SPECIAL ISSUE

Down East

THE MAGAZINE OF MAINE | NOVEMBER 2021

VIRGINIA OLIVER, STILL LOBSTERING AT 101

70 OVER 70

LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING AHEAD WITH 70 EXTRAORDINARY MAINERS

TILLEN FARMS®

by STONEWALL KITCHEN

STONEWALLKITCHEN.COM

Welcome to a *world away.*

Here, among a growing population of friendly neighbors, you'll find the privacy you cherish, the ease of maintenance-free living and the freedom to design and customize the house of your dreams on the lot of your choice. All of that and the security of being part of **OceanView at Falmouth**, a full-service retirement community offering supportive services and every lifestyle amenity you can imagine.

Cumberland Crossing proudly offers you to be among the first to view our **third generation** of exceptional retirement living cottages.

Please contact us to schedule a tour:
207-781-4460 or info@cumberlandcrossingrc.com

Check out our 3D virtual models at cumberlandcrossingrc.com

Cumberland Crossing
by • OceanView

It's a world away.

Cumberland, Maine

only
NATURAL
DIAMONDS

FOR MOMENTS LIKE NO OTHER

DAY'S
JEWELERS
· SINCE 1914 ·

www.daysjewelers.com

Living Well & Loving Life

Safely Together at Northbridge Senior Living Communities

PROUDLY SERVING SENIORS IN MAINE

Northbridge Communities

As a locally owned company, we understand the uniqueness of New England and we embrace the individuality in each of our senior living communities. Today, our residents and their families are proud to call our communities **home.**

Learn more about the ★★★★★ service and experience at Northbridge. ***Hear from our families:***

NorthbridgeCos.com/Family

Independent Living, Assisted Living & Avita Memory Care

Brunswick | Hallowell | Wells | Westbrook

Visit online: **NorthbridgeMaine.com**

Special Issue

NOVEMBER 2021

VOL.68 NO.4

70 OVER 70

BEGINS ON PAGE 18

ON OUR COVER
Virginia Oliver, by Michael D. Wilson.
See page 20.

Homesteader and seaweed harvester Larch Hanson.
See page 90.

TARA RICE

A PARADISE OF **YOUR OWN DESIGN.**

Highland Green in Topsham, Maine

Imagine the Maine retirement cottage of your dreams.

Start with 635 acres of rolling Maine woodland that encompasses its own nature preserve. Thoughtfully plan the site to incorporate more than 200 beautifully constructed homes in a variety of sizes, settings and configurations. This is how you get to Highland Green, a 55+ community in a class by itself.

While they last, select lots are now available for custom building in elevated home sites near the picturesque Cathance River Preserve here at Highland Green. But don't delay. To make your move before 2022, you need to set your sights on a site now.

HIGHLAND GREEN™

PUT YOUR MOVE IN MOTION.

Learn more at HighlandGreenLifestyle.com

or call us today at (207) 725-4549

At this dramatic headland, ledges of igneous and swirling metamorphic rock jut into the sea, their jagged appearance the result of erosion, a product of near-constant pummeling by the elements and the waves. It's a long way from this site to Bucksport, but the folded metamorphic bands found here are some of the more eye-catching exposures of what's known as the Bucksport Formation, a largely underground swath of bedrock that outcrops here and there between Boothbay and Beddington. The formation was given its name by Joseph Trefethen, Maine's state geologist from 1942 to 1956. Had Trefethen visited this site during his first year on the job, he might have bid farewell to the departing caretaker at the lighthouse that looms over these rocks. The light had been automated eight years before, and the site had recently become a town park. It still is today, attracting 100,000 visitors annually, who come to clamber on these charismatic crags — oh, and maybe to admire the lighthouse.

If you can name this gneiss-looking point, write us at P.O. Box 679, Camden, ME 04843 (with "Where in Maine" on the envelope), email us at editorial@downeast.com, or comment on social media. We'll feature our favorite letter in an upcoming issue — and send the winner a *Down East* wall calendar. BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON

Laura Zamfirescu

Near Ashland
Nikon Z6, 500mm
@laurazwings

I like to go camping and kayaking in the north woods just to spot moose. The year I took this, we saw 39 moose in only five days. On this particular morning, my friend and I were paddling in dead water and I spotted this one, very far away at first. We waited for 30 minutes for him to come closer. Eventually, he came 40 feet away from us, on the other side of the water. As he was making short steps towards us, my heart was going crazy. I took this portrait of his head, with the beautiful reflection in the water, my favorite part of this photo.

Tradition Meets Precision

EXCEPTIONALLY BUILT POST & BEAM

TheBarnYardStore.com | 1-800-628-2276

Build Services & Timber Frames Shipped & Raised Nationwide

Featured Photo: 36' x 36' Lenox Carriage Barn

The BARN YARD

Jack Stolz

Yarmouth
Sony A73, 17–28mm
@jackstolz

There's a large field I always drive by just before I cross the bridge to Cousins Island, and this tractor, with its beautiful patina, is always there. I'd been waiting for the right moment to capture it. I was a little rushed the day I took this, since the road was busy, but I knew this was the moment: the tractor was complemented by the fall foliage, and the colors were all so homogenous. It just seemed like a scene I needed to photograph.

Down East Best of Maine 2021

Best Bargain Store
10 Years Running!

A Maine
Family Business
Since 1949

Renys
A MAINE ADVENTURE

Buy Local. Buy Maine.

Your Holiday Adventure Begins Here!




"Every time I go to Maine, I have to go to Renys."
–Kim, NH

Thank you for shopping locally.

Visit us at one of our 17 great locations throughout Maine!

Bath • Belfast • Bridgton • Camden • Dexter • Ellsworth • Farmington • Gardiner • Madison • Main Store • Pittsfield • Portland • Saco • Topsham • Underground • Wells • Windham

Visit us @renys.com

editor's note

This issue takes a trope in the publishing world, although it is not unique to the publishing world, and flips it on its head. In other magazines or on the web, you have perhaps come across "30 Under 30" or "40 Under 40" features — "power lists" that spotlight up-and-comers in this or that field or discipline, letting readers know whom to keep an eye on. Business mags like *Forbes* and *Fortune* tend to be the most committed to the format, but they are certainly not alone. Young music-industry execs jockey for a spot on *Billboard*'s yearly "40 Under 40" list. A nod as one of the National Book Foundation's annual "5 Under 35" honorees can make a young writer's career. And so on.

But how much more is there to learn from an 85-year-old than from a 25-year-old?

In the summer of 2020 — at a pre-vaccine, socially distant, outdoor staff meeting, under a pavilion in Bath — we got to thinking that if any magazine could swing the inverse of a youth-fetishizing power list, it was probably ours. Maine is, after all, the oldest state in the country, by some measures. Its median age of nearly 45 years tops every other state's and is several clicks higher than national median, which is closer to 38. It is, anecdotally, chock-full of people who continue to pursue their work and passions well into their golden years — some of this magazine's most memorable stories have concerned nonagenarian fishermen, octogenarian athletes, septuagenarian artists, and the like.

And so, we thought, why not a whole issue of them? Could be fun.

This turned out to be a somewhat zeitgeist-y idea. A few months after we put "70 Over 70" on our editorial calendar, the web magazine *Slate* trotted out an "80 Over 80" list of the most influential older Americans. In the spring, a very good podcast called, yep, *70 Over 70* debuted and generated some buzz. Both followed the "power list" model, in a sense, concerning themselves with icons, celebrities, and VIPs.

We wanted to go a different direction, keeping our focus on relatively low-profile Mainers. Putting together a list of subjects for this issue, we steered away from prominent state leaders, CEOs, executive directors, and the like. Those folks get plenty of ink already, in this mag and others. Instead, we've tried to key in on folks who've broken barriers, who are considered heroes or legends in their communities, who've shown extraordinary dedication to their passions or plunged into new ones at an age when many of us are slowing down.

We hope you get as much out of the resulting conversations and encounters as we did — however old you are or feel.

Brian Kevin
Editor in chief
bkevin@downeast.com

The Comments Section

I find the article "Shared Soil," in *Down East*'s August issue, an example of cultural extra-territoriality by the Somali Bantu immigrants. The story has zero mention of Native American agriculture or credit for the native crops of the Americas. The same blind spot is directed to community ownership of farmland. Farming nations here lived in villages and had their farmlands in some kind of village management. There was no such thing as a nuclear family living all by themselves on a quarter-section of land with their farm. I don't want to learn anything from these Somali Bantu farmers. I don't want any more alien crops brought here. I want to learn from the Native Americans about their farming practices. So should the Somali immigrants.
Jean SmilingCoyote
Chicago, Illinois

In the 2021 Best of Maine, it appears that the Bold Coast north of Ellsworth has fallen off into the sea! There is a mention of Grindstone Neck Golf Course, in Winter Harbor, but what about the Pierre Monteux School, in Hancock? The renowned school just completed its 78th season as a premier musical program in the training of conductors and orchestral musicians. And what about the sculpture that was created by an international collection of sculptors whose 34 impressive stone works are installed along what is referred to as the Maine Sculpture Trail? Washington County is home to 10 of the sculptures.
Connie Glore
West Boxford, Massachusetts & Milbridge, Maine

It was great to see the lobster roll on the front page of the September issue for Best of Maine. What a lobster roll should be is simple: about six ounces of freshly cooked lobster mixed with one teaspoon of mayonnaise, a New England–style bun, and a layer of lettuce in

the roll to keep the wetness of the lobster mixture from going into the bread. That's it. No celery, green peppers, tomato, spices, or anything else. My wife and I have been coming to Maine from Maryland since 1987, and all the filler that is in some of the lobster rolls we have gotten over the years is disappointing. We ate our very first and best lobster roll at Two Lights Lobster Shack, in Cape Elizabeth, in 1987. A non-touristy best is Jordan's Snack Bar, in Ellsworth — I measured the meat mixture once. Six ounces. Incredible! And in Maryland, we do not wear any bibs, as eating a steamed lobster is not messy at all. You only have some water inside the lobster when breaking the tail away from the body. Bibs! Really? A marketing ploy of the lobster associations.
Mike Marmer
Germantown, Maryland

CORRECTION
In the My Favorite Place section of our September issue, we mistakenly listed *New Mainers: Portraits of Our Immigrant Neighbors* as one of Reza Jalali's books. Jalali wrote its foreword and helped select its subjects, but Pat Nyhan is the author and Jan Pieter van Voorst van Beest the photographer.

VOL. 68 NO. 4

In This Issue:

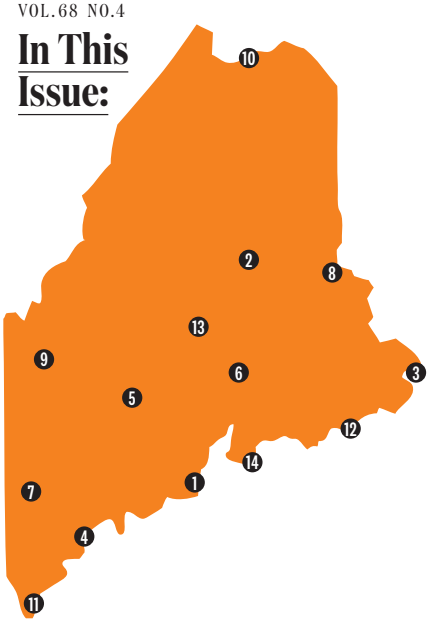



Photo © Darren Setlow

WE WANT TO SEE MAINE THROUGH YOUR LENS!

Submissions are open until October 27 for the annual ***Down East* Reader Photo Contest** , sponsored by the Natural Resources Council of Maine. Winners in four categories — Landscape, Lifestyle, Wildlife, and Readers' Choice — are eligible for thousands of dollars in cash and prizes, including a spot on a *Down East* Adventures photo workshop, *Down East* subscriptions and swag, photography goodies, and publication in the magazine. Contest judges include *Down East* staff photographer Benjamin Williamson and acclaimed photographers Sarah Rice, S. B. Walker, and Alberto Lopez. Visit **downeast.com/photocontest** to submit your entry!

Where in Maine

SEPTEMBER 2021

Our family used to traverse the Naples Causeway on our way to Camp Boyland where, in 1958, I spent my first summer away from home. Before arriving at camp that first year, we stopped at Howard Johnson's (now the site of Rick's Cafe) for a last meal together. After two weeks of homesickness, allergic reactions, and several nights in the infirmary, I was allowed (against the camp's policy) to enjoy an off-campus outing with my family on parents' weekend. We went back to HoJo's and played on the trampolines out back. It worked! The last two weeks of camp were wonderful, as were my next seven summers in Naples.

Richard Darveau
Reading, Massachusetts

My aunt and uncle, John and Edna Johnson, owned Howard Johnson's restaurant for years, where I waitressed in 1969. During the seven summers that the Johnsons ran the HoJo's, hordes of people would disembark from the *Queen* and sashay over to the restaurant to eat fried clams or hot dogs while overlooking Brandy Pond. The Naples Causeway, back in the late 1960s, was just a skinny, unlandscaped version of the nicely reimagined one in this picture. But no matter the decade, it's always been a great spot to witness gorgeous sunsets: a painted evening sky over a glittering lake with the White Mountains as a backdrop. Simply magical.

Irene Reilly
Naples, Maine

Back in the 1960s, our family's biggest treat was driving to Naples and getting pizza at Mario's. In 1985, my husband and I got engaged at the Chute Homestead, in Naples. My parents had rented the original *Songo River Queen* one summer, before it burned, to celebrate their wedding anniversary, my sister had her wedding rehearsal on the boat back in 1987, and this past July, my uncle was given a surprise 88th birthday party on it by his friends at Camp Timanous. I miss the old swing bridge that allowed the *Songo River Queen* passage up the river, although not the traffic it caused!

Susan Lacey Ringhof
Tinton Falls, New Jersey

Our Favorite Letter

The causeway in Naples looks quite different today than when I first saw it, in 1952, when I was 16. My friend and I were waitresses at Howard Johnson's restaurant that summer. We walked on the causeway to and from work every day. My favorite memory is of the night when we walked back to the house where we were staying after a late-night shift: we decided the quickest way to wash our HoJo uniforms was to jump off the causeway fully clothed, and while still wearing them, scrub them clean in Long Lake.

Lois Blanchard Widmer
Brunswick, Maine

EACH MONTH, OUR EDITORS SELECT A FAVORITE RESPONSE TO THE WHERE IN MAINE CLUE. THE WINNER RECEIVES A *DOWN EAST* WALL CALENDAR. SEE PAGES 6–7 FOR DETAILS.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON

Down East

THE MAGAZINE OF MAINE

Where do you see yourself at 70?

A camp in Deer Isle? A farmhouse in western Maine? Still in our Portland house? My husband and I can't decide!

Bit of a sensitive question because 70 isn't so far away and also I have absolutely no idea. Probably sitting in my office flipping through pages of Down East.

I see myself even more in love with Maine, writing about its wonders, stewarding our little patch in Brooklin, and continuing to connect people with nature on this beloved scrap of the planet.

Running a fun art-related business and traveling in the shoulder seasons.

In an ideal world, retired, healthy, and puttering around my garden!

Retired with more time to explore and enjoy Maine!

EDITORIAL OFFICE
P.O. Box 679, Camden, Maine 04843, 207-594-9544, 800-766-1670
fax: 207-594-7215, downeast.com, editorial@downeast.com
ADVERTISING SALES OFFICE
106 Lafayette St., Yarmouth, Maine 04096, 207-594-9544, 800-766-1670

DOWN EAST MAGAZINE (ISSN 0012-5776 & USPS 487-770) is published monthly by Down East Enterprise, Inc., 680 Commercial St., Rockport, Maine 04856. Volume No. 68 · Issue No. 4. Periodicals postage paid at Rockport, Maine, and at additional mailing offices. Subscription rates: $34 for 12 issues; Canadian and foreign addresses, please add $18 per year. For subscriber services call 800-727-7422. At newsstands: $5.99 a copy. The publisher, upon written request from any subscriber, will cancel a subscription and make full refund for copies not yet mailed. No responsibility can be assumed for unsolicited material.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to *Down East* magazine, P.O. Box 37098, Boone, IA 50037.

Member 2021 INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL MAGAZINE ASSOCIATION
Down East is proud to be an IRMA award-winning publication.

Down East magazine's circulation is guaranteed by an independent third party, the Circulation Verification Council.

PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

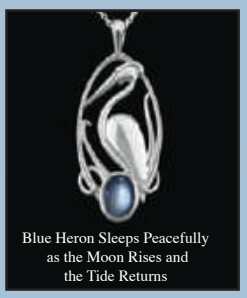
This Christmas
Our store is only
45 seconds away
www.CrossJewelers.com


Dollar


Baby Bee Pure Honey Gold, a Taste of Heaven


Window to the World


French Daisy

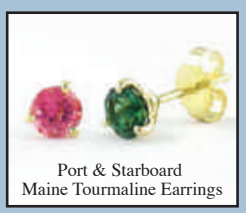

Blue Heron Sleeps Peacefully as the Moon Rises and the Tide Returns


Blue Sapphire Martini Earrings


Perfect Wave Blue Topaz


Compass


True Friend, Best Friend


Port & Starboard Maine Tourmaline Earrings


Blueberry Stone


Sunrise by the Sea


North Star

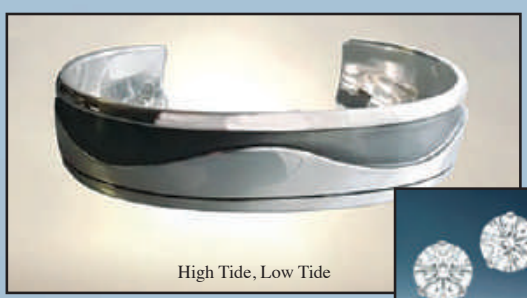

Sea Glass Lighthouse

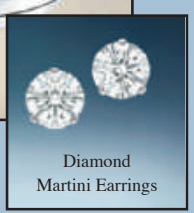

Cat in the Window
Watching the Phases of the Moon


Moonstone Moonlight on the Sea


Island Dream


Tidepool Starfish


High Tide, Low Tide


Diamond Martini Earrings

Top 20 favorites

Visit the Cross Jewelers website with over
1,000 great fine jewelry gifts.
We guarantee you'll find the perfect piece of jewelry.

Cross Jewelers

For over 100 years in Portland, Maine

www.CrossJewelers.com **1-800-433-2988**

DE11217

* Elders
Neighbors
Mentors
Mainers

70 over 70

Here in the oldest state in the nation, we don't let age hold us back. We reflect on our past when we envision our future. And we glean lessons from those whose experience is measured in decades not years – as in this special issue, focused on dozens of Mainers we admire, ages 70 and older.

Leonard Cummings, with his wife, Mary Jane, has spearheaded the renovation of Portland's historic Abyssinian Meeting House. See page 128.

DANIELLE SYKES

Oliver's father had a wooden boat also named *Virginia*. She's been lobstering aboard this one since it was brand new in 1982.

Lobstering Oliver Life

Rockland's ***Virginia Oliver*** *won't stop trapping lobster — and America is eating it up.*

The night before we visited 101-year-old Virginia Oliver at her home in Rockland, the state's oldest licensed lobster harvester — and newest celebrity — had a Zoom call with a young reporter from Greece. "Young girl, nice-looking girl," Oliver said the next day, sitting on a folding chair in her garage and chuckling. As for why she wanted to talk with an old woman who traps lobsters in midcoast Maine, Oliver couldn't begin to guess. "I don't know," she said. "I don't think I'm anything too special."

CBS Sunday Morning disagrees. So does the *Boston Globe* and NPR and the Associated Press and a host of other outlets that turned up this summer to chat with "an absolute legend," as several Twitter users described Oliver during the surge of online adoration that followed the monsoon of media coverage. "Protect this icon at all costs," one tweet implored. "I want to be this woman when I'm 101," another declared. "The Force is strong with this lobsterwoman," *Star Wars* actor Mark Hamill tweeted.

For Oliver and her 78-year-old son, Max, who lives down the block and hauls traps with his mom three days a week, it's all a little perplexing. They seem neither flattered nor

MICHAEL D. WILSON

put out by the sudden burst of publicity, just wryly amused. Oliver started fishing daily with her late husband, Bill, in the early '70s. She started going out with Max in 2005, after Bill retired from it and shortly before he died at age 90. Over the last few years, she and Max have gotten some local news coverage here and there, but this season was the first time they've had more than a half-dozen photographers and video crews joining them on their 34-foot boat.

The boat's called *Virginia*, and it's tied up in Spruce Head, three-ish miles across the Muscle Ridge Channel from an island called The Neck, where Oliver, born in Rockland, spent summers growing up. The Neck is connected at low tide to larger Andrews Island, part of the Muscle Ridge islands, and it's where Oliver's dad caught lobsters with wooden traps when she was a girl. When she was all of seven or eight, she learned to haul and pilot a boat from her dad and brother. During the school year, she lived with an aunt in Rockland, on the same street where she lives now, but for as long as she can remember, she always loved being on the water — helping her dad on the boat never felt like a chore.

These days, she and Max fish three days a week, May through November. They get up around three in the morning ("I try to get to bed by 10," Oliver says), then load up the truck and drive eight miles to Spruce Head, Oliver often behind the wheel. (Next to her in the garage was a '76 Oldsmobile Cutlass, covered with a drop cloth, that she says she drives to Belfast once a year or so, ceremonially.) They load up gear and bait (pogies), step into their bibs, and head to the fishing grounds, Max typically at the helm. He pulls traps (they each have their own, plus a tank with a partition to keep their hauls separated), while Oliver preps bait and works the sorting table: measuring bugs, tossing back shorts or notched ones, notching any egg-bearing females. The most stoic of sternmen might nonetheless acknowledge that this can be monotonous, uncomfortable work. Not Oliver, though.

"It's really not work to me" she says. "It's just what I do. I like to do it. I wouldn't go if I didn't want to."

For years, she worked at home, raising four kids, until the youngest was nine, then she put in almost 19 years at a Rockland printing plant, hoisting 55-pound cartons around the factory floor. "I got tired of that," she says. "Decided lobstering, I wouldn't have to work half as hard, and I could be my own boss." She left the plant one day and was at home when Bill came in off the water. "He said, 'I thought you went to work?'" she remembers. "I said, 'I did. I just quit. I'm going with you.'"

Lobstering hasn't fundamentally changed in the nine decades she's been doing it, although Oliver is no longer as conspicuous an outlier as a woman in the industry. "A lot of women go out now," she says, "but when I started, no women were going except for me." And did any of the men on the waterfront ever give her or her husband a hard time about it? "Nah," she waves away the thought. "I'd have told them off if they did."

Rockland has changed around her, of course. The fish-processing plants are gone. Oliver remembers when the town seemed bursting with mom-and-pop businesses — five shoe stores, two or three hardware stores, department stores downtown — all since replaced. "Can't buy anything in Rockland these days," she shrugs. "It's all art galleries." As for the town's future, she doesn't hazard a prediction.

"Oh god, hard tellin'," she sighs. "Everything changes all the time. It's always going to. Doesn't bother me much one way or the other, really."

In general, she doesn't spend much time pining for the old days or indulging in nostalgia. Point out to her that plenty of folks her age find comfort reminiscing about how things used to be, and she only laughs. "Yeah, well, I can't bother with that," she says. She's slightly more reflective about changes she's seen in the lobster fishery. "Not a lot of lobsters now — used to be a lot years ago," she says. "It's all a gamble — you never know if you're going to get any. I think it's a poor business for anybody to get into now."

All the same, her one piece of advice for the generations behind her — which she will only offer if really, really pressed — is that a person has to get into *something*. And if it's something they love, then so much the better. "You just better work hard, not just sit around doing nothing," she says. "You know, if you don't keep moving, then you're not going to be able to do nothing. And that's not even living." — BRIAN KEVIN

Over 70

Katahdin Peaked His Interest

Since retiring, ***Nelson Daigle*** *has stood atop Maine's highest mountain more than 500 times.*

Nelson Daigle's family moved from Fort Kent to Millinocket when he was a teenager, and he wound up staying, taking a job at the Great Northern Paper Company's pulp-and-paper mill on the Penobscot River. When he retired, in 1994, he knew exactly how he was going to occupy his time: hiking in Baxter State Park, just up the road from his home. "I was climbing mountains before that," the now-83-year-old Daigle says. "But I wanted to see how many times I could climb Katahdin."

He guesses that, prior to retirement, he hiked Katahdin maybe 10 times. Since then, he has reached the summit an additional 532 times. And it's not just Katahdin — this past summer, he climbed more than 40 mountains across the state. Over the years, he's had memorable encounters with wildlife. A young moose once quietly followed behind him as though a hiking partner. Daigle kept scaring it off, and it kept coming back. Another time, a bear stood on its hind legs and appeared to wave at Daigle from a considerable distance, so he simply waved back — the bear, he realized, was grazing on wild cranberries.

The scariest moment in all of his outings occurred above tree line on Katahdin's Abol Trail. Ahead of him, small rocks had started to tumble, then bigger ones, until boulders the size of small cars were crashing down the mountain. "I got out of the way just in time," Daigle recalls. That trail was later rerouted away from the rock slide, and the new path, he notes, is much better. Trail maintenance is something of a secondary passion — soon after he retired, he started volunteering with the Friends of Baxter State Park and spent 10 years working on the much-traveled Chimney Pond Trail, which leads into the base of Katahdin.

The past few years, Daigle has had to somewhat scale back his ambitions. When he turned 80, he began turning around more often before hitting the peak. His legs and knees can't quite do what they used to, and he says that blood-pressure meds have slowed him down a bit too. Still, he's taken those limitations in stride. Now, he savors his climbs at a slower pace, taking in more of his surroundings along the way instead of racing to the top. He rests whenever he feels like it and chats with other hikers as they pass. "I enjoy it a lot," he says. "As a matter of fact, if I don't hike for a couple of days, I can't wait to go back up again — the feeling of it, the high you get from it, being out in the woods. It's something to do, you know?" — JOEL CRABTREE

Left to right: Daigle on the summit of Maine's highest mountain in 2015, 2010, and 2002. Not pictured: 529 other visits since 1994.

This Christmas
Our store is only
45 seconds away
www.CrossJewelers.com

Earrings
$1,040

Summertime a
is Easy Citrine &
X4243

Sunrise by the Sea Necklace
X4147...$195

Western Sunset Garnet,
Sapphire & Diamond Necklace
X4180...$1,450.00

Crew West
Orange Garnet
& Diamond Ring
G3103...$1,058

Little Buzz
Citrine & Diamond Necklace
X4173...$1,200

My Center of the Universe
Necklace
X4233...$685

Busy Bees
Citrine & Diamond Necklace
X4175...$1,949.00

New Day
Sun Orange Garnet & Diamond
Sea Star Necklace
CMT2137...$834

Scotch Whiskey
Honey Gold Citrine
& Diamond Necklace
X4076...$985

Morning Sun, Forever Beach Bracelet
X4218...$385

Atlantic Sunrise

My red-headed grandmother would have a fit about this ad. In her rule book the word Christmas could not be spoken or used in print anywhere until the Thanksgiving turkey had cooled and next day sandwiches were being made from leftovers.
You can easily shop early this year with our Full 90 days for returns and exchanges.

Shop now, order early! Don't miss out!
Free Shipping Anywhere in USA.

Cross Jewelers

For over 100 years in Portland, Maine

www.CrossJewelers.com **1-800-433-2988**

DE11218

over 70

Find Him At the Helm

*For **Captain Robert J. Peacock II**, there's no such thing as autopilot.*

Around the down east villages of Eastport and Lubec, the Peacock family name has long been associated with the sea and its industries — shipping, piloting, fishing, canning, aquaculture, seaweed harvesting, yachting. The family is perhaps best known for Lubec's defunct R.J. Peacock Canning Company, which tinned sardines from 1917 to 1996 and was once one of Maine's largest employers. But 72-year-old Captain Robert J. Peacock II, who once headed his family's canning company, is today better known as the senior of two harbor pilots licensed to guide ships through the perilous passage in and out of Eastport Harbor, a veteran of more than 1,300 such trips.

Peacock's pilot boat, *North Sea*, is a familiar sight around Eastport, ferrying its captain two miles east of Campobello Island, into Canadian waters, where he steps off one boat and onto rope ladders dangling perilously over the sides of others. Once aboard, he guides vessels through narrow channels, tricky tides, and the area's frequent fog.

It's high-stakes work, but it's old hat to Peacock, who brought his first ship into Eastport in 1976 and has also piloted on Penobscot Bay. Valedictorian of Maine Maritime Academy's class of 1971, a captain since he was 26, a veteran of 30 years in the Navy Reserve, and, until this year, an MMA trustee, Peacock is as salty as a Maine man gets. When ashore, he serves on Eastport's port authority and zoning-appeals board, and he directs his family's aquaculture interests, which have included importing Chilean salmon and Norwegian halibut and will soon welcome Icelandic wolffish.

Peacock knows the Eastport waterfront — and the waters beyond — as well as any down east salt.

Ask what changes he's seen during more than 50 years at sea, and Peacock rattles them off: "much larger ships, many cruise ships, more sophisticated yachts, and a much-changed lobster, herring, scallop, and urchin fleet." As for the future of Maine's maritime industry, Peacock expects the coming decades will bring a glut of vessels servicing

a booming aquaculture industry, "windmill service vessels" up to 400 feet long, and a growing number of smaller cruise ships, along with innovations like autonomous unmanned vessels and hydrogen-powered ships.

And will he be guiding these vessels of tomorrow into Eastport?

"As long as I can climb up the side of the ships to the bridge and my brain works well," he says, "I do not have any plans to retire. I love the job."

— EDGAR ALLEN BEEM

TRISTAN SPINSKI

Don't Call It a Granny Shot

*On the **Maine Pioneers** basketball team, women 70 and over rebound into their love of hoops.*

When the Maine Pioneers have their weekly practice, the gym at Portland's former Catherine McAuley High School fills with the drum of bouncing basketballs, the squeak of sneakers, and the guffaws of eight women, all of them over 70. For an hour, the players barely stop moving, alternating drills to brush up on layups, pivots, and free throws — simple things that can make or break a game. Passion for the sport keeps the ballers of the state's oldest women's basketball team feeling — and playing — like they're much younger. What's more, says 76-year-old Pioneer Jo Dill, it keeps them hungry. "Everyone wants to win," she says.

Part of Maine Senior Women's Basketball, a league of age-bracketed teams for women over 50, the Pioneers both practice and play during their weekly sessions — their games are against one another, played three-on-three and half-court. The team also travels to compete in tournaments against other senior teams: at least one a year in Maine, sometimes others around New England, and at the biennial National Senior Games. At the last NSG, held in New Mexico in 2019, the Pioneers brought home silver, crushing the Connecticut Nutmegs, the Pasadena Cougars, and others, but losing a shoot-out to Tennessee's Smoky Mountain Hot Shots.

Back row, left to right: Rita Perron, 80; Claudia Lackee, 80; Coach Houghton; Jo Dill, 76; Beverly MacLean, 72; Jo Lannin, 70. Front row, left to right: Marcia Chute, 74; Linda Hunt, 74; Pam Bowen, 73. Not pictured: Darlene Miller, 72; Eve Abreu, 78; Sue Weatherbie, 75.

Reaching the podium, though, isn't Dill's favorite memory of her 18 years playing with the Pioneers. At the 2013 National Senior Games, in Cleveland, the team won only one game. "We were screaming and cheering, and someone came up to us and asked, 'Did you get the gold medal?'" she remembers. "We said, 'No, we won one game!'"

A core group of Pioneers started playing together some 20 years ago, in the 50-and-up bracket, and the name has followed them up the ladder since it was coined in 1999. Coach Elizabeth "Biz" Houghton has been with the team for the last decade. A commanding 6'2" center for Cape Elizabeth at the turn of the '80s, Houghton played for Boston College, then professionally in Ireland, and she was inducted last year into the Maine Basketball Hall of Fame. "The dedication of this team is what I love most about them," the 59-year-old says. "Their lives are busy, but they are here 99 percent of the time, not only because of

DANIELLE SYKES

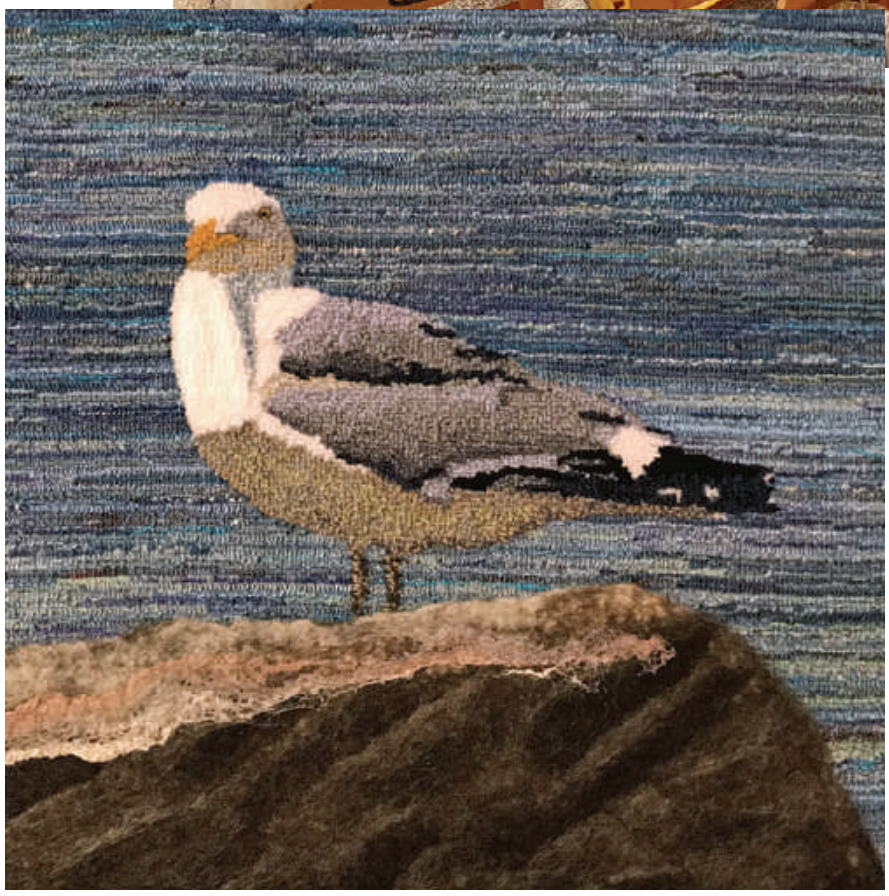
their passion for basketball but also their passion for being together, for being there for one another."

Dill agrees: Pioneers always show up for each other, she says. If someone has an operation or loses a family member, her teammates step in to help. And retiring from the court doesn't mean leaving the team: three former Pioneers who had to stop playing for health reasons still attend practices, helping Coach Houghton, keeping score during scrimmages, and shouting their support. "Once a Pioneer, always a Pioneer," Dill says.

Of course, Title IX didn't exist when the Pioneers were growing up, and many on the team didn't have the opportunity to play hoops in high school or college. For 72-year-old Darlene Miller, who joined in 2020, this is the first team she's played on in 53 years. And while it's hard today to imagine a sports landscape without women's basketball, Dill still considers her teammates trailblazers. "I definitely think of the Pioneers as pioneers," she says. — ADRIENNE PERRON

CREATIVE SPIRITS

Many older adults find it's never too late to unleash the artist budding within.



Bob Henrici fell in love with woodworking as a teenager, but for most of his adult life, the hobby got relegated to the back burner while he was raising kids and working as a land surveyor. His wife painted, and after she died six years ago, he decided to try painting as well. He was immediately captivated by the challenge of rendering tiny details in acrylic. "I find it really therapeutic and relaxing," says Henrici, who is 84.

He began working with a painting teacher on a weekly basis, then started making frames for his finished pieces out of rough-sawn cedar. He even built a workstation to keep his brushes, paints, and other materials within easy reach. "As I get older, the painting and woodworking keep my mind going," he says.

Henrici isn't alone. Research has shown that people who engage in artistic pursuits later in life tend to stay mentally sharper, physically stronger, and happier. A 2015 study published in the journal *Neurology* found that individuals 85 or older who were involved in crafts and artistic endeavors were 73 percent less likely to develop memory loss and reduced mental function. In a landmark 2006 study, researchers from George Washington University found that a group of seniors with an average age of 80 experienced lower blood pressure, had fewer falls, made fewer doctor visits, took less medication, had higher morale, and were less likely to experience depression if they were involved in the arts.

What's more, other research suggests that brain changes associated with age might make it easier to unleash creativity later in life. Certain areas of the brain involved with self-consciousness thin out over time, and the brain becomes better at coordinating activity between its more methodical left hemisphere and more visual and intuitive right hemisphere.

The mix of right- and left-brain stimulation is a big part of what Andrea Williams loves

AT HOME AT RIVERWOODS EXETER

HENRICI, WILLIAMS, and Irish have more than just a creative life in common. They're all neighbors at RiverWoods Exeter, a continuing-care retirement community in New Hampshire. The campus, just 20 miles from the Maine border and about an hour from Portland, is the flagship property of the RiverWoods Group, the largest family of not-for-profit CCRCs in northern New England. The campus offers apartments where residents can live independently, plus three fitness centers, three swimming pools, and four miles of trails, plus a health center, assisted living, memory support, and nursing care.

RiverWoods Exeter's proximity to Maine was a part of what attracted Irish and her husband to move there in 2012. Her husband's family has roots in Maine, and she has attended workshops at St. Joseph's College, in Standish, and Pleasant Mountain Fiber Arts Workshops, in Denmark. She stocks up on materials at Halcyon Yarn, in Bath, and loves to go beachcombing on Bailey Island, which has inspired many of her works. Most of all, Irish loves living in a community that provides so many opportunities for artists to pursue and showcase their work. RiverWoods Exeter has a pottery studio, art studios, and a woodshop, plus regular art shows, rotating exhibits, and an annual calendar that features residents' work.

Irish enjoys popping into the studios to see what others are working on and being in a community where so many people write, create, play music, and sing.

"People who are interested in those things are people I'm more interested in, and it makes it easier to connect," she says. "And the range of talent that's here is incredible."

Clockwise from top: the looms where Andrea Williams weaves her scarves, table runners, and other works; *All Tied Up*, a painting by Bob Henrici; a scarf woven by Williams; one of Peg Irish's pieces of rug hooking, *Myron's View*, inspired by a trip to Bailey Island.

about weaving. Williams, who's 82, learned to weave when she was in her late 50s and began pursuing it seriously after she retired from careers in clinical psychology and computer programming. "I love the way weaving combines science and art," she says. "You have to have a vision of how you want your piece to turn out, understand how to get there, and what materials you'll need for the end use, whether it will be a dish towel, a wall hanging, a table runner, or a scarf."

She enjoys the challenge of hammering out the calculations she'll need to set up the loom, as well as the physicality that weaving demands. "It's creative expression, it takes a lot of focus and concentration, and it's a full-body workout," she says.

Peg Irish took up rug hooking in her late 30s and immediately fell in love with its versatility and the tactile nature of the work. She has taught workshops around New England, and her work has been featured in dozens of exhibits around the region. "You go to a museum and you don't have a desire to touch the Van Gogh, but there is a desire to touch rug hooking," the 77-year-old says. "You have to feel everything, and that aspect is comforting."

Over 70

In Good Faith

*Pastor **Francois Akoa-Mongo** followed his calling to down east Maine.*

When Francois Akoa-Mongo was a boy in Cameroon, in central Africa, he hoped to become a mechanical engineer. But since he was named for his father, a Christian minister, his family and friends called him "Little Pastor" — and sure enough, as a teenager, Akoa-Mongo felt called to the church. He wanted to study in the U.S., like his father had, and among the schools he applied to was Bangor Theological Seminary. He came on a scholarship in 1971 and worked in the seminary's cafeteria for room and board. After completing a divinity degree, he earned a master's in foreign languages at UMaine in 1975. He married his wife, Kathy, an Old Town native, spent nearly a decade back in Cameroon, then returned to Maine in 1987, eventually settling in Machiasport. Now 80, Akoa-Mongo is retired from teaching foreign languages at two area high schools, and he's just marked 30 years behind the pulpit at Machiasport Congregational Church. — B.K.

Akoa-Mongo was a part-time minister at Machiasport Congregational until he retired from teaching in 2004, when he started full-time. An author, he is currently working on a biography of a 19th-century missionary and a theological text. "I have no time in retirement," he laughs.

What are some of the challenges facing a small church down east?
When we came, my wife and I were the youngest. I tried to convince the congregation, if we don't bring in new faces, the church will die — and this was a fight. Some people, when they passed, left money, and the church today survives because we have some investments, but membership has gone down. We have prayed on it. This year, another preacher from this area, he was having six or eight people in church at his home, and he and his group have been coming to our church. We have a few students coming, and we are ready to find programs that will be useful to them. So sometimes we reach 25 or 35. It would make me very happy to know that by the time I retire, the church would continue.

What was your earliest experience of feeling called by your faith?
When I did my first communion, I was 13 years old. After taking it, I went in the woods, and I prayed to God that I would like to die. I didn't feel I should live, because I didn't want to sin. That night I just said to Him, I prefer to die now rather than to continue sinning.

How has your faith evolved to help you handle that weight? Are certain scriptures more meaningful to you at 80?
The verse that's special to me is Galatians 2:20. "I have been crucified with Christ. I no longer live; it is Christ who lives in me." You have to look at yourself and know that you are dead in the flesh. I think the source of all sin is the "I" — the ego. But it's not about you when you put your faith in Christ. That "I" is gone.

So how would you comfort that 13-year-old who was so distressed?
To tell the truth, if someone had talked to me then, I don't even know if I'd have understood — the experiences you have had cannot become the experiences of someone else. The understanding I have today is an accumulation of so many things that made me what I am — you cannot jump to that. Faith, you have to build it up over time. You have to have so many failures. I have gone through many things that have really touched me and destroyed me, but at the same time, God has shown Himself to me through these errors. So perhaps it is necessary that people go through these things in order to understand who they are and appreciate what God is.

TARA RICE

Plenty Left in the Tank

*Brewery owner **Nancy Chandler** still has some hops in her step.*

From the road, Oak Pond Brewing Company looks like it could be any other barn amid the cows and cornfields of central Maine. The sign out front is diminutive to the point of unreadable when glimpsed from a moving car. But that unassuming converted chicken barn in Skowhegan is where 70-year-old Nancy Chandler has been making batches of beer every week for almost two decades.

The brewery opened in 1996, and Nancy and her husband, Don, bought the place in 2003, when Don, a laid-off industrial engineer, was having trouble finding work in the area. Initially, it was his idea. "I said, 'I don't know anything about running a brewery, do you?'" Nancy recalls. "Little did I know 20 years later I'd still be sitting here."

Although neither of them had ever brewed, Don quickly understood how the equipment worked, thanks to his engineering background, and he taught himself and Nancy the brewing process. As the couple raised their two sons, Nancy kept her job as a physical therapist — she has a doctorate in the field, and for 16 years, she ran the program for training physical-therapy assistants at Kennebec Valley Community College — and she helped with the weekly brew day, doing everything from hauling 50-pound bags of malt to capping bottles by hand. Oak Pond's focus on traditional English-, German-, and Czech-style ales and lagers earned the brewery a strong local following, with neighbors stopping by for growler fills and a cadre of local restaurants and mom-and-pop groceries carrying their lineup. Nowadays, they get a steady stream of beer travelers for tours and tastings too, although they're the rare small brewery still prioritizing distribution over in-house pours.

"Have we ever thrown out a bad batch of beer?" Nancy asks her son Adam, who became head brewer after Don passed away in 2013. He sits at a desk beside hers.

"Dad threw one away once and you cried," he says.

"I did cry," Nancy admits. "It was a nut brown. But that was the only one."

Nancy, short and blonde, still trades in her lime-green crocs for tall rubber boots on brew days, bringing her deep knowledge of how to fine-tune the 14-barrel brew system. She also knows which drafts her regulars want as soon as they walk through the door. Adam says her work ethic hasn't waned a bit. "She's a real bulldozer at making sure things are done and done correctly," he says.

Generally, Nancy says, first-time visitors "go right to him and start asking him questions. I usually step in and say, 'Oh, I've got to tell you something: I'm the most experienced female brewer in the state, and I'm the boss.' And I think that makes an impact on people, especially the women."

Nancy still enjoys the brewing process from start to finish — except all the cleaning — but she says the real reason she keeps brewing is for Don, whom she met at a fencing bout way back when they lived in upstate New York (both were avid fencers, although she "beat the socks off him every time"). "I don't get much of a salary, but that's not why I do it. It's to just keep this going, because my husband started this, and he's right there," she says, pointing to a nearby framed photo of him smiling back at her. — CATIE JOYCE-BULAY

*** Since Oak Pond started pouring, some 140 breweries have opened in Maine.**

Chandler in the Oak Pond brewhouse, circa 2005.

COURTESY OF NANCY CHANDLER

Holly and Helen Beers, in the front seat, on a trip to Old Orchard Beach in 1959.

COURTESY OF HOLLY BEERS

Many Years of Beers

Holly Beers *is as much a staple of Vanceboro as the general store he's owned for 70 years.*

"I'm the same age as Santa Claus," Holly Beers quips, taking a seat behind the counter of Holly's General Store, in Vanceboro, population 130. At 93, with his white hair tousled and blue eyes dancing, Beers could perhaps be Santa in the off-season, clean shaven and sporting Levi's and a plaid shirt. Beside him is an empty chair, where his wife, Helen, used to sit before she died last year, at age 90. Her back to the wall, she liked to look out the window to her left at Route 6, winding through this northeastern corner of Washington County toward the New Brunswick border, less than a mile up the road. To her right were shelves full of canned food, snacks, and household necessities.

The store's precursor, E.A. Holbrook's Dry Goods and Hardware, opened in the late 19th century, sometime after President Ulysses Grant visited in 1871 to drive the ceremonial last spike in an international rail system. The town flourished off-and-on for nearly a century after, but to hear Beers tell it, "When the railroad died, it died." These days, aside from Hardwicke's gas station, Holly's is the only shop in town.

The store has survived, Beers says, because he and his son, Danny, know their customers. People always need staples like bread and milk, and many customers have run a tab over the years when times were tight. Canadians use the store as a pick-up location for packages, taking advantage of cheaper, faster shipping in the U.S. Spednic Lake boaters from both sides of the border come from their camps to buy ice, fishing tackle, and propane. Paddlers grab sandwiches and chips before launching canoes on the St. Croix.

For nearly 70 years, it's been just enough — until the pandemic. The border closing hit the store especially hard. On a visit this summer, before the border reopened, more than 200 packages sat in the back, awaiting their Canadian owners. Beers has cut the store hours and stocked fewer perishable items. He figures they'll get through this one way or another. They always do.

Beers' trajectory and Vanceboro's are entwined like strands of DNA. As a boy, he went to silent movies at Armstrong's Picture House. He began working the St. Croix log drives at age 15. He and his friends jumped slow-moving cross-border cargo trains to catch movies or hang with friends in McAdam, on the New Brunswick side. That's where he met Helen. They married in 1949, after Beers returned from his WWII stint in the Navy. When people marveled at their long marriage, he used to say, "She's on probation. One year at a time." Helen rolled her eyes at that joke for 71 years.

Beers can summon a mental map of the town in its heyday: the stately Exchange Hotel, the Greek Revival–style high school, the railroad station, where a train left the yard every 25 minutes. Sit with him a while and he'll wax about a community where "everybody looks out for everyone else." He remembers when Warren Dudley offered him the store and an upstairs apartment for next to nothing in 1952. He remembers the aftermath of the ferocious fire in February 1985 that burned it all to the ground. And he remembers when friends and family from both sides of the border had the walls up and roof shingled again in just two days.

More recently, there was the town spaghetti dinner, raffle, and silent auction benefit that neighbors pulled together to help pay for Danny's eye operation. And there are the countless examples of locals lending a hand to bewildered, sometimes snooty from-aways passing through this rural, remote little pocket. Beers could spend a whole afternoon just recounting exchanges with visitors.

"We had a bunch in here from Massachusetts," he recalls. "One of the young fellers looked at me and said, 'This must be a hell of a place to live with nothing going on.' I said, 'Well, what are you doing here?' He said, 'We're going down the river in a canoe.' I said, 'It probably cost you quite a lot of money to come here and vacation and rent a canoe and buy all this. I could run that river every day of the week and it don't cost me a cent.'"

Holly has little patience for those who underestimate life here. He looks out the window and shakes his head. "You don't want to find fault with a little place like this."

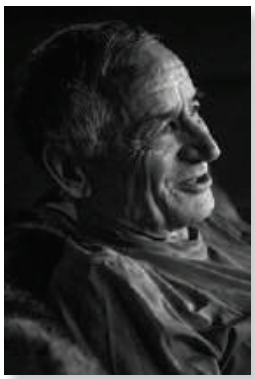
— LYN MIKEL BROWN

TRISTAN SPINSKI

Over 70

The Silver Screen

Four older Mainers of serious distinction, four indie documentaries seriously worth seeking out.



BERND HEINRICH

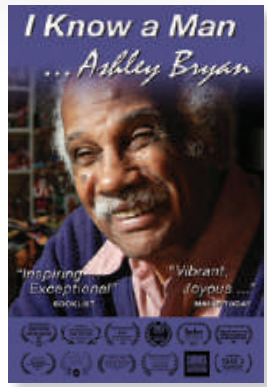
One of the most prolific and perceptive naturalist writers of his generation, Bernd Heinrich reflects on a lifetime of carefully observing the world around him in ***An Uncommon Curiosity: At Home & in Nature with Bernd Heinrich***, a 2011 doc that follows him over the course of a year. Heinrich, who's now 81, was born in Germany and came to Maine as a child after his family was displaced toward the end of World War II, as Soviet troops took over what was to become East Germany. In the Maine woods, he found endless sources of interest that spurred his lifelong passion. And if his achievements as a writer and scientist aren't enough, he's also a record-setting ultra-marathon runner who could keep a six-minute mile pace into his 70s. Not bad for an old-timer. *Available on DVD for $25 at jancannonfilms.com.*

ROB ELOWITCH

In 1972, lifelong Portlanders Annette and Rob Elowitch started an art gallery and auction house reputed for high-end 19th- and 20th-century pieces. Rob also had an alter ego: Robbie Ellis, a rough-and-tumble, pro wrestler clad in shiny bikini briefs. *Sports Illustrated* wrote about his double life in the 1980s, and Portland-based filmmaker Gary Robinov made ***Canvasman: The Robbie Ellis Story*** in 2010, mixing wrestling footage with interviews of Rob and the people in his personal and professional orbit. He hung up the bikini bottoms a couple of years after that, in his late 60s, but stayed involved in the wrestling business into his 70s. There was a time before all the publicity when Rob Elowitch worried that being outed as Robbie Ellis would hurt his art sales. The opposite proved true. *Stream for free at whitedogarts.com/work.*

ALEX KATZ

There's an unassuming white-clapboard house on Slab City Road in Lincolnville that, since the 1950s, renowned figurative painter and sculptor Alex Katz has returned to summer after summer from New York City. The nearby craggy coastline inspired some of his most iconic work over the years, and a 1996 short, ***Alex Katz: Five Hours***, gives a behind-the-scenes view of the artist's process. It's a suitably artsy doc — five hours of continuous work on a large canvas, edited down to 20 minutes, set to an avant-garde soundtrack. Watching Katz's focused, fluid movement with the brush is mesmerizing. He's almost as much an athlete as an artist. And the now 94-year-old is still at it — this fall, he has an exhibition of new paintings at a gallery in New York. *Stream for $4.99 on Vimeo.*



ASHLEY BRYAN

The subject of 2017's ***I Know a Man . . . Ashley Bryan*** is an acclaimed children's-book author and illustrator — not to mention painter, printmaker, and puppet maker (and, of late, recipient of the Farnsworth Art Museum's Maine in America Award). Bryan is beloved not just for his artistic output but for his indefatigable exuberance. On screen, at age 92, he's spry and animated, almost lighter than air, all the more remarkable against the backdrop of his formative years: his experiences of WWII in Europe and of racism at home. The film paints a well-rounded picture of Bryan, who now spends winters in warmer climes but still comes north to work in his home and studio on Little Cranberry Island in the summer. *Stream for $3.49 on Vimeo.*

— WILL GRUNEWALD

SARAH BEARD BUCKLEY (ASHLEY BRYAN)

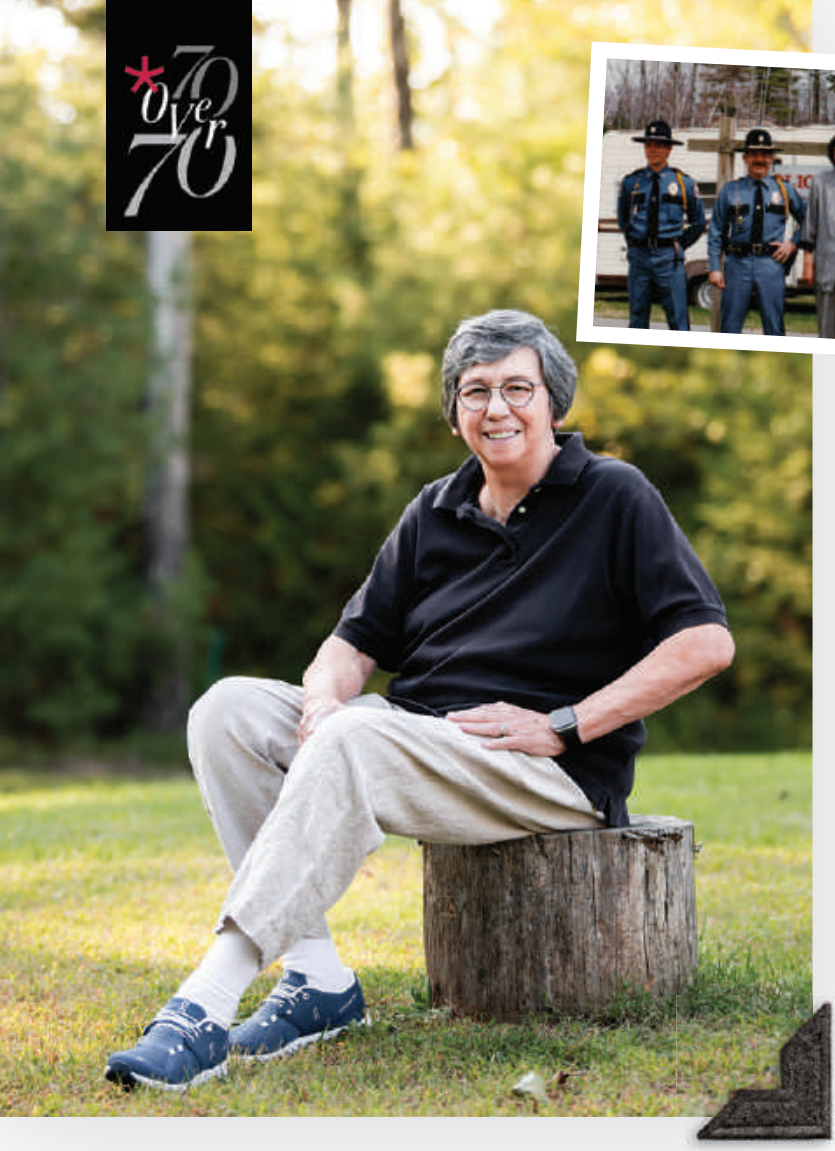
Sure,
Brunswick, ME is nice to visit.

Photo Credit:
Patti Spencer-Yost,
Brunswick Downtown
Association

But it's *even better* to call home.

Thornton Oaks
Retirement Community

25 Thornton Way, Suite 100, Brunswick, ME
(207) 729-8033 • www.ThorntonOaks.com



Above: Loring in the '80s, as police chief of the Penobscot Nation.

Dawnland Defender

*Penobscot elder **Donna Loring** is technically retired, but she hasn't stopped contending for the rights of Wabanaki people.*

Wabanaki Windows, on Maine's WERU radio station, begins with the haunting trill of a wooden flute before Donna Loring's voice comes in. "Welcome to *Wabanaki Windows*," she says, her tone matter-of-fact. "Today, we will be looking at a couple of key figures in the framing of the Maine constitution, the taking of tribal lands, and what happens as the new state of Maine begins its relationship with Wabanaki tribes."

That's from an episode broadcast in June, the fifth in a series dedicated to "Unpacking Sovereignty," the issue that occupies the 72-year-old Loring above all others. Loring developed *Wabanaki Windows* 12 years ago and has recorded nearly 100 hour-long episodes, most archived online, facilitating conversations with experts about subjects related to Maine's four federally recognized Wabanaki tribes. "Probably the most lasting legacy I will leave is my radio show," she says. Loring's legacy, however, extends well beyond the airwaves.

She grew up in the 1950s on Indian Island, the main reservation of the Penobscot Nation, where she remembers tribal members being fed and clothed through surplus-food deliveries and secondhand-clothing donations. "We were treated like imbeciles and paupers," Loring says. "We were told we were living off handouts from the state. When you hear a message like that growing up, it sinks in and is self-fulfilling." From her father and uncle, she heard stories about serving in World War II and Korea, and as a child, she dreamed of joining the military — not only to follow in their footsteps, but also because it seemed like one of the only ways to leave the island.

She joined the Women's Army Corps in 1966, when she was 18, and a year later, she was stationed near Saigon, where she processed casualty reports in a communications center. She was one of only 11,000 women stationed in a combat zone during the war. But leaving Indian Island wasn't an escape from prejudice, and instances of discrimination followed Loring into the military and beyond. During basic training at Alabama's Fort McClellan, she went out to a restaurant with a group of women from the base, and the staff refused serve to all but the white women. After the war, she attended the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, where a drill instructor ordered her to "send smoke signals" from a barrel fire. When she started fanning the smoke, her instructor asked what she was communicating. "Sir, I'm saying f*ck you, sir!" she replied. Loring is a firm believer that Native people's senses of humor have gotten them through "centuries of bullshit."

From 1984 to 1990, she served as police chief of the Penobscot Nation (the first female MCJA grad to become a police chief), followed by five years as Bowdoin College's first female director of security. But her professional focus shifted in the '90s after she returned to Vietnam for a conference. While there, Loring started recognizing uncomfortable parallels between Americans' treatment of the Vietnamese and the American colonial mindset towards Native Americans. "When we referred to the Vietnamese during the war, we would use words like 'g**k,' which meant something like 'foreigner,'" she says. "There we were in their country, calling them foreigners. Once people are dehumanized, it's not so hard to marginalize them. I perpetrated that on the Vietnamese myself."

In 1997, she took a job as the University of Southern Maine's coordinator of Indian student affairs and multicultural programs. Then, a year later, she was elected as the Penobscot Nation's representative to the Maine legislature, a role she stayed in until 2003. As a non-voting tribal rep, Loring wrote a bill mandating Native American studies curricula in elementary and secondary schools, signed into law in 2001. She was

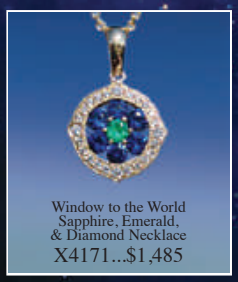
COURTESY OF DONNA LORING

DAVE DOSTIE

This Christmas
Our store is only
45 seconds away
www.CrossJewelers.com


Blue Skies, Blue Streams,
West to East Fiddlehead
Blue Sapphire Ring
G2567...$2,150


Spiral Galaxy
Sapphire & Diamond Ring
G3010...$3,550


Window to the World
Sapphire, Emerald,
& Diamond Necklace
X4171...$1,485


Wild Seas Lighthouse Necklace –
Safe and Sound, Home is Near
X4217...$565


The Perfect Wave
Blue Sapphire Necklace
X2820...$985


Returning Tide Blue Sapphire Ring
X4012...$2,150

Martini Earrings

X4157 (4mm round)...$750

X4155 (4.5mm round)...$950

X4146 (5mm round)...$1,450

We live on a blue planet

Blue is embedded in the very essence of our DNA. Everyone loves blue more than any other color.
The reason is we live beneath blue skies, we live beside blue seas, and we live on a blue planet.
If you love blue, you must, you must, you must see our blue sapphire collection.

Over two hundred pieces of the prettiest blue sapphire jewelry you have ever seen.
Preview online, click and buy, or click and call.
Absolute satisfaction guaranteed. Full 90-day return privileges.

FREE Shipping, Anywhere U.S.A.

Blue Sapphire

Most jewelers prefer dark sapphires because they are easier to source and easier to acquire a consistent repeatable color.
Our sapphire jewelry starts with the selection of the individual gem.
We choose gems one at a time, and evaluate them under different lighting conditions to find the best performing sapphires.
The result is a gem which is bright, blue, and brilliant – everything you want in a sapphire.
This process takes more time and it results in the best, brightest, and truest blue sapphire jewelry.

Cross Jewelers

The Cross Gallery of Fine Jewelry

www.CrossJewelers.com

1-800-433-2988

DE11214

also the driving force behind the first "state of the tribes address," in 2002, the first time Maine's tribal chiefs had ever addressed the legislature. After she was reelected to the role, in 2007, Loring was influential in passing a joint resolution in support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

At first, Loring says, she had "no clue" what she was doing as a legislator. She decided in her first year to journal her struggles, so those who came after her could use her experiences as a reference. Only later, rereading her entries, did she begin to think of them as the basis for a book. She approached Maine's Tilbury House publishers, which, in 2008, released *In the Shadow of the Eagle: A Tribal Representative in Maine*. She's also written numerous op-eds and essays and a yet-unproduced play about contemporary Wabanaki people's relationship to their millennia-old creation stories.

In 2009, the University of New England asked Loring to consider donating her writings, correspondence, and other papers for an archive to be established in her name. She accepted but declined an honorarium, suggesting instead that the university use the funds to establish a lecture series addressing equality and justice, as well as tribal and women's issues. Today, the Donna M. Loring Lecture Series brings a keynote speaker to the university every year. "And I'm still alive!" Loring laughs.

Last November, Loring stepped down as senior advisor on tribal affairs to Governor Janet Mills, a role she'd served in since 2019. Mills has done positive things for the Native community, she says, such as replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day and banning Native American mascots, but Loring considers these low-hanging fruit. For her — and for plenty of others — the overarching issue in state-and-tribal relations is the matter of tribal sovereignty, about which the Mills administration has been wary at best. The conflict is rooted in the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act, passed by the U.S. Congress to allocate reparations for stolen land. The act relegates the status of the tribes to something like municipalities within the state, lacking many of the powers of other federally recognized tribes. Full sovereignty, as currently proposed in the legislature, would restore the tribes' rights to regulate fishing, hunting, and resource management on tribal properties, expand tribal court jurisdiction, give tribes exclusive rights to tax members on tribal lands, and more.

"WHEN YOU HEAR A MESSAGE LIKE THAT GROWING UP, IT SINKS IN AND IS SELF-FULFILLING."

"The state has to start recognizing that we are a sovereign people and treating us like that," Loring says. "They have to recognize that we are capable of handling our own affairs and they don't have to treat us like children."

Now semiretired, Loring lives with her wife, Deborah, in Bernard. She records her monthly radio show, is working on getting her play produced, and is writing another book (tentatively titled *We Stole Your Land So Get Over It*). After decades of on-the-ground advocacy, she's investing even more energy these days into the power of her words to make change. "Sometimes my writings influence people and sometimes they don't, but I at least have a chance of helping somebody to make some decision," she says. "When you write something down, your thoughts live on." — A.P.

over 70

Art Is Long

*Former CMCA curator **Bruce Brown** stays as busy in retirement as he ever was on the job.*

Bruce Brown's professional life has had three acts — so far. From 1968 to 2000, he was a teacher and sometimes administrator, mostly at Freeport High School. That career overlapped with 20 years he spent as a curator at the Center for Maine Contemporary Art, then in Rockport, a position he stepped down from in 2007 after some 250 shows and countless miles spent following his love of art across the state, seeking out and discovering new work.

And then came the busy part.

Since "retiring" from CMCA, the now-81-year-old Portlander has been in more or less constant demand, curating and jurying art exhibitions at Colby, Bates, Bowdoin, the University of Maine, the Farnsworth Art Museum, the Ogunquit Museum of American Art, and public libraries up and down the coast, among other institutions. Of late, he's particularly focused on photography, cofounding Portland's PhoPa Gallery in 2012 (that's "photography" + "paper" — it closed in 2018) and, since 2019, curating six photography shows a year at Portland's Cove Street Arts.

An argument can be made that, over the past three decades, no one person has been more important to contemporary art in Maine.

Somehow, on the salaries of a curator and schoolteacher, Brown also managed to become one of Maine's most important collectors. His assemblage of some 125 fine-art prints has found a permanent home at the Portland Museum of Art, and his collection of more than 500 photos by some 200 photographers will eventually be divided up among four Maine art institutions. "I'm lacking for space," Brown says, "but not anything else."

Once an avid traveler (he's visited all 50 states and 43 countries, most recently Japan, Australia, and New Zealand), Brown says his passion for travel has waned some, and he feels like he's slowing down a little. Ask him, though, what he did last week.

Well, let's see, he spent a day giving tours of the Portland Observatory, volunteered at five Bach Festival concerts, gave 20 hours to the Catholic Charities food bank, manned the concession stand at Munjoy Hill's St. Lawrence Arts center, ushered at two operas, put in three hours at the gym, and went to Blue Hill for a couple of days to jury an art show and visit a handful of studios.

So no, Bruce Brown hasn't slowed down one bit. — E.A.B.

GRETA RYBUS

Milking It for All It's Worth

*Through ups and downs, **Wayne Bragg**'s family has kept their dairy farm running for more than 250 years.*

On a sweltering August afternoon in the rural town of Sidney, 74-year-old dairy farmer Wayne Bragg lifts 40-pound hay bales — ones he baled just hours earlier — onto an electric elevator. His 16-year-old grandson, Carter, stacks the bales in the hayloft of a post-and-beam barn built in 1772 by John Bragg II, Wayne's great-great-great-great-grandfather. "John Bragg II started the farm after paddling up the Kennebec River by canoe in 1770," Wayne says. He acquired a 100-acre riverside lot from the land-speculating Kennebec Proprietors and, to fulfill the deed requirements, built a log cabin, "proved up" the land by clearing several timbered acres, and started out by raising two cows and a pig. John's granddaughter Cordelia wrote in her diary that he had arrived in a "wilderness inhabited by wolves and bears" and "ate wild game and herring."

Like the six generations of Braggs before him, Wayne, along with his wife, Patty, and their four children, scratched out a living on that land. "By age eight, I was milking cows regularly," he says. "Back then, every farm child had chores. Some youngsters couldn't wait to escape farm life as teenagers. Not me. I enjoyed milking cows, shoveling manure, and feeding chickens." By the time he was 16, he was running the farm.

Wayne "retired" in 2017, after his son Clifton took over the farm. "But I still get up each morning at 5:30," he says, "to help with farm chores and fill in where needed, especially during the busy summer haying season. Come early September, we'll have filled two barns with 5,000 hay bales — enough to feed 50 milking shorthorns and Jersey cows during the long winter."

In 2001, Wayne transitioned from conventional- to organic-milk production, a more profitable niche in the dairy economy. Danone North America, a Colorado-based company, purchases the milk for its Horizon Organic brand — although the Braggs' is one of more than a dozen organic Maine farms put in jeopardy by Danone's decision to shift operations out of New England starting next summer. Finding a new way to reach consumers will be a challenge. "Of Maine's 4,600 dairy farms in the mid-1950s, only 198 remain today, and of those, about 50 are producing organic milk," University of Maine Cooperative Extension dairy specialist Rick Kersbergen says, adding that competition from bigger farms is stiff and that the milk market is saturated.

Wayne, though, remains optimistic. His family's homestead has survived many boom-and-bust price cycles over the centuries. "Running a small dairy farm makes for a hard life," he says. "You've got to be a jack-of-all-trades to keep expenses manageable. But it's a good life too. I love the independence, working with my family, and farming land settled by my ancestors." — RON JOSEPH

DAVE DOSTIE

Over 70

Still Unstill

Artist-activist ***Natasha Mayers*** *isn't done making a fuss.*

Natasha Mayers is Maine's most prolific political artist, although she professes to be easing off a bit. "I used to feel as though I was juggling lots of balls in the air," the 75-year-old writes in an email. "Now, it feels as if there is only one ball in the air at a time. I'm still busy with my art and activism but not so driven. I just woke up one morning with a great feeling of having done ENOUGH."

The ENOUGH she's done includes some 50 years of using her creative talents to advocate positions on social issues, from war to climate change, prison reform to health-care reform to immigration reform. She's led art workshops for inmates, immigrants, the unhoused, and those with mental-health struggles. COVID brought an end to weekly classes she'd taught since 1974 at what's now Riverview Psychiatric Center and at LINC Wellness Center, both in Augusta. She edits the Union of Maine Visual Artists' quarterly

Left: Mayers being arrested for obstructing a public way while demonstrating against the christening of a destroyer at Bath Iron Works in 2019. Facing page: Mayers's many looks, from the street to the State House.

Maine Arts Journal and leads that group's Artists Rapid Response Team (acronym: ARRT!), an ad hoc squad that creates protest-friendly signage and banners. Every summer, the Whitefield resident orchestrates political street theater — often cheeky — for her town's Fourth of July parade. At the last one, for example, she hit the street dressed as a wind turbine wearing a trompe l'oeil bib of a naked woman to promote the "Green Nude Deal."

"My work, unlike a lot of activist art, has a lot of humor," she says. "I find humor is harder to dismiss."

Of course, it's not all laughs. In *Natasha Mayers: An UnStill Life*, a new documentary by Maine filmmakers Anita Clearfield and Geoffrey Leighton, cameras roll as Mayers is arrested while protesting the christening of a missile destroyer outside of Bath Iron Works. The film also documents, among other things, her work with immigrant and refugee schoolkids. As artist-in-residence at the University of Southern Maine, she directed a project in which kids painted lobster buoys with the flags of their native lands. The buoys, symbolizing the 78 countries represented in Portland's public schools, hung at the Portland International Jetport and at USM.

"The film made me feel loved and appreciated," Mayers says. When it was shown at the Skowhegan Drive-In, her 9-year-old grandson tried to sell his grandmother's autograph.

And though she may be dialing back her pace, Mayers has no plans to retire. Artists rarely do. "My identity is so wrapped up in painting," she says, "and if I stopped painting, I'd have to clean my house." — E.A.B.

GEOFFREY LEIGHTON (CAPE AND PORTRAIT); ALL OTHERS COURTESY OF NATASHA MAYERS

Over 70

Love at First Light

Dating late in life is no picnic — but nobody told Rumford Samaritans ***Anne Wood and Joe Sirois.***

A man asked my sister on a date. At least, she thought it was a date.

"You can't tell?" I asked.

She laughed. "I'm a little out of practice."

True enough. Because our parents died young, Anne had spent her adult life taking care of her little sisters, including Betty, who was developmentally disabled. At a time when she could have been shopping for date-night stilettos, my sister made our clothes, wiped our tears, got us through college, picked out my perfect husband, and took exquisite care of Betty for over 40 years while teaching at the local high school, where she was beloved. Former students have been known to leap from moving cars to thank her for changing their lives.

And then, at age 68, she said yes to a

CHIP DILLON

date with Joe Sirois, the white-haired, doe-eyed director of Hope Association, a day program for special-needs adults, where Betty was a client. Before that, he'd run the local nursing home with a compassion acquired over 28 years as a Navy corpsman.

The town of Rumford adored them both.

The date plan was simple enough: after dispatching their duties at the Friends of the Rumford Public Library book sale, they'd take a picnic hike to Angel Falls, just north of town. They didn't set off until 4 P.M., but it was June, after all, and a lethargic turtle can reach the falls from the trailhead in 30 minutes. They'd be back well before sunset.

The world goes all woozy, though, when you're falling in love. Fifty minutes in, as Angel Falls failed to appear, the smitten hikers discovered they shared, among a thrilling number of other things, a cockeyed sense of direction. Was that lightning-split oak the same one from 40 minutes ago? Add encroaching darkness, falling temperatures, rain clouds, and no phones, and you've got yourself one heck of a date. Even the picnic was a bust — Joe forgot the corkscrew.

As full dark descended, along with a chilly drizzle, Anne and Joe curled up on a mossy rock. Through the night, they withstood rafts of insects, held each other for warmth, and talked. And talked and talked and talked. Reportedly, there was no canoodling, just a mutual soul-baring that lasted till first light, when the correct path opened up, as if cleared by forest elves. Wet and dirty and peppered with bites, they trotted back to Joe's jeep, *singing*.

Forgive me. This story is sweet enough to rot your teeth. But sometimes the stars line up and the people who most deserve love actually find it. A year later, in 2010, news of their nuptials spread like fairy dust over the land of Rumford. At the wedding, the fickle universe heard a thunder of whoops as Joe, grateful and besotted, bellowed, "*I do!*"

Octogenarians now, jointly named Volunteer of the Year by the River Valley Chamber of Commerce, Anne Wood and Joe Sirois are generosity times two. You can find them at the food pantry, the nursing home, the community garden, the library. Or at home, where a photograph of Angel Falls hangs in their happily-ever-after kitchen. — MONICA WOOD

In Mathis's sitting area, a wall full of memories from her years teaching at Swiss boarding schools, during which she took full advantage of Alpine trails.

DANIELLE SYKES

Tales from the Trail

In her 10th decade, ***Margaret Mathis*** *hikes more than the rest of us.*

On the afternoon that Margaret Mathis began a four-day trek to the ancient ruins of Machu Picchu, in Peru, with her son and his family, their guide brought along an extra horse. "He'd never had anyone my age take that hike, and he thought I'd need the horse," says Mathis, who lives in Bridgton and was 84 at the time. As a courtesy, she rode partway up the mountain before pawning the animal off on her daughter-in-law. On the way down, she refused to ride. "It was uncomfortable, and I did not trust the horse," she says.

The 93-year-old Mathis is used to being offered a well-intentioned leg up. On a recent excursion with the Denmark Mountain Hikers, a local group she hikes with most weeks, she let a would-be helper carry her pack. "She didn't have one, and I didn't want to fight with her," Mathis says. But she didn't really need the assist. "I know how to be safe on a hike, and I've never been hurt," she says. "I save that for skiing." (She broke her knee downhill skiing in Switzerland and two bones in her leg at Bridgton's Shawnee Peak.)

Mathis's love of athletic pursuits began at her all-girls high school, in St. Louis, where she played field hockey and basketball and swam competitively with a club. Swimming and crew were her sports at Wellesley College, in Massachusetts, where "there was no limit to what women could do," she says. During her 42-year career teaching math and science at private schools in Switzerland and the U.S., including at Wiscasset's Chewonki, she led students on dozens of hiking and skiing trips and developed a case of wanderlust that continued into her retirement, at 83. In the last 30 years, she's traveled to Antarctica, Australia, Belize, Costa Rica, Japan, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Zimbabwe, among other far-flung spots, often with a grandchild in tow.

Most days, Mathis rides for 30 minutes on her Peloton stationary bike — a birthday gift from her four children, who didn't want her heading out on her road bike anymore. "I sort of agree with them," she concedes. She also hikes once a week at Pleasant Mountain, near her home, and meets up with the Denmark Mountain Hikers on Fridays for two- to five-mile treks, a regimen she keeps up even in winter. A few years ago, in February, she and the group hiked up Mount Washington's Ammonoosuc Ravine Trail. On the descent, "we sat on our bottoms and had a great slide all the way down," she says. "One of the more fun things I ever did." —SARAH STEBBINS

Over 70

Home Is Where the Heart Is

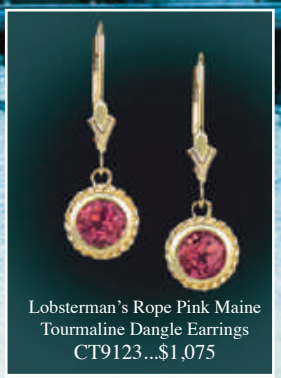
*And educator **Ina Demers** brings a lot of heart to her work in her adoptive home state.*

Ina Demers grew up Chinese and Catholic on the Indonesian island of Java — a double minority there — and her family, although wealthy, wasn't immune to biases and bigotry. Demers's first language was Dutch, a legacy of colonialism, but she also learned Javanese and English. When she was 24, she married a man from Bath and moved to Maine. She got a teaching degree from the University of Southern Maine and, now

BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON

This Christmas
Our store is only
45 seconds away
www.CrossJewelers.com

My Center of the Universe
Maine Tourmaline Necklace
$650-$1,295



Lobsterman's Rope Pink Maine
Tourmaline Dangle Earrings
CT9123...$1,075

Bar Harbor SparHawk Maine
Tourmaline Necklace
G1190...$2,895

Revere Green Maine Tourmaline
& Diamond Ring
G1955...$4,250

Lady Captain's
Pink Maine Tourmaline Ring
G2638...$1,650

Mountain Laurel
Green Maine Tourmaline Ring
G3018...$1,950

Lady Captain's
Pink Maine Tourmaline Ring
G1859...$3,495

Port & Starboard Pink & Green
Maine Tourmaline Ring
F5555...$1,975

The Source

For Maine Tourmaline

Magic, pure magic.

Gems discovered in Maine's Western Mountains.
We've been mining for nearly 200 years.
We have the best collection
of Maine Tourmaline on planet earth,
in pink, green and sometimes teal.
Set in rings, necklaces, earrings and bracelets.

Cross Jewelers

The Cross Gallery of Fine Jewelry

www.CrossJewelers.com

1-800-433-2988

DE11215

71 years old, has been teaching English to nonnative speakers in Portland schools for decades. Over the years, she's also become a tireless advocate for immigrants, workers, and, of course, her students.

— CAITLIN GILMET

What was life like before coming here?
I was an incorrigible kid — I didn't want to go to school, I didn't want to do my homework. Maybe I was saving my energy for when I'd be old. I was spirited, and I said what I thought — I have a big mouth. My mom said, "You are endangering us when you say things about the government."

What has working with other immigrants taught you?
I led a free class for five years for adults who wanted an English conversation group. We cried together, we laughed together, we ate together. The ways they came here are so different from my story. I was sent here with money, and my husband and I had a house. These people come here with no English and no resources, and so my heart says, "What can I do to help them?" They came here for a better life, like I did. For freedom of speech.

How have you used that freedom?
I can openly criticize people and systems. I was on the board of the Southern Maine Workers' Center, advocating for those marginalized. Universal health care is important to me — my first husband died young, from a heart attack. If he'd had health care, he could have had an angioplasty. I see my students suffer when their parents don't have earned paid sick time. I also serve on the school board in Wiscasset, where I live, and I'm on the board of the Maine Education Association. I volunteer with the Democratic Party in Lincoln County. Most of the time, I'm the only person of color on these committees.

"I WAS AN INCORRIGIBLE KID. MAYBE I WAS SAVING MY ENERGY FOR WHEN I'D BE OLD."

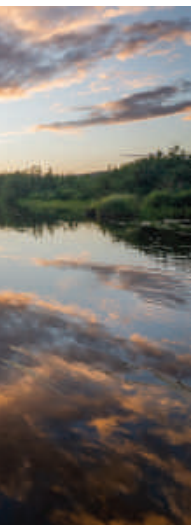
What do you hope for your students?
I want kids to have the confidence to argue if they see that something is not right. Some of my English-language-learner students didn't believe I was a real teacher, because I wasn't white. I thought, "Then, what do they think they can be when they grow up? What can their aspirations look like?" That killed me. I spent the rest of the day teaching them about what they can be. I worked with a student last year who told me he wants to be a doctor. From then on, I always addressed him as "Doctor."

What keeps you motivated?
I was actually born into a poor family and adopted by a wealthy family. I didn't learn this until my father died, when my mother told me about my biological family, who gave me up so I could have a better life. You know nature versus nurture? Maybe my spirit comes from my biological family, who had to fight for their lives, and I learned to be generous from my adoptive parents, who nurtured me. I want people to know they belong, and I want to give them what they need to fight against injustice, because that's what is in my heart.

2022 ADVENTURES

Our workshops fill up fast!
Contact us today to learn more and book your next Maine adventure.

All photos: Benjamin Williamson



Boothbay Holiday Weekend Getaway
Dec. 10–12, 2021
SOLD OUT

Winter in Acadia Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
Jan. 13–16, 2022

Winter Waterbirds Workshop
Jan. 30, 2022

Spring Songbirds Workshop
May 15, 2022

Acadia Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
June 3, 2022

Monhegan Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
June 9–12, 2022

Drone Photo Workshop
with Isaac Crabtree
June 11, 2022

Midcoast Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
June 23–26, 2022

Portland to Harpswell Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
July 15, 2022

Midcoast Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
July 29, 2022

Summer Shorebirds Workshop
Aug. 7, 2022

Allagash Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
Aug. 7–11, 2022

Lakes and Mountains Photo Workshop
with DarylAnn Leonard
Aug. 19, 2022

Acadia Photo Workshop
with John K. Putnam
Aug. 27, 2022

Harpswell to Georgetown Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
Sept. 2, 2022

Monhegan Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
Sept. 8–11, 2022

Fall Songbirds Workshop
Sept. 11, 2022

Western Maine Fall Foliage Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
Oct. 11–14, 2022

Camden Fall Foliage Photo Workshop
with Benjamin Williamson
Oct. 16, 2022
SOLD OUT

Acadia Photo Workshop
with John K. Putnam
Oct. 15, 2022

Official Partner:

FREEPORT wild bird SUPPLY

Down East Adventures

adventures.downeast.com

1-800-766-1670

Over 70

Walking the Walk

*Professor **Christian Potholm** has been Bowdoin College's resident authority on state politics for half a century, shaping students' educations — and Maine elections.*

Christian Potholm enrolled at Bowdoin in 1958, studied history, and became a frat brother to future U.S. representative, senator, and secretary of defense Bill Cohen. In 1970, after getting a PhD, he came back to Bowdoin as a professor with an expertise in African politics. But his focus shifted two years later, when Cohen asked him to manage his first congressional campaign. "Republicans were the out-of-touch party of department stores and CMP and that sort of thing," Potholm recalls. "In fact, I said to Bill at the beginning, 'Well, we're Democrats, right?' And he said, 'No, no, no. The Democrats have all sorts of young guys like us. The Republican field is wide open.'"

A Bowdoin student told Potholm about a couple of candidates, in Illinois and Florida, traversing their home states on foot. Potholm suggested Cohen do the same, so Cohen trekked 600 miles from the New Hampshire border to the Canadian border, visiting hospitals along the way to have blisters lanced. He won, and The Walk, as it's known, became a fixture of Maine campaigns, imitated by future governor Jock McKernan and future senator Olympia Snowe, among others. Potholm continued to do strategy work — helping Angus King win an independent gubernatorial bid, helping defeat a ballot measure to end bear hunting, helping pass a measure to legalize same-sex marriage. He also turned his experiences into a series of books on Maine politics.

Now 81, he continues to publish books — one upcoming is about women in war, his fourth book on warfare, and another is a collaboration with Cohen about The Walk. He still teaches courses on warfare and Maine politics, though the distinction between the two isn't what it once was: "You can't believe how rotten politics is now," he says. "It really makes me sick to my stomach how we listen to the kookiest elements and not to people in the middle who just want problems solved." At times, he says, academic colleagues eyed his forays into the electoral mire with suspicion, but he thinks campaign experience improved his scholarship. "I had this opportunity to look at the books and try some of it out in the real world, to see what works. Then, I could come into the classroom and learn how to teach it, then put it in a book. It's been a marvelous adventure to do that." — W.G.

Before he ran campaigns, Potholm ran up and down the pitch playing varsity soccer at Bowdoin.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON

COURTESY OF CHRISTIAN POTHOLM

The River Runner

*Canoe racer **Chip Loring** is an eminence on the water and off.*

On a recent afternoon, paddling on Birch Stream, in Old Town, Penobscot elder Chip Loring paused to admire the scenery. As he did, an otter surfaced to greet him, just an arm's length from his canoe. Nearby, her young splashed playfully in the current. For a moment, time seemed to stand still.

It was the kind of scene that Loring has enjoyed countless times during his seven decades on Maine's waters. Now an internationally recognized champion canoe racer and a mentor to young paddlers from the Penobscot Nation, he was only four years old when he learned how to paddle on this very stream — or, as he remembers it, "how to get back in the canoe" after his father flipped their traditional cedar boat, teaching him and his siblings paddling's most important safety lesson. Those early trips ignited Loring's passion, and he spent his formative years traversing the many waterways around Indian Island, following the routes of ancestral Penobscot paddlers.

In 1967, at 19, Loring enlisted in the army. He quickly achieved a childhood dream of becoming an Army Ranger, and he made sergeant within a year — "even before my voice changed," he laughs. He was injured during his second Vietnam tour, and when he returned home in 1969, he was awarded the Purple Heart. He traveled the country for a while after that, readjusting to civilian life, living in and out of Maine. At one point, he took a desk job with an electric utility, but he couldn't imagine looking out an office window for the next 30 years, and he left after one day on the job. Instead, he learned the roofing trade from an uncle.

After the 2013 removal of the Veazie Dam, Loring was one of the first paddlers to run the newly free-flowing stretch of the Penobscot River, a route his ancestors once paddled.

In 1990, Loring read about Hawaii's Ironman Triathlon and made up his mind to register. He trained for months, and when he crossed the finish line, it was with a new enthusiasm for competitive athletics. He rekindled his love of paddling, and in the decades since, he has competed in hundreds of river races, including high-profile contests like Canada's 1,000-mile Yukon 1000. His name is recognized and respected on the international canoe-racing circuit, and at 73, he's hardly slowing down. This spring, he and a teammate came in first in their class at Bangor's venerable Kenduskeag Stream Canoe Race.

But Loring is admired for much more than his racing accomplishments. In the greater Old Town area, he's known for his community service and willingness to help those in need, whether it be repairing a leaky roof, gifting a vehicle, shoveling out neighbors in winter, or helping a friend or acquaintance financially during hard times. He's also a regular presence at Orono's community paddles and a mentor to Wabanaki youth, teaching paddling skills as well as life lessons. The most important one he learned as an Army Ranger, then again as a non-athlete turned Ironman competitor. "You can do anything you set your mind to," Loring says.

Coming off the water, Loring settles on a bench underneath a gazebo. As a thundershower rolls in, I ask him what keeps him paddling after so many years. He looks out toward the river. "The serenity," he replies. — ANN POLLARD RANCO

ALBERTO LOPEZ

Making His Peace

Poet, veteran, and activist ***Doug Rawlings*** *envisions a world without war.*

In the summer of 1970, Doug Rawlings returned to the U.S. from the central highlands of Vietnam, changed by the 13½ months he'd spent attached to an artillery unit there, but not in the ways he'd privately hoped for when he was drafted. He didn't feel like a Hemingway-esque hero who'd proven his mettle; mostly, he felt angry. He dabbled in anti-war activism, largely around Boston, then got a teaching degree, hoping to redirect his fervor into connecting with kids. He moved to Maine when he and his wife, Judy, started a family, eventually settling on a farmstead in what's now Chesterville. In 1985, Rawlings was one of several cofounders of Veterans for Peace, which today claims thousands of members in 130 chapters worldwide. Now retired from the University of Maine Farmington, where he still sometimes teaches a freshman Peace Studies seminar, he's president of Maine's Veterans for Peace chapter and the author of eight books of poetry, including the just-published *Cìu Tre (Bamboo Bridge)*, a collaboration with poet and Vietnam War refugee Teresa Mei Chuc. — B.K.

What motivated your activism after returning from Vietnam?
I was so angry about what we had done to the Vietnamese people, children in particular. These Vietnamese kids would look at us with the coldest eyes. I've written a couple of poems about kids selling their mothers, their sisters. I looked at that and said, we did that to those kids? I could not stop thinking about it. This was before the concept of PTSD or moral injury were even part of the package. I just kept on saying, I can do this, I can put it behind me. But I couldn't.

In the early '80s, Rawlings and his wife bought an 1820s farmhouse on two-and-a-half acres for $29,000. "We wanted to do the back-to-the-land, grow-our-own-food stuff, which we still do. We have massive gardens and a greenhouse, the whole nine yards."

What's the core of Veterans for Peace's mission?
We have an aspiration to abolish war as an instrument of national policy. We realize we have a long way to go to get there. People say, oh, that's a Pollyannaish idea. I like to point out it's what Albert Einstein wanted. After World War I, he attended disarmament conventions where leaders wanted to designate which weapons were appropriate and so on. Einstein said, there's no way — we have to abolish war.

How do older members work alongside vets of more recent wars? Can you help them find solace and a voice?
It's tough sometimes. They don't want to be talked down to. They've got their own stories to tell, and who are we? Our thing is, we were in demonstrations before you guys were even born. And don't think the baggage you carry

from Iraq and Afghanistan is much different than the baggage we carry, so why can't you listen to us? They're saying, Vietnam is old news, and we need to do our thing. And I'm torn — I can see where they're coming from.

What's your writing practice like?
I don't want to pretend it's mystical, but in a sense it is — I don't know where a poem comes from. The last one, I just woke up early and looked out at this apple tree. It's written for Afghan War vets, and the opening stanza is, "Stop struggling with the eyes of strangers — / try directing your thousand-yard stares / toward the apple tree by the stone wall / in the early morning light." Then I go through all the other senses — smell, hearing, and so on — and it ends with this notion of: Let this stuff go. Come to your senses, connect with the natural world, and you can get through this. I mean, I try not to preach. When I moved up here, I didn't do it purposefully, moving to the country to get away from the war. But in retrospect, that's exactly what I did.

CHIP DILLON

Gordon Kenyon's oldest peach trees were planted during the Cold War, and they've survived many cold winters since then.

Five years ago, when a warm winter and a rare flash-freeze event wiped out much of the Northeast's stone-fruit crop, Kenyon's orchard was far enough north to be unaffected.

Peachy Keen

Row by row, ***Gordon Kenyon*** *makes his peach trees grow, in spite of Maine's unfriendly climate.*

On a breezy summer afternoon, 78-year-old Gordon Kenyon paces the rows of his orchard, plucking unripe peaches. The merciless process, he says, is painful for younger farmers, but it leaves the remaining fruit with the necessary space and nutrients to grow. The blue sky matches Kenyon's blue eyes, and his hands are dusted with earth. He's missing part of one finger, lost to a Volkswagen fan belt decades ago.

In the 37 years since he planted the first peach tree on his 200-acre Locust Grove Farm, in Albion, Kenyon has dialed in the process of growing peaches outside their usual habitat, far from the balmier

ALEXANDER WOLF LEWIS

places where the fruit typically thrives — Georgia, South Carolina, California. Kenyon is no stranger to inhospitable environments. In 1980, he was living in Oregon, 100 miles south of the actively erupting Mount St. Helens. From his deck, he watched columns of ash shoot miles into the air and then blanket his town. Then a high-school biology teacher with a background in forestry, he joined an expedition of scientists to periodically survey the mountain's changing landscape. Family ties eventually pulled him east, but he brought along chunks of Mount St. Helens's fractured dome, now displayed throughout his house.

At first, Kenyon farmed raspberries in Maine, but the berries struggled in the summer humidity, suffering from frequent fungal infections and low yields. Five years in, he called it quits, wondering where to turn next. A friend asked why he hadn't considered peaches, and that's when a light bulb went off: Kenyon didn't know of anyone else making a living off peach farming in Maine, but while he'd been busy wrestling with those temperamental raspberries, a dozen or so peach trees on his property, planted as almost an afterthought, had flourished on their own. Now, he grows many types of peaches on thousands of trees. There are white-fleshed peaches and yellow-fleshed peaches. There are red havens and Madisons and Saturn peaches, the latter named for their flattened, disk-like resemblance to the ringed planet. When the crop ripens, generally from mid-August through early September, customers stand in lines that snake through the farm and spill out into neighboring roads. Peach lovers, brewers, bakers, and restaurateurs all wait for a share of the harvest.

Each type of peach tree on Kenyon's farm is tested for cold-hardiness, to ensure it can tolerate Maine's harsh winters and shorter-than-average growing seasons. Then, there's the constant battle against a rotating legion of peach-loving pests — fruit flies, beetles, stink bugs, squirrels, moths, turkeys. Rather than worry from the sidelines, he tries to head off threats. After a few decades of trial and error, he discovered, "The turkeys come right back if you shoot up in the air. But if you take a hen, you'll never see them again."

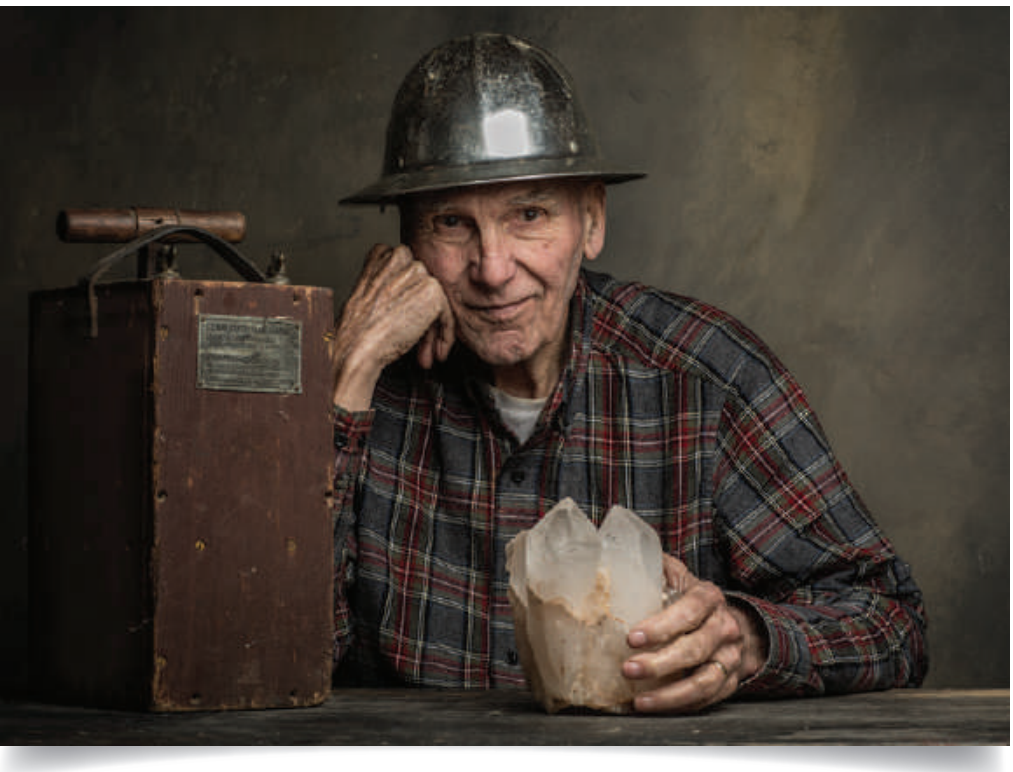
That experimentative spirit manifests in other ways too. Drought has plagued Maine agriculture in recent years, so in a far corner of the orchard, Kenyon has PVC pipes sticking out of the ground, creating direct access to trees' root systems. Inspired by research out of Washington State University, he hopes that by watering through the pipes, he can do more with less. And no amount of adversity is likely to make him halt his pursuit of new ways to sustain the orchard. As he puts it, he's never been to Florida and doesn't plan to visit. However, if his wife, Marilyn, outlives him, he's given her permission to cut everything down. "But this is your legacy!" she protests. "It's okay," Kenyon says, "I will not know." — KAITLYN SCHWALJE

Over 70

Senior Portraits

Photographer Jason Paige Smith on his ambitious photo series The Oldest State.

After stints in north coastal Florida and the Colorado Rockies, Jason Paige Smith moved with his family to Orono in 2009, looking for a hometown that would put them within easy reach of both ocean and mountains. An editorial and commercial photographer, he soon noticed a trend among his photo subjects here: a lot were in their golden years and showing few signs of slowing down. So Smith launched a photo project in his spare time, traveling all across the state to shoot environmental portraits of active older Mainers in their natural milieus. Inspired by Maine's highest-in-the-nation median age (44.9, compared to the national average of 38.2), he titled his project and resulting 2019 book *The Oldest State: Portraits of a Maine Generation*. We caught up with Smith to ask what he'd learned and hear about some of his more memorable subjects. —B.K.



Frank Perham, now 87, of West Paris. A western Maine mining legend, Perham had minerals displayed in his basement. "I brought my son, who's interested in minerals, along as my assistant that day," Smith says. "While I was setting up, Frank was walking around with him, showing him everything, answering questions. A day or two later, I got a call from Frank asking my address. Then, a few days after, a beautiful piece of quartz was delivered with a handwritten note for my son."

Everard Hall, now 76, of Milbridge. A gravedigger for more than 50 years, Hall was profiled by *CBS Sunday Morning* in 2016. He told the show's reporter, "Everybody has an occupation they can do perfect — mine is grave digging." Hall told Smith he's dug more than 2,400 graves during his career. "Just a really interesting guy," Smith says.

When you first moved to Maine, did you realize the state had the country's highest median age?
We never looked too closely at how old the population is — it was honestly kind of a surprise to me. I moved up here with the thought that a lot of the older people in this country lived in Florida. Of course, the older generation here is certainly different than down there, where a lot of people are retired and are transplants, living a different lifestyle than a lot of people here.

How are those lifestyles different?
Well, I don't want to stereotype — there are certainly people there living similar lifestyles to people up here and vice-versa — but in Florida, the big sales pitch is to retire and live in a condo on the beach and golf. That's sort of the mantra. Definitely a contrast to Maine, where you think of people who are older and still out there doing a lot of active things that people younger than them may not even necessarily be doing.

I joke sometimes that it's a quintessential Maine experience to be out hiking a tough stretch of trail and just get smoked by an octogenarian.
Yes, who says, "Good morning, this is my third time doing the trail since sunrise."

Did you have those kinds of encounters?
What would happen is that I would get photo assignments, and the work, a lot of times, was to photograph people who were interesting and turned out to be older. And I started noticing this even as I was hearing negative reporting about Maine's aging population, how that can affect the economy and so on. But I always had a lot of fun when I would go out and meet these people. I enjoyed talking to them and hearing their stories. That's kind of how the whole thing started.

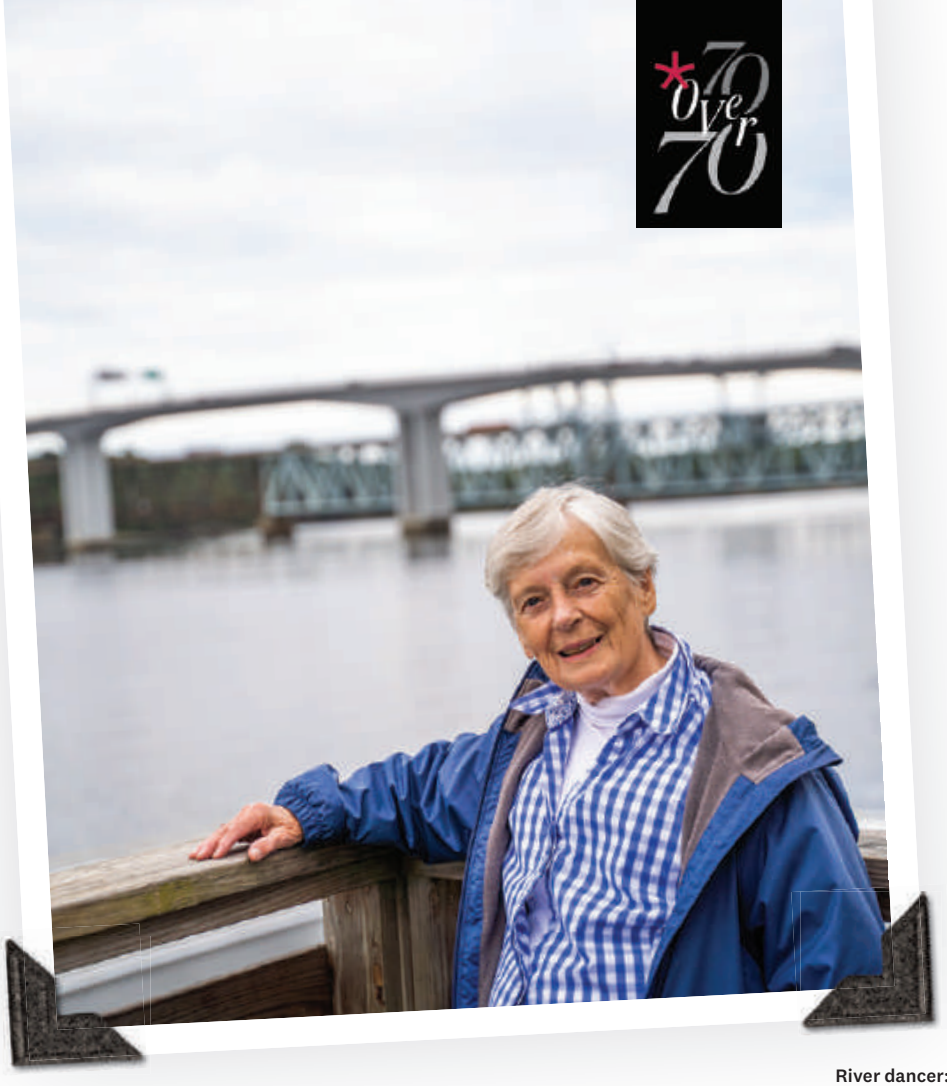
How did you begin approaching photo subjects?
I'd gotten to know my son's drumming instructor pretty well and started talking to him about the idea. He said, well, you should photograph my grandfather, he's kind of this legendary lobsterman in Stonington. So I did that shoot and put it out there on social media for people to see and to read his story, and all the feedback was just really cool. People started contacting me, telling me stories about their grandparents or parents, and I ended up coming up with this long list of people to potentially photograph. It took off from there.

Were you consciously looking for active people, people working in the trades, something like that?
I started out with a list of different jobs or hobbies or things people might be interested in and tried to find people within those circles. But then there were just a lot of surprises that came along. I would get a message from somebody that said, hey, have you talked to this guy? He's been digging graves for 50 years. So there wasn't any real criteria — I tried to stay open to what a person's role or interests might be.

Did it change how you think about your own later-in-life plans? Or how you think about your plans right now?
Yeah, some of these people start to make you question how much you actually do with your weeks, you know? Maybe motivate you to get out there and do a little more. I mean, I don't think you're going to see me on a golf course in Florida. The more I talked to everyone, the more a very clear picture came into focus, and it was essentially that you continue to use your mind and your body and do the things you're passionate about — or you don't. And the people who continue to are the people who continue to thrive. That whole idea of making the most out of every day, that just really came into focus, to become more present in my mind and everyday life.

SMITH'S BOOK *THE OLDEST STATE: PORTRAITS OF A MAINE GENERATION* ($55, SOFTCOVER) IS AVAILABLE AT JASONPAIGESMITH.COM/BOOKS.

Beth Hutchings, now 83, of Eddington. Since 1968, the owner of Hutchings Greenhouse, which she ran with her husband, LeRoy, until his death, in 2015. "She's awesome," Smith says. "I've gone back to her greenhouse every year and bought flowers for our house and our camp. She made that sweater she's wearing. She has an entire upper level of her barn full of sewing machines, and she makes sweaters, scarves, hats, and things she sells during the off-season, so she's busy all year long."



River dancer: Perkins launched her sunset gig, as a line-dance instructor, in Bath, where she has a near-nightly tradition of dinners on the riverfront with another dancer friend.

Dancing Queen

*Line-dancing maven **Marjorie Perkins** is still grapevining, kick-ball-changing, and bringing smiles to the faces of her students in Bath.*

"During my first day of line-dancing classes, the teacher came up to me and said, 'Have you got it?'" Marjorie Perkins recalls, standing at the head of a fluorescent-lit room in the Bath Area Senior Citizens Activity Center, trying to reassure her class of 14 line dancers, which includes me. The next thing she knew, she says, she had danced her way into a whole different row — "and I didn't even know how I got there!"

My classmates laugh knowingly, and I force a nervous chuckle. It's my first-ever line-dancing class, and I definitely haven't "got it." But I'm trying, and the ladies in the rows around me — many of whom have been dancing under Marjorie for nearly all of the 23 years she's taught — are very supportive. They help me remember steps by calling them out as we go and heap praise on me when I remember them.

Marjorie is our DJ and beacon. After popping a cassette tape into her silver Sony boombox, she demonstrates a few steps of choreography, to refresh our memories. Then she watchfully, but not judgmentally, examines our dancing. She has more than 100 cassettes to choose from, and most of "the girls," as Marjorie calls her students, remember the steps to each and every song she plays, from twangy "Neon Moon" by Brooks & Dunn to "Marvin Gaye" by YouTube pop crooner Charlie Puth. We're bouncing from polka to country to cha-cha to waltzes to Latin dance. My head is spinning, but for Marjorie and the girls, it's just another Monday morning.

Of late, Marjorie has been dealing with a hematoma in her leg, making dancing painful. Since she can't join in, she stands at the head of the room and patiently guides her students out loud. Owing to her injury, several of her students have become makeshift teachers. "All you have to do is follow the girls," Marjorie tells me. "They just take right over, so I don't have to worry about it."

The girls all have several decades on me. Many are in their 70s and 80s, and a few are sporting indigo T-shirts that say "I love line dancing" in big, cursive letters, made for performances a few years back. They're hitting every step perfectly. Most dance with Marjorie twice a week, 90 minutes every Monday and Thursday morning. According to one student's Fitbit, their steps equal nearly a mile-and-a-half of walking per class. The dances are second nature to them: the room moves in unison as bossa nova drifts through Marjorie's boombox, and despite the mental and physical exertion I'm realizing it takes to hit every step, they never seem to tire.

Listening to music is Marjorie's favorite part of dancing and one of her life's great pleasures, but she hasn't always been a dancer. For 22 years, before she ever took a dance class, she was a figure skater and an instructor at the Skating Club of Brunswick. She hung up her skates when she was nearing her 60s, for fear of injury, and took her first line-dancing class soon after. She became a teacher just a few years in, after the death of her own teacher. It was a natural role for Marjorie, who taught elementary school for some 35 years, mostly in Brunswick, before retiring in 1993.

Last year, Marjorie and the girls danced in the parking lot outside the senior center, staying seven feet apart, using parking spaces as social-distancing bubbles. It was a godsend for the line dancers during the most isolating months of the pandemic.

After class, I ask Marjorie if she ever plans to stop dancing. "I'll dance until I drop," she says. "My line-dance teacher never wanted anyone to know how old she was. She was afraid if people found out, she'd get fired." Marjorie shakes her head and smiles. "I'm not worried about that at all." — A.P.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON

This Christmas
Our store is only
45 seconds away
www.CrossJewelers.com

The Gull
Blue Sapphire & Diamond Ring
CMT2053 ...$6,614

From Sea to Shining Sea
Rhodolite Garnet & Diamond Ring
CMT2057...$1,386

Returning Tide
Blue Sapphire Ring
X3898...$1,450

Crew West
SparHawk Maine Tourmaline
& Diamond Ring
G3266 ...$4,250

Fair Winds & Following Seas
Blue Sapphire & Diamond Ring
CMT2065 ...$2,700

The Gull
Ruby & Diamond Ring
CMT2062...$5,086

Clipper Ship Trade Wind Jewelry

"My Grandfather was a Clipper Ship Sea Captain"

Keith stopped into our store, March 2014. He said by way of introduction,
"My great-great-grandfather was a clipper ship sea captain from Maine.
I go to the gem fields of the Far East, same ports he sailed to.
I buy gems, bring them back to New England, design and make my own jewelry."

He showed us what he made, told us his prices, and made us an offer we couldn't refuse.
The values are amazing. The gems, the colors, the designs, the quality and Keith's
philosophy, low-profile, close, comfortable, safe and solid make his collection
the fastest selling value pieces we've ever carried.

Everything in the Clipper Ship collection is old Yankee, sharp pencil pricing.
This is Keith figuring everything to the closest most conservative dollar
and then pricing to exact dollars, like $817, $1,103, $1,672.
Yes, this is odd pricing, it reflects though, Keith's sharp pencil approach.
Over 100 pieces online today, ready to ship anywhere USA.

We've never seen anything like it.
Value priced so well, some days we sell 3, 4, 5 pieces.
You should check the Cross Clipper Ship
Trade Wind Collection
on our website.

Shipping is
always Safe,
Fast and FREE
Anywhere USA

The Good News

We are now open as an online gallery of fine jewelry. Our website with over a 1,000 great jewelry gifts, is rich with stories and the inspiration of the jewelry we make. And yes, our retail store is still closed.

Cross Jewelers

The Cross Gallery of Fine Jewelry

www.CrossJewelers.com

1-800-433-2988

DE11213

DANIELLE SYKES

A Bit Out of the Oar-dinary

*Kittery's **Dan O'Reilly** digs clams, rows the open ocean, and . . . re-enacts murder?*

During the bitter-cold months of winter, when many Mainers are warming themselves by the woodstove, Dan O'Reilly heads outside. The 84-year-old lifelong Mainer feels perfectly happy climbing into a rowboat and paddling through snow, sleet, or whatever else the elements throw at him. He's been an open-water racer for decades. His last race was the mile-long Round Island Regatta, in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in 2019. Prior to that, he competed in 2018 in the Blackburn Challenge, a 21-mile open-water row around Massachusetts's Cape Ann. Rowing has taken him throughout the Northeast, to Canada, and even to England, but his most interesting row wasn't a race at all.

In 2013, O'Reilly rowed an ocean route supposedly traveled by the infamous Smuttynose Island murderer, Louis Wagner, in 1873. The 28-year-old Wagner, a broke and desperate German immigrant, is said to have stolen a dory in Portsmouth, rowed 10 miles out to Smuttynose Island, killed two women there with an ax, and then rowed back. He was apprehended and convicted of the crime, but some are still skeptical whether the alleged murderer could have made such a trip in the time for which he had no alibi — about 11 hours. A friend asked O'Reilly to prove it was possible. So he took to the seas in an old-fashioned dory and completed the 20-mile round trip in two hours and 15 minutes. Wagner was 28 at the time of the murders. O'Reilly was 75.

The son of a lobsterman, O'Reilly was raised on Cliff Island, in Casco Bay. "When I was 10 years old, my father gave me an old, flat-bottom skiff," he says. "He told me to load the traps and handed me some oars and said, 'Go out there and make some school money.'" O'Reilly went to a one-room schoolhouse through the eighth grade, then attended high school in Portland. His commute took an hour-and-a-half by ferry, each way. Teachers figured he used the time to do his homework, but O'Reilly says he mostly talked to girls.

These days, when he isn't on a boat, he's likely digging clams. He lives in Kittery but works on the flats around Wells where he believes the best clams are found, often with his daughters, grandkids, and, of late, his great-grandkids. Around Kittery, it's not uncommon to see him sporting a T-shirt with his nickname: "The Clam Whisperer."

In the 1950s, he and his wife, Judy, who died in 2015, bought a 55-acre farmstead in Kittery's little-developed northern reaches, where they raised four daughters. As their daughters grew up and had their own families, each got parcels off the original plot, so today, O'Reilly's grandkids are his neighbors. When they were young, he brought them along on all sorts of adventures: paddling the Allagash, clamming, rowing along the coast. Now that he's older, O'Reilly says, the grandkids bring him along. Last summer, he joined his oldest grandson on a moose-scouting trip to Portage Lake, where they tented it and paddled all weekend. O'Reilly's adventures feel as natural as ever: being on the water is simply part of his identity. "It's just what I've always done," he says. — MONIQUE BROUILLETTE

The 1880 one-room schoolhouse that O'Reilly attended on Cliff Island still operates today, usually with no more than a few K–5 pupils.

Above: snapshots of O'Reilly's 1990s rowing exploits and trips, from (left to right) a row across Casco Bay, a pilot-gig race in the UK's Isles of Scilly, and a camping trip on the Moose River, in Jackman.

COURTESY OF DAN O'REILLY

Breaking the Cycle

*Architect turned chocolatier **Dean Bingham** never goes in circles.*

As a teenager, Dean Bingham used to declare he would live to be 100 years old. "Why not?" he says with a chuckle. "There's no reason not to." Back then, Bingham ran hurdles, and he believes they taught him an important lesson about living — and especially about aging. "There were always more hurdles — you just keep running," he says. "If you look forward, not backward, that's pretty great. And if you spend all your time worrying about what happens next, something will."

Now 75, Bingham has never let common conceptions around aging hold him back. In 2008, after four decades as an architect and at an age when many people consider retirement, Bingham changed careers and became a chocolatier, starting Dean's Sweets. He insists the switch was less radical than it sounds. Both jobs require attention to detail and aesthetic sensibility, he says, but instead of designing buildings, he's designing chocolates. More importantly, he's happier with the new business. "Architecture, if you do a project well, maybe five years down the road your client will give you a backhanded compliment in some way," he says. "Whereas chocolate, you offer some to somebody and it's virtually instant gratification."

He and his wife, Kristin, his partner in life and business, now run two retail locations in Portland. They keep him engaged and interested and constantly troubleshooting, and he's having enough fun with it that he has no plans to retire. He encourages others to make a similar later-in-life switch. "If whatever you were doing becomes less interesting, find something else," he says. "There's no time like now. I would challenge people: if you're thinking about doing something different, just do it, because you have no idea what's coming next. Keep busy, keep moving, all that good stuff. Don't stop."

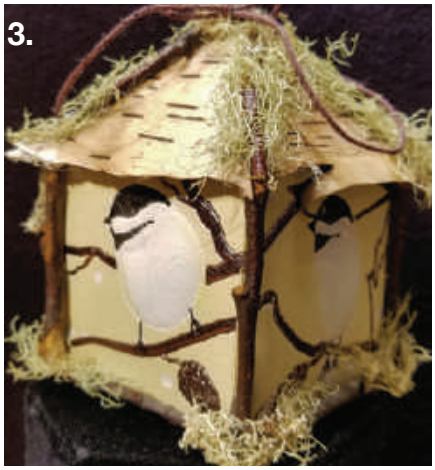
Bingham started out as a bike commuter in Boston before signing up for his first National Multiple Sclerosis Society fundraising ride, in 1991.

This summer, he celebrated his 75th birthday by biking 3,000 miles, from Key West to Calais, to raise money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. It was his 30th year of riding to support MS research, a tribute to another person who embodied the philosophy that Bingham embraces: his late father's onetime roommate at a nursing home in Deer Isle, a guy named Charlie, who had MS himself and was quadriplegic. "He kept my dad going," Bingham remembers. "Charlie would get him out of bed in the morning and keep him moving."

Over the years, Bingham has biked across the country twice to fundraise for the cause. This year, on the trek from Florida to Maine, he spent 41 days on his bike, averaging about 65 miles a day, "which for an old guy is pretty good," he laughs. He is, admittedly, going a bit slower than he used to, but not just because he's getting older. Speed is simply no longer the goal. He stopped along the way to see friends and to visit with family. At one point, outside Charleston, his 83-year-old brother rode with him for 40 miles. "If you're going to do these things," he says, "you might as well enjoy the ride." — JESSE ELLISON

KRISTIN BINGHAM

GIFT HANDMADE



1. **ROGUE INDUSTRIES** The Rogue Front Pocket Wallet, the most comfortable wallet ever made • rogue-industries.com
2. **NATALIE REED FINE JEWELRY** Fine jewelry inspired by the beauty of Maine's coastline • nataliereedfinejewelry.com
3. **ISLAND DESIGNS** Embossed paper and copper - 3 dimensional paper ornaments • islanddesignsmaine.com
4. **HARVEST GOLD JEWELRY** Created in the western mountains of Maine using Maine gems for over 30 years • harvestgoldjewelry.com
5. **THIRDLEE & CO.** Handcrafted ornaments and décor inspired by the natural beauty of the New England coastline • thirdleeco.com
6. **LISA B. EVANS CERAMICS** Fine porcelain from the coast of Maine • lisabevans.com
7. **LISA GENT HANDCRAFTED JEWELRY** Jewelry that is timeless while being current • lisagent.com
8. **EMILY SHAFFER STUDIO** Clean, modern, versatile, silver jewelry • emilyshafferstudio.com
9. **JACKIE HAINES JEWELRY** Distinctive, one of a kind jewelry in silver and gold • jackiehaines.com
10. **GREAT BLUE MOSAIC** Custom mosaic made by hand in Maine • greatbluemosaic.com

MAINECRAFTS.ORG

The Maine Crafts Association supports craft artists by providing **educational, marketing** and **retail opportunities**.

MAINE CRAFTS ASSOCIATION

MAINE GRANITE CHEESEBOARD
A&E STONEWORKS
$45

HEN PLATTER
OYSTER RIVER JOINERY
$125

CHICKADEE TEA TOWEL
DOWN EAST
$18

Maine gifts, décor, and more!

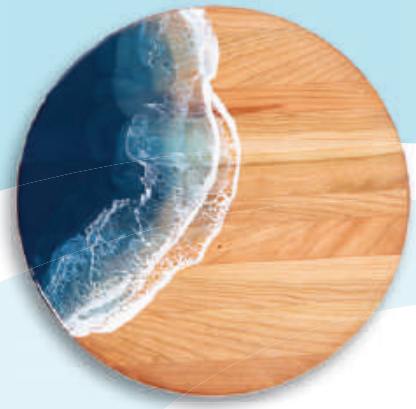
CAMDEN SERVING TRAY
163 DESIGN COMPANY
$39.95

MAINE 1820 FRASER FIR CANDLE
SEAWICKS CANDLE CO.
$24

LOVE ROCKS ME CANDLE
LOVE ROCKS ME
$24

BEACH STONE WINE STOPPER
FUNKY ROCK DESIGNS
$22

HOLIDAY LOBSTER FLOUR SACK TOWEL
FESTIVE FISH
$24



COASTLINE ROUND CHARCUTERIE BOARD
LA MARÉE ART
$140

MERRY CHRISTMAS RED TRUCK STACKER
SALT AIR DESIGNS
$30

THE MAINE COLLECTION
ORNAMENT SET
A&E STONEWORKS
$42

CLASSIC WATERCOLOR PRINT
VALERIE PAUL
$35

MINI DRIFTWOOD TREE KIT
SALTY GIRL
$75

MOOSE BIRCH WOOD ORNAMENT
RECLAIMED MAINE CO.
$12.95

Down East Shop

shop.downeast.com

1-800-766-1670

WOODEN ALPHABET MATCHING GAME
HOPE LEARNING TOYS
$47

PINE TREE KNIT HAT
BALOO BALEERIE
$24.99

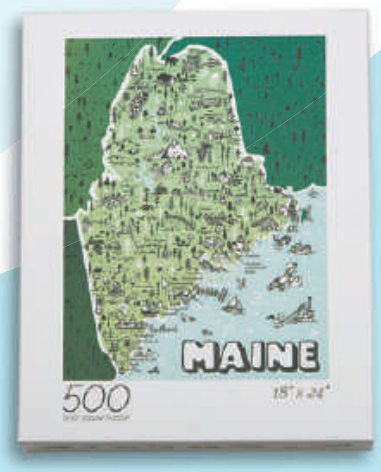
MAINE STATE WOODEN RATTLE
PATRIOT BABY TOYS
$18.50

MAINE INSPIRED WOODEN BLOCKS
RECLAIMED MAINE CO.
$13.50

HAPPY MOUNTAINS WHIMSICAL PRINT
FESTIVE FISH
$36

PINE & ANCHOR PLAYING CARDS
DOWN EAST
$12.75

CLASSIC COVERS COLORING BOOK
DOWN EAST
$12.95



MAINE STATE PUZZLE
BRAINSTORM
$32

MAINE CRUSHED SHELLS CRIBBAGE BOARD
MAINE SHELLWARE
$32

BLACK PEARL STUD EARRINGS
SEA SALT & SILVER
$50

OCEANSCAPE NECKLACE
MAINE SHELLWARE
$36

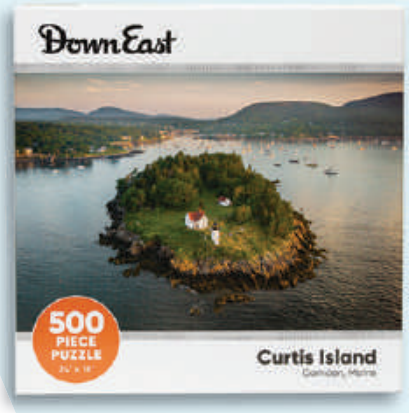
BURGUNDY CORK
SILVER SIDE HOOK BRACELET
GEM LOUNGE
$40

MAINE FLAG EARRINGS
BLUEBERRY BAY BEADS
$25

DALAHORSE ZIPPIE BAG
TRÖSKÖ DESIGN
$26

SACO RIVER TOTE BAG
ROGUE INDUSTRIES
$168

MAINE PINE & ANCHOR SNOWFLAKE T-SHIRT
DOWN EAST
$25



CURTIS ISLAND PUZZLE
DOWN EAST
$28

DownEast Shop

shop.downeast.com

1-800-766-1670

Bluejacket Shipcrafters

START SMALL WITH ONE OF THESE GREAT CHRISTMAS IDEAS

Ensign Skillbuilder Kits are the perfect Christmas gift and a great way to learn the basics of wooden ship modeling. Everything you need — tools, paint, glue, even sandpaper — is included. Nothing else to buy to turn one of these kits into a beautiful model that you'll be proud to display.

160 East Main St., Searsport
800-448-5567
bluejacketinc.com

Dailey Woodworking

HAND-TURNED SALT AND PEPPER MILLS

From my workshop deep in the woods of Maine, I strive to create a piece of functional art for your table or counter. Each mill is hand turned and designed to fit perfectly in your hand, and the grinding mechanisms are made to last. We ship worldwide. Please visit our website today.

207-357-5473
dailey woodworking.com

Down East T-Shirts

SHOW OFF YOUR MAINE PRIDE

Custom-designed at *Down East* and printed in Maine on soft, 100% cotton tees. Choose from a unique snowflake design made up of a sun, stars, pine trees, and anchors on a blue shirt, or a design inspired by vintage Maine state-line road signs on fatigue green. Unisex sizes available from S to XL. $25.

207-594-9544
1-800-766-1670
shop.downeast.com

Rosalind Bridges Artist

NOTE CARDS FROM ORIGINAL ART

Unique art from found objects are in private collections and have been shown in numerous Maine venues. New commissions welcome. Other cards include: Chickadee, Crab, Dachshund, Fish, Owl, Poodle, Puffin, Rabbit, Turkey and Mermaid. Mix or match set of 6 cards: $20 plus s&h.

99 Stroudwater Rd., Portland
800-741-0075 • 207-774-4446
clbodley7@aol.com

Trenton Bridge Lobster Pound® Since 1956

MAINE LOBSTERS TO YOUR DOOR

Allow us to ship a gift box of live lobsters, local oysters, crabmeat, scallops, and other items of your choice to someone special. Your customized order will be hand-selected from only the finest seafood Maine has to offer. Gift cards available, too!

1237 Bar Harbor Rd., Trenton
207-667-2977 • fax 207-667-3412
trentonbridgelobster.com

Down East Coloring Book

CLASSIC ILLUSTRATED COVERS FROM THE 1950s AND '60s

The artists behind *Down East*'s early covers captured the post-war idealism of the '50s and '60s, and even now, their work still perfectly evokes the "Vacationland" mystique. This Classic Covers Coloring Book is great for any art medium with 15 heavy 8.5" x 11" card-stock pages ready to be colored! $12.95.

207-594-9544
1-800-766-1670
shop.downeast.com

Willoughby Studio

UNIQUE STATIONERY AND GIFTS

Quality stationery products and home décor items celebrating the beauty Maine has to share. Check out the state bird, the chickadee, or one of our famous lighthouses. Write or call for our free catalog.

112 Ridge Rd., Marshfield
207-271-0759
willoughbystudio@yahoo.com

CWP Paintings

CUSTOM PET PORTRAITS

Hand-painted portraits of a beloved pet. An original painting can bring a touch of magic and love to an image that will be treasured for years. A wonderful way to commemorate a pet that has passed away, or celebrate a pet still with you! I work from your photos sent by mail or email; finished paintings can be mailed nationwide.

713 Limerick Rd., Arundel, ME 04046
207-553-0464 · cdwprosser@icloud.com
etsy.com/shop/cwppaintings

Lakin's Gorges Cheese at East Forty Farm

SAVOR A TASTE OF MAINE

The land and the sea combine in a cheese gift box from Lakin's Gorges Cheese, made on my saltwater farm in Waldoboro. Each box contains 1.5 pounds of my small-batch cow's-milk cheese, handmade buttermilk crackers, and one of our signature savory jams. $59 plus 2-day shipping, nationwide.

2361 Friendship Rd., Waldoboro
207-230-4318
lakinsgorgescheese.com

Down East Puzzle

CURTIS ISLAND - CAMDEN, ME

This 500-piece puzzle features a stunning aerial view of Camden's Curtis Island by *Down East* photographer Benjamin Williamson. Size is 24" x 18" when assembled. Made in the USA. $28.

207-594-9544
1-800-766-1670
shop.downeast.com

Lisa-Marie's Made in Maine, Inc.

CUSTOMIZE YOUR OWN MAINE GIFT BASKET

Family owned and operated for over 17 years, we support more than 400 small businesses, exclusively featuring products made within the state of Maine. From beautiful artwork, pottery, and jewelry to specialty foods, stylish apparel for all ages, and year-round Christmas, you'll be sure to find the perfect piece of Maine to bring hoME.

170 Front St., Bath
35 Exchange St., Portland
lisamariesmadeinmaine.com

FIORE Artisan Olive Oils and Vinegars

OILS AND VINEGARS TO YOUR DOOR

The mission of FIORE is to provide the freshest, highest quality, authentic, hard-to-find extra virgin olive oils, specialty oils, and aged balsamic vinegars with excellent personal service in a pleasant educational atmosphere. We ship to you every day, worldwide!

Bar Harbor, Rockland, Brunswick,
Freeport, Portland
207-801-2580 • fioreoliveoils.com

MAINE MADE
AMERICA'S BEST

Maine Made

AMERICA'S BEST

Feel the magic

gift hand-made

WWW.MAINEMADE.COM

ASK AN ARTISAN

The holidays are fast approaching. We asked a trio of Maine makers for a few tips on shopping for the best in handmade, Maine-made wares.

ASK A WREATH MAKER

Pam Douglas

PAM'S WREATHS

In mid-October, Pam Douglas shuts down the ice-cream shop she runs in her hometown of Harpswell and launches into high gear with Pam's Wreaths (207-751-7870; pamsmainewreaths.com). The last weekend in October, she goes tipping up north, aiming to cut around 3,000 pounds of balsam fir to start the season (she buys from a network of trusted tippers as well). Last year marked her 40th in the business, and for the last 13 of those, she's been joined by her son, Sterling.

How can you tell a wreath that's going to last the season from one that's going to go brown too quickly?

So when you cut the tips off the trees, they've got to have three solid frosts first, three nights in a row. That sets those tips, and that way they're not going to turn brown, they're not going to die off early. If you take your finger and you pull on that tip, if the needles fall off, that means the tips were never set. If you take your finger and run it across and nothing falls, then that means the tip is ready. That's how you tell, when you buy a wreath off somebody, if that brush isn't ready and it's not going to hold up.

Do pandemic disruptions mean shoppers should order extra early this year if they're hoping to decorate or give a gift before Christmas?

We like when people order early — I get some people that put in their orders in the summertime — that way we know what we need to get for supplies, since we prep some decorations and hand-tie the bows ahead of time. But plenty of people order later, and we don't start shipping until the Monday before Thanksgiving, because people don't want them much earlier than that. I'm really not worried about the shipping this year. We didn't have any problems last year — everything showed up on time.

The age-old question: classic or specialty?

Our horse-head and moose-head wreaths are in very, very high demand. People love the moose, because Maine, obviously. And the horse lovers! We have one lady who orders 35 horses every year. But I would say traditional red bow and berries is still the best seller. And we sell an awful lot of the one we call the Peace Wreath, with an ivory bow and cool-colored winter berries.

ASK A JEWELRY MAKER

Elise DeSalvo

ELISE MARIE DESIGNS

Maine's vibrant maker scene attracted Elise DeSalvo to Portland in 2012, after she finished a degree in textiles, merchandising, and design at the University of Rhode Island. Her Elise Marie DeSigns (207-893-8799; elisemariedesigns.com) crystal and gemstone jewelry, big on hammered metal and wire wrapping, has been a mainstay at craft fairs and boutiques. For a while, she ran her own storefront on Portland's Washington Avenue, and these days she works from a studio gallery in Windham to stock the nearly 200 nationwide shops that carry her pieces.

How do you pick out a piece for somebody whose tastes you may not know so well?
The nice thing about gemstones and crystals is that you can match a stone to something that's going on in their life right now. Say, if someone's going through a tough time or they just started a new job, there are stones that have traditional associations that are relevant to that. Or you can find something general — like rose quartz means love, so you can give it to anyone you care about.

Are there signs to look for to tell whether a piece of jewelry is well made?
Look out for rough edges and sharp points or any jump rings that are open, where a chain could fall apart. At a craft event, you can also read a lot into the presentation: you get a sense of the aesthetic and whether somebody knows what they're doing if they just threw a bunch of jewelry on a table versus giving some thought to the entire presentation. And you can always ask about materials or how something was set or composed.

Should pandemic-related supply-chain issues affect when people shop this year?
I'm definitely going to push "order early" on social media and email this year. I know last year there were some people reaching out whose packages were sitting in some post office for 10 days without any movement. We kind of have no control over it, but I'm probably going to switch my cutoff date to earlier this year, because you just want to make sure people get their stuff. There have been supply issues with blank clothing lately, for the tie-dyes I make, so I've tried to stock up on a good amount. To consumers, I'd say shop early, order early — the last-minute thing isn't a thing anymore.

ASK A POTTER

Kristin Dennison

GOOD LAND POTTERY

Kristin Dennison had already been making pottery for 15 years when she moved to Montville with her family, in 2012, and set up a barn studio and kiln for Good Land Pottery (508-237-4343; goodlandpottery.com). She throws most of her pieces on a wheel,

though she does a little hand-sculpting too. Most of her work is functional — bowls, vases, mugs, jewelry — though her cute, tiny porcelain houses and trees, no two alike, are a hit with holiday-village builders.

If somebody's used to buying pottery and ceramics at craft and holiday fairs, where they can see and hold the goods, what should they do while the pandemic has these events curtailed?
I think it depends on the person and what they're shopping for. Certain things you actually want to get your hands on and know the feel of. Shops like Archipelago, in Rockland, are great, because they have a nice curated mix of all the same type of work you'd get at the shows. It's the best of a show already picked out and put in one place, where you don't have to weed through the mess of a not-so-great show — you know, sometimes you go to one and it's a bunch of hot-glue-gun bandits!

If you just want a mug, and it holds this much coffee, and it's attractive, then you're going to be fine ordering online. But if you're someone who says I want it to feel this way, and I want to get to know it, and I want to hold it and toss it in my hand, then you might be the kind of person who has to go to a store and pick out exactly the one that talks to you.

Is it a pain to pester a maker online with questions about potential web orders?
No, not at all. A lot of my web sales begin as online conversations with customers, "I saw that, I like it, can I see more pictures of it? Can I see it in your hand to see how it fits?" I see my website as more of a jumping-off point of a conversation, mostly because I can't convey enough information in one picture. When it comes to makers in general, I think everyone's happy to talk about what they do. Ask all the questions in the world. Ask for what you want.

What's the most crowd-pleasing pottery for gift-giving?
I always think a mug is a good gift. Even if you get a mug you don't absolutely love, it's still interesting, it still brings a little bit of joy to something that can be so mundane. There are so many things in life that can be kind of bland, and now having a drink just became something special you can think about instead. ■

Put a Bow on It

Shop at these locally owned stores for crafts and gifts made in Maine.

304 STILLWATER AVENUE FURNITURE
304 Stillwater Ave., Bangor
207-992-7459
304stillwateravenue.com

AE CERAMICS
93 Townsend Ave., Boothbay Harbor
207-315-6221
aehomestore.com

ALONE MOOSE FINE CRAFTS
West St., Bar Harbor
207-288-9428

ARCHIPELAGO
386 Main St., Rockland
207-596-0701
thearchipelago.net

BATES MILL STORE
904 Main St., Monmouth
800-552-2837
batesmillstore.com

BELLA RUSTICA
194 Main St., Ellsworth
207-460-5502
@bellarusticagifts

BLUE HILL BAY GALLERY
11 Tenney Hill, Blue Hill
207-374-5773
bluehillbaygallery.com

BLUEBERRY BASKET
193 Spectacle Pond Rd., Porter
207-490-3919
blueberrybasket.com

BONNIE'S PLACE - MAINE MADE TREASURES
288 Mill St., Rockport
207-975-9508
bonniesplaceme.com

BOOTHBAY HARBOR ARTISANS
2 Wharf St., Boothbay Harbor
207-633-1152
@boothbayharborartisans

BRAMBLES
2 Cross St., Belfast
207-338-3448

BRIDGTON ART GUILD / GALLERY 302
112 Main St., Bridgton
207-647-2787
gallery302.com

CENTER FOR MAINE CRAFT
288 Lewiston Rd., West Gardiner
207-588-0021
mainecrafts.org

CHESEBORO GALLERY
11 Leeman Hill Rd., New Harbor
207-677-2235
chesebrogallery.com

CHILTON FURNITURE
184 Lower Main St., Freeport
100 Commercial St., Portland
410 Payne Rd., Scarborough
866-883-3368
chiltons.com

COUNTRY BLESSINGS GIFT SHOPPE
35 Main St., Bangor
207-573-9031
@countryblessingsgiftshoppe

CRATEFULL OF MAINE
377 Fore St., Portland
207-613-6002
cratefullofmaine.com

DAYTRIP SOCIETY
4 Dock Sq., Kennebunkport
207-967-4440
daytripsociety.com

DEEP IN THE WOODS GIFT SHOP
685 Oxbow Rd., Oxbow
207-435-6171
deepinthewoodsgiftshop.com

EAT DRINK LUCKY
Online
Cape Elizabeth
207-450-9060
eatdrinklucky.com

EDGECOMB POTTERS
727 Boothbay Rd., Edgecomb
207-882-9493
edgecombpotters.com

ELEMENTS ART GALLERY
162 Main St., Bethel
207-357-0189
elementsartgallerymaine.com

ELLIE ANNA PURSES
785 Main St., Lewiston
207-754-3057
ellieannapurses.com

EXPERIENCE MAINE MADE GIFTS
Online
Portland
207-747-9077
experiencemainemade.com

FARMHOUSE CAFE
143 Moosehead Lake Rd., Greenville, 207-695-2167

FORGET-ME-NOT-SHOP
81 Old Place Rd., Deer Isle
207-348-2254
@forgetmenot45

GALLERY ON THE LAKE
35 Pritham Ave., Greenville
207-280-0330

GEM LOUNGE JEWELRY & ARTISAN BOUTIQUE
1263 Roosevelt Tr., Raymond
207-302-0009
gemloungejewelry.com

GIFTS AT 136
136 Main St., Damariscotta
207-563-1011; giftsat136.com

GOOSE POND
176 Gray Rd., Cumberland
800-340-2514
goosepond.com

HARVEST GOLD GALLERY
1082 Main St., Center Lovell
207-925-6502
harvestgoldgallery.com

HOME INGREDIENTS
19 Ocean Ave., Kennebunkport
207-204-0084
shophomeingredients.com

ISLAND ARTISANS
99 Main St., Bar Harbor
207-288-4214
119 Main St., Northeast Harbor
207-276-4045
islandartisans.com

LAND'S END GIFT SHOP
2391 Harpswell Island Rd., Bailey Island
207-833-2313
landsendgifts.com

LISA-MARIE'S MADE IN MAINE
170 Front St., Bath
207-443-2225
35 Exchange St., Portland
207-828-1515
lisamariesmadeinmaine.com

LUPINE COTTAGE
7 Old Searsport Ave., Belfast
207-338-4300
lupinecottage.net

MADE IN MAINE SHOP
Online
Rockland
207-899-6925
madeinmaineshop.com

MAIN STREET GALLERY
426 Main St., Norway
207-743-6161
westernmaineartgroup.org

MAIN STREET MARKETS
435 Main St., Rockland
207-594-8515
mainstreetmarkets.com

MAINE ARTISANS
2518 Atlantic Hwy.,
Lincolnville Beach
207-789-5376
maineartisanscollective.com

MAINE CRAFT PORTLAND
521 Congress St., Portland
207-808-8184
mainecrafts.org

MAINE ISLAND SOAP
366 Surry Rd., Ellsworth
207-520-5885
maineislandsoap.com

MAINE JEWELRY AND ART
100 Harlow St., Bangor
207-941-8600
mainejewelryart.com

MAINE POTTERS MARKET
376 Fore St., Portland
207-774-1633
mainepottersmarket.com

MAINE STATE PRISON SHOWROOM
358 Main St., Thomaston
207-354-9237
maine.gov/corrections/industries

MAINE'S PANTRY
250 Commercial St., Portland
877-228-2028
mainespantry.com

MAINELY POTTERY
181 Searsport Ave., Belfast
207-338-1108
mainelypottery.com

MARKINGS GALLERY
50 Front St., Bath
207-443-1499
markingsgallery.com

MINKA
3 Dock Sq., Kennebunkport
207-204-0275
minkahome.com

MONKITREE
263 Water St., Gardiner
207-512-4679
monkitree.com

MOOSEHEAD MARKETPLACE
Online E-Comm
Greenville
207-280-0817
mooseheadmarketplace.com

MY DARLING MAINE ISLAND BOUTIQUE
19 Cottage St., Bar Harbor
207-801-9346
mydarlingmaine.com

NORTH HAVEN MERCANTILE
11 Iron Point Rd., North Haven
207-542-7661
northhavenmercantile.com

NORTHPORT LANDING GALLERY
1330 Atlantic Hwy., Northport
207-338-2210
Find Us on Facebook

PEMAQUID CRAFT CO-OP
2565 Bristol Rd., New Harbor
207-677-2077
pemaquidcraftcoop.com

PURE MAINE
363 Main St., Southwest Harbor
207-332-6811
puremaine.com

RIVER ARTS
241 US Rte. 1, Damariscotta
207-563-1507
riverartsme.org

RIVER ROADS ARTISAN GALLERY
75 Water St., Skowhegan
riverroadsgallery.com

ROSEMARY'S GIFT & YARN SHOP
39 Roosevelt Tr., Windham
207-894-5770
maine-crafts.com

SEVEN ARTS LOCAL ARTISAN GALLERY
192 Main St., Ellsworth
207-667-1968

SHORE SHOP GIFTS, LLC
1 Main Rd., Isle au Haut
207-335-2200
maineshoreshopgifts.com

SUGARWOOD GALLERY
248 Broadway, Farmington
207-778-9105
@sugarwoodgallery

SUNRISE CORNER
15 Ossipee Trl. E., Standish
207-642-7766
@sunrisecorner

TABLE ROCK ARTS CENTER
Philbrook Pl., Bethel
207-432-7239
tablerockartscenter.com

THE COMMONS EASTPORT
51 Water St., Eastport
207-853-4123
thecommonseastport.com

THE GOOD SUPPLY
2106 Bristol Rd., Pemaquid
207-607-3121
thegoodsupply.org

THE GREEN HERON
16 Shore Rd., Ogunquit
207-502-0142
@greenheronogt

THE MAINE STORE
20 Mount Desert St., Bar Harbor
207-217-7650
mainestorebarharbor.com

THE NOT SO EMPTY NEST
624 Hammond St., Bangor
207-299-2842
@notsoemptynest

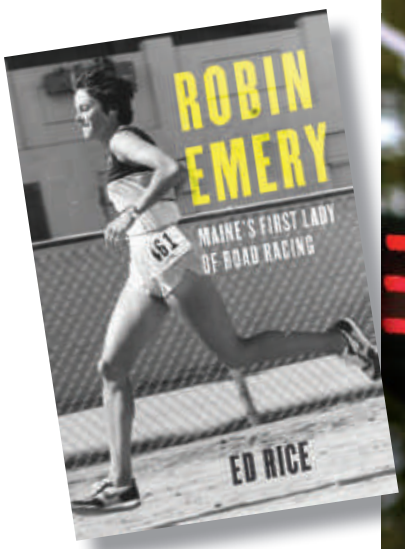
TILLER AND RYE
20 South Main St., Brewer
207-573-4021
tillerandrye.com

VERA'S IRON AND VINE
127 Broadway, Farmington
207-418-0374
@verasironandvine

VIGNETTES ARTISAN CRAFTS AND GIFTS
142 Water St., Hallowell
207-621-2000
vignettesofmaine.com

WIND AND WINE BY THE SEA
4 Breakneck Rd., Bar Harbor
207-288-9690
windandwineme.com

. . . and, of course, visit the **DOWN EAST SHOP** at shop.downeast.com



Bio Dynamics

Four biographical page-turners on four fascinating 70-plus Mainers.

Robin Emery: Maine's First Lady of Road Racing

BY ED RICE

When Robin Emery started running, in the '60s, myths were still prevalent that the sport would affect women's fertility or make them grow mustaches — and male race organizers were still plenty prejudiced. But it didn't stop Emery from becoming a distance-running pioneer. Drawing from interviews with Emery, now 74 and living in Lamoine, author Ed Rice recounts her journey from running "in graveyards and places no one would see me" to "kicking wrinkled butt" in the present, tracing the influence she's had on other women runners, including Olympic gold medalist Joan Benoit Samuelson. *Down East Books, 2019.* ***$24.95***

Jamie Wyeth

BY ELLIOT BOSTWICK DAVIS, WITH DAVID HOUSTON

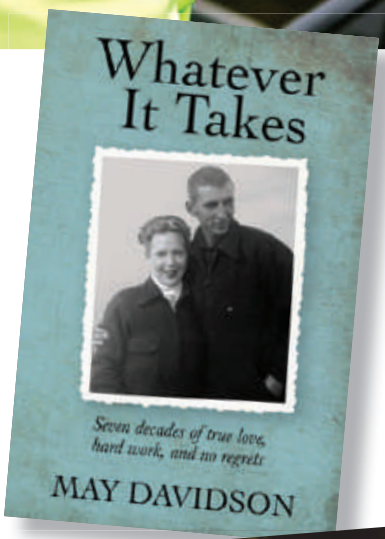
ART BY JAMIE WYETH

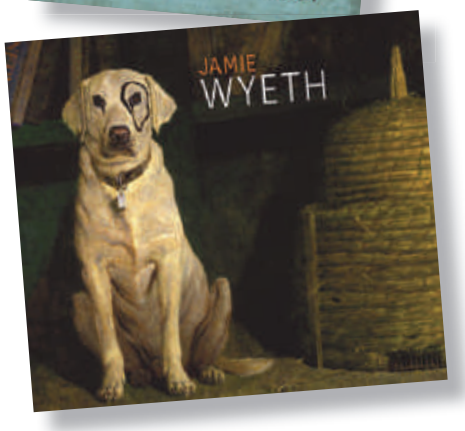
Not a biography, exactly, this monograph from a landmark 2014 retrospective exhibit includes more than 100 works by the 75-year-old scion of Maine's first family of art. Text by the exhibit's curator traces the evolution of Wyeth's art — much of it made in his studios on Monhegan and Southern Island, off Tenants Harbor — from his early portraits to more recent depictions of landscapes and animals, examining how Wyeth's style has been shaped by his settings, his famous family members, and contemporary artists from Winslow Homer to Andy Warhol. *Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 2014.* ***$50***

Whatever It Takes

BY MAY DAVIDSON

Two years ago, at age 90, Damariscotta-born May Davidson published her memoir, an oh-so-Maine tale of how she and her husband, Jim, scraped out a living and built a life doing everything from lobstering to raising sheep to chicken farming (before eventually starting their current business, North Country Wind Bells). Davidson was a longtime columnist for the *Lincoln County News*. In September, at 92, she published her second book, *Salt and Roses*, a collection of essays drawing from many of her newspaper columns. *Islandport Press, 2019.* ***$16.95***





Wicked Fast: Racing Through Life with Bentley Warren

AS TOLD TO BONES BOURCIER

Kennebunkport-born Bentley Warren started racing cars as as teenager, won his first race at 17, and competed twice in the Indianapolis 500. His list of wins may not mean much to nonfans of racing, but he's been hailed as "one of the most decorated short-track drivers of his generation." Now 80, he retired from racing just nine years ago, and his as-told-to autobiography recounts not only his racing career but also his blue-blooded upbringing, daredevil lifestyle, and later entrepreneurial ventures, which include Arundel's popular and rollicking Bentley's Saloon, a modern-day Route 1 institution. Published by a small racing press, the book is a bit of a hagiography, but it's still a plenty-entertaining look at one of Maine's true originals. *Coastal 181, 2014*. ***$29.95*** — A.P.

TAYLOR VORTHERMS | ELLSWORTH AMERICAN

Facing page, back row, from left: Kristi Parker holding Addilyn Fish, Ja-Net Cronkite, Rochelle Baxter, Lydia Preston, Lorraine Springer-Harris. Front row, from left: Norma Nason, Gertrude Bonner, Sherry Pratt, Priscilla Knights.

Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants (and Many Other Clothes)

Danforth's ***Dorcas Sewing Sisters*** *stitch for charity, whether those in need are across the street or across the sea.*

Twice a month, the basement of the Baptist church in the small Washington County town of Danforth thrums to the beat of sewing machines, the swish of scissors moving through fabric, and the lively chatter among the Dorcas Sewing Sisters. There are dozens of "sisters" in the group, ranging from teenaged to nonagenarian. Some pitch in seasonally, others year-round, and by a recent count, 13 core members were over the age of 70. The church lends the sisters a storage room to pack full of vibrant fabrics, yarns, and threads, plus space to sew dresses, shorts, baby booties, and more for orphans around the world, in Haiti, Moldova, Ecuador, and elsewhere.

Ja-Net Cronkite founded the group in 2017, after reading about the plight of Haitian children growing up in orphanages ever since a 2010 earthquake killed hundreds of thousands of people in the island nation. Cronkite had been sewing as long as she can remember, and it occurred to her that sewing could be a way to make a difference. Her network of needlewomen grew quickly as she recruited at her home church in Pittsfield and at the church in Danforth, near where she spends lakeside summers. Now, Danforth is the base of operations. "Our motto: 'We can't go, but we can sew — one stitch at a time,'" Cronkite says.

The name Dorcas derives from scripture. In the Bible, Tabitha, known as Dorcas in Greek, was reputed for her good works, in particular for clothing the poor. Over time, the sisters have broadened their focus to also assist people in nearby communities, through churches, nursing homes, and other organizations — last year, they made masks for the staff at Houlton Regional Hospital.

The group relies on their community for donations of materials and money — the latter helps cover shipping costs, which can get prohibitively high for sending boxes overseas. "There are so many in need, so many hurting people," says Lydia Preston, the only member of the group who still sews on a pedal-powered treadle machine. "And there's so much to do. Everybody has a heart to help other people." — J.C.

TRISTAN SPINSKI

"We share the dream here — there are no guild secrets," Hanson says, describing the work he, his partner, and their apprentices do on seven shorefront acres. "Time is short. You've got this place here. What can be developed? How do you want to use it to give back in gratitude?"

Fifty Years, Seven Acres, and the Sea

Homesteader and seaweed entrepreneur ***Larch Hanson*** *on the value of a long tenure on the land.*

In 1971, Larch Hanson, a native Minnesotan, left work in Florida and headed for down east Maine, where he paid $5,600 cash for seven acres in Steuben, overlooking Dyer Bay. Now 76, he's still on that plot on Dyer Neck, together with his partner, Nina Crocker, with whom he owns and runs Maine Seaweed, a pioneering harvester of edible kelp, dulse, alaria, and other sea vegetables. In the summer, Hanson and Crocker share their parcel of Earth with anyone who cares to visit or camp awhile, pitching a tent on platforms in the forest that surrounds the rustic home Hanson built. Apprentices stay longer, learning about seaweed foraging, gardening, carpentry, boatbuilding, holistic bodywork, and more. Hanson takes a broad approach to mentorship, and he's had quite a few mentors himself, from Tibetan monks to alternative-medicine practitioner Dr. Eva Reich to Maine homesteading pioneer Scott Nearing. — JOYCE KRYSZAK

Entrepreneur, boatbuilder, philosopher — how do you prefer to describe yourself?
As a presence.

What do you mean by that?
A local said to me once, "We used to cut wood up behind your place with horses, and we watered them at your stream near the cove." Those people were a presence here, and someday I will be just barely remembered. If I died and someone walked onto this land, they would know someone had been present here. I'm a keeper of memories for this place.

You've had some 600 apprentices here. How do they handle the rigors of the work, hauling in 60 bushels of seaweed or more every day during the harvest?
It's a metaphor for life. You come into life all bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, with big ideas, and you can't wait to get to work. That's the first hour of the harvest. Then, the second hour, it's just easier to be moving and doing. In the third hour, the shit hits the fan. Then, you're exhausted.

What is there to recommend such a long stay in one place, versus moving around a bit?
A sociologist tracked farmers in Wales when they retired. The ones who retired into the village that corresponded to their valley lived longer than the farmers who went up over the ridge into another village. As we age, it's stressful to be uprooted. As a gardener, I don't have to work as hard to get good results. This year, we had peaches, apricots, grapes, highbush blueberries, pears, apples, raspberries, strawberries, Asian pears, plums, and cherries. Why would I want to leave all that?

Have you ever envisioned leaving?
There is a culture where the people believe if you die outside the limits of the village, you'll be a lost soul. I've said to Nina, if I die far from home, get the shaman to shake me back to life long enough to put me in a rowboat, and I'll row home.

TARA RICE


HARVEY'S

Among the Ferrels' honey teas: Bee-ing Better, with echinacea, ginger, lemon balm, lemon zest, and cayenne. Speaking of bees, Lisa holds an apiculture certificate from the British Beekeepers Association.

The Ferrels aren't alone: entrepreneurship among older Americans is up sharply in recent years.

Fit as a Fiddle, Busy as a Bee

*For **Frank and Lisa Ferrel**, starting a new business after retiring was a cup of tea.*

Frank and Lisa Ferrel's big break came two years ago, when he was 77, she was 71, and they set up at a food show in New Hampshire called Everything Chocolate & More. The Ferrels had started making their Zen Bear Honey Tea back in 2013 and more recently added a line of honey hot cocoas. A woman at the neighboring stall, selling her truffles, took an interest in their product — powdered tea or cocoa, plus spices, mixed into jars of honey, ready to be stirred by the spoonful into hot water. She was, she mentioned to them, a host at QVC, the television shopping network. Six months later, Frank was on air for a short segment promoting Zen Bear gift sets. They sold out of 2,500 boxes in a matter of minutes.

QVC has continued to sell Zen Bear teas and cocoas, a crucial lifeline through the pandemic, as fairs and festivals where the Ferrels normally meet new customers went on hiatus. Of course, they never really expected to have a business to sustain at this point in their lives. The teas were a post-retirement hobby project. Frank had worked in broadcasting, most recently at Maine Public, and Lisa's background was in horticulture and landscape design. Their initial base of operations was the family room in their Bath home, where Frank also has a small studio out back for fiddling — he released his eighth fiddle album last year, published a book about Franco-American fiddling earlier this year, and is an inductee of the North American Fiddlers' Hall of Fame. But their teas got a good response at the Common Ground Country Fair, in Unity, and things snowballed from there. They moved Zen Bear into an old mill building in Brunswick and started learning how to run a company. "We'd go and ask about a loan, and the bank would say, 'Send us your last two years of P-and-L statements,'" Frank recalls. "Well, what's that?"

"I guess the bigger-picture question though is who's crazy enough to start a business at our age?" Frank adds. "But it's been so invigorating and stimulating. It really keeps you going." — W.G.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON

2022 Down East CALENDARS

Now Available!

CHOOSE FROM SEVEN STYLES:

MAINE, ACADIA, MAINE COON CAT, LOBSTERING, LIGHTHOUSES, SEA GLASS

All of our calendars feature beautiful images from some of Maine's finest photographers, moon phases, tide charts, major U.S. holidays, generous space for marking dates, and spiral binding.

Order online today at: **shop.downeast.com**

ONLY **$14.99** EACH

Order online at **shop.downeast.com** or mail us the form below.

ONLY **$14.99** EACH

Our calendars sell out fast! Order early to choose from the full selection of styles!

9"

12.5"

24"

12"

BILLING

Name:

Address:

City, State/Country:

ZIP/Postal Code:

E-mail Address:

Telephone: ( )

SHIPPING (if different from billing)

Name:

Address:

City, State/Country:

ZIP/Postal Code:

PAYMENT

Make checks payable to Down East. Foreign and Canadian orders pay in U.S. dollars by international money order. For credit card payments, please complete the information below:

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Card #:

Expiration: / Security Code:

Signature:

YOUR ORDER

Item	Qty.	Price	Total
Maine Wall Calendar		$14.99	
Acadia Wall Calendar		$14.99	
Maine Coon Cat Wall Calendar		$14.99	
Lobstering Wall Calendar		$14.99	
Lighthouses Wall Calendar		$14.99	
Sea Glass Wall Calendar		$14.99	
Maine Engagement Calendar		$14.99	
		PRODUCT TOTAL	
		Orders shipped to Maine addresses add 5.5% sales tax	
		Shipping and handling: $3.00 per calendar	
		International orders: add extra $15.00 per address	
		Priority Mail shipping (US only): add extra $6.00 per address	
		ORDER TOTAL	$

DE2111

For large-quantity orders and other shipping options, call 800-685-7962 or order online at shop.downeast.com. If ordering by mail, cut out completed form and send entire page to: *Down East*, PO Box 679, Camden, ME 04843

Winter person: Smith on Saddleback in the mid-aughts.

Jeff Smith was born before any of Maine's big three ski areas – Saddleback, Sugarloaf, Sunday River – even existed.

Triple Threat

*Skier-singer-sailor **Jeff Smith** won't let his years — or his injuries — slow him down.*

When Jeff Smith broke his pelvis on Saddleback Mountain last year, the thought of retiring his skis never occurred to him. A full-time ski patroller at Rangeley's resurgent resort, Smith was responding to a rescue call when his snowmobile flipped and he landed hard on his right side. The accident cost him about a month of work, but Smith bounced back without needing physical therapy — chalk it up to being in great shape at 72. The broken pelvis was the latest in a string of injuries and medical procedures that included a fractured tibia and two hip replacements. "I schedule my surgeries for April," Smith says — because he likes to be up and running by summer, when his construction job starts.

Skiing, singing, and operating heavy machinery — these are the things Smith loves most. One day this summer, he was having dinner at Saddleback's pub, where a friend's band was playing classic-rock covers. In the middle of the first set, they invited Smith onstage to join them. He led the band in an upbeat version of Van Morrison's "Moondance," flexing an impressive vocal range. Smith says it was the first song he learned to sing, in 1970, when it was released. Back then, he played in a number of garage bands. One of them, Stone Flute, became fairly successful and played backup for well-known acts like Chicago, Buddy Miles, and the Chambers Brothers. These days, he sings in a couple of bands around the Rangeley area, including a trio called PB&J.

During the ski season, Smith is on the mountain seven days a week (before Saddleback reopened last winter, he was at Black Mountain, in Rumford). He typically starts at 7 A.M., zigzagging around the slopes on a snowmobile to inspect trails and post signage around any treacherous patches. He also coordinates and trains volunteers and new patrollers and is a ski and toboggan instructor. The lifts close around 4 P.M., and the day ends around 4:45, when he finishes sweeping the trails for straggler skiers and prepping for grooming. Smith likes to be in the bar by 4:46. The Yarmouth native considers the Rangeley area his home away from home. "It's my wintertime family," he says.

In the summer, Smith works for a construction company in the Portland area, and during his off-hours, he can be found sailing on Casco Bay. He got a late start with sailing, at age 35, but has had an impressive career since. In 2014, he raced with a team in the J/24 World Championships, held in Newport, Rhode Island — the youngest crew member was 55. Smith also used to race cars and motorcycles, although he's never cared for ski racing. Instead, he prefers skiing the trees. "Want to know my secret?" he asks. "I just never think of myself as old." — M.B.

COURTESY OF JEFF SMITH

This Christmas
Our store is only
45 seconds away
www.CrossJewelers.com

Garden of Eden
East African OPALS

It was one of those moments
when I could feel myself standing on the midst of African Gem history

A shepherd boy exploring at the base of a 1,000-foot cliff found one glowing stone, then another. Weeks, months later, gemologists and gem collectors were scrambling to this remote part of Africa for the opportunity to be considered to be allowed to buy.
Our friend Kevin was one of the early investors in this new opal discovery.
The colors are unlike anything we have ever seen. The prices are amazing.
To see the best collection in America of our 100+ piece Opal Jewelry Collection, visit our website.
How long will it last? We hope forever.
But because it's just one small area of Africa, forever is not likely.
All great gem finds are limited.
We're making new pieces weekly.

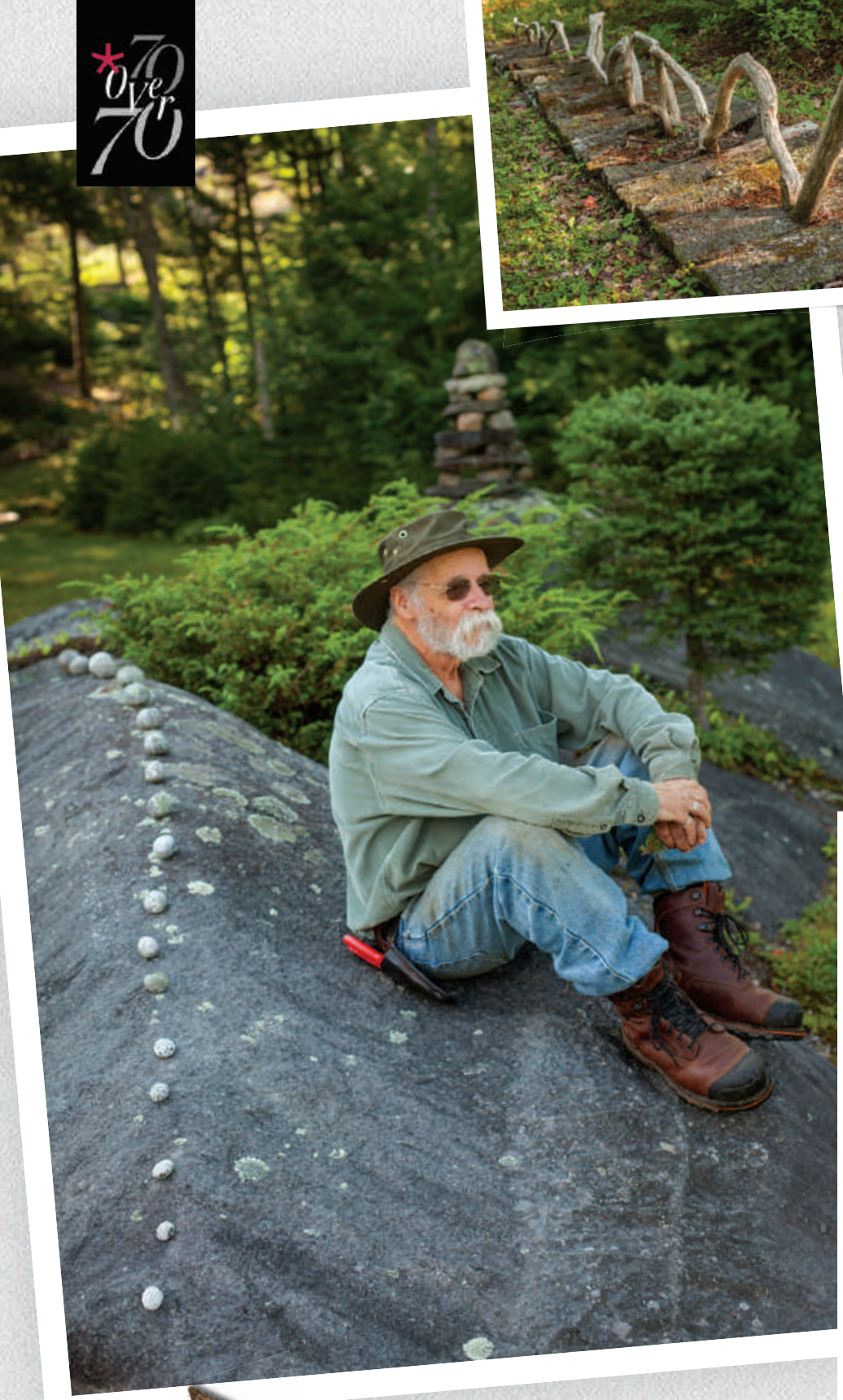
And as you might expect, they are going fast.
Full 90-day return privileges throughout January 31st.

Shipping is always Safe, Fast and FREE Anywhere USA

Cross Jewelers
The Cross Gallery of Fine Jewelry
www.CrossJewelers.com
1-800-433-2988

The Good News
We are now open as an online gallery of fine jewelry. Our website with over a 1,000 great jewelry gifts, is rich with stories and the inspiration of the jewelry we make.
And yes, our retail store is still closed.

DE11212



Details from the Lincolnville garden Cleaves calls Schleppinghurst, the project of a lifetime.

Zen Master

Ken Cleaves *finds serenity in the former quarry he's spent 40 years reimagining as a garden oasis.*

Occasionally, Ken Cleaves still cuts a gravestone from his quarry, in Lincolnville. But mostly, the 75-year-old is too busy maneuvering huge pieces of granite with a jack and pulley to concern himself with the business of death. These days, the rock pile that once produced markers for many a Mainer is the center of Cleaves's exquisite Japanese garden, a masterpiece in progress that began four decades ago. In his experience, the hardest part of transforming forest and swamp into a sanctuary of peace and balance isn't the moving of 1,000-pound rocks. "It's using your ego in such a way that it plays a low-key element — you let the land speak," Cleaves says. "It's tempting to think you can conquer it or change it. That's not what this place needs. It just needs to be enhanced in some subtle way."

The quarry had been closed for 47 years when Cleaves bought it for $16,000, in 1982.

SARAH RICE

A former carpenter, he purchased the land to build himself a stone house, but after a chance encounter with a book on Japanese gardening, Cleaves began to notice the beauty buried beneath the detritus and overgrowth of time. Like a sculptor, he started chipping away at rock, forest, and earth. The small shingled house he built, with wood salvaged from a Freeport farm, is now surrounded by a sweeping Zen garden, a pond, wooden birdhouses, and a rock sculpture reminiscent of a sleeping dragon. Schleppinghurst, as Cleaves calls his garden (because he's "schlepped" nearly every rock himself, even 1,000-pounders using a 12-ton jack), is the intersection where foreign influence meets native roots, plants, and trees.

Wearing jeans held up by red suspenders, Cleaves says his back has begun to remind him only recently that he can no longer take bending, lifting, and kneeling for granted. "Weird things start to happen to your body that make you think, 'What's going on here? Who is this old guy?'" But decades of lavishing love, attention, and good old-fashioned elbow grease on his land have kept him young while paying off in other ways too.

"I'm not a calm person at all, but I'm calm in this environment," Cleaves says, pulling shears from his belt to prune a purple smoke bush. "One of the things I used to say about coming here is that if I can't find inner peace, at least give me outer peace. And I discovered outer peace and inner peace are more connected than I thought."

The property has changed Cleaves as much as he has changed it, something he only recognized as he got older. Sitting on a granite bench at the far back of the quarry, with a view of a 30-foot-tall catalpa tree Cleaves grew from a seed nearly four decades ago, he says cultivating this garden has been the most fulfilling project of his life. As for the concept of impermanence, firmly rooted in Japanese culture, he concedes that is the future of Schleppinghurst. He's okay if Schleppinghurst retreats to wildness. Or if the Coastal Mountains Land Trust, which owns the property that surrounds him, wants to step in as curators. Asked if he plans to cut his own headstone from his quarry to memorialize the labor of love he's worked at for more than half his life, Cleaves gives an answer that's pretty zen.

"No, I'm not gonna do that. People come and go." The garden is quiet except for the slight breeze ruffling the soft top of a Montgomery spruce manicured into a perfectly proportioned bush. "I did this thing in my life. That was good enough."

— SUZANNE RICO

COURTESY OF CAN-AM CROWN INTERNATIONAL SLED DOG RACES

Valley Girl

*For lifelong Fort Kent booster **Rita Cannan**, community is key.*

When she moved to Fort Kent from Clair, New Brunswick, in 1957, Rita Michaud spoke no English. She was a fast study, though, and stayed on Maine's side of the St. John Valley long enough to marry Brian J. Cannan, with whom she opened Bee-Jay's bar, a local institution. Now 85, she looks back on decades of civic leadership that included terms as chamber president and as a UMaine at Fort Kent board member, along with 15 years as president of the Can-Am Crown International Sled Dog Races, which she helped establish in the '90s — and still looks forward to each winter. — B.K.

What's so special about a big community tradition like the Can-Am?
Oh, the electric feeling I used to feel when I walked down Main Street during the Can-Am. So much going on, and people were so excited. In 2004, the first time we had the Biathlon World Cup? Oh my god, it was unreal. It shows that our town is alive. We all pulled together for that. It shows that the people of a town care.

What are the people of Fort Kent like?
The business owners, they ask what's in it for the community, not just for them. I love my town, and I love the people in it. When my husband passed away, everyone was there to help. I'm telling you, it just makes my heart so full.

Bee-Jay's had a reputation as a beloved community gathering place.
Brian came home one Saturday morning and said, "I'm opening a tavern," and I said, "If you think I'm going to work in a beer joint, you have something else coming." He said that was fine, and he told me, "One of these days, not far from now, ladies will come into the bar." "We'll see," I said. But he kept his word, and it was a very good business. We opened in November of '71. The mortgage was 18 years, and it was paid in January 1989. Brian drowned in May. I ran it for another 16 years by myself. And I loved it.

What would you tell that skeptical version of yourself from 1971?
I would tell her, never say never. And the people who you love, trust their instincts.

Giving Peace a Chance

*Seeds of Peace camp director **Tim Wilson** has spent a lifetime sowing a better future for kids from Maine and from around the world.*

Wilson's 28th summer with Seeds of Peace camp, in Otisfield, was unlike any that came before.

Tim Wilson first went to sleepaway camp when he was only six years old, in the late 1940s. Back then, camp was a rite of summer mostly enjoyed by the kids of well-off white families — and still is today — although a handful of camps had started to sprout up for Black children. Wilson was born and raised in Pittsburgh, and he headed to one such camp in West Virginia, partaking in the usual songs, games, and outdoor adventuring and loving all of it. By the time he was 14, he was running a YMCA day camp in his home neighborhood.

In high school, Wilson was a multisport athlete, and he went on to play football at Slippery Rock University, an hour north of the city. That's where, one day after practice, he met Joel Bloom. Bloom's father had, in 1921, started Camp Powhatan, on Pleasant Lake, in the rural Maine town of Otisfield, primarily for Jewish boys. When Bloom — a former Powhatan camper himself — took over from his father, he brought with him a progressive notion of whom the camp should serve. He wanted to foster both racial and socioeconomic diversity by bringing in campers from all over and by setting up scholarships for those who came from families that couldn't otherwise afford it. He wanted a diverse set of counselors too, and he'd stopped at Slippery Rock to do some recruiting. He and Wilson clicked right away, and that's how, in the summer of 1960, Wilson found himself bumping down a dirt road in Otisfield to report for work. He'd do the same for the next two summers as well.

After graduating from college, Wilson spent two years in Thailand, with the Peace Corps, but soon returned to Maine, resuming his summers at Camp Powhatan, plus teaching and coaching football and wrestling the rest of the year at Dexter High School, two hours north of Otisfield — both of his teams at Dexter won state championships, and he was inducted into the Maine Sports Hall of Fame. Maine's population, then as now, was overwhelmingly white. "Being in Dexter wasn't so different from being in

ROBERT F BUKATY | SHUTTERSTOCK

Thailand," Wilson says. "My first wife and I lived in an area where it was nothing but Thais and us." After a few years, Bloom tapped Wilson to run the camp, as chief counselor. "You're talking 1968 still," Wilson recalls. "It was a different time. Some parents took offense that Joel would do that. But I remember him basically saying to them, 'I don't care — I have a waitlist here.'"

Although Maine's Black community was small, Wilson quickly found in it a pair of meaningful connections, befriending Gerald Talbot, the founding president of Maine's NAACP chapter and the first

"THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WAS GETTING ALL THESE KIDS TO SIT DOWN AND TALK TO EACH OTHER."

Black person to serve in the state legislature, and Leonard Cummings, the Portland civil-rights activist who went on to run the NAACP chapter in the '70s (see p. 128). "Those guys really became my Maine mentors," Wilson says. He also fell in with another prominent Mainer, Ken Curtis, who began his first of two consecutive gubernatorial terms in 1967. Curtis appointed Wilson to the Maine Human Rights Commission, which triggered a pivot into government service for Wilson that lasted more than a decade. He served three governors in various roles, from state ombudsman to director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

In the early '90s, Wilson was back in Pittsburgh to take care of his ailing mother when John Wallach, the father of a camper and a longtime diplomatic correspondent for Hearst newspapers, approached Bloom with a new idea, to

turn Camp Powhatan into a place for kids from both sides of the Israeli–Arab divide. He called it Seeds of Peace, and he wanted Wilson to lead the camp.

That first summer of Seeds of Peace, in 1993, several dozen campers, from Israel, Palestine, and Egypt, arrived in Otisfield to participate in the experiment. Wilson didn't deploy any secret formula for bridging the divide between would-be enemies. Instead, he relied on familiar camp rituals — swimming together, eating together, competing together. "The most important thing," he says, "was getting these kids to sit down and talk to each other. You used all that other stuff in order to get them there." That September, Wilson and his campers found themselves invited to the White House Rose Garden for the signing of the first Oslo Accord, a peace agreement between Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin. The two leaders, alongside U.S. president Bill Clinton, were photographed smiling and holding up camp T-shirts.

Since then, peace has hardly reigned, from the protracted violence of the Second Intifada to the recent fighting in Gaza. Camp was no cakewalk either, with Wilson confronting all sorts of culture clashes, from the relatively mundane (a contingent of Moroccan girls wearing bikinis at the lake, offending girls from more conservative backgrounds) to the divisive (campers wearing nationalist political insignias). Through it all, he pushed for tolerance. "The three big things are trust, communication, and respect," he says. "I didn't say 'like.' I didn't say 'love.' You don't have to like me, but you can respect me as a human being."

THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC HAS FORCED THE OTISFIELD CAMP TO SHIFT ITS GAZE CLOSER TO HOME.

Since those early days, Seeds of Peace has grown to include programs around the world, and Wilson spent many years traveling extensively, especially in the Middle East. The global pandemic, though, has forced the Otisfield camp to shift its gaze closer to home. It was closed in 2020, as a health precaution, and reopened this year, for the first time without hosting campers from abroad. One session was for kids from New York City and upstate New York, plus the Boston area, and another session was for kids from Maine. Wilson, at 80, is still a senior advisor to the Seeds of Peace organization and the director of its Maine program, which traces back to 2000, with Maine kids mixing into the international sessions. He sees a dedicated in-state focus as all the more necessary amid heightened factionalism these days, between northern and southern, rural and urban, Republican and Democrat.

The key thing, he says, is that "the same principles apply," whether dealing with domestic or international rifts. The water-skiing lessons and softball games and all the other trappings of camp life exist for the sake of facilitating conversation and understanding. It recalls what Joel Bloom wrote in a Camp Powhatan brochure some 50 years ago: "At camp, our major concern is the camper. Whatever affects him is important to all of us. What happens to a growing child at camp not only influences him at the moment, but also may affect his future, and because children are our nation's greatest asset, our country's future."

"THE THREE BIG THINGS ARE TRUST, COMMUNICATION, AND RESPECT. I DIDN'T SAY 'LIKE.' I DIDN'T SAY 'LOVE.'"

Next year, Wilson says, the hope is to run three sessions: a state program, an out-of-state program, and an international program. He has retired and unretired a time or two in the past, but the endless need and boundless possibility he sees keeps pulling him back. Seeds of Peace, after all, plays the long game. The very first cohort of Israeli and Arab campers are now only in their 40s, the first cohort of Mainers in their 30s. Their abilities to make an impact in education or business or government are still growing. And there's much groundwork yet to lay — Wilson would, for instance, like to see programming for kindergarteners through 12th graders in Maine. He's not sure how long that will take.

"I'm on the books to leave at the end of this year," he says. "But I might not." — W.G.

Maine Gives Back

The tireless champions of the nonprofit community are doing their part to make the Pine Tree State a better place.

COURTESY OF 317 MAIN

Clockwise from left: recent Maine transplants Sarah Cherico, Mike Sewall, Eric and Liz Smith and their son, and Diana LeBlanc and her family.

Mainers Wanted

*Nonprofit **Live + Work in Maine** helps locals and wannabe Mainers find job opportunities in Vacationland.*

As director of constituent outreach and legislative affairs in the Pennsylvania state legislature, Galen Weibley loved working in public service. But he did not love his long commute on congested roads, which meant he only had time to go fishing on weekends. All that changed in 2019, when Weibley got a job as the director of economic and community development for the city of Presque Isle, in Aroostook County. He's pursuing his professional goals, but he works closer to home, so he doesn't feel like he has to choose between making a living and having a life. "After work, I can go get my dog and my tackle and be out on the water in 30 minutes," he says.

An increasing number of people like Weibley are discovering that Maine is more than just a great place to take a vacation — it's an ideal place to build a business, advance a career, raise a family, and find the kind of work-life balance that is hard to come by in many other locales. Thousands of people have relocated to Maine over the past five years, thanks in part to Live + Work in Maine, a statewide initiative that helps Maine employers connect with job seekers and spreads the message about local professional opportunities.

"We often attract people who enjoy the outdoors. They see a lot more opportunity to do that here than they do in New York City," MaineHealth vice president of talent Helene Kennedy says. What's more, she adds, in Maine, newcomers discover more opportunities for connection than they could in big cities and sprawling suburbs. "There is something about the community feeling people experience in Maine. We know we're all going to take care of each other."

Consider Eric and Liz Smith, who moved to Phippsburg from the Philadelphia suburbs in 2017. Eric's family had vacationed near Ellsworth when he was a kid, and Liz, who grew up in the Boston suburbs, had spent time in Blue Hill. When they started looking for a place where they could have a more outdoorsy lifestyle with a slower pace, Maine was a natural choice — especially once Eric landed an IT job at L.L.Bean (Liz was already working remotely). In just four years, they've had a baby, moved to Brunswick, switched jobs, and discovered a community of people who treasure time in nature as much as they do.

"We walk, we bike on the town commons, we meet up with friends from our son's daycare on trails that are just 10 minutes away," Liz says. Adds Eric, "It's certainly something we don't take for granted."

Share your story of how you came to Maine, and engage with other Mainers, on Live + Work in Maine's Instagram (@liveworkmaine), LinkedIn, or Facebook.

Learn more at liveworkmaine.com

Learn more at
theecologyschool.org

Earth Days

***The Ecology School** provides nature-based experiences that nurture love for the outdoors, turning participants into lifelong stewards.*

When Nate Colpitts learned that The Ecology School was offering a weeklong Eco-Adventure day camp last summer, he was eager to send his eight-year-old son, Calvin. "It's so important that my son develops a love for the outdoors and a desire to care for the environment," the Saco resident says. Taking care of the environment is "the number-one issue his generation and ours will face."

When Calvin returned from camp and informed his dad that "all creatures deserve to live the course of their lives naturally, from the smallest insect to the largest mammal," Nate considered his mission accomplished. "They're bringing energy to such important topics," Nate says.

Summer 2022 marks the first season The Ecology School will transition its day-camp program — which usually fills up within a few weeks of opening registration — to a full overnight camp. The magic of nature that kids experience each summer will be unique and transformative, breaking down big topics like sustainability, climate change, and farming into entertaining, educational activities that kids can enjoy at camp and take action on at home.

Campers will have 105 acres of forests, farm fields, ponds, and more to explore at The Ecology School's new River Bend Farm campus, located on the Saco River. The campus has two new buildings, models of sustainability that are built to meet the world's most rigorous green building standards. Solar panels on-site generate energy. Rain gardens capture stormwater runoff so it can be reused to water the gardens and fields. A five-acre farm grows vegetables that are used in campers' daily meals.

"We're giving kids an opportunity to come here and acquire the tools to understand adult topics like climate change, but also have fun and really engage in learning about the world so they understand their place in it and the role they can play to help protect it," director of programs Alex Grindle says.

Much of the benefit campers get, she adds, comes from getting away from screens and their everyday environments and exploring The Ecology School grounds — romping through the meadows, marveling at the snails and the slugs on the riverbank, and spending time in the forest.

"Kids have a natural desire to be connected to the world around them — it's embedded in all of us," Grindle says. "It's really powerful to see those connections really flourish here."

In addition to camps, The Ecology School has a robust overnight program for schools, professional development for teachers, agricultural workshops for adults, and now, with the opening of River Bend Farm, a rentable space for groups inspired to experience true sustainable living. Since the organization opened in 1998, it has hosted 187,000 kids and adults from all over the country to learn about sustainability, conservation, and connections between people, plants, and animals.

At The Ecology School's River Bend Farm campus, kids and adults explore forests, fields, and freshwater ecosystems and learn about the role they can play in protecting them.

COURTESY OF THE ECOLOGY SCHOOL

Coast Guards

***The Island Institute** helps Maine's coastal and island communities build a sustainable future.*

Above: Bremen selectman Boe Marsh. Below: Tenants Harbor, where the Island Institute has helped local fishermen adapt to sea-level rise and pursue solar-energy solutions.

Working waterfronts are this critical intersection between the ocean and the economy, and they are incredibly vulnerable.

In the tiny midcoast town of Bremen, the working waterfront is the beating heart of the community. On an inlet where the Medomak River meets Muscongus Bay, the Bremen Lobster Pound Co-Op has operated for nearly a century, a base for local fishermen and a cultural touchstone for the town's 800 residents.

But five years ago, the future of the working waterfront was uncertain; its aging infrastructure was in need of an upgrade, and many longtime co-op members wanted to retire. With skyrocketing real-estate values and looming questions about what impact regulations and warming waters would have on lobstering, many worried that the waterfront would be converted to a different use and that Bremen would lose its treasured center of gravity.

"If the working waterfront were to go away, jobs would go away for people whose families have been making a living on the water for generations," says town selectman Boe Marsh, who has operated a lobster, clam, and shrimp dealership in Bremen since 2010. "A big part of the spirit of the community would be lost."

Marsh's company, Community Shellfish, bought the Bremen Lobster Pound Co-Op in 2017 and added new holding tanks, bait storage, and other essential infrastructure for lobster harvesting and processing. In two former lobster pounds, he set up aquaculture for oysters and clams. Today, Community Shellfish employs 27 people and buys lobster from 35 fishermen, as well as clams from 100 harvesters. A number of local lobstermen have started cultivating oysters, seaweed, and kelp to augment their fishing incomes.

To launch the aquaculture operations, Marsh got a vital assist from the Island Institute. The Rockland-based community-development nonprofit consulted with Marsh, helping him identify and apply for grants, tap into other financing opportunities, and connect with researchers at the University of Maine.

"The Island Institute was a true partner," Marsh says. "They helped me not just preserve the waterfront but dynamize it."

The assistance is just one of the myriad ways that the Island Institute works with residents in coastal and year-round island communities to tackle economic challenges. The Institute trained and continues to support dozens of fishermen in kelp and shellfish farming. In addition, the organization offers professional development, targeted investment, and networking to help small businesses along the coast. Its longstanding Island Fellows program also builds critical capacity in small towns for community-based projects in education, government, and health care.

To hear Island Institute senior community development officer Sam Belknap tell it, the nonprofit's work to fortify working waterfronts has never been more important. "Working waterfronts represent this critical intersection between the ocean and the economy, and they're incredibly vulnerable," he says. "It's not just about preserving jobs or the operations on the shoreline, it's about ensuring that these coastal communities and their economies are as resilient as possible to all the changes we're seeing all along the coast."

JACK SULLIVAN

Learn more at islandinstitute.org

ISLAND INSTITUTE

Striking a Chord

***317 Main Community Music Center** builds connections through song.*

After Barbara Atherton moved to West Bath from the DC area in 2011, she quickly became a regular at open-mic nights at 317 Main Community Music Center, in Yarmouth. "She kept coming home and saying, 'You've got to see this place — it's just alive with people,'" her husband, Jim, recalls.

Before long, both Athertons were students at 317 Main. Barbara, who played the fiddle, started mandolin lessons, and Jim, who played electric bass, began learning the upright bass. They both joined Unspent Youth, an ensemble of retirees who meet weekly with a 317 teaching artist and who perform on a regular basis. "If you love music, you have to go for it," Barbara says. "The instructors are good at meeting you where you are and going from there."

The Athertons are two of more than 25,000 people, ranging from toddlers to octogenarians, who've taken lessons, joined ensembles, attended summer camps, festivals, concerts, and jam sessions at 317 Main, many of them traveling as far as 50 miles to do so. Through its grant-funded community partnership programs, the nonprofit also works with schools, senior centers, and other community organizations to offer free music lessons, performances, and workshops to people who wouldn't otherwise have access.

Demand for 317's programs has grown exponentially since its founding in 2004 and only accelerated during the pandemic as 317 has expanded remote offerings. Now more than ever, people are hungering for music, with its power to comfort, nurture, connect, and build community, 317 Main executive director John Williams says.

"Music is the catalyst — and we offer quality music programming that is geared to meet each individual where they are in their musical journey," Williams says. "But the idea is really to create a fun, stress-free, engaging environment."

317 Main is now working to raise $4 million to renovate and expand its facility, a restored 1855 Italianate home on Yarmouth's Main Street, to meet growing demand and facilitate future growth. Their Raise the Barn campaign will fund a recording studio and music lab, 11 new soundproof lesson rooms, a 200-seat multipurpose performance space, and other community spaces to encourage connection. That's music to the ears of folks like professional pianist David Bartoletti, whose five-year-old daughter, Maddelina, participated in one of 317's weeklong summer camps. She loved it so much that they enrolled in a Little Roots class, which introduces young kids to ukulele, fiddle, and piano during a 13-week session. "Camp was a really great stepping stone — to be in an easy, fun, happy environment and practice making friends," Bartoletti, of New Gloucester, says. "317 is a community where so many different wonderful things can happen."

Students of all ages attend workshops, classes, and performances at 317 Main Community Music Center. The nonprofit is raising money to renovate and expand its historic home, build a new multipurpose performance space, soundproof lesson rooms, and create other spaces to build community connections.

Learn more at
317raisethebarn.org

317 MAIN
COMMUNITY
MUSIC CENTER

COURTESY OF 317 MAIN COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER

Island Rescue

With help from Maine Beer Company, ***Maine Coast Heritage Trust*** *is working to preserve a treasured getaway in Casco Bay.*

Since Ryan Conery-Poulin moved to Maine nearly a decade ago, Little Whaleboat Island has provided a natural escape for him and his family. Conery-Poulin has spent many a summer afternoon with his wife and three kids out on the island, probing tide pools, clambering up rocky ledges, exploring the forest of century-old oaks, and savoring the sensation of being on a remote island, despite it being just five miles from the Freeport town dock. He treasures the memories they've made watching bald-eagle fledglings learn to fly, walking across the sandbars to Tuck and Nate islands at low tide, and discovering the fragrant sea lavender that grows in the island's meadow.

"There's always a sense of discovery and adventure whenever we go to Little Whaleboat," says Conery-Poulin, who is head of tasting-room operations for Maine Beer Company, in Freeport. On Little Whaleboat Island, "We're able to leave the world behind, de-stress, and just enjoy spending time together. We're so grateful to have places like this."

For decades, families like the Conery-Poulins have been able to enjoy Little Whaleboat because its owner has welcomed the public to come ashore. Now, the owner is ready to sell, and Maine Coast Heritage Trust is working to raise $1.3 million to buy the 22-acre island and ensure that it remains undeveloped and open to the public forever. The work is part of MCHT's sweeping effort to protect Maine's coast. Already, the land trust has conserved 156,000 acres of coastal land from Kittery to Lubec and created 148 preserves free and open to the public.

For MCHT, the Little Whaleboat Project represents a rare opportunity to secure a wild place in the heart of southern Maine, which is the most populated and developed part of the state. As Casco Bay's popularity increases, project manager Keith Fletcher says, it's important to protect unspoiled natural places where people can find solitude and to ensure that animals, plants, and nesting birds, as well as the waters and

Little Whaleboat Island, which is just two miles from Harpswell, four miles from Freeport, and five miles from Brunswick, has 10 beaches and two campsites, plus forests, rocky ledges, meadows, and habitat for ospreys, bald eagles, herons, and nesting seabirds. At low tide, Little Whaleboat connects to nearby West and Tuck islands. Below, members of the Maine Beer team on the island, from left to right: Daniel Kleban, Tucker Troast, Anne Marisic, Lilia Taggersell, and Ryan Conery-Poulin.

marine ecosystems, will be protected from development. "Privately owned islands rarely go up for sale," Fletcher says, "So whenever there is an opportunity to protect an island that provides scenic, recreational, and ecological value, it's important that we take it."

MCHT got a big lift in conserving Little Whaleboat from Maine Beer Company, which donated $50,000 to the campaign earlier this year. "These islands are real treasures," Maine Beer Company co-owner Daniel Kleban says. "It's easy to forget how fortunate we are in Maine to have places like this that are just so close to shore and yet feel totally remote and so peaceful. It takes effort from organizations and people who are in a position to help to conserve places like this."

The support for Little Whaleboat is just one of a multitude of social-responsibility initiatives that Kleban and his brother David have rolled out since they launched Maine Beer Company in 2009. The company installed solar panels on its Freeport campus, which offset more than half the energy the brewery and tasting room use. By 2030, the company wants to generate enough renewable energy to offset every watt of electricity it consumes. As a member of 1% for the Planet, Maine Beer donates 1 percent of its gross annual sales to environmental causes.

Maine Beer Company's support for the Little Whaleboat project is about more than just helping MCHT reach the fundraising target, Kleban says. He hopes to raise awareness about MCHT's work and to inspire Maine Beer Company fans to make a similar commitment to causes they are passionate about, giving what they are able to, whether that's volunteer time or financial support.

"We want to lead by example and show that you don't have to be the richest person or the biggest company in the world in order to make the world a better place," Kleban says. "A bunch of people doing really small things can add up and have a huge and lasting impact. By using this megaphone that we have, our hope is that we'll show others what's possible."

Learn more at mcht.org

Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Maine Beer Company

World Class

*At **Kents Hill School**, high-schoolers get an education that serves them far beyond the classroom walls.*

When asked to describe what makes the Kents Hill School experience unique, Jackson Melendy thinks about the multicultural-literature class he took during his junior year. He read books like *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* and had in-depth discussions about issues like civil war, migration, and poverty, examining how the story relates to events happening around the world right now.

"Class wasn't just about reading books, learning grammar, and memorizing information," says Melendy, a senior. "It was about using the texts to learn about the world and understand it better."

Whenever Melendy didn't understand something, he always felt like he could reach out for guidance. With classes that have as few as four students, "it's easy to really connect with your teachers," he says. "They're very open to taking the time to provide whatever help you need."

Melendy's experience reflects a large part of what Kents Hill School, located in Readfield, Maine, is trying to do for its 200 day and boarding students in grades nine through 12 and for those taking a postgraduate year. Teachers work to foster critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication in the classroom and beyond, which will serve students long after they graduate.

"We need to prepare our students to do more than take tests," head of school Chris Cheney says. "We're providing an all-around education for young people that prepares them for anything."

That all-around ethos informs Kents Hill's approach to everything from its activity requirements (students must play a sport or participate in an extracurricular activity each season) to its class offerings. In addition to standard courses like chemistry and algebra, students can choose to explore astrophysics, furniture making, global public

200
students attend Kents Hill

55%
of students receive financial aid

30%
of students are from Maine

19 states and 26 countries
are represented in the student body

Learn more at kentshill.org

KENTS HILL SCHOOL

health, and the social and political history of hip-hop. All classes include projects that give students a chance to apply their knowledge in practical ways.

Students in last year's Community Design and Build class, for example, built an 18-part story walk for the Readfield Community Library. Over the course of a semester, they worked in teams, developed prototypes, and did all the construction themselves.

"It was a real-world experience, building, collaborating, and doing community service," Cheney says. "We try to find opportunities for kids to solve bigger problems in tangible ways."

Equally important, says Dean of Enrollment Management and Director of Financial Aid Alison Lincoln-Rich, is providing students with a sense of belonging and a community on campus that brings socioeconomic diversity that reflects the actual world. Kents Hill students hail from 26 countries and 19 states, and more than half of these students receive financial aid.

"In high school, students are developing their own sense of self, and we work hard to help them embrace who they are and what is important to them," Lincoln-Rich says.

That feeling of belonging is a huge part of what senior Naeema O'Rourke has valued about her experience at Kents Hill. As the only person of color at the elementary and middle school in her hometown of Wayne, Maine, she often felt like she was distancing herself from her Indonesian heritage, and she was hesitant to disclose her Muslim faith. But at Kents Hill, where she has friends from Japan, Sweden, China, and Spain, among other places, she feels free to be herself.

"It's so refreshing to have this little world of diverse cultures in Maine," O'Rourke says.

She also appreciates the opportunity to build skills and pursue interests that she'll draw on in the years ahead. A class on Western civilization stoked her interest in world history and has inspired her interest in a career in international relations. She has always loved to ski, but at Kents Hill she gets the opportunity to play soccer and tennis and has learned how much she enjoys those sports too. After serving as student-council president and a tour guide for prospective students, she has gained confidence in a leadership role and in speaking in front of large groups of people.

"Here at Kents Hill," she says, "I've gotten a real opportunity to see what I can do."

A Campaign to End Hunger

***Good Shepherd Food Bank** delivers lasting nourishment to Mainers in need.*

For decades, Maine has experienced higher rates of food insecurity than most other states in the nation. Before the pandemic hit, one in five Mainers did not have consistent access to enough nutritious food for an active, healthy life. When COVID-19 swept the globe in 2020 and thousands of jobs disappeared, the hunger crisis escalated. In addition to the families experiencing hunger before the pandemic, some families found themselves on the verge of financial instability for the first time due to COVID-19 and began turning to community food pantries to support their basic needs.

Staff and volunteers at Maine's Good Shepherd Food Bank saw the effects firsthand. "During the pandemic, hunger was touching more lives, and it became more visible," vice president of development and communications Erin Fogg says.

As the recovery from COVID-19 continues, an estimated 40 million meals will be needed in Maine in the coming year. Good Shepherd Food Bank, Maine's largest hunger-relief organization, is working to meet that need through its Campaign to End Hunger, a sweeping effort to raise $250 million in large-scale food donations and philanthropic contributions to ensure that, by 2025, every Mainer has access to the food they need to thrive.

The statewide organization is also working on long-term solutions to eliminate barriers that perpetuate food insecurity by championing public policies that improve access to healthy food, innovating new methods of distributing food, and working to address inequities for communities of color, which are disproportionately affected by hunger. Above all, Good Shepherd Food Bank is working to keep the crisis in the public eye.

"It's a quiet epidemic, and everyone thinks it only affects people they don't know," Fogg says. "But hunger is a real and everyday problem, and it impacts every community in Maine."

182,000

Mainers face food insecurity, meaning they don't have consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life. That includes 50,000 children

500

partner agencies — including food pantries, meal sites, shelters, senior centers, schools, and health centers — distribute food from Good Shepherd Food Bank to Mainers in need

2 million

pounds of fresh, Maine-grown food are distributed annually by the 80 farmers who partner with the Food Bank's Mainers Feeding Mainers program

31.3 million

meals were distributed by Good Shepherd Food Bank in the last calendar year, up 25 percent from the year before

40 million

meals are estimated to be needed from the charitable food network in the coming year

$250 million

is being raised by Good Shepherd Food Bank to ensure that, by 2025, every Mainer has access to the food they need to thrive

Learn more at gsfb.org

PARTNERING TO END HUNGER

Good Shepherd

FOOD BANK OF MAINE

A Generous Helping

*With a lift from **Wyman's**, Women for Healthy Rural Living helps Washington County residents build a healthier future.*

Pulling into downtown Milbridge from the stark, windswept barrens of down east Maine, an unexpected sight appears on a pasture overlooking Narraguagus Bay: dozens of neat-as-a-pin rows of lettuce, tomatoes, broccoli, peas, and seemingly any other vegetable, herb, and flower one could imagine. The bounty is there — and free for the taking — thanks to Women for Healthy Rural Living, a 17-year-old nonprofit organization based just across the street.

Nurse practitioner Chris Kuhni founded the organization, initially known as the Women's Health Resource Library, in 2004, providing books and videos to help women in and around Milbridge better navigate conditions like diabetes, menopause, and osteoporosis. The library quickly blossomed into a community center with a wide range of programs, including support groups, toddler playgroups, and Weight Watchers meetings, as well as Bone Builders classes to help older adults reverse the effects of osteoporosis. "We just kept evolving to respond to meet the local needs," Kuhni says.

Access to nutritious foods quickly emerged as a major need. Washington County has the highest rate of hunger in the state and has among the highest rates of type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and high cholesterol in the nation. "My patients understood that their diets were not good, but they just couldn't afford healthy food," Kuhni says. "Many of them were working multiple jobs, and there just weren't places where they felt comfortable going for a walk."

The free pick-your-own garden project, called Incredible Edible Milbridge, started with a few planters and then, thanks to land donations and conservation efforts, quickly expanded. Today, 8,000 pounds of organic vegetables are harvested from the 18,000-square-foot plot in Milbridge Commons Wellness Park and a 15,000-square-foot plot at the nearby Red Barn Hotel. Through the gardens and its ever-expanding slate of programs, WHRL reaches more than 4,000 people a year, with just two employees, a 10-member board, and roughly 50 volunteers, including Kuhni, who serves as the unpaid executive director.

From the beginning, WHRL has counted on support from Wyman's, the Milbridge-based wild-blueberry grower and processor. Over the years, the company has provided essential financial support for the organization, along with contributions of everything from greenhouses to building materials. When WHRL moved into a new headquarters earlier this year, more than 100 Wyman's employees helped rehab the building as part of a company-wide community-service day called Wildly Better Days. Support for WHRL and other nonprofits, — like the Maine Seacoast Mission, Nature Conservancy, and Maine Community Foundation — is a natural extension of the company's commitment to sustainability, according to Wyman's senior director of human resources April Norton.

"One of our greatest resources is our employees, and improving their health and welfare and their rural communities is a large part of that," Norton says. "WHRL provides critical services to meet so many health needs, and we want to support that however we can."

Maine Coast Heritage Trust bought this 4.6-acre parcel in 2014 and partnered with WHRL to create Milbridge Commons Wellness Park. It has become a place where strangers form friendships and share what they know. "People connect there in a way you just aren't going to see in the produce section of the grocery," Kuhni says. During one of Wyman's community-service days, employees helped rehab an old house for WHRL's new headquarters. "They did work in a day that would have taken us six months, required us to fundraise like crazy, and taken time away from delivering so many services," Kuhni says.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON (GARDENS); COURTESY OF WYMAN'S (RENOVATIONS)

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU, MAINE.

Photo by Mikayla Warren

Maine's Emergency Air Ambulance Helicopter Service

Critical Care Medical Services

LifeFlight operates a fleet of aircraft with advanced avionics and the technology needed to fly in Maine's complicated weather conditions, providing mobile ICU-level care when minutes matter.

Advanced Medical Training

LifeFlight staff provide advanced medical training to EMS partners and hospital clinicians across Maine, improving critical care skills throughout the entire emergency care system.

Aviation Infrastructure

LifeFlight has assisted nearly every hospital and communities across Maine to build helipads, worked with EMS agencies and other partners to develop more than 140 remote landing zones and 1,300 community landing zones, and assisted airports and hospitals install weather monitoring stations across the state.

LifeFlight of Maine is a charitable non-profit organization serving Maine since 1998.

LIFEFLIGHT OF MAINE

LifeFlightMaine.org Critical Care Transport & Training 207.230.7092

Full Plates is on a mission to end child hunger in Maine.

Child hunger is a problem in Maine. Join us in celebrating these FEED KIDS partners, and so many others, committed to making Maine a better place to be a kid.

DownEast · Whole Foods Market · Luke's Lobster · Rosemont Market & Bakery · Oyster Club Eventide · Inn by the Sea · Primo · Duckfat · Chaval · DiMillo's · Portside Real Estate Group · Subway · Pai Men · Otto Pizza · Highwire Hydroponics · Berlin City Auto Group

View the full gallery of FEED KIDS partners at fullplates.org/feed-kids-partners and learn how your business can get involved.

feedkids@fullplates.org | fullplates.org

Over 70

Harboring Ambition

A lifelong sucker for salt water, ***Tinker Newick*** *blazed a trail on York's waterfront.*

When G. Mason Newick first held his newborn daughter at York Hospital, on April 3, 1939, he quipped that she looked like a small mackerel, known in these parts as a "tinker," and thus a local legend and her nickname were born on the same day. Tinker Newick has lived much of her life in York, with some hiatuses, including a 15-year stint, from 1967 to 1982, when she was married and lived in Wisconsin. Her now ex-husband there (perhaps portentously) was among the very few folks — all of them landlubbers — who call her Sarah. To everyone else, particularly around York, she is Tinker, and like a mackerel, she is and always will be a creature of the sea. To hear her tell it, she's been swimming, sailing, and mucking around in boats "since I was in diapers."

Raised on Bragdon Island, in York Harbor, where she now lives year-round, Newick went to York High and dropped out of college after a year to get married. For decades, she carried out the roles of wife and mother that often defined midcentury American womanhood. But after two marriages, a baby, two divorces, and a master's degree in marine affairs from the University of Rhode Island, Newick's trajectory turned. In 1985, she was home in York, managing the Agamenticus Yacht Club's sailing program, when the town hired her as the state's

JASON FRANK

first female harbormaster — much to the surprise of the other four candidates, all of them men. After she got the nod, a town selectman sidled up and told her, "I voted for you because you have the most beautiful ankles."

"I knew then," Newick says, "that this was going to be something."

One of her first battles in the position was over the dress code. A harbormaster's primary jobs include lining up floats and moving moorings — heavy, wet work requiring a lot of time in the water. Previous harbormasters had worn bathing suits. Newick had a modest, comfortable, black one-piece for the task, but she was told she couldn't wear a bathing suit — presumably so boaters wouldn't glimpse more than those fabulous ankles.

"There was no way I was going to do that work fully dressed when every single person before me had worn a bathing suit and my assistant was allowed to wear his," Newick says. She wore her one-piece until the sole female selectman insisted she wear a uniform, chosen by the all-male harbor board. "They kept showing me these awful outfits from the catalogs of the day, like Talbot's — nothing a male harbormaster would ever wear," she says. "So I went to the dry-goods store and chose some Dickies. I was a full-grown woman. I was not going to let them pick my clothes for me."

She spent three and a half years on the job, working for less than minimum wage and enduring other indignities. Once, a disgruntled lobsterman dumped a bucket of fish entrails into her boat. In 1989, Newick relinquished the position and sued the town for back pay. She went on to work as an agricultural-census taker, which she retired from a few years ago, and today, at 82, she still sails as often as she can. Looking back on her harbormaster stint, she's reflective rather than rueful.

"It was a hard job, and I never had days off, and the press was always writing things about my tussles with the board," Newick says, "but if I look back, I think that I changed things. I mean, it was a time of change for women anyway, but I think I helped instigate some. Today, the harbormaster gets much better pay, weekends off and two weeks in the summer." She pauses. "And I doubt anyone cares what they wear."

— GENEVIEVE MORGAN

Double Vision

Eighty years later, twins ***Rosalie Carver and Lucille Woodward*** *haven't forgotten their stints as junior WWII lookouts in Jonesport.*

Rosalie (right) and Lucille at the airport in Bangor, as Rosalie left to join her first husband in Puerto Rico, after the war.

Squinting to see past the fog misting her sunporch windows, 90-year-old Rosalie Carver exclaims, "My soul and body! We didn't have fog like this back when we were girls." She points towards the obscured islands off Jonesport: Pomp, Norton, Beals, and others scattered beyond the haze in Moosabec Reach, the dooryard of her 1903 Sadler Point home, which she and her husband long ago christened Sea Swept.

Rosalie can identify virtually every island surrounding the peninsular down east fishing town. She and her identical twin sister, Lucille Woodward, still known locally as the Palmer twins, have lived all their lives in the community of about 1,300 year-rounders. Well, Rosalie says, except for a year she spent in San Juan with her U.S. airman husband in the '50s. "My land, Sister was not happy at all about that!" she laughs, slapping her knees. "I was more daring," she brags, adding that she's older by 20 minutes. When she came back from Puerto Rico, she got divorced, then married lobsterman Cal Carver and raised four boys. And for the last 65 years, Rosalie, now a widow, has stayed put.

Two miles east, in a cheery, periwinkle house, "Sister," as Rosalie calls Lucille, made a home with her husband, Wayne, and their three girls. Lucille, whose body is frailer but memory sharper, agrees that the waters off Jonesport are foggier today than nearly a century ago. As 10-year-olds, Lucille says, she and Rosalie had no trouble peering out beyond the shore — or up into the sky. They did plenty of both during World War II, after their mother, Kathleen Palmer, volunteered to stand watch for the military from a 10-by-10 wooden shack on a hill overlooking Loon Point.

"While we were playing, Mama was watching the skies and the sea," Lucille says, rubbing at the memory of the family rings that slid off her fingers and went into a drawer years ago, when she was first diagnosed with the cancer she still battles. Posters lined the walls of the inconspicuous shack, and inside were multiple phones. The posters showed Palmer — and others who took daily shifts — what to look for and, depending on what they saw, which phone to use. Palmer, a teacher by trade, also took shifts manning the switchboard, taking calls from other civilian lookouts. Jonesport had two, and many more dotted the Eastern Seaboard. German U-boats swarmed the Atlantic, making U.S. ships — and seaside towns like Jonesport — potentially easy targets. In 1941 alone, Germans torpedoed 171 U.S. vessels. On shore, Jonesport endured Army-enforced curfews and nightly blackouts. Both girls remember their mother calling in suspicious planes, and they say local fishermen often reported German submarines just offshore. Neither sister knew then or now who was on the other end of the line.

After the war, life returned to normal. Like her mother, Lucille ran the town switchboard, and later she tended phones for Wayne's oil business. Rosalie worked for 25 years as a high-school study-hall monitor, where she says she never missed a thing. "I guess you might say we've both been watching and listening all our lives." — J.K.

Remembering Her Roots

*Southwest Harbor's **Lynne Birlem** has seen the forest for MDI's family trees.*

When Lynne Birlem first got interested in genealogy, nearly six decades ago, the lifelong Mount Desert Island resident was mostly just curious about her own lineage on the island. Then she got sucked in, realizing there were thousands of documents and historical records from around MDI that were begging to be organized. A board member of the Southwest Harbor Historical Society and a former librarian and teacher, the 81-year-old Birlem channeled her "abiding nosiness" about local connections into compiling a database of thousands of entries of Mount Desert Island genealogy, which she's been building for the last two decades using Ancestry.com. Her documentation of residents on MDI reaches back to 1752. — J.E.

Birlem poses for a glamour shot in 1954, at her family's home in Southwest Harbor.

What sparked your interest in genealogy?
I got married in 1964 on Great Cranberry Island because it was easy to limit the number of people. It got back to me that the caretaker at the church had said she thought I had a hell of a nerve getting married there because I didn't live on that island. And that pissed me off. I knew enough about my father's side of the family to know that we have a long history on Great Cranberry, so I felt I had just as much of a right as anyone to get married there. That's when I started looking into genealogy. I found out that my great-grandparents, for heaven's sake, had paid for the windows in that church!

SOUTHWEST HARBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY DIGITAL ARCHIVE

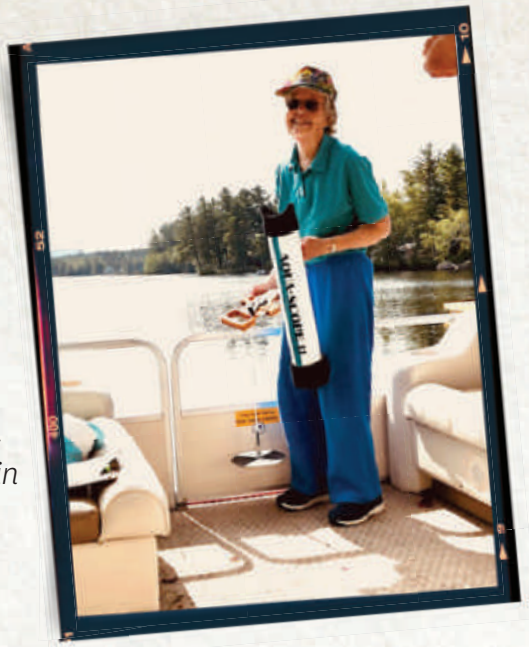
While Ryan was studying biology, Maine Senator Ed Muskie was writing and sponsoring the landmark 1972 Clean Water Act.

How did you put this massive database together?
Essentially, what I have done is taken other people's work that was not digitized and collected it and digitized it. It's really as simple as that. Obituaries, books, birth records, marriage records, other genealogies. I started putting all that stuff in a database. Over time, the thing grew. It's not brain surgery or anything like that, but I find it interesting.

It's not brain surgery, but it's not a few clicks of a mouse either. It's taken you 20 years.
I've been picking at this since I was about 60. I call it my braided rug, because people retire and they need something to do. It used to be either you went and you made a quilt or you braided rugs or you took up painting. I haven't got an artistic bone in my body, but I was a fairly good decipherer of lousy handwriting, given my six years of teaching, and I am fairly well organized. And that put me in a pretty good place to do something like this. It's very time-consuming, which is a plus for someone like me who wants to be busy, but it's a pain in the neck otherwise.

What has the project taught you?
What it did for me was confirm the fact that a lot of people on Mount Desert Island are interrelated — I always knew when I was growing up that you had to be really careful what you said about whom because you never knew who was related.

COURTESY OF SANDRA MULLER | *THE DAILY BULLDOG*



Ryan, in a snapshot taken this summer, testing water quality on Wilson Lake.

Lady of the Lake

Since the 1980s, ***Mary Ryan*** *has been a protector of Wilson Lake — and she's been splashing around in it since long before.*

If a lake could choose someone to have in its corner, it would want 79-year-old Mary Ryan. Twice a month all summer long, for the last 35 years, she's been reporting the clarity of Wilson Lake, in Wilton, using a friend's pontoon boat and a tool called a Secchi disk. Peering down through a scope into the deepest part of the lake, she lowers a tethered disk, noting the distance at which she can no longer see it. Water clarity is one sign of a healthy lake, and like a good friend, Ryan checks in often to make sure her favorite lake is doing alright.

A volunteer with the nonprofit Lake Stewards of Maine, Ryan has collected data over the years showing that Wilson Lake is maintaining its level of clarity. As other camp ponds around the state struggle with algae blooms and invasive plants, Ryan says that she and other Wilson Lake stewards are "thrilled to be holding our own." But she remembers when the lake's future seemed murkier.

A Wilton native, Ryan was 6 when she started taking swimming lessons in Wilson Lake, and when she was in elementary school, in the 1950s, her parents built a camp there. In the '60s and '70s, she got a biology degree from the University of New Hampshire, then a master's in science education at Ohio State. After a few years teaching high-school biology in Massachusetts, she moved back to Wilton in the early '80s, and in 1989, she helped found Friends of Wilson Lake, a group focused on the watershed's health. Given her background, Ryan says, asking questions about what's happening in the water just comes naturally.

Most of what can harm the lake comes from the land, she says. "There were summers growing up when we were really worried because we could see stuff coming through pipes into the lake from the neighborhoods around," she remembers. "Not that people were doing this intentionally — they just didn't know." Today, FOWL works to educate lakefront property owners about barrier plants that can help prevent soil erosion, fertilizers and pesticides that drain into the lake, and other variables with consequences for water quality. Along with education programs and watershed surveys, the 300-member group spearheads boat inspections and has worked to protect lakeshore from development. In 1999, Ryan and FOWL helped lead efforts to establish the Foothills Land Conservancy, which now protects 238 acres of critical habitat at the head of the lake (where a former landowner once scattered harmful chicken manure). Three years ago, the nonprofit Maine Lakes named FOWL the state's Lake Association of the Year, out of more than 100 partner organizations.

Today, Ryan lives just five miles from the camp her parents built. It has always been her cornerstone, she says, and she loves sharing the place — and sharing the lake — with the youngest generation of her family. "I have grandnieces and -nephews across the country who just can't wait to get to Wilson Lake," she says. "We talk all the time about water quality. They probably get tired of hearing me talk about it." — AMBER KAPILOFF

Friendship that Floats

*Canoe builders **Jerry Stelmok and Rollin Thurlow** were business partners, and then they were business competitors, but nothing could sink their sense of camaraderie.*

Jerry Stelmok and Rollin Thurlow might have been bitter cross-town rivals. They both make timeless wood-and-canvas canoes that typically sell for about $6,000 apiece, and they both have workshops a few miles apart in the 300-person Piscataquis County settlement of Atkinson. But they're also old pals going back five decades, and neither has let work get in the way of friendship. "Having Rollin down the road has enhanced the experience," Stelmok says. "When we were younger, the relationship was a little more competitive, but we managed to carve out separate

The '70s kicked off a wooden-boat revival in Maine: in coastal Brooklin, *WoodenBoat* magazine's first issue was published in 1974.

ALBERTO LOPEZ

specialties and were able to remain friends, which only strengthened over the years."

He and Thurlow originally connected through their wives (in Stelmok's case, his first wife). Then, in the early '70s, they both ventured off to study boatbuilding at the Boat School, in Lubec. Major canoe companies were converting to fiberglass hulls, and this was the only wooden-canoe program of its kind. The two students soaked it up, and upon their graduation, the head of the school sold them his business, Island Falls Canoe.

The duo built a range of classic canoes, including designs from the E.M. White Canoe Company, a trailblazing Maine paddling brand that has been defunct since the '40s. The process was painstaking — selecting the right cedar and hardwoods, steam-bending the wood, finessing the dimensions just so, smoothing the balky canvas hulls — but they found a growing audience for their work, with avid paddlers buying not only their canoes but also their books. Their 1987 volume, *The Wood and Canvas Canoe: A Complete Guide*, is still in print.

Over time, their interests started to split. While Stelmok gravitated toward new construction of classic styles, Thurlow found his niche in restoring old canoes. Then, in the early '80s, they decided to part ways. Thurlow started Northwoods Canoe Co. in a post-and-beam workshop he built himself, and Stelmok kept on with Island Falls Canoe. Although both continued to do builds and restorations, their divergent interests kept any sense of rivalry at bay. Thurlow branched out into selling canoe parts and hardware. Stelmok, meanwhile, honed the artistic flourishes on his canoes and also acquired the rights to designs of discontinued Old Town wooden canoes. There were no hard feelings, they insist.

Occasionally, a customer mistakenly shows up at one shop thinking it's the other — GPS is spotty in Atkinson — but neither minds sending someone off in the right direction. "We both have more work than we can handle, so there really has not been too much difficulty being so close together," Thurlow says. They often talk shop and swap technical advice, and they still get together for dinners. "Our kids grew up together as best friends," Stelmok adds, "so that was another plus." — PETER VAN ALLEN

Faith, Love, and Legacy

Lifelong Portlanders ***Leonard and Mary Jane Cummings*** *have left an indelible mark on the Forest City.*

Top left: Mary Jane in 1967, with other members of the Portland branch of the NAACP. Lower left: Leonard, second from left, in 1972, with other Black leaders, at the formation of a body called the State Black Caucus. Right: Leonard at Portland's Abyssinian Meeting House.

Even as a youngster, living with his mother and siblings above Benny's Meat Market, on Portland's Congress Street, Leonard Cummings was aware of Mary Jane Hill. Three years younger, she lived a few blocks away, in a single-family house on Forest Street. "I saw her once in her Girl Scout uniform," Leonard recalls, a lifetime later.

"You didn't see me in my Girl Scout uniform," Mary Jane protests.

"I did," he insists. "I saw a picture."

Whoever is right, the point is that Mary Jane and Leonard go back a long way. Married 65 years, they have together built a legacy of community activism, anchored by their deep faith in God. And now, in their 80s, they're witnessing the completion of their most ambitious and hard-won project: restoring Portland's storied Abyssinian Meeting House.

Their friendship began in earnest at Portland High School, where Leonard was an athlete and class president. Mary Jane was also a class officer and, in Leonard's words, "a smart girl, a really smart girl — until she met up with me." A date to the senior prom ignited a courtship that eventually led to a marriage proposal — over the phone. By then, Leonard was a finance clerk in the U.S. Army, stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas. Mary Jane was back home, working, saving, and sending letters and cookies to her sweetheart. They were married on New Year's Eve 1956.

The Cummingses both speak of happy, even idyllic childhoods, but like all African-American young people, they eventually

GERALD E. TALBOT COLLECTION, AFRICAN AMERICAN COLLECTION OF MAINE, JEAN BYERS SAMPSON CENTER FOR DIVERSITY IN MAINE, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE LIBRARIES. PHOTO 159 (MARY JANE); PHOTO 180 (LEONARD).

DANIELLE SYKES

This Christmas
Our store is only
45 seconds away
www.CrossJewelers.com

MOST FINE BLUE SAPPHIRES

ARE FOUND IN THE LANDS WHERE TIGERS ROAM

Yes, our gem guys lead expeditions to Southeast Asia every year to bring home the best, brightest, most beautiful blue sapphires. We look at sapphires with the eyes of a tiger. We're particular about the cut, the color and the brilliance. We're choosey at the end of the day because as tigers we want to make all of our rings sing.

Essex
Blue Sapphire & Diamond Ring
G2715...$11,650

The Good News

We are now open as an online gallery of fine jewelry. Our website with over a 1,000 great jewelry gifts, is rich with stories and the inspiration of the jewelry we make. And yes, our retail store is still closed.

Beacon Hill
Blue Sapphire & Diamond Ring
G2771...$6,950

Beacon Hill
Sapphire & Diamond Ring
G2768...$6,350

Shipping is always
Safe, Fast and FREE
Anywhere USA

Cross Jewelers Portland, Maine 1-800-433-2988

Visit our gallery of Fine Jewelry online www.CrossJewelers.com

DE11211

from 1912 to 2001. (Leonard has donated its archives to the University of Southern Maine.) Called "the taskmaster" by the children, Eddie's enduring motto was "Get a job; save your money." His nephew listened: Leonard eventually made a successful 30-year career at New England Telephone as an equipment-installation manager.

Mary Jane's family also knew the value of work. Her father, a Teamster, drove big rigs; her mother was an elevator operator. Leonard is quick to add that his wife was promoted from her own elevator-operator job, at Portland's iconic Porteous department store, to gift wrapper, a full-time job with benefits. "That was unique," he says with pride. "Not a lot of Black girls got those jobs." In other words, elevator operator was a "Black" job; gift wrapper was a "white" job. Her later working life included stints at Gulf Oil, New England Telephone, and Unum — which is where she was, on the typing-pool evening shift, when she heard the news of Martin Luther King Jr.'s murder. Some of confronted the inevitability of racism. Leonard's moment came one night in St. Louis, when he stopped for coffee at a White Castle burger shop. He was in uniform at the time; it was raining, not a soul in the place. "I can sell you the coffee," the man behind the counter said, "but you're not gonna drink it in here." The words landed hard and sting to this day. Mary Jane's epiphany was more subtle, coming just after her high-school graduation, when a fellow student snubbed her on the street. She knew what it meant. "Wow, there *is* discrimination here," she remembers saying to herself. "This is real."

When the couple returned home from Kansas, after Leonard's hitch was up, an apartment came open next door to Mary Jane's childhood home — the house her grandmother had bought in 1898, which had sheltered three generations of a family going back at least nine generations in Portland. And yet, she was refused rent, along with her husband, whose great-grandfather, an African Methodist Episcopal minister in South Carolina, had bought his own freedom.

"But we were young, ambitious kids," Leonard recalls, so they followed their hearts not only towards each other but towards the goals of social justice. They determined from the get-go that their children would never have "that coffee-shop experience."

Particularly in those days, the goal was daunting. "My white classmates went down one road," Mary Jane says, "and I went another way." Leonard adds, "There were so few choices back then, you didn't even know what to ask for." Perhaps because of those limited choices, they both take pride in family histories of hard work. Leonard's mother worked days as a matron in the ladies' room at Union Station and evenings as a cook for a prominent local family. His aunt looked after the children, Leonard says, and "kept us straight." Another formidable elder was uncle Eddie Cummings, a semipro baseball player barred from the majors because of his race. Eddie was a captain of the baggage handlers known as Red Caps, at Portland's Union Station, and part of the unionization there in 1938 — a life-changer for Black workers. He was also part of Portland's famed Eastern Real Estate Company, a Black-owned enterprise that thrived

In its early years, Portland's 1828 Abyssinian Meeting House hosted sermons and speeches by leaders of the Underground Railroad and other champions for the abolition of slavery. It is also one of the few buildings to have survived the Great Fire of Portland in 1866.

DANIELLE SYKES

the women went home, but not Mary Jane; she kept working despite her shock and grief.

From this rich, historically fraught background emerged the couple's bone-deep sense of responsibility. At a Pentecostal service they once attended at a friend's invitation, a minister laid hands on Leonard and proclaimed, "God has a special mission for you." The couple never forgot these words. While raising their children, they became widely respected advocates not just for African Americans, but for all people, serving causes as varied as the Green Memorial AME Zion Church, the Greater Portland YWCA, the American Cancer Society, and the Portland NAACP (in the '70s, Leonard served as president). They lobbied for legislation of Martin Luther King Day in Maine and spearheaded the first annual MLK breakfast in Portland.

But the Abyssinian Meeting House is the most visible testament to the Cummings's civic commitment. Built in 1828 by a group of free Black men, the building served as a house of worship, a stop on the Underground Railroad, and a public school for African-American children. Situated near the foot of Munjoy Hill, the Abyssinian was rescued from oblivion in 1998, after one of Leonard and Mary Jane's four children, Deborah Cummings Khadraoui, read an editorial decrying the state of the building, which had been converted into apartments and repossessed by the city for unpaid taxes.

THE ABYSSINIAN MEETING HOUSE IS THE MOST VISIBLE TESTAMENT TO THE CUMMINGS'S CIVIC COMMITMENT.

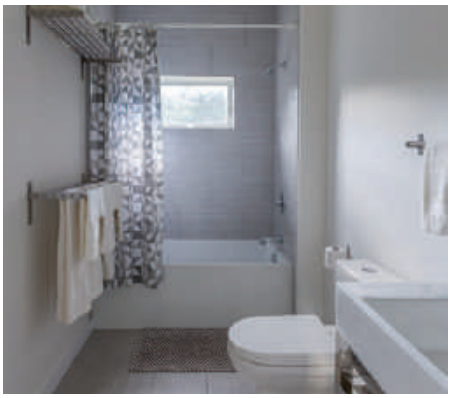
Khadraoui founded the Committee to Restore the Abyssinian, which included, initially, her parents and several Black community leaders and, later on, other community leaders and historians. That the effort has continued nearly 25 years owes entirely to the fact that, as their daughter puts it, her parents "kept picking up the ball and running with it." Thanks to their persistence, the building is on the National Register of Historic Places, the country's third-oldest surviving African-American house of worship.

As if recalling Uncle Eddie's advice, the Committee borrowed no money for the project, relying instead on grants and donations. In the wake of the demonstrations that followed George Floyd's murder last year, over $300,000 poured in from private citizens, as well as some city funds. Gorgeous, historically accurate windows and doors were recently installed, and the building is nearly ready for a very grand opening as a gathering place and museum dedicated to Black history and culture in Maine. Ever willing to share credit, Leonard says, "The community deserves a big thank-you."

It's sweet serendipity that a house of worship has taken up so much room in their shared life. "It's strong faith that gets me through," Mary Jane says. "In marriage, in our family, in our work. It's the belief that God is with me."

"Like that day in church," Leonard adds, "when God said, 'You have something to do.'"

Leonard and Mary Jane Cummings had something to do. And they've done it. — M.W.



POOL STREET | BIDDEFORD

New construction at its best! This thoughtfully designed "spec" home is nestled in a private wooded setting only a mile from Fortunes Rocks Beach and two miles from Goose Rocks Beach. Home is being built to the highest standards and energy efficiency, and features one-level living, a spacious and open common living area with vaulted ceilings, superinsulation, heat pump HVAC system, and triple-pane windows. Additional lots are under planning board review. **$749,900**

OceanView PROPERTIES

169 Main St., Cape Porpoise, ME 04046
18 Yates St., Biddeford Pool, ME 04005
oceanviewproperties.net

BIDDEFORD POOL
18 Yates Street
207.282.1732

www.oceanviewproperties.net

OceanView
PROPERTIES

KENNEBUNKPORT
CAPE PORPOISE
169 Main Street
207.967.5444

www.oceanviewproperties.net

ON THE BANKS OF THE SACO RIVER

On 1.4 open acres right on the Saco River, 3BR, 2 family home in Biddeford w/oversized 2 car garage. large decks, great potential.

$959,000

GRANITE POINT OCEANFRONT

Completely updated with 200' frontage, new systems, roof, siding, decks, flooring, landscaping, and 3 ensuite bedrooms.

$2,195,000

QUINTESSENTIAL BEACH COTTAGE

Nestled on 1/2 acre lot w/100' gorgeous sandy beachfront. Detached 2 car garage, expansion potential, large yard, amazing views.

$3,250,000

FORTUNES ROCKS BEACHHOUSE

Turnkey 4BR, 2BA home on the white sands of the Biddeford Pool/Fortunes Rocks Beach. One level living, impeccably maintained, great rental history.

$1,750,000

HIGH PERFORMANCE IN BIDDEFORD

New construction at its best, 1 mile from Fortunes Rocks Beach. Homes designed to maximize natural light/built to highest standards & energy efficiency.

Packages starting at $699,900

PARSON'S BEACH, KENNEBUNK

Gorgeous building site w/pastoral views of Mousam River estuary & beach access.

3 acre lot for $1,150,000

Anne Erwin | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

YORK, MAINE

Don't just look for a place. Discover a home.

Nothing compares.

6 TOWHEE HILL LANE

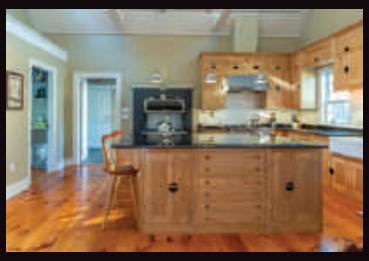
PROPERTY ID: 1507958

31 LONG SANDS ROAD, YORK

207.363.6640

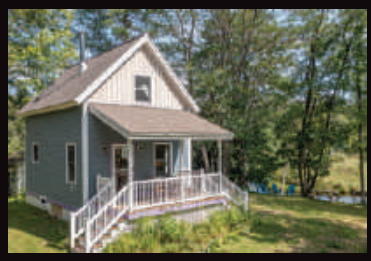
ANNEERWIN.COM

CAMDEN - Commercial/Mixed Use $565,000



CAMDEN - Restored, High Street $995,000

LINCOLNVILLE - Soon-to-be-Built $495,000



SOMERVILLE - 2-BRs, River Frontage $349,000

ROCKPORT - 4-BR Hilltop Retreat, Bay Views $950,000

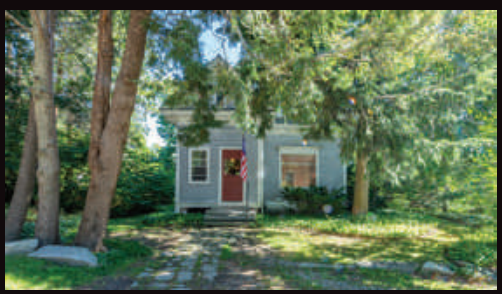
CAMDEN REAL ESTATE COMPANY

Taking Real Estate to a Higher Level

camdenre.com

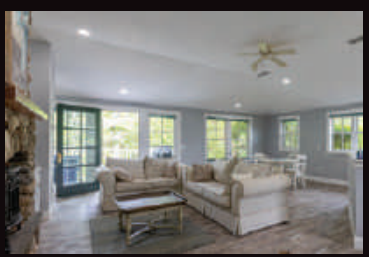
43 Elm Street, Camden
207.236.6171

BELFAST - 37 Acre Farm, APT, Large Barns $785,000



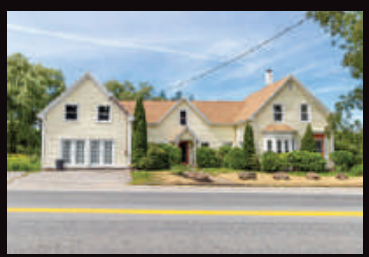
CAMDEN - Fantastic Original Features, In-town $495,000

CAMDEN - 4-BR Colonial, Roomy Fl Plan & APT $725,000



LINCOLNVILLE - 2-BR Detached Unit $349,000

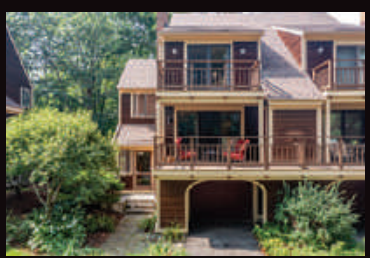
ROCKPORT - Open Fl Plan, Nice Light $349,000



ROCKPORT - Residential/Commercial $225,000

WASHINGTON - Easy 1-Floor Living $299,000

THOMASTON - Classic Colonial $225,000

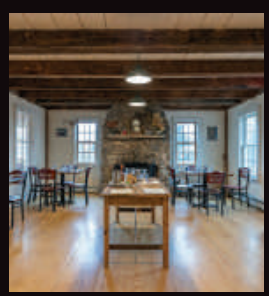


LINCOLNVILLE - 2-BRs, Pool Access $299,000

ROCKLAND - Mixed Use, In-town $289,000

CAMDEN - Oceanfront Building Lot $325,000

FEATURED LISTING >



48 Peabody Road | Appleton MLS# 1479059 $650,000

In a peaceful setting - designed, built and reconstructed as a restaurant with a second floor APT, this property has the flexibility to be used as a beautiful residence with large open living spaces, stone fireplace and several decks overlooking the pond.

TOWN & SHORE
REAL ESTATE

WE BUY & SELL

MAINE

#1 Office Portland Residential Sales Volume
#1 Office in Condo Sales Volume Statewide
#1 Agency in Portland Condo Sales Volume
#1 Agency in Portland Peninsula Residential Sales Volume
#1 Agency in Cumberland County Condo Sales Volume

Town & Shore Real Estate
One Union Wharf, Portland, ME 04101
info@townandshore.com
www.townandshore.com
@townandshore

Based on information from the Maine Real Estate Information System, Inc. (d/b/a Maine Listings) for the period 01/01/2021 through 06/30/2021.

A WAY OF LIFE

Tyler Tibbetts from our Boothbay Harbor office, hobnobbing with friends

Among the notable qualities of the communities we serve – the amazing beauty, the historic **culture** – it's the people who live here that are most responsible for our unique **lifestyle**. If we've learned anything recently, it's the importance of good neighbors and how, together, we can strengthen the fabric of our **communities**.

It's this sense of purpose that's at the heart of everything we do at William Raveis. Our team of local agents shares a deep knowledge of Maine's neighborhoods and a genuine **passion** for our way of life. We'd love to show you around.

WILLIAM RAVEIS
REAL ESTATE

Timeless Values for a Changing World

Bath
Boothbay
Brunswick
Hallowell
Rockland
Waldoboro
Windham

Raveis.com

Official REALTOR ® of the Boston Red Sox

Call or Text 888.699.8876

Independently Owned & Operated

500 Ocean House Road

CAPE ELIZABETH | 3,621 SQUARE FEET | $1,250,000

Enjoy the rural landscape of farms and pristine beaches, while being only 6 miles away from the vibrancy of downtown Portland. This 1800's farmhouse, with 2.3 acres, has been updated and modernized while not losing its original character. You'll love the wide plank pine floors and 9'+ ceilings that preserve this home's sense of history. This location and its environs will allow you to experience the best of what Maine has to offer; beautiful beaches, rocky coasts, lighthouses, fine dining, wooded trails and endless amenities for four seasons of living only minutes from Maine's largest city.

RE/MAX BY THE BAY

Exclusively Marketed by The David Banks Team
207-773-2345 | DavidBanksTeam.com

DAVID M. BANKS

ROB WILLIAMS
real estate

Bailey Island 207-833-5078 baileyisland.com

Specializing in Unique Coastal Harpswell Properties

$765,000

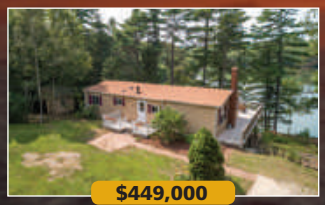
PHIPPSBURG

Don't miss your chance to preview this 3.25 acreage offering an amazing 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with generous entertaining & outdoor space, a fabulous woodworking shop for your in-home business, several outbuildings AND your very own writer's studio or bunk house. The floor plan is multilevel including foyer, dining, lounge & laundry/utility on the main; kitchen, 3/4 bath on the 2nd level, bedroom, family room, full bath and den/office (behind the bookcase) on the 3rd level. The upper level offers a private bedroom accessed by spiral staircase. Many updates in this charming and comfortable home.

$235,000

HARPSWELL

Located in historical Harpswell Center, is the old location of the Harpswell Anchor Newspaper. This building could be used for commercial or residential use. Existing 2 bedroom septic system & drilled well on site. A lit street sign and a paved driveway and parking area, are an added feature. There are 2 Empire propane heaters and a heat pump for A/C and heat. This property has potential for expansion to a 2 bedroom home / tiny house. Come take a look.



$449,000

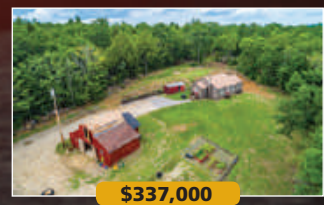
HARPSWELL WATERFRONT

This waterfront property enjoys sunsets over a quiet tidal cove. Water views from the deck of the double wide sited on full concrete foundation. Basement is walk out and partially finished. Three bedrooms, one bath year-round home situated on 40,000 sf of land. Structure is a 1977 Standard Coach, Holiday Home double wide trailer. This is part of a larger parcel, survey is in process. Septic recently inspected and is in satisfactory condition. If you are looking for a quiet location overlooking the water, then this just might be the property for you. Come take a look!!

$525,000

HARPSWELL WATERFRONT

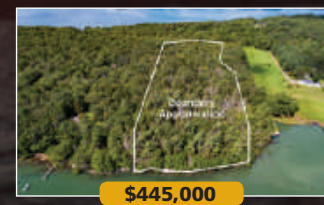
For those fortunate enough to have enjoyed summer vacations at a relative's water front camp, this property will bring back all those great memories of carefree times swimming, boating, exploring, reading & relaxing. With 213' of deep water frontage, this 2 bedroom camp offers easy living on its lovely .7 acre lot. For those cool evenings, sit and watch the water in front of the stone wood burning fireplace. If something more year-round is a future plan, the present septic system does meet seasonal conversion criteria. Come and enjoy!



$337,000

CHELSEA

Ever dreamed of having your own little farm? We can make your dreams come true! This adorable 3.07 acre parcel offers an energy efficient two bedroom home that has been tastefully updated. The property sits at the very end of Peaslee Ave, quiet and peaceful, surrounded by nature. The property also offers two well maintained barns, both with turn out. Barn 1 offers 4 stalls and tack room, Barn 2 offers 2 stalls and tack room. Electric fencing and riding arena also in place! The property is close to all Augusta has to offer, just a short drive to the Interstate, and Togus Hospital. A must see!!



$445,000

BRUNSWICK WATERFRONT

Large wooded waterfront parcel on Mere Point. Very private site. Old cabin on site needs to be removed by buyer. Wetlands and open space zoning will limit development near waterfront. Perimeter survey is in process. Close to downtown Brunswick and public boat launch. Current taxes reflect open space assessment on portion of parcel.

Camden Coast Real Estate

Avary Otis Nancy Hughes Becky Johnson Mary Bumiller Nikki Bland

A top selling, boutique brokerage anchored in the heart of the Midcoast.

80 Elm St Camden, ME 04843 207.236.1111 www.camdencoast.com

LandVest
REAL ESTATE · TIMBERLAND

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Schooner Cove on Sebago Lake • Raymond


Easterly Ledge • Gouldsboro

Ranger Road • Bristol

Penobscot Lane • Owls Head

Deep Cove On Sebago Lake• Raymond


Isle Wood • Ellsworth


Pinnacle Cottage • Rockport

9 Anbelwold Circuit • York

Seal Lane • Yarmouth

6494

Schooner Cove on Sebago Lake: 15.03± Acres • $3,900,000
Karen N. Reiche | 207-776-8352 | kreiche@landvest.com

Easterly Ledge: 14± Acres • $2,850,000
Story Litchfield | 207-276-3840 | slitchfield@landvest.com

Ranger Road: 29.94± Acres • $4,475,000
Joseph Sortwell | 207-706-6294 | jsortwell@landvest.com

Penobscot Lane: 2.63± Acres • $2,775,000
Joseph Sortwell | 207-706-6294 | jsortwell@landvest.com

Deep Cove On Sebago Lake: .76± Acres • $2,500,000
John Saint-Amour | 207-776-5563 | jsaint-amour@landvest.com

Isle Wood: 5.2± Acres • $1,750,000
Jamie O'Keefe | 207-299-8732 | jokeefe@landvest.com

Pinnacle Cottage: 20.03± Acres • $4,200,000
Joseph Sortwell | 207-706-6294 | jsortwell@landvest.com

9 Anbelwold Circuit: 3.03± Acres • $3,875,000
John Scribner | 207-749-5148 | jscribner@landvest.com

Seal Lane: 2.6± Acres • $3,250,000
John Saint-Amour | 207-776-5563 | jsaint-amour@landvest.com

We've traveled the back roads, we've navigated the waters, and we know Maine.

Celebrating over 50 Years of Knowledge, Service, and Results.

HQ: Ten Post Office Square | Suite 1125 South | Boston, MA 02109 | **www.landvest.com**
Maine: 23 Main Street, Camden • 207-236-3543 | 125 Main Street, Northeast Harbor • 207-276-3840 | 36 Danforth Street, Portland • 207-774-8518

Sue Lessard

Associate Broker/Owner
Town & Shore Real Estate
One Union Wharf, Portland, ME
slessard@townandshore.com
207-899-9567

384 Pleasant Ave
Sold: $299,000

525 Island Ave
Sold: $525,000

55 Oaklawn Road
For Sale: $998,000

25 Oaklawn Road
Sold: $576,000

16 Oaklawn Road
Sold: $1,395,000

367 Island Ave
For Sale: $1,195,000

50 Centennial St
Sold: $1,405,000
(Buyer Rep)

28 Pleasant Ave
Sold: $360,000

29 Greenwood St
Sold: $559,000

6 Ocean View Terrace
Sold: $539,000

59 Tolman Road
Sold: $330,000

806 Seashore Ave
U/C: $1,100,000

Land: 736 Seashore Ave
Sold: $407,500

139 Lyndon Ave
Sold: $719,000

420 Seashore Ave
Sold: $1,140,000

380 Seashore Ave
Sold: $1,020,000

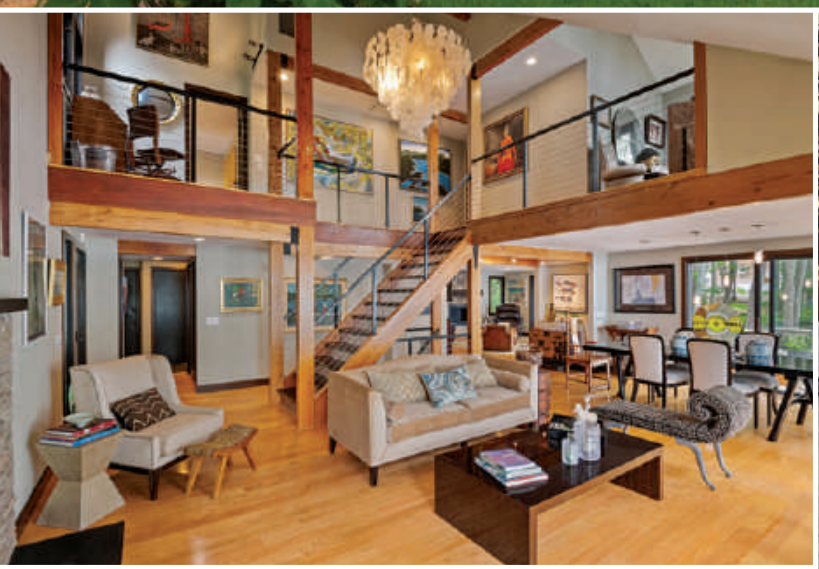
308 Seashore Ave
Sold: $900,000

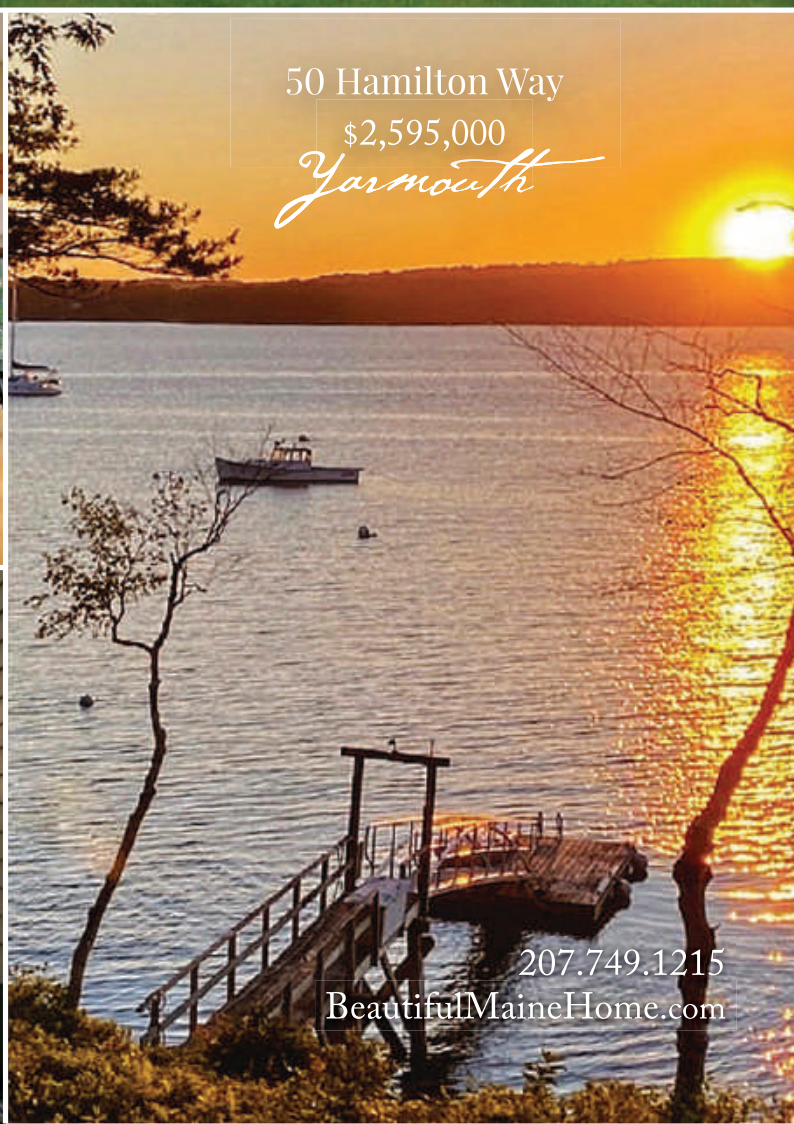
Specializing in Peaks Island Property

TOWN & SHORE
REAL ESTATE

linda
MACDONALD
ASSOCIATES

Legacy Properties | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY





50 Hamilton Way

$2,595,000

Yarmouth

207.749.1215

BeautifulMaineHome.com

A rare private wilderness retreat, reminiscent of the idyllic Maine 3-season compound, which existed 100 years ago in multigenerational family cottages. Dramatic geologic formations, including two mountains, spectacular cliffs & mature forest canopy, including thousands of feet of private water frontage comprise this 483.54 acre property - offering stunning topography on one of Maine's clearest lakes. The 7,777 feet (1.5 miles) of shoreline provides a private cove for swimming, canoeing & kayaking, from sunrise to sunset. Dive in from a shoreline boulder or cliff into the deep water of Craig Pond. Hike on miles of private trails and blaze new trails through national park-like terrain and habitat. Venture to nearby Great Pond Mountain & look back with wonder at the splendor of this magnificent property. Loons, owls, eagles, osprey, kingfishers, and a full orchestra of songbirds call the thoughtfully-managed sanctuary home. At the heart of the property is a 6500 +/- square foot, award-winning retreat, landscaped & built by Maine's top architects and builder. Carefully-fitted into nature, blurring where the indoors & the rugged moss & fern-covered forest meet, this home is as welcoming to 6 people as it is to 20. Construction is unrivaled in its attention to detail and craftsmanship. The simplicity and charm overlay commercial-grade security & utilities, designed to minimize time with laundry, dishes, opening & closing. Among the places that bring people together and into nature are the swim rock, hammock grotto, hot tub & grill area, which are built into the natural landscape out of local Lucerne granite. Perched on the base of a cliff at the water's edge, is a separate cabin to enjoy with friends or to find solitude. Acreage includes multiple potential building sites for creating a compound on prime parcels of equal appeal. Far from crowds, but close to Northeast Harbor, Blue Hill, Castine, Belfast, & both Bar Harbor & Bangor airports. Offered at $10,000,000

FloatingBoulder.com

ELIZABETH BANWELL

207.747.9308

ebanwell@legacysir.com

Legacy Properties | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

legacysir.com

REPRESENTING BUYERS AND SELLERS OF EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTIES

MICHAEL LYNCH

207.558.3131
mlynch@legacysir.com

Legacy Properties | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

legacysir.com

19 Sea Street, Rockport
Sold for $4,500,000

562 Main Road, Islesboro
Sold for $4,500,000

300 East Shore Drive, Islesboro
Sold for $4,000,000

117 Jetty Road, Islesboro
Sold for $3,100,000

93 Ellingwood Rd, Blue Hill
Sold for $2,600,000

134 Big Tree Lane, Islesboro
Available for $2,500,000

132 Aldrich Road, Islesboro
Sold for $2,500,000

4 Spear Street, Rockport
Available for $2,145,000

51 Cliff Road, Bristol
Sold for $1,860,000

Camden Harbor, Camden
Sold for $1,750,000

1 Mechanic Street, Rockport
Sold for $1,650,000

223 Lawry Road, Searsmont
Available for $1,400,000

903 Pendleton Point Rd
Islesboro
Sold for $1,400,000

1317 Trim Lane, Islesboro
Available for $1,300,000

72 Chestnut Street, Camden
Sold for $1,300,000

Rockport Village, Rockport
Sold for $1,100,000

MICHELE PEREJDA

Senior Vice President | Broker
207.400.6227
mperejda@legacysir.com
micheleperejda.legacysir.com

Legacy Properties | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Thank you to my valued clients and referral partners.
May the upcoming holiday season be filled with joy and tranquility.

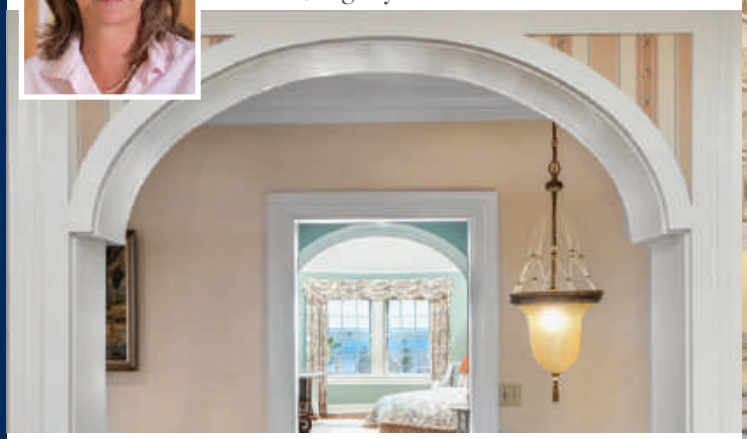
legacysir.com

Legacy Properties | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Connect with LegacySIR

HEIDI STEELE

207.542.4316
hsteele@legacysir.com

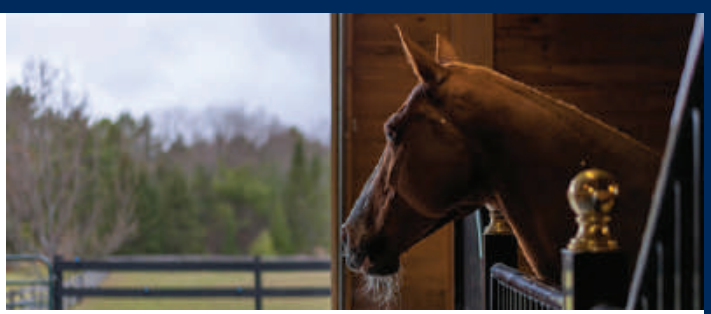


Offered together for the first time, condominium units 47 & 49 comprise the penthouse of the historic Stanford White Manor House, the centerpiece of Eastward on the Ocean. They form a perfect and highly versatile family compound that has been restored to the highest standards with architectural detail and design that flows seamlessly throughout. The main floor is nestled on three sides by a spacious wrap-around deck overlooking Penobscot Bay, a pristine heated pool, brick patio and a picturesque duck pond - every room owns a view. If desired, 47 is an elegant self-contained rental condo.
Virtual tour: lpsir.com/eastward | Offered at $1,295,000

FEATURED LISTING
47/49 Eastward on the Ocean
Rockport

MARIKA CLARK

207.671.6927 | mclark@legacysir.com

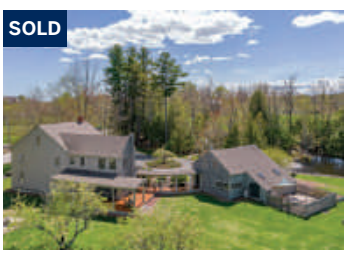


238 HALLOWELL ROAD POWNAL

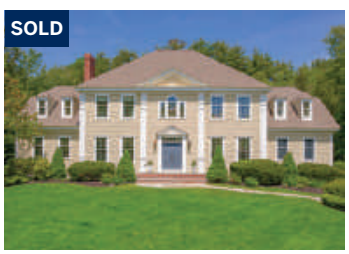
Set in a bucolic countryside setting, this 21 acre equestrian estate features a 5,000 sq ft main house designed by renowned architect Christopher Glass. The exquisite property also includes a carriage house, guest cottage, multiple paddocks and an Olympic-level riding arena. The immaculate stable offers five stalls, with shedrow overhang containing turnouts, ample hay storage, grain room and heated tack room with laundry and bathroom.
Virtual tour: lpsir.com/238hallowell | Offered at $2,695,000


SOLD

520 Ledge Road, Yarmouth
Represented Seller
Sold for $1,312,500


SOLD

170 Cobbs Bridge Rd, New Gloucester
Represented Seller
Sold for $1,575,000


SOLD

19 Mary Lane, Cumberland Foreside
Represented Seller
Sold for $1,595,000


SOLD

55 Boothby Road, Kennebunk
Represented Seller
Sold for $1,795,000

Offices in Portland, Kennebunk, Brunswick, Damariscotta, Camden and Northeast Harbor
Maine's leading luxury and lifestyle property company serving Maine coastal communities from York County to Hancock County as well as Seacoast New Hampshire.

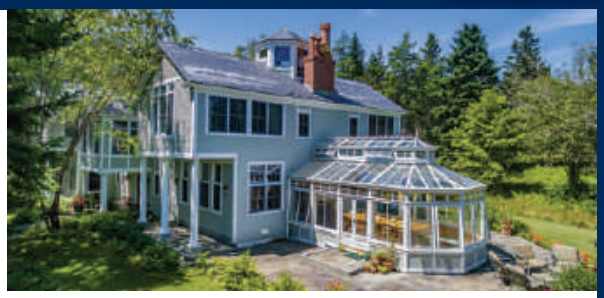
legacysir.com

Legacy Properties | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Connect with LegacySIR

JACQUELINE WHEELWRIGHT

207.449.9442 | jwheelwright@legacysir.com



Luxury Island Listing

254 DREXEL LANE, ISLESBORO

This one-of-a-kind compound on Islesboro has over 3,900 feet of shorefront and a private beach. The stunning 9,000-square-foot main house has countless amenities including eight bedrooms, a swimming pool, a wine cellar, library, and a one-of-a-kind solarium with radiant floor heat and fireplace for enjoying year-round. The separate guest cottage has 3-4 bedrooms, and a rustic heated barn has an upstairs 2-bedroom apartment, offering rental potential or room for large gatherings.

Virtual tour: lpsir.com/254drexellane | *Offered at $4,295,000*

LOIS LENGYEL

207.233.2820 | llengyel@legacysir.com

PAT THATCHER

207.358.9424 | pthatcher@legacysir.com

PROUD TO REPRESENT THE FINEST LUXURY PROPERTIES AND LIFESTYLE OPPORTUNITIES IN MAINE

878 SHORE ROAD, CAPE ELIZABETH

This Joe Waltman-designed, classic New England shingle-style home exudes elegance and grandeur at every turn. Its 9,545 square feet includes four bedrooms, six fireplaces and beautiful balconies with stunning views overlooking 109 feet of private oceanfront along Danforth Cove.

Virtual tour: lpsir.com/878shore | Offered at $5,500,000

141 DAVIS BROOK ROAD, CASCO

This contemporary estate on 55 acres overlooking Crescent Lake is ideal for privacy and entertaining, including a separate in-law apartment and a pool house with kitchen and sleeping loft. The in-ground pool features a waterslide and a hot tub, plus an expansive yard including a patio with a double fireplace.

Offered at $975,000

Offices in Portland, Kennebunk, Brunswick, Damariscotta, Camden and Northeast Harbor

Maine's leading luxury and lifestyle property company serving Maine coastal communities from York County to Hancock County as well as Seacoast New Hampshire.

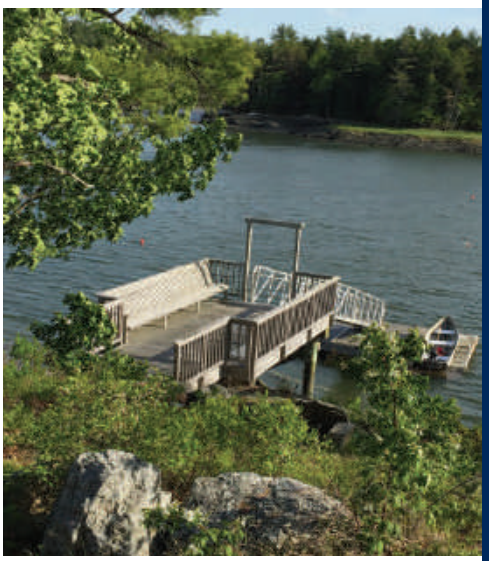
Clarks Point - Waterfront Community

Amenities Include:

- **Deepwater Dock**
- **Community House**
- **Paved Roads**
- **Underground Power**
- **Garden Area**
- **Tennis Court**
- **Walking Trails**
- **Conservation Land**

Turn-Key Build Packages available starting in the mid $400,000's

Centrally located on nearly 200 acre site in Mid-Coast Maine.

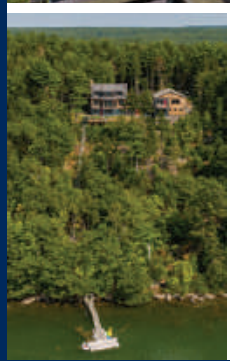


YOUR MAINE REAL ESTATE RESOURCE FOR DISTINCTIVE PROPERTIES

Dennis Duggan
207.522.3747 | dduggan@legacysir.com

Ian Duggan
207.522.8090 | iduggan@legacysir.com

KRISTINA KEANEY
207.756.0475 | kkeaney@legacysir.com



85 HARBOR RIDGE ROAD
WEST BATH

This one-of-a-kind oceanfront oasis located at the convergence of Casco Bay and Midcoast Maine is perched on a cliff 120 feet above its pristine anchorage. A state-of-the-art funicular lowers you down to your private deep water dock, accessing 250 feet of rocky coast-line and the supremely protected Back Cove. Two private deep water moorings are situated just off the dock and are visible from nearly every room. The house offers a total of 6 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and a 3-car garage with a separate guest suite above, and faces due west for spectacular sunsets. The property feels like you are on the Downeast coast, yet only 15 minutes from Brunswick Executive Airport and 45 minutes from Portland. Virtual tour: lpsir.com/85harbor
Video tour: lpsir.com/westbathvideo | Offered at $2,950,000

legacysir.com

Legacy Properties | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Connect with LegacySIR

Alexa Oestreicher

207.329.9307 | alexa@legacysir.com

9 Avon Road, Falmouth Foreside

This charming 3-bedroom/1.5-bath Colonial boasts lovely hardwood floors, living room with wood burning fireplace, dining room, family room and private backyard with deck. Enjoy ocean views of Casco Bay and the islands upon entering the neighborhood. Easy access to trails, boating, shopping, award winning restaurants and Falmouth's top-rated schools and vibrant community! Conveniently located minutes from downtown Portland. Offered at $839,000

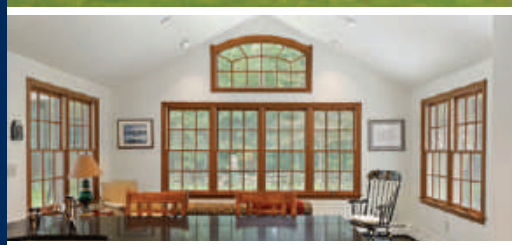
Jan Kovarik

207.641.7064

jkovarik@legacysir.com

Serving Coastal Maine

Connecting Unique Buyers to Extraordinary Spaces in Coastal Maine



FEATURED LISTING

25 Raydon Road, York

Majestic midcentury modern Colonial in the heart of York Village with two sandy beaches less than a mile away. The open concept kitchen is coupled with cathedral ceilings in an adjacent bonus room that overlooks the wonderful deck in the backyard. | Offered at $700,000

RECENT SALE

32 Dewey Road, York

Amazing year-round home with so many possibilities tucked away on a quiet and serene street yet only 1 mile to Long Sands Beach. The spacious home is an oasis of light and air with its cathedral ceilings and an open concept layout. This contemporary Cape has 3+ bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms. Can be used as a fantastic rental (summer weekly and winter monthly) or can be a primary residence with an easy access to all of the surrounding areas. | Sold for $651,500

Offices in Portland, Kennebunk, Brunswick, Damariscotta, Camden and Northeast Harbor

Maine's leading luxury and lifestyle property company serving Maine coastal communities from York County to Hancock County as well as Seacoast New Hampshire.

Tindal & Callahan Real Estate

FEATURED LISTINGS
— IN THE MIDCOAST —

Cross River Home | $895,000
Boothbay, Maine
3 beds | 3 baths

A beautiful approach through the meadow leads to this private and well-landscaped home site, with relaxing outdoor living opportunities and private dock. The 146-acre Ovens Mouth Preserve is walking distance from home and the Cross River's scenic tidal basin features long stretches of undisturbed waterfront and abundant shorebird habitat.

Island Cottage | $1,295,000
Mouse Island, Maine
5 beds | 3.5 baths

A story book setting, delivering the charm and lifestyle of yesteryear, on a private island in Boothbay Harbor. With just three privately owned cottages on Mouse Island, quiet enjoyment of the common amenities, including large wharf and deepwater docks, south-facing beach, tennis court, and rustic waterfront studio buildings, is fulfilling and assured.

Little River Cottage | $599,000
East Boothbay, Maine
3 beds | 2 baths

This bright and airy waterfront cottage with an open concept kitchen, living, and dining area fosters a feeling of togetherness, which may be extended outside onto the large deck perched high above Little River. This home has been thoroughly renovated, including septic system, insulation, plumbing, electrical, heating, roofing, siding, and more.

TindalandCallahan.com | 32 Oak Street, Boothbay Harbor | 207-633-6711 | LuxuryRealEstate.com

REAL ESTATE

WATERFRONT LOT FOR SALE
Premier 1.3-acre residential lot along the shore of the Kennebec River in Dresden, Maine, offering gorgeous views of Swan Island and expansive southerly views downriver. Lot 1 is at the very end of Densmore Lane, a small subdivision of nice homes just downriver from the Richmond/Densmore Rte. 197 bridge. The lot has approximately 260' of shore frontage and is bordered to the east by natural woodlands under conversation easement ensuring peace and privacy with the local wildlife inhabitants. Asking $239,900.
207-446-3057

REAL ESTATE

31 ACRES FOR SALE IN STETSON, MAINE
Dry lot with mixed woods and fields. Gated access road with poles in place. Easy access to Interstate 95 and Bangor. $125,000. Contact dreierkme@yahoo.com

CLASSIFIEDS
are the most economical way to get your message to our readers!

There are a variety of potential categories. From real estate and vacation rentals, to tax and legal services, items for sale by owner, and more.

For more information and to advertise in our classifieds section, call Sally at:

207-594-9544 ext. 440

MY FAVORITE PLACE

BIRTHDAY GUEST
Governor Janet Mills attended a town celebration of Angell's 100th last September, proclaiming it Roger Angell Day in Maine.

ON SAILING THE MIDCOAST
"I've been in dozens and dozens of little anchorages between here and Islesboro. I have this huge chart of the area with about seven large red Xs, where I've hit or scraped bottom."

ON DISPENSING WISDOM AT 101
"We old people, everyone over 90, are used to something we laugh about: people come talk to us, nod and smile, and then totally ignore what we've said."

Roger Angell

PORCH ON WELLS COVE, BROOKLIN

Roger Angell was 12 years old when he first visited Brooklin, on the Blue Hill peninsula, in 1933. That year, his mother, Katharine Sergeant Angell White, and her husband of four years, E. B. White, bought a farmhouse in North Brooklin, a rambling place with a boathouse that seemed to Angell's stepfather like a fine spot for a table and a typewriter. Angell spent a portion of his summers there throughout his adolescence, learning to sail, and he kept on returning into adulthood, as he married, raised a family, and launched a career as a writer and editor, joining the staff of the *New Yorker* in 1956, where both his mother and stepfather had preceded him.

Today, he and his wife, Peggy, spend summers in a 101-year-old, gray-shingled cottage that overlooks Wells Cove and Eggemoggin Reach beyond. Their house, Angell points out, is the same age he is. "It's perfectly built — there isn't a creak or a sag anywhere," he says. "Nothing is giving way, nothing had to be redone. It's just amazing." Until the mid-'70s, Angell and his late wife, Carol, used to rent the cottage. When they asked the owner about buying, she told them it was set aside for a nephew. "Then he showed up once, long divorced and bringing a woman who was not his wife," Angell recalls. "She was so shocked, she let us buy the place."

Angell has written plenty about summers in Brooklin — about his family and neighbors, about the town's cemeteries, Fourth of July parade, and modest yacht club — most recently in *This Old Man*, a collection of essays he published at 95. Much of the book, Angell's 10th, reflects on aging and loss (much of it reflects on baseball, his longtime favorite beat), and it's already considered a classic. Not that Angell spends time considering his legacy. "I've never for a minute thought of what effect my work would have on my posthumous reputation — I just wrote out of interest," he says. "People will read me, and they will also forget me. I'm not looking for immortality."

His favorite place in Maine, he says, would have to be his porch. Twenty yards from the high-water mark, it's hosted generations of family and untold numbers of guests. It's his perch for watching the Eggemoggin Reach Regatta each August. Facing west, it's a particularly sublime place when the sun descends on cloudless afternoons. "At the right time, the way the light hits the row of windows is as beautiful as the light itself," Angell says. "We're constantly standing and admiring the wonder of this old structure." — BRIAN KEVIN

BILL RAY (HEADSHOT)

HEATHER MCGRATH

MY FAVORITE PLACE

BIRTHDAY GUEST
Governor Janet Mills attended a town celebration of Angell's 100th last September, proclaiming it Roger Angell Day in Maine.

ON SAILING THE MIDCOAST
"I've been in dozens and dozens of little anchorages between here and Islesboro. I have this huge chart of the area with about seven large red Xs, where I've hit or scraped bottom."

ON DISPENSING WISDOM AT 101
"We old people, everyone over 90, are used to something we laugh about: people come talk to us, nod and smile, and then totally ignore what we've said."

Roger Angell

PORCH ON WELLS COVE, BROOKLIN

Roger Angell was 12 years old when he first visited Brooklin, on the Blue Hill peninsula, in 1933. That year, his mother, Katharine Sergeant Angell White, and her husband of four years, E. B. White, bought a farmhouse in North Brooklin, a rambling place with a boathouse that seemed to Angell's stepfather like a fine spot for a table and a typewriter. Angell spent a portion of his summers there throughout his adolescence, learning to sail, and he kept on returning into adulthood, as he married, raised a family, and launched a career as a writer and editor, joining the staff of the *New Yorker* in 1956, where both his mother and stepfather had preceded him.

Today, he and his wife, Peggy, spend summers in a 101-year-old, gray-shingled cottage that overlooks Wells Cove and Eggemoggin Reach beyond. Their house, Angell points out, is the same age he is. "It's perfectly built — there isn't a creak or a sag anywhere," he says. "Nothing is giving way, nothing had to be redone. It's just amazing." Until the mid-'70s, Angell and his late wife, Carol, used to rent the cottage. When they asked the owner about buying, she told them it was set aside for a nephew. "Then he showed up once, long divorced and bringing a woman who was not his wife," Angell recalls. "She was so shocked, she let us buy the place."

Angell has written plenty about summers in Brooklin — about his family and neighbors, about the town's cemeteries, Fourth of July parade, and modest yacht club — most recently in *This Old Man*, a collection of essays he published at 95. Much of the book, Angell's 10th, reflects on aging and loss (much of it reflects on baseball, his longtime favorite beat), and it's already considered a classic. Not that Angell spends time considering his legacy. "I've never for a minute thought of what effect my work would have on my posthumous reputation — I just wrote out of interest," he says. "People will read me, and they will also forget me. I'm not looking for immortality."

His favorite place in Maine, he says, would have to be his porch. Twenty yards from the high-water mark, it's hosted generations of family and untold numbers of guests. It's his perch for watching the Eggemoggin Reach Regatta each August. Facing west, it's a particularly sublime place when the sun descends on cloudless afternoons. "At the right time, the way the light hits the row of windows is as beautiful as the light itself," Angell says. "We're constantly standing and admiring the wonder of this old structure." — BRIAN KEVIN

HEATHER MCGRATH

LUNG CANCER DOESN'T WAIT. NEITHER SHOULD YOU.

IT'S WHY WE'VE BUILT THE LARGEST CANCER CARE NETWORK IN THE STATE.

Each year, our state sees far more lung cancer cases than any other type of cancer.

Although that's alarming, it's not without hope. Screening is an effective way to detect cancer early, giving you more time and options in your treatment. Because when it comes to cancer, nothing is more valuable than time.

With multiple convenient screening locations, MaineHealth is increasing your access to preventative care — so you can stay focused on your future.

If you suspect you or a loved one is at risk for lung cancer, it's a good time to start a conversation with your doctor.

SPECIALISTS IN MAKING YOU FEEL SPECIAL.

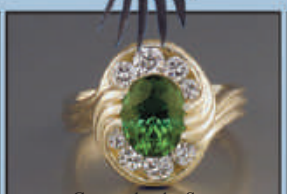
mainehealth.org/lungcancerscreening

MaineHealth
CANCER CARE NETWORK
SUPPORTED BY
THE HAROLD ALFOND® FOUNDATION

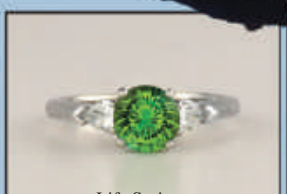
This Christmas
Our store is only
45 seconds away
www.CrossJewelers.com

As the crow flies...

Kennebunkport
G3114.....$19,300

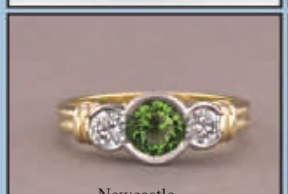


Cottage by the Sea
G2211.....$5,150



Life Spring
G2984.....$3,885

Ancient Celts
G1642.....$3,150

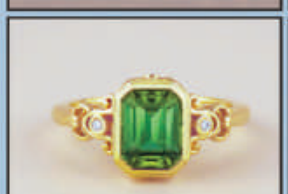


Newcastle
G1691.....$2,950

Crew West
G3288.....$2,485

Empress
G1830.....$6,675

Beacon Hill II
F8848.....$3,695



Isle of Imagination
G2892.....$2,650

Honey Lust, Bee's Path
F9524.....$5,475

Essex
G3113.....$17,300

Hunting Season
F8908.....$9,450

August Green
G1780.....$5,295

Cheshire Cat
G1774.....$13,100

Lady Captain
F8876.....$3,350

Outer Cape

The Good News

We are now open as an online gallery of fine jewelry. Our website with over a 1,000 great jewelry gifts, is rich with stories and the inspiration of the jewelry we make. And yes, our retail store is still closed.

SparHawk

Mint Green Teal Maine Tourmaline

From the front of our building on Congress Street to the SparHawk mine in Maine's Western Mountains is just 28 miles as the crow flies. It's the best active tourmaline mining site in the world today. And yes, what you see above are 16 of our 100 pieces of SparHawk Mint Green Teal Jewelry shown on our website.

Shipping is always Safe, Fast and FREE Anywhere USA

Cross Jewelers Portland Maine

1-800-433-2988 www.CrossJewelers.com

DE11216