's degree in higher education in 2020 from the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. "We appreciate Byron and Natalie's thoughtful and courageous exploration of this complex topic and it is an honor to collaborate with them to help amplify the film's use as an educational resource," Allan says. The viewing guide and other resources will be available in September on the StopHazing website. September is National Campus Safety Awareness Month and includes National Hazing Prevention Week. "I'm very excited to work with Dr. Allan and the StopHazing team in an effort to advance discussion about how to prevent hazing," says Hurt. "Our partnership creates an incredible opportunity for those who are truly committed to educating students to use the film as a media tool to spark dialogue hazing culture." "HAZING" debuted last year on the PBS series "Independent Lens." It will be available to stream on other platforms, including Prime Video, Comcast and iTunes, starting Sept. 12.

Apply to be a UMaine Extension 4-H teen leadership mentor

30 Aug 2023

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is seeking UMaine students to become mentors for a new leadership program called YOUth have a Voice: 4-H Youth in Governance and Civic Engagement. Applications should be completed by Friday, Sept. 8. Mentors will support high-school-age teens as they take on a more active role in serving and improving their communities. The nine-month program will introduce Maine teens to civic processes and connect them with peers and adults through civic engagement. Mentors will also help youth complete a service project in their local community. In this program, 4-H teens are encouraged to step out of their comfort zone, find their voice, and strive to become the person they see for their future self. Mentors help teens by providing a safe and welcoming space, helping to assess community needs and collaboratively developing achievable goals to create change. Mentors will meet with their 4-H members twice per month in statewide and independent meetings online and in-person. No prior experience in 4-H is required. Mentors will be matched with 4-H teens based on their knowledge, skills and interests for service projects. More information and application forms can be found on the UMaine Extension website. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Andrew Hudacs, andrew.hudacs@maine.edu, 207.581.8204.

CentralMaine.com shares UMaine Extension open house

30 Aug 2023

CentralMaine.com shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Cumberland County plans to host an open house and annual meeting from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6. No registration is required. For more information, visit the program webpage.

Boothbay Register lists Talty's 'Night of the Living Rez' as 2023 summer reading recommendation

30 Aug 2023

The Boothbay Register shared "Night of the Living Rez" by Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, on a list of recommendations from Boothbay Harbor Memorial Library's Adult Summer Reading program participants.

Media feature UMaine Extension 'Walk and Cook' class

30 Aug 2023

The Sun Journal and Daily Bulldog shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Franklin County will host a biweekly "Walk and Cook" class 11 a.m.-noon every Tuesday and Thursday inSeptember at its office, 138 Pleasant St. in Farmington. Bella Russo, community education assistant with UMaine Extension who administers the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), will present the class, which will begin Tuesday, Sept. 5. Registration is required, and can be done on the program webpage.

Media share virtual UMaine Extension program 'Helping to Calm Strong Emotions'

31 Aug 2023

The Daily Bulldog and Bangor Daily News shared that registration is open for an online professional development program, "Helping to Calm Strong Emotions with Resonant Language." This four-day workshop, part of University of Maine Cooperative Extension's professional development program, will be held from 4-5:30 p.m. every Wednesday from Sept. 13 to Oct. 4. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program website.

BDN notes National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month events at UMaine Machias

31 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine at Machias will host multiple events designed to increase awareness and support for individuals

and families affected by suicide and suicidal ideation in September.

Media share UMaine Extension 'Self Care is a Verb' virtual workshop

31 Aug 2023

The Bangor Daily News, The Piscataquis Observer and the Daily Bulldog shared that registration is open for an online professional development program, "Self-Care is a Verb." This workshop, part of University of Maine Cooperative Extension's professional development program, will be held from 1-3 p.m. on Sept. 19-20 via Zoom. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program website.

Forbes notes UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in article about record-breaking summer heat

31 Aug 2023

In reporting about a deadly summer heat wave that continued to break temperature records this week throughout the South, Southwest and Midwest, Forbes cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer showing that July 4 was the planet's hottest day in nearly 125,000 years, at 62.92 degrees.

Natalie Tomah: Family ties call freshman elementary education student to UMaine

31 Aug 2023

For Natalie Tomah of Smithfield, Rhode Island, deciding to come to the University of Maine for college was like deciding to go home. Although she grew up in the Ocean State, Tomah has deep connections to Maine and its flagship public university. Her dad, Tony Tomah, was born and raised in Houlton. Her mom, Lori Tomah, spent summers vacationing in Maine. Both parents are UMaine graduates: Tony Tomah has a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's in instructional technology, while Lori Tomah has a master's in human nutrition. They met when they were in graduate school. "I feel like I was meant to come here," says Natalie Tomah, a freshman, who like her dad will study elementary education. At Maine Hello, as mom and dad helped her move into the College of Education and Human Development's Living Learning Community on the fourth floor of Cumberland Hall, surrounded by half-unpacked boxes of loose clothing, electronics and other tokens of dorm life, Natalie Tomah says the number one reason she chose UMaine was the sense of community. "There's something about this campus that sets it apart," she says. "I could have gone to an in-state college, but nothing fit like UMaine fit." Part of that is an ancestral connection. Natalie Tomah and her dad are members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians. Tony Tomah says his daughter will have more opportunities to explore her Native identity than he did during his time at UMaine. "Just seeing the Wabanaki signs on campus," Tony Tomah says, "she will have much more exposure and probably gain much more knowledge immediately than I will ever gain." Case in point: Before she graduates, Natalie Tomah will take Teaching Wabanaki Studies, a course the College of Education and Human Development recently incorporated into its curriculum for preservice teachers to better prepare Maine educators to meet the spirit of a 2001 state law that requires K–12 schools to teach Wabanaki history and culture. In the Living Learning Community, Natalie Tomah will be surrounded by other students who came to UMaine to study education, as well as students majoring in child development and family relations, exercise science and physical education. She'll have opportunities to get to know her peers through team-building activities, professional development opportunities and focused learning experiences. Asked if she decided to study education because of her dad, the director of technology at a school district in Massachusetts, Natalie Tomah says partially. But there's more to the story. "My siblings are triplets, so I've always been a teaching figure and I love working with kids," she says. "She's a natural when it comes to working with children," Lori Tomah chimes in. "She didn't have baby dolls, she had the real thing." In high school, Natalie Tomah was a member of the National Honor Society and the Youth Council in Smithfield, as well as a volunteer at her church. She also spent this past summer working as a special education teaching assistant for her town's school district. "That taught me a lot about working with different student populations, and I'm hoping it translates into some opportunities down the road when I'm home on break," she says. As for what she's looking forward to the most during her time at UMaine, she says, "just making connections that will help me be successful in the future." She's already off to a good start. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

History-making Nina Rogers joins UMaine Women's Ice Hockey as assistant coach

01 Sep 2023

Nina Rodgers, who is believed to be the first Black woman to coach in NCAA Division I hockey, is joining the University of Maine Women's Ice Hockey team as an assistant coach. Rodgers spent the past two seasons as an assistant coach at Dartmouth College. After graduating from Boston University in 2018, she spent three seasons playing in the National Women's Hockey League (NWHL), one season with the Connecticut Whale and two with the Minnesota Whitecaps. "I am honored to be joining this staff and program here in Maine. There is a great energy around this group. What they are building here is something that anyone would want to be a part of, and I can't wait to jump right in and get after it," Rodgers says. Read the full story on the UMaine Athletics website. Contact: Tyson McHatten, tyson.mchatten@maine.edu

Volin appointed to NCAA Division I Committee on Academics

01 Sep 2023

[caption id="attachment_99265" align="alignright" width="223"]  John Volin[/caption] John Volin, executive vice president of academic affairs and provost for the University of Maine, has been appointed to the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics, effective immediately. He will be serving in this capacity as part of a three-year term. The committee oversees various matters that support the NCAA's academic mission, including Division I policies, eligibility standards and an academic performance program, according to the association. In addition to Volin, who serves as the sole provost on the committee, the group consists of university presidents, including one who serves as chair; faculty athletics representatives; directors of athletics; senior women administrators; conference administrators and a student-athlete. "I'm thrilled to be joining the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics and welcome the opportunity to help champion the vital intersection of academics and athletics in pursuit of a brighter future for student-athletes," Volin says. Volin joined the UMaine community in 2020. Prior to that, he served in various capacities at the University of Connecticut for 13 years. During his tenure at UConn, he served as a professor of natural resources and the environment, a department head and vice provost for academic affairs. Under Volin's leadership, UMaine has implemented numerous new graduate and undergraduate degree programs; established several student success and retention initiatives, such as the Research Learning Experiences for first- and second-year students; launched a new five-year Strategic Framework for Enrollment Management Recruitment and Retention Action Plan and signed partnership transfer agreements with multiple community colleges. In 2021, Volin was selected as one of the higher education leaders nationwide to speak in the first annual conference of the Coalition for Life-Transformative Education (CLTE). Additionally, Volin chaired a committee that conducted a national search for a new athletics director in 2022, which resulted in the hiring of current Director Jude Killy. "In getting to know Provost Volin during the search process and through today, I have been so impressed by his knowledge, energy and relentless work ethic," Killy says. "He will be a great addition to the Committee as he is committed to higher education and the academic mission that drives intercollegiate athletics." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine President Ferrini-Mundy featured on Voice of Maine

01 Sep 2023

Voice of Maine featured University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy on the show "GHRT Rewinds." Ferrini-Mundy participated in a back-to-school Q&A session with hosts George Hale and Ric Tyler.

Kerr named first female scientist to earn American Fisheries Society's Carl R. Sullivan Fishery Conservation Award

01 Sep 2023

Lisa Kerr, associate professor at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, received the American Fisheries Society's 2023 Carl R. Sullivan Fishery Conservation Award at their annual meeting in August in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The award is presented to an individual or organization, professional or nonprofessional, for outstanding contributions to the conservation of fishery resources. Kerr is the first female scientist to receive this award since its founding in 1991.

UMaine Extension's Savoie honored with Association of Northeast Extension Directors' 2023 Exceptional Local Educator Award

01 Sep 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator Kathy Savoie was recently honored with the Association of Northeast Extension Directors' 2023 Exceptional Local Educator Award. The highly competitive award is given annually to celebrate a Cooperative Extension educator who provides leadership for the delivery of a program that focuses on the community level, responds directly to local issues or needs, and engages in exceptional program planning and assessment. Savoie received the award for the program "Building Agricultural Literacy through an Immersive Culinary Art Experience." Savoie, along with Rob Dumas, food science innovation coordinator at UMaine, created, designed and delivered a program which provides four types of experiential learning for Maine culinary arts instructors and their students. It includes classroom visits to infuse agricultural literacy into mainstream culinary arts curricula, mini-grant funds to support experiential learning and an innovative local food competition. Since its inception 18 months ago, the program has already reached 650 learners and 21 culinary arts instructors. Participants in the program increased proficiency in all five National Agricultural Literacy Outcome benchmarks, which help track student progress toward the goal of understanding the source of our food and how agriculture affects our quality of life, by 90%. The program was developed in response to robust assessment data that highlighted the ways Maine Career Technical Education instructors and their students would benefit from immersive culinary experiences and practices. It is designed to expose teachers and learners to local food systems and deepen understanding of agriculture practices. "UMaine Extension is raising the bar for higher education opportunities and I'm glad that Kathy and this innovative program have been recognized by her peers in the Northeast," says Jason Bolton, associate dean and program administrator at UMaine Extension. "Here at Extension, we're making a strong commitment to help more teachers and learners achieve credentials of value so they can contribute to, participate in, and benefit from deepening their understanding of agricultural practices and the local Maine food system. We've made some big strides over the past several years and I look forward to what we will continue to accomplish in the future." Savoie will showcase her programming during the Association of Northeast Extension Directors' annual awards celebration in early 2024. To learn more or connect with the Building Agricultural Literacy through an

Immersive Culinary Art Experience program, visit the UMaine Extension website or contact Kathy Savoie, ksavoie@maine.edu.

McGillicuddy Humanities Center hosting lecture with Grammy, Pulitzer Prize winner Rhiannon Giddens

05 Sep 2023

The University of Maine Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) and the Collins Center for the Arts will welcome Grammy, Pulitzer Prize and MacArthur "Genius" grant winner Rhiannon Giddens for a free public lecture and conversation with trumpet professor Jack Burt at 1 p.m. Sept. 23 in the Donald P. Corbett Business Building. An acclaimed musician, author and television host, Giddens has made a singular, iconic career out of stretching her brand of Americana music, with its miles-deep historical roots and contemporary sensibilities, into just about every field imaginable. She has centered her work around the mission of lifting up people whose contributions to American musical history have previously been overlooked or erased, and advocating for a more accurate understanding of the country's musical origins through art. Giddens, a two-time Grammy Award and Pulitzer Prize winner, also composes opera, ballet and film. "Rhiannon Giddens is not only an outstanding performer and composer, but also a scholar of the ways in which American music interacts with our society, both in the past and in the present," says Beth Wiemann, MHC director and professor of music at UMaine. "We're so lucky to welcome her, particularly now, with the release of a new album, a television program, at a moment when her work is having such an impact on American music." Burt directs the brass and trumpet ensembles, coaches student chamber brass groups and teaches music history at UMaine. He earned degrees from the Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory of Music, the University of South Carolina and the University of Texas at Austin, with additional private studies in Berlin. He has worked with members of major orchestras in the U.S. and Europe, including the Chicago Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Vienna Philharmonic and Berlin Philharmonic. This event is free and open to the public. Following the MHC lecture, Giddens will take the stage of the Collins Center at 8:00 pm. Tickets for that performance begin at $30, and are available from the Collins Center box office. "The CCA and McGillicuddy have a long-standing partnership working to present pre-show lectures throughout our season, but this is by far our most ambitious collaboration. We are thrilled to be part of bringing an artist of this caliber to UMaine," says Collins Center Executive Director Danny Williams. For more information about the lecture or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact the MHC at mhc@maine.edu. The MHC supports excellent teaching, research and public engagement in the humanities to deepen understanding of the human condition. It supports programs that foster intellectual curiosity, critical reflection and creative innovation. Central to the center's work is the belief that study of the humanities inspires compassion across differences, develops empathy, strengthens critical thinking skills and cultivates the emotional and intellectual agility needed to navigate an increasingly interconnected and complex global landscape. The Collins Center is the anchor for the performing arts at UMaine, and supports the university's overall mission of teaching, research and service. The center also serves as a cultural resource for the region, and offers a broad and exceptional selection of programming designed to enrich, educate and entertain.

Spectrum News cites UMaine overdose data

05 Sep 2023

In an article about Portland securing funding to address overdose deaths, Spectrum News cited data from the University of Maine showing that there were just 34 overdose deaths in 1997, that number had risen to 504 by 2020.

Media share national awards for UMaine Extension educators

05 Sep 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Morning Ag Clips reported that Glenda Pereira, University of Maine Cooperative Extension dairy specialist and assistant professor of animal science, and Colt Knight, UMaine associate Extension professor and state livestock specialist, received awards from the 2023 National Association of County Agricultural Agents meeting.

BDN cites UMaine Extension bulletin about fall colors

05 Sep 2023

In an article featuring an outdoor game about looking for different colors in nature, the Bangor Daily News cited a bulletin published by University of Maine Cooperative Extension noting that leaves stop producing chlorophyll in the fall, and as the remaining pigment breaks down, yellow and orange pigments within the leaves are revealed.

News Center Maine features PFAS Center for Excellence

05 Sep 2023

News Center Maine featured the upcoming PFAS Center for Excellence located at the University of Maine and its potential to lead the way nationally in PFAS solutions research. "What will be key is for us to hire a research leader with expertise in PFAS research and a vision of where this program would go in the next 10 years," said Bryan Peterson, associate professor of environmental horticulture. "We have to throw everything at it so that any resources made available to mitigate PFAS is extremely timely and critical," said Onur Apul, assistant professor of environmental engineering at UMaine. The article also featured Jake Ward, vice president for innovation and economic development at UMaine.

School of Earth and Climate Sciences awarded $1.5 million from DOD to improve snowpack predictions

05 Sep 2023

The Department of Defense (DOD) has awarded $1,504,063 to a University of Maine project quantifying snowpack properties in the Arctic led by School of Earth and Climate Sciences faculty members Chris Gerbi and Seth Campbell, who also is affiliated with the Climate Change Institute. Characterizing and predicting the characteristics of snow-covered regions is a critical gap in the U.S. Army's readiness to respond to sub-Arctic and Arctic threats, which become increasingly relevant in light of aggressive posturing from other northern latitude countries. Beyond the Army, quantifying the differences in water content of snow aides in predictions that support water resource management decisions from streamflow to drinking water. This research will utilize observations at sites on the scale of centimeters to hundreds of meters as the basis for training instrumentation for remote sensing and prediction over watersheds and larger

regions. The spatial and temporal variability of snow properties makes predictions across landscapes particularly challenging. However, given that around one third of the Earth's land surface receives some amount of annual snowfall, having the ability to improve predictions of snow water content in different terrain will have widespread impact.  "Our national security needs include knowledge of the physical characteristics of the surfaces on which the military may be operating, as well as where conflict may arise due to natural hazards such as flooding or drought," Gerbi says. "This project gives the military tools to improve their preparation for deployments." The team's research will couple multiple remote and ground-based geophysical methods — including different kinds of radar, interferometry and LiDAR — to characterize the snowpack at two contrasting study sites in Southeast Alaska and Maine. These geophysical datasets provide ground truth for the development of computational approaches to measure snowpack properties. The two study areas were chosen because of the differences in their typical snowpacks. Southeast Alaska receives between 6 and 12 meters of temperate snowfall annually, providing a long accumulation and melt season. In contrast, Maine's annual snowfall only reaches up to 2.7 meters. The contrast of snowfall amounts, terrain and vegetation cover between Alaska and Maine provide an opportunity to quantify the mechanisms that drive snowpack evolution. Both locations can be unpredictable and variable in their snowpack behavior, too, which make them excellent candidates for testing a new and improved algorithm. "Despite their geographic separation, Maine and Alaska experience many of the same environmental challenges, so it is a natural fit to link the two field sites for this project," Gerbi says. This project is a collaboration between the University of Maine, University of Alaska Southeast, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and the Foundation for Glacier and Environmental Research. Over 36 months, the team of a dozen researchers will use data collected from these two regions to develop an algorithm for predicting temperate snowpack properties and meltwater patterns from meteorological or remotely sensed data. The award started June 21, 2022, and field research will begin this winter. *Story written by Sam Schipani.* Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Cindy Bellavance and Oluwadamilola Kolawole: Streamlining conservation research

05 Sep 2023

Student researchers Cindy Bellavance and Oluwadamilola Kolawole are transforming DNA testing strategies. Through a grant from the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR), the rising University of Maine seniors are testing technologies that will increase the speed and precision with which researchers test for genetic markers in the environment. Bellavance and Kolawole are working with loop mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) assays, which amplify eDNA markers in soil or water samples, revealing all of the species of plants or animals that are present in that area. This technology yields the same information in its results as traditional and commonly-used polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing, but it is faster and more cost-effective. Bellavance and Kolawole hope to use this technology to aid in the conservation of the blue spotted salamander and some threatened dragonfly species in Maine. Their samples are mainly shared from other graduate students doing their own projects, but Bellavance has gone out to collect samples from areas they feel will represent well the populations of species they are looking to protect. Bellavance moved to York, Maine, from Connecticut when she was in middle school, and eventually moved to Sanford for high school. At UMaine, she majors in zoology. "Maine is a great environment to do this research. There are so many different species that need our help and Maine is really willing to help them because everyone appreciates them more up here," says Bellavance. "I've learned to love the outdoors and everything that the natural world has to offer here [in Maine]." Kolawole grew up in Nigeria, Africa, and came to Maine for college in 2020, where he majors in biomedical engineering. While Bellavance focuses on the technology's implications for conservation, Kolawole is interested in how he can use his knowledge of engineering to optimize the LAMP process and accelerate research. "It's not fun to wait," says Kolawole. "If it's possible, we want something faster and better [than PCR]. We're really just looking for speed and precision." The technique of PCR that is still largely used by researchers takes hours to produce results, meaning that some sample sets could take years or an entire career to fully quantify. The LAMP assay can produce these same results in 10 to 20 minutes. While PCR shows the presence of certain genetic markers by creating curves on a graph, LAMP represents the genetic markers in a color gradient that goes from hot pink to yellow, becoming more yellow the more a genetic marker is present in the sample. Both students say that watching the color gradient change and making sense of the results has been one of the most interesting and fun parts of this research. Pete Avis, adjunct professor and

cooperating faculty at the School of Biology and Ecology, and Erin Grey, assistant professor of aquatic genetics at the School of Biology and Ecology, serve as advisers for the project. "Working with Dami and Cindy has been great. They are both sponges, soaking up knowledge and research experiences in the lab and field," says Grey. "They also are great at maintaining positive attitudes in the face of failure. This is perhaps the most important quality for science!" Bellavance and Kolawole are already looking to ensure that the passions they are building on now will be incorporated into their future careers. After graduating, Bellavance would like to work for a government facility as a wildlife or conservation biologist. Kolawole plans to leave Maine after graduation and travel to another country to attend medical school, eventually returning to Maine to work as a medical doctor. Bellavance and Kolawole's project ends in mid-September, but both students feel that what they are doing with the LAMP assays will positively impact their career paths as it is likely they will use this technology again in the future. *This story was written by Erin Cabral, 2023 Summer Intern at the UMaine Division of Marketing at Communications.* Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

With creative cooking, Dumas and community partners help propel Maine's edible insect industry

05 Sep 2023

One August night at the University of Maine, food science innovation coordinator Rob Dumas prepared black bean sliders with a twist: patties with dried whole mealworms and protein powder made from crickets. The insects added an earthy, mushroom-like flavor to the burgers, which also had tomato, avocado, slaw and chipotle aioli. Dumas served his sliders to Sara Gross, executive director of the Maine Tasting Center; Shawn Duffy, co-founder of the insect rearing startup Invertebration; and Bill Broadbent, president of value-added insect product maker Entosense. Everyone had an insect-infused dish to offer that night in the Matthew Highlands Food Pilot Plant in Hitchner Hall. Gross prepared corn salad cups with chicatana ant mayonnaise. Duffy made metamorphic mealworm tacos. Broadbent's sister, Susan, who also is vice president of Entosense, baked cornmeal muffins topped with black ant "poppy seeds." "It's been incredibly fun, especially being in a room full of people who are equally enthusiastic about this work," Gross says. "My work at Maine Tasting Center is focused around supporting and promoting Maine food industries; working with the edible insect industry has been so rewarding because of the passion and excitement these producers bring to it. Dumas and his associates aren't just eating bugs for fun — they are working to incorporate insects into the U.S. diet. The team will showcase their dishes at a four-course Sustainable Supper with Edible Insects at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 28 at the Maine Tasting Center, 506 Old Bath Road, Wiscasset. The event will also feature edible insect snacks, cocktails and mocktails. Register for it online.
https://youtu.be/8NjwcZ-GaBo?si=eaygSWNLr50W7N1Q

[button url="#transcript"]Read transcript[/button]

The supper is part of the team's larger effort to find more ways U.S. consumers can enjoy edible insects, and the nutritional and sustainability benefits they offer. The group also hopes to inspire more entrepreneurs to sell insects and value-added products made from them, encourage more chefs to use them and make Maine a leader in the edible insect industry. "I am regularly thinking about how people should eat, how people do eat, and the ramifications of our food choices on the environment and socioeconomic systems," Dumas says. "I think people need to expand the variety of proteins that they eat." In U.S. markets, insects are almost exclusively found in novelty candies and snacks, but they are featured more broadly in cuisine in other parts of the world. Dumas says some consumers can have an apprehensive view when it comes to eating insects, particularly because of how they look and their crunchy texture. To overcome these barriers, he and his colleagues are creating dishes that incorporate not just whole insects, but also as small pieces or powder. Finding new ways to present these creatures also allows consumers to enjoy their diverse flavors, like the earthy taste of mealworms and crickets and the citrus tang of ants. Edible insect products can offer similar amounts of nutrients as those with traditional meats. Dumas says. For example, a burger patty with cricket powder provides the same level of protein and fiber as one with beef, and has less saturated fat. Insects require less space and produce less waste than other livestock. They can be housed in silos, thus requiring less acreage than cows, pigs and chickens. Farmers can also feed them agricultural waste and byproducts. Water usage for insect rearing and processing is less than that for hydrating and manufacturing products from other livestock. Various goods can also be produced with the entire insect, Broadbent says. "I think sustainability is really essential to the conversation of getting people past the yuck factor of bugs and giving them a try," Dumas says. "There's also something to be said about the emotional connection. I think some people have a hard time seeing an animal and imagining that animal becoming their food, and I don't know that people have that same sympathy perhaps for a cricket or a mealworm. So I think there might be some folks who lean toward vegan and vegetarian diets for ethical or emotional reasons who might be willing to eat an insect." Maine is already home to several companies involved in commercial insect production and goods manufacturing, including Entosense and Invertebration. With ample farmland and a long history in agriculture, Dumas and his colleagues believe the industry can grow here. Gross says Maine farmers can raise and sell insects for value-added good production as a side venture. Startup costs are low compared to other commercial food ventures, Broadent says. To bolster the edible insect industry in Maine, and position it as a national leader, Gross hopes to assist in forming a trade group and include an exhibit about Maine's edible insect producers in the Discovery Center at Maine Tasting Center. Broadent hopes to secure a grant to bring insect-based cuisine in schools, and work with chefs to develop more dishes. "Chefs are the answer. If it tastes good, people will eat it," he says. Dumas says he will work with companies on edible insect product research and development, and may recruit students to help him. The UMaine Food Science Club will be invited to work the Sustainable Supper with Edible Insects dinner in October. As they develop their business and build the infrastructure for it, Duffy and his partner for Invertebration, Ethan Nurick, also are creating the first-of-its-kind best practices for insect rearing and food production. They also hope to attend regional and national trade shows, and build a food truck or taco stand at their farm. "We want to be bold. To be a leader in the industry, we have to get out there and do the work," Duffy says. "I just love the idea of opening people's minds to this potential in North American cuisine." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

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Transcript

Susan Broadbent: These are basically a play on poppy seed muffins but they have black ants instead. **Shawn Duffy:** I am going to make some mealworm tacos. I'm going to blanch them. I'm going to fly them a little and then we'll add them to our wonderful tacos. **Rob Dumas:** We are hosting a group of insect enthusiasts and business owners. Our intention today is to get ready for a dinner we are going to offer in October at the Maine Tasting Center where we're going to open up to the public and we're going to do a workshop and a dinner where we are going to serve multiple courses of edible insects. **Sarah Gross:** I think these are cicadas. Are these cicadas? There's not a lot of flavor. I'm not sure I can eat the eyeballs. They're staring at me! **Rob Dumas:** I don't want to be in a place where I can never eat chicken again. I still want to have a diverse diet that has delicious and varied sources of protein and insects represent I think an incredibly sustainable option. We can produce a lot of them. They can eat agricultural waste materials. They require very little water, and they're highly nutritious. **Bill Broadbent:** This is cricket powder, one of our more popular products. It's got B12, Omega 3s. It's just this little nutritional powerhouse. This is actually considered a delicacy in Thailand. They kind of taste like pumpkin seed. It's a giant waterbug. Would anyone like to try a taco? They're ready. **Rob Dumas:** That's really good! **Caitlin Hillery:** That's delicious. **Sarah Gross:** Yum.

Caty DuDevoir: Bringing the student perspective to Maine Public radio

06 Sep 2023

Caty DuDevoir uses her interest in human culture to create news stories that display the true history of Maine. Through her summer internship at Maine Public, the rising senior at the University of Maine majoring in anthropology with a journalism minor has been able to amplify overlooked voices and perspectives, like she also does with her on-campus activism. Born in Mexico, DuDevoir and her family moved to Biddeford, Maine, when she was entering preschool. She developed a passion for writing and got her first opportunity to be published in high school, when she participated in a journalism workshop with Maine Public about incorporating climate change into school curricula. This summer, DuDevoir received the Jim Dowe Internship to work for 10 weeks at the offices of Maine Public in Lewiston and Portland. This internship, created in the memory of former Maine Public President and CEO and UMaine alumnus Jim Dowe, is given to a student who displays a passion for the people of Maine and a commitment to public service. As an intern at the office, she experiences flexibility in her reporting, striking a balance between being given leads by her superiors and pitching ideas of her own. "The way they give feedback is really encouraging; I never feel discouraged about anything," says DuDevoir. "I'm working with these brilliant people that make me want to show up everyday and produce the best quality piece that I can. I honestly haven't felt like an intern. They put a lot of trust in me." DuDevoir pitched and produced her own piece for Maine Calling, one of Maine Public's featured radio programs, titled "Archaeology provides insights into Maine's past, present, and future." The episode discussed archaeology in Maine through an indigenous lens. DuDevoir noticed a similar episode on this topic aired in 2013, but it lacked involvement from Indigenous community members. Having a background in anthropology, DuDevoir's understanding of human history and culture made her the perfect candidate to reassess this story. "At UMaine, there is an emphasis on considering the perspective of the Indigenous groups that you're working with and I think I've hopefully carried that through," says DuDevoir. "You have to build relationships with people. You're not just saying, 'Hey, I need to write this story, please give me a quote.' You're sustaining something more meaningful, and I definitely learned that within the anthropology department." In DuDevoir's piece, she collaborated with Bonnie Newsom, UMaine assistant professor of anthropology and member of the Penobscot Nation, and Isaac St. John, tribal historic preservation officer for the Houston Band of Maliseet Indians. DuDevoir met Newsom while attending the Maine Archaeology Field School that she ran in the summer of 2022, where Newsom also introduced DuDevoir to St. John. On the show, Newsom and St. John discuss how archaeology was once an incredibly exploitative field in regard to Indigenous peoples, but it is finally recognizing the importance of including these vital voices. "Caty is a thoughtful and ambitious student and her performance as an archaeology field school student was exemplary," says Newsom. "I am particularly impressed with Caty's cheerful disposition and enthusiasm. With her scholarship, she brings a real positive energy to her work with diverse colleagues." Beyond her journalism work, DuDevoir, who is also in the Honors College, has dedicated much of her time at UMaine to amplifying unheard voices. She was a part of the student activism group Divest UMS, which encouraged members to petition the university against investing money into the fossil fuel industry. She has written for Maine EPSCoR and continues to write for the Maine Campus, where she will serve as editor-in-chief during her senior year. DuDevoir says she uses those platforms to share important information about medical and scientific research as well as political news relevant to local Mainers. Juggling college, extracurricular writing and activism is not an easy task. DuDevoir believes it is challenges like these, however, that show the true potential of a prospective journalist. "You have to be hardworking in the journalism field," says DuDevoir. "To work for Maine Public, a very respected journalism company, I needed to have those credentials to show them, 'Hey I can write, I can meet a deadline, I can produce.'" This school year, DuDevoir aspires to take the skills she's learned at Maine Public and share them with other student writers on campus. "The journalists at Maine Public are these amazingly talented people. Interning with them has developed my confidence as well as concrete skills like interviewing and writing," says DuDevoir. "I want to give that back to where I started." After finishing her final year at UMaine, DuDevoir hopes to pursue a career in the journalism field (she notes interest in working with Maine Public again). Even as she gains traction as a writer, however, she still holds passion for anthropology. Although she will spend most of the next few years developing her journalistic skills, she aspires to one day shift her focus to earning a doctoral degree in cultural anthropology. "One of the things I've heard a lot from reporters I've worked with is you need to develop a strong skill set. Especially nowadays, being a multimedia journalist is important," says DuDevoir. "This internship has really broadened my skills, but I still have so much to learn." *This story was written by Erin Cabral, 2023 summer intern at the UMaine Division of Marketing at Communications.* Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host talk 'Vacationland or Climate Migrationland?' on Sept. 11

06 Sep 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Vacationland or Climate Migrationland?" with speaker Vanessa Levesque, assistant professor at the Department of Environmental Science and Policy at the University of Southern Maine, at 3 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 11. This talk will explore the concept of climate migration, discuss a region-wide partnership to better understand implications of climate migration and pose suggestions for future research and governance to help better prepare for potential changes. With Maine experiencing an influx of newcomers during the COVID-19 pandemic, the discussion also will examine whether climate change will drive more people to the state, what the likely implications are and what should be done about it. Levesque is a social scientist interested in rural community decision-making around environmental, social and economic issues. Smaller and more rural communities make up a large portion of the U.S., but are understudied by those interested in building community resilience. This focus on inclusive, interdisciplinary and democratic ideals is mirrored in her teaching. She strives to give students a voice as they learn how they can make substantive and lasting contributions in their own communities. All sessions in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall on the UMaine. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, visit the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension 4-H to offer virtual sessions for aspiring volunteers

06 Sep 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part online informational session for adults interested in becoming 4-H volunteers from 6-7 p.m., Sept. 18 and 25. "Start Your 4-H Volunteer Journey" will provide participants with information about the UMaine Extension 4-H youth development program through four short e-Learning modules. Attendees will also participate in an experimental learning activity, learn about the key aspects of positive youth development and be introduced to ages and stages of youth. A 4-H volunteer is many things: mentor, advisor, friend, teacher, referee, role model, pacesetter and much more. As a 4-H volunteer, participants will have the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of children by teaching them valuable life skills, helping them work towards a positive self-image and working with them to accomplish positive personal goals. The two one-hour virtual sessions will wrap up with an outline of next steps and an introduction to a county staff contact to help with the application process, if desired. Registration is required. The sessions are free. To register, visit extension.umaine.edu. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program webpage or

contact Jennifer Lobley, jennifer.lobley@maine.edu; 207.255.3345.

Newsweek notes UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in article about sea life impacted by climate change

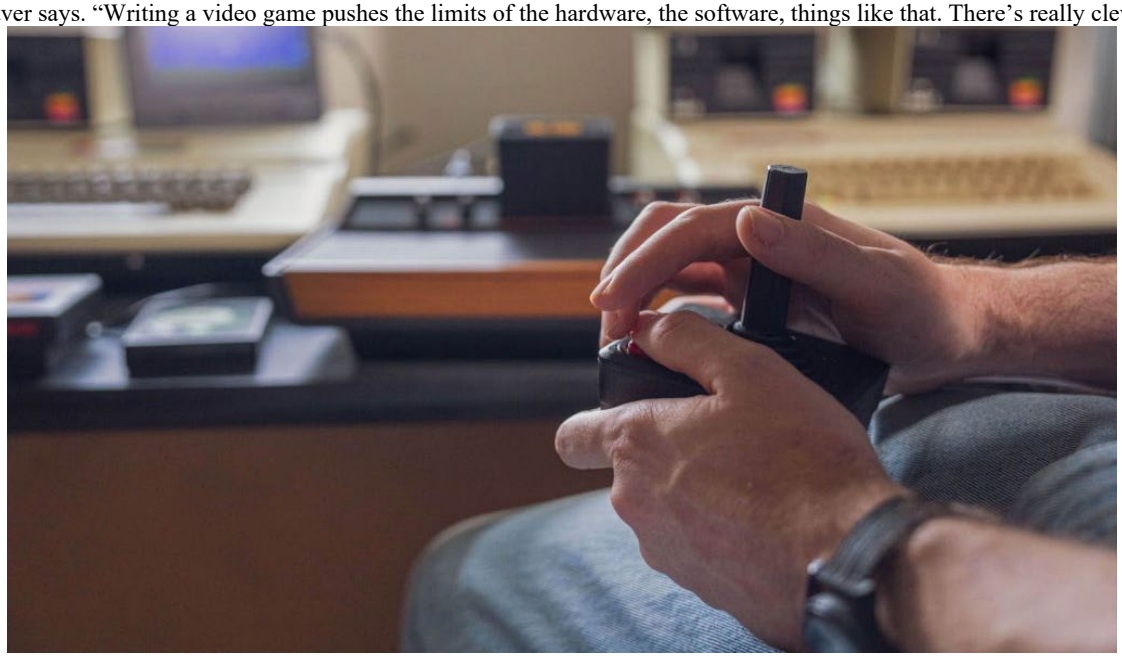
06 Sep 2023

In reporting about the sea animals most impacted by U.S. heat waves, Newsweek cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer showing that since mid-March, the average sea surface temperature worldwide has been higher than it has ever been since accurate satellite temperature records began in 1981.

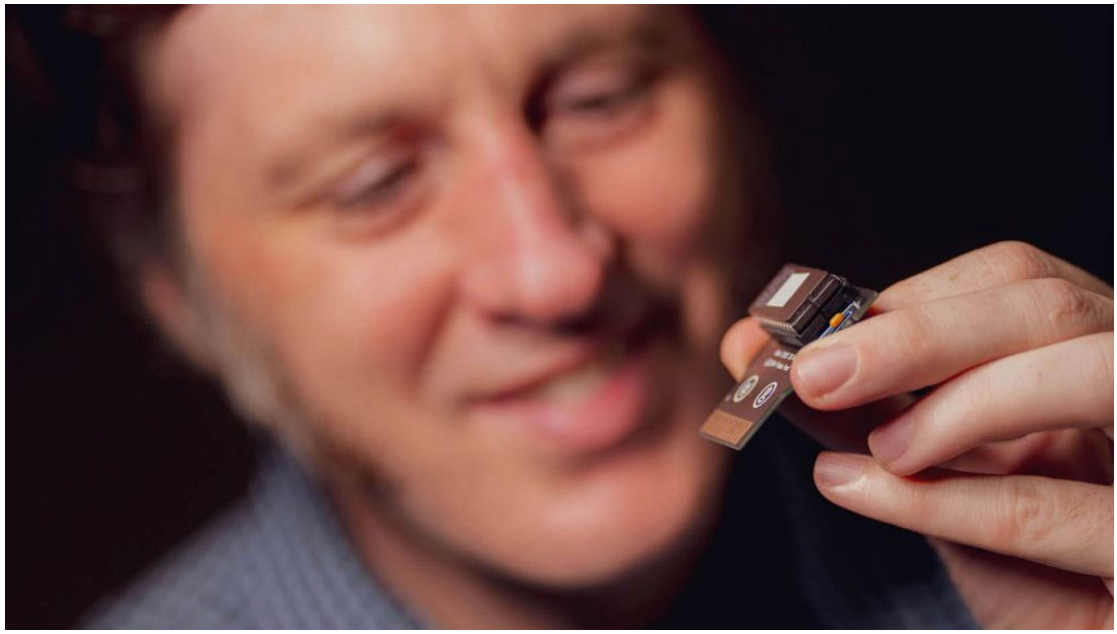
Vincent Weaver 'demakes' video games to teach about computer systems

06 Sep 2023

Vincent Weaver, a University of Maine associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, has a quirky hobby: "de-making" video games, or reformatting classic games onto even simpler systems than the ones they were launched on as a programming challenge. Weaver has not only amassed an online fan base for his demakes — he has also found ways to incorporate them into his curriculum for UMaine students. Weaver has always been interested in the problem-solving elements of the most extreme computer systems, from supercomputers to microprocessors. Both systems are driven by efficiency; for small processors, efficiency ensures that their tiny batteries can last longer. "The biggest computers and the smallest computers have a lot in common," Weaver explains. "We have limited resources — how can we best use them to make a fast computer?" For that reason, Weaver is also interested in the vintage computer systems that provide the foundation for the field. Because these systems were simple compared to the computers of today, the problem solving and approach to programming had to be creative and often more efficient. Weaver even rescued several old systems from a UMaine basement before they were disposed of, including an Apple II and Commodore 64. When COVID started, Weaver was looking for a hobby that might incorporate the old computers he had amassed. He decided to try to make some of his favorite video games run on systems that were even simpler than the ones they were originally designed for, in a process known as "demaking." Demakes try to capture all of the magic of the games with fewer graphics and processing at their disposal. "I found it a fun side project to do," Weaver says. "Writing a video game pushes the limits of the hardware, the software, things like that. There's really clever stuff



going on behind the scenes." Weaver started with a game called Kerbal Space Program, launched in 2011 and playable on Linux, OS X, Windows, PlayStation 4, PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X/S and Xbox One; Weaver's demake is on the Apple II, which was designed in the 1970s. Weaver has also created partial demakes of Portal and the Monkey Island games for this system. Recently, Weaver completed a demake Myst, a classic point-and-click adventure game from 1993 and one of the top-selling video games of all time. Myst was originally designed to be played on Macintosh systems, but Weaver's Myst runs on the much simpler Atari 2600, released in 1977. Despite the limited computing capabilities, Weaver's demake is recognizable frame-for-frame to the original's graphics and gameplay. Weaver's detailed demakes started to catch the eyes of fellow hobbyists and programmers — including the original game designers for Myst. "I get to talk to a lot of the creators of the games," Weaver says. "I never thought I'd talk to these people. It's been a fun little adventure." Over the past few years diving into this hobby, Weaver has realized that demakes can be a great way to introduce his engineering students to a different kind of problem solving, particularly for his EC471 class, Embedded Systems, which focuses on the tiny computers that run the technology of our everyday lives, from cellphones to microwaves. "They're not much more powerful than the old systems, and we still have to program them. It's a different kind of programming. While it's boring to think of programming a microwave, people like talking about video games and you can use the same sort of skills. It's a good entry. Sometimes you can learn to code by doing videogames and you can apply it to other aspects of things." Tristan Woodrich, a 2019 alumnus of UMaine's computer engineering program, says that Weaver makes engineering seem fun and possible for all students. Now an engineer at BAE Systems, Woodrich says Weaver inspired him to continue pursuing his own passion for collecting vintage computer systems. "He was one of the teachers that really made it like, 'Oh, I can actually do this,'" Woodrich says. "His knowledge is coming from passion." For what it's worth, too, Woodrich says that the Myst remake shows an impressive amount of skill on Weaver's part. "It's hard to get all those images into an Atari 2600. When I saw the pictures [of the Myst demake], I was like, 'That's a lot of detail for that



system,'" Woodrich says. Weaver's demakes also add to a legacy of small processors at UMaine. Chuck Peddle, a 1959 graduate of UMaine who invented the MOS Technology 6502, which revolutionized the industry for being fast and inexpensive to make, is a hero of Weaver's. He even got to meet Peddle at a UMaine event before he died in 2019; Weaver and Woodrich displayed an exhibit of their vintage systems and processors for the event. "There's a history to it, and a preservation angle," Weaver says. "Sometimes things will come up where they're like we have to replace this 30-year-old computer and no one knows how to program it anymore. You keep it alive by remembering how to program this stuff." In addition to classwork for the fall, Weaver is finishing a demake of Peasant's Quest; the original creators at Homestar Runner even sent Weaver a message saying that they are fans of his work and are looking forward to seeing the end product. *This story was written by Sam Schipani.* Contact: Marcus Wolf, marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Media share UMaine Extension 4-H volunteer training

06 Sep 2023

The Daily Bulldog, Bangor Daily News, Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part online informational session for adults interested in becoming 4-H volunteers from 6-7 p.m., Sept. 18 and 25. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program webpage.

Media cite UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data in reporting about hottest recorded summer

06 Sep 2023

The Associated Press and The Independent cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer in reporting about how 2023 was the hottest summer on record. The Portland Press Herald, Spectrum News NY 1 (New York), Union-Bulletin (Walla Walla, Washington), Traverse City Record-Eagle (Traverse City, Michigan), The Register Citizen (Torrington, Connecticut), Dayton Daily News (Dayton, Ohio), WKRN-TV (ABC 2 in Nashville, Tennessee), WVIB-TV (Channel 4 in Buffalo, New York), KSNT-TV (ABC 27 in Topeka, Kansas), KPRC-TV (CBS 2 in Houston), KOIN-TV (CBS 6 in Portland, Oregon), KNOE-TV (CBS 8 in Monroe, Louisiana) and other outlets shared the AP report. Yahoo! News shared The Independent report.

Maine Public features Gill, Zaro in 'Maine Calling' show about the Anthropocene

06 Sep 2023

Maine Public featured Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, and Gregory Zaro, associate professor at the UMaine Department of Anthropology and Climate Change Institute, as panelists on the show 'Maine Calling' for a segment about the Anthropocene, the newest era of geologic time that reflects how humans are now the major cause of changes in the planet's climate and environment.

Global Seafood Alliance notes UMaine role in Muddy River Farm Aquaponics

06 Sep 2023

The Global Seafood Alliance featured Matt Nixon, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine and owner Muddy River Farm Aquaponics, and his work in designing the world's first 3D-printed, closed-loop oyster-farming tank made from sustainable materials, the prototype of which was printed at UMaine.

Gill speaks to Fast Company about heat pumps in Maine

06 Sep 2023

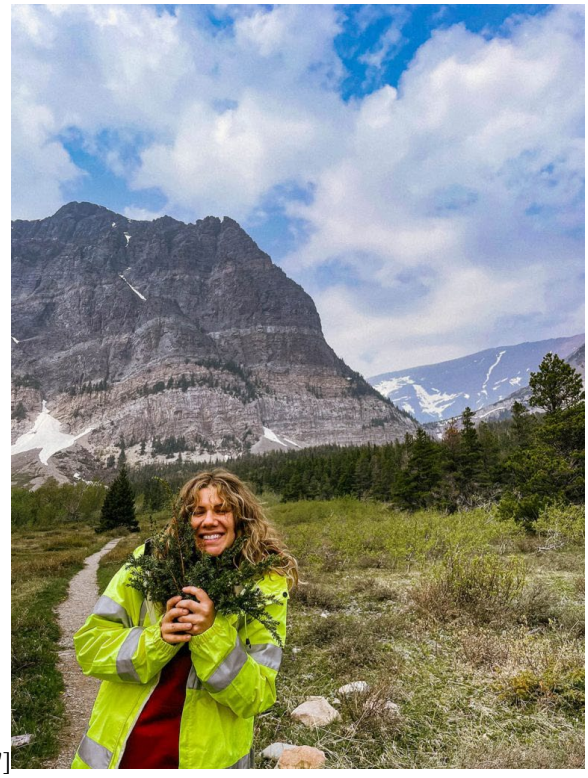
Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, spoke to Fast Company about how Maine got more than 100,000 residents to install heat pumps. Gill told Fast Company that this year's muggy, hot

summer convinced her to install a heat pump in her home. “It’s been increasingly clear, especially over the last few years, that the home that we live in was built for a different climate,” Gill said.

Suzy Violette: Transforming classroom knowledge into real experiences

06 Sep 2023

Suzy Violette has been building on the plant science knowledge she’s gained through her classes at the University of Maine by helping to conserve the natural resources in Glacier National Park in Montana. Violette, a nontraditional student majoring in environmental horticulture, spent this past summer repopulating the lost vegetation at the park’s Native Plant Nursery. Growing up in Aroostook County, Violette has always had an affinity for the outdoors. She loved to go out with her sisters to collect small reptiles or help her mom with gardening and landscaping around their home. She studied psychology at Husson University from fall 2015 to fall 2016, but she realized that her true passion was in natural sciences. She took time off and learned about the massive impact that the food system can have on the environment, and decided to enroll in UMaine’s sustainable agriculture program in fall 2022. She soon got involved in helping organize the UMaine Greens club, where students grow microgreens in the University’s greenhouse to be used in the dining halls or taken home by the students. [caption id="attachment_99391" align="alignright" width="375"]  Suzy Violette[/caption] “My education and my experience at UMaine definitely set the structure of my position [at Glacier National Park],” says Violette. “It was so great to be in the field and actually apply the things that I’ve been learning.” Late last spring, Violette was granted a 14-week summer AmeriCorp internship with American Conservation Experience as a part of the Emerging Professional in Conservation (EPIC) division’s National Park Service (NPS) Academy. Through her position at the Glacier National Park Native Plant Nursery, Violette and fellow plant technicians spent the summer preparing native plant seeds that had been collected from within the park, sowing them into containers and replanting them throughout the park and regularly monitoring them for signs of pests or disease. Plant technicians also surveyed other areas in the park for signs of damage to plants. Damage often occurs through construction or the creation of “social trails,” created by park visitors who wander off of the marked trails. Violette says that a major focus of her and the other plant technicians’ work this summer has been with white bark pine trees, a keystone species in the park that was recently added to the threatened species list. White bark pines, like other five-needle pines, are being harmed by blister rust, a fungus that will enter the trees through broken limbs or lesions. The fungus travels through spores and will stay inactive inside of the tree until it reaches its active cycle, during which it releases the spores. White bark pines are also threatened by the mountain pine beetle. This beetle will form galleries, carved lines in the bark where the bugs have traveled through, inside the pine by chewing out the tree’s tissue that the tree uses to transport food and nutrients throughout its body, known as the phloem. The tree has its own defense mechanisms against these pests, like using resin or sap to trap and push out the bugs, but their natural defenses alone aren’t enough to protect against invasive species. Violette and the other plant technicians aided in protecting the trees by stapling packets of verbeno pheromones to the trees’ trunks. These pheromones mimic a pheromone that the mountain pine beetles give off, tricking them into thinking a tree has already been claimed by another beetle. For Violette, conservation of the outdoors is about more than just protecting plant life. Violette is passionate about inclusivity and community. She chose to serve for NPS Academy because of their dedication to introduce a diversity of participants from backgrounds historically underrepresented in the National Parks, and to career opportunities with the NPS. Violette says that the operators of the NPS Academy program are also transparent about their shortcomings in respecting indigenous people in the past and are actively working to ensure that this environment that is so closely tied to their culture and history is rightfully maintained. [caption

id="attachment_99393" align="alignright" width="375"]  Suzy Violette[/caption] “Being out [in Glacier National Park] has given me a new perspective on the importance of native plants and protected areas like natural parks not only for biodiversity, but also for how much of a role they play in the Native peoples’ connection with the earth. It’s just so cool to see,” says Violette. During the 14-week internship, all the interns lived close to one another in a compound in the park, spending most of their time with one another. Since most of the workers came from different disciplines, Violette says she always had something to learn from her colleagues. “They’re all so well-versed in their field and that’s probably been my biggest challenge, but now it has turned into my favorite part of the job. I know some plant ID and taxonomy from the East because I’m from Maine, but coming up here to the Rocky Mountains and seeing the vegetation, it’s just so different,” says Violette. “I really don’t have much experience working in this field anyway, it’s all so new to me.” Violette’s summer experience also convinced her to change her major from sustainable agriculture to environmental horticulture when she returned to campus this fall. “After spending my summer working with native plants in Glacier with like-minded professionals who have backgrounds in environmental science, forestry and horticulture, I decided that was the right path for me,” Violette says. Violette has three semesters to complete at UMaine, and she hopes to work again for the Glacier National Park Native Plant Nursery next summer before she graduates in December 2024. After earning her degree, she plans to find a career that will allow her to work with local communities and farmers to improve agricultural systems. Her positive experience working in Glacier National Park has solidified her passion for working in natural sciences, especially fieldwork and research. “It’s honestly so fun, it feels like summer camp,” says Violette. “I recommend seasonal work in a National Park for anyone interested in living somewhere beautiful and meeting people with like-minded passions who are excited about conservation.” *This story was written by Erin Cabral, 2023 Summer Intern at the UMaine Division of Marketing at Communications.* Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Sun Journal notes UMaine Extension co-hosting farm tour in Bethel

07 Sep 2023

The Sun Journal highlighted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District, in partnership with Morning Glory Farm in Bethel, plan to offer an on-farm program from 4-6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 15. Visit the Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District website for more information.

Media highlight ‘Vacationland or Climate Migrationland’ talk

07 Sep 2023

The Bangor Daily News, CentralMaine.com and the Penobscot Bay Pilot highlighted that Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine plans to host a talk, “Vacationland or Climate Migrationland?,” at 3 p.m. Monday, Sept. 11. Visit the event webpage for more information.

Media feature Kiwibots at UMaine

07 Sep 2023

WABI (Channel 5) and News Center Maine reported on University of Maine Dining launching 15 food delivery robots, called “Kiwibots,” in order to meet the student demand for food delivery services. The Kiwibots are the latest project between UMaine Dining and food management service company Sodexo. KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) shared in WABI report.

Euronews cites Climate Reanalyzer data on above average September temperatures

07 Sep 2023

In a story about how summer 2023 was the hottest on record, Euronews cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer which shows that so far, daily September temperatures are also above average.

Media feature new program to train future leaders in marine science and conservation

07 Sep 2023

Mainebiz and Maine Public reported on the University of Maine creating a new training program for graduate students that will support the next generation of marine science and conservation professionals. The program, led by UMaine associate professor of marine policy Joshua Stoll, is supported by a $3 million grant from the National Science Foundation.

Call for proposals for the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series

08 Sep 2023

The Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series (CA/DLS) Committee is accepting grant applications from the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias to enhance the artistic, cultural and intellectual life of the campuses. Grants support up to 50% of expenses associated with cultural events and speaking engagements and lectures. To comply with the restrictions on the CA/DLS funding sources, applications for outreach to the UMaine Machias campus for artistic and cultural events are eligible for funding, but they must be part of a program also offered at the UMaine campus in Orono. Applications for lectures and speaking engagements at the UMaine Machias campus may be funded directly. The CA/DLS committee accepts applications four times a year. The next application deadline is Sept. 26. Grant applications submitted by the above deadline are for projects starting on or after Oct. 23, 2023. Proposals must be submitted online using the CA/DLS Grant Application Form. Past awards have supported lectures and lecture series; Culturefest, the International Dance Festival; exhibits; performances; and guest artists.

Granite Geek cites UMaine role in multi-university tick monitoring project

08 Sep 2023

Granite Geek reported that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab will participate in a project led by the University of New Hampshire to establish baseline data on where different ticks are found, their numbers and what pathogens they may carry across diverse vertebrate hosts.

Dill, Hill speak to BDN about impact of urine on plants

08 Sep 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to Jim Dill, pest management specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and Dana Hill, director of the veterinary diagnostic laboratory at UMaine, about the impact of human and animal urine on plants. "The idea behind it is that [human] urine does contain some level of ammonia and that is known to have some repellent qualities, but to have the level of ammonia needed to keep deer away the person would have to be fairly dehydrated or have some other form of a medical condition," Dill said. "Bringing your pets to the veterinarian for regular exams, vaccinations and deworming is important. These are important to prevent zoonotic disease," Hill said. The article also noted that food safety experts at UMaine Extension recommend washing vegetables in clean, room temperature water.

Weiskittel speaks to PPH about forest fires

08 Sep 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Aaron Weiskittel, director of the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests and professor of forest biometrics and modeling at the University of Maine, for an article about research looking at how wildfire smoke fuels climate change. Weiskittel told the PPH that while Maine will be impacted by the smoke produced elsewhere, and the resulting warming effects, Maine itself is not facing as much climate-driven wildfire risk as other parts of the country.

Media highlight Newsom role at Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science

08 Sep 2023

The Daily Hampshire Gazette and Amherst Bulletin reported that Bonnie Newsom, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Maine, will serve as a co-principal investigator at a new center at the University of Massachusetts Amherst known as the Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science (CBIKS), which received $30 million in funding from the National Science Foundation.

Mitchell Center to host talk on building climate resilience in polarized places Sept. 18

11 Sep 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Herding Ostriches: Building Climate Resilience in Polarized Places" with Sunrise County Economic Council's Tanya Rucosky at 3 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 18. Rucosky's talk will explore how Maine Won't Waits' climate goals are being met in both traditionally liberal and more conservative parts of the state. She is one of four regional coordinators for Maine's Community Resilience Partnership (CRP). The program works to build community buy-in to lower Maine's carbon emissions and protect its residents from climate change through a thoughtful bottom-up approach. CRP has seen 30% of Maine's communities enroll in the program. As a regional coordinator, Rucosky helps communities access funds and technical assistance through the CRP. Originally focused on water quality in the Appalachian coal fields, Rucosky has worked with diverse communities in Asia, Australia and now in the Down East region to improve their environments and quality of life. Trained as a natural resource manager and archivist, Rucosky has a tenacious commitment to the practicalities of "getting things done." All sessions in the

Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

BDN shares UMaine Extension 4-H Science Fridays at UMaine Machias

11 Sep 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that registration is now open for two new University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Science Fridays — Fish Prints and Aquariums and Eclipse Investigations — in the O'Brien House at the University of Maine at Machias, 116 O'Brien Avenue. For more information and to sign up, visit the program webpage.

Dill speaks to BDN about eastern acorn weevils

11 Sep 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to Jim Dill, pest management specialty at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about eastern acorn weevils. "That big long beak with the mouth parts at the end is pretty distinctive. It's such a funky mouth part," Dill said.

WABI covers UMaine Extension Rogers Farm field day

11 Sep 2023

WABI-TV (CBS 5 in Bangor) featured the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's field day at Rogers Farm. "All the kids are loving it, the shaved ice seems to be the most popular, but they're really enjoying making some bouquets for themselves, and doing a lot of botanical art, and then we have a graffiti wall. That is kind of a fun memento for today. So, they'll be able to come back and enjoy it and visit again because it's open to the public seven days a week. So, it's not just today that people are welcome, people can come anytime." said Kate Garland, a horticulture professional from UMaine Extension.

Maine Monitor speaks to Mayewski about studying abrupt climate change with ice cores

11 Sep 2023

The Maine Monitor interviewed Paul Mayewski, professor and director of the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute, about ice core research and abrupt climate change. Using Arctic ice cores, Mayewski and other researchers recorded shockingly rapid temperature changes that occurred 11,500 years ago. They were also able to observe that from 2007-2012, sea surface and air temperatures rose 6 to 9 degrees Fahrenheit. "We were able to monitor [instances of] abrupt climate change in the past, but now we actually have an example," Mayewski said. The relatively sudden shift in the Arctic climate could signal an impending tipping point where, in Mayewski's words, "you push a system to a dramatic and potentially irreversible change." Climate tipping points have at times ended civilizations, Mayewski said, but that's not a given.

Sun Journal speaks to Birkel about wet summer conditions

11 Sep 2023

In reporting about wet summer conditions and whether they will continue into the fall and winter, the Sun Journal interviewed Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute. "We're seeing more extremes as the climate warms. So, in terms of heavy rainfall that produces localized flooding and damage, those are the types of extremes that we are seeing more of, and that we expect to become more common in a warmer world. That's also the conclusion of more than 50 state scientists in a 2020 publication 'Scientific Assessment of Climate Change and its Effects in Maine,'" Birkel said.

Daigle speaks to Maine Monitor about muddy conditions' impact on ATV enthusiasts

11 Sep 2023

The Maine Monitor interviewed John Daigle, a University of Maine professor of forest recreation management, about how muddy conditions will impact ATV recreationists in Maine. Daigle said Maine's unique recreation structure, where public trails pass through private land, requires special attention from outdoor recreationists to take care of the trails and maintain access from landowners. Some landowners could be quick to pull away that permission if trails turn muddy and start leaking sediment into critical habitats, like mountain streams. It becomes more difficult to ensure that doesn't happen, Daigle said, when factoring in climate change models that project more frequent heavy precipitation events. "But again, if there's conditions that are happening that [private landowners] are seeing that look really bad, they don't have to provide access. Outdoor recreationists need to be aware of it, in terms of taking care of the land where they're recreating so they can maintain access," Daigle said. The Bangor Daily News and Daily Bulldog shared the Maine Monitor report.

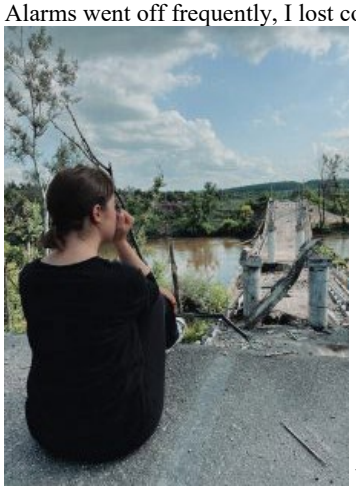
Lives of Ukrainian soldiers explored in UMaine student's new documentary

12 Sep 2023

Vita Tomakhiv of Kyiv never planned to leave Ukraine, but then the Russian military invaded. With help from the University of Maine, she left in June 2022, four months after the war broke out to continue her education. As the Russia-Ukraine war raged on, Tomakhiv, a master's student in global policy, yearned to help the people on the front lines by sharing their stories. A year after she left, she returned to her home country to capture the experiences of Ukrainian soldiers through a media she had never worked in: documentary film. In "The Dimension of War: those who hold the Independence of Ukraine," available on YouTube, Tomakhiv interviewed four members of the 67th Mechanized Brigade of the Ukrainian Armed Forces who were stationed in Kramatorsk, a city in the Donetsk region located next to the eastern front. The soldiers answered questions about the conditions of the front lines, the reasons they joined the fight, the lives they left behind, their work, their fears, the struggles of war and their hopes for the future.

“For me, it was important to show that these people could have continued their lives as usual and their careers if not for this war,” Tomakhiv says. “But they chose to go to the war, not because they hate Russia, but because they love Ukraine, and they want to protect what they love.” Tomakhiv filmed the documentary over the summer using only a smartphone and tripod to record interviews. She then spent 30 hours editing the footage with a smartphone app. To pursue the project, Tomakhiv contacted a friend in the Ukrainian Armed Forces who, after an extensive process, secured her access to Kramatorsk and the troops. She then traveled 17 hours from Ternopil in western Ukraine, where she was staying with her parents, to Kramatorsk by train. During a layover in Kyiv, air sirens began to blare out and she and other people were escorted to a nearby basement where they stayed for a couple of hours for protection from potential bombings. The documentary was not only Tomakhiv’s first foray in film production, but also her first experience in an active war-zone, although she previously interviewed Ukrainian military personnel during journalism and government internships. Kramatorsk was effectively transformed into a military outpost, with practically everyone in it dressed in tactical gear. Tomakhiv says she lost count of the number of buildings that were destroyed. Despite its close proximity to the front lines, the city offered some opportunities for respite, including a dining hall and cafe. “The city was like a little island of civilization for military personnel,” she says. “I felt more safe here than in other cities in Ukraine.

Alarms went off frequently, I lost count of how many times I heard it. But because it was militarized, it felt secure.”



Wars are easier to forget the longer they ensue and people become more consumed by their daily lives, Tomakhiv says. Many people would ask her about the conditions in Ukraine last year, but now some only inquire about whether it’s still happening. With the documentary, Tomakhiv aims to ensure people remember the invasion and the many lives it has changed forever. “I love the documentary. It’s an awe-inspiring and empathetic way to contribute to the war effort, talking to these guys on the front lines and bringing risk to herself to share their stories,” says Jim Settele, Tomakhiv’s advisor and executive director of the UMaine School of Policy and International Affairs. “The fact that Vita did this documentary on her own is a testament to the kind of person she is, a fighter and passionate learner who is eager to make a difference in Ukraine.” When the war broke out in February 2022, Tomakhiv was studying for her master’s degree in political science at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Days later, her two sisters fled to Poland and her university halted classes. She was eventually able to finish her degree online, but not before applying for the UMaine global policy master’s program to continue her studies. Tomakhiv says she likes how her coursework at UMaine builds on her previous coursework in Kyiv, which focused on national politics and theory, but also focuses on global issues and practical applications for what she learns. With peers from across the world, she says studying here has also exposed her to diverse perspectives on international policy and global events, and trained her to effectively and respectively debate

with others. “Studying here really teaches me how to communicate with people who have different opinions, but still remain in this diplomatic relationship with them and in the end, have some takeaways from a discussion,” she says “Because when there is discussion, there are no winners and no losers. You have to understand who's on the opposite end of it, and be understood by them too.” Settele worked with the UMaine Graduate School and Office of International Programs to secure financial aid for Tomakhiv, opportunities they made available to other applicants from countries affected by war. When Tomakhiv arrived, she was hired as an assistant for the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering, a job that covers all of her tuition, half of her healthcare costs and a monthly stipend.  Tomakhiv says Settele housed her for 10 days and helped her find an apartment in Orono. He always lends an ear when she needs help, and his military background allows him to better understand her struggles involving the war, she says. When Tomakhiv felt immense guilt about having fun with her peers at UMaine while some of her friends in Ukraine were fighting in the war, Settele assured her that her friends would want her to enjoy her time here and be able to live vicariously through her. For Tomakhiv, Settele “changed my life,” she says. “It was a hard choice for Vita to come here. She loves her country, loves her people and is so sad that what’s happening is happening,” Settele says. “She will do whatever she can to help end the war. She’s passionate about having an impact and walking the walk to achieve it.” After earning her master’s degree at UMaine, Vita hopes to work for a nonprofit or humanitarian organization dedicated to supporting Ukraine during and after the war from there or elsewhere. She encourages other Ukrainian students studying abroad to use whatever knowledge and skill they acquire to support their country in any way possible, and to never remain silent about the war. “No matter what your major is, you have to use your voice as a Ukrainian,” she says. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension Virtual Business Planning for Producers starts in October

12 Sep 2023

Registration is open for the online University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s Business Planning for Producers course, which begins Oct. 5. Held 5-7 p.m. every Thursday through Dec. 14, the 10-week online course is designed for Mainers looking to start a land- or sea-based business and learn about the core concepts of business operations, finance, management and marketing. It consists of live training sessions with experts from across the state coupled with self-paced learning modules. The modules will feature videos, quizzes, readings and assignments in an online learning platform. Topics will include market research, funding, marketing, financial record keeping and sustainability. The course will also assist participants in drafting a business plan. Participants should anticipate spending about three hours per week on additional asynchronous coursework. Successful completion of this course qualifies students for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency borrower training credit. Attendees who wish to receive an FSA borrower training credit must attend all live sessions or view the recordings, complete all assignments successfully and attend a one-on-one meeting with an approved business coach. A stable internet connection and registration is required. For exact course fees, schedule and to register, visit the program webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.933.2100 or extension.newfarmer@maine.edu.

Morning Ag Clips shares Savoie national award

12 Sep 2023

Morning Ag Clips reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator Kathy Savoie was recently honored with the Association of Northeast Extension Directors’ 2023 Exceptional Local Educator Award. Savoie received the award for the program “Building Agricultural Literacy through an Immersive Culinary Art Experience.” To learn more or connect with the program, visit the UMaine Extension website or contact Kathy Savoie, ksavoie@maine.edu.

Media note UMaine data about York County overdoses

12 Sep 2023

In an article about plans to fight the opioid crisis in York County with a comprehensive recovery facility, the Seacoastonline and Saco Bay News cited data from the Maine Drug Data Hub, a collaboration between the state and the University of Maine, that reported 622 non-fatal and 43 fatal overdoses in York County from Jan. 1 through July 31.

Sun Journal shares Mitchell Center event about building climate resilience in polarized places

12 Sep 2023

The Sun Journal shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a hybrid talk, "Herding Ostriches: Building Climate Resilience in Polarized Places," with Sunrise County Economic Council's Tanya Rucosky, at 3 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, visit the event webpage.

Maine Monitor cites UMaine study in article about salamanders

12 Sep 2023

In an article about road salt impacting Maine salamanders, The Maine Monitor cited a 2022 assessment of statewide road salt practices done by researchers at the University of Maine which shows that while the Maine Department of Transportation pre-wets its salt, most municipalities don't, even though simply wetting the mixture before it's applied dramatically reduces the amount that winds up in the ditch and impacts wildlife.

LA Times, Washington Post cite Brewer preface in American Political Science report

12 Sep 2023

The Los Angeles Times and The Washington Post cited the preface of a recent report by the American Political Science Association in which Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, asserts that "today's Republican and Democratic Parties have evolved to a place where they emphasize difference, stoke fear and animosity, and incite conflict." Aol shared the LA Times report.

Yale Environment 360 features UMaine research about Arctic Lakes

12 Sep 2023

Yale Environment 360 featured research by University of Maine Ph.D. students Václava Hazuková and Ashley Grider looking at how frozen north lakes in the Arctic, which over millennia, locked up huge stores of carbon in their sediments, may unleash emissions that will accelerate climate change as they melt with rising temperatures. Undark and Mother Jones shared the Yale 360 story.

Media feature UMaine student documentary about soldiers in Ukraine

12 Sep 2023

The Bangor Daily News, the Sun Journal, Centralmaine.com, WABI-TV (CBS 5 in Bangor) and WFVX-TV (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) featured University of Maine graduate student Vitaliia "Vita" Tomakhiv's 37-minute documentary called "The Dimension of War: Those Who Hold the Independence of Ukraine," in which she shares footage of her interviews with four members of the 67th Mechanized Brigade of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. WLOX-TV (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi) and KWCH-TV (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) shared the WABI report.

Molly Hale: A scientific approach to preventing childhood brain injury

12 Sep 2023

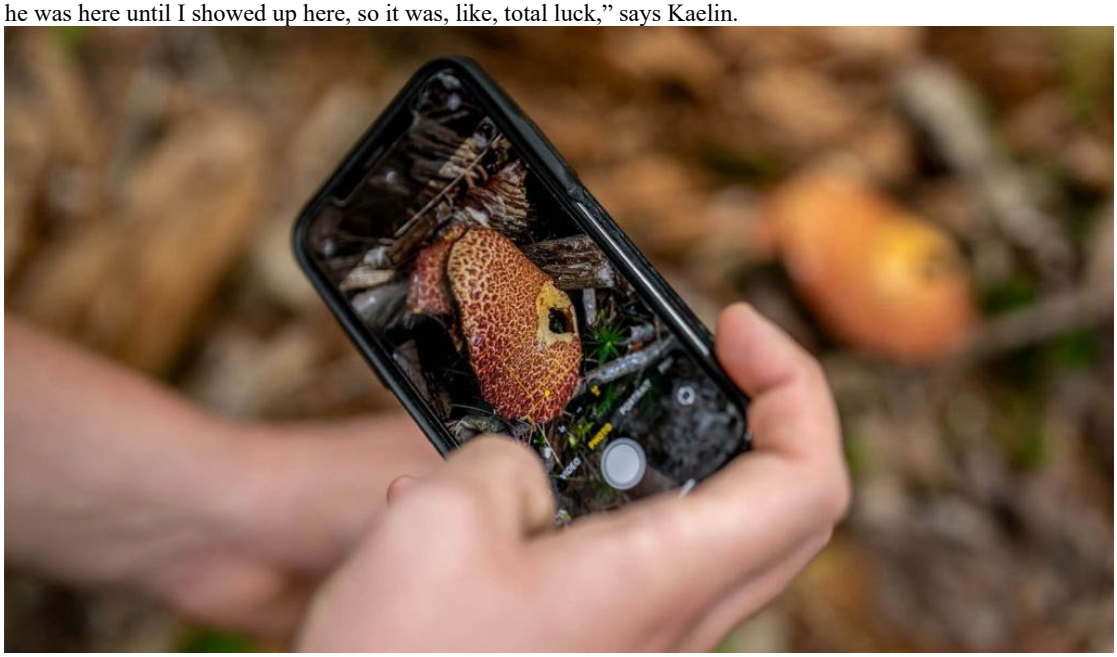
Molly Hale is using pediatric medical data to learn how brain injuries in children can be anticipated and prevented. The senior at the University of Maine was given a grant by the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) to compare national data sets to find the connection between adverse experiences and brain injuries in children 12 years old and younger. The communication sciences and disorders major grew up in Cumberland, Maine, where she attended Greely High School. While in high school, Hale won a scholarship to UMaine in the Maine State Science Fair in the category of Behavioral Sciences – Cognitive Psychology for a research project comparing reading comprehension in written versus digital texts, and became a Maine Top Scholar. Hale's love for psychology research continued into her college days, where she decided to major in communication sciences and disorders. She met Jessica Riccardi, assistant professor at the department of communication sciences and disorders, through another one of her professors who suggested Hale would enjoy work in Riccardi's Brain Injury, Education, and Rehabilitation (BEAR) lab. "She's lovely and wicked smart. We'll just be talking and she'll be able to spit out all these facts," says Hale of Riccardi. "She gives me direct, specific, understandable tasks to do and she's good at offering guidance." In the lab, Hale looks at the connection between child brain injuries and adverse experiences, which can include the incarceration of a parent, witnessing death or violence, having parents divorce, experiencing neglect, or being abused. Her research provides an important step toward understanding and preventing brain injury in children, which can have lifelong consequences on their temperament and learning abilities. "The most surprising part has been the lack of research around brain injuries. If you think about all the different parts of the brain, a brain injury is so dependent on what part of the brain is impacted, people are gonna experience different symptoms," says Hale. "There's not a lot of research around how to recover from a brain injury, or how people are affected down the road." Hale gets the data for her project from an existing national dataset on various health-related outcomes and experiences, including brain injuries and adverse childhood experiences, in children ages one to 18 collected by primary care physicians. Hale parses out the variables related to her project, namely number of incidents of adverse experiences and incidents of brain injury, for the age group one to 12. She hopes to show what adverse experiences most often lead children to engage in risky behaviors that lead to brain injury, in order to inform doctors on how to recognize and prevent such incidents. "Molly independently sought out research experiences to diversify her knowledge and skills. She is a natural question-asker and problem solver. Her strengths and her varied interests in health and education disciplines made her a great fit for this project," says Riccardi. "Molly dove head first into a large data set of over 12,000 children and has continued to ask great questions and independently work through some data challenges. She's been a pleasure to work with and I look forward to seeing her upcoming presentations and publications on this project!" Their research will be completed by September; Hale and Riccardi plan to attend the Association for Speech and Hearing (ASHA) Convention in Boston, Massachusetts, in November to present their findings. "I'm excited to go and see other projects and learn what other people do, what other options are out there," says Hale. "That's the definition of lifelong learning, right? Not everything is done in school." Outside of research at UMaine, Hale is the president and captain of the women's ultimate Frisbee team. This summer, while working on her research project, Hale has also worked in an ophthalmology office as an eye technician to see how she likes working in a medical environment. "I've been trying to get exposed to some health care experience to see if that's something I really want to do," says Hale. "I really enjoy the patient interaction." After completing her senior year, Hale plans to take some time off to work and narrow down her field of interest before eventually going to graduate school. She would like to end up in a field related to neurology, where she can also continue to work with children. She is already looking into

some research positions she could take on after graduation. *This story was written by Erin Cabral, 2023 Summer Intern at the UMaine Division of Marketing at Communications.* Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Brady Kaelin: Making every spore count

12 Sep 2023

Brady Kaelin combines his passion for fungi and knowledge of the sciences to protect the mushrooms he loves. The senior majoring in botany with a professional writing minor is working alongside mentor Pete Avis, adjunct professor and cooperating faculty at the School of Biology and Ecology, to study fungal populations in southern Maine. Kaelin grew up in Patten, and began his undergraduate career at the University of Maine at Fort Kent. He transferred to UMaine in Orono so he could engage in the specialty courses offered there that related to his interest in what fungal populations contribute to the ecosystem. Kaelin met Avis while taking the course Biology of the Fungi with Seanna Annis, where Avis was a guest speaker on the topic of mycorrhizal fungi. After that lecture, Kaelin approached Avis to ask if he needed an assistant on any current research projects. Avis pulled Kaelin into the ongoing Maine-eDNA project, where he learned skills like DNA extraction and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques, a process that produces many copies of a specific segment of DNA to detect genetic material. “[Brady] is one of the hardest working students I have come across in a long time, and not just in academic stuff,” Avis says. “He is constantly finding ways to pay his bills and get through school. Those are big challenges for anybody, but Brady’s taking those challenges head on and finding the opportunities and the support to meet his interests and his needs to get through his experience here. [Brady] is the reason universities can do great things to students; they can provide opportunities for students like Brady who can then hop on those opportunities and really go do the things that they want.” Kaelin says that having Avis as a mentor has proved invaluable to further his knowledge of mycology, the scientific study of fungi. “I’m extremely fortunate to be going to a campus where there are mycologists. It’s very rare that there are any, at least in New England it seems, and I didn’t know he was here until I showed up here, so it was, like, total luck,” says Kaelin.



Avis then got Kaelin involved in another project documenting fungal populations on islands across Maine. Kaelin worked briefly on Vinalhaven and nearby islands, where he took soil samples back to UMaine to process the soil and generate accurate lists of genetic markers present. That research focused mainly on mycorrhizal fungi, but Kaelin wanted to see similar data for more types of fungi. “I couldn't find any old archives of fungal populations surveys, so I was thinking I could center a project around building a sort of foundation for DNA based fungal populations data. I am particularly interested in human disturbance in relation to fungal population data because I feel like that could be the main contributor to there being lowered fungal diversity in certain areas,” says Kaelin. Kaelin combined the techniques he learned in Avis’ lab and the field research he conducted in Vinalhaven to formulate his own project. Kaelin will take soil samples from sites at land trusts in Harpswell and near Portland, and run them through a DNA extraction. He’ll then amplify their genetic markers using PCR and a process called metabarcoding to get a comprehensive list of the species present in those areas. That data can then be tied back to annual foot traffic data to see if there’s any correlation between the richness of fungal diversity and foot traffic on specific trails throughout the properties. “There are many efforts in place to protect rare species of plants, but not much is really understood about the rarity of fungal species or how to protect them or whether foot traffic even affects that,” says Kaelin. “At the very least, it will provide a baseline of data relating to Maine fungal populations that didn't exist before, and at the most, it shows some sort of correlation. If there is a correlation, maybe new protocols could be suggested in the future after further research is conducted.” Kaelin plans to undergo the fieldwork portion of this project in the fall. He will then spend the rest of his time on the project, which is set to finish in April 2024, connecting the data that emerges from his samples to the available trail data. In the future, Kaelin hopes that other researchers will use the data from this experiment to understand what areas need protection so that fungal diversity may be preserved. Certain protocols may be suggested — such as how frequently people hike, where they can hike and what they should have on them while hiking — that would ensure the safety of the fungal populations present. Though these would likely be far down the road, this study is an important step in the conservation of fungal life. “[Fungi] are one of the most foundational parts of an ecosystem,” Kaelin says. “They’re responsible for the decomposition of plant matter and the support of living plants and their immune systems. You don't see them the way you do plants. They come up once a year, but that’s just the fruit, so people don't really think about it or appreciate it.” *This story was written by Erin Cabral, 2023 Summer Intern at the UMaine Division of Marketing at Communications.* Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Merrilee Schoen’s Joy Truck spreads joy beyond her UMaine Intermedia MFA thesis

13 Sep 2023

Merrilee Schoen wants to use art to show that social change can be joyous. Through her project called the Joy Truck, which is a central part of her thesis for the master’s program in Intermedia Studies at the University of Maine, Schoen has been exploring what community joy means, and what individuals and

artists can do to participate. A Dover-Foxcroft native, Schoen had a varied background as an artist leading up to her return to Maine at the start of the pandemic in 2019. She worked as a jewelry designer and at various nonprofits after receiving her bachelor's degree in psychology from the State University of New York at New Paltz, and traveled around the country creating artistic works from found objects. “A lot of the pieces were made of rust or glass or graffiti or wall flakes of graffiti or bones or just things that were found in abandoned places,” Schoen says. “I’m still kind of obsessed with the stories of things.” Once she returned to Maine, Schoen dedicated herself to developing an art project that would also provide resources to her community in its time of need. She had a vision for an eye-catching traveling center that not only hosted art classes and workshops in low-income areas, but also distributed free books, clothes and food, as well as vital public health tools like Narcan and fentanyl test strips. She bought an old truck from a neighbor and worked with a previous mentor, Peter Crockett at the nearby Argyle Iron Works, to build out the vehicle and get it road ready for later that year — and so, the Joy Truck was born. The Joy Truck has traveled to a number of different communities around Piscataquis County, including Milo, Dover-Foxcroft and Brownville Junction. The sides of the truck are covered in chalkboard for visitors to draw on, and the inside provides a space for kids and adults alike to read, make art or just relax. Schoen also has hosted a number of exhibits and workshops at the Joy Truck in different communities, and says she tries to hire local artists or bring in an expert based on the community needs, whether that may be a mushroom identification workshop or a “teddy bear and other stuffed friends” repair clinic.

As the Joy Truck began its journey, Schoen also continued making her found object art pieces in the studio. She posted one of her pieces on Facebook — a two-dimensional wall piece made of a rusty can and beadwork called “Eternal Roadside Worship at the Tin Can Temple” — that caught the eye of fellow Dover-Foxcroft local Susan Smith, graduate coordinator of the UMaine Intermedia programs. Smith was impressed by Schoen’s creativity, and convinced her to check out the Intermedia program. “I slept on it and thought, ‘Well, why not?” Schoen laughs. “It was just kind of the right time. I was in a position in my artistic career where I needed to learn a little bit more and was trying to find mentors. I was looking for that support and so I just jumped in.” Schoen started the MFA program in 2021. Since then, the Joy Truck has not only brought art and resources to rural communities around the state of Maine — it has also become a central part of Schoen’s academic work. Smith says that the Joy Truck is a perfect example of “community-based social art practice,” which moves artistic work out of institutions like museums and galleries and into the world. “From its inception, the intention has been to bring attention to, and perhaps overcome struggles within the community,” Smith explains. “Collaborative art can participate in this process by different means. You can choose to raise visibility, promote social integration and strengthen bonds. The Joy Truck accomplishes all of these goals. Merrilee has carefully listened to the needs of the folks living in Piscataquis County, and created a space where the participants are integral to the work, and where the needs are greatest. Joy Truck provides direct evidence of the convergence of multiple creativities. It is this ability for interaction, intersection and expansion that is the objective and the strength of social practice.” Schoen says that the UMaine Intermedia program has helped her contextualize her project within the art field, and to make sure that it continues to be successful by evolving in practice and giving Schoen the “language” to apply for and secure arts-centric grants. “It’s given me a depth and breadth that I don’t know if I would have gotten otherwise,” Schoen says. “It’s added a dimension of how I can speak about the work. It’s been awesome.” Since 2021, Schoen has received grants from the Ella Lyman Cabot Trust, the Awesome Without Borders Foundation, the Onion Foundation, New England Grassroots Environment Fund, the Maine Humanities Council as well as recent support from the National Arts Strategies Creative Community Fellowship: New England. Community partners have already seen the positive impact of the Joy Truck. Schoen interacts frequently with local leaders and community members to make sure she is stocking the Joy Truck with the resources and programming that they need. Tara Smith, executive director of Central Hall Commons in Dover-Foxcroft, which has partnered with Schoen for Joy Truck events, says that Schoen is also “always a pleasure to work with.” “Her kindness and creativity open doors for the people she reaches. Her integrity, presence and ability to meet people where they are at and share a sense of deep acceptance and love is much needed for us all,” Smith says. Schoen has also found ways to integrate UMaine researchers that she has met as a member of the UMaine community. This summer, Schoen invited Liza White and Evan Leonard, both graduate students in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, to join the Joy Truck in Milo to do science demonstrations with local kids. White and Leonard presented about biomimicry; refractions and rainbows; and “muscle music,” sticking sensors on different muscles that would play music as they were moved different distances away from each other. “I think we were able to show them what is possible in the field of science and also let them just have fun and be curious, which is what science is all about,” White says. “I grew up in Rumford, Maine, and there’s not a lot of resources, so it’s a personal goal of mine to show these rural communities what is possible. I think the Joy

Truck does a really good job with that." White and Leonard say that they often conduct science outreach at schools around the state, but their experience with the Joy Truck was unique. Without the structures of a school curriculum dictating their workshop, they were able to focus solely on piquing kids' curiosity. "That also correlates to art and science in many ways; at the end of the day we're still being curious and exploring our interests. We explore the curiosity in a lab and they explore the curiosity in art," White says. "We have definitely talked about going back again next year and maybe expanding to other communities with [Schoen]." The Joy Truck is a large focus of Schoen's thesis to complete the MFA program, which she plans to do in spring 2024. Her goal for this upcoming season is to implement bimonthly winter meetings in the areas that she often visits to keep the Joy Truck's positive impact going in the winter, when it is no longer safe to drive on the roads. "I am sensitive to what happens in rural communities when something slightly new comes, lasts a couple of years and leaves," Schoen says. "I want to find out if there is a way to support the concept of mutual aid and art that sustains beyond the people power and beyond the funding resources. There is always going to be change through generations but is there a way to keep momentum through that? That's the hope for this upcoming year." *Story written by Sam Schipani.* Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Institute of Medicine hosting Distinguished Science Lecture Sept. 14

13 Sep 2023

The University of Maine Institute of Medicine will host its second Annual Distinguished Science Lecture at 2:30 p.m. Sept. 14 at the Buchanan Alumni House. Clifford Rosen, a professor of medicine at Tufts University, will deliver the seminar, "Long Covid: A Long Way to Go." A reception with refreshments will follow. Rosen is an endocrinologist, bone biologist and associate editor at New England Journal of Medicine who has published more than 600 peer-reviewed papers. He also previously served as president of the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research and recently became the first Maine physician to be elected to the American Association of Physicians. Additionally, he has been a member of two advisory committees for the National Institutes of Health. Learn more about the distinguished lecture online.

Hindustan Times cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in coverage of El Niño

13 Sep 2023

In reporting about how El Niño has pushed global monthly mean ocean temperatures to all-time high, Hindustan Times cited information from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Change Reanalyzer demonstrating that sea surface temperatures observed since April show a far sharper spike than the warming over land, especially when compared with the long-term mean temperature from 1982-2011.

Daily Record quotes Dill in article about bed bugs

13 Sep 2023

The Daily Record quoted Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about bed bugs in hotel rooms. "Most people, when they enter a hotel room, the first thing they do is throw their stuff on the bed, the luggage rack or maybe even both. When you are [traveling] in this day and age, that's a no-no, because [bed bugs] could be in either of those places. The best thing to do when you enter a room is to bring what you're carrying into the bathtub. After you've put your luggage in the bathtub, it's time to start checking your room," Dill said.

CentralMaine.com shares Rowley gardening talks at Farmington Fair

13 Sep 2023

CentralMaine.com shared that Nick Rowley, a sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will be giving talks on gardening at 2 p.m. on Sept. 19 and 21 at the Farmington Fair.

Piscataquis Observer reports on UMaine School of Forest Resources award for conservation education

13 Sep 2023

The Piscataquis Observer reported that the University of Maine School of Forest Resources has been selected as the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District's 2023 Outstanding Conservation Educators of the Year.

Dill speaks to BDN about squash bugs

13 Sep 2023

The Bangor Daily News spoke to Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about squash bugs. "Seeing squash bugs on pumpkins is very common this time of year. The plant [parts] they had been feeding on have started to go down so they all get together and hang out on top of the pumpkin," Dill said.

UMaine earns grant to create rural teacher pathway program

13 Sep 2023

The University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development will look to establish an inclusive teacher pathway program serving rural schools and communities statewide thanks to a grant from the Rural Schools Collaborative (RSC). The $25,000 award is part of the collaborative's Catalyst Initiative, which provides flexible planning funds to RSC hubs to design and implement teacher corps programs that help rural schools recruit, support and retain educators. The College of Education and Human Development is home to the RSC's New England Rural Education Hub, a partnership working to advance preparation of rural teachers and school leaders throughout the region. Although UMaine's program is still in the design phase, associate professor of educational leadership and RSC New England hub contact Catharine Biddle says one focus will be to promote inclusion, building on the university's support for Wabanaki studies in Maine schools. "We are really looking forward to using this grant to support our work to diversify the teacher workforce in Maine and to support the state in meeting its mandate to ensure that every student engages in Wabanaki studies as part of their K–12 education," says Biddle, whose research and outreach includes work with educators from the Passamaquoddy Tribe and Mano en Mano, an organization based in Milbridge, Maine that helps farmworkers and their families with access to education, housing and other services. The requirement that Maine schools teach Wabanaki history and culture is part of 2001 state law still widely referred to by its bill number, LD 291. In recent years, the College of Education and Human Development has launched other efforts to better prepare future teachers to meet the spirit of the law. That includes working with UMaine's Native American Programs to offer a Teaching Wabanaki Studies course as part of the college's initial teacher licensure programs, and requiring student teachers to complete the University of Maine System's Dawnland micro-credential prior to graduation. Supporting transportation for preservice teachers who want to work in rural schools could be another focus of the grant, says Tammy Mills, senior lecturer of education at UMaine, who will be involved in designing and implementing the teacher pathway program. "Many of our students are interested in teaching in rural schools, but they can't afford the gas to commute to their field placements. So, one idea we are exploring is using this grant to address that and make rural teaching more equitable and accessible," Mills says. Biddle says they hope to have about 50 UMaine preservice teachers in rural field placements as part of the program when it launches next year.

L.L.Bean supporting UMaine's work on eradicating 'forever chemicals'

13 Sep 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated Sept. 21. University of Maine postdoctoral scholar Manisha Choudhary is researching ways to eradicate toxic so-called "forever chemicals" known as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, and training other students thanks to support from L.L.Bean. The outdoor goods retailer based in Freeport, Maine gifted a two-year, $150,000 grant for Choudhary's work as the L.L.Bean Postdoctoral Scholar. The gift is part of the recently launched L.L.Bean PFAS Solutions Research Program at UMaine and coincides with the company's commitment to remove PFAS from all L.L.Bean labeled products by the end of 2024. PFAS have been used widely in industrial and consumer products such as nonstick pans, takeout food containers and firefighting foam since the 1940s for their resistance to grease, oil, water and heat. Current research suggests that exposure to high levels of certain PFAS may lead to adverse health outcomes, including immune system disorders, thyroid hormone disruption and cancer. PFAS are referred to as "forever chemicals" because they tend to break down very slowly or not at all. They can bioaccumulate in plants, animals and people. Choudhary is investigating how to use nanotechnology to remove and destroy PFAS from water supply systems, alongside Onur Apul, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering. Her project specifically involves developing graphene nanosheets that can adsorb PFAS from water, then destroying these toxic chemicals by processing them at high temperatures. Through this process, known as thermal regeneration, she hopes the nanosheets could be reused to adsorb more PFAS. For her project, Choudhary will work in Apul's lab and the Frontier Institute for Research in Sensor Technologies (FIRST). In addition to conducting research, Choudhary is working with Apul to mentor Ph.D. student Sonia Moavenzadeh, who is investigating how to remove PFAS from biosolids in soil and water. When the fall semester starts, she also will oversee a team of undergraduate researchers in Apul's lab who also are working on thermal generation research. "Manisha''s work encompasses a multifaceted approach that addresses the urgent needs of the people of Maine" Apul says. "It will not only advance water treatment for PFAS mitigation but also her role in outreach and education will raise awareness about the risks posed by PFAS and the importance of proactive measures to tackle the issue." Before coming to UMaine in November 2022, Choudhary, of Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, India, worked as a postdoctoral researcher at Temple University. She earned her master's degree and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Technology in Kharagpur, India. Choudary's other research interests involve the degradation of micropollutants, pharmaceutical and personal care products (PPCPs), pesticides, other emerging contaminants and endocrine disrupting compounds in water and wastewater treatment processes using advanced treatment technology like non-thermal plasma. At UMaine, Choudhary collaborated with other environmental engineering and Intermedia MFA students on an art exhibit, "Co-Translation: Making the Invisible Visible — Nanotechnology and Art vs PFAS and Microplastics" displayed during Maine Impact Week in April at the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center. "Working at UMaine with Dr. Apul to combat the PFAS public health crisis is more than just a job; it's a passion-driven mission to protect our communities and the environment. It is both humbling and empowering to be part of a dedicated team, driven by a shared commitment to make a meaningful difference in the lives of countless individuals and future generations," Choudhary says. "I extend my heartfelt gratitude to L.L.Bean for their visionary initiative in taking a proactive stance to mitigate the PFAS issue. Their unwavering support and sponsorship for my postdoctoral research at UMaine will undoubtedly accelerate our collective efforts in finding a sustainable solution to this critical public health crisis." Many UMaine faculty members are working together on a variety of PFAS research projects and outreach efforts as part of the PFAS+ Initiative. Apul is science lead and a steering committee member for the initiative, which focuses on the emerging PFAS pollution crisis and its cascading environmental and societal impacts. Other researchers involved in PFAS-related work are based out of the Maine College of Engineering and Computing; College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and, Agriculture (NSFA); College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; University of Maine Cooperative Extension; the Office of Strategic Partnerships, Innovation,

Resources and Engagement (SPIRE); and the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions. The L.L.Bean Postdoctoral Scholar grant was made possible through collaboration between the retailer and the UMaine Portland Gateway, created to connect research, education and outreach expertise to southern Maine. "As a stakeholder company whose purpose is to enable the enjoyment of the outdoors, we naturally count the environment as one of our stakeholders," says Shawn Gorman, executive chairman of L.L.Bean. "We recognize PFAS is an urgent threat to our environment that requires collective action, which this endowment initiates thanks to UMaine's leadership. This is also why we have committed to removing PFAS from all L.L.Bean labeled products by the end of 2024." Over the years, L.L.Bean has contributed to several initiatives at UMaine and across the University of Maine System. It has donated to the Outdoor Leadership Program at UMaine, sponsored research at the Advanced Manufacturing Center, provided internship and paid guide apprenticeship opportunities, and brought its pop-up store to Family and Friends weekend on campus. In 2022, the company provided a $300,000 gift to support efforts between the University of Maine Graduate and Professional Center and other partners in bolstering the outdoor recreation economy. That same year, it also provided $850,000 to the University of Southern Maine Foundation, including $750,000 for a new Career and Student Success Center (CSSC) and green campus, and $100,000 for the L.L.Bean Environmental Science Endowed Scholarship for USM students. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Jason Gil: Broadening mind and opportunities at L.L. Bean

13 Sep 2023

If Jason Gil of Sanford, Maine had to describe his information services wholesale internship at L.L. Bean in one word, he would choose "exposure." Working for the retailer has introduced Gill, a senior at the Maine Business School, to many new aspects of technology, information services and business operation. The skills he learned through his internship also will be useful in his future professional endeavors, he says. "This experience will help significantly as I progress towards my future career," Gil says. "Getting a feel for different organizations and their day-to-day gives great insight into the direction you may want to take in your career." Read the full story on the Maine Business School website. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

Intermedia Programs symposium features latest faculty work at IMRC

13 Sep 2023

Faculty from the University of Maine Intermedia Programs are showcasing their latest work — a diverse array of analog and digital media demonstrating contemporary artistic practice — during their 2023 symposium at the Innovation Media and Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center. The exhibition includes artwork from Sheridan Kelley Adams, Arturo Camacho, Bethany Engstrom and Susan Smith. Adams' "When Art Closes a Door" features a series of works in which technology translates idea into form. Camacho's "Nostos" combines personal narrative and memory in ways that push the boundaries of artistic expression, and reference his experience of grief and struggle to remain connected to his past while navigating life in a new country. Engstrom's "Stone Works" uses multiple modes of video in an installation exploring both place and ideas of labor and motherhood. Smith's "Absence of Urgency," references issues of climate urgency and environmental stewardship with her monumental paintings and guerrilla garden cart. The symposium exhibition at the IMRC is open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday.

Mitchell Center to host talk on social-ecological challenges in Maine's wild shellfish fisheries Sept. 25

14 Sep 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Unlocking the language of change: Understanding social-ecological challenges in Maine's wild shellfish fisheries," at 3 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 25. Speaker B Lauer will share her journey in understanding the diverse meanings of coastal and fisheries "access" and how communication plays a crucial role in shaping issues in wild intertidal shellfish fisheries in Maine. Lauer will explore the powerful interplay between communication and problem-solving in the context of pressing environmental concerns, and the profound influence of language and communication on shaping solutions for social-ecological challenges. Lauer is a recent graduate of the master of arts program in the Department of Communication and Journalism and of the National Science Foundation Research Traineeship in Conservation Science and Practice at the University of Maine. She has held positions as a stewardship coordinator and an education and outreach coordinator working in freshwater resource management in Minnesota. She has spent the past two years conducting engaged, transdisciplinary and anticolonial research with wild intertidal shellfish fisheries in Maine. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

New nature docu-series by Sarnacki coming to Maine Public

14 Sep 2023

A new docu-series about Maine nature by Aislinn Sarnacki, a lecturer with the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, is premiering Maine Public television at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14 Maine Public television. "Borealis" is a multimedia outdoors series that explores the state as Sarnacki and her colleagues, hike, bike, fish and surf. It will also feature conservationists, citizen scientists, outdoor recreation enthusiasts and others dedicated to preserving Maine's outdoor spaces and sharing them with everyone. Maine Public will rebroadcast episodes on "Borealis" at 2 p.m. on Fridays and 5 p.m. on Sundays. Bonus content will be featured on the station's YouTube channel and social media. More information is available on the Maine Public website. Sarancki also discussed the program on a recent segment of "Maine Calling." Sarnacki teaches writing, editing and journalism courses at UMaine. She earned her bachelor's degree in journalism here in 2010. She also writes for the Bangor Daily News and other local media outlets, and has published several books on hiking in Maine.

Business Insider notes ASCC bio-based 3D-printed house

14 Sep 2023

In an article about a Japanese company that 3D-printed a 530-square-foot concrete tiny home, Business Insider noted that the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center has 3D-printed a fully recyclable tiny home using wood waste.

Daily Bulldog shares UMaine Extension virtual course on business planning for producers

14 Sep 2023

The Daily Bulldog reported that registration is open for the online University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Business Planning for Producers course, which begins Oct. 5. Held 5-7 p.m. every Thursday through Dec. 14, the 10-week online course is designed for Mainers looking to start a land- or sea-based business and learn about the core concepts of business operations, finance, management and marketing. It consists of live training sessions with experts from across the state coupled with self-paced learning modules. For exact course fees, a schedule and registration, visit the program webpage.

USA Today highlights UMaine Climate Change Reanalyzer data visualizations

14 Sep 2023

In an article about visualizations of climate change data, USA Today highlighted the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer, which gathers data from the National Weather Service and elsewhere to generate visualizations to show changes in the planet's climate.

BDN shares McGillicuddy Humanities Center event with Rhiannon Giddens

14 Sep 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center and the Collins Center for the Arts will host a free public lecture with Grammy, Pulitzer Prize and MacArthur "Genius" grant winner Rhiannon Giddens and conversation with trumpet professor Jack Burt at 1 p.m. on Sept. 23 in the Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

Washington Post cites Climate Reanalyzer data

14 Sep 2023

In an article about record global temperatures and flooding, the Washington Post cited data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration charted by the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer showing that global average sea surface temperatures, excluding polar regions, have been hovering at or around record highs for six weeks.

Ferrini-Mundy speaks to News Center Maine about enrollment collaboration with community colleges

14 Sep 2023

In an article about college enrollment in Maine, News Center Maine spoke to President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, who said that the University of Maine welcomes students coming from the state's community colleges. "And we have a number of articulation and partnership agreements with the state's community colleges in several different majors," Ferrini-Mundy said.

Hanson speaks to BDN about the Fibonacci sequence

14 Sep 2023

In an article about using the Fibonacci sequence for garden planning, the Bangor Daily News spoke to Brandon Hanson, assistant professor of mathematics at University of Maine. "It has to do to some extent with how things replicate in nature. The patterns look nice so we use them as a frame of reference [and] that's the reason it shows up in manmade designs," Hanson said.

Maine Council on Aging recognizes Singer and Oh

14 Sep 2023

The Maine Council on Aging announced that Clifford Singer, research professor at the University of Maine, has received the 2023 Trailblazing Advocate Award, and Patricia Oh, senior program manager at the UMaine Center on Aging, received the Douglas O. Wilson Rising Tide Leadership Award. The 2023 Trailblazing Advocate Award recognizes the sustained contributions of trailblazers whose passion, actions and advocacy have made Maine a better place to age with dignity, health, purpose and security. Singer, who is also the chief of the Center for Geriatric Cognitive and Mental Health at Northern Light Acadia Hospital, was recognized for his work to ensure older Mainers living with cognitive challenges can gain access to timely diagnosis, and support and care. Throughout his career, he has focused on growing collaborative support and care for people living with dementia, securing funding for research and treatment and training professionals to treat, support and engage people living with dementia. In recent years, he has built a research program to help find new treatments — and ultimately a cure — for dementia, and is working to make Maine a center for excellence when it comes to dementia care. The Douglas O. Wilson Rising Tide Leadership Award, granted in partnership with Southern Maine Agency on Aging and Community Health Options, recognizes and celebrates the efforts of people who lift and inspire others to implement innovative solutions to challenges faced by older Mainers through collaborative partnerships, shared leadership and community building initiatives. Oh, who worked to make Bowdoinham Maine's first World Health Organization-designated Age Friendly Community in 2014, has inspired everyday people to volunteer to build communities that work for a lifetime. She is the driving force behind the Lifelong Communities Fellows Program, an effort that places established leaders with developing communities, ensuring that thousands of older Mainers can live healthy, engaged and secure lives. "Our annual awards shine a spotlight on Maine people who are quietly dedicating part or all of their careers to making Maine a healthier, safer, more inclusive place to live and work for older Mainers," says Jess Maurer, executive director of the Maine Council on Aging. "Combined these honorees have had an impressive impact on the lives of older Maines, and we honor them to ensure Maine people know about their important work and leadership." Singer and Oh will be honored for their work at the Maine Council on Aging's Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sept. 26 and at its Wisdom Summit on Sept. 27. Summit registration information can be found here.

Fish are shrinking, according to new study co-authored by McGill

14 Sep 2023

University of Maine ecology professor Brian McGill helped discover that the average body sizes of fish are shrinking as part of an international project with 16 other researchers. The team, led by University of York macroecologist Inês Martins, analyzed the body size trends of numerous plants and animals worldwide from 1960–2020 using data from the BioTIME database. While size trends varied across organisms, the group saw a prevalent pattern of reduction among marine fish species. They also discovered that among certain ecosystems, the number of individuals for a larger fish species are declining and are being replaced by those from a smaller species. At the same time, the total combined biomass of all fish in these places has remained fairly constant as a result of their being more small fish. In the Gulf of Maine, for example, larger fish like the thorny skate and cod have been shrinking over recent decades, with the average individual becoming smaller. Their species also are experiencing a decline in the number of individuals, and the smaller species of mackerel is increasing in numbers. The net effect is a decrease in the average body size of a randomly chosen fish in the Gulf of Maine. The study is the first to show that this pattern is occurring widely in fish around the world. The study also identifies body size as a key factor for why some fish species are replacing others in various ecosystems, which will help scientists predict how the latter will respond. That's why the large thorny skate being replaced by mackerel in the Gulf of Maine might face a similar fate as large cod. The finding that across many systems the total biomass remains roughly constant, even as the sizes and numbers of particular species change also is new. Beyond fish, the overall pattern is less consistent. There are some species increasing in size and number and replacing smaller ones, like bushes and trees in the Arctic replacing grasses and herbs with the opposite happening in some parts of the U.S. desert Southwest. In all cases, however, the researchers found that a significant part of the change is actually driven by species of one size replacing species of another size, and that there is an overall pattern of compensation such that the total amount of biomass remains fairly constant. The team published their findings in the journal Science. Determining the causes behind these trends will require additional research. "As a scientist it is really fascinating to learn how some aspects of nature are changing drastically while other aspects of nature show considerable stability," McGill says. "But economically speaking, this has large practical implications in a fisheries-based state like Maine. Big fish are preferred fishing targets, but big fish species are both becoming smaller and being replaced by smaller species. We now know this is happening not only in the Gulf of Maine but around the world." Read the full story on the University of York website.

UMaine researchers partnering with UMass on $30 million NSF Science and Technology Center focused on braiding Indigenous knowledges and science

14 Sep 2023

Indigenous communities worldwide are facing the effects of climate changes, threats to their food supplies and the potential destruction of historically and culturally significant places. Using Indigenous knowledge and Western science, University of Maine faculty will devise new ways to tackle these pressing issues through a new research center based at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. UMaine will serve as the Northeast hub for the new Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science (CBIKS) at UMass Amherst. The Northeast hub of CBIKS at UMaine is one of eight regional hubs spread over different regions of the U.S., as well as in Australia and the Pacific Islands. [caption id="attachment_99556" align="alignright" width="248"]

Darren Ranco[/caption] [caption id="attachment_99555" align="alignright" width="248"]

Bonnie Newsom[/caption] [caption id="attachment_99554" align="alignright" width="248"]


John Daigle[/caption] The center, which will be directed by UMass provost professor of anthropology Sonya Atalay, will conduct transdisciplinary, placed-based research projects that intertwine Native and Western knowledge systems in collaboration with Indigenous communities, scientists, governments, industry partners and nonprofits around the world. The National Science Foundation awarded $30 million for the center. It will include a team of over 50 people, more than 30 of whom are the world's leading Indigenous natural, environmental and social scientists and represent Native American, First Nations, Métis, Native Hawaiian, Alaska Native, Maori and Aboriginal Australian peoples. Bonnie Newsom, associate professor of anthropology, is one of the co-principal investigators for establishing the CBIKS, and will co-lead the Northeast hub with Darren Ranco, professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Programs, and John Daigle, professor of forest recreation management. Through the research hub at UMaine, the team will support research activities with Indigenous communities in Maine and across the region. In the first year of forming the CBIKS, the UMaine team will work with Wabanaki communities, including the Penobscot Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Houlton Band of Maliseets and the Mi'kmaq Nation, to identify their research priorities related to climate change, heritage spaces and food systems. The group will then initiate and support community-engaged case studies and research in subsequent years that address Wabanaki priorities in these areas. Newsom, Ranco and Daigle, all Penobscot Nation citizens, also wil liaise between UMaine graduate and undergraduate students and Indigenous peoples in the state, direct student research toward those communities' priorities and "braided knowledge" approaches, and advise institutional faculty and leadership on appropriate methodologies and protocols for collaborative approaches for braiding Indigenous knowledges and Western science. "We hope this work leads to a systemic shift in community-engaged research at UMaine that elevates Indigenous knowledges in science research while also bringing Western science tools and techniques to Wabanaki and other Indigenous communities," Newsom says. Read the full story at the UMass Amherst website. More information about the center can also be found online. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

BDN shares UMaine Extension 4-H Pig Raffle and 4-H Kitchen at Cumberland Fair

15 Sep 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the Cumberland County 4-H Leaders Association will hold their annual 4-H Pig Raffle and 4-H Kitchen Food Booth fundraisers at the 2023 Cumberland Fair, Sept. 24-30, 197 Blanchard Road. The annual fundraisers support scholarships, camperships, activities, events and trips for University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H members in Cumberland County. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the event website

Reuters cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in reporting about Cambodian fishermen

15 Sep 2023

In an article about the impact of warming seas on Cambodian crab fisherman, Reuters cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer noting that temperature spikes have become increasingly common in oceans along Cambodia's coastline since 2010. WTVB (95.5 FM in Coldwater, Michigan) shared the Reuters report.

Mainebiz notes UMaine support in launch of Global Secure Shipping

15 Sep 2023

In a feature about Global, an Old Town-based startup that manufactures high-tech shipping containers, Mainebiz noted that the company is a spin-off from the University of Maine and continues to collaborate with UMaine researchers.

Reuters features Dagher in article about scaling offshore wind power in Maine

15 Sep 2023

Reuters spoke to Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center at the University of Maine, about scaling up offshore wind energy production in the Gulf of Maine. "We often call it the 1, 10, 100 plan. It includes putting a single turbine in the water first, then 10 turbines, then doing commercial scale with 100 turbines or more," Dagher said.

Brewer speaks to Reuters about voting among rural Americans

15 Sep 2023

Reuters spoke to Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about whether Democrats will be able to secure votes from rural America through funding infrastructure. Brewer told Reuters that President Biden's problems in Maine's rural second district, which backed Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012 before embracing Donald Trump, are a microcosm of the issue nationwide. The Japan Times shared the Reuters report.

New York Times features Mitchell, UMaine Fogler Library records in reporting about Penobscot artist

15 Sep 2023

In a report about the historical impact of Penobscot performer Molly Nelson, also known as Molly Spotted Elk, the New York Times cited information from the Fogler Library at the University of Maine, and spoke to John Bear Mitchell, lecturer of Wabanaki studies at UMaine. “There’s a real difference in the voice, and there’s a real difference in certain emphases that she put on certain aspects of the stories,” Mitchell told the New York Times. The article also noted that a collection of Nelson’s legends, “Katahdin: Wigwam’s Tales of the Abnaki Tribe,” was published in 2009 by UMaine.

Select blue light call boxes undergoing maintenance as part of comprehensive safety strategy

15 Sep 2023

The University of Maine’s comprehensive safety strategy provides students with multiple ways of calling for assistance or reporting incidents. One of the technologies employed by the university to protect students and the campus community are the blue light call boxes. “As part of a periodic campuswide review, the blue light call boxes are checked to make sure they are working properly.” said William Flagg, UMaine’s chief of police and security services. “Any call boxes found to have issues will be serviced. While many boxes are functioning properly, we want to make sure every call box on campus is regularly maintained and working.” Signs have been posted with placards directing community members to appropriate resources if the blue light call box has to be turned off for service. While this maintenance is underway, the campus community is reminded that there are multiple ways to contact the campus police department if they need assistance. These resources include calling 911 or using the Black Bear Safe app. Blue light call boxes, 911 and the Black Bear Safe app are all designed to work together to enhance safety and protect the university’s campus community. "Everyone is responsible for contributing to their own personal safety,” says Flagg. “Trust your instincts. Don’t go into any situation that feels unsafe.” Flagg suggests that everyone take some common-sense precautions to protect themselves. If you have to walk alone at night, be aware of your surroundings and utilize the features on the Black Bear Safe app. It also is a good idea to pay attention to residence hall visitors you don’t recognize, be aware of campus safety resources, and report any suspicious activity. “While the University of Maine is a very safe campus, it takes all of us working together to keep it that way,” said Robert Dana, vice president for student life and inclusive excellence and dean of students. “Everyone needs to be vigilant about the safety of our campus community. If you see something, say something. Our police department is here to protect all of us.” To learn more about our dedication to campus safety at the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias, read the Clery Annual Safety Report.

Franklin Journal advances 4-H training sessions for aspiring volunteers

18 Sep 2023

The Franklin Journal advanced a two-part online informational session from University of Maine Cooperative Extension for adults interested in becoming 4-H volunteers from 6–7 p.m. on Sept. 18 and 25. More information is available on the UMaine Extension website.

Media highlight shellfish fisheries talk at Mitchell Center

18 Sep 2023

Centralmaine.com, The Ellsworth American and The Mount Desert Islander noted that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine plans to host a talk, “Unlocking the language of change: Understanding social-ecological challenges in Maine’s wild shellfish fisheries,” at 3 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 25. More information is available on the event webpage.

Media feature edible insect research and development at UMaine

18 Sep 2023

WFVX (Channel 7) and The Bangor Daily News featured research and development efforts to bolster the state’s edible insect industry involving Rob Dumas, food science innovation coordinator at the University of Maine.

WABI reports on UMaine Machias students staying in Orono during hurricane

18 Sep 2023

WABI (Channel 5) reported on some University of Maine at Machias students staying at UMaine dorms in Orono during Hurricane Lee. WLOX-TV (in Biloxi, Mississippi), WBRC (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama) and KWCH (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) shared the WABI report.

Reuters cites UMaine data on warming temperatures in Cambodia

18 Sep 2023

In a story titled “Cambodia fishermen struggle as the sea warms,” Reuters cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer showing that temperature spikes in the waters surrounding Cambodia have become more frequent since 2010. Yahoo! News and WHBL (101.5 FM in Sheboygan, Wisconsin), shared the Reuters report.

Birkel speaks to Grist on hurricanes in the Atlantic and climate change

18 Sep 2023

In a story about Hurricane Lee, Grist interviewed Sean Birkel about the rarity of hurricanes in Maine and New England and how climate change is influencing the occurrence of one in the region this year. “Given the record-high sea-surface temperatures in the North Atlantic, it is interesting that in this year we see a hurricane barreling toward New England,” said Birkel, the Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute. “Because it is rare for hurricanes to reach New England and certainly into Maine.” Grist also cited data from the Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer in its reporting.

CNN interviews Stoll about mussels and their health benefits

18 Sep 2023

CNN interviewed Josh Stoll, University of Maine assistant professor of marine policy, about the health benefits of eating mussels. “Think about it this way: Mussels take about as long to cook as a hot dog but have more than two times more protein as well as a diverse array of micronutrients,” Stoll said. WSILTV (Channel 3 in Carterville, Illinois) shared the CNN report.

Hasselbaum named 2023–24 Maine Policy Scholar

19 Sep 2023

Cam Hasselbaum, of Bellingham, Massachusetts, was named this year’s Maine Policy Scholar at the University of Maine. One student from each of the University of Maine System’s campuses is selected for the program. Each scholar conducts a policy research project that is relevant to Maine. Following a year of study, the scholars present a solution through a report and presentation. Hasselbaum, a senior majoring in financial economics with a minor in business administration, will study how university students use generative AI tools like ChatGPT for their assignments. His project adviser is Kelsi Hobbs, an assistant professor of economics at UMaine. “This research is important because it has the potential to influence how quickly and to what extent we integrate emerging generative AI technology into higher education,” Hasselbaum says. The Maine Policy Scholar program is supported by the Maine Community Foundation and overseen by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. Each scholar receives a $5,000 scholarship and up to $1,000 for research expenses.

Media highlight award for School of Forest Resources

19 Sep 2023

The Piscataquis Observer and CentralMaine.com highlighted the Maine Timber Research & Environmental Education Foundation announcing that University of Maine School of Forest Resources won the 2023 Austin H. Wilkins Forest Stewardship Award. The award, given in partnership with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, recognizes those who have managed working forests in the state in an honorable and sustainable manner. According to the report, the School of Forest Resources was “selected by Maine TREE and the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry for their outstanding contribution to the forest products industry and the state of Maine.”

Klein discusses electric grid resilience research with Public News Service

19 Sep 2023

Sharon Klein, University of Maine associate professor of economics, spoke to Public News Service about a collaborative research project called STORM: Data-Driven Approaches for Secure Electric Grids in Communities Disproportionately Impacted by Climate Change. “It’s important to me personally that the communities that have not been part of the conversation as much, that they’re accessing directly those benefits to transitioning to renewable energy and away from fossil fuels,” Klein said.

Socolow discusses Maine media landscape and politics with Semafor

19 Sep 2023

Michael Socolow, associate professor of communication and journalism at the University of Maine, spoke with Semafor about the political affiliations of owners and investors of news organizations in Maine and elsewhere. “I think the person who writes the checks is ultimately less important than the quality of the news provided,” he wrote in an email to the publication. “Look at the Wall Street Journal: It’s owned by Rupert Murdoch yet its journalists were awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 2019 for revealing Donald Trump’s hush-money payments to Stormy Daniels during the 2016 campaign.”

WERU interviews Decker about book challenges in Maine

19 Sep 2023

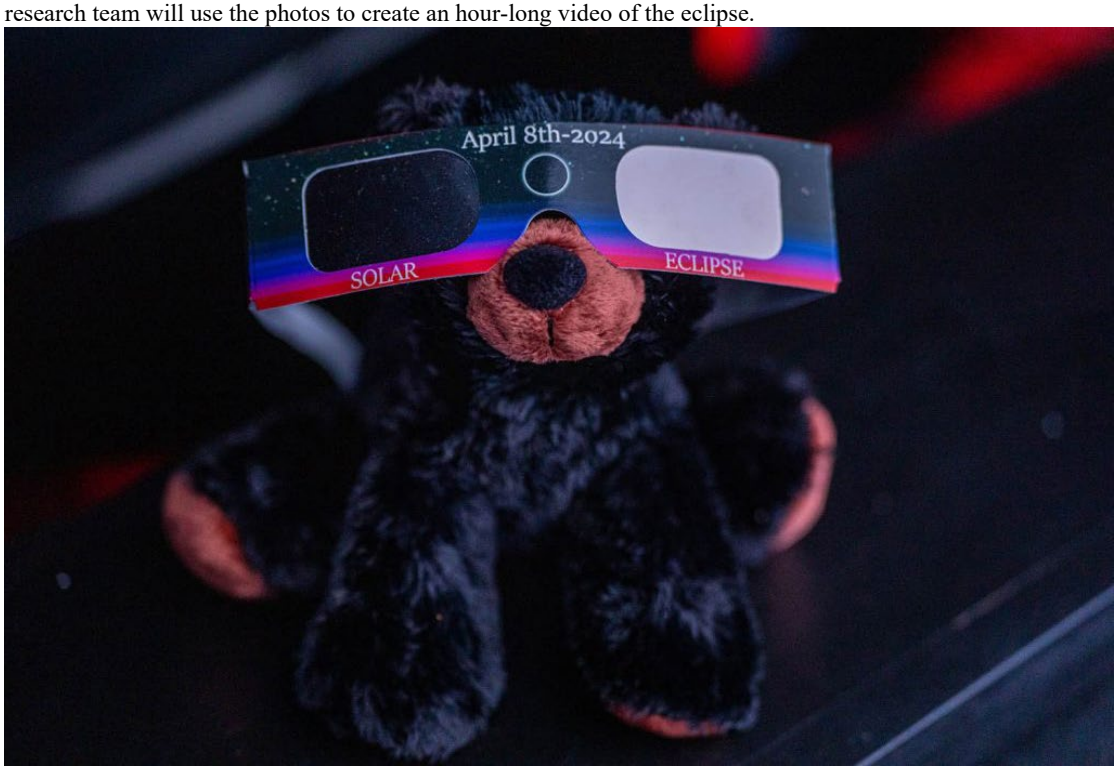
Lindsay Decker, a science reference librarian with Fogler Library at the University of Maine, discussed book challenges in the state on WERU Community Radio’s program “Democracy Forum.” “You can see drastic changes over the past few years,” said Decker, also a member of the Maine Library Association’s Intellectual Freedom Committee, “all of a sudden in 2021, we start to see six challenges. In 2022, they ballooned up to 14. And this year in 2023, we have seen 16 book challenges, which is more than we’ve seen in Maine before.”

UMaine astronomers coordinating citizen science research on total solar eclipse in Northeast

19 Sep 2023

A total solar eclipse will be visible in northern Maine for three-and-a-half minutes on April 8. That provides a short and rare opportunity to gather scientific data on this major astronomical event, and Shawn Laatsch, director of the Versant Power Astronomy Center at the University of Maine, is preparing to have high schoolers and other members of the general public involved in that work. Laatsch is coordinating plans, equipment and training for citizen scientists in

Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York and Pennsylvania for the Continental-America Telescopic Eclipse (CATE) experiment, a nationwide research project focusing on the 2024 solar eclipse led by Southwest Research Institute. He also recruited UMaine Ph.D. student Nikita Saini to provide training in Maine and San Antonio, where participants nationwide will congregate for instruction in January. "A big part of this project for me is hopefully helping people get outside more and pay attention to their natural surroundings; pay attention to when these very special observational events come up," Laatsch says. "We last had a total solar eclipse here in the state in 1963. We won't get it again here until 2079." Teams of citizen scientists located across 35 stations from Texas to Maine will receive 80-millimeter telescopes with specialized cameras to capture data and images of the eclipse. Laatsch says there will be at least one team in Maine stationed at Jackman, which is expected to have the best views of the eclipse in the state. The eclipse will be visible for spectators located in certain portions of the southern, midwestern and northeastern U.S., as well as other parts of North America, according to NASA. While solar eclipses typically take over 2 hours from start to finish, Laatsch says it totality itself only lasts a few minutes at each location. Having numerous research groups spread across the country helps ensure that the entire U.S. path of the eclipse is photographed, particularly if certain areas experience cloudy skies. The research team will use the photos to create an hour-long video of the eclipse.



The citizen science teams will be formed through outreach to various high schools, community groups, planetariums and science centers, which will keep the telescopes provided for the project for their own astronomy projects in the future, Laatsch says. "It could be really educational, and hopefully get them more interested in science in general," Saini says. "That's kind of a hard thing to get kids really into these days, but giving them some hands-on experience is a great way to get them excited." The images will provide light data on the sun's atmosphere, or corona. The corona is only visible during total solar eclipses — it's the ring of light surrounding the moon when it blocks the sun. Through the light data from these images, the research team hopes to learn more about how the corona changes over time and what influences its shape and temperature, according to the Southwest Research Institute. Learning more about the corona also provides greater insight into how it affects Earth, including the ways in which solar winds it emits influence the aurora borealis and inhibit satellite communications. Other scientific revelations have been made possible through investigating the sun's atmosphere. "It was from studying the corona in 1868 that the element of helium was discovered," Laatsch says. "Also from studying solar eclipses back in 1919, it was used to prove Einstein's theory of relativity. So there's a lot of science that happens during total eclipses — looking at the polarity of the corona; a whole variety of sciences that help us understand the Sun." The Versant Power Astronomy Center is selling solar eclipse glasses at $2 per pair for the total eclipse in April and the partial eclipse on Oct. 14. The center will also feature various programs about solar eclipses, starting with "ECLIPSE: The Moments of Wonder" showing at 7 p.m. on Fridays in September. "A total solar eclipse truly is a magical thing," Laatsch says. "Darkness in the middle of the day. The sky has a weird color. You see bright planets out, and some of the brighter stars. The temperature drops. Animals get confused and will quiet down. The wind picks up as you get a sudden temperature change. It's a really dramatic thing." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Bishop discuss school staff shortages on 'Maine Calling'

20 Sep 2023

Maine Public featured Penny Bishop, dean of the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, on a segment of its show "Maine Calling" about school staff shortages.

McGillicuddy Humanities Center welcomes fall 2023 undergraduate fellows

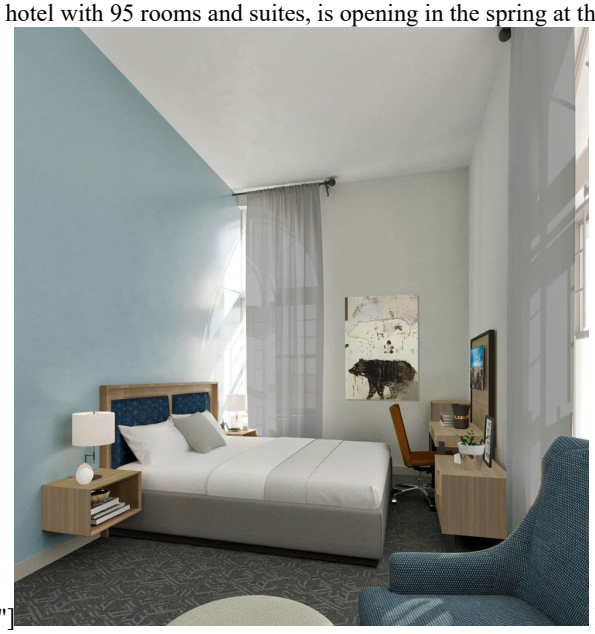
20 Sep 2023

This semester, the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) welcomes four new undergraduate research fellows: Chapman "Chappy" Hall, Iris Loehr, Sarah Renee Ozlanski and Katherine Ritche. This new cohort will join current fellows Paige Allen, Sebastien Chamberlain, Abigail Roberts and Willow Wind. MHC undergraduate fellows receive an award of up to $8,000 over the course of two semesters to pursue an independent research or creative project in the humanities in collaboration with a faculty member. Hall is a history major in the Honors College from Brunswick, Maine. His MHC project, titled "Playing History: What Video Games Teach Us About the Past" will be completed under the supervision of professor of history Liam Riordan. Hall will survey gamers to understand how historically themed video games teach history as an active experience. Focussing on the video game "Europa

Universalis IV" and themes of colonialism and imperialism in the 18th century, Hall will research the relationship between history and the video games industry, the nature of video games as a medium and the potential video games possess to create an understanding of history through experience. Loehr is an English major in the Honors College from Cincinnati, Ohio. Her project is titled "Mountain People: Essays on Place and Personhood in Appalachia." Loehr will work with faculty mentor James Brophy of the Honors College on a collection of essays on a variety of topics pertaining to central Appalachia and place. By blending creative and academic styles, Loehr aims to explore human interaction with the region's geography and geology to develop a narrative of Appalachian identity that runs counter to the ones driven by stigma. In the popular imagination, Appalachia is a site of poverty, incest and strife. Online characterizations of Appalachia portray it as a place filled with cannibals, killers, and spirits that haunt the woods deep in the mountains. Loehr's project challenges the stigmas drawn from the region's systemic poverty and historical isolation by presenting a vision of Appalachian culture that's vibrant, nuanced and inherently bound to the mountains from which it emerged. Ozlanski is a studio art and English double major from Belfast, Maine. Working with associate professor of English Carla Billitteri, Ozlanski's project is called "The Language of my Grandmother is a Language of Resistance: How the Matrilineal Transmission of Pisanki Express Cultural Identity." Ozlanski, the Echoes of Maine Fellow, will be expanding on research into the matrilineal tradition of pisanki, which forms a part of her cultural heritage. Pisanki are colorful eggs with images written on them through a wax and dye resistance process. These eggs can be read by those who understand the combination of colors and symbols. Ozlanski is exploring the ways this tradition has been preserved for over a thousand years by being passed down from mothers to daughters. She will also examine how pisanki has become a symbol of cultural identity for people of Ukrainian and Polish heritage, an object of cultural memory and a symbol of resistance for Ukraine during Russia's invasion. In addition to examining a variety of scholarly investigations into this topic, Ozlanski will also be doing her own creative research about pisanki as a kind of written language that is gender and culturally specific. Her examination of this cultural expression will explore how this language represents an intersection between art and writing that can communicate the values, perspectives and histories of Ukrainian and Polish women. Ritchie, a history and secondary education double major from Northport, Maine is working with professor of History Anne Knowles to pursue a project titled "Mapping Education: Using Maps to Teach the Holocaust." Ritchie, the Sandra Merrill Peters and John G. Peters Fellow, will utilize mapping and teaching methods to make Holocaust education more accessible and dynamic for high school and college-aged students. Ritchie will be using a geographic information system (GIS) to create maps and lesson plans for fellow teachers and students with the goal of making the topic more approachable. Her work also looks to bridge the gap between high school classrooms and academic studies of the Holocaust with the use of interactive maps and lesson plans that are educational for both students and teachers at the secondary and collegiate levels. In addition to honing their research skills and building their academic networks, MHC fellows serve as humanities ambassadors to their peers, the campus and the broader community. For students interested in becoming a fellow, and faculty who might like to nominate one, the next deadline to apply for a fellowship is Oct. 17. Research and creative work of all types across the humanities will be considered. This includes academic papers, art gallery shows, community workshops or films. Applicants do not need to be humanities majors or minors to be eligible. More information, including application instructions, proposal guidelines and a statement of purpose, is available on the MHC website. The MHC supports excellent teaching, research and public engagement in the humanities to deepen understanding of the human condition. It supports programs that foster intellectual curiosity, critical reflection and creative innovation. At the core of the center's work is the belief that studying the humanities inspires compassion across differences, develops empathy, strengthens critical thinking skills and cultivates the emotional and intellectual agility needed to navigate an increasingly interconnected and complex global landscape. Contact: Brian Jansen, brian.jansen@maine.edu

Hotel Ursa opening in early spring at UMaine

21 Sep 2023

Hotel Ursa, a new independent hotel with 95 rooms and suites, is opening in the spring at the University of Maine. [caption id="attachment_99642" align="alignright" width="375"]  Rendering of a guest room in Coburn Hall[/caption] Hotel Ursa, inspired by the Ursa Major and Minor constellations and the North Star that connects them, was developed by renovating two of oldest buildings on campus, Coburn and Holmes halls, to offer modern rooms and suites that still possess a unique and historic charm. A new building was also erected and includes more contemporary guest rooms. Complementing these facilities is MajorMinor, a cafe and bar where members of the university community and guests alike can hangout and enjoy locally roasted coffees, baked goods, snacks, Maine craft beers and wines by-the-glass. Designated hotel parking will be located between Fogler Library and Holmes Hall. There also will be a small parking lot next to Coburn Hall. In addition to preserving historic structures on campus, which have been unoccupied for more than a decade, the hotel will provide UMaine and the surrounding communities with high-quality campus-based hospitality services to support events, outreach and community collaboration. Learn more about the hotel on its website. Construction for the hotel, a joint venture of Radnor Property Group, a real estate development company, and Harrison Street, an investment management firm, began in September 2022. Archetype Architects designed the facilities and Wright-Ryan Construction managed their construction. The property is operated by Portland-based Olympia Hotel Management. Contact: Marcus Wolf (UMaine); 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu; Anna Henderson (Olympia Hotel Management), ahenderson@theocos.com.

UMaine joins national effort to improve recruitment and retention of STEM faculty from all backgrounds

21 Sep 2023

The University of Maine announced today that through a competitive process, it has been selected to join the National Aspire Institutional Change Network (IChange Network), a nationwide coalition of colleges and universities striving to improve how they recruit, support and retain STEM faculty members from all different backgrounds. As a member of the IChange Network, UMaine can access experts, peers, conferences and tools that will help it attract STEM faculty from diverse and historically underrepresented backgrounds and promote their professional success. With assistance and collaboration from the network, UMaine will evaluate and improve its recruitment and retention strategies, professional development opportunities, hiring practices, onboarding, campus culture and climate. The IChange Network is an initiative from the Association of Public Land Grant Universities (APLU) supported by the National Science Foundation. It recently welcomed UMaine and seven other institutions as members. "UMaine is thrilled to join this nationwide effort to improve the recruitment and retention of STEM faculty from diverse backgrounds," says John Volin, executive vice president of academic affairs and provost. "Our engagement with the Aspire IChange Network underscores UMaine's commitment to inclusive excellence in STEM. It's not just a network; it will help provide for faculty support, a catalyst for recruitment, and a cornerstone of our commitment to retention, which all supports UMaine's focus on creating a more inclusive academic environment." With assistance from the network, university officials will begin by conducting a self-assessment of its current practices. Once this self-assessment has been completed, UMaine will be able to collaborate with APLU experts and peers to create an action plan designed to enhance faculty recruitment, retention and support. Creating this plan will require the university to create a task force that develops the plan, executes its strategies and attends network meetings and conferences. These interactions will allow the participants to share new ideas and methods that support the recruitment and retention of STEM faculty. The task force will include Deb Allen, assistant provost for institutional research and assessment; Megan Walsh, dean and campus director for the University of Maine at Machias; Hannah Carter; associate provost for online and continuing education and dean of University of Maine Cooperative Extension; Scott Marzilli, associate provost for student success and innovation; and other members who will be selected by the Office of the Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost. "This is the ideal moment for UMaine to join the IChange Network. Our participation dovetails with, and reinforces, a range of mentorship and faculty development programs that have been launched this year," says Gabriel Paquette, associate provost for academic affairs and faculty development. **"**Not only will we keep abreast of exciting trends in higher education, but the IChange opportunity will position us to be a regional and national leader in this critical arena."

Learn to take stunning photos of research with any camera on Oct. 3

22 Sep 2023

The University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture will host its inaugural science communication workshop, Visual Storytelling Essentials at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3 at the Bumps Room in the Memorial Union. This workshop will teach participants to take photos and videos that they can use to show the beauty of their research through their own eyes. This interactive course will be taught by two of UMaine's top visual media experts, Adam Küykendall and Ron Lisnet. This workshop is primarily designed for student researchers but all members of the UMaine community are welcome. Advance registration is required and available online. To request an accessibility accommodation, note your needs in the RSVP form or email erin.miller@maine.edu. This is the first of a series of science communication workshops offered by the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. The series is designed to foster savvy communication skills among students, faculty and staff that they can use in their personal and professional lives.

Brewer discusses political polarization for Boothbay Register op-ed

22 Sep 2023

In an op-ed published in The Boothbay Register titled "Politics 101," Mark Brewer, University of Maine political science, discusses political polarization.

BDN corn smut story cites UMaine Extension resources

22 Sep 2023

In a story about huitlacoche, gray globs created by fungus that are commonly called corn smut, the Bangor Daily News cited resources from University of Maine Cooperative Extension that described when they appear, what they look like and the way in which they rupture.

CBS cites UMaine Lobster Institute resource in lobster rescue story

22 Sep 2023

In a story about fishmongers in France rescuing a blue lobster, CBS News cited a University of Maine Lobster Institute resource with information about shell color. Yahoo! News shared the story.

UMaine, UMaine Machias and UMFK to help new and existing Mainers Finish Strong

22 Sep 2023

The University of Maine's flagship campus and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, in partnership with the University of Maine at Fort Kent (UMFK) are stepping up to offer a new Finish Strong adult degree completion program that will launch in spring 2024. The program aims to bolster Maine's economic future by empowering adult students to complete their college degrees, with the aid of financial support, scholarships and services tailored to a range of learners. It also will put students with Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degrees on a path toward earning their bachelor's degrees. "There are over 280,000 individuals in Maine who began their pursuit of a college degree but never completed their studies," says Scott Marzilli, UMaine associate provost for student success and innovation. "Providing a pathway for these adults to complete their bachelor's degrees would provide them with the specialized knowledge and skills they need to get promotions, advance their careers, and earn higher incomes." As added incentives, returning UMaine students enrolled in 2024 will receive an adult degree completion scholarship of up to $300. After registering for their first course, these students will qualify

to receive their second course at no charge. In addition to closing Maine's educational attainment gap, the Finish Strong program will provide adults with access to other valuable credential programs, such as certificates. Funded by a $750,000 grant from the University of Maine System over two years, this program allows students to choose among online educational offerings from UMaine, UMaine Machias and UMFK or complete their studies in-person on any of these campuses. Online learning makes the process easier. It provides students with the flexibility needed to balance full-time professional and family obligations as they gain the skills needed to take their careers to the next level. Targeting adult Mainers ages 25 and older with some college or no four-year degree, Finish Strong also focuses on supporting Maine's immigrant communities, particularly refugees, those granted asylum and asylum seekers. There are more than 50,000 immigrants residing in the state who could benefit from the tailored enrollment and orientation services offered by this program. The responsive and culturally sensitive support system built into the Finish Strong program includes intensive English language training and academic assistance. To make the Finish Strong enrollment and education process as easy as possible, each student will be assigned a personal adviser. "The program aligns with our commitment to advancing education and workforce credentials in Maine. It not only supports adult learners' aspirations but also contributes to a more diverse, inclusive, and economically resilient future for our state," said John Volin, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost of UMaine and UMaine Machias. "I hope adult learners will come back to UMaine. We can give them the education they need to make a better life for themselves and a better Maine." The Finish Strong adult degree completion program aligns with the state's educational and economic goals, supporting the state's initiatives to increase the number of educated and credentialed Mainers. Deb Hedeen, president and provost of UMFK, said, "The Finish Strong program exemplifies our dedication to accessible and high-quality education for all. This collaborative effort will pave the way for adults to achieve their educational goals and, in turn, strengthen our communities." For more information about being a part of the inaugural class of Finish Strong students, visit the program's webpage at umaine.edu/provost/adult-degree-completion. Contact: Eric Gordon, eric.b.gordon@maine.edu

Simple tips to reduce food waste recommended by UMaine experts

26 Sep 2023

Discarded food is piling up in trash bins and landfills, causing harm to the environment, national global food security, and consumers' wallets. In 2019, the Environmental Protection Agency estimated that each year, U.S. households trashed 26.5 million tons of food, or 338 pounds per household. That's enough to feed 26.5 million people in a year or about 350,000 U.S. residents over their lifetimes. According to the USDA, 30–40% of the U.S. food supply is wasted. Reducing this food waste could benefit society by helping to feed people in need, eliminating the valuable resources used to produce the wasted food, and mitigating the climate impacts caused by rotting food waste in landfills. Maine is spotlighting the issue and encouraging everyone to help tackle it with the inaugural Maine Food Waste Awareness Week Sept. 25–29, an initiative launched in part by the advocacy of University of Maine students and faculty. In honor of the celebration, UMaine experts are sharing easy tips to help keep food out of landfills.

Smart storage

Creating an organization system in your home that reflects both the necessary food storage requirements and your personal habits can help ensure that food gets eaten in a timely fashion and not thrown out. Susanne Lee, a faculty fellow with the UMaine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, says consumers should create an "eat this first" section in their fridges as a reminder to use food items that are most likely to spoil. To minimize food spoilage, Lee says consumers should also research how to properly store those foods that most often spoil in their households. "Don't use 'Best Buy' and 'Use By' date labels to manage your pantry food storage, except for baby formula and fresh meat and seafood," Lee says. "Misleading food date labels have been estimated to contribute to nearly 20% of household food waste." UMaine Sustainability Director Daniel Dixon says consumers should store any leftovers they don't plan to eat for the week in the freezer. They should also label their packages before they freeze them. Keeping meat and fish packaged in small quantities makes them easier to use without waste, Dixon says. "You should also invest in a good quality set of food storage containers, so you don't waste any leftovers," he says. Using freezer-grade containers will result in higher quality frozen foods.

Mindful meal planning

Meal prep at home and in the store can play a critical role in minimizing food waste. Before going grocery shopping, consumers should double check their fridge to see if they already have what they need, Lee and Dixon say. Consumers should also create a weekly meal plan, shop with a list and stick to it. "Don't let great deals or tasty displays get you to buy more than you need," Lee says. Buy small quantities of fruit to avoid spoilage and purchase non-perishable food staples in bulk when possible to prevent food packaging waste, Dixon says. When possible, shop local, he says. "Don't be afraid of ugly produce, it tastes the same as the pretty stuff," Dixon says. When planning meals for the week, UMaine Extension professor Kathly Savoie says consumers should set aside one meal dedicated to eating up leftovers. "The reality is that most of the time when people bring leftovers home from a restaurant, they end up in the waste stream," she says.

Creative cooking

While minimizing personal food waste involves a little extra effort, it also offers opportunities for fun and creativity in the kitchen. Just remember to cook for the right number of mouths in the household, or plan to use leftovers, Dixon says. Scraps, trims, and peelings are not necessarily waste. For example, boiling bones and veggie peelings can make a tasty soup broth or stock, Dixon says. The same is true for many types of leftovers. "Getting creative with how you turn those leftover mashed potatoes or ham steaks from previous meals into another one is a great way to repurpose leftovers," Savoie says. Lee says there are numerous cookbooks, websites and videos that offer creative ways to use scraps and leftovers. Some of her recommendations include the Food Rescue MAINE website, its video about waste reduction in the kitchen; the Supercook recipe search engine; and the free, downloadable Ikea "The ScrapsBook Cookbook. Consumers can save their excess produce through canning, pickling, dehydrating or turning them into jams. UMaine Extension offers many food preservation resources, fun recipes and a meal planning activity that allows participants to save food and money. Whatever they make, Savoie says consumers should also remember to keep food safety in mind, adding that UMaine Extension also has many food safety resources. "If you can't eat everything you make, give it away to someone else who can," Dixon says. "You can also collect your food scraps and find a nearby farm or neighbor with chickens that will take your scraps." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Intermedia students projecting animated art on walls of Fort Knox

26 Sep 2023

Graduate students from University of Maine Intermedia Programs will project digital animations on the walls inside Fort Knox from 10:30 a.m.–noon Saturday, Sept. 30. The artwork in the exhibition, titled "A Work of Light and Shadows," was created using specialized software and projectors to create a digital skin that can be applied to irregular surfaces and building exteriors. Presenters include Cecilia Carvalhal, Chloe Dasilva, James LeBlanc, Matt Liderbach, Sean Lopez and Augusta Sparks. The exhibition is part of the graduate level Project Mapping course taught by adjunct lecturer Arturo Camacho. Standard entry fees into Fort Knox are required to view the show.

Maine Hunger Dialogue and Climate Action Summit Returns in October

26 Sep 2023

College and high school students and their teachers from across the state are invited to participate in the 2023 Maine Hunger Dialogue and Climate Action Summit 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Oct. 11 at the Wells Conference Center at the University of Maine. The one-day conference, sponsored by University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Campus Compact, Sodexo and the University Credit Union, is designed to challenge students and staff from all areas of study and spark action to end hunger on campuses in the state. The event will include forums and discussions with subject matter experts on hunger, food waste and climate change. Participants will tour the UMaine campus and have the opportunity to enter a cooking challenge. During the Soup Happens! cooking challenge, teams of students will create soups using ingredients from the local Maine harvest. The students' creations will then be packaged to feed those in need in the Bangor and Orono areas. Students can attend as individuals or in teams with a faculty mentor. Teams are also eligible to receive guidance on crafting a grant-funded project for their campus or school. Previous mini-grants have funded school and campus pantries, food security studies and campus community gardens. Grant funding requires attendance at the conference. The conference is free and meals are included. Registration is required by Oct. 6, as space is limited. Last year's conference at the University of Maine at Augusta brought together 65 students, faculty and staff from colleges across the state. During the two-day event, attendees heard from keynote speakers; packed and helped distribute 10,000 shelf-stable meals to area food banks; participated in a Top Chef dorm style cooking challenge; and were awarded 10 $500 mini-grants, which recipients will share with this year's conference attendees during a poster session. For more information and to sign up for the conference and the cooking event, visit the 2023 Maine Hunger Dialogue and Climate Action Summit webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Lynne Holland, lynne.holland@maine.edu; 207.581.8211. For assistance with travel and accommodation for students coming from a distance of more than two hours, contact Sally Slovenski, sally@mainecompact.org; 207.893.7714.

Franklin Journal features 4-H Working Steer show

26 Sep 2023

In a story about the Farmington Fair, The Franklin Journal highlighted the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Working Steer show.

Morning Ag Clips shares food waste reduction tips from UMaine experts

26 Sep 2023

Morning Ag Clips shared tips on reducing food waste from University of Maine experts. The advice comes during the celebration of the inaugural Maine Food Waste Awareness Week from Sept. 25–29. The initiative was launched in part by the advocacy of UMaine students and faculty.

Maine Public highlights UMaine role in Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science

26 Sep 2023

Maine Public reported on University of Maine faculty to devise new ways to tackle threats to their food supplies and the potential destruction of historically and culturally significant places through a new research center based at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. UMaine will serve as the Northeast hub for the new Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science (CBIKS) at UMass Amherst. The Northeast hub of CBIKS at UMaine is one of eight regional hubs spread over different regions of the U.S., as well as in Australia and the Pacific Islands."This is kind of bringing together our best knowledges in different circles for the benefit of all," said Bonnie Newsom, a co-principal investigator for the project and associate professor of anthropology at the University of Maine.

Media note UMaine Extension helping identify first cases of Eastern equine encephalitis virus in Maine

26 Sep 2023

In stories about the first confirmed cases of Eastern equine encephalitis virus in Maine, News Center Maine, the Bangor Daily News and WGME (Channel 13 in Portland) noted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Diagnostic and Research Laboratory evaluated animals that died of the virus.

Laatsch discusses total solar eclipse citizen science research with WABI

26 Sep 2023

WABI interviewed Shawn Laatsch, director of the Versant Power Astronomy Center at the University of Maine, about helping coordinate a nationwide citizen science research project involving the 2024 total solar eclipse in April. "The difference between seeing a partial and a total is the difference between basically seeing a lightning bug or getting hit by lightning. It really is that dramatic," Laatsch said. The Daily Bulldog and Bangor Daily News also highlighted the work.

Bishop discusses Educator Accelerator program with News Center Maine

26 Sep 2023

Penny Bishop, dean of the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, spoke to News Center Maine about the Educator Accelerator program at RSU 34 in Old Town. Through the program, which was created in coordination with UMaine, the University of Maine at Augusta's Bangor

campus, Husson University and Eastern Maine Community College, preservice educators are hired to work in the district's five schools, allowing them to gain more valuable experience, training and mentoring. The program also allows college students studying education to work in schools for more hours than required by their degree programs. "We want them to have multiple opportunities to hone their skills, but also to make sure this is a good match for them," Bishop said.

Media feature 'Finish Strong' adult degree completion program

26 Sep 2023

The Portland Press Herald, Maine Public, the Bangor Daily News, Spectrum News, WFVX (Channel 7) and The Bethel Citizen featured the new "Finish Strong" adult degree completion program launching in spring 2024. The program is a collaboration between the University of Maine, the University of Maine at Machias and the University of Maine at Fort Kent. The BDN also published an editorial about the Finish Strong program.

Staudinger receives Honorable Mention for the 2023 Climate Adaptation Leadership Award for Natural Resources

26 Sep 2023

Michelle Staudinger, associate professor at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences and Darling Marine Center, was awarded an honorable mention for the 2023 Climate Adaptation Leadership Award for Natural Resources. Staudinger was recognized in the "Federal Government" category for demonstrating exemplary leadership in reducing climate related threats and promoting adaptation of the nation's natural resources as science coordinator for the U.S. Geological Survey's Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center. During her tenure, Staudinger initiated and led a climate change synthesis for states' 2015 and 2025 Wildlife Action Plans; established a regional Climate Change Working Group of federal, state, academic and NGO partners; and initiated annual symposia for the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (NEAFWA). She will continue to work with state agencies at UMaine. The Climate Adaptation Leadership Award for Natural Resources was established in 2016 to honor outstanding projects or activities advancing the resilience of the nation's fish, wildlife and plant resources in a changing climate. Award winners for 2023 were celebrated during a hybrid ceremony at the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) Annual Meeting on Sept. 25.

Mitchell Center to host talk on PFAS in fish tissue Oct. 2

27 Sep 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "PFAS: A New Fish Tissue Issue," at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 2. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as "forever chemicals," is a group of human-made chemicals that can be toxic and remain in the environment for a very long time. Some kinds of PFAS bioaccumulate in freshwater fish, often reaching hundreds to thousands times more in fish tissue than the water. Tom Danielson, an aquatic biologist with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), will discuss the department's role in collecting fish tissue samples to test for PFAS and providing information to the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to establish safe eating guidelines for freshwater fish. Danielson leads the Aquatic Toxicology Unit at the Maine DEP and formerly coordinated biological assessments of streams and rivers. Before coming to Maine, he was an ecologist with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. Tom earned a Bachelor of Science in wildlife biology and a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts. He also earned a Master of Public Policy and a Master of Environmental Management from Duke University, and a Ph.D. in ecology and environmental sciences from UMaine. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, visit the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offers ServSafe food protection course in October

27 Sep 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering an eight-hour ServSafe Food Protection Manager course 9 a.m.–5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 26 at the Cumberland County Extension office, 75 Clearwater Drive, Falmouth. The course will help prepare students for the ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification exam. The exam will immediately follow the course. This nationally-recognized certification is for anyone working in the food industry, including nonprofit organizations. The course covers topics such as food safety; personal hygiene; preventing cross-contamination; cleaning and sanitizing; time and temperature control; and receiving and storing food. Students will receive the seventh edition of the ServSafe Manager book, a diagnostic exam and a practice exam approximately two weeks prior to the course. The $140 fee covers the cost of the class, materials and exam. Registration is open and is available on the program webpage through Oct. 12. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, call the Cumberland County office at 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine), or email ksavoie@maine.edu.

O'Reilly book cited by Mercury News in San Jose Earthquakes story

27 Sep 2023

In a story about the stadium for the San Jose Earthquakes major league soccer club, The Mercury News cited a book co-authored by Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business, titled "Sports Business Management: Decision Making Around the Globe." The book highlights efforts by former Quakes President Dave Kaval to have premium seating installed in the stadium. "In order to convince ownership to make the additional investment in these amenities, Kaval and his team packaged and sold all 12 field suites and more than 1,000 club seats over a six-month period in 2012," wrote O'Reilly and co-authors George Foster and Antonio Dàvila. "This gave ownership more confidence in the endeavor and enhanced the construction budget to accommodate these upgrades."

Stateline interviews Allan about anti-hazing laws

27 Sep 2023

Elizabeth Allan, a University of Maine professor of higher education leadership, spoke with Stateline about anti-hazing laws, particularly the inclusion of a consent clause. According to the article, a consent clause "asserts that an individual's willingness to participate in potentially hazardous actions — as when a student agrees to a certain activity — does not protect those involved from hazing charges." "The consent clause … is really important in terms of documenting hazing and having policy be really effective," Allan said. The report also cited a 2008 national study on hazing co-authored by Allan. USA Today, the New Jersey Monitor, the Missouri Independent, the Kentucky Lantern, the Tri-City Record (Farmington, New Mexico), The Gazette (Janesville, Wisconsin), Source NM and other outlets nationwide shared the Stateline article.

UMaine education professors take boundary-crossing approach to teacher leadership

28 Sep 2023

As schools nationwide struggle with staffing shortages, two University of Maine faculty members are exploring ways to empower and elevate teachers as leaders in their schools and communities. For the past two years, Rebecca Buchanan and Tammy Mills from the School of Learning and Teaching in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development have facilitated a Teacher Leadership Collaborative, a group of classroom teachers mostly from Maine, who meet regularly to discuss their teaching and the role of teachers in society. "We think of the collaborative as a boundary-crossing, semi-formal community of teachers across the career-span, across content areas and grade levels, and across geographic space," says Buchanan, an associate professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction. The group is premised on a teacher leadership framework that Buchanan and Mills helped develop, which among other things emphasizes continuous inquiry, social justice, and an expanded notion of the role teachers play in schools and communities. "Inquiry is important," Buchanan says, "because in many traditional professional development models, an expert will come to a school and say, 'This is what you have to do to improve your practice.' A lot of our work is based on: How do teachers learn about their practice by interrogating it themselves?" The social justice piece envisions schools as transformative spaces that create greater equity rather than maintaining the status quo, which ties into the expanded conception of teachers as leaders, Buchanan and Mills say. But perhaps the most novel part of the framework is the boundary-crossing emphasis. Research on teacher leadership tends to focus on particular schools, districts or grade levels, with veteran teachers seen as mentors to preservice and early-career educators. "The collaborative is not as formal or hierarchical," says Mills. "So, we think the conversations can be deeper and broader and more valuable, because our preservice teachers and our veteran teachers are able to learn from each other." In 2020, Mills and Buchanan received an internal UMaine Faculty Research Fund award to help establish the Teacher Leadership Collaborative. But both are quick to point out that their role is to provide minimal structure and let the teachers drive the discussion and collaboration when the group meets. Initially, the idea was to have in-person meetings, but they moved online early on because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The meetings have largely stayed virtual to accommodate the busy personal and professional lives of participants. However, there are occasional in-person gatherings. Last year, members of the collaborative presented at the Leadership for Professional Learning Symposium in Dublin, Ireland. The symposium brings together practitioners and scholars for open discussions about a wide range of issues in teaching and education. Recently, the journal Professional Development in Education published an article co-authored by Buchanan, Mills and six members of the collaborative, all current or former UMaine education students. The article features case studies written by each of the teachers, which along with interviews, recordings of the group's meetings, and other teacher created artifacts, were analyzed for common themes. Ethan Mathieu, a 2022 graduate of the secondary education program at UMaine, writes about the boundary crossing nature of the collaborative in his case study. "While a similar group of teachers within your school or district could be similarly supportive," Mathieu says, "I believe that the unique meeting of educators through the TLC creates opportunities to really expand our thinking about education. When we come from different walks of life, we each have something new to contribute to the conversation." One of the most prevalent themes to emerge from the case studies was the idea that teachers develop a "craft conscience" that reflects the socially agreed upon norms and values educators develop over time when it comes to their teaching practice. Buchanan and Mills note that often when teachers suffer burnout or consider leaving the profession, it's because their craft conscience is in conflict with what they're being asked to do in the classroom. Bailey Edward, a veteran teacher who recently earned an education specialist (Ed.S.) in literacy education at UMaine, writes about how the collaborative provided a space to examine this dynamic and find her passion for teaching again. "I no longer feel voiceless and powerless," Edward says. "I no longer want to quit this profession, and I wouldn't have gotten here without the space, support and solidarity of the TLC." Buchanan and Mills say one of their goals with the collaborative is to elevate teachers' voices to places like academic journals and international conferences. They hope to accompany another group of teachers to the 2024 Leadership for Professional Learning Symposium next summer in Santiago, Chile. "That's been one of the most rewarding aspects of this project," says Mills. "Putting them in spaces where they are treated as the knowledgeable professionals that they are, you can see it really inherently changes how they feel about themselves as humans and as educators." The article, "Teacher leadership collaborative: boundary-crossing spaces for teacher empowerment," is available online. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Wiscasset Newspaper highlights pest management forum featuring Handley

28 Sep 2023

The Wiscasset Newspaper highlighted an upcoming integrated pest management forum featuring David Handley, a vegetable and small-fruit specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, as one of the panelists. Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay is hosting the free community forum 5–6:30 p.m. Oct. 18.

Morning Ag Clips promotes Maine Hunger Dialogue and Climate Action Summit

28 Sep 2023

Morning Ag Clips promoted the 2023 Maine Hunger Dialogue and Climate Action Summit 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Oct. 11 at the Wells Conference Center at the University of Maine. Visit the event webpage for more information.

BDN interviews Dill about jumping worm boom in Maine

28 Sep 2023

James Dill, a pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about the population boom of Asian jumping worms in the state. "All of a sudden, this year there are a lot more worms being sent in for identification," he said. "Last year we got a dozen in total, and this year we are getting two or three a week." WPFO (Channel 23 in Portland) shared the BDN article.

Chatfield discusses turtles on 'Maine Calling'

28 Sep 2023

Maine Public featured Matthew Chatfield, University of Maine assistant professor of evolution and eco-health, on a 'Maine Calling' segment about turtles in the state and efforts to study and conserve them.

Town, UMaine hosting 2023 Orono Energy Efficiency Fair Oct. 7

29 Sep 2023

The Town of Orono and the University of Maine Office of Sustainability will co-host the 2023 Orono Energy Efficiency Fair from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 7 at the Wells Conference Center. The fair will feature presentations about cleaner energy options for everyday living to help attendees feel more comfortable implementing energy efficient resources in their homes. Presentations will focus on window inserts, heat pumps and passive home construction to reduce energy bills and decrease the use of fossil fuels. The fair will also gather local contractors and businesses to discuss project options for local residents. Scheduled speakers include Efficiency Maine, Renovate 207, WindowDressers, MAC Heat Pumps and representatives from Penobscot Climate Action. The fair is free and open to the public; registration is required for free entry to win raffle prizes for gift cards to local businesses, including Nest, Orono Trampoline Park, Orono IGA, DR Disc Golf, Starwalk Stable, The Store Ampersand, Tacorita, Marsh Island Brewery, Mainely Succulents, Fringe, Orono House of Pizza, Pat's Pizza, Margarita's, Woodman's Bar and Grill, Sanctuary Spa & Wellness, Thai Kitchen, Alpenglow and Gass Horse Supply. Visit the town website to register and for more information. The fair is funded by a Community Resilience Partnership Climate Action grant and UMaine's Office of Sustainability.

News Center features UMaine faculty developing new resource for energy transitions in underserved communities

29 Sep 2023

News Center Maine reported on the Environmental Protection Agency awarding $1.125 million to Sharon Klein and Caroline Noblet, both University of Maine associate professors of economics, to develop a new resource for addressing the drivers and environmental impacts of energy transitions in underserved and Tribal communities. They will engage with indigenous, rural and low-income communities in Maine to understand the role of statewide Local Energy Action Networks (LEANs) in supporting and advancing renewable energy and energy efficiency adoption. "There is an energy transition happening and if things go the way that they typically go, local communities and particularly underserved communities may not access the benefits of that energy transition the way that other people do," Klein said. "It's going to offer us a blueprint to help other Maine communities work on sustainable energy transitions," Noblet said.

Pinette discusses cultural influence of Franco Americans on 'Maine Calling'

29 Sep 2023

Maine Public interviewed Susan Pinette, director of Franco American Programs at the University of Maine, for a "Maine Calling" segment about how Franco Americans have influenced American literature.

Media interview Lee about reducing food waste

29 Sep 2023

To highlight the first ever Maine Food Waste Awareness Week, News Center Maine interviewed Susanne Lee, a faculty fellow with the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, about efforts to reduce food waste in schools. Lee said teaching students habits they can incorporate into their daily lives, such as composting and share baskets, can be an easy way to make a difference. "Now kids have an option, they can share it, so it's really teaching them two things: not to waste food and to share with others. If you have something that is edible, don't throw it away, put it in the share basket. So the share basket really helps redirect food, and by the time lunch is over, there is nothing left in the share basket because the milk that one student did not want to drink is a carton another student is really happy to have," Lee said. WABI (Channel 5) also interviewed Lee about food waste and ways to reduce it in recognition of Maine Food Waste Awareness Week.

Paquette discusses how to be a good mentor and mentee in Times Higher Ed podcast

29 Sep 2023

Gabriel Paquette, associate provost for academic affairs and faculty development for the University of Maine, was featured on a segment of the Times Higher Education podcast titled "The Campus" about how to be a good mentor and mentee.

Harkins discusses effects of childcare costs on workforce with News Center

29 Sep 2023

Jason Harkins, executive dean of the Maine Business School, spoke with News Center Maine about how the costs of childcare are prompting many people to leave the workforce "It just makes that choice a very difficult choice for the family," Harkins said. "Do we continue to advance our careers and hope that we can make enough additional income to make this economically viable, or does one partner or the other step away from the workforce for a number of years to be able to take care of one or certainly more than one child at a time?"

UMaine students help make Fields Pond Audubon Center more accessible

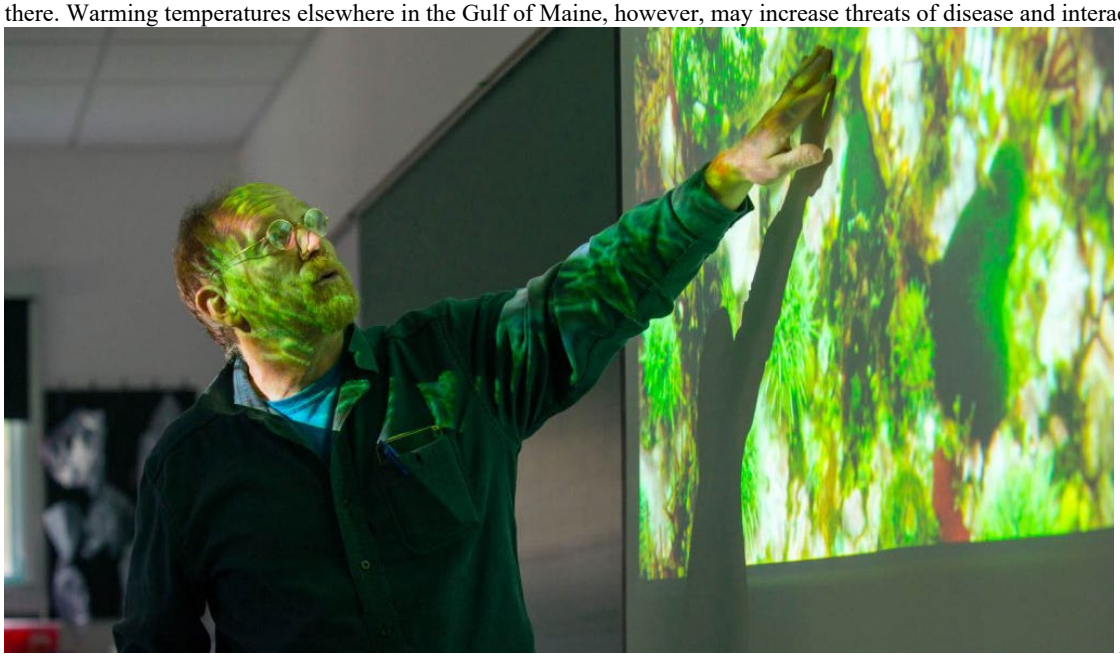
29 Sep 2023

Students from the University of Maine Construction Engineering Technology program replaced an aging footbridge at the Fields Pond Audubon Center with a new, more accessible pathway made of stone, gravel and crusher dust. The path makes it easier for people with physical disabilities, particularly those related to mobility, to travel from the nature center to the pond. Read the full story on the Maine Audubon website.

UMaine researcher who helped reshape marine science in Maine retires

02 Oct 2023

When Bob Steneck came to the University of Maine in 1982, there were few marine ecologists in the state, and none interacted with fishermen. He was among the first in Maine to work with lobstermen on research, traveling with them on their boats, diving to the seafloor to study lobsters and sharing his findings with them. At that time, there was a scientific consensus that the lobster population in the Gulf of Maine was declining. By working with lobstermen and diving down to the depths of the gulf, Steneck showed that the population was actually on the rise. Steneck's work and that of his students and colleagues helped propel an expansion of and change in how lobster fisheries research is conducted in Maine. Over the proceeding decades, Steneck's students continue collaborating with lobstermen and other fishermen on their studies. They focused more on work that benefitted these industries, the management of Maine fisheries and the coastal communities that relied on them. "We were able to take a different perspective by studying lobsters in their natural habitat. My hope was to do research to help the people of Maine," Steneck says. "What came out of this work was research that was collaborative and directed toward improved management of the lobster fishery." After a 41-year career at UMaine filled with numerous studies, scientific publications, outreach and teaching the next generation of marine scientists, conservation biologists and leaders, Steneck, professor emeritus of oceanography, marine biology and marine policy has retired. Steneck's research helped understand and manage Maine's most lucrative fishery, now worth almost $400 million. He and his students learned how baby lobsters grow up on the seafloor, what lobsters eat, who eats them and how they sustain their populations. This basic research was also useful for lobstermen, as well as fishery managers and policymakers who must determine the status and trends of lobster stocks. Much of Steneck's research combined both basic and applied research. Basic research is driven by curiosity of what is currently unknown to science, whereas applied research focuses on solutions to specific problems. At the start of his career, most marine scientists focused exclusively on basic research. Due in part to Steneck's influence, more of his colleagues and students work to integrate basic and applied research, often with the cooperation of fishermen in several industries. In collaboration with his former student Rick Wahle, who most recently served as director of UMaine's Lobster Institute, and other colleagues, Steneck discovered that as ocean temperatures rose over the years, lobster nursery grounds expanded in eastern Maine (northeast of Penobscot Bay), resulting in sharp increases in lobsters there. Warming temperatures elsewhere in the Gulf of Maine, however, may increase threats of disease and interactions with invasive species.



A few years ago, Steneck and his colleagues published another study warning that lobsters' current abundance and high value may be creating a false sense of security. Specifically, they worried that the economic value of lobsters was masking the risks related to relying almost on a single species to maintain Maine's maritime heritage. Maine's marine economy would be in greater danger of collapsing if something happens to the lobster. The fishery has become a lucrative monoculture of lobster created by centuries of intense fishing that removed apex or top predators from the Gulf of Maine. While it's immensely profitable, the fishery and Maine's blue economy has become more susceptible to ecological disruptions. Other fisheries close to home faced similar problems. Steneck says the lobster fishery in southern New England was once thriving, but suffered collapse resulting from a lethal disease. "Lobsters are a very big economic driver in Maine and of our multi-century maritime history, and I wanted everyone to understand the risk of depending on a single species," he says. "I think people understand the problem, but I don't think there are many great solutions." Over the past half century, Steneck has also conducted research on coral reefs in the Caribbean. Since the 1980s, he and UMaine undergraduate and graduate students would travel to coral reefs such as those surrounding St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, Mexico, Belize, Bonaire and the Dominican Republic. Students learned how to conduct research with scientific diving as they learned about coral reef ecology and team-work to monitor the coral reefs. Based on their research, Steneck and his students helped devise management strategies to help preserve the

reefs. Their work played a crucial role in guiding coral reef management for the reefs of Bonaire, located in the Dutch Caribbean near Venezuela. Since 2003, he and his students monitored the coral reef systems surrounding Bonaire. They discovered that the seaweed that harms coral increased threefold years following a bleaching event in 2010, and this resulted in increases in harmful seaweed and declines in coral cover and juvenile corals. But because Bonaire had managed to increase herbivores, particularly parrotfish, seaweed eventually declined and juvenile and adult coral increased to pre-bleaching levels. Coral levels have since remained high as of March 2023 when Steneck and his class conducted their last coral reef monitoring field trip to Bonaire. Their work concluded that local management of reef fish could help preserve the reefs themselves, and it did. As a result of this and other coral reef research, reef managers and government officials in Bonaire and elsewhere banned parrotfish harvesting, prohibited certain traps and established no fish zones. In Bonaire, these regulations provided a boom to their $50 million tourism industry. "These are management changes that are a direct result from our coral reef class research and going down there for 20 years," Steneck says. "It was great that students got the chance to see applications come from their studies of Bonaire's coral reefs." While Steneck has conducted extensive ecological research worldwide, including in Australia's Great Barrier Reef, Guam and Palau in Micronesia, French Polynesia, Mexico, Belize, Honduras, the Virgin Islands, Bahamas, Antigua and St. Lucia in the eastern Caribbean, Alaska's Aleutian Islands and Norway throughout his career, the work he is most proud of is training many top-tier scientists and conservation leaders in the field. In addition to Wahle, some former students of Steneck include Carl Wilson, director of the Maine Department of Marine Resources' Bureau of Marine Science; Elizabeth Stephenson, director of the Marine Conservation Action Fund; Amanda Leland, executive director of the Environmental Defense Fund; Susie Arnold, senior ocean scientist and director of the Center for Climate and Community for The Island Institute; Ruleo Camacho, marine ecologist for the National Park Authority for Antigua and Barbuda; Jeanne Brown, communications and outreach coordinator for the Northeast Climate Science Center at the University of Massachusetts Amherst; and Kirt Moody, a professor of biology and environmental science at Columbia College. "I'm really happy about not just getting my students through their academic programs, but also getting them started on their careers," Steneck says.

Steneck says he is still engaged in marine science, conducting microscopy research at the Darling Marine Center and writing a textbook on coral reefs, but he also wants to enjoy photography and woodworking. As he moves on to the next phase of his life, he leaves behind some advice for his former colleagues to be creative and collaborative when applying for research grants and encourage students to think broadly and stay curious. "When you teach students how to think, and you urge them to see the bigger picture, that's really a better path to take than just teaching the traditional scientific methods," he says. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Sculptor in residence, Wabanaki basketmaker delivering talk Oct. 4

02 Oct 2023

This year's Littlefield Gallery sculptor in residence, Penobscot artist Sarah Sockbeson, will deliver a free illustrated lecture at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 4, in the Hudson Museum at the Collins Center of the Arts. Sockbeson creates contemporary brown ash and sweetgrass baskets using traditional techniques and materials. She seeks to protect and preserve an endangered Wabanaki art form. She also strives to break apart stereotypes, educate and produce works that represent her own unique perspective as a modern Native artist. As part of the Sculptor-in-Residence Program, Sockbeson will also meet with University of Maine sculpture students and give original artwork to the Hudson Museum. Kelly and Jane Littlefield, owners of the Littlefield Gallery in Winter Harbor, Maine, established the Sculptor-in-Residence Program in 2015. Visit the Department of Art website for more information on the program and Sockbeson.

Registration open for new STEAM Team Ocean Xplorers Program

03 Oct 2023

Registration is now open for a new, interactive multi-session STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) ocean-focused adventure series starting Oct. 19 at the Belfast Free Library, 106 High Street. STEAM Team Ocean Xplorers is a collaborative effort between the University of Maine's Cooperative Extension Waldo County 4-H, the Belfast Free Library and the UMaine MARINE Initiative. This monthly series allows youth ages 8-12 an opportunity to explore and discover undersea and seaside wonders together with UMaine scientists and local field experts through hands-on learning experiences and activities. The free program will kick off on Oct. 19, 2023 with Diving into Aquaponics. Held at the Belfast Free Library's Abbott Room on the ground floor, participants will learn all about aquaponics, a type of sustainable farming that combines raising fish in tanks (aquaculture) and growing plants without soil (hydroponics). Youth participants will practice engineering and observation skills and have the opportunity to interact with an aquaponics system. The series, which will run through May, is designed to foster discovery, a sense of belonging, joy and stewardship for Maine's ocean and coastline, while introducing STEAM concepts through multi-sensorial engagement. By providing experiential STEAM lessons and activities led by scientists and practitioners, the program aims to inspire participants to envision their path to college and future career in STEAM. Youth will explore diverse educational and culturally relevant themes throughout the program series, such as aquaponics, aquaculture, marine mammals and marine debris, all of which will deepen their ocean literacy. Space is limited to 30 children. Registration is required. Visit the program webpage or Belfast Free Library website to sign up. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Nita Frederick, nita.frederick@maine.edu; 207.581.8286.

Build critical thinking skills with online workshop offered by UMaine Extension, Maine Business School

03 Oct 2023

Registration is open for an online professional development program, "Engaging Your Critical Thinking Skills." The workshop, presented by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Business School, will be held on Fridays, Oct. 20 and 27 and Nov. 3, 10 and 17. Participants will learn and practice every aspect of critical thinking and develop the ability to question assumptions, build constructive arguments, solve problems and negotiate positive relationships. In a fun and supportive environment, the program aims to empower professionals across industries to think critically, make informed decisions and navigate complex challenges in today's rapidly evolving business landscape. The material builds on itself over the course of five sessions, leading to a full understanding and toolkit for application in nearly any situation. This program is designed to benefit people who work in social and human services, therapists, social workers and clinicians, businesses of all types, government officials and students. Program facilitator Terry Potter, an associate professor emerita at UMaine, holds a master's degree in clinical psychology and is a certified mental health counselor. She has taught business strategy and sustainability in the Maine Business School for 13 years and has over 30 years of experience as a teacher, counselor, coach, guide and facilitator. A stable internet connection is required. Participants will receive a certificate of completion, and 0.7 CEUs/7 contact hours are available upon request. The program cost is $185 per person. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program webpage or contact Kimberly Lai, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 800.287.0274.

4-H Ag Ambassador program features farm visits and career exploration for teens

03 Oct 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering its Ag Ambassador program this fall. The program, open to all Maine teens ages 14–18, focuses on career exploration through farm and production visits around the state and provides opportunities to build relationships with industry professionals. The Fall 2023 cohort will meet virtually 3:30–5 p.m. on Oct. 18 and 25 and Nov. 1 and 15. The program also features 3 on-farm meetings on Oct. 21, Nov. 10 and Dec. 2. For a full schedule, visit the program website. With the shrinking number of formal agricultural programs in high schools, students are lacking opportunities to learn about local food systems and discover careers in agriculture. The 4-H Ag Ambassador program aims to help teens from all walks of life discover a future in agriculture and connect with other young people with similar goals. Youth involved in this program will have opportunities to pursue their interest in agriculture and explore career pathways. This includes mentoring in post-secondary opportunities, as well as investigating current issues related to food systems, livestock, crop sciences, aquaculture, climate change and equitable access. This program is open to all Maine youth; 4-H membership is not required for participation. Register on the program website by Oct. 11. To request reasonable accommodation, please contact extension.4hagleadership@maine.edu or call 207.622.7546. Receiving requests for accommodations at least 10 days before the program provides a reasonable amount of time to meet them, but all requests will be considered.

'The Maine Question' podcast returns with new video format

03 Oct 2023

"The Maine Question," a podcast that explores research, outreach and campus life at the University of Maine, returns for its ninth season in a brand new video format. In addition to traditional audio recordings, podcast listeners can now watch host Rost Lisnet and his guests discuss various issues affecting Maine, the U.S. and the world, and the ways UMaine is helping tackle them, from a roundtable in a studio. Video recordings will be available on "The Maine Question" website and YouTube. The first episode of season nine will explore nanocellulose, tiny fibers within every plant and tree with the potential to change the world. This plant matter, which is a billionth of a meter in length, can be used to make packaging, building products, insulation, water filters, medical tools

and countless other products. An abundant, biodegradable and renewable material, nanocellulose has the potential to replace plastic as a key component in consumer goods. It can also provide a major boost to Maine's oldest industry: forestry. Nanocellulose research and production is already underway at the University of Maine. More than 100 clients worldwide purchase UMaine nanocellulose for their own research and development, and on-site client trials are conducted at the Process Development Center. The university has positioned itself as a leader in researching this material, and could help make Maine home to a Silicon Valley-style nanocellulose industry, or Nanocellulose Valley. In this episode, Lisnet and UMaine researchers explore the manufacturing, functionality and possibilities for nanocellulose. They also discuss whether Maine can be home to a Silicon Valley-style nanocellulose sector, or Nanocellulose Valley. and lead a revolution in consumer goods with it. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

University of Maine System Honored with Maine Development Foundation Award

03 Oct 2023

The University of Maine System (UMS) has been awarded the 2023 President's Award by the Maine Development Foundation (MDF). MDF cited UMS' "exemplary leadership" toward improving Mainers' lives. "The University of Maine System is leading actionable and scalable efforts that help drive systemic change toward a more equitable, inclusive Maine economy and ensuring Maine continues to be a great place to live and work for all," said Yellow Light Breen, MDF's president and CEO. "There is no part of our work that is not touched by or integrally dependent on our partnership with UMS and especially the flagship campus at UMaine. Whether it's our work with the future forest bioeconomy with FOR/Maine, our work to support the seafood sector with SEAMaine with Sea Grant and several UM research centers involved, our Policy Leaders Academy economic education program for legislators, the collaborative efforts of MaineSpark to boost credentials of value for Mainers, or sending the most participants through our Leadership program since inception — UMS and UMaine are with us all the way." During this year's program, "Aspire: Unlocking the Potential of Maine to Thrive and Prosper," UMS was presented with MDF's President's Award for its "wholistic approach to making affordable, quality education and career training available to every Mainer, and for its systemic efforts to incubate and support Maine entrepreneurs, businesses, and industries." "To receive this kind of support from the Maine Development Foundation is beyond an honor," said UMS Chancellor Dannel Malloy. "This is validation that everything we are working toward matters: an inclusive approach to education, encouraging students and lapsed students to complete their degrees. Education is the way toward creating a more robust state of Maine." UMS Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation and University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy reflected on the System's and MDF's shared vision. "This is a real celebration of the importance of working together to connect people, decision-makers and communities through trusted research, leadership and creative partnerships. These are the ways we will help stimulate new ideas and solutions while improving Mainers' lives." Watch an award tribute video about the University of Maine System from the Maine Development Foundation on its YouTube Channel.

Media advance nonviolent communication in classroom program

03 Oct 2023

Penobscot Bay Pilot, the Bangor Daily News, the Livermore Falls Advertiser and the Daily Bulldog advanced "Teaching from the Heart: Nonviolent Communication in the Elementary Classroom," an online professional development program from University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Visit the UMaine Extension website to register and learn more about the program.

Media promote STEAM Team Ocean Xplorers Program

03 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Penobscot Bay Pilot promoted the STEAM Team Ocean Xplorers program, a new interactive multi-session STEAM ocean-focused adventure series for children 8–12 years of age from University of Cooperative Extension Waldo County's 4-H program, the Belfast Free Library and the UMaine MARINE Initiative. Visit the program webpage or Belfast Free Library website to sign up.

Critical thinking skills workshop highlighted in Daily Bulldog

03 Oct 2023

The Daily Bulldog highlighted "Engaging Your Critical Thinking Skills," an online professional development program from University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Business School. Visit the UMaine Extension website to register or for more information.

Media advance 4-H Ag Ambassador program

03 Oct 2023

The Daily Bulldog, the Bangor Daily News, the Sun Journal, The Piscataquis Observer, CentralMaine.com and Morning Ag Clips University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H's Ag Ambassador program. Visit the UMaine Extension 4-H website to register and for more information. Visit the UMaine Extension 4-H website to register and for more information.

Savoie discusses diseased tomatoes with BDN

03 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Kathy Savoie, professor at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about diseased tomatoes. "Fruits and vegetables all have significant amounts of water in them," she said. "That water is available to support pathogen growth."

Civil Eats notes UMaine research on PFAS in farms

03 Oct 2023

In a story about farmers dealing the per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, Civil Eats noted that the University of Maine is collaborating with the Maine Farmland Trust and other universities on studying the impacts of PFAS on farms.

Midcoast media share story about Steneck's legacy and retirement

03 Oct 2023

The Penobscot Bay Pilot, Boothbay Register and Wiscasset Newspaper shared a story about Bob Steneck, University of Maine professor emeritus of oceanography, marine biology and marine policy, retiring after a 41-year career at UMaine filled with numerous studies, scientific publications, outreach and teaching the next generation of marine scientists, conservation biologists and leaders.

Mitchell discusses Indigenous art and storytelling on 'Maine Calling'

03 Oct 2023

Maine Public featured John Bear Mitchell, University of Maine lecturer of Wabanaki studies and outreach and student development coordinator for the Wabanaki Center, on a recent segment of "Maine Calling" about Indigenous art and storytelling.

4-H weaving club helps youth get creative

04 Oct 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering a Weaving SPIN (SPecial INterest) Club for youth interested in learning about the world of fiber and textiles and expanding their creative skills from 4–5 p.m. on Oct. 24 and 26 and Nov. 2, 14 and 16. The online club, geared toward ages 9 and up, offers a convenient and accessible platform for youth to engage in weaving activities and connect with fellow enthusiasts. Through a series of virtual meetings and interactive sessions, members will learn various weaving techniques, experiment with different fibers and create their own unique woven project. Club members will also have the opportunity to work on a traditional tapestry loom and experiment with circular weaving. The club is free and open to youth of all skill levels, from beginners to experienced weavers. All necessary materials will be provided. 4-H is committed to provide engaging and educational opportunities for youth, as well as fostering their personal growth and development. The online weaving workshop series is part of UMaine Extenion's SPIN clubs, where participants ages 9–18, along with a volunteer for at least six sessions, learn about a subject of interest. Topics range from the natural world, heritage arts, science and technology to photography, music, gardening, sports and more. Space is limited to 10 children. Registration is required by Oct. 16. To sign up, visit the program's webpage. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jessy Brainerd, jessica.brainerd@maine.edu; 207.581.3877.

Register to present at Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering

04 Oct 2023

The University of Maine Institute of Medicine is providing an opportunity for students, faculty, administrators, and industry professionals to showcase their work during the second Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering, which will be held Oct. 25–27 on campus. Submit a call for an abstract to present a research poster depicting work in biological sciences, computational biology and medicine, biomedical engineering, medical physics and health and social sciences on the institute's website. Posters will be displayed from 4:30–6:30 p.m. Oct. 25 and 26 at the Hudson Museum. Applicants must submit a poster abstract that is no more than 500 words in length. Registration is required; the registration fee for students has been waived. Instructions are available on the registration site. Deadline for registering and submitting abstracts is Friday, Oct. 6. In addition to poster sessions, the symposium will feature a variety of talks, Q&A panels, plenary and breakout sessions held in the Collins Center of the Arts and Wells Conference Center. Activities also will include the 18th Annual Geriatrics Colloquium and the MERGE Collaborative. Registration materials, abstract deadlines and other details are also available on the institute's website. The institute is partnering with The Jackson Laboratory, MDI Biological Laboratory, MaineHealth, Northern Light Health, University of New England, University of Southern Maine, and the Roux Institute in organizing the event.

UMaine hosting Homecoming Oct. 13–15

04 Oct 2023

The University of Maine's largest and most activity-filled event of the year begins on Friday, Oct. 13 when the UMaine Alumni Association kicks off Homecoming 2023. The three-day gathering features a wide variety of formal and informal social, recreational and educational activities. They include class reunions, tailgating, campus tours, concerts, lectures, presentations and football, ice hockey, soccer and field hockey games. Sponsors for the Homecoming events include University of Maine Cooperative Extension, University Credit Union, the University of Maine Foundation, UMaine Online and Eaton Peabody Attorneys at Law. Alumni and their guests who preregister for Homecoming online by 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6 will qualify for discounts on certain products available for purchase during the event. Friday events include a UMaine Women's Ice Hockey match against the University of New Hampshire at 2 p.m. at the Alfond Arena, a "Welcome Home" reception for alumni and their guests at 4:30 p.m. at the Buchanan Alumni House, and the first performance of the play "Rabbit Hole" by members of the School of Performing Arts at 7:30 p.m. in the Hauck Auditorium. Tours of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center, athletic and performing arts facilities also will take place. On Saturday, a full day of activities starts with multiple receptions and class gatherings across campus. Pregame tailgating opens in the parking lots near Alfond Stadium at 9 a.m., with the UMaine vs. Long Island University football game starting at 1 p.m. Reunion Row, a large catered pregame party for alumni and guests, precedes the game from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. in the Corbett tailgating lot. Several alumni classes will host their own tailgating tents in conjunction with the Alumni Association's reunion programming. Shuttle buses will run to the tailgating areas and the Collins Center for the Arts from various parking lots on campus on Saturday only. Also on Saturday, the School of Performing Arts will hold its annual alumni concert at 7:30 p.m. at the Minsky Recital Hall. On Sunday, the UMaine Women's Soccer Team plays Bryant University at 1 p.m. at Alumni Field, and the symphonic band and jazz ensemble will perform together at 2 p.m. at the Collins Center. More information, including a full schedule of events, tickets and preregistration can be found at umaineomecoming.com.

Northern Forecaster promotes field day at Tidewater Farm

04 Oct 2023

The Northern Forecaster promoted a field day at the University of Maine Gardens at Tidewater Farm hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension 10 a.m.–noon on Saturday, Oct. 14.

UMaine Extension horticulture training highlighted in Morning Ag Clips

04 Oct 2023

Morning Ag Clips shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering two in-depth horticulture training workshops for Mainers looking to start a career in horticulture or for those wanting to elevate their gardening skills. The two programs, "Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training" and "Maine Gardener Training," will teach foundational knowledge and skills, offer hands-on experience through practical exercises and provide an opportunity to learn from experienced horticulture industry leaders. For exact course fees, schedules and registration, visit the Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training webpage and the Maine Gardener Training webpage.

New England News Collaborative interviews Laatsch about viewing total solar eclipse in the region

04 Oct 2023

The New England News Collaborative interviewed Shawn Laatsch, director of the Versant Power Astronomy Center at the University of Maine, for a story titled "Northern New Englanders hope for clear skies and tourism ahead of 2024 total eclipse." "I always tell folks the difference between seeing a partial solar eclipse and a total is like the difference between seeing a lightning bug and getting hit by lightning. They really are that spectacular," Laatsch said. The story aired on Maine Public, New Hampshire Public Radio, Vermont Public Radio, New England Public Radio (Springfield, Massachusetts) and Connecticut Public shared the story.

UMaine Extension hosts online program about nonviolent communication for elementary classrooms

05 Oct 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host, "Teaching from the Heart: Nonviolent Communication in the Elementary Classroom" an online professional development program from 3:30–5 p.m. Oct. 24–26. The program aims to equip educators and elementary school teachers with tools and techniques to foster a compassionate and inclusive classroom environment using nonviolent communication principles. Using practical exercises and engaging resources, teachers will learn how to effectively communicate with students, resolve conflicts peacefully, build strong relationships based on empathy and understanding, and help create a safe and supportive space where students feel heard, valued and respected. The program covers a wide range of topics, including active listening, expressing feelings and needs, empathetic response and collaborative problem-solving. Teachers also will learn strategies to address challenging behaviors, use children's literature to implement nonviolent communication in the classroom, promote positive communication and cultivate a sense of belonging among students. The online platform also provides a supportive community where teachers can connect, share experiences and receive guidance from an experienced facilitator. This program is designed to benefit teachers, educators, after school program staff, caregivers, guidance and summer camp counselors, parents, grandparents and other caregivers. Program facilitator Gina Simm, who has a background in Montessori education and spent most of her career as a first-grade teacher, has over 30 years of experience in early childhood education. She is the co-founder of Bay Area Nonviolent Communication. A stable internet connection is required. Participants will receive a certificate of completion, and 0.6 CEUs/6 contact hours are available upon request. The program cost is $175 per person. The registration deadline is Oct. 13 and participants are encouraged to purchase Gina Simm's book, Heart to Heart: Three Systems for Staying Connected (A Manual for Parents and Teachers). For more information and to sign up, visit the program webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation contact Kimberly Lai, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002.

Pinette to deliver 14th Maine Heritage Lecture on Oct. 12

05 Oct 2023

The University of Maine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will present the 2023 Maine Heritage Lecture at 3 p.m. on Oct. 12 in the Bodwell Area at the Collins Center for the Arts, with a reception to follow at the Hudson Museum. This year's lecture, titled "50 Years of Advocacy in Maine: Exploring the History of Franco American Activism," will be delivered by Susan Pinette, professor of modern languages and director of the Franco American Programs at UMaine. Franco American Programs first began as a group of engaged students in the early 1970s who advocated around the lack of knowledge about the "French Fact" of Maine on campus. These students began consciousness-raising sessions — meeting weekly, at first with themselves and then with other students, faculty and other Franco Americans — to explore and discuss what it meant to be "French." The students called themselves F.A.R.O.G, the "Franco American Resource Opportunity Group," aiming to recode the slur so often used against Franco Americans. In the course of her talk, Pinette will discuss three contexts: that were crucial to the emergence of the Franco-American student advocacy movement at UMaine: U.S. social justice movements, Quebec politics and the Franco communities themselves. The talk will be followed by a roundtable discussion with longtime advocate Sévérin Beliveau, Maine Senate President Troy Jackson and the former director of the Franco American Center, Yvon Labbé. The Maine Heritage Lecture is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact Kelly Gilks at kelly.gilks@maine.edu or 207.581.1954.

Beth Citizen highlights on-farm program co-hosted by UMaine Extension

05 Oct 2023

The Bethel Citizen highlighted University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District partnering with Wrinkle in Thyme Farm in Sumner, Maine, to offer an on-farm program on Friday, Oct. 13.

Morning Ag Clips notes UMaine collaboration on high tunnel workshop

05 Oct 2023

Morning Ag Clips noted that the University of Maine is collaborating with the University of Vermont and University of New Hampshire on a conference about high tunnel production in northern New England on Dec. 6 and 7 in West Lebanon, New Hampshire.

BDN highlights UMaine supporting PCHC nurse practitioner residency program

05 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted the University of Maine working with the Penobscot Community Health Center on the curriculum of its nurse practitioner residency program.

Media promote 4-H weaving club

05 Oct 2023

Morning Ag Clips, The Bethel Citizen, the Sun Journal and the Bangor Daily News shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering two in-depth horticulture training workshops for Mainers looking to start a career in horticulture or for those wanting to elevate their gardening skills.

Pawling discusses possible revision to print copies of state constitution with Maine Monitor

05 Oct 2023

Micha Pawling, associate professor of Native American studies and history at the University of Maine, spoke with The Maine Monitor about the possible reintroduction of language honoring the state's historical obligations to tribal nations in print versions of the constitution. According to the report, Pawling "said he recognizes the importance of making Maine's constitution available in full form, showing the various changes or amendments through time." News Center Maine, the Bangor Daily News, the Daily Bulldog and the Penobscot Bay Pilot.

Media report on UMaine hosting upcoming college softball, baseball championships

05 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News, News Center Maine and WFVX (Channel 7) reported on plans for the University of Maine to host the 2024 America East Softball Championship and the 2025 America East Baseball Championships.

UMaine hosting upcoming college softball, baseball championships

05 Oct 2023

The University of Maine will host the 2024 America East Softball Championship and the 2025 America East Baseball Championship. That last softball championship hosted at UMaine was in 2010. The 2024 competition follows the opening of the university's new softball complex. UMaine previously hosted baseball championships in 2022 and 2018. Read the full story on the UMaine Athletics website. Contact: Tyson McHatten, tyson.mchatten@maine.edu

New UMaine program offers leadership training to executives statewide

05 Oct 2023

The Maine Business School and Graduate School of Business at the University of Maine announced that it has launched an accelerated, four-month leadership development program called Build a Better Maine 2023 for emerging business leaders from some of the state's more prominent organizations. The training sessions are designed to help attendees develop their leadership skills and foster the creation of a peer/mentor network. The leadership program is offered as part of the Maine Graduate and Professional Center, a signature initiative of the Harold Alfond Foundation's historic $240 million investment in the University of Maine System (UMS) as part of UMS Transforms. The program is designed to provide leaders with the skills needed to solve the most pressing

global and local challenges, and to strengthen Maine's economy and workforce. "Over the course of four months, session participants will learn seven essential leadership characteristics that can help them achieve specific, common purposes within their organizations," says Jason Harkins, executive dean of the Maine Business School. "Building on the initial Build a Better Maine program offered in 2021, our goals are to help participants elevate their leadership skills, enhance their organization's outcomes and advance the leadership capacity of the state." Participants represent a broad array of backgrounds. Leading Maine-based organizations with executives participating in Build a Better Maine include executives from Bangor Savings Bank, BerryDunn, Cross Insurance, IDEXX, L.L.Bean, Tyler Technologies, Unum, VETRO FiberMap, WEX and Wyman's. "This educational initiative can build the capacity for leadership within our state," says Norm O'Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business. "Besides providing opportunities for aspiring leaders to share dreams, goals, and fears, Build a Better Maine is designed to be a forum where participants can make life-changing decisions and celebrate wins." The full-day sessions will be held once each month for four months at the Maine Graduate and Professional Center on Fore Street in Portland, Maine. Each educational session will consist of five program elements. These elements include instruction from subject matter experts and program facilitation by the deans of the Maine Business School and the Graduate School of Business at UMaine — two of the state's top business educators. Other elements include individual assessment and reflections, the creation of a peer-coaching community called a "mastermind," and one-on-one meetings with peers. Session topics include the application of ethics in decision making; cultivating and maintaining important business relationships; delegating, empowering and motivating others; managing conflict; promoting innovative thinking, engaging employees and more. For more information about Build a Better Maine 2023 and how it can enhance the performance of leaders in your organization, visit umaine.edu/business or email Harkins at jason.harkins@maine.edu or O'Reilly at norman.oreilly@maine.edu. Contact: Eric Gordon, 207.581.3745 (office), 207.298.7254 (cell) eric.b.gordon@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers in-depth horticulture and gardening training

06 Oct 2023

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering two in-depth horticulture training workshops for Mainers interested in horticulture career opportunities or elevating their gardening skills. The two programs, "Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training" and "Maine Gardener Training," will teach foundational knowledge and skills, offer hands-on experience through practical exercises and provide an opportunity to learn from experienced horticulture industry leaders. The "Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training" program offers a comprehensive curriculum suitable for skilled entry-level positions in the horticulture industry. The program, now open for registration, will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays from Oct. 30 to Dec. 17 and from Jan. 8 to March 14. The three-part program includes online self-paced learning modules, live virtual sessions with horticultural experts from across the state and a 200-hour apprenticeship. Participants should plan to spend approximately 4-5 hours per week on additional coursework like reading, videos and activities. Successful completion of the program qualifies participants to receive the Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training micro-credential and the title of Maine Horticulture Apprentice. Backed by the University of Maine System, the micro-credential verifies to potential employers that the credential holder successfully completed high-quality, rigorous training. It also demonstrates that the individual mastered the skills necessary to be a horticulture industry employee. Certification is available upon completion of all three required course sections.. The Maine Gardener Training program is designed to supply learners with a foundation in horticulture education and skills for use in personal gardens. The workshop is recommended for those who would like access to in-depth training without any volunteer or apprenticeship requirement. Registration will open Oct. 10. A stable internet connection and registration is required. Space is limited. For exact course fees, schedules and registration information, visit the Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training webpage and the Maine Gardener Training webpage. For additional details or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Rebecca Long, rebecca.j.long@maine.edu; 207.743.6329; email extension.gardening@maine.edu or call 207.581.3188.

UMaine's Wilde-Stein Club celebrates 50 years at Orono

06 Oct 2023

The University of Maine will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the LGBTQ+ student club, Wilde-Stein, with online and on campus events in October. Wilde-Stein was an early LGBTQ+ student club founded in September 1973. It was one of many student groups that appeared on college campuses across the United States during the gay liberation movement. Wilde-Stein actively engaged the state of Maine in discussions about civil rights and united Maine's LGBTQIA+ people by holding the Maine Gay Symposium. While many of these early queer groups dissolved over the years, Wilde-Stein has remained in existence for 50 years, changing to meet the needs of its members over time. An exhibit on the founding of the club called "Those who will know Pride; The Start of the UMaine's Wilde Stein Club," will be unveiled at 12:30 p.m. Oct. 13 at Fogler Library. The exhibit will also be accessible online. The exhibition unveiling will be followed at 2 p.m. by "Wilde-Stein: 50 years," an open discussion, over Zoom and in person at the Buchanan Alumni House. The discussion will include current members of Wilde-Stein and one of the eight original founding members, Steve Bull. Audience participation is encouraged. All events are free, but attendees are asked to register beforehand by filling out an online form.

Field day at Tidewater Farm scheduled for Oct. 14

06 Oct 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a field day from 10 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Oct. 14 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. Attendees will have the opportunity to experience the Gardens at Tidewater Farm, learn about UMaine Extension's work, ask gardening questions and participate in hands-on demonstrations with Extension staff and Master Gardener Volunteers. The field day will also teach individuals how to put gardens to bed with an emphasis on practices that support wildlife during the winter months. Additional activities include a hands-on demonstration of how to take a soil sample for testing, amend soil based on the test results and protect soil going into the winter months. Demonstrations begin at 10:30 a.m. Child-friendly activities will be available. No registration is required. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the Tidewater Farm Events webpage or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

Explore UMaine's top-tier research centers with Imagine That! Tours

06 Oct 2023

Anyone interested in getting a first-hand look, feel and taste of the innovative research being generated by the University of Maine's research centers are invited to attend the Graduate School's Imagine That! Tours from 1–4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13 during Homecoming and Family and Friends Weekend. During the tours, attendees will see the first-class labs, studios and other facilities where students and faculty use cutting-edge technology to conduct their work. Graduate students will provide guided tours and discuss their research and creative endeavors. Tour locations include the Wes Jordan Athletic Training Complex at Lengyel Hall, BioHome3D, the Climate Change Institute, the Digital and Spatial History Lab, the Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center, the Foster Center for Innovation, the Frontier Institute for Sensor Technologies (FIRST), the Matthew Highlands Food Pilot Plant, the Hudson Museum, the Immersive Mathematics in Rendered Environments (IMRE) Laboratory, the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center, the VEMI Lab, the Versant Power Astronomy Center and the Jordan Planetarium. Tours will commence at each location every 30 minutes, allowing attendees to tailor this experience to their specific interests. Participants can pick up a tour passport and map at Buchanan Alumni House, the Graduate School in Stodder Hall or at any of the tour sites. Stamped passports may be turned in at the Graduate School for a variety of prizes. Coffee, cocoa and cookies also will be available. Participants can also have their picture taken with a special guest. The event is free and open to the public. Advanced registration is recommended, and can be done on the event webpage. Imagine That! Tours are part of the Graduate School's centennial celebration. Formed in 1923, the school has a long history of graduate education, research and creative achievement, supporting a highly successful and diverse group of students. Over the years, its academic offerings have expanded to over 150 programs that encompass numerous areas of study, including offshore wind and other renewable energy sources, biomedical sciences, business administration, teaching, psychology and more.

Press Banner column highlights UMaine potato research

06 Oct 2023

A Press Banner column about plant-related news highlighted potato research conducted at the University of Maine.

UMaine overdose data cited by News Center Maine

06 Oct 2023

In a story about Tucker's House, a sober house for women located in Bridgton, Maine, News Center Maine shared overdose data from the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. According to a recent report from the center, there have been more than 5,800 overdoses from January to July, nearly an 8% drop compared to the same period in 2022.

Milwaukee Independent cites Climate Reanalyzer September temperature data

06 Oct 2023

The Milwaukee Independent cited data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer indicating that the daily September temperatures were, "higher than what has been recorded before for this time of year."

Knight discusses backyard chickens on 'Maine Calling'

06 Oct 2023

Maine Public interviewed Colt Knight, a state livestock specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, for a "Maine Calling" segment about raising backyard chickens.

News Center reports on censorship panel at Fogler Library

06 Oct 2023

News Center Maine reported on a panel about censorship, such as book banning, hosted at Fogler Library. "They {people} should feel free to take action on some kind of school board or write a letter to a council person or someone in order to take action against book bans and challenges," said Daisy Singh, University of Maine dean of libraries, to News Center. The talk is part of Fogler Library's Salon Series.

Bear Bites food truck closing for the season

06 Oct 2023

The Bear Bites food truck has closed for the season. The truck will continue serving food at athletic events and pop-up events.

UMaine leading development of new state-of-the-art tool for tracking PFAS nationwide

10 Oct 2023

The emergence of toxic per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, in water supplies, farms and the environment is a growing problem nationwide. Despite many researchers and government agencies investigating these "forever chemicals," there is no tool for combining all of their findings and providing a more comprehensive view of the problem. University of Maine computer scientist Torsten Hahmann is spearheading the development of an interactive digital tool that will allow users to explore and analyze data on sites and sources of PFAS contamination throughout the U.S. This software will help investigators and the general public track existing PFAS hotspots, which in turn can help them identify where to test for new ones and better understand how

they travel through the natural and manmade environment. "There is a ton of data out there and plenty of people are testing, but nobody knows how it all fits together," Hahmann says. "We are building connections among different pools of data." The National Science Foundation awarded $1.5 million for the project, one of 18 nationwide it recently funded with a combined $26.7 million through its Building the Prototype Open Knowledge Network (Proto-OKN) program. Each project involves collaboration with a federal agency. Torsten's team is partnering with the Environmental Protection Agency to develop its PFAS tracking tool, called the Safe Agricultural Products and Water Graph (SAWGraph). "We're really focused on getting a product out that the EPA can use for a long time," Hahmann says. PFAS have been used widely in industrial and consumer products such as nonstick pans, takeout food containers and firefighting foam since the 1940s for their resistance to grease, oil, water and heat. Current research suggests that exposure to high levels of certain PFAS may lead to adverse health outcomes, including immune system disorders, thyroid hormone disruption and cancer. PFAS are referred to as "forever chemicals" because they tend to break down very slowly or not at all. They can bioaccumulate in plants, animals and people. They have been found in wastewater sewage that farmers in Maine previously used as fertilizer. In response to concerns surrounding PFAS, the state banned the sludge spreading on land in 2022.

Like existing websites for tracking PFAS, the one powered by Hahmann's SAWGraph will feature a map that displays contamination sites and are color-coded based on where and in what the PFAS have been found, including soil, surface or well water, farms, food, domestic or wild animals. It will also provide the same visuals and codifications for PFAS sources and areas where PFAS-containing wastewater sludge was used as fertilizer. A new feature provided by SAWGraph, however, is the ability to connect that data with potential sources, impacts to food and water, and transport mechanisms of PFAS. SAWGraph users can then break down the information based on the category of contamination and location, from the state to the municipal level. New data from state and federal agencies will automatically be uploaded into the software. "We've been talking with Maine and federal agencies to see what they would like to see, what technology could make things better so they don't just have to use spreadsheets," Hahmann says. "We can present multiple sets of data at once, which can help with rather complex queries about things people really want to know, rather than just show rows and columns of numbers." Hahmann and a few colleagues are already developing a prototype that includes only sites of contaminated soil and water in Maine, supported by seed funding from NASA's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Research Infrastructure Development (RID) program that was awarded by the Maine Space Grant Consortium. The NSF funding allows his team to refine and expand the prototype. With an abundance of data that users can organize based on their needs, Hahmann says the SAWGraph can help answer various questions about PFAS contamination. For example, they can look at data from all of the wells located downstream from a water source polluted by PFAS. They can see what counties that have undergone testing have the highest and lowest levels of PFAS contamination and prioritize further testing accordingly. Based on the location of pollution sites, they can even explore whether nearby food or water supplies are threatened by these "forever chemicals."

Hahmann says the SAWGraph can also help determine what other data is needed to tackle the PFAS problem on a national scale. Additionally, it may help users identify any possible threats to their properties, and state and federal agencies determine where additional testing might be most urgent. "There has already been

significant testing done, but we only have so much testing capacity. It takes a lot of time and it's expensive," Hahmann says. "We can't test everything." Other researchers involved in developing the SAWGraph include Onur Apul, UMaine assistant professor of environmental engineering; Ganga Hettiarachchi a professor of soil and environmental chemistry at Kansas State University; Pascal Hitzler, the Endowed Lloyd T. Smith Creativity in Engineering Chair of the Kansas State University Department of Computer Science; Hande Küçük McGinty, an assistant professor of computer science at Kansas State University; Hari Prasath Palani, a UMaine alum and associate research scientist at the Roux Institute at Northeastern University; Shirly Stephen, a postdoctoral fellow at the University of California at Santa Barbara; and UMaine Ph.D. students Katrina Schweikert,David Kedrowski and Sonia Moavenzadeh. Many UMaine researchers are working together on several PFAS research projects as part of the UMaine PFAS+ Initiative. Apul is science lead and a steering committee member for the university-wide initiative to focus on the emerging PFAS pollution crisis and its cascading environmental and societal impacts. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hosts online workshop about growing small fruit on farms

10 Oct 2023

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a "Growing Small Fruit on Your Farm" course from 1-2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Oct. 17, 24 and 31, and Nov. 7 and 14. The comprehensive online workshop is designed to provide participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to cultivate and raise a variety of small fruits, including strawberries, high-bush blueberries and raspberries. Participants will learn practical strategies to help with small fruit selection, site preparation, crop management and post-harvest handling. Topics include the introduction to growing small fruit in Maine; strawberry, raspberry and blackberry production; high-bush blueberry production; and small fruit pest management. The course, geared toward both in-home gardens and commercial farms, will also illustrate the essential steps needed to make berry planting a rewarding experience. Program facilitator David Handley is a vegetable and small fruit specialist and a UMaine Extension professor. He is based at Highmoor Farm, one of the Maine Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station research facilities, in Monmouth and conducts applied research regarding berry and vegetable variety evaluation, production techniques and pest management strategies. A stable internet connection, an email address and access to a computer with video and audio capabilities is required. The program cost is $60 per person. Registration is required by Oct. 13. For more information, to register or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program's webpage or contact Stephanie Wright, stephanie.wright@maine.edu; 207.933.2100.

Mitchell Center to host talk on the role of productive disagreement in lake associations Oct. 16

10 Oct 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Productive Disagreement' at the Lake: The Role of Deliberation in Lake Associations" at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 16. Although the phrase "upta camp" might elicit memories of carefree fishing, swimming, hiking and boating for many people in Maine, conserving the waterways where those activities take place can feel anything but carefree. Disagreements between waterfront property owners and other stakeholders concerning exactly what conservation means and how to achieve it can frustrate everyone involved. At the same time, such local-level deliberations, which often take place informally between neighbors or at lake association meetings, are exactly where important conservation work does and can occur. In this talk, Katie Swacha and Elizabeth Payne share theoretical concepts about democratic deliberation, paired with personal experience applying those concepts at a local lake association to offer strategies for productively negotiating differences, reaching agreements and taking action. Swacha is an assistant professor in the English Department at UMaine. Her research interests center on how to build and sustain participatory, reciprocal partnerships between academic researchers and local communities and how best to include students in that process. Payne is a lecturer of professional and technical writing at UMaine. As a practitioner and citizen activist for her local lake association, she manages grants, oversees the newsletter and presents at meetings on environmental sustainability, biodiversity and water quality. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, visit the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Lord Hall Gallery hosting experimental and electronic music concert Oct. 12

10 Oct 2023

Lord Hall Gallery will present Aldrich, Norton & Ross — a Concert of Experimental and Electronic Music at 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12. Aldrich, Norton & Ross is a trio of Maine-based musicians featuring N.B. Aldrich, also a faculty member with the University of Maine Department of Art, who plays sound recordings; Steve Norton, who plays sound recordings, electronics and reed instruments; and Leslie Ross, who plays bassoon and electronics. The event is free and open to the public. Visit the Department of Art's website for more information.

MBS Corps to host March Against Domestic Violence on Oct. 13

10 Oct 2023

The Maine Business School (MBS) Corps at the University of Maine will host its tenth annual March Against Domestic Violence at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13 beginning outside of Cumberland Hall. The march will occur along Long Road and the Mall and conclude at Fogler Library. Speakers at the event will include Amanda Cost, executive director of Partners for Peace and UMaine alumna; Robert Dana, vice president for student life and inclusive excellence and dean of students; MBS Corps President Aidan Peters, Billy Obenauer, assistant professor of management; and Heather Hogan, deputy Title IX coordinator. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Peters at aidan.peters@maine.edu. Event partners include Title IX Student Services, Student Life, UMaine Athletics, UMaine Army ROTC, the Feminist Collective (Fem-C), Partners for Peace, Male Athletes Against Violence (MAAV) and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

WABI features Orono Energy Efficiency Fair

10 Oct 2023

WABI (Channel 5) featured the 2023 Orono Energy Efficiency Fair co-hosted by the Town of Orono and University of Maine office of Sustainability.

WFVX highlights UMaine volunteers for Pound the Pavement 5K

10 Oct 2023

WFVX reported that volunteers from the University of Maine were helping run the annual Pound the Pavement 5K, a fundraising event for the Purple Iris Foundation's cancer relief fund. According to WFVX, UMaine volunteers "were stationed around the course dousing people in colors as they made their way to the finish line."

Maine public highlights UMaine researchers protecting trees and traditions from emerald ash borer

10 Oct 2023

Maine Public reported on efforts by University of Maine researchers to help preserve brown ash trees and the Wabanki traditions they support from emerald ash borer and train others to fend off the invasive insects. One of those traditions includes basket making. "When I interacted more with basket makers and harvesters I gained a deeper understanding of the cultural significance of brown ash, in terms of its ties to one of the creation stories of the Wabanaki people, of all four tribes in Maine," said John Daigle, UMaine professor of forest recreation management and citizen of the Penobscot Nation.

Butler discusses emotional weight of housing crisis with BDN

10 Oct 2023

Sandy Butler, director of the University of Maine School of Social Work, discussed the emotional weight of a housing crisis with the Bangor Daily News. "We live shut-off lives and can forget about people who are less advantaged than we are if we don't see them," Butler said. "If we see them, it causes dissonance, which can turn to anger at them or feelings of helplessness or guilt."

Maine public reports on BioHome3D enduring first winter

10 Oct 2023

Maine Public reported on BioHome3D, the first 3D-printed house made entirely with bio-based materials, withstanding its first winter. The house was developed by the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC). "Then we had 45-below wind chill factors. You remember that? And we were concerned about how this house [might] expand and contract," Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the ASCC. "Is it going to crack somewhere? And the good news is, it worked as expected. We didn't see any issues so far." Pluribus News shared the Maine Public story.

Press Herald interviews Brewer about referendum campaign spending

10 Oct 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Mark Brewer, University of Maine professor of political science, about campaign spending on a referendum question regarding whether to replace the two largest utility companies in Maine, Central Maine Power and Versant Power, with a publicly-owned utility. According to the publication, the owners of Central Maine Power and Versant Power have spent more than $29 million in campaigns pertaining to the referendum. "It's somewhat less than I expected," said Mark Brewer, the chair of political science at the University of Maine, Orono. "I suspect that's because their opponents are spending virtually nothing."

Newsom discusses Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science in 'On Point' segment

10 Oct 2023

WBUR interviewed Bonnie Newsom, University of Maine associate professor of anthropology, about the Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science (CBIKS) for a segment of the show "On Point." The center, based at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, will conduct transdisciplinary, placed-based research projects that intertwine Native and Western knowledge systems in collaboration with Indigenous communities, scientists, governments, industry partners and nonprofits around the world. The National Science Foundation awarded $30 million for it. Newsom is one of the co-principal investigators for establishing the CBIKS, and will co-lead the Northeast hub of it at UMaine with Darren Ranco, professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Programs, and John Daigle, professor of forest recreation management. WWNO, New York Public Radio and other stations from across the U.S. shared the WBUR story.

State's research community to gather at UMaine's second annual Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering

11 Oct 2023

The University of Maine Institute of Medicine announced that it is hosting the second annual Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering from Oct. 25–27. Events will take place at a variety of locations on the university's flagship campus in Orono. Partner organizations participating in the symposium include The Jackson Laboratory (JAX), MDI Biological Laboratory, MaineHealth, Northern Light Health, the University of New England, the University of Southern Maine and the Roux Institute.

"This three-day gathering features scientists who live and work in Maine," said Cecile Ferguson, a program manager at the UMaine Institute of Medicine. "It's a great way, in a short period of time, to understand, experience and appreciate the full spectrum of advanced research that's being conducted in our state. The new knowledge being generated through local research efforts is helping to create the jobs of the future and improve Maine citizens' quality of life."

The first day of the event will be divided into two educational tracks. Track A, at the Wells Conference Center, will be devoted to speakers participating in the 18th Annual University of Maine Clinical Geriatrics Colloquium. Educators and practitioners from across the state will address topics related to aging at this

academic conference. Included among the invited speakers are Dr. Cliff Singer, chief or the Center for Geriatric and Mental Health at Acadia Hospital. He will be the featured speaker at the UMaine Institute of Medicine's Distinguished Mental Health Lecture. This year's topic is the Impact of Alzheimer disease in older adults. Dr. Amanda Gesselman from the Kinsey Institute and more than a dozen other experts in various age-related disciplines will also be making presentations.

Track B at the Collins Center for the Arts that day will be focusing on mental health. Topics will include presentations on Alzheimer's Disease, youth suicide, rural mental health, religious leaders' mental well-being, psychosis specialty care and much more.

Research related to medicine and health care will be the focus of two more tracks open to attendees as part of the symposium's second day at the Wells Conference Center on Thursday, Oct. 26. Track A will be devoted to oncology, translational medicine and an industry workshop. Track B will include research into the microscopic aspects of cells and other objects that cannot be seen with the naked eye (microscopy), cell signaling, kidney health and pathogen research.

The Maine Research Symposium will continue at the Wells Conference Center on Oct. 27 in Room 1. Symposium presentations on Friday will be devoted to clinical research, rural medicine and public health.

In the Conference Center's Rooms 2 and 3, the Maine Rural GME Education (MERGE) Collaborative will host its first Graduate Medical Education (GME) event devoted to rural health care. The MERGE Collaborative is part of a state-funded initiative designed to strengthen rural Maine's health care workforce and delivery system. As part of this effort, the collaborative is promoting rural elective rotations for graduate medical education resident physicians. Sessions will include topics on teaching techniques for graduate medical education; rural workforce pressures in Maine; diversity, equity and inclusion in rural spaces and more.

As the MERGE Collaborative event is taking place, the Collins Center will be the location for a series of research symposium presentations about artificial intelligence applications in health, breast cancer tissue imaging, proteins and cell signaling, bone marrow, muscular dystrophy research, osteoporosis, dementia, obesity and diabetes, to name just a few.

"This symposium showcases the advanced cutting-edge research taking place in Maine's public and private academic institutions, health care systems and private industries as it relates to biological and physiological disciplines, medicine, biomedical engineering and data science," said Tanya Pinkham, assistant director for development and administration at the UMaine Institute of Medicine. "This event allows Maine scientists to network and share information in ways that will benefit their own research and the pursuit of knowledge being undertaken by others."

October 25–26 will also include separate poster sessions and receptions from 4:30–6:30 p.m. in the Hudson Museum. During these sessions, posters summarizing research conducted by college faculty members, undergraduate students and graduate students will be on display. Student researchers will be standing next to their posters to answer questions from the public and judges. Judging will be conducted by faculty members from multiple universities, as well as industry leaders from biomedical and health care organizations.

One of the individuals who will have a poster on display is UMaine graduate student Lucas Bennett, a Ph.D. candidate in biochemistry and molecular biology. According to Bennett, his research benefited from being able to work with a fluorescence photoactivation localization microscopy (FPALM) microscope.

"While there aren't very many of these types of microscopes in the world, there is one at the University of Maine. And the professor who developed this research technique, Dr. Samuel Hess, also teaches here. I don't think I would have had the opportunity to do this specific type of research anywhere else in the world," Bennett said. "Being able to participate in groundbreaking research like this makes every day an adventure in scientific discovery."

Sponsors for the second annual Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering include the Bioscience Association of Maine (BIOME), UMaine's Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering (GSBSE), MDI Bioscience, IDEXX, the Maine Technology Institute (MTI) and SimKit. Visit the symposium website for more information.

Contact: Eric Gordon, office: 207.581.3745, cell: 207.298.7254; eric.b.gordon@maine.edu

UMaine Dining brings back Luke's Lobster to hungry Black Bear football fans

12 Oct 2023

Continuing its dedication to providing local food to its visitors, University of Maine Dining announces that Portland-based Luke's Lobster will once again be available at the Homecoming Black Bear football game in the concessions area. Luke's Lobster will offer its Maine-style 4-ounce and 6-ounce lobster rolls, 8-ounce bowls of New England-style clam chowder along with Cape Cod potato chips, maple and traditional whoopie pies and Pepsi beverages. Payments can be made with accepting debit and credit cards. Luke's Lobster Co-founder Luke Holden and Vice President of Seafood Company Operations Ben McKinney are active members of the UMaine Lobster Institute. The business collaborated with University of Maine Cooperative Extension when the business opened its processing facility, Cape Seafood, in Saco, Maine in 2012. This collaboration included educational resources and food safety guidance. Since then, Luke's Lobster has provided internships for students and opportunities for talks and lectures. There are several other local food options available to football fans at the game from UMaine Dining and local brews are available for those 21 and older at the beer garden. Available beers include offerings from Geaghans, Sea Dog Brewing, the Orono Brewing Company, and other local breweries. Fans will also enjoy traditional concessions favorites — popcorn, chicken strip baskets, pretzels, fried dough, hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages — can all be purchased near the stadium seating by the football field. Luke's Lobster will only accept cash for dining purchases. UMaine Dining's concessions area and beer garden accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover credit cards, debit cards and cash. ATMs are available at the Alfond Arena near the ticket office.

Imagine That! Tours promoted in BDN

12 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News promoted the University of Maine Graduate School's Imagine That! Tours 1–4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13 during Homecoming and Family and Friends Weekend. The tours offer a first-hand look, feel and taste of innovative research from the University of Maine's research centers. The event is free and open to the public. Advanced registration is recommended, and can be done on the event webpage.

Mainebiz reports on Hotel Ursa opening in early spring at UMaine

12 Oct 2023

Mainebiz reported on Hotel Ursa, an independent hotel opening in early spring at the University of Maine.

Crisp discusses probability of winning Powerball jackpot with WABI

12 Oct 2023

Tyrone Crisp, associate professor and co-chair of the University of Maine Department of Mathematics and Statistics, spoke with WABI-TV (Channel 5) about the probability of winning the Powerball jackpot. "The probability of a single person hitting the jackpot by getting the five white balls and the one red ball, it is 1 in 292,201,338," Crisp said.

BDN highlight Wilde-Stein Club's 50th anniversary

12 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that University of Maine will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the LGBTQ+ student club, Wilde-Stein, with two events this Friday, Oct. 13 taking place both on campus and online as part of homecoming. An exhibit on the founding of the club called "Those who will know Pride; The Start of the UMaine's Wilde Stein Club," will be unveiled at 12:30 p.m. Oct. 13 at Fogler Library. The exhibit will also be accessible online. The exhibition unveiling will be followed at 2 p.m. by "Wilde-Stein: 50 years," an open discussion, over Zoom and in person at the Buchanan Alumni House. The discussion will include current members of Wilde-Stein and one of the eight original founding members, Steve Bull. Audience participation is encouraged. While all events are free, attendees are asked to register beforehand by filling out an online form.

Hindustan Times cites Climate Reanalyzer temperature data

12 Oct 2023

In a story about how the global temperatures may increase more than 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, the Hindustan Times cited air temperature provided by University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer indicating that since June, "temperatures have been significantly above the long-term mean of 1979 to 2000, and possibly highest ever."

Allan discusses Hazing Prevention Consortium with Capital News Service

12 Oct 2023

Capital News Service, based at Virginia Commonwealth University, interviewed Elizabeth Allan, a University of Maine professor of higher education, about the Hazing Prevention Consortium she directs. "We provide what's called technical assistance, or coaching and expertise to help each institution develop their own strategic plan for hazing prevention that's tailored to their particular campus culture and the demographics of their students," Allan said. The Virginian-Pilot, the Daily Press, The Roanoke Star and The Dinwiddie Monitor shared the Capital News Service report.

Media report on UMaine-led development of PFAS tracking tool

12 Oct 2023

The Portland Press Herald, the Bangor Daily News and News Center Maine reported on University of Maine computer scientist Torsten Hahmann spearheading the development of an interactive digital tool that will allow users to explore and analyze data on sites and sources of PFAS contamination throughout the U.S. The Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com shared the Press Herald report.

UMaine to conduct annual emergency communications system test Oct. 19

12 Oct 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated Oct. 19

The University of Maine will conduct its annual emergency communications system test at approximately 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 19, complete with the outdoor sirens sounding for several minutes. The sirens are part of UMaine's multifaceted emergency communications system established in 2007 that allows university safety and communications professionals to use several mechanisms to quickly communicate vital information to the community during emergency situations.

When UMaine's emergency communication system is activated, several notifications occur: A text message is sent to subscribers of UMaine's umaine.alerts system; UMaine Police Department sounds the sirens; information is posted on the university's homepage and social media, and the UMaine portal; and a recorded telephone message may be heard by dialing 207.581.INFO.

Members of the University of Maine community are reminded to register to receive UMaine's emergency notifications. The emergency notification service alerts the UMaine community to public safety issues, including inclement weather conditions causing class cancellations.

Those registered for UMaine alerts will receive a message about the emergency notification system on Oct. 19, as well as on the 15th of every month. Registration for texts and/or email alerts is online (umaine.edu/emergency).

UMaine representatives participate in SEAMaine Educator Summit

12 Oct 2023

Representatives from the University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute, the UMaine Lobster Institute, Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension participated in the SEAMaine Educator Summit hosted by the Seafood Economic Accelerator for Maine (SEAMaine). This event drew participants from all over the aquaculture sector, providing educators with invaluable insights into Maine's aquaculture industry. Read the full story about the event on the Aquaculture Research Institute website.

Over 2,000 individuals to attend Family and Friends Weekend at the University of Maine

12 Oct 2023

Family and Friends Weekend is an annual celebration that brings thousands of family members to the University of Maine campus. For the first time in eight years, this annual event will be taking place during the same weekend as Homecoming, on Oct. 13-15. Families of all sizes, dynamics, and class years are welcome. Students and their families, faculty and staff, alumni and members of the extended Black Bear community are invited to a variety of events that honor UMaine's past and present. Attendees will also have the opportunity to see and experience the latest research, technology and facilities available at UMaine. Over 2,000 individuals have already registered for Family and Friends Weekend. A full list of activities associated with this event can be found on the university's Family and Friends Weekend website. Here are a few of the highlights: **Friday, October 13**:

- 3-6 p.m.: **Maine Bound Zipline.** This activity will take place on the Challenge Course, next to New Balance Student Recreation Center.
- 6-7 p.m.: **Paint and Sip**. This paid add-on event is occurring at the North Pod on the second floor of the Memorial Union.
- 6:30-7:45 p.m.: **Bonfire on the Mall.** The UMaine community will light up the night and show their Black Bear spirit.
- 8-10 p.m.: **Motor Booty Affair in Concert**. This musical performance will take place outdoors, near the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center. The event is free for all registered guests and students. The cost is $5 at the door for all others.

Saturday, October 14:

- 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.: **Family and Friends Street Fair on the Mall**. Student groups, local businesses, national businesses and the Orono/Old Town community all gather on the university Mall for this annual street fair. In addition to student activities, attendees can shop at booths from local small businesses, as they enjoy cuisine from area food trucks. Live music from student performers is being made possible by the campus radio station, WMEB-FM 91.9.
- 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Partial Solar Eclipse**. On Saturday, a solar eclipse will cross the United States. In Maine, we will only see between 20-25% of the sun as it is obscured by the Moon. The eclipse will start at 12:26 p.m. and end at 2:27 p.m. Visitors are invited to see the partial eclipse from our Clark Telescope starting at 11:30 a.m. The planetarium has solar eclipse glasses available in its gift shop for $2 each, which will provide a safe way to observe the sun during an eclipse.
- 8 -10 p.m.: **Hypnotist Eric Mina** will be performing in the Collins Center for the Arts. This hypnotic exhibition is free for registered guests and students. The cost is $5 at the door for all others.

Contact: Eric B. Gordon, eric.b.gordon@maine.edu.

Eclipse Viewing at UMaine is 'Made in the Shade'

13 Oct 2023

Students and their families, faculty, staff, alumni, members of the extended Black Bear community and the public can participate in the viewing of a partial solar eclipse starting at noon on Saturday, Oct. 14 (weather permitting) at the Clark Telescope on the grounds of the Versant Power Astronomy Center at the University of Maine. In Maine, we will only see between 12-15% of the sun covered during the eclipse as the Moon passes between the sun and the Earth. Shawn Laatsch, director of the Versant Power Astronomy and the Maynard Jordan Planetarium, stressed the importance of safety when viewing a solar eclipse. "Never look at the sun directly during an eclipse without proper protection," he said. "Doing so can cause eye damage."

Anyone interested in observing the eclipse safely can purchase glasses available in the planetarium's gift shop for $2 each. While observing will begin at noon, the partial eclipse itself will run from 12:26 p.m. to 2:27 p.m. Campus visitors are welcome to see the partial eclipse from the university's Clark Telescope.

"As the Moon passes between the Earth and the sun, it casts its shadow on our planet," said Laatsch. "In a very real sense, solar eclipses are 'made in the shade' of the moon."

The partial solar eclipse viewing is one of many events being offered at UMaine as part of Homecoming/Family and Friends Weekend. which includes special planetarium programs all day Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 15. More information about Homecoming and Family and Friends Weekend events are available online.

The Versant Power Astronomy Center and Maynard Jordan Planetarium offer a continuously changing line-up of programs and special events to the public. It works to help students better understand our universe through school field trips, space-based parties and other special events. To learn more, call the astronomy center at 207.581.1341 or visit the center's School Visits and Private Shows webpages.

Engineering and Computing Job Fair returns Oct. 18

13 Oct 2023

Students and alumni will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from more than 170 companies and organizations during the University of Maine's 2023 Engineering and Computing Job Fair from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at the New Balance Student Recreation Center. The fair, which is expected to attract more than 1,000 participants, is hosted by the Career Center, in conjunction with the Maine College of Engineering and Computing, so students and alumni can learn about engineering and computing firms in Maine, New England and throughout the country; meet company representatives; and find job opportunities for after graduation or on-the-job experience through and internship. Participants should register online, create a Career Link profile and upload their resume prior to the event. They are also encouraged to download the "Careers by Symplicity" app available on Apple's App Store and Google Play, which will allow them to filter participating employers by available positions and preferred majors. Students attending the event are advised to dress professionally, bring resumes, prepare a 30-second introductory pitch and research the companies they plan to engage. Career Center staff also are available to help with resume updates and to provide tips for successful interviewing. Students who will be driving to the event are asked to park in the Collins Center for the Arts and Belgrade lots. A free event shuttle from the east end of the Collins Center to the New Balance Student Recreation Center will be running throughout the day. More information, including a list of the companies scheduled to attend, is on the Career Center website.

Piscataquis Observer notes UMaine Extension, Northern Light Mayo Hospital gleaning partnership

13 Oct 2023

The Piscataquis Observer shared that Northern Light Mayo Hospital and University of Maine Cooperative Extension are working together to improve access to fresh, local produce through gleaning, the art of recovering leftover food from local farm fields and farmers markets and redirecting it back to our community.

CentralMaine.com promotes Mitchell Center talk on lake association deliberations

13 Oct 2023

CentralMaine.com promoted the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions' upcoming talk, "'Productive Disagreement' at the Lake: The Role of Deliberation in Lake Associations" at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 16. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, visit the event webpage.

BDN highlights film screening at UMaine Machias

13 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News highlighted Healthy Acadia's screening of "Together: Community Health Champions" on Thursday, Oct. 12 in Room 102 of the Science Building at the University of Maine at Machias.

Media promote growing small fruits on farms workshop

13 Oct 2023

Morning Ag Clips, Farms.com CentralMaine.com and The Lincoln County News published online articles about the "Growing Small Fruit on Your Farm" course being hosted by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension from 1-2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Oct. 17, 24 and 31, and Nov. 7 and 14. For more information, to register or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program's webpage or contact Stephanie Wright, stephanie.wright@maine.edu; 207.933.2100.

BDN features UMaine in article about effects of local hotel prices

13 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News noted that University of Maine officials were not aware of any adverse effects to Homecoming 2023 attendance due to recent spikes in hotel room rates and occupancy in the greater Bangor Area. UMaine's registrations for homecoming events are up 20 percent from last year, and the school anticipates an excellent turnout, spokesperson Eric Gordon said. "We are excited to welcome alumni, friends and other members of the UMaine community back to campus for an exciting weekend," he said. "We have not seen any negative impacts that result from increased hotel rates and occupancy in the Greater Bangor area."

Gill discusses 'better path ahead' for conservation with Maine Public

13 Oct 2023

Jacquelyn Gill, an associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology at the University of Maine, spoke with Maine Public for a story titled "Humans may be the ultimate invasive. This Maine scientist sees a better path ahead." Gill said "if we could take a page from many Indigenous cultures throughout the world, and rather than trying to eliminate people from the natural world, in order to protect it from us, we should be really focusing on changing how we think about our own role in nature, and move towards relationships based on reciprocity, kinship and stewardship relationships, rather than extractive ones." The Bangor Daily News shared the Maine Public story.

Boston Globe interviews Brewer about shifting political landscape

13 Oct 2023

University of Maine political science professor Mark Brewer spoke to The Boston Globe about recent voting trends, particularly a growth in partisanship and a new law in Maine that allows independents to vote in state and presidential primaries. "The reality," he said, "is most independents lean" toward one party or the other.

Volin discusses 'Finish Strong' program with Inside Higher Ed

13 Oct 2023

John Volin, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost at the University of Maine, spoke to Inside Higher Ed about the new "Finish Strong" adult degree completion program launching in spring 2024. "As a public land-grant university, we're very tied to helping advance workforce development and economic development for our state," Volin says. "We feel very strongly that this can help Maine's economic future by empowering adult students to complete their degrees."

School of Forest Resources receives Austin H. Wilkins Forest Stewardship Award

13 Oct 2023

The School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine will receive the Austin H. Wilkins Forest Stewardship Award for the impact the school's teaching and research has made on Maine's working forests. The award is given by the Maine TREE Foundation in partnership with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry. It recognizes an individual or organization that has managed Maine's working forest in an honorable and sustainable manner. "For more than 120 years, the School of Forest Resources has prepared foresters for careers in the Maine woods, graduating more than 5,000 students, and producing numerous leaders who have had successful careers in forestry, globally," said Logan Johnson, executive director of the Maine TREE Foundation. "Through research and application, the school has been instrumental in informing land management practices in Maine and has continuously adapted to changing knowledge." The award will be presented during the Maine TREE Foundation's 2023 Awards Night on Oct. 19 in Hermon.

Androscoggin-Sagadahoc Counties Extension Association hosting annual meeting Oct. 23

16 Oct 2023

The Androscoggin-Sagadahoc Counties Extension Association (ASCEA) will hold its annual meeting and elect new officers from 6-7:30 p.m. on Oct. 23 at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Androscoggin-Sagadahoc Counties office, 24 Main St., Lisbon Falls. The event is open to the public and will feature presentations from UMaine Extension educators Griffin Dill and Tori Jackson on Maine ticks, the Extension's work and how to get involved. A Q&A session will immediately follow the presentations. Registration is not required. Light refreshments will be served. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the ASCEA webpage or contact Izzy Viselli at isabella.viselli@maine.edu, 207.353.5550 or 1.800.287.1458 (toll-free in Maine). The ASCEA is recruiting new members. In partnership with UMaine Extension staff, the members of each county association assist with providing input on local educational programming needs and oversee the county budget appropriations that support Extension educational programs for county residents.

UMaine hires new executive director of marketing

16 Oct 2023

[caption id="attachment_99959" align="alignright" width="223"]  Brenn Borror[/caption] The University of Maine has named Brenn Borror, a longtime marketing leader and strategist in higher education and business development, as its new executive director of marketing, effective Oct. 16. In his current role with UMaine's Division of Marketing and Communications, Borror will manage the team behind university graphics, photos, video, web design and other print and digital materials. He will oversee marketing campaign strategy, execution and reporting, ensuring the effectiveness of the day-to-day activities within the teams he supervises. He also will provide support for campus partners in creating impactful marketing and advertising campaigns, content and experiences. "Brenn's hiring marks a turning point in how we promote the University of Maine and all it has to offer," says Meredith Whitfield, chief marketing and communications officer for UMaine. "With demonstrable success in increasing university enrollment, website traffic and brand engagement, Brenn will ensure that all of the great content from our division connects with more people than ever before and encourages them to join our compassionate, intelligent and ambitious UMaine community." Prior to joining UMaine, Borror served as director of marketing and communications for Multnomah University in Portland, Oregon, where in 2021 he helped attract the largest incoming class in its history. He directed a campaign that supported the 100% growth in year-to-year enrollment that year, developed marketing processes that bolstered the enrollment pipeline by 15% for recruiting for the 2023-24 academic year, and increased university website traffic 50% from 2021 to 2022. Before Multnomah, Borror was the creative director for Convene Corp. in Yorba Linda, California, where he helped increase annual revenue through web design, videos, articles, podcasts and other deliverables. He also worked for George Fox University in Newberg, Oregon as a web designer. He earned a bachelor's degree in marketing from George Fox. "I'm excited to join the talented creative team within the Division of Marketing and Communications and look forward to partnering with university stakeholders to grow and expand the University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias brands," Borror says.

Moran discusses apple crop woes with Press Herald

16 Oct 2023

The Portland Press Herald interviewed Renae Moran, a professor of pomology with the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture and a fruit tree specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, for a column about this year's struggling apple crop and stressed oak trees. Moran said all fruit trees are experiencing issues this year. According to the report, a May 18 frost caused apple crop declines in some parts of the state. "Apples with nonlethal injury have frost-bitten skin and some have internal browning," Moran said. "Most, however, are in good shape."

WABI reports on March Against Domestic Violence

16 Oct 2023

WABI (Channel 5) reported on the ninth annual March Against Domestic Violence hosted by the Maine Business School Corps. MBS Corps President Aidan Peters told the station that through the event and others like it, he hopes "that people are able to get a better understanding of what they can do for victims who have to endure this type of brutality." Event partners included Title IX Student Services, Student Life, UMaine Athletics, UMaine Army ROTC, the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program and Partners for Peace.

Homecoming and Family and Friends Weekend highlighted by WFVX

16 Oct 2023

WFVX (Channel 7) promoted Homecoming and Family and Friends Weekend at the University of Maine.

Mainebiz story features Hotel Ursa

16 Oct 2023

Mainebiz featured Hotel Ursa, an independent hotel opening in early spring at the University of Maine, in an article titled "Building Business: From a hotel to coffee shops, projects are taking shape."

Sun Journal highlights edible insect R&D at UMaine

16 Oct 2023

In an article about Entosense, a value-added insect product maker based in Lewiston, Maine, the Sun Journal highlighted edible insect research and development at the University of Maine. The Portland Press Herald shared the story.

CBC interviews McCosker about gray seal diet research

16 Oct 2023

University of Maine Ph.D. student Christina McCrosker spoke with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) about her research into the diet of Northwest Atlantic gray seals. McCrosker was the lead author on a recent study involving the analysis of 247 scat samples taken from the gray seal herd at Monomoy Island off Cape Cod, Massachusetts. She said she and her colleagues were able to determine which fish species the seals had eaten using DNA metabarcoding. This technique allowed the researchers to test samples with multiple DNA types at the same time. "We were able to find more species in general, and also more detections of some species in metabarcoding," she said. Yahoo! News shared the CBC report.

Media highlight partial solar eclipse viewing at UMaine

16 Oct 2023

The Associated Press, the Mirror, Spectrum News, the Bangor Daily News and WFVX (Channel 7) highlighted a partial solar eclipse viewing event hosted by the Versant Power Astronomy Center during Homecoming 2023 at the University of Maine. "As the moon passes between the Earth and the sun, it casts its shadow on our planet. In a very real sense, solar eclipses are 'made in the shade' of the moon," said Shawn Laatsch, director of the Versant Power Astronomy and the Maynard Jordan Planetarium at UMaine to the AP. PBS NewsHour, MassLive, Las Vegas Sun, Denver7, The Atlanta Journal Constitution, The Boston Globe and other news outlets from across the U.S. shared the AP report with the public.

UMaine professor emeritus earns lifetime achievement award from IEEE

16 Oct 2023

John "Vet" Vetelino, professor emeritus with the University of Maine Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was recognized for his lifetime achievements in sensor and microacoustics research, education and entrepreneurship from the world's largest technical professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). The IEEE's Ultrasonics, Ferroelectrics and Frequency Control Society gave Vetelinio its Walter Rayleigh Ultrasonics Award, the highest honor from the society, during its 2023 International Ultrasonics Symposium in September in Montreal. This annual award is presented to an individual with more than 25 sustained years of success in the field of ultrasonics, a focus of Vetelino's research. More information about the award can be found on the IEEE website. "Vet has contributed significantly to research and education throughout his career," said Mauricio Pereira Da Cunha, a UMaine professor of electrical and computer engineering who nominated Vetelino for the award, during the symposium. "In addition to advising over 60 Ph.D. and master's students and hosting over 15 research scientists, he's been very engaged in several projects in undergraduate education that had significant impact in recruiting and retaining students in science and technology." Vetelino was one of the founding members of what is now UMaine's Frontier Institute for Research in Sensor Technologies (FIRST), and served as its acting director in 1982 and 1983. He also previously served as chair of the

university's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering from 1980-85. During his tenure, he authored or co-authored over 200 publications, many of which he presented at international conferences worldwide. The Rayleigh Ultrasonics Award is not the first honor bestowed upon Vetelino by the IEEE. In 2010, he became the first electrical and computer engineering faculty researcher in Maine to become an IEEE Fellow. "I'd like to thank Mauricio for nominating me for the Walter Rayleigh Award and the IEEE Ultrasonics Selection Committee for choosing me for the Walter Rayliegh Award," said Vetelino at the symposium, added that he also was thankful for his Ph.D. advisor at the University of Rhode Island, Shahanka S. Mitra, and "the undergraduate and graduate students from the University of Maine and elsewhere." In addition, he thanked "established and aspiring researchers who helped me considerably in terms of launching my career, as far as research was concerned. And obviously for my family for their strong and continuous support for my 53 years." Vetelino also received the UMaine Distinguished Maine Professor Award in 2008, the UMaine Faculty Achievement Award for Outstanding Contributions in Teaching and Research in 1985 and the UMaine Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award in 1980. In addition to advising more than 60 masters and doctoral candidates, Vetelino has received more than 100 science and education research contracts totaling more than $25 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Department of Defense (DOD), government laboratories and industrial laboratories. He also received 25 NSF science education grants for involving highly qualified undergraduates in state-of-the-art research. The numerous research breakthroughs by Vetelino and his research groups have resulted in the incubation of several small sensor companies. They include Mainely Sensors, the Sensor Research and Development Corp., BIODE Corp. and Microconversion Technology. He has also consulted with government laboratories and many industries and has served as a reviewer for several scientific journals and government funding agencies.

Klose delivering book talk on latest work Oct. 24

17 Oct 2023

Robert Klose, professor in the University of Maine Honors College, will deliver a book talk and sign copies of his latest work, "Trigger Warning," from 1-2 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 24 at the University Bookstore. The event, co-sponsored by the University Bookstore and Honors College, is free and open to the public.

UMaine senior housing conference noted in BDN

17 Oct 2023

In an article about housing concerns for seniors, the Bangor Daily News highlighted a senior housing conference at the University of Maine.

Noblet discusses PFAS conference with Farms.com

17 Oct 2023

Farms.com interviewed Caroline Noblet, a University of Maine associate professor of economics, about a symposium she helped organize, hosted by the Michigan State University Center for PFAS Research. "The conferences are an opportunity to bring together people who have been impacted in this area," Noblet said. "Maine and Michigan are two states that have been very proactive about PFAS in their environment, and so it is an opportunity to bring together researchers, impacted farmers, and state and federal agency decision makers to collaborate."

Midcoast Maine media highlight UMaine staff helping clean Damariscotta River shoreline

17 Oct 2023

The Wiscasset Newspaper and The Lincoln County News noted that University of Maine Darling Marine Center personnel were among the staff and volunteers from a dozen local businesses and organizations who recently picked up trash along the Damariscotta River shoreline.

UMaine aging researchers pen op-ed for BDN

17 Oct 2023

Len Kaye, director of the University of Maine Center on Aging; Patricia Oh, senior program manager for the center; and Karen Campbell, coordinator for the center's Lifelong Communities Program, wrote an op-ed for the Bangor Daily News titled "Keeping Maine an age-friendly state." Kaye is a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Mitchell Center to host talk on history of Maine's rivers Oct. 23

18 Oct 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Maine's Rivers: Subsistence to Sewers to Sustainability over Five Centuries" at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 23. In this talk, Lloyd Irland will discuss a series of distinct periods in the history of Maine' rivers spanning five centuries, all while engaging in multiple sciences. He also will describe a fraught series of interactions between society and the rivers, often calling on images of a vanished "Golden Age." Irland has studied, written and taught about forests and water resources for decades. He came to Maine in the 1970s as the great program of cleanup was getting underway. He has not only written and read widely on the history of the state's waters, but also participated occasionally as a state and local government official. Irland recently completed an assignment as a technical specialist for the Indian Forest Management Assessment Team as part of a nationwide review of Bureau of Indian Affairs stewardship issues in forests and forest management. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall at UMaine. Registration is required to attend remotely. Visit the event webpage to register and receive connection information. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

School of Performing Arts presents 'Rabbit Hole' Oct. 19-22

18 Oct 2023

The University of Maine School of Performing Arts Division of Theatre and Dance is bringing one of the 21st century's most acclaimed plays to the Hauck Auditorium. "Rabbit Hole," by David Lindsay-Abaire, will be running from Oct 19-22, with performances at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 19, 20 and 21, and at 2 p.m. Oct. 21 and 22. The show is directed by theatre faculty member Julie Arnold Lisnet. Tickets are $12 for the public and free with a student MaineCard; they can be purchased online. The cast features Owen Hines of Oakland, Maine; Patrick "Patty" Morris of Attleboro, Massachusetts; Alyson Shook of Camden, Maine; Meredith Tierney-Fife of Portland, Maine; and Emmalyse Wozniak of Easthampton, Massachusetts. Read the full story about the production on the School of Performing Arts website.

CentralMaine.com notes Koehler's Green Maine Apple Day talk

18 Oct 2023

CentralMaine.com noted Glenn Kohler, associate scientist of integrated pest management at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, delivering a talk during the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association's Great Maine Apple Day.

JFK's 1963 visit to UMaine featured in Bangor Daily News

18 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News published a story about President John F. Kennedy's visit to the University of Maine in 1963. WABI (Channel 5) also shared archival reporting on Kennedy's visit to UMaine.

Popular film podcast hosts to discuss horror movie classics at UMaine talk

18 Oct 2023

The hosts of the film podcast "I Saw What You Did" will discuss horror movie classics adapted from Stephen King's novels in a talk at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 19 at the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center. Millie De Chirico and Danielle Henderson will talk attendees through the films "Pet Sematary" and "Misery," both based on King novels of the same name, share their own unique perspectives and invite audience members to do the same. The discussion will also feature clips from the films. A Q&A session will follow. UMaine professor of English Jennifer Moxley and interdisciplinary Ph.D. student and intermedia artist Sean Lopez are hosting the event, which is supported by the Stephen E. King Chair in Literature and the McGillicuddy Humanities Center. Visit the Stephen E. King Chair in Literature website for more information about the event.

Knox-Lincoln Counties Extension Association hosting annual meeting and open house on Oct. 26

20 Oct 2023

The Knox-Lincoln Counties Extension Association will hold its annual meeting and open house from 4-6 p.m. on Oct. 26 at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension office in Waldoboro, 377 Manktown Road. The meeting will include a presentation by the Maine Families Home Visiting Program. This program provides information, encouragement and support to new and expecting parents about a variety of topics including health, nutrition, safety, development and family well-being. Certified family visitors share this information with new and expecting parents, at the location of their choice, at no cost. UMaine Extension's new agriculture educator Brett Johnson will also be presenting at this meeting. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about the community-focused work of UMaine Extension and the Knox-Lincoln Counties Extension Association (K-LCEA) while enjoying light, locally-sourced refreshments and door prizes. The event will conclude with a short business meeting and a short question and answer session. The event is free. Registration is not required. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit Knox-Lincoln Counties website or contact Ryan LeShane at ryan.leshane@maine.edu or 207.832.0343.

Bear Bites Food Truck offering themed menu pop-ups Tuesdays-Thursdays

20 Oct 2023

The Bear Bites food truck will return with themed-menu pop-up events for dinner on Tuesdays and lunch on Wednesdays and Thursdays Taco Tuesday dinners will be held from 4-7 p.m. on Tuesdays near Alumni Hall on the Mall. Lunch specials will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Wednesdays by the Collins Center for the Arts and Thursdays near Boardman and Williams Halls. Wednesday lunches will feature basic and specialty grilled cheese sandwiches, accompanied by soup, chips and beverages. On Thursdays, consumers can enjoy vegan sausage subs or classic sausage subs with maple mustard and caramelized onions, both served with a side of chips. Payments can be made in cash, debit and credit cards, Black Bear Bucks and Meal Plan Dollars. University of Maine Dining launched Bear Bites this semester to serve the campus community grab-and-go breakfast foods and beverages.

Caron discusses how discourse of sex has evolved with BDN

20 Oct 2023

Sandra Caron, a nationally-recognized longtime professor of family relations and human sexuality at the University of Maine, spoke with the Bangor Daily News about the discourse of sex and how it has changed over the years. "Sex isn't dirty or shameful. I think we, as a society, are starting to come around to that," Caron said. "More education and more awareness about these sorts of things is always a good thing, instead of hiding it away or making it seem like it's taboo."

WFVX interviews Causey about disease threatening horses and emus

20 Oct 2023

Robert Causey, associate professor of animal and veterinary sciences at the University of Maine, spoke to WFVX about Eastern Equine Encephalitis, which has recently been found in flocks of horses and emus in multiple counties in the state. "The key thing with 'triple-e', as we call it, is managing mosquitoes," said Causey. "The critical thing — the way we protect horses, is vaccines — but the vaccinations only last for about six months, so if it's been more than six months, you should probably get your horse re-vaccinated."

UMaine Machias documentary 'When the Chevy Breaks' rebroadcast on Maine Public

20 Oct 2023

Maine Public rebroadcast the 2019 University of Maine at Machias student film "When the Chevy Breaks (How Small Towns Fix Big Problems)" on Oct. 19. The film is available online. The film was the third feature-length production to come out of the Downeast Documentary filmmaking course. Alan Kryszak, interdisciplinary fine arts faculty member, directed the film by students Miranda Sutton, Brooke Hachey, Will Rittenhouse, Kayla Cater, Sophie Squire, Eric Darby, Christopher Palmiotto, Trevor Tanski, Jesse Gray, Alex Blackie, Lucas Logan, Abdalla Mostafa, Alexis Morrill and Holly Preston. The documentary was filmed in Washington County and is a collection of stories, ranging from Machias taking on the world's most powerful navy (on a Sunday after church) to an amputee father waiting for his son to return from Afghanistan so they can hike Katahdin.Overcoming obstacles, big and small, is the thematic focus of this film. The documentary was part of Maine Public's Bicentennial Community Films Series.

News Center Maine features Dagher teaching high school students

20 Oct 2023

News Center Maine reported on Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, teaching a workshop in which high school students built and tested simple bridges with sticks, spaghetti, marshmallows and gumdrops. The workshop was part of the ACE (Architecture, Construction and Engineering) Mentor Program. "We are constantly being told the construction industry is looking for people. Here in Maine, we are obviously a much older state, but the industry is getting old itself. So we are trying to develop that next generation," Dagher said.

Thompson elected to American Physical Society's Fellows

20 Oct 2023

John Thompson, chair of the University of Maine Department of Physics and Astronomy, was named a 2023 Fellow of the American Physical Society. Thompson was elected as a fellow "for performing seminal research on student use of mathematics in physics and the learning and teaching of thermal physics, for leading interdisciplinary collaborations and conferences, and for leadership in the physics education research community," according to the organization.

Undergraduate Responsible Conduct of Research Training available through Nov. 17

23 Oct 2023

The Office of Research Compliance will be offering online Responsible Conduct of Research training for undergraduate students on Brightspace through Friday, Nov. 17. Undergraduate students who are participating in research sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and/or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA) are required to complete this training. Students who complete the training will receive a certificate of completion valid for four years. Faculty sponsors and principal investigators of such research should ensure that any participating undergraduate students have completed this training. More information and a link to enroll is available at Undergraduate Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Training.

Winter Session registration open

23 Oct 2023

Registration is open for the University of Maine's Winter Session. The three-week online term runs from Dec. 26–Jan. 12. UMaine and University of Maine at Machias courses are now available to view on MaineStreet. The nearly 60 online course offerings include general education requirements, as well as some upper-level and graduate courses. Winter Session courses are intensive in nature, with students earning one to four credits in three weeks. For more information, including a list of courses and how to register, visit the Winter Session website.

College art tent featured by WFVX

23 Oct 2023

WFVX (Channel 7) featured a college art tent offered by the University of Maine McGillicuddy Humanities Center during the Sidewalk Art Festival in Bangor. "It gives you an opportunity to build your portfolio and then build a market," said Freya Drew, a UMaine art education student, about participating and showcasing her work in the festival.

MacDonald pens BDN column about universal connectivity

23 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News published an opinion piece by Nicholas MacDonald, lecturer of small business management at the University of Maine at Machias, titled "Universal connectivity must be for all of Maine."

News Center highlights UVAC's new alert system

23 Oct 2023

In a story about updates to the state's "slow down, move over" law, News Center Maine featured the University of Maine Volunteer Ambulance Corps (UVAC) and its new emergency vehicle warning system, or HAAS system. The system informs drivers who are using navigation apps when a responding ambulance is nearby, instructing them to slow down and move over. "We're here for your safety so we need to make sure that we are safe as well," UVAC member John Kahle said.

New leadership training for executives featured in News Center

23 Oct 2023

News Center Maine featured a new accelerated, four-month leadership development program for business and nonprofit executives called Build a Better Maine, offered by the Maine School and University of Maine Graduate School of Business. "I think this is working tremendously well," said Bruce Hall, a participant in the program and director of agroecology for Wyman's of Maine. The program is designed to provide leaders with the skills needed to solve the most pressing global and local challenges, and to strengthen Maine's economy and workforce. "I think that this is just the beginning of a way that the University of Maine and Maine Business School can go about enhancing the incredible work and knowledge that is being produced here and connecting with the business community to advance Maine, the region and the nation's goal of training the workforce of tomorrow," said Jason Harkins, executive dean of the Maine Business School.

President Ferrini-Mundy earns national lifetime achievement award in mathematics education

24 Oct 2023

University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy will be honored with the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' (NCTM) Lifetime Achievement Award on Wednesday, Oct. 25 during the organization's 2023 Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington D.C. Ferrini-Mundy, who has taught secondary and college-level mathematics and researched ways to improve both for nearly five decades, is also participating in the NCTM's 2023 Research Conference in Washington D.C., delivering an opening plenary talk on Tuesday, Oct. 24, and hosting a Q&A session the following day. The NCTM Lifetime Achievement Award honors council members who have demonstrated distinguished leadership, instruction and service to the mathematics education field at the national level for over 25 years, according to the organization. Selected by the NCTM's Mathematics Education Trust, Ferrini-Mundy, who previously served on the council's board of directors, is one of two recipients of this year's lifetime achievement award. The other is Elizabeth "Betty" Phillips, a senior academic specialist at Michigan State University's Program in Mathematics Education. "Providing robust and comprehensive instruction in mathematics is essential to helping people from all backgrounds achieve professional and personal success. It also helps foster highly knowledgeable and talented workers capable of growing our modern economy," Ferrini-Mundy says. "I've seen firsthand how this field has changed lives, and it has motivated me to be the best educator I can be. I'm truly honored to receive this award for a lifetime of work in what I consider one of the most rewarding fields in education". Ferrini-Mundy has served as a secondary school teacher, a professor at multiple universities and as a leader of university colleges, boards and research centers involved in mathematics education. She currently chairs the Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences, and was previously the director of the Mathematical Sciences Education Board at the National Academy of Sciences, co-chair of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Mathematics Expert Group Programme for International Student Assessment, and member of the Maine Department of Education's Mathematics Standards Review Committee. She also has published more than 100 articles and mentored 10 doctoral students over the course of her career. In 1980, Ferrini-Mundy earned her Ph.D. in mathematics education from the University of New Hampshire (UNH). She was named the president of the University of Maine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, in 2018. Ferrini-Mundy is a national leader in STEM education research and policy, and the former chief operating officer (COO) of the National Science Foundation. Under her leadership, UMaine achieved the R1 designation from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education in 2021. This designation is only awarded to the top 4% of the nation's doctoral research universities. That same year, the University of Maine System named Ferrini-Mundy vice chancellor for research and innovation. In this role, she's helping to make UMaine's research infrastructure more accessible and supportive for faculty and students at all of the System's universities. Her other leadership roles include serving as a member of the President's Committee on the National Medal of Science, chair of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities' (APLU) Council of Presidents, executive committee member of the APLU's Board of Directors, chair of the America East Conference Academic Consortium Board of Presidents and chair of the Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board. Contact: Eric Gordon, eric.b.gordon@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host 'Transforming Food Systems through Agroecology' talk Oct. 30

24 Oct 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Transforming Food Systems through Agroecology" at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30. In this talk, Ernesto Méndez, professor of agroecology at the University of Vermont, will define agroecology and discuss how it can bring together farmers, academics, activists and policy makers to better understand and reshape food systems. He will describe the core causes driving food system issues and, using a participatory research approach, possible solutions that are also centered on equity. Using an example with coffee farmers in Mexico, he also will discuss the challenges and opportunities of this approach and its future potential. Méndez's research and teaching focus on agroecology, smallholder coffee systems, participatory action research and transdisciplinary research approaches. He has over 25 years of experience working with smallholder and Indigenous farmers in Latin America and collaborating in agroecology efforts in Vermont and around the world. He is also active in advancing issues of justice, equity, anti-racism, diversity and belonging. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall on the UMaine campus in Orono. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Concordia historian and university president to deliver annual Robert Babcock Lecture Oct. 30

24 Oct 2023

Graham Carr, University of Maine alum, historian, president and vice-chancellor of Concordia University in Montreal, will deliver the annual Robert Babcock Lecture at 3:10 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30 at Bodwell Lounge in the Collins Center for the Arts. In his talk, titled "The Histories We Inherit: Concordia's

Reckoning With the Pasts of Its Founding Institutions," Carr, who earned his Ph.D. in history from UMaine in 1983, will explore the role universities can and should play in addressing the legacy of colonialism and anti-Black racism on campuses and in greater society. He will discuss two case studies from Concordia's recent history: a formal apology that it issued for the role systemic racism played in student protests and their aftermath in 1969, and its response to the role two religious orders with ties to university played in Canada's infamous residential school system. In both examples, Concordia has had to come to terms with the actions of its founding institutions. The talk is free and refreshments will be provided afterward. The UMaine History Department and the Canadian-American Center are hosting the event. Every year, the History Department invites a graduate from their doctoral program to present the Robert Babcock Lecture. Babcock was a professor of history at UMaine who studied the working-class experience in North America. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact Emma Schroder, emma.schroeder@maine.edu.

BDN promotes UMaine Extension's Cooking Matters program

24 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a free, six-session nutrition education program to parents, guardians and young adults ages 19-25 starting Nov. 7 at the Labor of Love Food Pantry, 137 County Road. The workshop, Cooking Matters, will be held from 9-11 a.m. on Tuesdays through Dec. 12, and focus on learning healthy, budget-friendly cooking tips and preparing healthy recipes as a group. Space is limited to ten participants. Visit the program webpage for more information.

Ascher discusses lobster ganglia with News Center

24 Oct 2023

Alex Ascher, who recently earned his Ph.D. at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, spoke to News Center Maine about ganglia in lobsters. "Lobsters contain 15 nerve clusters called ganglia, dispersed throughout their bodies, with a main ganglion located between their eyes," Ascher told the station. "Each ganglion helps to control and process sensory information in a different segment of the lobster's body. Whether these ganglia allow them to feel pain, though, is still somewhat contested," Ascher added.

UMaine Extension professionals and students honored at national conference for social media efforts, research

24 Oct 2023

Two University of Maine Cooperative Extension specialists and four UMaine students were recently honored with several awards on the national level, recognizing the impact their social media efforts and research has had on Maine's community health education. UMaine Extension garnered two first place Eastern Region Awards at the National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences 89th annual session in September in Providence, Rhode Island. The annual NEAFCS conference provides opportunities for professional growth for extension educators. Its mission is to improve the daily lives of individuals, families and communities through research-based programs. "We are incredibly proud of our Extension staff and our UMaine students for their outstanding achievements and recognition at the NEAFCS annual session. These honors serve as a testament to their hard work, commitment to excellence and highlight the innovation UMaine Extension strives for in its programs," says Hannah Carter, dean of UMaine Extension and associate provost for online and continuing education at UMaine. "Their dedication and contributions have not only brought recognition to UMaine Extension but have also made a significant impact in the field of family and consumer sciences by inspiring individuals and families to make healthy food choices part of their everyday lives." Assistant Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program coordinator and social media coordinator Alex Gayton along with UMaine students Kaylah Kilby, Kayla Parsons, Kaylee Porter and Maegan Smith received the first place Eastern Region Social Media Education Award. The award recognizes the exceptional efforts in providing nutrition education to the public through science-based resources while utilizing the innovative use of social media platforms. The NEAFCS Social Media Education Award was established in 2018. UMaine Extension educator Kathy Savoie received the first place Eastern Region Program Excellence through Research Award. The award emphasizes the use of research to improve existing programs or to develop new ones. In receiving the award, Savoie was recognized for conducting a volunteer survey which helped guide future food safety education interventions for volunteers. Additionally, her research identified the need to provide consistent food safety programs statewide, and update UMaine food safety resources to align with activities of volunteers. "I am honored to receive the first place Eastern Region Social Media Education Award alongside my talented team of UMaine students. This recognition validates our efforts to provide science-based nutrition education through social media platforms. We are committed to reacting and empowering the public with accurate and reliable information. Thank you to NEAFCS for this prestigious award," says Gayton. "I am grateful to be awarded the first place Eastern Region Program Excellence through Research Award. Conducting the volunteer survey was a collaborative effort, and I am thrilled that our findings have contributed to improving food safety education interventions for volunteers. This recognition motivates me to continue conducting impactful research that positively impacts our programs and the communities we serve," says Savoie. For more information about the awards and the program, contact Kate McCarty, kate.mccarty@maine.edu; 207.781.6099; or visit the UMaine Extension Food & Health website.

UMaine Extension offering crafts around the world through 4-H SPIN club starting Nov. 18

25 Oct 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a three-session, in-person 4-H club about seasonal crafts from around the world designed for young artists to explore their creativity and learn about different cultural traditions. Geared towards youth ages 6-12, the special interest, SPIN, club will meet from 10:30 a.m-12:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Nov. 18, Dec. 2 and 16 at the Calais Free Library, 9 Union St. Each session will delve into the fascinating world of seasonal crafts, showcasing techniques, materials and designs used in various parts of the world. Participants will have the chance to create unique and personalized crafts associated with different seasons, such as autumn wreaths and winter ornaments. "We are thrilled to offer this special interest 4-H SPIN club to the youth in Calais," says Gabby Brodek, UMaine 4-H Youth Development Professional. "Crafting not only provides an outlet for fun and creativity, but it also offers a unique opportunity for young individuals to gain insights into diverse cultures and traditions. Our hope is that this club will inspire their artistic talents and foster a deep appreciation for the beauty of diversity." The club sessions will be led by experienced instructors who will guide participants through each project, providing step-by-step instructions and sharing interesting facts about the cultural significance of the crafts. The free club will also provide a platform for young artists to connect with their peers, share ideas and develop friendships. 4-H is committed to provide engaging and educational opportunities for youth, fostering personal growth and development. The seasonal crafts around the world workshop is part of UMaine Extenion's SPIN clubs, where participants ages 9-18 along with a volunteer for at least six sessions learn about a subject of interest. Topics range from the natural world, heritage

arts, science and technology to photography, music, gardening, sports and more. Spaces are limited to ten participants; early registration is encouraged. To sign up visit the program webpage. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Tara Wood, tara.a.wood@maine.edu; 207.255.3345.

UMaine Extension offering Cooking Matters nutrition and cooking class on Nov. 7

25 Oct 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a free, six-session nutrition education program to parents, guardians and young adults starting Nov. 7 at the Labor of Love Food Pantry, 137 County Road, Eastport. Geared towards adults ages 19-25, the workshop will focus on learning healthy, budget-friendly cooking tips and preparing healthy recipes as a group. It will be held from 9-11 a.m. Tuesdays through Dec. 12. The program will cover a range of topics, including meal planning, smart shopping, food safety and cooking techniques that maximize nutrition while minimizing costs. Cooking Matters is a collaborative effort between UMaine Extension and various community partners, like the Labor of Love Food Pantry, who share a common goal of promoting healthy eating habits and enhancing food preparation skills. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on cooking activities, where they will learn how to prepare delicious and nutritious recipes using affordable ingredients. The program will also provide free cooking tools and food to participants. The Cooking Matters session will be led by trained nutrition educators who will guide participants through interactive lessons and cooking demonstrations. The program is designed to foster a supportive and inclusive environment, encouraging participants to share experiences and learn from one another. Space is limited to ten participants. Registration is required. Visit the program webpage to learn more. To register or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Vanessa Young, vanessa.young@maine.edu; 207.255.3345.

Star Tribune highlights UMaine hazing research

25 Oct 2023

In a story about a bill introduced in the U.S. Senate to address hazing on college campuses, the Star Tribune highlighted a 2008 national study on the issue conducted by University of Maine researchers. The study, which was conducted by researchers Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden, found that three-quarters of fraternity members report they have been hazed, including being forced to drink into unconsciousness.

Media promote 'Transforming Food Systems through Agroecology" talk

25 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News, Sun Journal and Morning Ag Clips shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Transforming Food Systems through Agroecology" at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30. Registration is required, and can be done on the event webpage.

UMaine Extension hot cocoa recipe shared in The Pantagraph

25 Oct 2023

The Pantagraph shared the hot cocoa convenience mix recipe from University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

Scocchi discusses 4-H Tick Project with News Center

25 Oct 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H youth development professional Carla Scocchi spoke with News Center Maine about the 4-H Tick Project. In this community science program, children and teenagers collect, identify and learn about ticks while contributing to university research. "We can collect the ticks in the drag and immediately test them instead of packaging them up, sending them to the lab and waiting a couple of weeks for results," Scocchi said. The program, now in its second year, has grown to involve more than 1,500 participants, according to News Center. The station also highlighted the UMaine Extension Tick Lab in another report.

BDN interviews White about transporting livestock

25 Oct 2023

Rachel White, an assistant professor of sustainable agriculture with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, shared guidance on how to transport livestock with the Bangor Daily News. "If you decide to haul animals, just know your limits and don't be afraid to ask someone with more experience for help," White said. "For the safety of you, other drivers and the animals, pay attention."

Maine media feature Ferrini-Mundy's lifetime achievement award

25 Oct 2023

News Center Maine and the Bangor Daily News promoted University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy being honored with the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' (NCTM) Lifetime Achievement Award during the organization's 2023 Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington D.C.

UMaine researchers speak at PFAS research symposium

25 Oct 2023

Diane Rowland, dean of the University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture and director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest

Experiment Station, and Caroline Noblet, associate professor of economics, delivered talks during an annual symposium hosted by the Michigan State University Center for PFAS Research Oct. 22-24. The University of Maine, particularly Noblet and Pauline Kamath, UMaine associate professor of animal health; also collaborated with the center in hosting its symposium, along with the Maine Farmland Trust and U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service. Rowland was among the speakers who delivered opening remarks on Oct. 22, while Noblet's talk, "Case Study 2: Consumer Reaction to PFAS in Agriculture," was given on Oct. 24. Visit the MSU website to learn more about the event.

Robert Talbot Civil Rights Speaker Series returns Nov. 2

27 Oct 2023

The University of Maine Alumni Association and Greater Bangor Area Branch of the NAACP will host the third annual Robert Talbot Civil Rights Speaker Series at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2 at the Buchanan Alumni House. Keynote speaker Rachel Talbot Ross, speaker of the Maine House of Representatives, will deliver a talk titled "Maine's Path to Inclusion and Equity: Navigating the Challenges and Opportunities Ahead." Please register to attend the event online. Established in 2021 by the UMaine Alumni Association and Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP, the Robert Talbot Civil Rights Speaker Series promotes dialogue and engagement to advance equality and justice. The series is named in honor of Robert "Bob" Talbot, a UMaine alumnus and the first executive director of the Maine Human Rights Commission. This year's event is sponsored by Bangor Savings Bank.

Winter parking ban starts Nov. 1

27 Oct 2023

The University of Maine annual winter parking ban starts Nov. 1 and ends May 1. All staff, commuter and visitor parking lots — signed in blue or black — are closed to parking everyday from midnight–6 a.m. Staff, commuter, and visitor permitted vehicles may park overnight in either the commuter section of the Bridge Tennis Court lot north of Stewart Commons/the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center or the College Avenue South lots across the street from Buchanan Alumni House and Lengyel Hall. Resident parking lots — signed in red — remain open for those properly permitted. Campus community members are encouraged to inform visitors of this policy to avoid having their vehicles cited or towed. Violators of this parking ban will be cited and/or towed at the owner's expense. Towing services are provided by Sullivan's Automotive Services. They are located at 84 Airport Road, Old Town. Contact the parking office at um.parkingservices@maine.edu or 207.581.4047 for any questions or concerns. More information is available online. The Black Bear Safe App produced by the UMaine Police Department is available for members of the UMaine community who want to ensure a safe walk to their car or residence hall during the parking ban. It offers several options for assisting with safety and security year-round. Learn more about the app and its offerings by visiting the police department website.

CentralMaine.com: Center on Aging supports efforts to make Hallowell dementia-friendly

27 Oct 2023

In a story about efforts to make Hallowell dementia-friendly, CentralMaine.com noted that the University of Maine Center on Aging awarded a grant to the Hallowell All Age-Friendly Committee. The committee is using this grant to publish and distribute informational brochures about dementia.

Dill discusses deer tick activity with BDN

27 Oct 2023

Griffin Dill, an integrated pest management specialist and director of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, spoke to the Bangor Daily News about tick activity in the fall. "So far, deer tick activity is normal for this time of year," he said. "They will be active until temperatures remain consistently below freezing, which in some years isn't until well into December."

WFVX highlights Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering

27 Oct 2023

WFVX (Channel 7 in Bangor) reported on the second annual Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering, hosted by the University of Maine Institute of Medicine. "Well the hope is to better connect our students with the workforce to get our students to stay in Maine," said institute Director David Harder.

Science Magazine interviews UMaine researchers about Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science

27 Oct 2023

Darren Ranco, a professor of anthropology and the chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, and Natalie Michelle, a UMaine postdoc and research fellow with the University of Massachusetts Amherst, spoke with Science magazine for a story about the Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science (CBIKS). The center, based at the UMass Amherst, will conduct transdisciplinary, placed-based research projects that intertwine Native and Western knowledge systems in collaboration with Indigenous communities, scientists, governments, industry partners and nonprofits around the world. The National Science Foundation awarded $30 million for the center. Bonnie Newsom, associate professor of anthropology, is one of the co-principal investigators for establishing the CBIKS, and will co-lead the Northeast hub of it at UMaine with Ranco and John Daigle, professor of forest recreation management.

Sporer discusses warning signs of potential shooters with KETV

27 Oct 2023

In a story about the Oct. 25 mass shooting in Lewiston, Maine, Karyn Sporer, associate professor and chair of the University of Maine Department of

Sociology, spoke to KETV (Channel 7 in Omaha, Nebraska) about the warning signs for potential shooters. "There's always at least one person who knew something. There's always leakage, whether it's somebody posting online on social media or talking to friends or people in the community. There are always warning signs to whether or not you're in a place where you can recognize them as warning signs," Sporer said.

UMaine, UVM researchers conduct first-ever study of cultural adaptation to climate change

30 Oct 2023

As the impacts of climate change grow, society and people struggle to adapt to the challenges of the new reality. Change, however, is difficult, and adapting to new ways of life or new ways of doing business often requires a change in culture. To determine how culture and society adapt to a changing climate, a team of researchers from the University of Maine and the University of Vermont (UVM) have conducted the first-ever study of cultural adaptation to climate change. Using the science of cultural evolution to examine data on which crops farmers plant across the U.S., their work can help inspire more effective policy solutions to survive in the face of the harmful effects of global warming. Tim Waring, associate professor with the UMaine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions and the School of Economics, spearheaded the project, funded by a $4 million grant from the National Science Foundation. "Adaptation is about finding a better match to the environment. We know that humans evolve and adapt by changing their culture." Waring says. "But we know very little about if or how culture is adapting to ongoing climate change today." In their paper, published in the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B, Waring and his colleagues define cultural adaptation as a population-level change, or the spread of a behavior that provides a benefit in a changed environment. "There are three ingredients for adaptation," says Waring, "a new practice, which provides a benefit, and then spreads." With these criteria, researchers compared the climate in which different crops grow best to the actual climate, using data on crops planted in each county across the U.S. for the last 14 years. They found that for much of the U.S., farmers have changed which crops they plant in a way that better matches crops to recent changes in climate. Studying cultural adaptation to climate change can improve research because it enables more rigorous comparisons to show where adaptation is happening. For example, in Maine, northern and western counties have changed crops in a way that follows recent climate change. But the researchers found that crop adaptation to climate change is not happening everywhere. In some regions, planted crops have become even less suited to climate change. "Our research shows that many Maine farmers are already adapting to climate change. They always have. That's what farmers do," Waring says. This new culture-based approach to climate adaptation can also provide insight to policymakers by distinguishing the process of adaptation from policy goals and beneficial outcomes for society. For example, the team also explored if climate change influenced the use of cover crops in the U.S. They concluded that the recent surge in cover cropping may be due to cultural adaptation, but just not to climate change. Instead, many farmers are adapting their practices to take advantage of financial incentives for cover cropping. "This shows why understanding cultural adaptation is so important. Adaptation is a powerful force, but we need to aim it at the problems we want to solve," says Waring. "This approach opens a new frontier in climate adaptation research and policy. We are only just getting started." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine student, Sodexo and partners bring community fridge to campus

30 Oct 2023

University of Maine student Kate Flynn is worked with Sodexo Dining Services and other key partners to introduce a UMaine community fridge initiative that offers free, surplus cafeteria food to anyone in the campus community. The new Black Bear Community Fridge, located across from the University Bookstore on the first floor of the Memorial Union, officially opened at 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 30. It's available every day during union hours, from 7 a.m.-midnight. The refrigerator will be supplied and managed by Sodexo with support from Food Rescue MAINE, an initiative from the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions; students, the Black Bear Mutual Aid Fund group, the UMaine Green Team and other organizations. Flynn, a senior studying political science, spearheaded the effort to reduce food waste and feed the campus community as part of her internship with the Mitchell Center. "With data showing that over 30% of the food produced in the U.S. is never eaten, a community fridge is a great solution for redirecting potentially wasted food to feed people. By decreasing the amount of perfectly good food thrown away, we also decrease the methane emissions that food rotting in landfills produces. We can take care of each other while also taking care of the planet," says Flynn. Flynn will also research the efficacy of the fridge, collecting data on exactly how much food waste is reduced and the community benefits. Establishing the fridge was made possible by a grant from the Maine Hunger Dialogue, contributions from Sodexo and support from the Black Bear Exchange, UMaine Student Life and the University Credit Union. Volunteers are needed to assist with re-stocking the fridge from 7-8 a.m., Monday-Friday. Anyone interested in helping support the fridge can volunteer by filling out the form available here.

BDN promotes 'Rabbit Hole' performances at UMaine

30 Oct 2023

In an article about the performances of "Dirty Deeds Downeast" by the Penobscot Theatre Company, the Bangor Daily News promoted the production "Rabbit Hole" by the University of Maine School of Performing Arts.

WFVX features 'Trick or Trot' event

30 Oct 2023

WFVX featured the "Trick or Trot" event hosted by the Maine Animal Club at the University of Maine.

O'Reilly co-authors opinion piece for Sports Business Journal

30 Oct 2023

Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business School, co-authored an opinion piece for the Sports Business Journal titled "It's the right place(s), right time for the Professional Women's Hockey League."

Socolow discusses media coverage of mass shootings on 'Downtown'

30 Oct 2023

Michael Socolow, professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, was featured on a segment of "Downtown" on WZON (92.9 FM in Bangor) about the media coverage of the recent mass shooting in Lewiston, Maine and others.

BDN interviews Nixon about oyster farming in Maine

30 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Matt Nixon, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine and owner of Muddy River Farm Aquaponics, about his plans to farm oysters. In collaboration with researchers at UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center, he is designing the world's first 3D-printed, closed-loop oyster-farming tank made from sustainable materials. The prototype for it was printed at UMaine. "I started this company to try to find sustainable solutions to climate change, even though we may be too late to reverse some," Nixon said of Muddy River Farm Aquaponics. "I want to slow and blunt the changes as best we can, which is what growing oysters is all about."

The State highlights PFAS research at UMaine

30 Oct 2023

In an article about the impacts of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, on farms in South Carolina, The State noted that University of Maine researchers are "specifically looking at whether crops on highly contaminated land are drawing in the chemicals." The report also shared a resource from University of Maine Cooperative Extension titled "Guide to Investigating PFAS Risk on Your Farm." AOL.com shared the story.

Sporer discusses manhunt for Lewiston mass shooter with BDN

30 Oct 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Karyn Sporer, associate professor and chair of the University of Maine Department of Sociology, about the manhunt for the perpetrator of a mass shooting in Lewiston, which ended Oct. 27. "Police are doing things we don't even know they're capable of doing, and it needs to be that way," she said. "These search strategies are methodical and involve a lot of intelligence gathering. They can't just run in the door like we see in the movies."

Washington Post interviews Gill about communicating climate emergency

30 Oct 2023

The Washington Post interviewed Jacquelyn Gill, an associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology at the University of Maine, about discussing climate change as an emergency. When it comes to terms like "climate emergency," Gill said, "it's a little bit of strategy and a lot of honesty." Gill also said in regards to global warming, "it's clear the impacts are becoming more noticeable and in-your-face." Egypt Daily News and SFGate shared the story.

Family channels grief into gift to support UMaine's hazing prevention research

31 Oct 2023

[caption id="attachment_100137" align="alignright" width="223"]  Sam Martinez[/caption] When Jolayne Houtz remembers her son, Sam Martinez, words like "adored," "gifted," "warm" and "athletic" come to mind. "The thing I always remember about Sam was that he was really loyal," Houtz says. "He always wanted to be there for his friends if they were having a hard time. Just always supportive and kind." Growing up near Seattle, Sam played trombone in his high school band and loved sports — baseball, basketball, and his favorite sport: soccer. Houtz says he had a knack for knowing right where the ball would be and where to go on the field. He also coached youth soccer and taught skiing. "I would pick him up from practices, and I would see all the little kids clustered around him. They really looked up to him," says Houtz. When Sam went to college at Washington State University, Houtz and her husband, Hector Martinez, didn't feel like they had much to worry about. They weren't concerned when Sam opted to pledge to the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. Their son was a responsible, caring and bright young man with his whole life ahead of him. Then, one night in November 2019, Sam died of alcohol poisoning at a fraternity initiation ritual. More precisely, he had become a victim of hazing. Sam Martinez's story is sadly more common than many people realize. According to public records, the United States has seen at least one death from hazing every year since 1959. University of Maine professor of higher education Elizabeth Allan's research has uncovered some other uncomfortable truths about hazing. The landmark 2008 National Study of Student Hazing led by Allan and former UMaine colleague Mary Madden found that 55% of college students involved in clubs, teams and organizations experience hazing, defined as "any activity expected of someone joining or participating in a group that humiliates, degrades, abuses, or endangers them,

regardless of a person's willingness to participate." According to that study, nearly three in four students (73%) involved in fraternities and sororities experienced hazing in order to join or maintain membership in these organizations. In up to 95% of hazing cases, students did not report it. More recent research has shown that about 70% of students are aware of hazing happening at their school. [caption id="attachment_100138" align="alignright" width="450"]  Jolayne Houtz (left), Elizabeth Allan (center) and Hector Martinez come together as Houtz and Martinez sign paperwork for a gift to establish the Sam Martinez Hazing Prevention Fund. By establishing a fund that will support Allan's research, the family hopes that the donation — $362,400 over four years — will save lives by creating more transparency around hazing and the cultures that promote it.[/caption] Houtz and her husband recently made a gift to support Allan's work by establishing the Sam Martinez Hazing Prevention Fund at the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. The family's hope is that the donation — $362,400 over four years — will save lives by creating more transparency around hazing and the cultures that promote it. "We're tremendously honored to partner with Dr. Allan and StopHazing.org, and we hope this gift supercharges their research," says Houtz, referring to the organization that Allan founded to serve as the primary home of her research-to-practice efforts to prevent hazing. Several UMaine alumni and students work with Allan at StopHazing. "She's the nation's leading hazing prevention researcher, and she and her team have such a depth of knowledge and expertise," Houtz says. Allan and Houtz started working together a couple years ago when the Houtz-Martinez family was pushing for legislation in Washington State to require more transparency and education about hazing. StopHazing provided expertise for two bills that eventually passed the Washington State Legislature and were signed into law. The first, known as Sam's Law, updated the definition of hazing and required colleges and universities in the state to provide education about hazing to students and employees. It also made training available to families and volunteers and required institutions to publicly report hazing incidents. The second bill made hazing a felony when it results in serious injury or death. For Houtz, a former journalist who now works for the University of Washington, transparency is key to ending hazing. "I've been a reporter and public health communicator my entire adult life. When Sam told us that he was going to pledge this fraternity, I did my homework and didn't come up with anything concerning," she says. "Only later did we find out that this was a bad chapter of a bad fraternity with a long history of complaints about everything from parties getting out of hand to serious criminal activity like assaults, rapes and hazing." "The story of what happened to Sam Martinez and his family is unfortunately familiar," says Allan. "Parents who have lost children to hazing will often say they did their due diligence when their child comes to them and says, 'I'm thinking of joining this organization.' But information that could have saved their child's life just wasn't available publicly." The University of Maine Foundation helped facilitate the gift from the Houtz-Martinez family. [caption id="attachment_100142" align="alignright"

width="450"] Hector Martinez (left) and Jolayne Houtz pose for a picture in front of the UMaine Black Bear statute on the Mall. They recently made a gift that established the Sam Martinez Hazing Prevention Fund, named after their son who died as a result of hazing while studying at Washington State University.[/caption] Allan and StopHazing plan to use the funds to support ongoing research on the impact of transparency laws like those passed in Washington. Right now, fewer than 10 states have such laws on the books. However, the bipartisan Stop Campus Hazing Act introduced in the U.S. Senate, where Sen. Susan Collins is a co-sponsor, and House of Representatives in September would make transparency around hazing incidents a requirement nationally and make the data reported consistent from institution to institution. “Not only will that lead to more information, but it will make it easier to analyze. So, we can see exactly what’s happening in terms of patterns, trends over time among different types of institutions or groups on college campuses. That, in turn, will inform hazing prevention,” says Allan, who has also provided expertise to lawmakers working on the federal legislation. Houtz and Hector Martinez have also made a gift to the University of Washington’s Information School, where students are building a hazing prevention database to collect data about hazing incidents on college campuses and make it easily searchable. Allan and the StopHazing team have consulted on that project and formed a collaboration with students, faculty and staff at the University of Washington aimed at increasing transparency and preventing hazing from happening in the first place. The more information students and families have about when and where hazing occurs, Houtz says, the better equipped they will be to make informed decisions about the type of organizations they want to join or be involved with. “People still don’t take hazing seriously, or they don’t understand what it is. We see the issue bubble up in the media when there’s a serious incident or death, but no one is connecting the dots about the toxic tradition of hazing and the rituals that are harming our young people,” Houtz says. “That’s outrageous, and it’s 100% preventable.” “The best way I know to put a stop to it,” she says, “is to shine the light of day on hazing, to bring it out from the shadows to help prevent any more tragedies.” Hazing prevention resources are available on the StopHazing website. UMaine’s hazing policy and additional anti-hazing resources are also online. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

UMaine launches the College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences

01 Nov 2023

The College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences made its debut during a town hall meeting at the University of Maine on Oct. 31. The college, formerly known as the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, is the largest of UMaine’s six colleges, accounting for 26.5% of all university enrollments. Members of the newly named College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences helped generate 41% of the university's research awards over the past year while driving impact across life, health, social and natural sciences. “The name College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences captures the breadth of our community’s impact. It comprehensively represents the systems and unique collaborations we foster,” says Diane Rowland, dean of the college and director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. “I am so grateful to the faculty, staff, students, partners and UMaine’s leaders who helped us develop this modern and vibrant representation of the teaching, research and service we deliver every day — to the state and the globe.” The new name was selected from a shortlist advanced by a task force Rowland formed shortly after she assumed her current role in fall 2021. The task force, composed of faculty, staff and students, advanced an inclusive name development process that engaged with internal and external stakeholders. Through focus groups, surveys, community forums and other opportunities for input, the task force advanced a grassroots approach to rebranding a college that covers everything from climate change to clinical sciences. The deliberate approach also ensured that schools and departments had time to expend existing marketing and outreach materials prior to the new name’s adoption. “As a member of the task force charged with collecting ideas for a new name, I was impressed by the energy and enthusiasm of my colleagues across the entire college. I looked at the process as not just selecting a new name, but as a way to position our college to best serve our students, the state of Maine and our community of stakeholders around the world,” says Todd Gabe, a professor at UMaine’s School of Economics. The former name was adopted in 1996. At the time, the college oversaw UMaine’s natural resource programs like forestry and agriculture. In subsequent years, numerous other disciplines joined the college, including marine sciences, nursing, molecular and biomedical sciences, economics, social work, communication sciences and disorders, and earth and climate sciences. Faculty and staff of the college have previously advocated to rename the college. A request to consider elevating the profile of UMaine’s health and wellness programs was included in a white paper submitted to the then-dean, Fred Servello, in May 2020. “For the last two years, the college has worked inclusively and thoughtfully to develop its new name, and I applaud everyone who has been part of this process. The new name represents the university’s commitment to earth, life and health sciences both in our state and globally,” says John Volin, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost for UMaine. “I look forward to working with the college to capitalize on this expanded recognition of our impact. I have no doubt that this modern and unique name will also resonate strongly with students now and into the future.” Questions regarding the process should be directed to nsfadean@maine.edu. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offering forest health 4-H club

01 Nov 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a free, four-session 4-H club focused on forest health. Designed for youth ages 8-11, the in-person club aims to explore the beauty and abundance of Maine's local forests while learning about the importance and resilience of forests as ecosystems. Through hands-on activities, participants will create a "tree tale" bracelet based on growth ring data, "read" tree cookies and develop skills in tree identification. The club will meet from 3-4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Nov. 20 and 27 and Dec. 4 and 11, at the Gallison Memorial Library, 11 Center St, Harrington. The forest health 4-H special interest, or SPIN, club is part of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's commitment to providing engaging and educational opportunities for youth. Through the SPIN club series, participants ages 9-18, along with a volunteer, explore a subject of interest over several sessions. Topics range from the natural world, heritage arts, science and technology, to photography, music, gardening, sports and more. Spaces are limited to ten participants; early registration is encouraged. Visit the program's webpage to sign up. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Tara Wood, tara.a.wood@maine.edu; 207.255.3345.

UMaine 2023 Veterans Week activities planned for Nov. 6-11

01 Nov 2023

The University of Maine will celebrate Veterans Week Nov. 6–11 with several events organized by the Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) Center in the Division of Student Life. The weeklong celebration commences with a flag raising ceremony to honor the veteran community at noon on Nov. 6 in front of Fogler Library, followed by a student veteran barbeque at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King Memorial Plaza. Other highlights include a presentation from the Small Business Administration on resources and opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs in the veteran community at noon on Nov. 7 at the VETS Center, and Green Zone Training at 2 p.m. on Nov. 10 at the Bump's Room in the Memorial Union. The training is designed to educate UMaine community members who wish to learn more about the issues student veterans face and how to best connect them with the appropriate resources. The full Veterans Week schedule is available on the VETS Center website. For more information, contact Tony Llerena, tony.llerena@maine.edu. Also happening during Veterans Week is Military Appreciation Night for Men's Ice Hockey on Nov. 10. UMaine Athletics is offering active-duty military members and veterans a 50% discount on tickets to see Black Bears face off against Boston College at 7 p.m. in the Harold Alfond Sports Arena.

Culturefest returns Nov. 4

01 Nov 2023

The University of Maine Office of International Programs and International Student Association will host its annual celebration of cultures from 11 a.m.–3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 4 in the New Balance Student Recreation Center. The 36th Culturefest will feature international foods, cultural exhibits, children's activities and a style show. The family-friendly event, which is free and open to the public, is an opportunity for the university's international community to showcase their talents and traditions. This year, over 100 international students representing more than 40 countries will be participating in the event. Campus groups involved in Culturefest include the Asian Student Association, African Student Association, German Club and Spanish Language Club. Community organizations including the Girl Scouts of Maine, Catholic Charities of Maine and CISV Maine (Children's International Summer Villages) will also participate. Visit the Office of International Programs website for more information.

BioHome3D receives prestigious national Award at CAMX 2023 in Atlanta

01 Nov 2023

Editor's note: This story was updated on Nov. 2. BioHome3D, the first ever 3D-printed house made entirely with bio-based materials, has been honored with the Combined Strength Award at the 2023 CAMX Conference in Atlanta. This award recognizes a product that embodies the spirit of collaboration and innovation through the use of composite materials. CAMX, the Composites and Advanced Materials Expo, is the largest, most comprehensive composites and advanced materials event in North America. Development for BioHome3D was led by the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC), a project primarily funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Technologies Office. Project partners included Oak Ridge National Laboratory, MaineHousing, WBRC Architects and Engineers and the Maine Technology Institute. "I am so proud of our ASCC faculty, students and researchers who have received this prestigious national award at CAMX. BioHome3D's innovation and value to the construction and homebuilding industry is further validated today," says Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of the UMaine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias. "I look forward to the next steps in this critical housing initiative, including our plans to build the research Factory of the Future, to scale up the technology, and develop the workforce that will implement this technology in society." The 600-square-foot prototype home, unveiled at UMaine on Nov. 21, was 3D printed with wood residuals and bio-resins, making it the first all-biobased 3D printed home in the world. Maine has a need for nearly 78,000 housing units by 2030, but has an acute labor shortage, which along with high material costs, have driven up new housing costs. Maine has an abundance of wood residuals or wood waste, nearly 1 million tons per year from sawmills, which used to go to now shuttered pulp and paper mills. This is enough wood to produce 100,000 600-square-foot homes. To further drive the carbon footprint down, BioHome3D also used locally sourced and manufactured materials such as wood fiber insulation, wood composite flooring and siding, and locally produced windows and doors. The additive manufacturing process significantly reduces labor costs and construction waste, enhancing sustainability and resource efficiency. BioHome3D is also fully recyclable, and the UMaine ASCC is evaluating five cycles of grinding and reuse for the materials used. Additionally, BioHome3D can be thought of as a carbon storage and sequestration unit when sustainably grown forest residuals are used. BioHome3D's innovative technology addresses critical issues such as labor shortages, supply chain constraints and high construction costs that hinder the accessibility of affordable housing. By leveraging automated manufacturing and off-site production, BioHome3D drastically reduces on-site construction time, providing a viable solution to the challenges faced by the housing industry and bolstering Maine's abundant forest resources. "We thank CAMX for this prestigious award, as it comes near the one-year anniversary of installing BioHome3D", says Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the ASCC. "After one year of testing through a challenging Maine winter, BioHome3D has performed extremely well and is proving to be one important potential solution to our housing crisis here in Maine and throughout the US. We are continuing research to further drive manufacturing and materials cost down while offering a more sustainable solution." As the manufacturing technology and materials production are scaled up, future homeowners can anticipate faster delivery schedules, positioning this technology as one viable solution for affordable, sustainable housing. Cellulose residuals exist throughout the U.S. and the world, and can be derived from trees or from other plants such as rice husks or hemp fibers. Research for BioHome3D was performed, in part, at the DOE's Manufacturing Demonstration Facility at ORNL. The

facility is home to the MDF Consortium, a nationwide group of collaborators working to advance U.S. manufacturing technology under the guidance of the DOE Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Technologies Office (AMMTO). BioHome3D's achievement at CAMX 2023 underscores ASCC's commitment to creating sustainable housing solutions that have the potential to revolutionize the housing industry and significantly contribute to a more energy-efficient and eco-conscious future.

'The Maine Question' asks if Maine become a global pioneer in renewable energy and infrastructure

01 Nov 2023

Finding possible solutions to the nation's ailing infrastructure, affordable housing deficit and renewable energy needs is all in a day's work for the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC). At Maine's largest university-based research facility, faculty, staff and many students are feverishly developing new materials and technologies to help address national and global issues. Projects include designing components for longer-lasting bridges, a 3D-printed home made entirely out of biobased materials and floating offshore wind energy. Through their work, the ASCC is also bolstering Maine's workforce and helping open new markets for forestry and other major industries in the state. In this episode of "The Maine Question" podcast, host Ron Lisnet sits down with Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the ASCC, to discuss its research and development and how it can help Maine become a global pioneer in renewable energy and infrastructure. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

'Maine Gardner' column explores fall blooming with Peterson, Hargest

01 Nov 2023

A recent "Maine Gardner" column published in the Portland Press Herald and CentralMaine.com about fall blooms featured Pamela Hargest, a horticulture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and Bryan Peterson, a UMaine an assistant professor of horticulture. "I tend to view this precocious flowering as a phenomenon that follows periods of drought stress, so I'm not entirely clear about what is causing it this year," Peterson said.

Beal discusses threat to soft-shell clams with Ellsworth American

01 Nov 2023

Brian Beal, director of the Downeast Institute and professor of marine ecology at the University of Maine at Machias, spoke with The Ellsworth American about how green crabs are driving a decline of soft-shell clams in Maine. The Mount Desert Islander shared story.

Nature World News advances first-ever study of cultural adaptation to climate change

01 Nov 2023

In a story titled "UNESCO Introduces Cultural Climate Change as a New Way to Track Global Development," Nature World News advanced the first-ever study of cultural adaptation to climate change, which was conducted by University of Maine and University of Vermont researchers. Tim Waring, associate professor with the UMaine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions and the School of Economics, spearheaded the project, funded by a $4 million grant from the National Science Foundation. The Bangor Daily News, Mirage News, Farms.com and ScienceDaily shared the UMaine news release about the study.

UMEC project highlighted by Maine media

01 Nov 2023

MMainebiz, WABI (Channel 5), Maine Public and WMTW (Channel 8 in Portland) featured a forum about the University of Maine Energy Center (UMEC) project, an effort to upgrade the Central Steam Plant so it can have 100% renewable energy capacity. "The new facility will be super modern. It will be composed of three dual fuel boilers. That will give us fuel flexibility so we can literally burn any fuel that's available. This will help us to achieve our goals of renewable, reliable, stable price, and cheap price," UMaine Sustainability Director Dan Dixon told WABI.

UMaine Extension receives $750,000 to boost aquaculture learning tools

02 Nov 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension has received a $750,000 grant to support the development and implementation of virtual reality and other innovative learning tools focused on aquaculture technology. The grant, part of an $8.2 million funding effort by the National Institutes of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) to boost non-formal education, aims to increase awareness and understanding of Maine's aquaculture industry among youth and

educators. Maine's commercial aquaculture industry is one of the fastest-growing sectors in the state, generating $110 million in annual revenue. With the growth comes widespread need for support and knowledge of the industry to help Maine become a major player in the nation's blue economy. The project will provide project-based learning opportunities for youth to explore and engage with the exciting and innovative world of aquaculture technology. By leveraging virtual reality (VR) goggles and virtual field trips, the program aims to enhance the learning experience and provide students with immersive and interactive opportunities to explore the world of aquaculture. "We are grateful for the support of NIFA in making this project a reality," says Carla Scocchi, a UMaine Extension 4-H youth development professional who specializes in aquaculture. "By increasing access to innovative learning tools and fostering a deeper understanding of aquaculture technology, we aim to inspire and empower the next generation of professionals. This project will not only benefit Maine youth but also contribute to the continued growth and success of the aquaculture industry." Through the project, UMaine Extension will develop and implement two technology-focused aquaculture curriculum modules. Students will participate in hands-on learning experiences, through which they will gain knowledge and skills in innovative aquaculture technologies and career opportunities. Additionally, UMaine Extension will publish four interactive virtual field trips as part of the project, which will allow youth to explore Maine's aquaculture facilities from the convenience of their classrooms and homes. Through these virtual experiences, educators and students will witness firsthand the advanced technology and practices employed in the aquaculture industry. These offerings will bring learners to places they would otherwise be unable to explore and introduce them to people they would otherwise be unable to meet. Traditionally, aquaculture education has relied on physical field trips to aquaculture facilities, which can be limited by logistical constraints and geographical barriers. With the introduction of virtual field trips and VR goggles, the "Activating Aquaculture Technology Learning through Hands-on and Virtual Experiences" program will break down barriers and bring the aquaculture industry directly to students and educators. To ensure the successful implementation of the project, UMaine Extension will provide annual training to equip educators with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively teach and engage students in high-quality aquaculture education. The project will also involve establishing a 4-H Aquaculture Ambassador program, engaging 15 youth leaders who will serve as mentors and educators in their communities. The ambassadors will play a vital role in spreading awareness and understanding of aquaculture innovations among their peers and the general public. "Extension is committed to providing valuable resources and expertise to support the needs of the state, including industries like aquaculture," says Hannah Carter, dean of UMaine Extension and associate provost of online and continuing education. "Through new projects like this one, Extension plays a vital role in promoting education, innovation, and economic development in Maine." For more information about the project, visit the program webpage or contact Carla Scocchi, carla.scocchi@maine.edu; 207.667.8212. Contact: Carla Scocchi, carla.scocchi@maine.edu; 207.667.8212

Jane Blanchard: Navigating a corporate environment at Unum

03 Nov 2023

Interning at Unum gave Jane Blanchard of Hallowell, Maine first-hand experience in navigating a new type of workplace: the corporate environment. Blanchard, a junior studying marketing and management at the Maine Business School, says that when she started her internship at the company, she had "quite the culture shock at first." As she worked there, however, she grew more comfortable by learning the communication skills, values and structural considerations one needs to be a successful corporate employee. "I learned so much about teamwork, the importance of effective communication and prioritization," she says. "At Unum, I often had competing priorities, which taught me how to prioritize tasks and communicate with management about my responsibilities." Read the full story about Blanchard's internship experience on the Maine Business School website. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

Three students join UMaine through Qatar Scholarship for Afghans Project

03 Nov 2023

Three displaced students from Afghanistan were welcomed by the University of Maine this semester through the Qatar Scholarship for Afghans Project. The partnership between UMaine's Office of International Programs and the project allows these students to continue their education with full scholarships after being evacuated from their home country. The university also collaborated with the Brewer office of the Catholic Charities of Maine to welcome and support them. "We are thrilled to welcome these new Black Bears who have traveled so far and endured so many struggles to continue their education with us," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "I applaud the Office of International Programs for helping these students find a home here. This is a clear demonstration of the compassion and commitment to student success that we pride ourselves in offering. The office plays a critical role in ensuring learners worldwide can study, excel and be part of a community at the University of Maine and our regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias." Administered by the Institute of International Education, the Qatar Scholarship for Afghans Project has enabled 250 Afghan students to pursue undergraduate and graduate studies in the U.S. UMaine is one of more than 40 colleges and universities nationwide to welcome students through the project for programs in the arts, business, the sciences, the humanities and the social sciences.

UMaine Extension offering online course on QuickBooks for farms and agriculture businesses

06 Nov 2023

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a QuickBooks Online course tailored specifically for small farms and agriculture businesses. The four-night course will be held at 6 p.m. on Nov. 6, 8, 13 and 15. Designed for farm and agriculture business owners seeking to implement a robust accounting tool, the workshop provides valuable insights and practical knowledge. In collaboration with SCORE Maine, UMaine Extension aims to equip participants with the necessary skills to effectively utilize QuickBooks Online for their accounting needs. The powerful accounting program can assist with invoicing, sales, expense tracking and bookkeeping requirements for tax preparation. QuickBooks Online also offers the convenience of syncing data across multiple devices, including computers, tablets and smartphones. "This course is a valuable opportunity for farm and agriculture business owners to learn how to implement a sound accounting tool for their operations," says Christina Howard, project manager for Maine New Farmers Project at UMaine Extension. "By mastering QuickBooks Online, participants can streamline their financial management processes and gain a better understanding of their business's financial health." The course will be conducted in a hands-on workshop format that requires participants to have an internet-enabled device. Both Zoom and a web browser will be used simultaneously to access the QuickBooks test drive. It is recommended that participants use a computer or tablet for optimal viewing and navigation. The course is free, but registration is required. To learn more about the course and to register, visit the QuickBooks for Farms program webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Christina Howard, christina.howard@maine.edu; 207.933.2100.

Mitchell Center to host talk on growing Maine's clean energy economy Nov. 6

06 Nov 2023

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk, "Growing Maine's Clean Energy Economy Through Workforce Development and Innovation" at 3 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 6. Supported by the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Governor's Energy Office (GEO) established the Clean Energy Partnership (CEP) to convene leading experts, promote collaboration and provide funding to address the emerging needs of the clean energy economy. Join CEP Program Manager Tagwongo Obomsawin as she discusses the approximately $2.5 million in grants that were awarded in December 2022 to clean energy employers, educational institutions, industry associations and nonprofit organizations to develop new curricula, provide technical training and experiential learning, deploy new job placement services and offer other activities related to workforce development and training. As CEP program manager, Obomsawin administers programs that support clean energy workforce development and innovation to advance Maine's clean energy, climate, economic development and workforce goals — including Gov. Janet Mills' ambition of more than doubling Maine's clean energy and energy efficiency jobs by 2030. All talks in the Mitchell Center's Sustainability Talks series are free. They are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely. Visit the event webpage to register and receive Zoom connection information. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth by phone at 207.581.3196 or via email at hallsworth@maine.edu.

Fogler Library, Office of International Programs hosting Immigration Challenge Nov. 13-17

06 Nov 2023

The University of Maine Office of International Programs and Fogler Library are co-hosting the online Immigration Challenge, an opportunity to learn more about the process and the lives of immigrants, during International Education Week, Nov. 13-17. During this week, participants will receive a daily email focused on a different aspect of immigration and immigrants' experiences, with links to articles, videos, books and other informational materials. Register online.

MHC welcomes Sunlight Media Collective for film screening, Panel Discussion

06 Nov 2023

The University of Maine McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) will host a free screening of, and discussion about, the new documentary "This River Is Our Relative," featuring subjects of the film and representatives of the Sunlight Media Collective, at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 9 in the Collins Center for the Arts. "This River is Our Relative" is about the Penobscot Nation's intrinsic kinship connection to and tireless environmental advocacy for the Penobscot River. The story is told through the voices of 24 Penobscot people, who share their experience of historical, physical and spiritual connection to this waterway. They also share how the river is connected to their cultural identity and survival. Their narratives are interwoven with a traditional Wabanaki story about how The People and Glouskap defeated a greedy monster frog, Aklebemu, who was hoarding all the water. This story parallels both historical and present-day environmental concerns and is also the origin story of the Penobscot family Clans. This documentary shows the Penobscot Nation's dedication to environmental justice and their efforts to minimize pollution. It also demonstrates the importance of respecting inherent Tribal sovereignty and celebrates the Penobscot peoples' ongoing river-based cultural traditions. A panel discussion after the screening will feature film participants and Penobscot Nation members Jennifer Neptune, Jus Crea Giammarino, Jan Paul, Gabe Paul, Kathy Paul (Sunlight Media Collective member and co-director of the film) and Maria Girouard (co-founder of Sunlight Media Collective). The event, which is part of the 2023-24 annual MHC symposium, "Rivers," will also be streamed on the center's YouTube page. The Sunlight Media Collective is an organization of Wabanaki and non-Wabanaki media makers working to document and raise awareness about issues affecting Wabanaki people, with a particular emphasis on the frequent intersection between environmental issues and Tribal rights. Sunlight Media Collective's work facilitates understanding, analysis and historical context, and provides educational opportunities for alliance

building, social change and environmental stewardship. The MHC supports excellent teaching, research and public engagement in the humanities to deepen understanding of the human condition. It supports programs that foster intellectual curiosity, critical reflection and creative innovation. Central to the center's work is the belief that the study of the humanities inspires compassion across differences, develops empathy, strengthens critical thinking skills and cultivates the emotional and intellectual agility needed to navigate an increasingly interconnected and complex global landscape. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact the MHC at mhc@maine.edu.

BDN highlights UMaine Extension professionals, students who won national awards

06 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News highlighted the two University of Maine Cooperative Extension specialists and four UMaine students who were recently honored with several awards on the national level. The accolades recognized the impact their social media efforts and research had on Maine's community health education.

Courier-Gazette advances rescheduled annual meeting, open house for Knox-Lincoln Counties Extension Association

06 Nov 2023

The Courier-Gazette shared that the Knox-Lincoln Counties Extension Association has rescheduled its annual meeting and open house for 4 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 6 at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension office in Waldoboro.

Media promote 2023 Horticulture Keynote

06 Nov 2023

The Franklin Journal, the Bangor Daily News and Morning Ag Clips promoted the virtual 2023 Horticulture Keynote on the Wabanaki perspective on foodways, hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension from noon-1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 16. Interested participants are invited to join Anthony Sutton, Passamaquoddy Tribe member from Sipayik and assistant professor of Native American studies and food systems at the University of Maine, for his presentation, "History, Health Disparities, and Action: A Wabanaki Perspective on Foodways in So Called Maine." To attend the live program or receive a link to a recorded version of the presentation, register on the event webpage.

Hudson Museum Wabanaki Collection highlighted in PenBay Pilot

06 Nov 2023

In an article titled "Five cultural events in Maine to honor Native American Heritage Month," the Penobscot Bay Pilot highlighted the Wabanaki Collection at the University of Maine's Hudson Museum.

BDN advances talk on growing Maine's clean energy economy

06 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News promoted a talk, "Growing Maine's Clean Energy Economy Through Workforce Development and Innovation" that the University of Maine's Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions will host at 3 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 6, remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Visit the event webpage to register and receive Zoom connection information.

Media promote virtual QuickBooks for farms course

06 Nov 2023

The Franklin Journal, the Sun Journal, CentralMaine.com and Morning Ag Clips promoted an online QuickBooks course tailored specifically for small farms and agriculture businesses offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The four-night course will be held at 6 p.m. on Nov. 6, 8, 13 and 15. To learn more about the course and to register, visit the QuickBooks for Farms program webpage.

BDN highlights Veterans Week activities at UMaine

06 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News shared that the University of Maine will celebrate Veterans Week from Nov. 6–11 with several events organized by the Veterans Education and Transition Services Center in the Division of Student Life. The full Veterans Week schedule is available on the VETS Center website.

Learn how to tell stories about science with any camera on Nov. 14

06 Nov 2023

The University of Maine College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences will host its second science communication workshop, Visual Storytelling Essentials, at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at the Coe Room in the Memorial Union. This workshop will focus on how to curate a mix of images so they tell a story and provide an introduction to videography. Participants are encouraged to bring three photos or video clips that together tell the story of a process or activity, like making dinner. This interactive course will be taught by two of UMaine's top visual media experts, Adam Küykendall and Ron Lisnet from the Division of Marketing and Communications. This workshop is primarily designed for student researchers, but all members of the UMaine community are welcome. Advance registration is required and available online. To request an accessibility accommodation, note your needs in the RSVP form or email erin.miller@maine.edu. This series of science communication workshops is offered by the College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences to foster savvy

communication skills among students, faculty and staff that they can use in their personal and professional lives.

Press Herald reports on new documentary by Kryszak and his students

06 Nov 2023

The Portland Press Herald reported on "The Religion Move," a new documentary from Alan Kryszak, a lecturer at the University of Maine at Machias, and his students. "I'm proud of the students who got so intimately involved with making this movie," said Kryszak.

WMTW: UMaine alum named Superintendent of the Year

06 Nov 2023

WMTW reported on Jonathan Moody of MSAD 54 in Skowhegan, Canaan, Mercer, Smithfield, Cornville and Norridgewock being named Maine's 2024 Superintendent of the Year. According to the article, "Moody holds a master's degree in educational leadership from the University of Maine and a bachelor's degree in secondary education from the University of Maine in Farmington."

Media report Black Bears winning America East soccer championship

06 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News, the Portland Press Herald, WABI (Channel 5), WFVX (Channel 7) and WMTW (Channel 8 in Portland) reported on the University of Maine women's soccer team winning the program's first-ever America East Championship. The UMaine team will advance to play in its first NCAA Tournament.

Libby Lecture to explore advocacy and entrepreneurial solutions Nov. 8

07 Nov 2023

Eric Roy, founder and chief scientist for the water filtration company Hydroviv, will present the University of Maine's fifth annual Libby Lecture in Natural Resource Policy at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 8, at the Buchanan Alumni House. Roy's talk, "We Understand the Problem. Now What? The Opportunity for Scientists to Pursue Advocacy & Entrepreneurship," will discuss why scientists are uniquely positioned to lead advocacy efforts and develop entrepreneurial solutions to the major issues that face the planet. He also will share examples of the types of unique challenges, opportunities and lessons that can accompany these types of public-forward pursuits. Learn more about Roy and his talk on the Libby Lecture Series website.

Lobster Lips: UMaine-spinout skincare brand launches lobster-based lip treatments

08 Nov 2023

Marin, the Portland, Maine-based skincare startup and spin-out from the University of Maine, has launched a new lip treatment made with marine glycoproteins, an upcycled byproduct of lobster processing. The company's new Glycoprotein Lip Treatment comes in two varieties, unscented and blueberry french toast, and drops just in time for dry skin season. Like Marin's Soothing Hydration Cream, otherwise known as the "Lobster Lotion," the new products employ marine glycoproteins as their active ingredient and are designed to help repair the skin barrier. Robert Bayer, a former director of the UMaine Lobster Institute, was responsible for the initial research and discovery of glycoproteins' use cases for the skin. Marin co-founders Amber Boutiette and Patrick Breeding ('17, '19G) worked with Bayer while studying at UMaine as biomedical engineering graduate students, first exploring glycoproteins to treat Boutiette's stubborn and painful eczema. When the results exceeded expectations, Boutiette and Breeding founded and incubated Marin at UMaine's Foster Center for Innovation, with mentorship from Foster Center and Maine Business School staff as they completed pitch competitions and accelerator programs affiliated with UMaine, including Big Gig, Top Gun and Scratchpad. They then partnered with B-Corp Luke's Lobster to collect the glycoproteins as a natural byproduct of existing lobster processing, purifying the protein in a lab they built at home. After launching their Soothing Hydration Cream in early October 2020, Marin sold out of their initial inventory within two months. "It was so rewarding to see these glycoproteins from lobsters helping others in the same way they helped me, and it was just the beginning," says Boutiette. "My eczema was really bad not only around my eyes and face, but also on and around my lips, so I knew from experience that there weren't products that addressed this painful problem. There was a huge gap in the market for lip treatments designed to be safe and effective for this delicate area that everyone can use — we knew we had to introduce a lip treatment." Marin's new product was meticulously developed to deeply hydrate, repair, smooth, soothe and protect lips, and can be used for both everyday dry, chapped lips and conditions like perioral dermatitis (eczema around the lips and mouth). "We created the unscented lip treatment specifically to help with dry, cracked, flaky and irritated patches on and around the lips, and took it a step further with the blueberry french toast flavor as a nostalgic nod to heritage Maine flavors, reminiscent of a cozy brunch up at camp. It's as fun and indulgent as it is functional and effective." As Marin prepares to launch their newest product, the company is quickly outgrowing their 3,000-square-foot office and warehouse space in Portland. They have added three new team members in the last six months, bringing their total employee count to six, and recent retail partnerships with L.L.Bean and Sea Bags have significantly expanded their distribution network. The company continues to source its key ingredient through the seafood company Luke's Lobster, a willing collaborator that seeks to help the lobster industry thrive through product diversification. "We're humbled by what we've been able to build and the amount of impact we've had in just three short years with the support of UMaine, Mainers and beyond," says Boutiette. "Growing our business here, helping others, creating new jobs and adding value in parallel industries has been such a rewarding experience. This product launch represents the next step in Marin's evolution as a proud Maine brand." Contact: Renee Kelly, rwkelly@maine.edu; Liz Soule-Tremblay, liz@marinskincare.com

UMaine School of Performing Arts presenting new translation of 'The Post Office'

08 Nov 2023

The Division of Theatre and Dance in the University of Maine School of Performing Arts will present a new English translation of a world theater classic, "The Post Office," Nov. 10-19 at the Cyrus Pavilion Theatre. Written in 1912 by Rabindranath Tagore, "The Post Office" follows the story of Amal, an ill and isolated child who dreams of traveling the world and befriends the people he meets outside his window. This new adaptation was co-translated by

Debaroti Chakraborty and Rosalie Purvis, UMaine assistant professor of theatre and director of the UMaine production. Tickets can be purchased and specific showtimes can be found online. Read the full story about the production on the School of Performing Arts website.

Senior art exhibition opens Nov. 10

08 Nov 2023

The 2023 University of Maine senior art exhibition opens Friday, Nov. 10, in Lord Hall, featuring more than 70 works by 14 students. The exhibition, which will be on view through Jan. 19, includes paintings, prints, drawings, sculptures, digital artworks and mixed media pieces by seniors in a studio art capstone class led by assistant professor Diana Baumbach. As part of the class, the students plan and install the annual exhibition — from matting, framing and hanging their works, to labeling and lighting the pieces. The participating artists include Kayla Sickler, Milford, New Hampshire; Declan Riordan, Bangor, Maine; Nicole Sheehan, Newbury, Massachusetts; Mariette Waterhouse, Acton, Maine; Kae Northway, Baltimore, Maryland; Freya Drew, Vernon, New Jersey; Alyssa Paquin, Waterboro, Maine; Brooke Soctomah, Waddell, Arizona; Cassidy Climo, Bradley, Maine; Zoey DeAngelis, Waterboro, Maine; Charlie Marks, Orono, Maine; Haley Rodriguez, New Bedford; Massachusetts; Will Brewster, Portland, Maine; and Nella Maynard, Lincoln, Nebraska. An opening reception with food and refreshments will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Nov. 10. Lord Gallery is open 9 a.m.–4 p.m. weekdays. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact the UMaine Department of Art, 207.581.3245; um.art@maine.edu.

Support Black Bear Exchange during campuswide food drive

08 Nov 2023

A campuswide nonperishable food drive to benefit the University of Maine Black Bear Exchange food pantry will be held Nov. 13–Dec. 15, sponsored by UMaine Auxiliary Enterprises, Facilities Management and UMaine Athletics. Donation boxes will be located at the University Bookstore, Bear Necessities Fan Shop, UMaine Dining locations, MaineCard office, Parking & Transportation Services and UMaine Athletics box office locations. Black Bear Exchange accepts non-perishable food donations. All food donations benefit the pantry, which provides support to students and other members of the UMaine community. There are three specific promotions tied to the food drive:

- University Bookstore or Bear Necessities Fan Shop offering entry into weekly $50 gift card drawings for those who donate.
- UMaine Dining cashier locations making monetary donations of $3, $5 or $7 per purchase to the food drive. At the end of the food drive, UMaine Dining will use its buying power to stretch donations to purchase exactly what is needed by the food bank.
- Inviting attendees to bring food to any of nine UMaine Athletics games as part of NCAA Food Frenzy to get a bonus entry to the gift card drawing. Those games include:
    - Women's Basketball games on Nov. 14 and Dec. 6 at the Pit in Memorial Gym.
    - Men's Ice Hockey games on Dec. 1, 3 and 9 at the Alfond Arena.
    - Women's Ice Hockey games on Dec. 1 and 2 at the Alfond Arena.
    - Men's Basketball games on Dec. 3 and 9 at the Pit in the Memorial Gym.

In 2022-23, the Black Bear Exchange distributed 64,000 pounds of food, according to Lisa Morin, coordinator of the Black Bear Exchange. The 2022 food drives from Auxiliary Enterprises and Facilities Management brought in 592 pounds of food for the pantry. "This year we are excited to have new partners joining us to collect food," says Richard Young, Auxiliary Enterprises executive director. "Expanding to include the Food Frenzy with Athletics and our friends at Facilities Management strengthens our campus ties. And it all benefits the Black Bear Exchange. "We believe that by supporting the UMaine community, we make a difference through actions," Young said. "Every year, this food drive brings in more and more support for this important organization on campus. They support our UMaine community and we're proud to support them." UMaine Dining, an Auxiliary Enterprises unit, contributes weekly to food recovery, which also supports the Black Bear Food Exchange. Leftover food from the two dining halls and the Bear's Den is repurposed safely into meal-sized kits that people who use the pantry can pick up when they stop in for a food distribution. For more information about the food drive, contact Deb Bell, debra.bell@maine.edu. Information about the Black Bear Exchange food pantry, including instructions for requesting support, is available online.

Daily Bulldog notes UMaine Extension teaching aquaculture classes

08 Nov 2023

The Daily Bulldog noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension personnel are teaching four classes on the science of seaweed at Strong Public Library.

WABI highlights Fall Fest volunteers from UMaine

08 Nov 2023

WABI (Channel 5) noted that there were volunteers from the University of Maine at Hirundo Wildlife Refuge's 4th annual Fall Fest.

Media promote workshops to enhance youth development and inclusion

08 Nov 2023

The Franklin Journal, Daily Bulldog and Bangor Daily News promoted a series of virtual interactive workshops offered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Northeast Regional Volunteer Connection to empower volunteers and leaders to create inclusive and supportive environments for youth. Visit the UMaine Extension website for more information.

Morning Ag Clips highlights funding for aquaculture learning tools

08 Nov 2023

Morning Ag Clips highlighted University of Maine Cooperative Extension receiving a $750,000 grant to support the development and implementation of virtual reality and other innovative learning tools focused on aquaculture technology.

Media promote launch of College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences

08 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Penobscot Bay Pilot shared an announcement from the University of Maine about the launching of its College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences. The college, formerly known as the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, is the largest of UMaine's six colleges, accounting for 26.5 percent of all university enrollments. Members of the newly named College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences helped generate 41 percent of the university's research awards over the past year, while driving impact across life, health, social and natural sciences.

Llerena discusses Veterans Week with WFVX

08 Nov 2023

Tony Llerena, associate director of the University of Maine Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) Center, spoke with WFVX (Channel 7) about Veterans Week activities on campus. The Bangor Daily News shared a news release about Veterans Week.

UMaine named top school for veterans and enrolls more than ever

09 Nov 2023

Prompt services, extensive availability and a sympathetic and compassionate community are the hallmarks of veteran support at the University of Maine. This semester, UMaine has gained national recognition for its offerings to those who served, and its student veteran community has grown larger than ever before.

[button url="https://www.youtube.com/shorts/ew9FJQhU7gI"] Watch video [/button]

The Military Times, a national news source that reports on matters involving the U.S. military community and global defense, ranked UMaine among its Best for Vets Colleges. Factors that determine placement on the list include degree completion, retention, student persistence, grade-point-average, graduation rates, military-specific resources and financial assistance, according to the publication. The list is "the largest and most comprehensive annual ranking of schools for military service members and veterans," the Military Times reports. The accolade comes as 310 veterans across all academic levels have enrolled at UMaine this semester, the largest number in university history and a 9% increase from 284 in fall 2022. UMaine also has certified the most veterans and dependents for GI Bill benefits in a semester in university history at 355. Additionally, UMaine earned a Military Friendly School designation earlier this year. "It feels validating that we're doing things the right way," says Tony Llerena, associate director of the UMaine Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) Center, of the accomplishments and growing veteran community. "We follow the best practices that programs across the country are doing. We pride ourselves on meeting the needs of our veterans as fast as we can and as best as we can." The VETS Center, located in the Memorial Union, is the key provider of support services for past and active members of the armed forces, National Guard and reserves as they apply to, attend and advance beyond UMaine. Support is available for in-state and out-of-state student veterans in person, over the phone and through email. Llerena and his team, which includes 10 work-study students, not only certify GI Bill and other benefits, but also help veterans navigate the admissions process, provide academic assistance, prepare them to reenter the workforce, answer other questions they may have and direct them to various resources. Additionally, the office hosts a student veteran's association and provides Green Zone training, through which its team educates UMaine community members about the issues student veterans face and how to best connect them with the appropriate support. But beyond the official services exists an offering that several student veterans say is vital to them: community. Seth Allen, a former Airman in the Air Force and sophomore studying civil engineering, says he struggled to relate with peers and feel part of the UMaine community until he started coming to the VETS Center. He then was able to meet and befriend open-minded people with shared experiences and feel accepted and at home at UMaine. "I felt like I had a connection to campus at that point," says Allen of Windsor, Maine. "This is now my college; my place." The VETS center serves as a gathering place for veterans to unwind or hang out with one another. In the back corner of its communal room is a large couch, a TV, a guitar for jam sessions, board games, and a Super Nintendo. Photos of different past and present UMaine veterans and comedic military-themed prints and posters line the walls. The office even offers woobies — military-issued, poncho liners typically given to service members so they can endure the elements, but which UMaine veterans use as blankets when they lay down on the couch or nap. "It's the tiny little details that make people feel comfortable," says Jacob Holmes, a former U.S. Army Staff Sergeant and geophysics student from Freedom, Maine. "We put a lot into maintaining that culture and norm of being accepting of one another. This is a safe space for people, and they can share whatever's on their mind with no judgment." Coming to the VETS office and interacting with fellow veterans is therapeutic for Josh Engelhardt, a former U.S. Army specialist and a master's student in data science and engineering. It was the first place he went at UMaine, and the friends he made there have been crucial in helping him adapt to civilian and campus life. "The people I've met here are just the best," says Engelhardt, of Pittsfield, Maine. UMaine celebrated Veterans Week this week with several events organized by the VETS Center. Also happening is Military Appreciation Night for Men's Ice Hockey on Nov. 10. UMaine Athletics is offering active-duty military members and veterans a 50% discount on tickets to see Black Bears face off against Boston College at 7 p.m. in the Harold Alfond Sports Arena.
GI Bill is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at benefits.va.gov/gibill.
Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension presents virtual keynote on Wabanaki perspectives on foodways

13 Nov 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is inviting the public to the virtual 2023 Horticulture Keynote on the Wabanaki perspective on foodways from noon-1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 16. Join Anthony Sutton, Passamaquoddy Tribe member from Sipayik and assistant professor of Native American studies and food systems at the University of Maine, for his presentation titled "History, Health Disparities, and Action: A Wabanaki Perspective on Foodways in So Called Maine." Sutton will delve into the history that has shaped the motivations behind Wabanaki food sovereignty and share examples of how individuals are responding to and healing those systems in the present. Attendees will also gain access to valuable resources that provide more information about Wabanaki foodways and ways to connect these ideas within non-indigenous contexts. The virtual event is free of charge, but registration is required. To attend

the live program or receive a link to a recorded version of the event, please register on the event webpage. For more information, media inquiries or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Rebecca Long, rebecca.j.long@maine.edu; 207.743.6329; email extension.gardening@maine.edu or call 207.581.3188.

Interesting Engineering highlights UMaine role in study about global temperatures impacting ocean color

13 Nov 2023

Interesting Engineering cited the University of Maine's role in a study showing that the ocean's color has changed significantly over the last 20 years, likely as a consequence of human-induced climate change.

Media promote Mitchell Center talk on alum-treated lakes

13 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News and the Sun Journal promoted the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions hosting a talk, "Navigating Water Quality: Understanding the Impact and Perceptions of Boat-Generated Waves on an Alum Treated Lake in Maine" at 3 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 13. Visit the event webpage to register or learn more.

Brewer discusses referendum elections with WABI

13 Nov 2023

WABI (Channel 5) interviewed Mark Brewer, University of Maine professor of political science, about how referendum elections work.

News Center features UMaine PFAS research at Unity farm

13 Nov 2023

News Center Maine featured research on per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, being contacted by University of Maine scientists and graduate students in partnership with Sue Hunter at her farm in Unity, Maine.

WMTW interviews Glover about inmate voting

13 Nov 2023

Robert Glover, associate professor of political science and honors at the University of Maine, spoke with WMTW (Channel 8 in Portland) about inmates being able to vote in Maine. "I think that reflects Maine's political culture," said Glover, "the fact that we have this kind of expansive system of voting where even people who are incarcerated have the right to vote. It's really a privilege, I think, to work in Maine." WABI (Channel 5) shared the WMTW story.

BDN highlights UMaine being named top school for veterans

13 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News promoted the University of Maine being included in the Best for Vets Colleges list by the Military Times at a time when veteran enrollment is at an all-time high.

Brewer discusses election results with U.S. News and World Report and Maine media

13 Nov 2023

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke with U.S. News and World Report, WFVX (Channel 7) and the Bangor Daily News about the results of the various elections held in Maine. "Maine is almost always in the top five in the country in terms of voter turnout at the state level. I think in Maine, there's a strong tradition of civic responsibility and I think that's really something to say about the importance of participatory political culture here in Maine," Brewer said to WFVX.

Chronicle of Higher Education features Research Learning Experiences

13 Nov 2023

The Chronicle of Higher Education published a story about Research Learning Experiences (RLES) at the University of Maine, which are courses that allow first- and second-year students to engage in research and other forms of hands-on learning at the start of their college careers. Among the RLEs featured in The Chronicle was "Play with Your Food" taught by faculty from the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture. Reporters attended a class in which students were testing pasta recipes in a commercial kitchen. UMaine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, piloted RLEs for the University of Maine System in fall 2021, during which 250 students participated. The RLE initiative is supported by a generous donation from the Harold Alfond Foundation as part of UMS TRANSFORMS, as well as a $50,000 grant from the Coalition of Life Transformative Education (CLTE).

UMaine researchers edit, contribute to special PFAS edition of academic journal Biointerphases

13 Nov 2023

University of Maine researchers edited and contributed to a special collection of studies and perspectives on toxic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, recently published by the academic journal Biointerphases. Onur Apul, an assistant professor of environmental engineering, served as guest editor of

the collection, supported by assistant guest editor and Ph.D. student Dilara Hatinoglu. Caitlin Howell, associate professor of bioengineering, was the associate editor of the publication. The collection features articles authored and co-authored by many students and faculty from the Maine College of Engineering and Computing; the UMaine College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences; University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, as well as researchers from other organizations. The collection is available on the Biointerphases website.

Spectrum News features BioHome3D

13 Nov 2023

Spectrum News featured the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center's (ASCC) BioHome3D, the first 3D-printed house made entirely with bio-based materials. "Our mission is to bring green energy and materials to society," said ASCC Executive Director Habib Dagher.

Kimmy Chhoeuk: Paving the way for future career in physical therapy

13 Nov 2023

When she graduates from the University of Maine in May, Kimmy Chhoeuk of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, plans to go directly into a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. Although she's not sure where she'll continue her education, Chhoeuk — a kinesiology and physical education major with a concentration in exercise science and a minor in psychology — already has options. She's been accepted to the DPT program at Tufts University near Boston and the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Worcester. She's waiting to hear back from a few other schools where she applied before making a final decision. At UMaine, Chhoeuk has gotten plenty of support from faculty and staff to keep striving toward her goals. She says the exercise science program offered everything she needed to succeed in the field, particularly during a previous internship at a PT clinic in her hometown, and gave her confidence to apply to graduate programs. "I've learned so much about the body and how it works," she says "In a lot of my classes, we work with clients one-on-one. We also learned about different methods and equipment that are used for injury treatment and prevention that I got to see in a real-world setting at the clinic where I did my internship." Read the full story on the College of Education and Human Development website. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Call for proposals for the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series

15 Nov 2023

The Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Committee is accepting grant applications from the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias to enhance the artistic, cultural and intellectual life of the campuses. Grants support up to 50% of expenses associated with cultural events, speaking engagements and lectures, with a maximum grant award of up to $3,000. The CA/DLS committee accepts applications four times a year. The next application deadline is Nov. 27. Grant applications submitted by then are for projects starting on or after Dec. 27. Proposals must be submitted online using the CA/DLS Grant Application Form. Past awards have supported lectures and lecture series, Culturefest, the International Dance Festival, exhibits, performances and guest artists.

Camire to offer winter orchid care tips on Nov. 18

15 Nov 2023

Mary Ellen Camire, a professor at the University of Maine's School of Food and Agriculture, will share tips on caring for orchids during the winter months at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 18 in UMaine's Roger Clapp Greenhouses. Camire's talk, "Orchid Care in Winter" will discuss winter-blooming orchids, the importance of winter rest for orchids and humidity control. The lecture, which also is part of a meeting of the Eastern Maine Orchid Society, is free and open to the public.

Bear Bites Food Truck closing for winter on Nov. 16

15 Nov 2023

The Bear Bites food truck is closing for the winter on Nov. 16, and will return in spring 2024. University of Maine Dining launched Bear Bites this semester to serve the campus community grab-and-go breakfast foods and beverages.

UMaine men's rugby heading to regional playoffs with zero losses

15 Nov 2023

The University of Maine Men's Rugby Team will enter the regional playoffs for Division II of National Collegiate Rugby with a 7-0 record so far this season. Black Bears, the third-ranked team in the country, are among four teams playing in the East Regionals Friday-Sunday, Nov. 17-19 in Reading, Pennsylvania. Whichever team wins will compete in the 2023 Men's National Semifinals. Led by team captain Shea Wagner of Freeport, Maine, the UMaine team will first face off against Villanova University at 2 p.m. Nov. 17. "I am proud of the growth and development that the team has made this season," says Dale Russell, team coach and assistant director of competitive sports with UMaine Campus Recreation in the Division of Student Life. "Not only did we move up a division this year, we also finished the regular season undefeated for the third straight year. The team understands, though, that the job isn't done yet and are still working towards our first trip to 15s Nationals in 20 years." The team has established a fundraising link, through the University of Maine Foundation, to support their journey to the tournament. The UMaine Men's Rugby Team previously placed fifth in the 2022 Collegiate Rugby Championship, and sixth in the 2016 championship.

Lobley award highlighted in Times Argus

15 Nov 2023

The Times Argus noted that Jennifer Lobley, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor, and Allison Smith, former assistant director of University of Vermont Cooperative Extension 4-H, received a national communicator award from the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals.

Sprangers discusses viral outbreak in salmon hatchery with News Center

15 Nov 2023

Sherrie Sprangers, a professor of biology at the University of Maine at Machias, spoke with News Center Maine about the euthanization of 155,000 young salmon at a Downeast Salmon Federation hatchery after the discovery of a deadly virus. "It's definitely more, way more than a drop in the bucket," Sprangers said. "In four years, when we're expecting adult salmon to come back — they won't be there."

Media advance wreath making workshop

15 Nov 2023

Morning Ag Clips, the Bangor Daily News, the Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com promoted a wreath making workshop hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension from 1-2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. Visit the program webpage for more information.

BDN publishes op-ed from UMaine Birding Club president

15 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News published an op-ed from Braden Collard, president of the University of Maine Birding Club, titled "Black-throated blue warbler was the best bird find of the day."

Times of India interviews Gill about plant adaptations to climate change

15 Nov 2023

Jacquelyn Gill, an associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology at the University of Maine, spoke to the Times of India about plant adaptations to climate change.

News Center features lobster-based lip treatment from UMaine spin-out

15 Nov 2023

News Center Maine featured a new product from Marin, the Portland, Maine-based skincare startup and spin-out from the University of Maine, called Glycoprotein Lip Treatment. It's a new lip treatment made with marine glycoproteins, an upcycled byproduct of lobster processing.

Wired interviews Ippolito about TV shows, movies for social media

15 Nov 2023

Jon Ippolito, professor of new media at the University of Maine, spoke to Wired about TV shows and movies being made for and released on TikTok, Instagram and Youtube. "These studios should be dipping their feet in the water just to try out what's possible," he said. "But they also have to recognize that this is not a pond. This is a swiftly moving river, and the trends that we're seeing in social media are moving faster than the traditional model of the Hollywood studio can adapt to."

UMaine team invents affordable, easy-to-use scientific instruments for global research voyage

15 Nov 2023

Sea water teems with life — there are an average of 2.5 to 25 billion organisms in a single cup. These nearly invisible organisms, called plankton, helped make Earth habitable and are the atmosphere's most significant contributor of oxygen to this day. Understanding this influential collective of tiny lifeforms helps scientists understand how life is responding to human activity. The Bougainville Mission, which embarked this fall, will study plankton in remote parts of the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The mission is made possible through a collaboration between the French Navy, Sorbonne University, the CNRS and project partners that include University of Maine oceanographers Emmanuel Boss and Nils Haentjens, as well as graduate student Guillaume Bourdin. The UMaine team led the design and manufacture of affordable, easy-to-handle scientific instruments used in the mission, and supplied daily sampling maps from satellites. The Maine team also participated in a two-week-long training of the mission's biodiversity officers in July in France to collect data with the affordable sensor and process and interpret satellite images of ocean color.

Meet the 2022 Outstanding Classified Employee Diane Muir

15 Nov 2023

[caption id="attachment_100331" align="alignright" width="223"]  Diane Muir[/caption] As the Nov. 17 deadline for nominations for the 2023 Outstanding Classified Employee award approaches, the University of Maine Classified Employee Advisory Council (CEAC) is highlighting the 2022 recipient: Diane Muir. Muir first joined the UMaine community in 2011 as an alumni programs specialist with the UMaine Alumni Association. She was hired for her current role as an administrative specialist for the Chemistry Department in 2017. The multiple faculty and staff who wrote letters of support for Muir's award nomination cited her strong work ethic — often going above and beyond the duties required of her position; her unwavering commitment to helping students and her pivotal role in maintaining department operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. "Beyond the professional aspect, Diane is an incredibly kind and supportive person who has made my time at this school richer and happier," wrote a student in their letter of endorsement. "I know that many others can relate to being around Aubert Hall and stopping by Diane's office for a chat that can make our days better." The award recognizes classified employees' exceptional service and dedication to UMaine, increasing the campus community's awareness of the indispensable contributions that represented and nonrepresented classified employees make to the quality, diversity and overall mission of the university. Award winners receive $1,000 in recognition of their contributions. To submit nominations for the 2023 award recipient, visit the CEAC website.

Chancellor Malloy holding town hall, office hours Nov. 20

15 Nov 2023

University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy will hold a town hall and office hours during his visit to the University of Maine on Nov. 20. The town hall, co-led by UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, will be held from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room at Memorial Union. Members of the UMaine community can attend in person and virtually via Zoom. During office hours, which will be held from 3-4:30 p.m. in Bumps and FFA rooms in Memorial Union, individuals and small groups of faculty, staff and students can share their thoughts, questions, ideas and successes with the chancellor. Sign up for a session online prior to the event.

UMaine scientists use eDNA to enhance river herring recovery research in Penobscot River

16 Nov 2023

University of Maine researchers are seeking to gain more insight into river herring recovery in the Penobscot River using a novel surveying tool: environmental DNA (eDNA). eDNA is the genetic material shed by all organisms in the environment, which can be collected and sequenced. By testing its viability as a survey tool, UMaine researchers and their colleagues hope eDNA can be an asset to managers of Maine's natural resources. When they received a grant of $19,847 from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund (MOHF) in 2021, UMaine researchers, led by principal investigator Kristina Cammen and Ph.D. candidate Julia Sunnarborg, partnered with the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR), Maine Sea Grant and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to expand our understanding of river herring recovery and broader ecosystem dynamics in the Penobscot River estuary. River herring (alewife and blueback herring) are anadromous fish with historical, ecological and cultural significance in Maine. "Their populations declined in past centuries due to dam construction, which limited access to and fragmented historical spawning grounds," Sunnarborg says. "The recent removal of dams and construction of fishways and other infrastructure, however, has led to the start of their recovery." Cammen, a UMaine associate professor of marine mammal science, is excited to test the potential of eDNA for ecosystem monitoring in a highly dynamic system. "eDNA is a new technology that has the potential to be an incredibly powerful tool," she said. "In the Penobscot River Estuary, where the ocean and river meet, eDNA may be able to help measure aspects of ecosystem recovery that are more challenging to assess using traditional methods." Researchers collected water samples containing eDNA up and down the Penobscot River during the spring, summer and fall of 2021 and 2022. This sampling design allows them to understand both ecosystem and species-specific dynamics, like changes in what fish species are present throughout the year or when river herring begin and end their migration in the river. This novel survey tool complements the hydroacoustic surveys conducted by Maine Sea Grant and NOAA to research river herring recovery in the Penobscot River. These surveys count fish using technology similar to fish finders. While they have shown an increase in fish populations as restoration proceeds, they cannot determine the species that are present in the river at any given time. The inclusion of eDNA methods through this project is helping expand that. "The combination of our hydroacoustic surveys and eDNA sampling offers us details that are difficult and costly to obtain with traditional techniques like trawling," says Maine Sea Grant researcher Justin Stevens. "With eDNA, we have been able to add valuable detail to the hydroacoustic data. eDNA lets us disentangle the complex patterns of migration for diverse fish species that can otherwise mask increases in river herring numbers in our hydroacoustic data." With this pilot project, which concludes at the end of the year, researchers have demonstrated the viability of eDNA as a survey method for the Penobscot River, detecting a wide diversity of species and bringing new elements to ongoing hydroacoustic surveys. This work provides researchers, natural resources managers and other stakeholders new tools to ask questions and better understand one of the state's most important estuaries. This project was funded in part by MOHF, in which proceeds from the sale of a dedicated instant lottery ticket, currently PictureME, are used to support outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation. For more information about MOHF, visit maine.gov/ifw/mohf. Contact: Daniel Timmermann, daniel.timmermann@maine.edu

Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering rescheduled for March 27-28

17 Nov 2023

The second Maine Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering has been rescheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, March 27 and 28, in the Wells Conference Center at the University of Maine. Originally scheduled for Oct. 25-27, the symposium was cut short Oct. 26 in response to the mass shooting in Lewiston. On the event's first day, participants were able to attend various sessions on mental health, including keynote lectures on Alzheimer's disease and mental health research in Maine; panels on substance abuse, autism, racial disparities, moral injury, liver dysfunction and sleep disorders; and a poster session with over 70 entries from professional and student researchers. On March 27, the symposium will resume with lectures about oncology and translational medicine, as well as panel discussions on workforce development and tech transfer. Sessions for March 28 will include "AI Applications in Medicine" and "Cellular Mechanisms Associated with Disease States," as well as The Maine Rural Graduate Medical Education (MERGE) Collaborative's first Rural GME Conference. A specific schedule will be finalized in the coming weeks. Visit the Symposium website for more information and updates. "We are grateful to the speakers, panelists and other participants who were supportive of our decision to cancel the last two days of the symposium and are now putting all their efforts into the rescheduled event," says David Harder, director of the UMaine Institute of Medicine. The organizing committee includes the Institute of Medicine, the Jackson Laboratory (JAX), MDI Biological Laboratory, MaineHealth, Northern Light Health, the University of New England, the University of Southern Maine, the Roux Institute at Northeastern University and the MERGE Collaborative.

CUGR announces 2023-24 academic year fellowship recipients

17 Nov 2023

The University of Maine's Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) has announced the 2023-24 CUGR and Maine Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) academic year fellowship winners. The CUGR Research and Creative Activities fellowships were developed to enhance and increase undergraduate student involvement in faculty-supervised research. They are supported through the Office of the Vice President for Research. Each fellowship provides $2,000 per student for costs associated with the project. The 2023-24 Academic Year MSGC Undergraduate Research Fellowship awards help provide research opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students in aerospace technology, space science, human exploration and space development, Earth science and other science- or engineering-related fields. The focus of proposed projects funded by the fellowships must be aligned with the research priorities of NASA's Earth and space science strategic enterprises. Selected projects will be awarded up to $2,000 each. Students interested to learn how to write successful research proposals, and receive their responsible conduct of research are encouraged to sign up for the INT 125 course this Spring and participate in Experiential Programs Innovation Central (EPIC). For more information, visit umaine.edu/epic. Visit the CUGR website for the full list of fellowship recipients.

Get creative with UMaine Extension's wreath making workshop on Dec. 2

21 Nov 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is hosting a wreath making workshop from 1-2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road Falmouth. The workshop will offer participants the opportunity to unleash their creativity and craft their own unique holiday balsam fir wreaths to adorn their homes or give as gifts. Participants will assemble them using a single-faced, 10-inch easy clamp ring, which can create a wreath of up to 22 inches in size. They can also incorporate ribbons, ornaments, pinecones and decorations into their wreaths. Experienced instructors will provide attendees with step-by-step assembly instructions and share valuable tips and techniques for creating stunning wreaths. The workshop is suitable for all skill levels, from beginners to experienced crafters. "We are thrilled to offer these DIY Wreath Making Workshops as a fun and festive way for people to get into the holiday spirit," says Pamela Hargest, horticulture professional with UMaine Extension. "Wreath making is a timeless tradition that allows individuals to express their creativity and add a personal touch to their holiday decorations. We can't wait to see the beautiful wreaths that our participants will create!" Participants are encouraged to bring their own gardening gloves and any additional decorative elements they may wish to incorporate into their wreaths. Space for the workshop is limited, registration is required. The program fee is offered on a sliding scale of $25-$35, with all proceeds supporting the educational mission of the gardens at Tidewater Farm. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program webpage or contact Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

Bookstore and Bear Necessities hosting holiday sales

21 Nov 2023

The University Bookstore in the Memorial Union and Bear Necessities Fan Shop at the Harold Alfond Sports Arena are hosting holiday sales during the last week of the month and in December. The University Bookstore kicks off its annual Tech the Halls celebration on Cyber Monday, Nov. 27. Shop special deals on Apple and Dell computers and pick up new accessories for holiday gift giving at the Tech Center during the week-long sale, ending Dec. 1. UMaine faculty and staff can also use payroll deduction to finance a computer over 12 months for 0% interest using payroll deduction. Some exclusions apply. University Bookstore will host its annual Holiday Sale from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 with festive savings and light refreshments. The sale will include special markdowns, new merchandise perfect for gift giving, made-in-Maine items and technology deals from the Tech Center. Spend $50 and get a choice of a "We are UMaine" knit hat or a Maine Bear ornament while supplies last. On Dec. 12, the Bear Necessities Fan Shop will hold its annual Tinsel Tuesday sale from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. with light refreshments, complimentary gift wrapping from M Club and once-a-year markdowns on Fan Shop gear. Shoppers also can enjoy free shipping now from Nov. 30 to Dec. 22 on all online purchases at umaine.edu/bookstore and goblackbears.com/shop. The stores are participating in a larger campus wide food drive to benefit Black Bear Exchange. Bring in a non-perishable food item and receive an entry into a weekly drawing for a $50 Store gift card. The food drive also includes opportunities to participate in Food Frenzy with UMaine Athletics from now through Dec. 15 at home basketball and ice hockey games. The food drive will end on Dec. 15.

UMaine Extension cited in Cape Cod Times cranberry story

21 Nov 2023

In a story about the various challenges Massachusetts cranberry farmers face, the Cape Cod Times cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension about how climate change threatens the fruit. According to the online resource from UMaine Extension, warmer springs and summers, coupled with any upticks in high heat and humidity events, can cause cranberries to experience scalding and heat stress.

Media promote growing native plants from seeds workshop

21 Nov 2023

Morning Ag Clips and the Sun Journal advanced a workshop about growing native plants from seeds hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension from 10–11:30 a.m. on Dec. 9 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the program webpage or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

BDN cites UMaine Extension in 'garden mutants' story

21 Nov 2023

In a story titled "These vegetables and fruits are garden mutants," the Bangor Daily News cited information about broccoli and cauliflower from University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

UMaine ranked among top institutions nationally in 2024 college guides

21 Nov 2023

The University of Maine has once again been ranked among the best higher education institutions nationwide in multiple annual college guides. In the U.S. News and World Report 2024 Best Colleges, UMaine was featured in a list of top National Universities — those producing groundbreaking research and offering a full range of undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs. Undergraduate programs at UMaine that were ranked among the best in the nation by U.S. News and World Report include engineering, computer science, psychology, nursing, business and economics. UMaine was also featured in Princeton Review's "Best 389 Colleges: 2024 Edition." The publication ranked UMaine among the Top 50 Green Colleges nationwide and named one of its Best Northeastern colleges as well. The Princeton Review profile for UMaine includes multiple "Students Say" reflections on academics, campus life and the student body. Students who responded to the guide's survey highlighted the university's welcoming and open-minded community, supportive faculty, affordability, extensive program and course offerings, hands-on learning experiences, Black Bear pride in athletics and recreational opportunities across all four seasons. Students told the publication that UMaine is located in "such a unique place" that is "super green in the summer and pure white in the winter," providing this outdoorsy student body with miles of "trails for running and biking and a river [where] people often go paddling, kayaking, swimming and fishing." Washington Monthly's 2023 College Guide and Rankings also included UMaine in its list of top National Universities — institutions that award a significant number of doctoral degrees — based on contributions to the public good in three broad categories: social mobility, research and providing opportunities for public service. UMaine also was included in the publication's 2023 Best Bang for the Buck Rankings for the Northeast. UMaine's regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, was featured in Washington Monthly's 2023 rankings for liberal arts colleges and 2023 Best Bang for the Buck Rankings for the Northeast. This summer, the Fiske Guide to Colleges 2024 also featured UMaine. "I'm thrilled to once again see these college guides shine a national spotlight on our academic offerings, research and campus culture," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "They reaffirm our commitment to affordable and world-class instruction, inclusive excellence, public service and a sustainable future." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

ASCC researchers discuss mass timber with Maine Public

21 Nov 2023

Habib Dagher, executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC), and Russell Edgar, senior laboratory operations manager and wood composites manager for the ASCC, spoke to Maine Public for a story titled "Senator Angus King asks federal government to consider mass timber in construction projects." "To start a new industry you need to create demand," Dagher said. "Maine tree species can compete with those used in other parts of the U.S. and Europe to make mass timber."

BDN highlights UMaine receiving gift for hazing prevention research

21 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News highlighted the gift from the family of Sam Martinez, who died as a result of a hazing incident in 2019, to support University of Maine professor Elizabeth Allan's research on hazing prevention. The family's hope is that the establishment of the Sam Martinez Hazing Prevention Fund will save lives by creating more transparency around hazing and the cultures that promote it.

The Conversation publishes Socolow article on JFK assassination and TV

21 Nov 2023

The Conversation published an article by Michael J. Socolow, a professor with the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, titled "Good profits from bad news: How the Kennedy assassination helped make network TV news wealthy." The Houston Chronicle and SFGate shared Socolow's article. The Houston Chronicle, SFGate and Japan Today shared Socolow's article.

News Center features UMaine-led development of PFAS tracking tool

21 Nov 2023

News Center Maine interviewed University of Maine computer scientist Torsten Hahmann and Ph.D. student Katria Schwiekert about their efforts to develop an interactive digital tool that will allow users to explore and analyze data on sites and sources of PFAS contamination throughout the U.S. "We don't want to reproduce all that data. We want to connect to that data," Hahmann said.

Maine College of Engineering and Computing holds 2023 Bryand Annual Awards Banquet

21 Nov 2023

Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) Commissioner Bruce Van Note was among the recipients of the Maine College of Engineering and Computing's Edward Bryand annual awards honoring alumni, faculty, staff and students during a ceremony held Nov. 16. Van Note was named the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineer. Electrical and computer engineering professor Mauricio Pereira da Cunha received the Ashley Campbell Award. Christopher Dufour, computer science lecturer, and Justin Lapp, assistant professor of design, both received the Early Career Teaching Award. Liza White received the Graduate Student Research Award for her work in the paper industry and her local community. Promising Sarah Glatter received the Graduate Student Teaching Award for fostering a vibrant and intellectually stimulating learning environment for her students. Salimeh Yasaei Sekeh, assistant professor in computer science, received the Early Career Research Award for her work on neural networks. Heather Pierce received the Leila Lowell Award for her outstanding service to the Electrical and Computing Engineering Department. The Bryand Awards Ceremony was established in 1979 by then Dean Jim Clapp, with the first college recognition banquet held the following year. Criteria were established for two awards: Ashley S. Campbell Award and the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineering Award. Other awards for individuals and students have been added throughout the years, including the Leila C. Lowell Award for staff members, which was introduced in 1983.

Bruce Van Note

Van Note was sworn in as MaineDOT commissioner in January 2019. A lifelong Mainer, he was born in Houlton, one of six children, and moved to Bath, where he attended public schools. He holds degrees in surveying (engineering) from UMaine and law degree from the University of Maine School of Law, both with honors. He is a proud UMaine engineer, a professional land surveyor and an attorney. Van Note has 27 years of professional transportation work experience in Maine, including more than 22 years at MaineDOT. His MaineDOT experience includes 12 years as deputy commissioner. During that time, he acquired working knowledge of policy, legislative affairs, planning, budget, procurement, freight services, capital project delivery, maintenance and operations. He enjoys leading the dedicated and talented team at MaineDOT to provide a transportation system that supports economic opportunity and quality of life. Immediately before becoming commissioner, he also served as the director of policy and planning at the Maine Turnpike Authority.

Mauricio Pereira da Cunha

Pereira da Cunha's visionary contributions to UMaine's Frontier Institute for Research in Sensor Technologies (FIRST) have not only positioned him on the global scientific map, but also underscored UMaine's stature as a global pioneer in wireless sensors, microwave electronics and novel sensor solutions for extreme conditions. His unwavering dedication to student growth is palpable in his immersive teaching methods. Beyond delivering core electrical engineering courses, he has curated a wealth of engaging demonstrations, software applications and hands-on labs concentrating on electromagnetic and sensor technologies. Such exposure furnishes students with unparalleled, industry-relevant expertise. The high academic bar he sets helps students understand the essence of rigorous critique and creative innovation, which are vital for thriving engineering careers. This commitment is evident in the numerous hours he dedicates to mentoring. Notably, under his guidance at UMaine, he has overseen the research of 47 graduate students, with 30 directly benefiting from his funded projects, as well as 58 undergraduates, three NSF-RET teachers, nine postdocs/research scientists and 15 professional engineers. Pereira da Cunha's accomplishments are unmatched in research, especially concerning wireless sensor applications in energy, environment and biomedicine. Among his accolades is the esteemed CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation. He has also secured 47 significant grants totaling over $25 million, leading 31 projects as principal investigator and 14 as co-principal investigator. Additionally, he collaborates on other UMaine projects with funding of $500,000, underlining his dedication to fostering research and development.

Salimeh Yasaei Sekeh

Sekeh has received approximately $1.1 million so far, including a very prestigious NSF CAREER award focused on the foundations of deep neural network robustness and efficiency. As a faculty member at Georgia Tech recently wrote in a letter for another faculty member, everyone in the College of Computing at Tech who has received a CAREER award has gone on to earn tenure there. With respect to publishing, Sekeh is very productive. Since 2019, she has published 17 papers, most in highly-reviewed, top-quality journals and conferences. As evidence of her stature in the field, since joining UMaine, she has been invited to speak at Amazon (twice), Cisco, IBM/MIT, the University of California San Diego, the University of Michigan, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Heriot-Watt University in the United Kingdom and the Federal University of Pernambuco in Brazil. She is quite productive in training new researchers as well. She runs the Sekeh Lab, which includes Ph.D., master's and undergraduate students. She has graduated one Ph.D. student from another institution and one master's student so far, and is currently advising five Ph.D. students and one 4+1 master's student. She is an excellent mentor for new researchers in training, as evidenced by her nomination for the Supervisor of the Year Award.

Justin Lapp

The student evaluations of Lapp have been impressive, in part due to him gaining more confidence as a teacher and responding to the feedback received from his students. His scores include a perfect 5.0 rating for his preparedness, enthusiasm and respect for students' questions and opinions. He also scores very close to 5.0 on requiring students to apply concepts to demonstrate understanding of the curricula, and on his level of concern as an instructor for the quality of his teaching.

Christopher Dufour

In a focus group of the 2022 Computer Science Senior Class, students were asked "What should SCIS not change in the future?" Universally, the class responded, "Don't change Chris Dufour." That is a broad sentiment among students, faculty, and administration in SCIS. Dufour has exceeded the expectations of his leadership and vision based on his age and experience. Without complaint, he has accepted roles and positions that tax his time and energy. He has repeatedly stepped beyond his comfort zone to fill essential roles. He cares deeply about the welfare of our students, the health of our community and the future of UMaine.

Heather Pierce

Pierce's proactive nature and self-driven attitude are commendable. She consistently demonstrates initiative, stepping up whenever the department needs support. Her broad exposure to our department's operations has equipped her with invaluable institutional knowledge. Heather operates independently, often without directives, leveraging her extensive network and expertise to resolve issues efficiently. Her work ethic stands out; she consistently seeks avenues to assist others when she has a moment to spare.

Liza White

White is an incredible young researcher with the potential to make significant contributions to science and engineering for the betterment of the world. She demonstrates her research excellence not only through the traditional metrics of patents, publications and awards. She also works tirelessly to move the results of her research out into the market where it can help solve problems and to share her science with throughout Maine, particularly at underserved schools. She is a high-quality, community-oriented researcher.

Sarah Glatter

Glatter has a genuine commitment to fostering positive interpersonal relationships with her students. She makes it a priority to create a close and engaging environment, particularly for freshman students, who she helps ease into higher education. She also fosters a sense of belonging within the department. Glatter goes above and beyond what is expected of her by offering one-on-one tutoring and counseling to students who may be struggling, ensuring that no one is left behind. She designs interactive lectures and hosts additional study sessions for the benefit of all students in the department, displaying a selfless dedication to the broader academic community.

UMaine after-school science lab partnership celebrates 15 years

21 Nov 2023

Ask any veteran educator what the most important thing an aspiring teacher can do to prepare themselves for a career in the classroom, and they will likely say there's no substitute for first-hand experience. At the University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development, "Early and Often" is the motto when it comes to getting education majors into K–12 schools and other educational settings. Starting in their freshman year, UMaine offers a variety of opportunities for students to observe practicing teachers and to teach themselves, including multiple courses with a field experience component. One of those courses is celebrating a milestone this year: CHF 321: Curriculum and Methods of Teaching Young Children Science, which has tasked many UMaine students with running after-school science labs for 15 years as part of their coursework. Since its inception, the program has grown from working with young children from one school to many in Orono, Old Town and surrounding communities. Connie Ronco, an adjunct instructor who has taught the course since 2017, says UMaine preservice teachers get hands-on experience working with children in prekindergarten to grade four, using actual science lesson plans that they can take with them in the field. "We cover all the areas included in the Maine Learning Results for science," says Ronco, who served on the Maine Department of Education committee that developed those standards. "Life science, physical science, engineering, and Earth and space science." The science lab began as a partnership between Mary Ellin Logue, associate professor emerita of early childhood education, and Joanne Alex, former director of the Stillwater Montessori School in Old Town. In 2001, when she was working on her master's degree at UMaine, Alex started an environmental club for students at the Montessori school. Eight years later, Logue asked Alex to teach the CHF 321 class. "Mary Ellin helped schedule the class during a time when the environmental club met and facilitated transportation for our students to come to campus and work with the university's pre-service teachers," Alex says. Although Alex retired from teaching and closed the Montessori School in 2019, the collaboration is still going strong and educating many young students in the area. "I'm very glad we've been able to keep it going," Alex says. "It's great for UMaine's student teachers to design lessons for children and to get to work with children themselves."

One important component of the science lab, says Alex, is getting children outside to explore nature. This was on full display at a recent session in October, where several UMaine pre-service teachers led small groups of children in a lesson titled "Seed Need" on the grassy area between Lengyel Hall and Buchanan Alumni House. With the mid-afternoon sun shining over the Stillwater River, each group examined different kinds of seeds, including acorns, pinecones and fruit seeds on large pieces of cardboard. The UMaine students encouraged the children to pick up each seed and notice how they were the same or different. They also discussed how wild animals eat seeds and plants, as well as how they might help spread them to new places. Following the small group activity, all

of the students and pre-service teachers came together for large group games and songs. Rebekah Mellor, a senior from Stockton Springs, Maine majoring in elementary education with a concentration in child development and family relations, worked with a group of first-grade students along with two other pre-service teachers. She says the most helpful aspect of the class so far has been creating and using lesson plans, as well as reflecting on how the lessons went after each class. "It gives you an opportunity to see what works and what doesn't, because it might not necessarily work the way you want it to when you write it down on paper. So, just seeing what those obstacles are and how to overcome them has been really beneficial," says Mellor. Mellor, who is planning to become certified in both elementary and early childhood education when she graduates from UMaine, says the course offers a different perspective than some of her other field experiences, such as teaching observations and student teaching. "I'm writing lesson plans that I will actually use and reflecting on actual practice and observing children in a totally different context than a traditional classroom," she says. In addition to the "Seed Need" lesson, other themed lessons from the after-school science lab this semester have included "Nature Detectives: Learning to Look, Learning to See" and "Making and Tinkering with STEM." The final lab class of the semester will be "Exploring the Night Sky" on Thursday, Nov. 30. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Vitamin supplements, new technology can help prevent secondary stroke, according to a UMaine research collaboration

21 Nov 2023

A team of researchers, including one from the University of Maine, argue that vitamin supplements can help prevent secondary strokes. They also advocate for the value of new technologies in eye research to verify these findings. Homocysteine is an amino acid associated with stroke and secondary stroke when elevated above normal levels. B vitamins and folate, also known as vitamin B9, can help lower levels of homocysteine and stroke, according to a peer-reviewed editorial published in the journal Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Medicine. Elevated homocysteine is the result of genetic mutations or inadequate stores of vitamins B6, B12, folate and riboflavin (B2). Lowering it is relatively inexpensive because it can be achieved through vitamin supplementation. The research team recommends lowering high levels of homocysteine with low doses of folic acid and cyanocobalamin, which treats vitamin B9 and B12 deficiencies, respectively; or better, with the natural vitamin forms found in food, L-methylfolate and methylcobalamin. Merrill "Pete" Elias, professor emeritus with the UMaine Department of Psychology, Institute of Medicine and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Engineering, co-authored the editorial with colleagues from the University of Arkansas as part of the Maine-Syracuse Longitudinal Study (MSLS), which he directs. In the editorial, researchers also argued that the 2021 Guideline for the Secondary Prevention of Ischemic Stroke should be revised to include the use of vitamins to reduce homocysteine, specifically folic acid and low dose cyanocobalamin, or better, L-methylfolate and methylcobalamin. Additionally, the authors urged the use of new ophthalmologic technology for monitoring risk of stroke and secondary stroke. The research team recommends retinal vascular imaging because this is a noninvasive method for evaluating central nervous system perfusion, which plays a crucial role in stroke. "The eye is the window to the brain. Thus vascular imaging will play an important role in monitoring the effectiveness of stroke prevention strategies such as the new 2021 Guidelines," Elias says. The senior author of the editorial is Craig A. Brown, adjunct professor of ophthalmology at the University of Arkansas. Other co-authors include Jianhua Wang and Hong Jiang, faculty members with the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine. Elias and Brown have reviewed the current literature on the topic using vitamins to lower homocysteine, stroke and blood pressure — specifically in the management of drug-resistant hypertension. The Maine-Syracuse Longitudinal Study (MSLS) is a nearly half-century-old study supported by the National Institute on Aging and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. Its purpose has been to conduct and promote long-term research on aging, hypertension, cardiovascular disease and cognitive function. It aims to encourage and facilitate collaborative research with researchers in the U.S. and overseas. Michael A. Robbins, research associate professor and chair of the UMaine Psychology Department, has been co-director of the MSLS since its inception at UMaine. Learn more about the MSLS on its website. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

News Observer highlights 4-H Club

22 Nov 2023

The Machias Valley News Observer featured members of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Cobscook Currents 4-H Club helping a teacher and her husband with their fall harvest.

Lobster Institute resource for children promoted by Q106.5

22 Nov 2023

The University of Maine Lobster Institute's "Questions from Kids About Lobsters & Lobstering" was shared by Q106.5.

BDN advances food drive to support Black Bear Exchange

22 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News highlighted a campuswide nonperishable food drive to benefit the University of Maine Black Bear Exchange food pantry.

Roth discusses wildlife with Windham Eagle

22 Nov 2023

The Windham Eagle interviewed Amber Roth, University of Maine associate professor of forest wildlife management, about humans cohabitating with various animals, including bears and opossums. "There is not much to worry about with an opossum," she said.

UMaine eDNA research in Penobscot River highlighted in media

22 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News and CentralMaine.com shared that University of Maine researchers are using environmental DNA (eDNA) to study the recovery of river herring in the Penobscot River. eDNA is the genetic material shed by all organisms in the environment, which can be collected and sequenced. With it, UMaine researchers and their colleagues are investigating the extent to which river herring populations are increasing and trying to learn more about their

migratory patterns.

Smith discusses new FAFSA with Maine Morning Star

22 Nov 2023

Connie Smith, executive director of student financial services at the University of Maine, spoke with Maine Morning Star about preparing for the new, streamlined Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) launching Dec. 31. “We have created a FAFSA Simplification response team whose purpose is to develop a comprehensive communication outreach plan to update both new, incoming students and our continuing student population,” Smith said. “As we adapt to changing deadlines, this team will also adjust existing processes to ensure we are able to provide the financial aid our students depend on.”

Bananas delivers weather forecast on WABI

22 Nov 2023

University of Maine mascot Bananas T. Bear helped deliver a recent weather forecast on WABI (Channel 5).

UMaine and other public universities providing free tuition to Lewiston mass shooting victims

29 Nov 2023

Those who were physically injured and surviving family members of those killed in the Lewiston mass shooting last month will be able to attend the University of Maine and other University of Maine System institutions for free. Gov. Janet Mills, Chancellor Dannel Malloy and the Board of Trustees announced today a new Lewiston Strong Tuition Waiver for eligible victims who choose to pursue a bachelor’s degree through any of Maine’s public universities. To make the transformational power of a four-year postsecondary degree even more accessible, UMS has also established a Lewiston Strong Scholarship Fund through which the public is invited to invest in the future of those impacted by the Lewiston shooting. The fund, which will be managed by the University of Maine Foundation, will help defray other costs of college attendance including room, board and books, with preference given to those eligible for the waiver. “I thank the University of Maine System for establishing the Lewiston Strong Tuition Waiver and Scholarship Fund, which will ensure that the cost of higher education will never be a barrier for those directly impacted by the tragedy in Lewiston,” said Gov. Janet Mills. “Through their boundless generosity, Maine people are demonstrating that our state will stand by those who were injured and the families of those who were killed in the months, years and decades to come.” Read the full story about the tuition waiver and scholarship fund on the System website. The University of Maine Foundation and the University of Southern Maine Foundation will both accept donations toward the scholarship fund. To donate through the University of Maine Foundation, visit our.umaine.edu/lewiston or mail checks to Lewiston Strong Scholarship Fund c/o UMaine Foundation, Two Alumni Place, Orono, ME 04469-5792. To donate through the USM Foundation, visit usm.maine.edu/lewistonstrong or mail checks to Lewiston Strong Scholarship Fund c/o USM Foundation P.O. Box 9300, Portland, ME 04104-9300. Contact: Samantha Warren, 207.632.0389; samantha.warren@maine.edu

Wabanaki Winter Market returns to UMaine Dec. 9

29 Nov 2023

The largest holiday gathering of Wabanaki artists in New England will return with one-of-a-kind pieces, including some from new and nationally-acclaimed basket weavers, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 9, at the University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts. During the 29th annual Wabanaki Winter Market, dozens of Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Maliseet and Mi’kmaq artists will showcase and sell their basketry, jewelry, beadwork, wood carvings, birchbark work and other artwork. The market is co-hosted by the Hudson Museum and the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance (MIBA), with support from Maine Office of Tourism and the Onion Foundation. The free event will also feature brown ash pounding and sweetgrass flower demonstrations, storytelling, traditional music, drumming, dancing and maple syrup. Profiles of several participating artists and event information can be found on the Hudson Museum website. “This year is the 29th anniversary of this show, which celebrates the cultural and artistic traditions of the Wabanaki people. Artists like Barry Dana, Peter Neptune and Eldon Hanning have attended the event since it began in 1995. Others, such as Geo Neptune, Sarah Sockbeson and Frances Soctomah represent a new generation of award-winning weavers,” says Gretchen Faulkner. Visitors will find not just basketry, but a wide variety of Wabanaki artistic traditions in prices ranging from $20 to thousands of dollars. There is something for everyone. The Hudson Museum, located inside the Collins Center, will also be open during the event. Among its exhibits is the Wabanaki Gallery, which showcases historic and contemporary Wabanaki art. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Hudson Museum Director Gretchen Faulkner, gretchen.faulkner@maine.edu. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hosting Crop Health Conference Dec. 4

29 Nov 2023

Experts, researchers, farmers and industry professionals are invited to attend the 2023 Crop Health Conference from 7:45 a.m.–4 p.m. on Dec. 4 at the Northeastland Hotel in Presque Isle to explore innovative strategies and technologies for promoting crop health and advancing sustainable agriculture practices in the potato industry. The event will feature a variety of presentations on research trials and field experiments, as well as networking opportunities. The conference is designed to provide attendees with valuable insights and practical knowledge on enhancing crop health and productivity. Topics include key research findings in potato pest and fertility management, blackleg and soft rot in potatoes, potato storage disease management, PFAS constituents in pesticides, management of volunteer potatoes, integrating chemical strategies for postharvest management and more. In addition to the presentations, the conference will feature an exhibition booth area where attendees can explore the latest information, products, services and technologies related to crop health and sustainable agriculture. Participants will have the opportunity to earn 5.5 certified crop adviser continuing education unit credits and five pesticide credits. Visit the conference webpage to register and read the full program schedule. Early bird discounts are available until Nov. 25. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pam Hickey, 207.764.3361; pam.hickey@maine.edu.

Sharon Barker, advocate for Maine women and girls, passes away

29 Nov 2023

Sharon Barker, a long-time University of Maine employee and tireless advocate for Maine women and girls, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, Nov. 20. Barker became the first director of the UMaine Women's Resource Center, now called the Intersectional Feminist Resource Center, in 1991. In that role, which she held until her retirement in 2014, Barker mentored countless students, collaborated with faculty and staff and served as a liaison with women's organizations in the community. Her leadership included developing and facilitating gender equity workshops for girls, offering professional development workshops in gender dynamics for teachers and training UMaine students to serve as role models and presenters at the annual Expanding Your Horizons program for middle school girls. Barker co-founded the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center. She also secured a grant to create the Maine Girls Collaborative Project, which aims to increase girls' participation in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) through collaborative work and resource sharing among girl-serving organizations. Additionally, she served on numerous boards of directors and committees, including the Maine Jobs Council, the Penobscot Valley Branch of the American Association of University Women, the Maine Women's Fund, the Eastern Regional Commission for Women, the Good Samaritan Agency, the Bangor CUReS Project, the Bangor Rape Crisis Center, the Women's Business Development Corporation and the Komen Foundation. Barker's work was recognized with several awards, including the 2004 Sarah Orne Jewett Award of the Maine Women's Fund, the 1999 Bangor and Maine Federation of Business and Professional Women's Woman of the Year Awards, the 1997 National Education Association's Mary Hatwood Futrell Award, the 1997 Mabel Sine Wadsworth Women's Health Achievement Award and the 1995 Steve Gould Award from UMaine. She also was inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame in 2009. Barker is the namesake for the Barker Student Activism Award, which honors UMaine students who seek to implement positive change in their communities by fostering equity and social justice. The award is now managed by the Division of Student Life, which houses the center that Barker directed. "Sharon Barker's commitment to equity for women was exemplified in every aspect of her work and has left a lasting impact on the many organizations with which she worked," says Emily Haddad, dean of the UMaine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Barker's obituary is available online. UMaine students, faculty or staff in need of support can contact the Counseling Center, 207.581.1392, the university's Employee Assistance Program, 877.622.4327, or the Dean of Students Office, 207.581.1406.

WFVX promotes 'Walk in Our Shoes' event

29 Nov 2023

WFVX (Channel 7) promoted the recent "Walk in Our Shoes" event hosted by the University of Maine Student Wellness Center. "It's really hard to find affirmation sometimes in others. An event like this focuses on the self," said UMaine student life educator Kevin Hudson.

Press Herald notes UMaine role in tech hub for Maine's forest bioproducts

29 Nov 2023

In an article titled "Innovation in food packaging boosts Maine's struggling forest industries," the Portland Press Herald noted that the University of Maine is a partner for Maine's Forest Bioproducts Advanced Manufacturing Tech Hub. CentralMaine.com, the New Hampshire Union Leader, the Rome News-Tribune and Aol.com shared the Press Herald report.

O'Reilly op-ed on gambling published in Sports Business Journal

29 Nov 2023

The Sports Business Journal published an op-ed co-authored by Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business, titled "The wagering way: As gambling matures in U.S., what pitfalls are coming?"

BDN interviews Dagher about challenges to offshore wind development

29 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News interviewed Habib Dagher, executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, about the challenges to offshore wind development, including supply chain issues and upfront costs. "You save money in the long run, and it's a major opportunity to decarbonize our economy," Dagher said.

Moran discusses apple growing struggles with Sun Journal

29 Nov 2023

Renae Moran, professor of pomology with the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture and fruit tree specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke with the Sun Journal about apple yield in Maine, which was down about 50% from historical averages this year. "Apple growers are always optimistic," she said. "They've got their crop already planted. With this one bad year, they're willing to just move on and start thinking about next year's crop." The Portland Press Herald and CentralMaine.com shared the Sun Journal story.

Glover, Sporer op-ed on overdose crisis published in BDN

29 Nov 2023

The Bangor Daily News published an op-ed by Robert Glover, University of Maine associate professor of political science and honors, and Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology, titled "Mainers support decriminalization and public health approaches to overdose crisis." Sporer and Glover are co-leaders and members of the Maine chapter of the Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

BioHome3D highlighted by Business Insider

29 Nov 2023

In a story about a 3D-printed tiny house developed at the Woodbury University School of Architecture, Business Insider highlighted the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center's BioHome3D, the first 3D-printed house made entirely with bio-based materials.

NYT interviews Klimis-Zacas about berries and cancer prevention

29 Nov 2023

Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, a professor of clinical nutrition at UMaine's School of Food and Agriculture, spoke with The New York Times about her research on the benefits of eating berries. Certain compounds in fruits like wild blueberries offer anti-inflammatory benefits and may help reduce cancer's ability to develop, grow and multiply. Klimis-Zacas recommends eating one-half to one cup of berries per day to receive most of the anti-inflammatory benefits discovered through her research. The San Juan Daily Star, the New Zealand Herald, The Orlando Sentinel, the Virginian Pilot and other outlets across the U.S. shared the NYT report.

Annual ag-focused calendar celebrates farming, land and sea through the seasons

30 Nov 2023

The Maine Agricultural Mediation Program (MAMP), which is part of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, has released its 2024 wall calendar. The theme of this year's calendar is "Farming and Tending to the Land and Sea Throughout the Seasons. It features twelve charming images from Maine-based artists that capture the essence of agricultural work and life. From vibrant fields of crops to somber coastal scenes, each image tells a unique story of Maine's agricultural journey throughout the seasons. Measuring 8.5 by 11 inches, the calendar is designed with wire binding for easy hanging. Copies are now available for purchase for $6.50, which includes shipping. Order a copy by visiting UMaine Extension's website. MAMP is one of 43 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Mediation Programs. It supports the agricultural community in Maine by providing conflict resolution, contract and lease consultation and financial coaching. MAMP provides services in three major areas: mediation/ conflict resolution; contract/ lease consultation and co-drafting; and financial coaching. The MAMP staff, mediators, and financial coaches are person-focused and aim to provide compassionate assistance, support and resources to agricultural producers, their lenders, USDA agencies, and others involved in various conflicts. All MAMP services are voluntary and confidential and are no-cost/ low-cost to participants. Visit the program website to learn more about agricultural mediation at UMaine Extension. All MAMP services are voluntary and confidential and are no-cost/ low-cost to participants. Visit the program website to learn more about agricultural mediation at UMaine Extension.

UMaine offers new graduate certificates that meet the needs of Maine teachers, outdoor leaders

30 Nov 2023

The University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development is launching three new graduate certificates aimed at teachers looking to boost their knowledge and skills in the areas of multilingual special education, adapted physical education and outdoor leadership. The five-course (15 credits) Multilingual Special Education graduate certificate, offered entirely via UMaineOnline, is designed to equip educators with a deeper understanding of evidence-based practices and educational policies to support culturally and linguistically diverse students, including multilingual learners, with disabilities. According to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs, nearly 12% of multilingual learners in K-12 schools have a disability. Between 2012 and 2020, this student population grew by nearly 30% nationwide. Melissa Cuba, UMaine assistant professor of special education, says that under federal law, multilingual learners with disabilities are entitled to language acquisition and special education services, both of which are needed for them to be successful in school and beyond. "This requires a great deal of collaboration and coordination among educators who have applied knowledge of special education and language development best practices and policies," says Cuba. "So this program responds to a growing need across our state and region to ensure educators have the skills and tools to work as a team to provide these services." UMaine's graduate program in special education now offers five graduate certificates, all of which can be applied toward a master's or education specialist degree in special education. The Adapted Physical Education graduate certificate addresses the need in Maine for more teachers with the knowledge, skills and practical experiences to support students with disabilities in physical education classes. The five-course sequence (15 credits) is designed to enhance teachers' use of age- and developmentally-appropriate practices for all learners. Educators who complete the certificate will be eligible to apply for the Maine Department of Education's adapted physical education endorsement. "All students deserve appropriate support in order to participate in classes that promote their physical, emotional and intellectual growth," says Shannan Fotter, lecturer in kinesiology and physical education and coordinator of the certificate program. "This certificate will give teachers a more robust understanding of how to conduct accurate and comprehensive assessments of students with disabilities, as well as how to design and adapt instruction that meets their needs." The Outdoor Leadership and Education graduate certificate provides students with a combination of hands-on practice and theory to facilitate meaningful, high-quality outdoor learning opportunities for participants of all ages. The five-course program (15 credits) is focused on the professional knowledge and field experiences needed for anyone interested in successfully incorporating more experiential and place-based learning into various preK-12 schools, postsecondary and adult education settings. A recent report from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis found that Maine's outdoor recreation economy grew more than 16% from 2021 to 2022 and generates more than $3 billion annually. That's about 4% of the state's gross domestic product, the sixth highest percentage among all 50 states. "Maine's natural resources have always been an essential part of our heritage and economy," says Lauren Jacobs, lecturer and coordinator of UMaine's outdoor leadership program. "Outdoor industries and jobs are particularly important for the sustainability of rural communities. We're excited to offer this graduate certificate to help build a skilled cadre of stewards, educators and guides to lead groups knowledgably, ethically and safely in a variety of wilderness settings." All graduate certificates require a bachelor's degree. Prospective students can apply online via the University of Maine Graduate School. More information is available online.

Morning Ag Clips highlights award for School of Forest Resources

30 Nov 2023

Morning Ag Clips highlighted the University of Maine School of Forest Resources receiving the Austin H. Wilkins Forest Stewardship Award. The award, which recognizes the impact of the school's teaching and research on Maine's working forests, was given by the Maine TREE Foundation in partnership with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.

WABI reports on food drive to support Black Bear Exchange

30 Nov 2023

WABI (Channel 5) reported on a campuswide nonperishable food drive to benefit the University of Maine Black Bear Exchange food pantry being held through Dec. 15. It's sponsored by UMaine Auxiliary Enterprises, Facilities Management and UMaine Athletics. Learn more about the food drive on the UMaine News website.

BioHome3D meets year one sustainability, strength and durability goals

30 Nov 2023

BioHome3D, the first 100% bio-based 3D-printed home in the world, proves to be a viable solution to the growing housing crisis after one year of outdoor testing. Printed at the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC), BioHome3D is a 600-square-foot home that was designed to meet Maine State Affordable Housing requirements. It was created entirely with wood residuals, bio-resins and wood fiber insulation. Due to its renewable materials, the home, which includes one bedroom and one bathroom, is fully recyclable and acts as a carbon sink. During its inaugural year, BioHome3D endured one of Maine's most volatile weather years, including reported temperatures ranging from 1°F to 105°F, extreme wind storms that caused blackouts throughout the state and a number of snowstorms. It performed very well under rain, snow, temperature cycling and hail. Sequestering 46 tons of carbon-dioxide for each 600-square-foot unit, BioHome3D stands as a pivotal solution for the construction industry. This technology addresses both operational and embodied carbon, and sets precedents for both sustainable construction material production and manufacturing. Learn more about the recent success of BioHome3D and future plans for it on the ASCC website.

Castine Patriot reports on Charney talk

04 Dec 2023

The Castine Patriot reported on a talk delivered by Noah Charney, assistant professor of conservation biology, about his book, "These Trees Tell a Story: The Art of Reading Landscapes," on Nov. 9. The Penobscot Bay Press shared the article.

Media highlight 2024 calendar from Maine Agricultural Mediation Program

04 Dec 2023

The Piscataquis Observer, the Bangor Daily News, the Sun Journal and the Livermore Falls Advertiser highlighted the 2024 wall calendar from the Maine Agricultural Mediation Program, which is part of University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The theme of the calendar is "Farming and Tending to the Land and Sea Throughout the Seasons." It features 12 images from Maine-based artists that capture the essence of agricultural work and life. Order a copy by visiting the UMaine Extension website.

2023 Wabanaki Winter Market promoted in BDN

04 Dec 2023

The Bangor Daily News promoted the 2023 Wabanaki Winter Market, which will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 9 at the University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts.

Maine media highlight new graduate certificates in education

04 Dec 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Daily Bulldog highlighted three new graduate certificates from the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development involving multilingual special education, adapted physical education and outdoor leadership.

Discover Magazine quotes Comins on what Earth would be like with two moons

04 Dec 2023

University of Maine astrophysicist Neil Comins was quoted in a Discover Magazine article about how life on Earth would be different if it had two moons. In 2010, Comins published a book titled "What If the Earth Had Two Moons?: And Nine Other Thought-Provoking Speculations on the Solar System."

Kopec discusses PFAS in fish with Kaiser Health News and Undark

04 Dec 2023

Kaiser Health News and Undark interviewed University of Maine faculty fellow Dianne Kopec for articles about toxic per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, found in freshwater fish. Kopec said eating fish with high concentrations of PFAS, also known as "forever chemicals," may be more harmful than mercury. "They're both really nasty," she said. The Scientific American, Popular Science, The Messenger, The Citizen, the Louisiana Illuminator, New Orleans City Business, Lee News Central, Health News Florida and other outlets shared the Kaiser Health news article.

ProPublica interviews Newsom about repatriation of ancestral remains

04 Dec 2023

Bonnie Newsom, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Maine, spoke with ProPublica for an article titled "Tribes in Maine Spent Decades

Fighting to Rebury Ancestral Remains. Harvard Resisted Them at Nearly Every Turn." The Maine Monitor, Maine Public and the Bangor Daily News shared the ProPublica report.

Growing native plants from seeds workshop scheduled for Dec. 9

04 Dec 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a workshop about growing native plants from seeds from 10-11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 9 at the UMaine Gardens at Tidewater Farm, 200 Presumpscot Point Road, Falmouth. Led by experienced horticulturists, the workshop will explore various topics, including sowing and transplanting techniques, protecting seeds from critters and dividing plants in the spring. Attendees will also learn about the benefits of using native plants in landscaping, their role in supporting local ecosystems and why from late fall to early winter is the perfect time to start planting native seeds outdoors. During the workshop, participants will have the opportunity to get hands-on experience and take home two containers with the seeds they plant. Space is limited, registration is required. To sign up, visit the program webpage. The program fee is offered on a sliding scale, $5-$15, with all proceeds supporting the educational mission of Tidewater Farm. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the UMaine Extension website or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

Media promote free virtual nutrition course

06 Dec 2023

The Bethel Citizen, The Irregular, the Daily Bulldog, Bangor Daily News, Sun Journal and CentralMaine.com promoted University of Maine Cooperative Extension's free nine-session virtual nutrition class for young adults aged 19–25 and adults with young children. The course, titled "Eating Smart, Being Active," will begin on Jan. 3 and run through the end of February.

Maine Morning Star notes UMaine support in clean energy incubator

06 Dec 2023

Maine Morning Star noted that the University of Maine is collaborating with the Roux Institute at Northeastern University and other partners to develop a clean energy incubator program that will support startup companies through mentorship, professional services, access to capital and community events. The state recently allocated $975,000 for the project.

Kansas media feature UMaine-led development of PFAS tracking tool

06 Dec 2023

KSNT (Channel 27 in Topeka, Kansas) and WIBW (Channel 13 in Topeka, Kansas) reported on a University of Maine-led effort to develop an interactive digital tool that will allow users to explore and analyze data on sites and sources of PFAS contamination throughout the U.S.

News Center promotes tree lighting ceremony at UMaine

06 Dec 2023

News Center Maine promoted a tree lighting ceremony being held at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8 at the University of Maine Alfond Stadium as part of Trent's Trees, a statewide initiative in which trees are lit and ornaments are hung to honor those who have died by suicide or are struggling with mental health. This ceremony is in collaboration with the nonprofit Stay; For Life. "We need to change the story about mental health," said Daniel Puhlman, an assistant professor of family studies at UMaine and a co-sponsor of the tree on campus. "We need to reduce the stigma, and we need to talk about it openly — because it's an affliction that happens to a lot of regular, normal, ordinary people."

Media highlight UMaine collaboration in launching wave energy converter

06 Dec 2023

Markets Insider, Yahoo! Finance, WABI (Channel 5), Ocean News and Technology, Offshore Energy, Style Magazine and many other outlets highlighted the support provided by the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center in developing Oscilla Power's prototype wave energy converter, which was recently deployed in Castine Harbor. The ASCC was charged with the structural design and construction of a submerged concrete ring that serves as a heavy plate for the converter. It also assisted with permitting and deployment, and will provide support for monitoring and decommissioning the prototype. "We are pleased to support Oscilla Power by designing and fabricating the wave energy converter's hull at UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center. This deployment marks an important step in helping develop local clean energy sources and local jobs," said Anthony Viselli, assistant director for ocean energy and engineering at the ASCC.

Dvorak explains why not to turn off furnaces at night with BDN

07 Dec 2023

David Dvorak, professor of mechanical engineering technology at the University of Maine, spoke with the Bangor Daily News about why homeowners shouldn't turn their furnaces off at night to conserve fuel and reduce heating costs. "In Maine if you turn off your furnace overnight you have to worry about stuff freezing, like your pipes," said Dvorak, who also is director of the New England Combined Heat and Power Technical Assistance Partnership. "Pipes freezing kind of trumps fuel savings if you have to have a plumber come in on a Sunday."

Faculty and staff parking permits for 2024 now available for purchase

11 Dec 2023

University of Maine 2024 faculty and staff parking permits are now available for purchase. To buy your new parking permit, visit umaine.edu/parking or stop by the Parking and Transportation Services office room 523 DTAV Community Building off Rangeley Road. For questions or concerns, call 207.581.4047 or email um.parkingservices@maine.edu.

Media highlight research award for Garzon

11 Dec 2023

Morning Ag Clips, the Bangor Daily News and CentralMaine.com highlighted University of Maine Cooperative Extension dairy forage educator Jaime Garzon receiving the prestigious Gerald O. Mott Award. The award recognizes Garzon's outstanding academic achievements, contributions to research and education, and dedication to the agricultural community.

Maine Monitor cites alcohol, drug abuse study co-authored by UMaine researcher

11 Dec 2023

The Maine Monitor cited a study titled "The Cost of Alcohol and Drug Abuse in Maine, 2010" co-authored by Marcella Sorg, a forensic anthropologist and a University of Maine research professor at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. The Portland Press Herald shared the article from The Maine Monitor.

Daily Mail cites ancient dog domestication research from UMaine

11 Dec 2023

In a feature about exotic pets and pet keeping, the Daily Mail cited a 2011 study from the University of Maine which found evidence that dogs were being bred and eaten by humans living in Texas 9,400 years ago.

Mainebiz highlights UMaine role in developing high-tech composite shipping containers

11 Dec 2023

Mainebiz noted that the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) conducted research and development with Georgia Tech Research Institute that resulted in the creation of high-tech shipping containers, now manufactured by Global Secure Shipping. The company is an Old Town-based startup and spin-off from UMaine that continues to collaborate with its researchers. A letter from the editor in Mainebiz also highlighted the ASCC's role in creating these high-tech containers.

Wabanaki Winter Market featured in Maine media

11 Dec 2023

News Center Maine and WABI (Channel 5) reported on the Wabanaki Winter Market, the largest holiday gathering of Wabanaki artists in New England, held at the University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts. WABI, WVII (Channel 7), the Bangor Daily News and Maine Art Scene Magazine previewed the event. WBRC (Channel 7 in Birmingham, Alabama), WLOX (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi), KCRG (Channel 9 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa), WNDU (Channel 19 in South Bend, Indiana) and other TV outlets nationwide shared the day-of coverage from WABI.

UMaine faculty and staff discuss in-migration to Maine with Press Herald

11 Dec 2023

Several employees from the University of Maine spoke with the Portland Press Herald about increased in-migration to Maine in recent years. Tim Waring, associate professor of social-ecological systems modeling, discussed the opportunities and challenges surrounding the influx of people moving to Maine from elsewhere, while Diane Rowland, dean of the College of Earth, Life and Health Sciences; Daisy Singh, dean of libraries; and Scott Marzilli, associate provost of student success and innovation, shared their personal stories about relocating here. "The quality of life here is remarkable," Marzilli said. "Even something as simple as letting our younger kids walk down to the store and not worrying about them."

UMaine Extension assistant professor and dairy forage educator receives national research award

12 Dec 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension dairy forage educator Jaime Garzon was recently honored with the prestigious Gerald O. Mott Award. The award recognizes Garzon's outstanding academic achievements, contributions to research and education, and dedication to the agricultural community. The Gerald O. Mott Award is presented annually by the Crop Science Society of America (CSSA) to individuals who have made significant advancements in forage and grassland agriculture. Named after a renowned forage scientist, the award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated excellence in research, teaching and outreach in the field. Garzon received the honor for his research on ecosystem services of overseeding aeschynomene, a warm-season legume commonly known as deer vetch, in bahiagrass pastures. His project focused on assessing the benefits in terms of nutrient cycling, forage quality and performance, nitrogen fixation, soil microbial communities, litter decomposition and nitrous oxide emissions. Through his research and extension efforts, Garzon has provided valuable insights and practical solutions to dairy farmers, helping them improve forage quality, increase productivity and enhance the overall sustainability of their operations. "Jaime Garzon's dedication to dairy forage education is truly commendable," says Hannah Carter, dean of Extension and associate provost for online and continuing education at UMaine. "His expertise and passion for the field have made a significant difference in the broader agricultural community and we're excited about the work he has started with dairy farmers here in Maine. We are thrilled to see him receive this well-deserved recognition." "I am deeply honored to receive the Gerald O. Mott Award. The award is something that I wasn't expecting," says Garzon. "Forage

and grassland agriculture play a vital role in the dairy industry, and I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to its advancement. I would like to express my gratitude to the Crop Science Society of America for this recognition, as well as to my colleagues, the forage community and the Agronomy Department at the University of Florida for their support." Since he began his role with UMaine Extension in 2022, Garzon observed a lack of recent research on legumes in Maine and initiated research projects to address this gap. He is currently conducting research at the Wolfe's Neck Center in Freeport and at Rogers Farm in Old Town, focusing on the performance of clovers, birdsfoot trefoil and alfalfa. The study aims to determine which of these crops performs better under conventional and organic management. Garzon hopes that thorough and up-to-date research on legumes will provide valuable insights and practical recommendations for farmers to optimize their operations. Garzon plans to develop a comprehensive Maine forage handbook within the next three years that will provide fact sheets and practical guidance on forage management. He also intends to hold a hay contest in 2024. Aimed at promoting healthy competition through rigorous judging, including nutritive testing of hay samples, Garzon hopes to encourage the production of high-quality hay throughout Maine. Garzon's ultimate goal is to equip farmers with the knowledge and tools they need to improve their hay production practices and ultimately enhance their overall productivity and profitability. CSSA is an international scientific society dedicated to advancing crop science for the betterment of the world. It supports its members through resources, publications, meetings and career services, empowering them to make a positive impact on global agriculture. For more information about the award, contact Jaime Garzon, jaime.garzon@maine.edu; 207.581.2956. Visit Google Scholar for a list of Garzon's journal publications.

Top five UMaine news stories from 2023

13 Dec 2023

The past year has been a busy one for the University of Maine, and with the non-stop activity came numerous stories of student and faculty success, innovation, research with local and global impacts and exciting new services and facilities. As we look forward to 2024 and another year of accomplishments from and additions to the campus community, we wanted to highlight stories featured on the UMaine News website this year that attracted the most interest. These are the top five UMaine stories from 2023, based on views as of Dec. 12:

Number 5: Study illuminates grief of parents of children with serious mental illness

Many readers, 3,601 on UMaine News, to be exact, were eager to learn more about how parents raising children with serious mental illness and violent tendencies experience and express grief similar to those of children who have died, according to research led by associate professor of sociology Karyn Sporer. Raising a child with a serious mental illness, one which substantially impairs or limits a person's major life activity, can be challenging and lead to a range of emotions for parents and caregivers, from anxiety and shame to guilt and grief. The study from Sporer and her colleagues informs how practitioners can help these caregivers cope with the stress. Read the full story about this study here.

Number 4: UMaine ranked among top institutions in 2024 college guides

Black Bears new and old rejoice whenever the "college of our hearts, always" garners national praise. That's why news of UMaine once again being named a top academic institution by multiple college guides garnered 3,633 views. This fall, UMaine was featured in U.S. News and World Report's 2024 Best Colleges, Princeton Review's "Best 389 Colleges: 2024 Edition" and Washington Monthly's 2023 College Guide and Rankings. The university also was included in Fiske Guide to Colleges 2024, released in the summer. Click this link to find a detailed breakdown of these accolades.

Number 3: Thirty-one faculty members receive tenure and/or promotion

At UMaine, we love to see our world-class educators receive recognition for their hard work and excellence. That's why this story became the third most popular of the year with 3,995 views on UMaine News. The annual announcement recognizes outstanding achievement in teaching, scholarship and research, and community engagement. "These are world-class faculty members who contribute to the quality of the UMaine and UMaine Machias student experience, and to the mission of the state's R1 university in meeting the needs in Maine and beyond," said John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost at the time of the announcement. "We are extremely proud of their achievements and the difference they make through their teaching, scholarship and outreach." Click here to learn which faculty received a tenure and/or a promotion in the spring.

Number 2: Meet the 2023 Outstanding Graduating Students

Each year, every college and the Division of Lifelong Learning selects two Outstanding Graduating students, one from the U.S. and one from abroad, to recognize for their academic achievements and notable contributions to the campus community. Black Bears were eager to meet this year's cohort — the story announcing it garnered 5,628 views. Many of them have been leaders of clubs and campus organizations, creative student researchers, ambassadors of their colleges, excellent athletes and successful interns. As we highlight their accomplishments during their undergraduate careers, we look forward to hearing about their future success in the years to come. If you haven't yet, read about this year's Outstanding Graduating Students here.

Number 1: Meet the Kiwibots

While UMaine launched many new programmatic offerings and services in 2023, no addition to campus has received more intrigue than the Kiwibots, UMaine Dining's food delivery robots. The story announcing them received 7,297 views. The semiautonomous Kiwibots navigate campus using a camera

and GPS system to deliver food ordered through UMaine Dining's Everyday app. At the beginning of the fall semester, 15 of these adorable androids, which also express themselves with various emoji eyes and sounds, were deployed in order to meet the student demand for food delivery services. There are now 20 Kiwibots on campus. Read the full story about the Kiwibots at UMaine here. Thank you for reading these stories and others and sharing them with your own friends, family and colleagues. As we enter the new year, please continue visiting our website, reading our news alerts or following us on social media for the latest UMaine News. If you have a great idea for a UMaine story, click this link to share it with us. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Delaney Colson: Recent UMaine grad hits homerun with Baseball Hall of Fame internship

13 Dec 2023

As a lifelong baseball fan, Delaney Colson landed her dream internship at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York last summer after earning her undergraduate degree in history and secondary education from the University of Maine. "It was really the perfect intersection between both of my majors, combining teaching and education with history and my love of baseball," says Colson, who is from Rutland, Massachusetts and grew up cheering for the Boston Red Sox. She was one of just 19 interns out of more than 500 applicants to be selected for the Hall's summer 2023 Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program for Youth Leadership Development, which provides opportunities for college students and recent graduates to work in various positions at the museum. Her internship was in the education department, where she helped coordinate in-person and virtual field trips, created exhibits and programs for general museum visitors, and developed free lesson plans for classroom teachers. "I helped create or update lessons for all grade levels on topics like science, economics, labor history, geography and multicultural diversity, pretty much any subject you could think of, we were able to tie it to baseball, which was really cool to see," Colson says. One of the highlights of the summer was assisting with the Hall's annual induction ceremony in July, where Colson says it was all-hands-on-deck as the museum welcomed Class of 2023 inductees Fred McGriff and Scott Rolen. Colson also learned how to handle artifacts and wrote articles for the Hall's website. She penned one article about the bat that hall of fame Red Sox slugger and current New England Sports Network (NESN) broadcaster Jim Rice used when he hit his 301st home run. She wrote another piece about Elijah "Pumpsie" Green, the first Black player for the Red Sox, the last team in Major League Baseball to integrate. By the end of the summer, she had also developed museum tours of her own, including one celebrating the 50th anniversary of Roberto Clemente's induction into the Hall. "I wasn't just sitting in an office all day. I was able to gain a lot of experience creating tour scripts and speaking to members of the public," she says. Colson says she feels like she lucked out with a lot of her professors at UMaine, both in history and education. For example, during her senior year, she took a course on American immigration with professor of history Anne Knowles, during which she researched the immigration of baseball players to the United States from the Dominican Republic for her final paper. "Professor Knowles was incredibly supportive and connected me to some materials and researchers that helped me when I was writing that paper," she says. In the College of Education and Human Development, Colson says she learned a great deal from her student teaching seminar supervisor, Connie Ronco, as well as her mentor teacher at Old Town High School, Michael May. "I can't say enough nice things about them," she says. "They were always encouraging me to try new things in the classroom. Sometimes I would bring up an idea, and they might suggest some changes. But usually they would say: 'If you think you can do it, give it a shot.'" Outside of the classroom, Colson was a member of the marching band and pep band all four years in Orono. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Psi (KKPsi), the honorary fraternity for band members, and served as president of the UMaine chapter her senior year. "That introduced me to an incredible group of people, some of whom became my closest friends," says Colson. "And I really think running for president and serving in that role gave me the confidence to apply for the internship and push myself to ask for extra projects when I was at the Hall of Fame." Now that she's graduated, Colson continues to pursue her passion for baseball. Since 2021, she has worked as an ambassador for the minor league Worcester Red Sox, the Triple-A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox. She helps arrange public appearances for the team mascot, gives tours of the team's stadium, and writes articles for the team's website. She also recently accepted a job as a paraprofessional at middle school in her hometown. "I'm so grateful for the amazing, supportive community at UMaine, and I know that no matter what comes next, I'll be able to handle it thanks to the friends and mentors I met during my time there," Colson says. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers free virtual nutrition course beginning Jan. 3

13 Dec 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold a nine-session virtual nutrition class for young adults aged 19-25 and adults with young children. The course, titled "Eating Smart, Being Active," will begin on Jan. 3 and run through the end of February. The course aims to provide participants with the knowledge and skills to make healthy food choices. Each session will cover a different topic related to nutrition, like food budgeting, meal planning, food safety and cooking tips, and include interactive activities, discussions and resources. Participants will also receive free cooking tools and a cookbook after completing all nine sessions. Participants can choose between two time slots. Classes will meet Wednesdays, either from 9-10 a.m. or noon-1 p.m., on Jan. 10, 17, 24 and 31, and Feb. 7, 14, 21 and 28. Class size is limited and registration is required. For more information, to register or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Vanessa Young at 207.255.3345 or vanessa.young@maine.edu.

Beekeeping workshop series promoted by media

13 Dec 2023

Morning Ag Clips, Spectrum News, the Daily Bulldog and the Bangor Daily News highlighted University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Cumberland County offering its annual series of beekeeping workshops with multiple sessions available for beginners and experienced keepers starting Jan. 4. Visit the program webpage to register or learn more.

WPIX notes UMaine role in Host-Virus Evolutionary Dynamics Institute

13 Dec 2023

WPIX (Channel 11 in New York) noted that the University of Maine is among the universities partnering in the Host-Virus Evolutionary Dynamics Institute, a multi-institutional, multi-investigator institute formed to study host-virus interactions across domains of life with the goal of determining universal "rules of life" to which all viruses adhere.

BDN publishes op-ed on female safety from Maine Campus news editor

13 Dec 2023

The Bangor Daily News published an op-ed from Sofia Langlois, news editor of the University of Maine student newspaper, The Maine Campus, titled "The hypocrisy of female safety measures."

O'Reilly discusses Ohtani joining the Dodgers with Inside Headline

13 Dec 2023

Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business, spoke to Inside Headline about baseball star Shohei Ohtani's decision to sign with the Los Angeles Dodgers instead of the Toronto Blue Jays. "We'll all wonder about what it would have been. But I would never blame the club because there's so many structural disadvantages that Canadian franchises face in keeping talent versus some U.S. markets," O'Reilly said.

Micinski co-authors article on Israel-Hamas War for The Conversation

13 Dec 2023

Nicholas Micinski, an assistant professor with the University of Maine Department of Political Science and School of Policy and International Affairs, co-authored an article published in The Conversation titled "Israel uses mass displacement of Gazans as tool of war." Naharnet and Yahoo! News shared the article.

UMaine student's op-ed on fentanyl epidemic published in BDN

13 Dec 2023

The Bangor Daily News published an op-ed by Ben Potter, a fourth-year University of Maine political science student, titled "A bold experiment in Canada can inform Maine's response to the fentanyl epidemic." Potter wrote the piece at the invitation of the Maine chapter of the Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

UMaine study cited in NEA Today article on compassion fatigue among teachers

13 Dec 2023

A study conducted by University of Maine alumna Sherry Pineau Brown and associate professor of educational leadership Catharine Biddle was cited in a recent article published in NEA Today. The article explores the concept of "compassion fatigue" among educators, a term that describes how people who work in so-called helping professions, such as teaching, internalize or absorb their students' trauma to the point of emotional and physical exhaustion. Brown and Biddle surveyed Maine teachers in an effort to identify the personal and professional factors that help mitigate compassion fatigue, as well as burnout among educators. The results of the study, which was part of Brown's dissertation research, suggested that resilience, compassion satisfaction (the satisfaction derived from being a successful teacher) and working in a positive school climate were all factors that could help. Brown, now a lecturer in education and coordinator of teacher education at Colby College, told NEA Today that "The heart of healthy communities are healthy schools, right? And we need healthy adults working within those schools to help our kids because we know they're not healthy." She also urged schools to amplify teacher voices and not resort to "toxic positivity" and "cutesy wellness."

Top UMaine social media content in 2023

14 Dec 2023

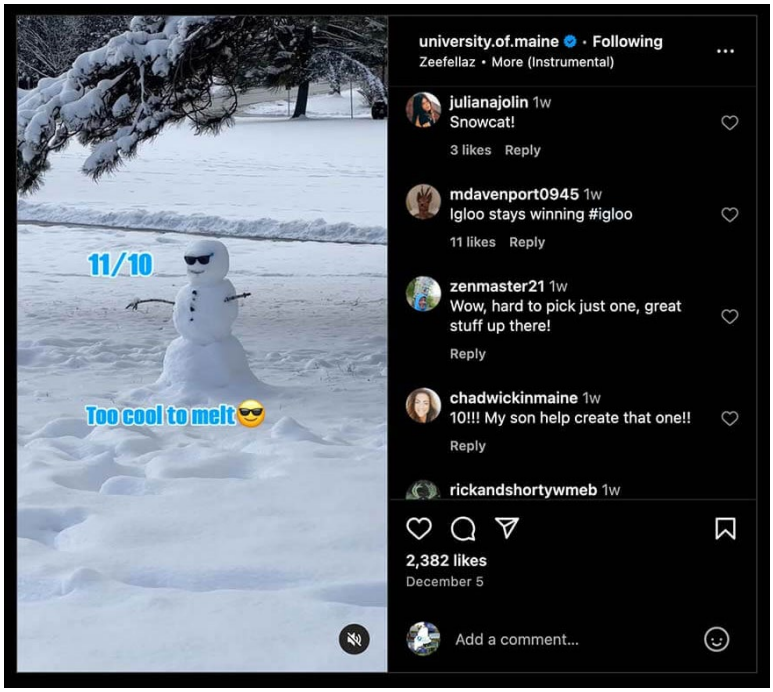
The University of Maine community created so many exciting and heart-warming memories this year, which we shared on social media. We witnessed Black Bears travel across the world; explore the sea, sky and stars; showcase innovative research and art; give back to their community; dominate on the court, rink and field; and "shout 'til the rafters ring" during major celebrations like Homecoming and Commencement. As we look forward to 2024 and another year of Black Bear excellence and pride, we wanted to highlight the social content from 2023 that earned the most engagement, which includes clicked links, reactions, comments and shares, on Facebook, LinkedIn, X, Instagram and TikTok. These are the top five UMaine social media posts in 2023, one from each major platform, as of Dec. 12:

Facebook: Meet the Kiwibots

No addition to the campus community brought more excitement to Facebook users than the Kiwibots, UMaine Dining's food delivery robots. Our post about these adorable androids, which express themselves with various emoji eyes and sounds, garnered 179,870 views. The semiautonomous Kiwibots navigate campus using a camera and GPS system to deliver food ordered through UMaine Dining's Everyday app. At the beginning of the fall semester, 15 of these robots were deployed in order to meet the student demand for food delivery services. There are now 20 Kiwibots on campus! "We saw 2 of them motoring around campus when we moved our son in last weekend. They are so cute!!!! Makes me want to order food from them just to see them again. Lol," one Facebook user commented on our post.
https://www.facebook.com/UniversityofMaine/posts/pfbid033RAfr7J55JTuFEcr4kB7RDkBYNGkLzBTdJjhxBoB4LnkxfLC7Lwpf4AHMMHw1iNUl

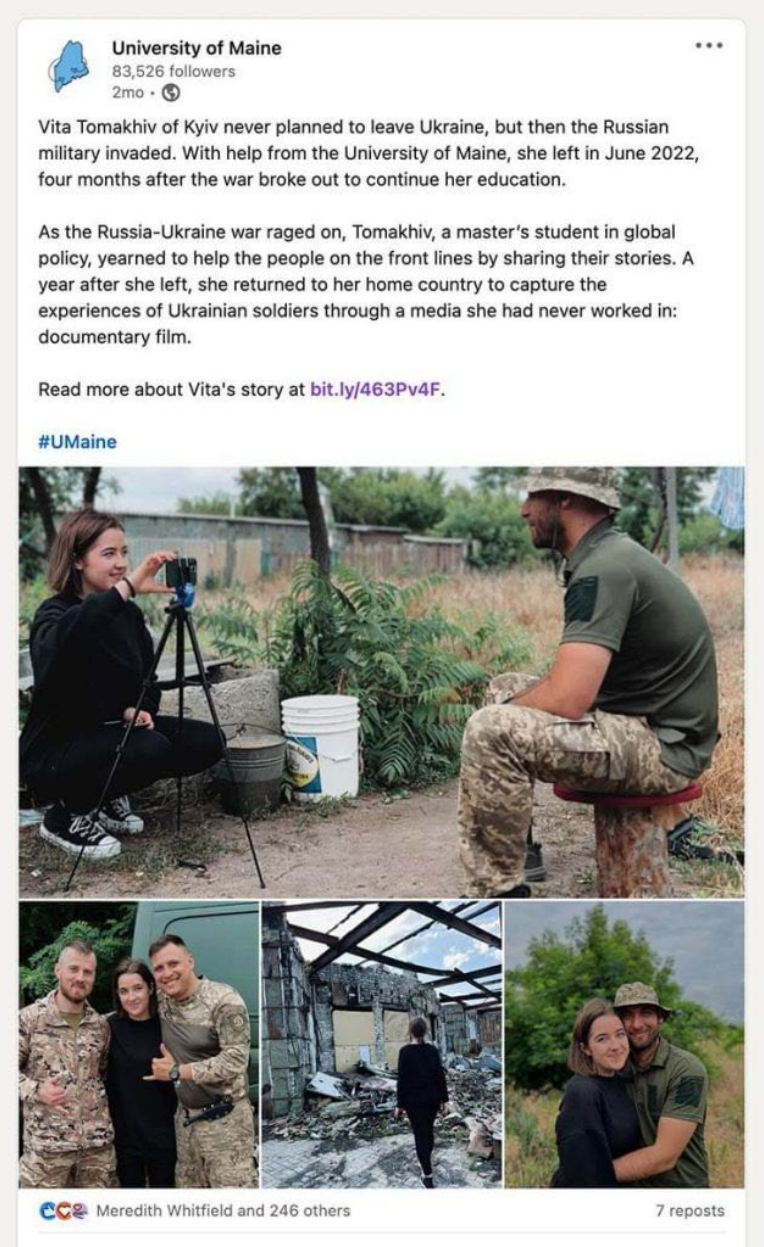
Instagram: Rating UMaine snow sculptures

Not long after a recent snowfall in Orono, we scoured campus for the most creative pieces of snowy artwork to showcase and critique in an Instagram reel. The UMaine community delivered, with many literally cool pieces on display. Among the artwork were a cat sculpture, a throne, several snowmen, a monster and an igloo, the latter which sparked most of the discussion in the comments section. "My igloo! It's famous!" wrote one user.



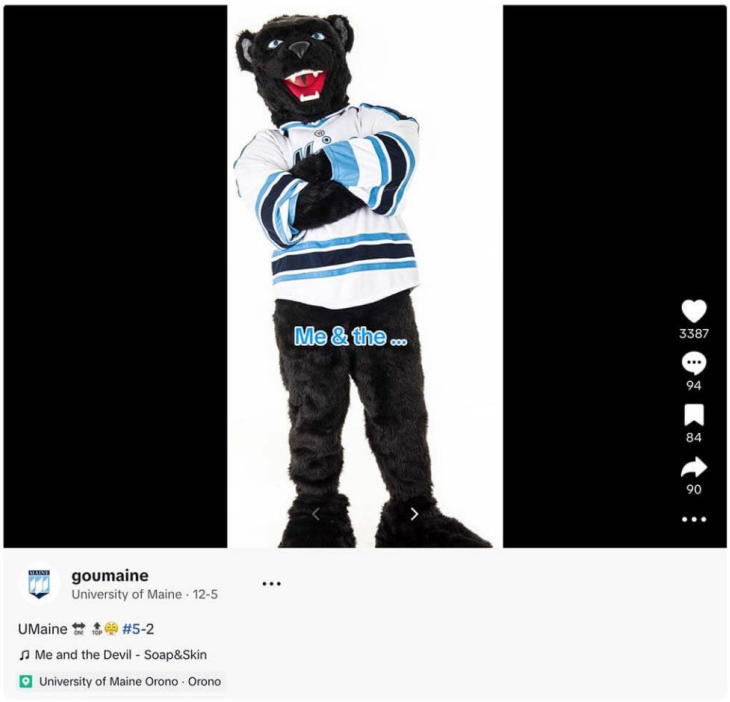
LinkedIn: UMaine student's documentary on soldiers in Ukraine

With help from the University of Maine, Vita Tomakhiv of Kyiv left her home country — something she never planned to do — in 2022 during the ongoing war with Russia to continue her education. One year later, she returned to capture the experiences of Ukrainian soldiers in a documentary she published on Youtube. LinkedIn users enjoyed learning about Tomakhiv's film and story, as our post about it received 17,400 views. "For me, it was important to show that these people could have continued their lives as usual and their careers if not for this war," Tomakhiv said at the time. "But they chose to go to the war, not because they hate Russia, but because they love Ukraine, and they want to protect what they love."



TikTok: 'Me and the Devil,' UMaine Men's Hockey vs. UNH

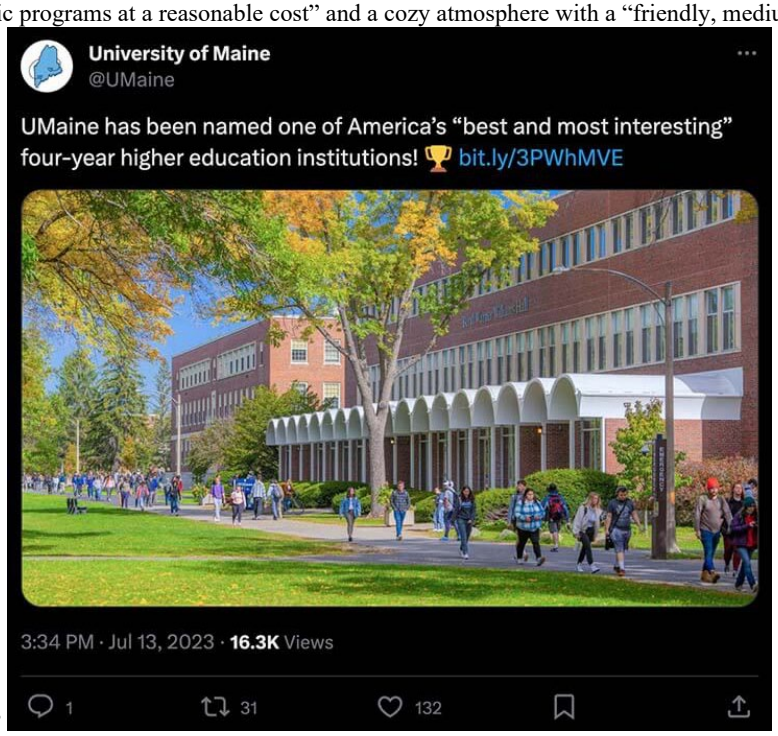
Following Black Bears' 5-2 victory over the University of New Hampshire Dec. 1, the Team Maine student ambassadors created a TikTok throwing shade at our archrival. In it, photos of UMaine's mascot, Bananas T. Bear, and one of UNH's mascots, Wild E. Cat, rotate while lyrics from the song "Me and the Devil," by Soap&Skin, play in the background. The majority of commenters were self-proclaimed Wildcats praising their team and university. One user, however, proposed a conspiracy theory about the two institutions. "What if umaine and unh were just enemies to lovers this whole time," the commenter



wrote.

X: UMaine featured in Fiske Guide to Colleges 2024

The UMaine community loves seeing the “college of our hearts, always” receive national praise. Users of X were particularly excited to see it named one of the “best and most interesting” four-year higher education institutions in America in the Fiske Guide To Colleges 2024. Our post about it garnered 16,211 views. The publication, authored by former New York Times education editor Edward Fiske and updated annually for 40 years, spotlights more than 300 of its top schools in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain and Ireland, according to publisher Sourcebooks. In its profile of UMaine, the latest edition described it as offering “strong academic programs at a reasonable cost” and a cozy atmosphere with a “friendly, medium-sized student body and an emphasis on



undergraduate learning.” Thank you for all the love and support for UMaine on social media. Please continue to follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, X, Instagram and TikTok for more fun, exciting and informative content about the university community. We’re excited to see what 2024 brings, and are eager to share it all with you. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine building New Balance Track & Field and Soccer Complex

14 Dec 2023

University of Maine Athletics and the University of Maine Foundation have announced plans to construct the state-of-the-art New Balance Track & Field and Soccer Complex, made possible by a $7 million commitment from New Balance Athletics. The contribution is part of the fundraising campaign underway to

meet the challenge grant for UMaine Athletics as part of the UMS TRANSFORMS initiative, funded through a $240 million commitment from the Harold Alfond Foundation to the University of Maine System. The project will feature a state-of-the-art soccer turf complex adjacent to a modernized track, along with brand new spaces for field competition. Also located inside the track will be a multipurpose area to provide additional support for athletics and community events. The addition of the new complex will improve UMaine's ADA access and parking for its athletics footprint. Along with the gift, New Balance and UMaine will partner for a newly developed 'Future Scholars' endowed scholarship in the amount of $2,500 annually. The scholarship will be awarded each year to a graduate of Skowhegan Area High School, with preference given, but not limited to, youth of New Balance associates who plan to attend one of seven public universities in Maine. "We are thankful for New Balance's generosity and their confidence in UMaine's Division I athletic program," says Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of UMaine and it's regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias. "We also share a commitment to prioritizing accessibility, equity, and community use and involvement at the highest levels with this new complex. We are grateful for New Balance's support that will benefit the university, state and region." Read the full story on the UMaine Athletics website. Contact: Tyson McHatten, tyson.mchatten@maine.edu

Rowland featured on the latest episode of the Maine Science Podcast

14 Dec 2023

Diane Rowland, dean of the College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences and director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, was a guest on a recent segment of the Maine Science Podcast. Rowland discussed her career trajectory, pioneering research as a crop physiologist and her efforts to foster team science and advance equity and inclusion as dean of UMaine's largest college.

Farms.com highlight UMaine wild blueberry research in Jonesboro

14 Dec 2023

Farms.com highlighted research exploring new technologies and resources to support wild blueberry production being conducted by University of Maine researchers at Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro. The work is supported by a $2.9 million award from the U.S. Small Business Administration, secured by U.S. Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King at the request of the University of Maine System through the FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending process.

Media report on upcoming New Balance Track & Field and Soccer Complex

14 Dec 2023

The Portland Press Herald, Bangor Daily News; Mainebiz; WABI (Channel 5), WFVX (Channel 7), WGME (Channel 13 in Portland) and BVM Sports reported on the University of Maine planning to construct the state-of-the-art New Balance Track & Field and Soccer Complex, made possible by a $7 million commitment from New Balance Athletics.

UMaine orientation camp featured in Journal of Forestry paper on enhancing diversity in natural resource programs

14 Dec 2023

An orientation camp offered to incoming students by the University of Maine's School of Forest Resources was highlighted in an article published in the Journal of Forestry titled "Enhancing Diversity in Undergraduate Degree Programs in Forestry and Related Natural Resources: a Brief Review of Critical Issues and Promising Actions." The article, which was authored by researchers at Mississippi State University, described the Tanglewood Fall Field Camp as, "An excellent example of a transition to college initiative among FRNR programs." The week-long field-based course is one of a series of field camps taken by students in all majors in the school. The experience is designed to foster connections among students and professors and provide exposure to careers in Maine's forests. The School of Forest Resources has hosted immersive field experiences for students for over a century. The current location of the orientation camp in Lincolnville, Maine is managed by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H program.

Howell receives communication prize from international society

14 Dec 2023

The International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CATES) gave Caitlin Howell, associate professor of biomedical engineering at the University of Maine, its 2023 Communication Prize. According to CATES, "the prize is awarded to the most outstanding audiovisual communication of excellence and innovation in technological sciences or engineering." Howell won the prize with her video entry, "Deciphering Nature's Secrets: Bio-Inspired Solutions for Antibiotic Resistance." Howell was honored during the CAETS 2023 conference in October. As a result of receiving the prize, she also was featured on a segment of The Circuit News.

UMaine and UMS leaders salute Gov. Mills' nomination of Gen. Dunn to head Maine National Guard

15 Dec 2023

[caption id="attachment_100568" align="alignright" width="223"]  Diane Dunn[/caption] University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy applaud Gov. Janet Mills' intention to nominate U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Diane Dunn to lead the Maine National Guard and serve as commissioner of the Maine Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management (DVEM). Dunn has served in Ferrini-Mundy's office since January 2022, first as a senior advisor to the president and most recently as chief of staff. She has also taught as an assistant professor of military science at UMaine, where she earned her master's degree in public administration. "I am so pleased with Gov. Mill's decision to nominate Gen. Dunn as the first woman to lead the Maine National Guard and to hold the post of DVEM Commissioner," says Ferrini-Mundy. "Throughout her more than three decades of dedicated public service, Diane has demonstrated incredible integrity, inclusive leadership and loyalty. She is a thoughtful, strategic leader with terrific judgment, who has helped the university advance key initiatives in areas ranging from diversity, equity and inclusion, to research compliance, to the integration of our regional campus in Washington County. While we will certainly miss her at the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias, we are so pleased that her excellence and expertise has been recognized by the Gov. and that if confirmed, she will again serve our state and nation in a most critical role." Ferrini-Mundy noted that last month, UMaine was ranked for the first time by the Military Times on its list of Best for Vets Colleges, joining the University of Maine at Augusta as the only Maine institutions honored. The flagship currently enrolls 310 veterans, the largest in its history, while there are a total of 1,439 active military members, veterans and dependents using veterans' education benefits across the system. "The University of Maine System is grateful for Gen. Dunn's outstanding leadership and service at our flagship university and its regional campus Downeast," says Malloy. "In working directly with Diane, I have found her to be highly effective and a trusted advisor and administrator with an unmatched love for and loyalty to the state of Maine and this nation. I want to congratulate her and Gov. Mills on this history-making appointment, for which Gen. Dunn is highly deserving. If confirmed, I have no doubt she will serve with great distinction and honor, as she has done within our System and throughout her impressive career." Dunn's nomination is expected to be considered by the Maine Legislature in early 2024. Until then, she will continue to serve as Ferrini-Mundy's chief of staff. Contact: Samantha Warren, 207.632.0389; samantha.warren@maine.edu

Media cite overdose report co-authored by UMaine researchers

15 Dec 2023

The Maine Monitor and Spectrum News cited the latest overdose report from the Office of the Attorney General and researchers from the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. The Bangor Daily News, The Piscataquis Observer and News Center Maine shared the article from The Maine Monitor.

Talty authors 'A Year in Reading' essay for The Millions

15 Dec 2023

Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, wrote one of the "A Year in Reading" essays published in The Millions magazine.

Brewer discusses U.S. politics on 'Todd Veinotte Show'

20 Dec 2023

University of Maine professor of political science Mark Brewer was featured on a recent segment of "The Todd Veinotte Show" on CityNews Halifax to discuss U.S. politics.

Media highlight Dunn being nominated to head Maine's National Guard

20 Dec 2023

Spectrum News, the Bangor Daily News, the Portland Press Herald, WABI (Channel 5) and WGME (Channel 13 in Portland) reported on U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Diane Dunn, who currently serves as chief of staff for University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, to lead the Maine National Guard and serve as commissioner of the Maine Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management. WEYI (Channel 25 in Saginaw, Michigan) shared the WGME report.

Dagher discusses BioHome3D and its durability with Concord Monitor

20 Dec 2023

Habib Dagher, executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, spoke with the Concord Monitor about BioHome3D, the first ever 3D-printed house made entirely with bio-based materials, and how it endured one of Maine's most volatile weather years during its

first year of outdoor testing. “We wanted to see how it does through a Maine winter. We’ve done a lot of testing in lab, weathering tests and material tests, but there’s nothing like putting it out there,” Dagher said.

Associated Press features bilingual English and Penobscot language signs at UMaine

20 Dec 2023

In a story about more communities across the U.S. incorporating Native American translations in their road signs, the Associated Press featured the bilingual English and Penobscot language signage throughout the University of Maine campus. “For me, and for many of our tribal citizens and descendants, it is a daily reminder that we are in our homeland and we should be “at home” at the university, even though it has felt for generations like it can be an unwelcome place,” said Darren Ranco, professor of anthropology and chair of Native American programs at UMaine. The Independent, the National Post, the Los Angeles Times, The Seattle Times, The Charlotte Observer, the Wisconsin State Journal and other news outlets across the U.S. shared the AP report.

Cobscook Currents 4-H Club highlighted in News Observer

22 Dec 2023

The Machias Valley News Observer noted the Cobscook Currents 4-H Club participating in a wreath-making event.

Media promote informational session for aspiring volunteers

22 Dec 2023

The Franklin Journal, The Rangeley Highlander, the Daily Bulldog, Morning Ag Clips, the Bangor Daily News and The Piscataquis Observer promoted University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s two-part online informational session for adults interested in becoming Maine 4-H volunteers from 6-7 p.m. on Jan. 16 and 23. The informational sessions are free, registration is required. To sign up, visit the program webpage.

Maine Policy Matters podcast returns Jan. 17

09 Jan 2023

The Maine Policy Matters podcast will launch its third season on Jan. 17 with an episode about offshore wind development, followed by an episode about the future of Maine’s lobster industry on Jan. 30. The premiere episode on Jan. 17 focuses on the Maine Policy Review article “Maine and Offshore Wind Development: Using the Coastal Zone Management Act and Marine Spatial Planning to Influence Projects in Federal Waters” written by Mary Morrissey, J.D. candidate and editor-in-chief of the Ocean and Coastal Law Journal at the University of Maine School of Law. On Jan. 30, Maine Policy Matters will release an episode centered around the Maine Policy Review article by James and Ann Acheson, “What Does the Future Hold for Maine’s Lobster Industry?” Eric Miller, research associate at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, will also moderate a panel discussion with Patrice McCarron, executive director of the Maine Lobstermen’s Association; Geoff Irvine, director of the Lobster Council of Canada; and Richard Wahle, director of the UMaine Lobster Institute. Maine Policy Matters is a podcast by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. In 2022, the podcast had more than 800 listeners. Subscribe and listen to past episodes on Podbean, Soundcloud, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, IHeart or TuneIn.

Summer University student art contest winner announced

09 Jan 2023

Laura Curioli’s artwork, featuring her photography, has been selected as the winning entry in the student art contest sponsored by the University of Maine Division of Lifelong Learning. Her design will be used on this year’s Summer University poster and in other promotions. Curioli, who grew up in Eastport and lives in Hampden, is a double major in history and secondary education, with a concentration in social studies. She is expected to graduate in May and plans to further her education at UMaine through the master’s program in history. Curioli is currently pursing her second year of research on the history of educational philosophies through the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR). Also at UMaine, she has worked for Auxiliary Enterprises in marketing, and for the Division of Marketing and Communications as a student photographer. The images Curioli created and used to design her concept for the Summer University poster were taken in the state, including at UMaine, Acadia National Park and the Orono Bog Walk. She credits her experience as a student photographer with helping to refine her photography skills. “One of my favorite activities is to explore Maine and document its natural wonders,” Curioli says. “My inspiration for this poster was to display many of these wonders, large and small, in a format that represents biology; hence, the hexagonal design. Much like cellular networks are represented in a hexagon form, I wanted this poster to represent the network of Maine’s nature. To me, Summer University can be represented by the amazing environment you get to experience in Maine’s outdoors in addition to pursuing your education.” Summer University registration begins Feb. 1. More information is online.

UMaine Extension 4-H introduces youth to engineering concepts

09 Jan 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is accepting registrations for a special interest club where youth ages 9-18 can explore basic engineering concepts. This online club will be held on Thursdays, Jan. 26–March 2 from 4–5:15 p.m. Required registration closes Jan. 17. The 4-H Engineering Club will introduce basic engineering skills by exploring a different topic each week. Participants will work through a hands-on engineering challenge and will have an opportunity to connect with other 4-H engineers across the state. UMaine Extension 4-H staff will lead the challenges. The club is free and limited to 20 participants. Register by Jan. 17 on the event webpage to receive the link and at-home materials. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.8206 or sarah.sparks@maine.edu. Additional information also is available on the Extension 4-H Virtual Learning webpage.

2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration at UMaine features keynote by three racial justice community leaders

09 Jan 2023

The 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration on Jan. 16, co-sponsored by the Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP and the University of Maine Division of Student Life, will feature a keynote address by two civil rights community leaders, whose efforts led to the successful Juneteenth commemoration in Ellsworth last summer, and a University of Maine graduate student, whose work for social justice has been noted in the central Maine community. The Breakfast Celebration will be held from 8:30–10:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 16 in Wells Conference Center. The keynote address, "Moving Dr. King's Legacy Forward," will be presented by Janine Georgette, a performance and teaching artist for the past 50 years; Jacques H. Newell Taylor, an exercise design specialist; and UMaine graduate student in social work Athena Witham, a public health educator at Bangor Public Health and Community Services. The event also will feature the presentation of the Dorothy Clarke Wilson Peace Writing Prize and live music by Women With Wings. Tickets are $20 for community members, faculty, staff and graduate students; $15 for children under 12. Free admission for UMaine undergraduate students, sponsored by UMaine Student Government. Register online. The snow date is Feb. 20. For more information or to request a disability accommodation, contact Student Life, um.studentlife@maine.edu; 207.581.1406. Out of respect for all people and all religions in attendance, no pork products will be served at this year's breakfast. The Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast is supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund.

Piscataquis Observer boosts UMaine Extension 4-H engineering program for youths

09 Jan 2023

The Piscataquis Observer shared information about a special interest club hosted by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H where youth ages 9-18 can explore basic engineering concepts. This online club will be held on Thursdays, Jan. 26–March 2 from 4–5:15 p.m. Register by Jan. 17 on the event webpage to receive the link and at-home materials.

BDN, Daily Bulldog share in-service training for certified crop advisors

09 Jan 2023

The Bangor Daily News and Daily Bulldog shared information about a two-day training for agriculture service providers in the Certified Crop Advisor program, which will feature presentations from University of Maine Cooperative Extension and others. The program will be held Jan. 25–26 at the Holiday Inn in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Visit the event website for a full agenda and to register.

BDN cites UMaine Extension resource on preserving frozen foods during power outage

22 Dec 2023

In an article titled "How to not lose your wild game meat during a power outage," the Bangor Daily News cited a resource from University of Maine Cooperative Extension about how to preserve frozen foods during power outages.

McGillicuddy Humanities Center awards fall 2023 grants for faculty and staff projects

22 Dec 2023

The Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) at the University of Maine has announced the faculty and staff who receive its Fall 2023 research grants. The grants provide up to $5,000 to support research, community engagement, or innovative teaching in the humanities. Recipients this fall include Taylor Ashley, coordinator for diversity and inclusion at the Office of Diversity and Inclusion; Ellie Markovitch, lecturer in the Department of Communication and Journalism; Kara Peruccio, assistant professor in the Department of History and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies; Liam Riordan, professor of history; and a team of of Michael Socolow, professor of communication and journalism; and Amelia Couture Bue and Haley Schneider, both assistant professors of communication. Visit the MHC website to learn about their projects.

Brewer discusses national election ballot issues with New York Times

22 Dec 2023

The New York Times interviewed Mark Brewer, professor and chair of the University of Maine Department of Political Science, for an article titled "Maine's Secretary of State to Decide Whether Trump Can Stay on Ballot." According to Brewer, little attention had been paid to the complaints against former President Donald Trump's inclusion on primary ballots in Maine until the ruling in Colorado. "Now everyone is looking to see where else this might happen," he said.

UMaine Extension offers beekeeping workshop series in Cumberland County

27 Dec 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Cumberland County is offering its annual series of beekeeping workshops with multiple sessions available for beginners and experienced keepers starting Jan. 4. The five-week beginners course is for beekeepers with less than one year of experience and will be offered twice: Jan. 4-Feb. 1, with a snow date of Feb. 8, and Feb. 15-March 14, with a snow date of March 2. Classes for both sessions will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m. every Thursday. The focus of the beginners course will be on the basics of honey bee biology and beekeeping. It is designed for individuals who are considering buying their first hives, those in their first year of beekeeping and those with a couple of years of experience who want to enhance their skills and knowledge. It will be held at the UMaine Regional Learning Center, 75 Clearwater Drive, Ste. 104, Falmouth. The course will be taught by experienced EAS certified master beekeepers Jacky Hildreth and Peter Richardson and master beekeeper in training Lindy Allen. The fee is $110 per person, which includes the cost of the textbook. The Advanced Apiary Management Course is designed for experienced beekeepers who have 5-8 hives and a minimum of 3 years of experience. The course will consist of five Zoom classes to be held 7-8:30 p.m. every Wednesday Jan. 10-Feb. 7. The course will explore various advanced topics, including overwintering hives; disease; pest identification and management; mite monitoring, treatment and management; swarm management and queen rearing. It will be led by EAS certified master beekeeper Erin Evans. The fee is $75; the recommended textbook is not included. The two-session, intermediate-level Artificial Swarming and Swarm Management Course will be held from 6:30–8:30 p.m. Feb. 14 and Feb. 21. Topics include swarm biology

and behavior, how to prevent and manage swarming in colonies, traps, lures and retrieval. Evans will also lead the course, which will be held at the UMaine Regional Learning Center. The fee is $35. Visit the program webpage to register or learn more. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jason Lilley, jason.lilley@maine.edu; 207.781.6099.

Outreach from UMaine Extension Homemakers highlighted in The County

27 Dec 2023

The County noted that University of Maine Extension Homemakers of New Sweden assisted American Legion Auxiliary Unit 136 in Stockholm in collecting items for their "The Foster Care Backpack Program."

BDN publishes UMaine student's column on incorporating Wabanaki studies in schools

27 Dec 2023

The Bangor Daily News published a column from Hope Carroll, fourth-year communications undergraduate student in the Honors College at the University of Maine, titled "Wabanaki studies should be taught at all Maine schools." Carroll submitted the piece at the invitation of the Maine chapter of the Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Bolton discusses safe use of nonstick frying pans with Buy Side

27 Dec 2023

Buy Side from the Wall Street Journal interviewed Jason Bolton, associate dean of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about safely using nonstick frying pans. "The coating itself is a solid material; it won't dissolve. You're not releasing gas into the air or the food [you're cooking]," he said. "But avoid using a peeling pan where you're ingesting the material. Or heating your nonstick pan past the manufacturer's recommended temperature where some aspects of the coating become unstable."

Washington Post interviews Tan about discovering genetic mishap in chestnut trees

27 Dec 2023

Ek Han Tan, associate professor of plant genetics, spoke with The Washington Post about a discovery he and University of New England researcher Thomas Klak made when studying chestnut trees. Many researchers across much of the U.S. thought they were studying genetically-modified chestnut trees known as Darling 58s, created to resist a deadly disease. Tan and Klak, however, found out they were actually given a different variety known as Darling 54, which had the gene inserted in the wrong spot and was experiencing various complications. When they informed the American Chestnut Foundation about the issue, many others soon learned that they too were given the incorrect variety. "The success as well as the failure, if you want to say failure, of the technology hinges upon public opinion, right? So we cannot say something is not what it is," Tan said. The Portland Press Herald shared the article from The Washington Post.

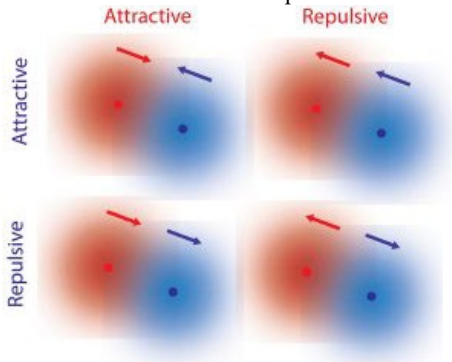
Ishaq elected to American Society for Microbiology board

27 Dec 2023

Sue Ishaq, assistant professor of animal veterinary sciences at the University of Maine, was elected as an early-career, at-large member of the American Society for Microbiology Board of Directors. Visit the society's website to learn more.

Molecules exhibit non-reciprocal interactions without external forces, new study finds

29 Dec 2023

Researchers from the University of Maine and Penn State discovered that molecules experience non-reciprocal interactions without external forces. [caption id="attachment_100622" align="alignright" width="300"] 

A graphic illustrating the four possible interactions between two particles, where the arrows indicate the force experienced by the particle of that color due to the gradient surrounding the particle of the other color. The interactions shown in the upper left-hand and lower right-hand corners illustrate reciprocal interactions where the two particles attract each other, or where they repel each other, respectively. The upper right-hand graphic illustrates a situation where the red particle attracts the blue particle, but the blue particle repels the red particle. The lower left hand graphic illustrates a situation where the red particle repels, but is attracted to, the blue particle. Graphic courtesy of R. Dean Astumian.[/caption] Fundamental forces such as gravity and electromagnetism are reciprocal, where two objects are attracted to each other or are repelled by each other. In our everyday experience, however, interactions don't seem to follow this reciprocal law. For example, a predator is

attracted to prey, but the prey tends to flee from the predator. Such non-reciprocal interactions are essential for complex behavior associated with living organisms. For microscopic systems such as bacteria, the mechanism of non-reciprocal interactions have been explained by hydrodynamic or other external forces, and it was previously thought that similar types of forces could explain interactions between single molecules. In work published in the prestigious Cell Press journal Chem, UMaine theoretical physicist R. Dean Astumian and collaborators Ayusman Sen and Niladri Sekhar Mandal at Penn State have published a different mechanism by which single molecules can interact non-reciprocally without hydrodynamic effects. This mechanism invokes the local gradients of reactants and products due to the reactions facilitated by every chemical catalyst, a biological example of which is an enzyme. Because the response of a catalyst to the gradient depends on the catalyst's properties, it is possible to have a situation in which one molecule is repelled by, but attracts, another molecule. The authors' "Eureka moment" occurred when, in their discussion, they realized that a property of every catalyst known as the kinetic asymmetry controls the direction of response to a concentration gradient. Because kinetic asymmetry is a property of the enzyme itself, it can undergo evolution and adaptation. The non-reciprocal interactions allowed by kinetic asymmetry also play a crucial role in allowing molecules to interact with each other, and may have played a critical role in the processes by which simple matter becomes complex. Much previous work has been done by other researchers on what happens when non-reciprocal interactions occur. These efforts have played a central role in the development of a field known as "active matter." In this earlier work, the non-reciprocal interactions were introduced by incorporation of ad hoc forces. The research described by Mandal, Sen and Astumian, however, describes a basic molecular mechanism by which such interactions can arise between single molecules. This research builds on earlier work in which the same authors showed how a single catalyst molecule could use energy from the reaction it catalyzed to undergo directional motion in a concentration gradient. The kinetic asymmetry that features in determining the non-reciprocal interactions between different catalysts has also been shown to be important for the directionality of biomolecular machines, and has been incorporated in the design of synthetic molecular motors and pumps. The collaboration between Astumian, Sen and Mandal aims to reveal the organizational principles behind loose associations of different catalysts that may have formed the earliest metabolic structures that eventually led to the evolution of life. "We're at the very beginning stages of this work, but I see understanding kinetic asymmetry as a possible opportunity for understanding how life evolved from simple molecules," Astumian says. "Not only can it provide insight into complexification of matter, kinetic asymmetry can also be used in the design of molecular machines and associated technologies." Astumian joined UMaine's Department of Physics and Astronomy in 2001. His research focuses on biophysics, condensed matter physics, and chemically driven molecular machines. He was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) In 2016. His other honors include the Galvani Prize of the Bio-electrochemical Society, the Humboldt Prize, the Feynman Prize, and the Royal Society of Chemistry Horizon Prize, the Perkin prize in physical organic chemistry. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Media promote presentation and roundtable on specialty potato varieties

29 Dec 2023

The Bangor Daily News, the Penobscot Bay Pilot, Morning Ag Clips and Potato News Today promoted an upcoming presentation and roundtable discussion focused on the growing and marketing practices for specialty potato varieties hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension on Jan. 22. To register or obtain more information about this free event, visit the webpage for it.

Leahy speaks to WFVX about wood banks in need

29 Dec 2023

Jessica Leahy, University of Maine Henry W. Saunders Distinguished Professor in Forestry, spoke with WFVX (Channel 7) about wood banks needing support as they become established. "All of the existing wood banks are distributing their wood almost as quickly as they can produce it and dry it," she said. Leahy also discussed the assistance she has provided to various wood banks in the state. "We can provide advice to wood banks that want to start or even existing wood banks. We can connect them to natural resources," she said.

Brewer discusses Trump ballot eligibility ruling with Boston Globe

29 Dec 2023

The Boston Globe interviewed Mark Brewer, professor and chair of the University of Maine Political Science Department, for an article titled "Maine Republicans criticize ruling on Trump ballot eligibility, legal experts expect court battle." Brewer said it's "certainly possible" that Bellows' decision could set a precedent for her successors, regardless of their political party, to remove major candidates from the primary ballot. "Although one might hope we never see this question again," he said.

Obenauer discusses what makes a good car insurance company with WalletHub

29 Dec 2023

Billy Obenauer, assistant professor of management with the Maine Business School, spoke with WalletHub about what makes a good car insurance company for an article titled "Best Car Insurance Companies."

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Jan. 17

17 Jan 2023

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Jan. 17:

- Snow removal activities continue from Monday's storm
- Power has been temporarily rerouted at the East substation as a result of the Versant transformer failure last Friday.
- Fire system gas detector maintenance is underway at Hitchener Hall.
- Storm drain system inspection is underway by Fernald Hall.
- University composter repairs are underway.
- Campus street and walkway lighting repairs are ongoing. Please report any lights that are out to Facilities Management Work Control, 581.4400.
- An LED crosswalk light has been ordered for the Rangeley Road crosswalk by the UMaine Police Department.

- Campus light pole banners are being installed on campus.
- Twenty replacement seats for 140 Williams Hall are delayed due to supply chain issues. Arrival is anticipated for possible spring break installation.
- Library elevator work expected over spring break.
- CCA carpet replacement is complete.
- Campus elevator smoke testing has been scheduled for the week of Feb. 6.
- Coburn and Holmes halls hotel construction continues.
- Aubert parapet wall work is scheduled for after Commencement.

Kopec speaks to the Adventure Journal about PFAS

17 Jan 2023

Dianne Kopec, faculty fellow at the University of Maine Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, spoke to Adventure Journal about how PFAS from outdoor gear sheds into ecosystems and the impact it has on wildlife. Kopec explained that PFAS concentrates in the liver, blood and kidneys. Because they have larger carbon chains, they tend to concentrate in wildlife through ingestion of prey and can biomagnify in the food web.

UMaine Extension hosts discussion on updated labor laws, H-2A and Fair Labor Standards Act

03 Feb 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host an online discussion on federal agricultural-related employment laws on Feb. 21 at 3 p.m. The session will focus on H-2A program requirements and includes recent Final Rule changes that went into effect in November 2022. The discussion will also cover wage and child labor protections under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Violations under these employment laws can be costly. On Oct. 12, 2022, the U.S. Department of Labor published the final rule, "Temporary Agricultural Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in the United States" which went into effect on Nov. 14, 2022. This final rule amends the Department's regulations governing the H-2A program to improve program protections for workers and enhance enforcement against fraud and abuse, while modernizing the H-2A application and temporary labor certification process. The presentation will be led by Brian Cleasby, community outreach and resource planning specialist from the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division's (WHD), Northern New England District Office. WHD is responsible for administering a number of statutes that extend various protections to different types of agricultural workers. The session will cover key program considerations to avoid common wage, disclosure, housing, transportation and recordkeeping-related violations at worksites where H-2A workers are employed. FLSA compliance considerations relating to the act's minimum wage, overtime and youth employment provisions in agricultural-related settings will also be discussed. A question-and-answer period will follow the presentation and links to WHD agricultural employment-related resources will be shared during the session. This program is free; register online to receive the link information. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jason Lilley, 207.781.6099; jason.lilley@maine.edu.

WMTW interviews Sporer about grief experienced by parents of children with serious mental illness

22 Feb 2023

WMTW (Channel 8 in Portland) interviewed Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology at the University of Maine, about her recent study exploring the grief experienced by parents of children with serious mental illness. Yahoo! News and KMIZ (Channel 17 in Columbia, Missouri) shared the WMTW report.

'The Maine Question' asks how athletics help universities fulfill their missions

23 Mar 2023

University of Maine Athletics, the state's only Division I athletics program, is undergoing some major changes. A new director, Jude Killy, stepped up to bat in January, and several facilities are undergoing extensive upgrades as part of a $110 million master plan, funded primarily by the Harold Alfond Foundation as part of the UMS TRANSFORMS initiative. In episode five of season eight of "The Maine Question," Killy, who previously worked for the Division I schools Miami University and University of Pittsburgh, discusses the facility renovations and other updates to Black Bear sports, the evolving landscape of college sports and how they help higher education institutions fulfill their missions. Listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, SoundCloud, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube or "The Maine Question" website. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Media report on Talty being named National Book Foundation 2023 5 Under 35

06 Apr 2023

Today, Book Riot and Literary Hub reported that Morgan Talty, associate professor of English at the University of Maine, was named one of the National Book Foundation's 2023 5 Under 35 honorees, which is awarded to "five fiction writers under the age of 35 whose debut work promises to leave a lasting impression on the literary landscape."

Caron speaks to Shine about dating in China

04 May 2023

Sandra Caron, professor of family relations and human sexuality at the University of Maine, spoke to Shine about the stigma of older women dating younger men in China. "I have been fed up with the idea that women should look for a man to take care of her, a man who is more educated, has a better job and makes more money," Caron said.

News Center Maine notes Tick Lab stats

24 May 2023

In an article about tick season, News Center Maine noted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab has already received more than 400 tick samples this year. Q 97.9, WBLM 102.9 and WCYY cited the News Center Maine report.

Ferrini-Mundy awarded 2023 NCTM Lifetime Achievement Award

06 Jun 2023

The Mathematics Education Trust has selected Joan Ferrini-Mundy as one of two recipients of the 2023 National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Lifetime Achievement Award. The award honors NCTM members who have exhibited a lifetime of achievement in mathematics education at the national level. The award recipients will be recognized during the opening session and celebration reception of the 2023 NCTM Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C.

08 Jun 2023

Gillis receives George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship to study at University College Cork Mackenzie "Kenzie" Gillis, a University of Maine rising senior from Glenburn, has been awarded the 2023–24 George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship to study abroad at University College Cork (UCC) in Ireland. UMaine partnered with UCC to create the scholarship that honors the 1998 Northern Ireland peace accord brokered by then-Senator George Mitchell between Ireland and the United Kingdom. The merit-based scholarship allows recipients to participate in semester-long student exchanges at UCC, with funds for 12–15 credits of study, housing and meal and airfare stipends. The award is granted annually to a UMaine student with high academic achievement, leadership skills, commitment to community service and the ability to promote the scholarship to the academic and wider community. "The George Mitchell Peace Scholarship is a signature program for the University of Maine which celebrates the legacy of the senator and educates our students about peace and cross-cultural understanding," says Orlina Botiva, director of the Office of International Programs. "This full scholarship allows any student from Maine to be able to participate in this study abroad experience regardless of their socioeconomic level. Many past participants could not have afforded to study abroad without the support of this special scholarship." Gillis is majoring in communication with a minor in business. Gillis' application was supported by the Office of International Programs, the Office of Major Scholarships, Erika Clement, assistant director of education abroad, and the selection committee. "Kenzie has a robust background in community service as a long-time volunteer with Maine National Guard Child and Youth Program. She did an excellent job using this experience to connect with the mission of the George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship and the legacy of its namesake. We think she'll be a great ambassador for Maine over in Ireland and the community at UCC," Clement says. **Why motivated you to study abroad?** I wanted to experience a new culture, whilst also studying at a foreign university. **How do you feel about earning the George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship?** I feel honored to have been awarded such an amazing scholarship and get the opportunity to study abroad. **What are you most looking forward to in your time abroad?** I am most looking forward to traveling across Ireland and learning more about the history and culture. **Which classes do you plan to take at UCC?** Mathematical Methods I, Celtic Literature, Modern Ireland: Culture, Politics and Society, Ireland and Scotland: The Gaelic World in the Middle Ages and Introduction to Food Science and Technology. **In which ways do you plan to engage with the local community and to further the peace and collaboration mission of this scholarship?** I plan to participate in their mountaineering club and further explore the city of Cork. I'm particularly interested in the English Market, as well as visiting the Donkey Sanctuary and exploring volunteering there. **Why did you choose to come to UMaine?** I chose to study at UMaine because growing up in the Bangor school system we'd take trips to the UMaine Orono campus and it always seemed like an amazing community. I decided I wanted to be a part of this community. **Is there any particular UMaine initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** The Office of Major Scholarships was a huge help throughout the process of applying to the George J. Mitchell Peace scholarship. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Use the resources we have on campus! **Describe UMaine in one word. Explain.** Rewarding. It's been a rewarding experience. I've learned a lot and have made many new friends from across the U.S. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Cowan speaks to CorkBeo about rare gold and white lobster

18 Jul 2023

CorkBeo interviewed Diane Cowan, senior scientist at University of Maine Lobster Institute, about a strangely colored lobster caught off the coast of Kinsale in Ireland. "This lobster is extraordinary! The red antennae paired with the pale yellow claws and body accented by patterned yellow and blue legs and tail fan are striking. I've seen orange, yes, but not red antennae — except when antennae are cooked," Cowan told CorkBeo.

Select Blue Light Call Boxes Undergoing Maintenance as Part of Comprehensive Safety Strategy

15 Sep 2023

The University of Maine's comprehensive safety strategy provides students with multiple ways of calling for assistance or reporting incidents. One of the technologies employed by the university to protect students and the campus community are the blue light call boxes. "As part of a periodic campus-wide review, the blue light call boxes are checked to make sure they are working properly." said William Flagg, UMaine's chief of police and security services. "Any call boxes found to have issues will be serviced. While many boxes are functioning properly, we want to make sure every call box on campus is regularly maintained and working." Signs have been posted with placards directing community members to appropriate resources if the Blue Light call box has to be turned off for service. While this maintenance is underway, the campus community is reminded that there are multiple ways to contact the campus police department if they need assistance. These resources include calling 911 or using the Black Bear Safe app. Blue light call boxes, 911 and the Black Bear Safe app are all designed to work together to enhance safety and protect the university's campus community. "Everyone is responsible for contributing to their own personal safety," says Flagg. "Trust your instincts. Don't go into any situation that feels unsafe." Chief Flagg suggests that everyone take some common-sense precautions to protect themselves. If you have to walk alone at night, be aware of your surroundings and utilize the features on the Black Bear Safe App if need be. It is also a good idea to pay attention to residence hall visitors you don't recognize, be aware of campus safety resources, and report any suspicious activity. "While the University of Maine is a very safe campus, it takes all of us working together to keep it that way," said Robert Dana, vice

president for student life and inclusive excellence and dean of students “Everyone needs to be vigilant about the safety of our campus community. If you see something, say something. Our police department is here to protect all of us.” To learn more about our dedication to campus safety at the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias, please read the Clery Annual Safety Report.

Brewer discusses national political campaigning in Maine with Reuters

18 Sep 2023

In an article about President Biden’s reelection strategy for rural America, Mark Brewer, University of Maine professor of political science, told Reuters that the challenges he faces in Maine’s second district are “a microcosm of the issues nationwide.” The Japan Times shared the Reuters report.

Maine Policy Matters Launches Season 4

29 Aug 2023

Maine Policy Matters, the Center's official podcast, is back for season four. This season will feature interviews with experts on timely topics relevant to the state of Maine. Episodes will include interviews with Ali Abedi, Peter Schilling, and Salimeh Yasaei Sekeh on AI in higher education and research; Rebecca Schaffner, Chris O. Yoder, Brian Kavanah, and David L. Courtemanch on the Clean Water Act; Caroline L. Noblet and Jean MacRae on PFAS; Anna Kellar and David Richards on the League of Women Voters in Maine; and more. Each episode of Maine Policy Matters is available on all audio streaming platforms, such as Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and Soundcloud, on a bi-weekly basis, starting on August 29th. You can also find episodes and full transcripts on Maine Policy Matters’ website. Listen to Season 4 Episode 1 now! [embed]https://soundcloud.com/mcspolicycenter/s4e1-summer-interns-impact-on-maine-government?si=5ec5c6eb27084b2f89a1f6465983fc0c&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing[/embed] [umaine_resource resource_id="31984" /]

Great Fall Potato Sale - Order Now

27 Sep 2023

We are taking online orders now. Telephone orders starting October 4. Ordering closes on November 11. Pick up day is **Saturday, November 18th, 9-3**. Please have **exact change** ready. Please plan to bring cash. All orders will be issued a receipt. We do not take credit or debit cards. We cannot take checks on behalf of the grower. [gravityform id="9" title="true" description="true"]

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UMaine Extension offering forest health 4-H club

01 Nov 2023

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a free, four-session 4-H club focused on forest health. Designed for youth ages 8-11, the in-person club aims to explore the beauty and abundance of Maine’s local forests while learning about the importance and resilience of forests as ecosystems. Through hands-on activities, participants will create a “tree tale” bracelet based on growth ring data, “read” tree cookies and develop skills in tree identification. The club will meet from 3-4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Nov. 20 and 27 and Dec. 4 and 11, at the Gallison Memorial Library, 11 Center St, Harrington. The forest health 4-H special interest, or SPIN, club is part of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s commitment to providing engaging and educational opportunities for youth. Through the SPIN club series, participants ages 9-18, along with a volunteer, explore a subject of interest over several sessions. Topics range from the natural world, heritage arts, science and technology, to photography, music, gardening, sports and more. Spaces are limited to ten participants, early registration is encouraged. Visit the program’s webpage to sign up. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Tara Wood, tara.a.wood@maine.edu; 207.255.3345.