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UMaine Extension offers Virtual All About Maine Trees 4-H SPIN Club

03 Jan 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering a Virtual All About Maine Trees 4-H SPIN (SPecial INterest) Club for youth ages 9–16. The club will meet at 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 24 and 31, and Feb. 7, 14 and 22. The program also includes an optional in-person Maple Workshop Day on Feb. 26 in Greenwood. Participants will learn about tree ages and characteristics, and practice tree identification. UMaine Extension maple expert Jason Lilley will lead discussions about the versatility of trees, careers involved with forests and tapping maple trees for syrup. Youth will receive kits in the mail for accompanying hands-on activities, including tree ring counting, tree cookie ornaments, tree identification books, maple candies and maple syrup grading. Register [online](#) by Jan. 12 For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.743.6329 or sara.king@maine.edu.

Maine Science Podcast features Birkel in latest episode

03 Jan 2022

The Maine Science Podcast featured Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and research assistant professor at the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, on its [latest episode](#). In the episode, Birkel discusses his work, which includes creating and managing the [Climate Reanalyzer](#) and supporting The Warming Sea project, and his passion for science. The [podcast](#), a production of the Maine Science Festival, has featured other experts from the UMaine community in previous episodes.

Observer highlights Piscataquis County Extension Association annual meeting

03 Jan 2022

[The Piscataquis Observer](#) highlighted the Piscataquis County Extension Association annual meeting, which will be held at 3 p.m. on Jan. 10. To attend the meeting, which is open to the public, register [online](#).

News Center reports on new 4-H program to help foster new generation of agriculture workers

03 Jan 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported on a new program from University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H that aims to help foster the next generation of farmers and agriculture workers, particularly as the industry faces an aging workforce at a time when the number of formal agricultural programs for high school students is shrinking. Maine 4-H Agricultural Leadership Ambassador Program offers educational experiences for youth ages 14–18 to explore their interest in agriculture. Learn more about the program [online](#).

WBZN notes story about UMaine browntail moth study is among its most popular for 2021

03 Jan 2022

[WBZN](#) (Z107.3 FM) noted that its story titled [“UMaine’s pilot study on the browntail moth could be a game changer”](#) was one of its most popular in 2021.

Smart discusses plant disease diagnostic lab with News Center

03 Jan 2022

Plant pathologist Alicyn Smart spoke to [News Center Maine](#) about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab, which she directs. “This year, we received samples from 11 states. I also carry out research of my own,” Smart said.

Harkins discusses Maine companies bought by national firms

03 Jan 2022

Jason Harkins, associate dean of the Maine Business School at the University of Maine, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the growing number of Maine companies being sold to national firms. Harkins, also an associate professor of management, said a trend of consolidation in which larger organizations acquire local businesses can be seen in more established industries. “Once the market kind of matures and stabilizes, and the business model’s pretty well-known, they tend to move toward a concentrated set of winners with a relatively high percentage of the market,” he said.

NBC News publishes Anderson’s op-ed about what new viking study means for past and future of North America

03 Jan 2022

[NBC News](#) published an op-ed from Joel Anderson, an assistant professor of History at the University of Maine, titled “A major 2021 Viking find from 1021 illuminates North America’s past — and our present.”

Dunn named senior advisor to UMaine president

03 Jan 2022

A University of Maine alumna with 33 years of military service has been named senior advisor for special initiatives, reporting to UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, effective Jan. 3. Retired Brig. Gen. Diane Dunn of Newburgh served as the assistant adjutant general of the Maine Army National Guard. She most recently served a six-month national appointment as deputy commanding general for the U.S. Army North at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Dunn retired from the Maine Army National Guard on Dec. 31. In her new position in the UMaine President’s Office, Dunn will be responsible for tracking, analyzing, and providing consultation and advice on university operational matters, strategic initiatives and policy. Dunn will support the president’s engagement, development, implementation and monitoring of ongoing and new strategic initiatives, such as the President’s Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; UMaine 2025; the University of Maine Machias regional campus; Presidential Fellows program; corporate partnerships and involvement. Highlights of Dunn’s military career include serving as chief of staff of Maine Army National Guard from 2016–20, and as commander of the 286th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion in Bangor, followed by deployment to Afghanistan in 2009. Dunn was the first female general officer in the 200-year history of the Maine Army National Guard. She also was the first female to command a brigade in the Maine Army National Guard. Dunn joined the Maine National Guard in 1988, serving as a traditional member from 1988–97, then becoming a full-time member. During that time, she also was a UMaine assistant professor of military science for three years. She holds a Master of Public Administration from UMaine and a master’s degree in strategic studies from the United States Army War College. Dunn’s daughter, Kayla, is a 2013 UMaine graduate and her son, Marcus, is currently a third-year business major and a UMaine Army ROTC contracted cadet. “We look forward to having Diane back on campus as part of my senior leadership team,” says President Ferrini-Mundy. “Her extensive career experience will continue to benefit Maine through her work for the state’s research university and its regional campus, and collaboration with the University of Maine System.”

Media highlight virtual All About Maine Trees 4-H SPIN Club

04 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Centralmaine.com](#), the [Sun Journal](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H offers a Virtual All About Maine Trees 4-H SPIN (SPecial Interest) Club for youth ages 9–16. Registration is required, and can be done [online](#).

VillageSoup story highlights Winter SustainME workshop

04 Jan 2022

The [VillageSoup](#) highlighted the upcoming Winter SustainME Workshop aimed at providing adults sustainable food harvesting skills Feb. 19 at the University of Maine 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Bryant Pond. SustainME is a program designed by the 4-H Center and Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Register for the program [online](#).

Mette op-ed calling for end to ahistorical education published in BDN

04 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) published an op-ed by Ian Mette, an associate professor of education leadership at the University of Maine, titled “Why education cannot be ahistorical.”

Statement from President Joan Ferrini-Mundy about UMaine's return

13 Jan 2022

University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias President Joan Ferrini-Mundy released a statement about the return to in-person learning this semester.

"The University of Maine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, return for in-person learning and work as planned on Tuesday, Jan. 18," President Ferrini-Mundy says. "UMaine students who have signed up for in-person classes should anticipate being with their professors and peers in the classroom from the start of the semester on Jan. 18. We have the option to pivot briefly to remote and alternative program delivery where we have to in order to manage individualized pandemic concerns, but our priority is delivering the in-person learning our students expect from Maine's flagship university from day one of the spring semester. Learn more at [umaine.edu/return](#)."

Last name	First name	City	State	Country
Abbotoni	Alyssa	Houlton	ME	
Abell	Madeline	Stoneham	MA	
Acharya	Arnav	Biratnagar Bazar		Nepal

Adams	Gabby	Bangor	ME	
Adams	Paige	Bedford	NH	
Adams	Brianna	Kennebunk	ME	
Adams	Abby	Mendon	MA	
Adams	Ileana	Milford	ME	
Adams	Mikayla	North Brookfield	MA	
Adams	Madelyn	Otisfield	ME	
Adams	Jack	Westerly	RI	
Adell	Josh	Gray	ME	
Adetogun	FoFo	Regina		Canada
Agatako	Au-Lionne	Naugatuck	CT	
Agbuya	Kyle	Waldo	ME	
Agneta	Dominic	Windham	ME	
Agor	Quill	Surry	VA	
Aiello	Nick	Nashua	NH	
Aiken	Chloe	Westford	MA	
Albert	Matthew	Bradford	ME	
Alexander	Tessa	Brunswick	ME	
Ali	Ethan	Cumberland Center	ME	
Allard	Alexis	Levant	ME	
Allen	Ryan	Chapel Hill	NC	

Allen	Benjamin	Johnston	RI	
Allen	Paige	Mendon	MA	
Allen	Nick	Minot	ME	
Allen	Gavin	Old Town	ME	
Alley	Ryan	Beals	ME	
Alley	Kenzie	Frankfort	ME	
Alley	Bayleigh	Jonesport	ME	
Alley	Chloe	Whiting	ME	
Allie	Carigan	Saco	ME	
Allison	Josh	Veazie	ME	
Alofs	Grace	Scarborough	ME	
Alofs	Zachary	Scarborough	ME	
Alsamsam	Maher	Bangor	ME	
Alshuwaysh	Hassan	Orono	ME	
Alward	Dustin	Mapleton	ME	
Ambach	Liv	Shrewsbury	MA	
Ambeliotis	Maggie	Peabody	MA	
Ambrosio	Hannah	Northport	NY	
Amendola	Isabella	Westbrook	CT	
Amero	Katelyn	Mapleton	ME	
Ames	Mike	Hollis Center	ME	

Amon	Ashlynn	Yuma	AZ	
Amos	Tyler	New Gloucester	ME	
Andersen	Mike	Beverly	MA	
Andersen	Patty	Durham	NH	
Andersen	Allie	Hewitt	NJ	
Andersen	Kenzie	Plymouth	MA	
Anderson	Payton	East Hartford	CT	
Anderson	Nolan	Newcastle	ME	
Anderson	Liam	Swansea	MA	
Anderson	Luke	Williamsburg	VA	
Andresen	Tyler	West Bath	ME	
Andrew	Colin	Beverly	MA	
Andrews	Cam	New Gloucester	ME	
Androlewicz	Connor	Lewiston	ME	
Apon	Donato	Portland	ME	
Applebee	MaryEllen	Old Town	ME	
Aquadro	Paul	East Dummerston	VT	
Archer	Jakob	Bangor	ME	
Ardell	Emma	Monticello	ME	
Ardito	Ava	Belgrade	ME	
Arend	Holly	Portland	ME	

Arey	Molly	Gorham	ME	
Armitage	Gwenyth	Falmouth	ME	
Armstrong	Isabelle	Falmouth	ME	
Arnold	Corbett	Lincoln	ME	
Arrowsmith	Ethan	Sanford	ME	
Arsenault	Laura	Gray	ME	
Arsenault	Katherine	New Gloucester	ME	
Artkop	Mikayla	Searsmont	ME	
Ashby	Seth	Hallowell	ME	
Ashe	Megan	Colchester	CT	
Ashfield	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Aspinall	Jensen	Thorndike	ME	
Atkinson	Isaac	Marshfield	ME	
Aubin	Tyler	Plaistow	NH	
Aughe	Zach	Clarkston	MI	
Austin	Kaleb	Orono	ME	
Austin	Jay	South China	ME	
Avellar	Sadie	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Avery	Nick	Bradley	ME	
Ayala	Rico	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Aylesworth	Emme	Lake Stevens	WA	

Baber	Georgia	Gorham	ME	
Bacon	Peter	Worcester	MA	
Badstubner	Anna	Shrewsbury	MA	
Bacz-Vazquez	Estephanie	Waterville	ME	
Baiguy	Mikayla	Windham	ME	
Bailey	Madi	Topsham	ME	
Bair	Taylor	Cape Neddick	ME	
Baird	Jake	Colchester	VT	
Bairos	John	Taunton	MA	
Bajracharya	Siddhartha	Kathmandu		Nepal
Baldwin	Anna	Hampden	ME	
Baldwin	Connor	Hollis Center	ME	
Baldwin	Alyssa	Watertown	CT	
Ball	Rileah	West Glover	VT	
Balsley	Kayla	Summit	NJ	
Bamberger	Rae	Brunswick	ME	
Bamford	Hannah	Rochester	NH	
Banks	Grace	Naples	ME	
Banner	Alexis	Port Charlotte	FL	
Bannerman	Ellie	New Sharon	ME	
Baran	Jessica	Providence	RI	

Barboza	Liv	Cumberland	RI	
Bard	Marsha	Winslow	ME	
Barker	Ashley	Levant	ME	
Barnes	Alyssa	West Gardiner	ME	
Barrett	Kaleb	Freeport	ME	
Barry	Nick	Kennebunk	ME	
Bart	Phillip	Bar Harbor	ME	
Barteaux	Will	Bangor	ME	
Bartholomae	Ethan	Jefferson	ME	
Bartlett	Quinn	Carmel	ME	
Bartley	Alexa	Clinton	ME	
Bartow	Evan	Green Lake	WI	
Basile-Maslowe	Jasper	Newton Center	MA	
Bassett	Becca	Auburn	ME	
Bate	Julia	Hermon	ME	
Bates	Aidan	Burrillville	RI	
Bates	Silas	Orono	ME	
Batron	Rebecca	Exeter	ME	
Baubonis	Nick	Bucksport	ME	
Baumann	Jack	Falmouth	ME	

Baur	Alex	Windham	ME	
Bausman	Parker	Arlington	MA	
Beady	Peyton	Weymouth	MA	
Beal	Lilia	Cape Neddick	ME	
Beal	Kaitlin	Gouldsboro	ME	
Beale	Joseph	Topsham	ME	
Beaton	Zachary	Hermon	ME	
Beaucage	Andrew	Waldoboro	ME	
Beaulieu	Mychal	Hampden	ME	
Beaulieu	Caitlyn	Sanford	ME	
Beaulieu	Jaida	Washburn	ME	
Beauregard	Mark	Avon	CT	
Beckshaw	Marie	Haverhill	MA	
Beckwith	Gordon	Lewiston	ME	
Beede	Randy	Bowdoinham	ME	
Belcher	Conor	Hampton	NH	
Belden	Chris	North Billerica	MA	
Bell	Darius	Hamilton		Canada
Bell	Connor	Orono	ME	
Bellavance	Jade	Sanford	ME	
Belleau	Maggie	Lewiston	ME	

Bellenoit	Gamma	West Warwick	RI	
Belolipetskaia	Anna	Saint Petersburg		Russian Federation
Beltz	Alexandra	Sleepy Eye	MN	
Belvin	Morgan	Rochelle Park	NJ	
Bena	Sean	Dexter	ME	
Benard	Chloe	Ludlow	MA	
Bendo	Klei	Tirana		Albania
Benner	Sarah	Farmingdale	ME	
Bennett	Abigail	Brewer	ME	
Bennett	Kenzie	Calais	ME	
Bennett	Grace	Orono	ME	
Benning	Montana	Waterloo	WI	
Bennoch	Connor	West Bath	ME	
Benson	Gabby	Chelsea	ME	
Benson	Emily	Middleboro	MA	
Benson	Gabe	Millinocket	ME	
Benson	Tamra	Turner	ME	
Benson	Bruce	Westfield	MA	
Bent	Lucas	Berwick	ME	
Bentley	Veronica	Quincy	MA	
Bentzinger	Joshua	Camden	ME	

Beressi	Cam	Orono	ME	
Berg	Jillian	Hardwick	NJ	
Bergdoll	Abi	Burnham	ME	
Bergelin	Kevin	Lincolnville	ME	
Berger	Hadley	Camden	ME	
Bergeron	Lucas	Topsham	ME	
Bergonzi	Madeline	Quincy	MA	
Bergstrom	Katie	Brewster	NY	
Berkes	Anna	Winthrop	ME	
Bermeo	Grace	Biddeford	ME	
Bernard	Elizabeth	Hermon	ME	
Bernard	Joe	Uxbridge	MA	
Bernier	Abby	Pittsfield	ME	
Berry	Graham	Ashland	ME	
Berry	Maddy	Gorham	ME	
Bertsch	Thomas	Westerly	RI	
Bess	Evan	Madison	ME	
Best	Kate	Braintree	MA	
Betz	Trixie	Orono	ME	
Beyer	Cyrus	Concord	MA	
Bibula	Christopher	Yarmouth	ME	

Bickford	Will	Belfast	ME	
Bidwell	Jordan	Glastonbury	CT	
Biebel	Jenna	Auburndale	MA	
Bierman	Emmaline	Cherryfield	ME	
Bierman	Samantha	Sorrento	ME	
Bifulco	Hope	Camden	ME	
Bigelow	Sera	Durham	ME	
Bigelow	Ray	Moscow	ME	
Bigelow	Philip	Winslow	ME	
Bilella	James	Penobscot	ME	
Billiter	Mikayla	Hebron	CT	
Bilodeau	Sophie	Veazie	ME	
Bilodeau	Chloe	Westwood	NJ	
Bindell	Scott	Wantagh	NY	
Binette	Gabriella	Bethlehem	CT	
Binette	Joe	Sanford	ME	
Birch	Matthew	Orono	ME	
Birchler De Allende	Ian	Alexandria	VA	
Bisecco	Morgan	North Haven	CT	
Bisson	Adrien	Cornwall		Canada

Bista	Bivek	Damak		Nepal
Black	Isaac	Brooks	ME	
Black	Hayden	Hermon	ME	
Blackie	Layla	Milford	ME	
Blackwell	Peter	Bangor	ME	
Blackwell	Emily	Rockport	ME	
Blair	Madeline	Bethlehem	PA	
Blake	Lily	Liberty	ME	
Blanchard	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Blanchard	Lizzie	Gorham	ME	
Blanchard	Jane	Hallowell	ME	
Blanchard	Grace	Orrington	ME	
Blanchard	Amy	Saco	ME	
Blanchette	Hannah	Fall River	MA	
Blanchette	Jess	Maynard	MA	
Blanchette	Jonny	New Canada	ME	
Bland	Lindsay	Ellsworth	ME	
Blankenship	Forrest	Brunswick	ME	
Blayne	Brye	Missouri City	TX	
Bleakney	Allison	Old Town	ME	
Blier	Ethan	South Portland	ME	

Bloom	Sydney	Scarborough	ME	
Bloom	Josiah	Waterville	ME	
Bocage	Shyne	Tracy	CA	
Bock	Phil	Yarmouth	ME	
Bodkin	Porter	Acton	ME	
Bogner	Molly	Milford	MA	
Bois	Oliver	Hampden	ME	
Bois	Ryleigh	Scarborough	ME	
Boissonneault	Owen	Saco	ME	
Bolduc	Connor	Lewiston	ME	
Bolduc	Andrew	Winslow	ME	
Bolduc	Justin	Winslow	ME	
Bolender	Dan	East Waterboro	ME	
Boles	Ryan	South Portland	ME	
Bolvin	Sam	Skowhegan	ME	
Bonanno	Allie	Burlington	MA	
Bond	Kacie	Blue Hill	ME	
Bonetti	Ashley	Burlington	MA	
Boone	Christian	Glenburn	ME	
Boone	Libby	Presque Isle	ME	
Boos	Meghan	Naples	ME	

Borley	Mia	Dover		United Kingdom
Borodaenko	Danila	Camden	ME	
Boscarino	Adam	West Stockbridge	MA	
Bosse	Jillian	Madawaska	ME	
Bossow	Chloe	Waldoboro	ME	
Bouchard	Emily	Syracuse	NY	
Boucher	Abby	Carmel	ME	
Boucher	Jenna	Greene	ME	
Boucher	Hana	Presque Isle	ME	
Boucher	Valerie	Saint David	ME	
Boucher	Ally	Whitinsville	MA	
Boudreau	Paige	Dayton	ME	
Boudreau	Abby	Westminster	MA	
Boudreaux	Emma	Essex Junction	VT	
Bourett	Claire	Waldoboro	ME	
Bourgeois	Abby	York	ME	
Bourne	Mchale	New Gloucester	ME	
Bourque	Ryan	Benton	ME	
Bourque	David	Biddeford	ME	
Bourque	Casey	Gardiner	ME	
Boutin	Hailey	Lubec	ME	

Boutin	Andrew	Veazie	ME	
Bowden	Hope	Orland	ME	
Bowden	Emma	Orrington	ME	
Bowen	Claire	Hampden	ME	
Bowen	Kate	Norway	ME	
Bowen	Katherine	Rockport	ME	
Bowie	Thom	Orono	ME	
Bowker	Katelynn	Bangor	ME	
Bowman	Shawn	Bear	DE	
Boyd	Danielle	Plymouth Meeting	PA	
Boyer	Colby	Dighton	MA	
Boyes	Chloe	Windham	ME	
Boyle	Zachary	Orono	ME	
Boynton	Brody	Prospect	ME	
Bracher	Evie	Hope	ME	
Bradfield	Lydia	Sidney	ME	
Bradford	Maggi	Standish	ME	
Bradish	Hannah	Lyman	ME	
Bradley	Grace	Chester	CT	
Bradley	William	Stockton Springs	ME	
Bradstreet	Erin	Brunswick	ME	

Bradstreet	Leah	Pittsfield	ME	
Brady	Gabe	Dennysville	ME	
Braga	Haley	Stockton Springs	ME	
Brahan	Christopher	North Sutton	NH	
Brainerd	Nate	Bangor	ME	
Brandt	Adelaide	Limerick	ME	
Braun	Lilly	Portland	ME	
Breazeale	David	Jenison	MI	
Breen	Lynden	Saint John		Canada
Brennan	Alexa	Belgrade	ME	
Brennan	Kyle	Harpswell	ME	
Brennan	Riley	Manasquan	NJ	
Brennan	Noah	Wakefield	MA	
Brennan	Elizabeth	West Chester	PA	
Brenner	Jonathan	Livermore	ME	
Bressette	Gavin	Oakland	ME	
Brewer	Kristen	Monticello	ME	
Brich	Tea	Glenwood	NJ	
Bridges	Kelsey	Hermon	ME	
Bridges	Graham	Wells	ME	
Briggs	Alex	Orono	ME	

Briley	Anna	Old Town	ME	
Brindisi	Sarah	Trumbull	CT	
Brittain	Katie	Wilton	ME	
Broadaway	Taylor	Tulsa	OK	
Brock	Maggie	Waterville	ME	
Broderick	Ava	Lincoln	ME	
Brogan	Maddi	North Attleboro	MA	
Brooks	Mercedes	Exeter	RI	
Brooks	Ben	Monmouth	ME	
Brooks	Cam	Portland	ME	
Broome	Zach	Portland	ME	
Brovender	Nick	Boxford	MA	
Brown	Alex	Bangor	ME	
Brown	Brett	Bangor	ME	
Brown	Ruby	Bar Harbor	ME	
Brown	Joey	Billerica	MA	
Brown	Matt	Clinton	ME	
Brown	Christine	Howland	ME	
Brown	Peta-Gay	Manchester	CT	
Brown	Camryn	Orono	ME	

Brown	Ashley	Richmond	ME	
Brown	Sydney	Saco	ME	
Brown	Sarah	Saint Louis	MO	
Brown	Sydney	Vineyard Haven	MA	
Brown	Kaitlyn	Weare	NH	
Brown	Jon	Wells	ME	
Brown	William	West Enfield	ME	
Brown	Burdette	Whiting	ME	
Bruneski	Dawson	New Norway		Canada
Brunetti	Olivia	Warner	NH	
Brunken	Shannon	Stony Brook	NY	
Brusie	Emma	Hudson	NY	
Bryant	Cole	Farmingdale	ME	
Bryer	Graham	Boothbay	ME	
Bucco	Angelina	Danvers	MA	
Buck	Emma	Howland	ME	
Buck	Luke	Sidney	ME	
Bucknor	Tiana	Milton		Canada
Bui	Morgan	Ottawa		Canada
Bulley	Kenzie	Bangor	ME	
Bunker	Danny	Bucksport	ME	

Bunker	Brian	Gorham	ME	
Burby	Noah	Winterport	ME	
Burgartz	Tim	Orono	ME	
Burgess	James	Carmel	ME	
Burkard	Lauren	Stockton Springs	ME	
Burke	Caitlin	Allentown	NJ	
Burke	Christopher	Norwell	MA	
Burmeister	Rory	Brewer	ME	
Burnell	Jack	Portland	ME	
Burnham	Jaden	Lisbon	ME	
Burns	Andrew	Freeport	ME	
Burns	Delaney	Gorham	ME	
Burrell	Sami	Pownal	ME	
Burris	Brandon	Orono	ME	
Burtis	Max	Brunswick	ME	
Bush	Scout	Blacksburg	VA	
Bush	Clayton	Warren	NJ	
Bushy	Emily	Arthur	ND	
Bustamante	Olivia	Evanston	IL	
Butala	Simon	Downingtown	PA	
Butler	Savy	Orono	ME	

Butler	Brennon	Westford	MA	
Buxton	Brooke	Veazie	ME	
Buzby	Noa	Southampton	PA	
Buzzell	Audrey	Greenbush	ME	
Byorak	Ben	Brewer	ME	
Byrd	Joby	Livermore Falls	ME	
Byrne	Emily	Standish	ME	
Caccese	Anthony	Levant	ME	
Cadorette	Abby	Bangor	ME	
Cako	Ersilda	Vlore		Albania
Caldwell	Ethan	Albion	ME	
Call	Ricco	Newry	ME	
Callaghan	Owen	Dedham	MA	
Callahan	Lily	North Weymouth	MA	
Callahan	Sarah	Salem	MA	
Callahan	Kiely	Standish	ME	
Callahan	Ivalani	Waterboro	ME	
Callahan	Bridget	Wilbraham	MA	
Callanan	Courtney	South Berwick	ME	
Callas	Jacob	Brooks	ME	
Camire	Brooke	Acton	ME	

Camire	Kyle	Winslow	ME	
Campagna	Samantha	York	ME	
Campanella	Sophia	Hollywood	FL	
Campano	Syd	Pepperell	MA	
Campbell	Killian	Kittery	ME	
Campbell	Margaret	San Diego	CA	
Campbell	Aileen	South Portland	ME	
Campbell	Ben	Wells	ME	
Campo	John	Toms River	NJ	
Canale	Marlee	Egg Harbor City	NJ	
Canders	Lily	Brewer	ME	
Canelli	Hailey	Braintree	MA	
Cannell	Wyatt	Readfield	ME	
Cantwell	Ashley	Merrimack	NH	
Cao	Jacob	Sanford	ME	
Capelle	Ashleigh	Hyannis	MA	
Capreri	Anthony	Pennsburg	PA	
Capuzzi	Clare	Morris Plains	NJ	
Carbon	Pius	Mannheim		Germany
Carbone	Emma	Richmond	ME	
Card	Katie	Woolwich	ME	

Cardin	Rooster	Hermon	ME	
Caret	Eli	Oakland	ME	
Cargile	Owen	Westbrook	ME	
Carmichael	Chase	Bucksport	ME	
Carmone	Syerra-Marie	Berkley	MA	
Carney	Isak	Brunswick	ME	
Carney	Ashley	York	ME	
Caron	Meg	Bangor	ME	
Caron	Lydia	Glenburn	ME	
Carpenter	Ken	Hermon	ME	
Carpenter	Erica	Trumbull	CT	
Carrara	Ashley	Brandon	VT	
Carreira	Kat	Eddington	ME	
Carrier	Kylie	Buckfield	ME	
Carrier	Kayla	Burlington	CT	
Carrier	Devon	Calais	ME	
Carriere	Brooke	Orono	ME	
Carroll	Hope	Portland	ME	
Carrolton	Eleanor	Bath	ME	
Carrolton	William	Bath	ME	
Carson	Colton	Bryant Pond	ME	

Carter	Max	Bangor	ME	
Carter	Isaiah	Harrison	ME	
Carter	David	Raynham	MA	
Carter	Jacob	Winthrop	ME	
Cartwright	Joy	Ellsworth	ME	
Cartwright	Sam	Old Town	ME	
Carver	Brandon	Peru	ME	
Casavant	Meg	Mapleton	ME	
Casey	Darby	Bellmawr	NJ	
Casey	Andrea	Tribes Hill	NY	
Casey	Mallory	Turner	ME	
Cashman	Stella	Winterport	ME	
Cassidy	Will	Auburn	ME	
Castillo Garcia	Annabel	Coral Gables	FL	
Castillo Parkman	Kassidy	Falmouth	ME	
Castonguay	Abby	Livermore	ME	
Castro-Rovira	Gabriella	Andover	MA	
Catalano	Jessica	Chicopee	MA	
Catuogno	Angelina	Newport	VT	
Caulfield	Graden	Yarmouth	ME	

Cavalieri	Nick	Malvern	PA	
Cavanagh	Becca	Norwalk	CT	
Caviglia	Nicholas	Fresno	CA	
Cavilla	Robert	Tenaflly	NJ	
Cavo	Maura	Springfield	VA	
Cecelya	Jack	Hudson	MA	
Celani	Lydia	Auburn	ME	
Cellini	Renee	Whitman	MA	
Chabot	Haylee	Saint George	ME	
Chadburn	Autumn	Sabattus	ME	
Chahley	Peyton	Hampden	ME	
Chalande	Christopher	Cape Neddick	ME	
Chalmers	Brooke	Framingham	MA	
Chalmers	Matthew	Framingham	MA	
Chamberland	Andrew	Topsham	ME	
Chambers	Gabriel	Harmony	ME	
Chambers	Brian	Kittery	ME	
Chambers	Caitlin	Topsham	ME	
Champagne	Hail	Lewiston	ME	
Chapin	Emily	Gorham	ME	
Chaplin	Jacob	Blackstone	MA	

Chaplin	Louise	Northeast Harbor	ME	
Chapman	Lauren	Exeter	ME	
Chappelle	Tim	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Chappelle	Christopher	Milford	ME	
Chaput	Sarah	Lewiston	ME	
Chard	Brewster	Topsham	ME	
Charette-LaBreque	Abbey	Bangor	ME	
Charrier	Megan	Sanford	ME	
Chase	Kelsey	Chesapeake	VA	
Chase	Mackenzie	Chesapeake	VA	
Chau	Nhan	Orono	ME	
Chavaree	Alanna	Indian Island	ME	
Chazin-Knox	Kalina	Washington	ME	
Chen	Kiley	Hillsborough	NJ	
Cheney	Sarah	Wilmington	MA	
Chern	Lara	Webster	NH	
Cherry	Haley	Whiting	ME	
Chevarie	Andrew	Leominster	MA	
Chhoeuk	Kimmy	Shrewsbury	MA	
Childs	Sophie	Litchfield	ME	
Childs	Lindsey	Palermo	ME	

Chiruna	Steven	Plymouth	MA	
Choi	Yongjoon	Orono	ME	
Cholod	Caleb	Portland	ME	
Chouinard	Ben	Windham	ME	
Chretien	Noah	Shapleigh	ME	
Christakis	Colby	Gorham	ME	
Christensen	Erin	Brant Rock	MA	
Christian	Logan	Hampden	ME	
Christiansen	Erik	Naples	ME	
Christuk	Catherine	Newbury	MA	
Cielinski	Cameron	Keene	NH	
Ciesielski	Kate	Duxbury	MA	
Cilley	Mike	Chesterville	ME	
Ciola	Jenna	Bethany	CT	
Cirone	Stephen	Jonesport	ME	
Clancey	Tom	Fairfield	CT	
Clark	Saylor	Bedford	NH	
Clark	Sarah	Berlin	NH	
Clark	Syeira	Lancaster	MA	
Clark	Hannah	Mapleton	ME	
Clark	Fisher	New Fairfield	CT	

Clark	Keely	Yucaipa	CA	
Clarke	Tyler	Holden	ME	
Claybaugh	Juliette	Brooklin	ME	
Cleaves	Joseph	Jefferson	ME	
Clement	Evie	Falmouth	ME	
Clement	Libby	Monmouth	ME	
Clements	Lindsay	Newburgh	ME	
Clemons	Hannah	Harpswell	ME	
Clifford	Emery	Benton	ME	
Clifford	Sam	Walpole	MA	
Clifton	William	Marshfield	ME	
Climo	Cassidy	Bradley	ME	
Cline	Tori	Bangor	ME	
Cloutier	Amanda	Brunswick	ME	
Cloutier	Samantha	Readfield	ME	
Clukey	Peter	Portland	ME	
Cobb	Katie	Fairfield	ME	
Cobb	Amelia	Gray	ME	
Cobb	Nicole	Gray	ME	
Cobb	Johnny	Holden	ME	
Cochran	Dakota	North Yarmouth	ME	

Coffey	Devin	Glen Mills	PA	
Coffin	Connor	Scarborough	ME	
Coffin	Jonah	Sudbury	MA	
Coker	Kassidy	Bangor	ME	
Colby	Sadie	Sidney	ME	
Cole	James	Belfast	ME	
Cole	Denise	Taunton	MA	
Coleman	Aiden	Wakefield	MA	
Collard	Braden	Missoula	MT	
Collett	Kylie	Weymouth	MA	
Colley	Libby	Bangor	ME	
Colliver	Elijah	Blacksburg	VA	
Colter	Emily	Hampden	ME	
Combs	Ian	Weare	NH	
Comeau	Alli	Ipswich	MA	
Comeau Duran	Stacey	Glenburn	ME	
Comeau-Waite	Lily	Leeds	ME	
Congdon	Caleb	Kennebunk	ME	
Conley	James	Standish	ME	
Connelly	Chantal	Hampden	ME	
Connolly	Caeli	Elizabethtown	PA	

Connolly	Julia	Kennebunk	ME	
Connor	Mackenzie	Orono	ME	
Conroy	Jordan	Halifax	MA	
Conway	Kjer	Rutland	VT	
Cook	Colby	Amesbury	MA	
Cook	Jacob	Perry	ME	
Cook	Isabella	Scarborough	ME	
Cook	Danielle	Surprise	AZ	
Coombs	Rachel	Randolph	NJ	
Coomey	Rori	Eliot	ME	
Cooper	Mackenzie	Acton	MA	
Cooper	Jocelyn	Boxford	MA	
Corbett	Patrick	Calais	ME	
Cordes	Oz	Porter	ME	
Cormican	Meghan	Quincy	MA	
Cormier	Madeleine	Ipswich	MA	
Cormier	Kettie Rose	Tolland	CT	
Cormier	Paige	Wolcott	CT	
Cornell	Grace	Greenfield Center	NY	
Corradi	Mia	Cheshire	CT	

Cortez	Nicole	Deer Isle	ME	
Cosgrove	Brian	East Greenwich	RI	
Cossar	Casey	Stetson	ME	
Costa	Isabella	Taunton	MA	
Costello	Sarah	Old Town	ME	
Cote	Jacob	Bangor	ME	
Cote	Laura	East Millinocket	ME	
Cote	Cam	Orono	ME	
Cote	Vanessa	Rumford	ME	
Cote	Elaina	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Cotner	Stella	Saint Paul	MN	
Cotroneo	Raist	Bangor	ME	
Cotton	Ben	Glenburn	ME	
Couch	Corinne	Mount Rainier	MD	
Coulombe	Emily	Berlin	NH	
Courser	Madi	Warner	NH	
Courtois	Madi	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Courtois	Logan	Waterville	ME	
Couture	Ethan	Dixfield	ME	
Couture	Brian	South Berwick	ME	
Covino	Ariana	Milford	MA	

Cowan	Katherine	Barnet	VT	
Cowan	Caleb	Madison	ME	
Cowperthwaite	Dendra	Skowhegan	ME	
Cox	Matthew	Bar Harbor	ME	
Cox	Amanda	Hermon	ME	
Cox	Jenna	North Granby	CT	
Coxen	Amber	Dayton	ME	
Craig	Ailsa	Dorchester	MA	
Crapa	Sebastian	Alexandria	VA	
Crapo	Morgan	Orono	ME	
Crawford	Caitlin	New Portland	ME	
Cray	Ashley	Old Town	ME	
Craybas	Evan	Newtown	CT	
Creamer	Mac	Chelsea	ME	
Creamer	Spencer	Cumberland	RI	
Creaser	Max	Auburn	ME	
Credit	Alicia	New Gloucester	ME	
Cremmen	Kelly	Lebanon	ME	
Cringle	Liam	Pittsburgh	PA	
Cripps	Nate	Kennebunk	ME	
Crisci	Joe	East Haven	CT	

Crispin	Crispin	Auburn	ME	
Crone	Jennifer	Orono	ME	
Cronin	Hanna	Methuen	MA	
Cronin	Garrett	York	ME	
Crosby	Kendra	Winthrop	ME	
Cross	Alexander	Bangor	ME	
Crossman	Fallon	Hampden	ME	
Crowder	Mimi	Waterford	MI	
Crowley	Connor	Fairhaven	MA	
Cruz	Aaliyah	Waterville	ME	
Cummings	Julia	Brewer	ME	
Cummings	Brandon	Casco	ME	
Cummings	Kasey	Casco	ME	
Cummings	Brandon	Windham	ME	
Cummings	Connor	Windham	ME	
Cunningham	Erica	Howell	NJ	
Cunningham	Will	Portland	ME	
Cunningham	Alex	Sagamore Beach	MA	
Cunningham	Maya	Stoneham	MA	
Curioli	Laura	Hampden	ME	
Curran	Claire	Pine Island	NY	

Currie	Rissa	Colchester	CT	
Curry	Kalley	Hermon	ME	
Curtis	Victoria	Belfast	ME	
Cusack	Peter	Sanford	ME	
Cushing	Riley	Nobleboro	ME	
Cushman	Grace	Pownal	ME	
Cushman	Biaggio	Raymond	ME	
Cusick	Rebecca	West Warwick	RI	
Cusson	Lauren	Eliot	ME	
Cusumano	Bri	Trumbull	CT	
Cyr	Gabriela	Bangor	ME	
Cyr	Alec	Caribou	ME	
Cyr	Jake	East Waterboro	ME	
Cyr	Devin	Westbrook	ME	
Cyr	Kallie	Westbrook	ME	
Czerwinski	Fred	Bowdoinham	ME	
Czuchra	Nicholas	Searsmont	ME	
D'Ambrosio	Tyler	Queensbury	NY	
D'Arcy	Josh	Salisbury	MA	
Dacey	Ellie	Hampden	ME	
Dacey	William	Hampden	ME	

Dagher	Joseph	Veazie	ME	
Daigle	Andre	Caribou	ME	
Daigle	Alex	Madawaska	ME	
Daigle Thompson	Juliette	Bangor	ME	
Daigneault	Ben	Poland	ME	
Dalton	Elizabeth	Lamoine	ME	
Dalton	Brockton	York	ME	
Daly	Tommy	Bangor	ME	
Daly	Cameron	Brunswick	ME	
Daly-O'Donnell	Galen	Walpole	ME	
Damboise	Oliviah	Old Town	ME	
Daniels	Garrett	Falmouth	ME	
Danis	Justin	North Reading	MA	
Danner	Ben	Waterville	ME	
Darcey	Brenna	Coventry	CT	
Daries	Eve	Brewer	ME	
DaSilva	Chloe	Orono	ME	
Daub	Elyse	Orono	ME	
Davenport	James	Cumberland Center	ME	
Davey	Jocelyn	Burlington	CT	
David	Hunter	Bow	NH	

Davids	Leila	Bangor	ME	
Davie	Maxwell	Bennington	NH	
Davies	Kristin	Groveland	MA	
Davis	Gwen	Bangor	ME	
Davis	Sam	Belfast	ME	
Davis	Nate	Freeport	ME	
Davis	Elizabeth	Gray	ME	
Davis	Jinny	Jonesboro	ME	
Davis	Caroline	Kenduskeag	ME	
Davis	Jennifer	Kingfield	ME	
Davis	Kaylin	Livingston	CA	
Davis	Amanda	Middleboro	MA	
Davis	Taylor	South Portland	ME	
Davis	Holly	South Weymouth	MA	
Davison	Katie	Charlton	MA	
Davison	Emily	North Waterboro	ME	
Dawe	Adam	Gander		Canada
Dawson	Naomi	Old Town	ME	
Day	Matthew	Garland	ME	
De Jesus	Jaira Mariz	Summit	NJ	

De Lorenzi	Jack	Portland	ME	
de Souza	Jamie	Old Town	ME	
De Vries	Livia	Fryeburg	ME	
Dean	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Dean	Sophie	Keene	NH	
Dean	Jenny	Madison	ME	
Debeauchamp	Jazmine	Brandenburg	KY	
DeBlois	Brandon	Smithfield	RI	
DeBoer	Staci	Waterville	ME	
Decker	Isabelle	Chesterville	ME	
Deer	Savanna	Franklin	MA	
Deighan	Hannah	Beverly Hills	MI	
Delaney	Jamie	Limington	ME	
Delaney	Drew	Livermore	ME	
Delaney	Arianna	Mansfield	MA	
Delano	Allie	Mansfield	MA	
Delano	Chloe	Portland	ME	
Deleard	Fed	Hancock	ME	
Delile	Zack	Clinton	ME	
DelMonico	Justin	North Andover	MA	
Delmonte	Sarah	West Brookfield	MA	

Delorge	Michael	Saco	ME	
DelVecchio	Kellie	Exeter	RI	
DeMarte	Venae	Naperville	IL	
DeMerchant	Dylan	Bath	ME	
DeMoura	Ethan	Berwick	ME	
Denbow	Emma	Harrington	ME	
Denico	Aubrey	Standish	ME	
Denico	Sadie	Standish	ME	
DeRosby	Bryce	Hampden	ME	
Desbois	Eric	Orono	ME	
Deschenes	Jeffrey	Amesbury	MA	
DeSimone	Grace	Waterboro	ME	
Desjardins	Erica	Bangor	ME	
Desjardins	Luca	South Portland	ME	
Desjardins	Makayla	Wallagrass	ME	
Desmond	Evan	Stockholm	ME	
Desmond	Evan	Windham	ME	
Dever	Griffin	Bath	ME	
Devers	Finn	North Attleboro	MA	
Dexter	Troy	New Gloucester	ME	
DiBiase	Lauren	South Portland	ME	

Dickson	Evan	Arundel	ME	
Didonato	Aidan	Wendell	MA	
DiFilippo	Ally	Essex Fells	NJ	
DiFrumolo	David	Woburn	MA	
DiGirolamo	Emma	Belgrade	ME	
DiGirolamo	Jack	Belgrade	ME	
DiLeo	Annalisa	Brookfield	CT	
Dill	Zack	Milford	ME	
Dimek	Isabel	Dixmont	ME	
Dimick	Hannah	Gorham	ME	
Dimock	Nate	Madison	ME	
Dimond	Lucas	Topsham	ME	
Dineen	Maeve	Beverly	MA	
Dingley	Rachel	Hebron	CT	
Dionne	Colby	Raymond	ME	
DiSpirito	Dominique	Woonsocket	RI	
Dix	Nathan	Gorham	ME	
Dixon	Elliot	Albion	ME	
Dixon	PhilAnn	Wallingford	PA	
Dodge	Amanda	Gilbertsville	PA	
Dodge	Lindsey	Orono	ME	

Dodge	Sarah	Orono	ME	
Doering	Tre	Webster	MA	
Doherty	Anthony	Braintree	MA	
Doherty	Liam	Brunswick	ME	
Doiron	Rhiannon	Orono	ME	
Doliber	Tyler	Acton	ME	
Domin	Natalie	Freeport	ME	
Donovan	Shane	Dorchester Center	MA	
Donovan	Emma	Quebec		Canada
Doody	Janell	Corinth	ME	
Doore	Georgia	Brewer	ME	
Dore	Becky	Grantham	NH	
Dorey	Sarah	Dedham	ME	
Dorr	Erin	Stockton Springs	ME	
Dostie	Alec	Bristol	NH	
Doucette	Logan	Bradley	ME	
Doughty	Ian	Union	ME	
Doughty	Katie	Winslow	ME	
Douin	Kyle	Augusta	ME	
Dow	Ian	Manchester	ME	
Downes	Lena	Belfast	ME	

Downing	Emma	Orono	ME	
Downing	Patrick	Stillwater	ME	
Doyle	Kellen	Orono	ME	
Doyle	Phelan	South Portland	ME	
Doyle	Kaitlyn	Windham	NH	
Drage	Aidan	Wiscasset	ME	
Dray	Andrew	Marlborough	MA	
Drew	Freya	Lafayette	NJ	
Drexler	Ashley	Orono	ME	
Drinkert	Daisy	Orono	ME	
Driscoll	Ryan	Eliot	ME	
Dritschilo	Hannah	Brunswick	ME	
Drobot	A.J.	Southampton	PA	
Drumm	Emilyann	Oxford	ME	
Duarte	Henry	Brentwood	NH	
Dubay	Jake	Old Town	ME	
Dube	Brady	Orrington	ME	
Dube	Avery	Windham	ME	
Dubuc	Samuel	Windham	ME	
Dudley	Paige	Sidney	ME	
Duffield	Charlie	Center Harbor	NH	

Dulac	Chantel	Lewiston	ME	
Dumas	Mitch	Stillwater	ME	
Dumont	Noah	Wolcott	CT	
Dunbar	Ashton	Lee	ME	
Dunham	William	Scarborough	ME	
Dunlap	Emily	Old Town	ME	
Dunn	Ana	HOLDEN	ME	
Dunn	Vanessa	Wiscasset	ME	
Dunnock	Megan	Hanover	PA	
Dunphy	Ashley	Hermon	ME	
Dunton	Dyllon	Bangor	ME	
Dupler	Jessica	Kennebunkport	ME	
Duplisea	Christopher	Old Town	ME	
Duplissie	Aubrey	Brewer	ME	
Dupuis	Darby	Hooksett	NH	
Dupuis	Peter	Northbridge	MA	
Durall	Ashley	Weston	MA	
Durand	Donovan	Minneapolis	MN	
Durkee	Olivia	Old Town	ME	
Durocher	Sarah	Buxton	ME	

Dustin	Adam	Bowdoin	ME	
Dustin	Bram	Hebron	ME	
Dutton	Juliette	Derry	NH	
Dwelley	Lynn	Lincoln	ME	
Dyer	Alex	Buxton	ME	
Dyer	Sarah	Winterport	ME	
Dyer	Hannah	Worcester	MA	
Dziewietin	Meryl	Worcester	MA	
Eason	Alex	Mount Desert	ME	
Easterbrooks	Phillip	Winthrop	ME	
Eastlack	Lauren	Rangeley	ME	
Eastman	Gunnar	Bangor	ME	
Eastman	Madison	Wells	ME	
Eberle	Charles	Califon	NJ	
Economy	Sara	Hampden	ME	
Edgecomb	Brooke	Scarborough	ME	
Edgerly	Emily	Madison	ME	
Edwards	Julian	Freeport	ME	
Edwards	Colin	Harrison	ME	
Edwards	Madison	South Salem	NY	
Eldredge	Michaela	South Dennis	MA	

Elhefnawi	Mustafa	Bangor	ME	
Ellis	Colby	Kennebunk	ME	
Elsemore	Lauren	South Portland	ME	
Emanuel	Will	Falmouth	ME	
Emerson	Carter	Hampden	ME	
Emerson	Emily	Topsham	VT	
Emerson	Mackenzie	Waldoboro	ME	
Emond	Brynn	Wales	ME	
Enck	Abby	Gorham	ME	
English	Kate	Ledyard	CT	
Enos	Kya	Taunton	MA	
Erb	Christopher	Readfield	ME	
Erikson	Theo	Orono	ME	
Erlandson	Tatum	Orono	ME	
Ernenwein	Max	York	ME	
Eshleman	Will	Norway	ME	
Estrach	Liron	Old Town	ME	
Esty	Colby	Skowhegan	ME	
Ettinger	Andrew	Hollis Center	ME	
Evangelista	Danika	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Evangelista	Jaclyn	Stoughton	MA	

Evans	Amelia	Chelsea	ME	
Evans	Avery	Virginia Beach	VA	
Evans-Ralston	C.J.	Oxford	PA	
Everett	Alexis	Chelsea	ME	
Facey	Rushanne	Ellsworth	ME	
Faherty	Kaylee	Scarborough	ME	
Fahey	James	Bangor	ME	
Fahey	Cedric	Orono	ME	
Falcone	Frankie	Pembroke	MA	
Falkner	Chloe	Standish	ME	
Fallon	Caitlyn	Warwick	RI	
Fargo	Allie	Key Largo	FL	
Farischon	Nicholas	Lafayette	NJ	
Farnham	Matt	Hermon	ME	
Farnsworth	Jordan	Princeton	MA	
Farrell	Jilleon	Manchester	ME	
Farrell	Erin	Saco	ME	
Farrington	Koby	Lincoln	ME	
Farris	Kenny	Stow	MA	
Farrow	Max	Orono	ME	
Faulkingham	Hannah	Hillsborough	NH	

Faulkner	Maddie	Holden	ME	
Favreau	Gretchen	Falmouth	ME	
Fay	Sophia	Belfast	ME	
Fazendin	Carly	Sarasota	FL	
Fecteau	Zachery	Westbrook	ME	
Feely	Michael	South Portland	ME	
Feeney	E.	Winthrop	ME	
Feero	Kyle	Alton	ME	
Feid	Julia	North Attleboro	MA	
Feierbergs	Kristians	Riga		Latvia
Fein	Gabe	Fayette	ME	
Feinstein	Molly	Merion Station	PA	
Feix	Jon	Bangor	ME	
Felix	Julia	Oak Bluffs	MA	
Fennelly	Meg	Bethlehem	CT	
Fenwick	Hailey	Kingfield	ME	
Ferland	Myla	Rockland	ME	
Fernandez	Grace	Carmel	IN	
Ferreira	Will	Orono	ME	
Ferreira	Aalliyah	Portland	ME	
Ferrell	Hannah	Bucksport	ME	

Ferrell	Fiona	Falmouth	ME	
Ferri	Cassie	Springfield	MA	
Festa	Gregg	Oakland	NJ	
Fetcho	Maya	North Easton	MA	
Fetha	Allison	Hermon	ME	
Fielding	Callie	Raymond	ME	
Filer	Collette	Bangor	ME	
Findley	Beca	Seymour	CT	
Fine	Ryan	Germansville	PA	
Finlay	Morgan	Windsor	CT	
Finley	Grace	Kittery	ME	
Fiore	Alexiis	Portland	ME	
Firkin	Kieran	Orono	ME	
Firstenberg	Jessica	Marlton	NJ	
Firth	Connor	Vienna	ME	
Fisher	Abigail	Auburn	ME	
Fisher	Zoe	Beverly	MA	
Fisher	Sam	Pembroke	NH	
Fisher	Charlotte	Township of Washington	NJ	
Fitch	Elijah	Liberty Hill	TX	
Fitts	Madison	Pittsfield	ME	

Fitzgerald	Colin	Lititz	PA	
Fitzgerald	Brendan	Mansfield	MA	
Fitzgerald	Patrick	Millville	MA	
Fitzjurls	Shannen	Bangor	ME	
Fitzpatrick	James	Dayton	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Emma	Fayette	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Conor	Mansfield	MA	
Flaherty	Rory	Braintree	MA	
Flannery	Michael	Concord	MA	
Flannery	Zachary	Hampden	ME	
Fleischner	Leah	Trumbull	CT	
Fleming	Patrick	Enfield	CT	
Fletcher	Madyson	East Falmouth	MA	
Flight	Jared	Woburn	MA	
Flint	Sam	Danvers	MA	
Flubacher	Riley	Winter Harbor	ME	
Flubacher	Tara	Winter Harbor	ME	
Flynn	Faith	Culpeper	VA	
Flynn	Kate	Lee	NH	
Fogg	Kate	Dedham	ME	

Foglio	Sam	Shapleigh	ME	
Foglio	Evan	Waterboro	ME	
Foley	Morgan	Hopedale	MA	
Fonger	Emma	Jackson	ME	
Fonger	Morgan	Jackson	ME	
Fontaine	Bronte	Brunswick	ME	
Ford	Ethan	Appleton	ME	
Ford	Colleen	Camden	ME	
Foreman	Haley	Portland	ME	
Forgue	Clay	Winthrop	ME	
Fosgate	Jeffrey	Lyman	ME	
Foster	Margo	Newport Center	VT	
Foster	Olivia	Wolcott	VT	
Fountain	Alex	Liberty	ME	
Fournier	Blaise	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Foust	Sarah	Pittston	ME	
Fox	Conor	Freeport	ME	
Fox	Jette	Glen Allen	VA	
Fox	Matt	Monmouth	ME	
Fox	Claudia	Owls Head	ME	
Foye	Eliza	Eliot	ME	

Fracassa	Lauren	Warwick	RI	
Frager	Laini	Portland	ME	
Frahn	Spencer	Auburn	ME	
Francis	Landyn	Bangor	ME	
Francis	Sade	Hampden	ME	
Francis-Mezger	Dominic	Searsport	ME	
Franco	Matthew	East Setauket	NY	
Franey	Kyra	Pittston	ME	
Frank	Josh	South Portland	ME	
Fraser	Caitlin	Brewer	ME	
Fraser	Jesse	Rockport	ME	
Fraser	Caiden	West Bath	ME	
Frasier	Kara	Sanford	ME	
Frazer	Devin	Danbury	NH	
Frechette	Amren	Windham	ME	
Fredericks	Mason	Brewer	ME	
Freedman	Emily	Portland	ME	
Freeman	Julia	Scarborough	ME	
Fremouw	Kell	Orono	ME	
French	Jasmine	New Gloucester	ME	
French	Nathaniel	Stow	MA	

French	Rebecca	Topsham	ME	
Fritz	Sam	Georgetown	MA	
Frost	Stephanie	Bangor	ME	
Frost	Noah	Caribou	ME	
Fuller	Megan	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Fuller	Grace	Weymouth	MA	
Furlong	Julia	Weymouth	MA	
Furtado	Michael	Coventry	RI	
Gabbard	Lauren	East Hampton	NY	
Gadsby	Gabby	Blue Hill	ME	
Gagne	Alyssa	Minot	ME	
Gagner	Toni	Baileyville	ME	
Gagnon	Alec	Brewer	ME	
Gagnon	Emily	Medway	ME	
Gagnon-Victor	Eliott	Ellsworth	ME	
Gaines	Susannah	Lexington	MA	
Galgano	Sierra	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Gallagher	Colin	Bangor	ME	
Gallego	Paula	L'Hospitalet de Llobregat		Spain
Gallup	Kyla	Portland	ME	
Ganc	Ava	Troy	NY	

Ganzel	Autumn	Linneus	ME	
Garcia	Alyssa	Colchester	VT	
Gardner	Marlowe	Ambler	PA	
Garfein	Laura	Walnut Creek	CA	
Gariepy	Evan	New Prague	MN	
Garrison	Sydney	Mars Hill	ME	
Gasper	Katie	Mount Vernon	ME	
Gassman	Danielle	Kennebunk	ME	
Gates	Ethan	Greene	ME	
Gates	Jordyn	South Paris	ME	
Gauvin	Emile	Burien	WA	
Gay	John	Jeannette	PA	
Gaynor	Joseph	Sandown	NH	
Gebhart	Kennedy	Bangor	ME	
Gebreselassie	Alazar	Old Town	ME	
Gehrisch	Anastasia	Barrington	IL	
Geiger	Kenyon	Carmel	ME	
Geis	Bennet	Camden	ME	
Geiser	Jennah	Brewer	ME	
Geiser	Nick	Holden	ME	
Gelb	David	Manalapan	NJ	

Gellis Morais	Bell	Montevideo		Uruguay
Gendreau	Nate	Gray	ME	
Genereux	Adam	Sanford	ME	
Geng	David	Scarborough	ME	
Genoter	Melissa	Townsend	MA	
Genrich	Jonathan	Bar Harbor	ME	
Gentle	Keegan	Houlton	ME	
George	Taylor	Kittery	ME	
Gerace	Michael	Bel Air	MD	
Gerencer	Alex	Carrabassett Valley	ME	
Gernhard	Maddy	Spring	TX	
Gerrie	Elyana	Corinna	ME	
Gervais	Mikki	Sabattus	ME	
Gessner	Bridget	Huntingdon Valley	PA	
Gibbons	Emma	Orono	ME	
Gichana	Maria	North Andover	MA	
Giguere	Jaimie	Orono	ME	
Gil	Jason	Sanford	ME	
Gil	Annika	South China	ME	
Gilgan	Chelsea	Bangor	ME	
Gill	Madeline	Moorestown	NJ	

Gill	Avani	Surrey		Canada
Gillespie	Ethan	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Gillis	Kenzie	Glenburn	ME	
Gilman	Madi	West Enfield	ME	
Gilmore	Lydia	Bangor	ME	
Gilmore	Callie	Marshfield	MA	
Gilpatric	Riley	Auburn	ME	
Gingras	Rowan	Brookline	NH	
Ginsburg	Max	Attleboro Falls	MA	
Glass	Ryan	Topsham	ME	
Glatter	Sarah	Orono	ME	
Gleason	Gavin	Beverly	MA	
Gleason	Devon	Winslow	ME	
Glick	Joshua	Longmeadow	MA	
Glover	Emma	Cheshire	CT	
Glueck	Molly	Waterville	ME	
Goldman	Luke	Toms River	NJ	
Gomez	Alo	Dorchester	MA	
Gomm	Makenzie	Bradley	ME	
Goncalves Da Silva	Luiz	Malden	MA	

Gonsalves	Joe	Foxboro	MA	
Gonzalez	Derrick	Secaucus	NJ	
Gonzalez Merrill	Angel	Skowhegan	ME	
Goodale	Jesse	Lincolnton	ME	
Goodenough	Turner	Eliot	ME	
Goodman	Connor	Miami Beach	FL	
Goodrich	Matthew	Winterport	ME	
Goodwin	Drew	Bass Harbor	ME	
Gordesky-Hooper	Tovin	Burlington	VT	
Gordon	Drew	Litchfield	ME	
Gosline	Hannah	Waterville	ME	
Gosselin	Brandon	Augusta	ME	
Gosselin	Avery	Burnham	ME	
Gosselin	Luke	Saco	ME	
Gould	Tim	Riverview		Canada
Gould	Rhiannon	Washington	ME	
Goulet	Hanna	Springvale	ME	
Goulette	Joey	York	ME	
Grace	Emma	Rockville Centre	NY	
Graham	Grace	Cary Plantation	ME	
Grant	Alli	Berwick	ME	

Grant	Katelyn	Orrington	ME	
Grant	Emalee	Union	ME	
Graves	Chance	Newport	ME	
Gray	Jasmine	La Mirada	CA	
Greaney	Bella	Dedham	MA	
Greco	Avery	Lewiston	ME	
Greeley	Emily	Kingston	MA	
Green	Wyatt	Augusta	ME	
Greene	Megan	Calais	ME	
Greenlaw	Kathleen	Bangor	ME	
Greenlee	Amelia	Cumberland Center	ME	
Greenwood	James	Lewiston	ME	
Gregory	Jasmine	Winslow	ME	
Grey	Sam	Plymouth	MA	
Griffin	Eric	Brewer	ME	
Griffin	Brenda	Wells	ME	
Griffith	Juliet	Burke	VA	
Griffith	William	Maplewood	NJ	
Griffith	Adeline	Orono	ME	
Griffith	Matthew	Stillwater	ME	
Griffiths	Eva	Portland	ME	

Grindle	Riley	Ellsworth	ME	
Grogan	Leann	Orono	ME	
Groom	Kaycie	Peabody	MA	
Grous	Emma	Ashford	CT	
Grover	Ethan	Bangor	ME	
Gruitch	Alex	Englewood	CO	
Grunwald	Abigail	Port Matilda	PA	
Guarnieri	Martin	Belgrade	ME	
Guerrette	Nickolas	Caribou	ME	
Guerrette	Ronald	Caribou	ME	
Guidi	Dan	Bangor	ME	
Guillemette	Gabrielle	Lyman	ME	
Gundermann	Sara	Palmyra	PA	
Gunster	Brennan	Duxbury	MA	
Gurney	Lauren	Shelter Island Heights	NY	
Gushue	Niall	Raymond	ME	
Gutheinz	Izzy	Camden	ME	
Guy	Henry	Worthington	OH	
Gylstorff	Caroline	Risskov		Denmark
Ha	Tiffany	Gray	ME	
Ha	Trizzie	Gray	ME	

Hadley	Zoe	Miami	FL	
Hagarman	Sydney	Old Town	ME	
Haggerty	Jillian	Houlton	ME	
Halana	Ibrahim	Portland	ME	
Hale	Glenice	Bangor	ME	
Hale	Molly	Cumberland Center	ME	
Haley	Caitlin	Plymouth	MA	
Haley	Emily	Portland	ME	
Hall	Chappy	Brunswick	ME	
Hall	Kayla	Eagle River	AK	
Hall	Danielle	Sidney	ME	
Hallagan	Isabelle	Falmouth	ME	
Halliday	Jason	Falmouth	ME	
Halpern	Gabby	Goffstown	NH	
Ham	Melissa	Teaticket	MA	
Hamer	Evan	Scarborough	ME	
Hamilton	Erik	Monroe	ME	
Hamilton	Jess	Worcester	MA	
Hamlin	Luke	Searsmont	ME	
Hammill-Nordfors	Camryn	Bangor	ME	
Hammond	Caroline	Auburn	ME	

Hammond	Nick	Lyman	ME	
Hand	Jessica	Chelmsford	MA	
Handley	Makenzie	Bangor	ME	
Hanington	Sarah	Lincoln	ME	
Hanks	Lily	Dudley	MA	
Hanlon	Madeline	North Smithfield	RI	
Hanna	Mackenzie	Lamoine	ME	
Hannan	Lauren	East Brunswick	NJ	
Hanscom	Emily	Bethel	ME	
Hanselmann	Steve	Sanford	ME	
Hansen	Mitchell	Redwood City	CA	
Hanson	Trevor	Diamond	IL	
Harakles	Lila	Scarborough	ME	
Harden	Ian	Augusta	ME	
Harder	Katie	Orono	ME	
Harding	Seth	Biddeford	ME	
Harding	Brady	Howland	ME	
Harding	Courtney	Presque Isle	ME	
Hardison	Kaori	Orono	ME	
Hardy	Amy	Deer Isle	ME	
Hardy	Caitlyn	Exeter	ME	

Hargesheimer	Evan	Portland	ME	
Hargrove	Hannah	Sidney	ME	
Harmatys	Grace	Livermore	ME	
Harmon	Danielle	Lincoln	RI	
Harper	Luke	Madison	ME	
Harper	Sam	Madison	ME	
Harrenstein	Annabella	Plympton	MA	
Harriman	Parker	Bangor	ME	
Harrington	Emalee	Bethel	ME	
Harrington	Jack	York	ME	
Harris	Rachel	Bangor	ME	
Harris	Anthony	Nazareth	PA	
Harris	Wyatt	Scarborough	ME	
Harris	Dorothy	Sinclair	ME	
Harris	Shailey	Windham	NH	
Hart	Chloe	Orrington	ME	
Hart	John	Shirley	MA	
Hart	Cooper	Waterville	ME	
Harthorne	Wyatt	Dyer Brook	ME	
Hartley	Madisyn	Pittsfield	ME	

Hartley	Sofia	Poland	ME	
Hartmann	Emily	Sparta	IL	
Hartt	Bill	Carmel	ME	
Harvey	Alexa	Durham	ME	
Harwood	Tyler	Brewster	MA	
Harzewski	Matt	Dixmont	ME	
Hase	Zachary	Buxton	ME	
Hasselbaum	Cam	Bellingham	MA	
Hatt	Arianna	Lovell	ME	
Haufler	Morgan	Whitman	MA	
Haughton	Dylan	Bangor	ME	
Haverty	Erin	Fitchburg	MA	
Hawkins	Courtney	Brewer	ME	
Hayden	Amelia	Surry	ME	
Hayes	Anna	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Hayes	Michael	New Hyde Park	NY	
Hayes	Aidan	North Yarmouth	ME	
Hayes	Kenzie	Presque Isle	ME	
Haynes	Jarred	Westbrook	ME	
Hays-Peterson	Katrina	Syracuse	NY	
Hayward	Riley	Farmingdale	ME	

Hayward	Tatum	Scarborough	ME	
Hazlewood	Jaclyn	Westbrook	ME	
Heartquist	Jacob	Lowell	MA	
Hebda	Owen	Rehoboth	MA	
Hebert	Katharynne	Chepachet	RI	
Hebert	Ben	Madawaska	ME	
Hebert	Keri	Madawaska	ME	
Hebert	Branden	Presque Isle	ME	
Hebert	Bobby	Scituate	MA	
Hebert	Cheyenne	Stockton Springs	ME	
Heichel	Jackson	Croton on Hudson	NY	
Heikkinen	Kaisa	Paris	ME	
Heiser	Emma	Saint James	NY	
Helfen	Kaitlyn	Brewer	ME	
Helinski	Mina	Whitinsville	MA	
Hembree	Tamara	Holden	ME	
Henderson	Reed	Gorham	ME	
Henderson	Savanah	Las Vegas	NV	
Henderson	Isabel	Orono	ME	
Hendricks	Shea	Falmouth	ME	
Henning	Olivia	Lewes	DE	

Hepler	Ada	Orono	ME	
Herbert	Maddie	Westbrook	ME	
Hernandez	Kay	Newburgh	NY	
Hersey	Mickey	Brewer	ME	
Hershbine	Nicholas	Exeter	ME	
Herzig	Elizabeth	Colrain	MA	
Hess	Jordan	Orono	ME	
Heyland	Jared	Newington	NH	
Heyse	Marybeth	Bangor	ME	
Hickey	Lauren	Westbrook	CT	
Hickey	Allyssa	Winthrop	ME	
Hicks	Adam	Marshfield	MA	
Higgins	Alex	Skowhegan	ME	
Hild	Oliver	Hiram	ME	
Hill	Archer	Bar Harbor	ME	
Hill	Delia	Winterport	ME	
Hillgraf	Max	Portland	ME	
Hills	Emily	Searsmont	ME	
Hills	Olivia	Searsmont	ME	
Hills	Julia	Windham	ME	
Hinds	Hayley	Windsor	ME	

Hines	Kelsey	Eddington	ME	
Hinz	Jacob	Austin	TX	
Hipsky	Erika	Blue Hill	ME	
Hisakawa	Maho	Camden	ME	
Hixon	Noah	Orono	ME	
Ho	Dylan	Westbrook	ME	
Hobson	Kat	Phoenix	AZ	
Hodgdon	Aurora	Sanford	ME	
Hodgdon	Chloe	South Paris	ME	
Hodgkins	Luke	Jefferson	ME	
Hodgkins	Desiree	Westbrook	ME	
Hodgkins	Molly	Windham	ME	
Hodson	Julianna	Pittsfield	NH	
Hodson	John	Wiscasset	ME	
Hoenshell	Cathryn	Littleton	MA	
Hogan	Jack	Saunderstown	RI	
Hogg	Kayleigh	Palmyra	PA	
Hokanson	Devon	Leominster	MA	
Holbrook	Sam	South Portland	ME	
Holbrook	Jacob	Southington	CT	
Hollander	Evan	Blackstone	MA	

Holm	Zach	Amston	CT	
Holmes	Nathaniel	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Holmes	Xavier	Clarksburg	MD	
Holmes	Ashley	Waldoboro	ME	
Holmes	Alex	Winterport	ME	
Holst-Grubbe	Nathan	Middlebury	CT	
Holt	Logan	Belgrade Lakes	ME	
Holt	Chase	Cape Neddick	ME	
Holt	Allison	South Portland	ME	
Holubcova	Tereza	Praha		Czech Republic
Holyoke	Lauren	Holden	ME	
Homa	MacKenna	Westbrook	ME	
Hood	Emma	Old Town	ME	
Hopp	Zach	Maple Grove	MN	
Horne	Joe	Berwick	ME	
Hornschild-Bear	Liam	Freeport	ME	
Horowitz	Rebekah	Bangor	ME	
Horr	Ellie	Brewer	ME	
Horton	Molly	North Yarmouth	ME	
Horvath	Sarah	Danielson	CT	
Hoskins	Devin	Topsham	ME	

Hotham	Jimmy	Blaine	ME	
Hotham	Lizzy	Blaine	ME	
Houck	Kylie	Orono	ME	
Houde	Cameron	Dayton	ME	
Houghton	Abby	Bangor	ME	
House	Natalee	Farmington	ME	
Howard	Blue	Gouldsboro	ME	
Howard	Skye	Gouldsboro	ME	
Howe	Ethan	Hampden	ME	
Howell	Aaron	Cumberland Center	ME	
Howell	Cadi	Mount Desert	ME	
Howell	Ryan	Portland	ME	
Howland	Mikyla	Haynesville	ME	
Howlett	Brooke	Mars Hill	ME	
Hoxie	Jared	Holden	ME	
Hoy	Andrew	King of Prussia	PA	
Hu	Miao	Bucharest		Romania
Hubbard	Porter	Veazie	ME	
Hubbert	Shay	Millville	PA	
Hubby	Claire	Chanhassen	MN	

Hudock	Alexy	North Berwick	ME	
Huegel	Ken	Livingston	NJ	
Hughes	Baxter	Bangor	ME	
Hughes	Aurora	Dudley	MA	
Hughes	Bronwyn	Portland	ME	
Hughes	Mackenzie	Saugus	MA	
Hughes	Cameron	West Warwick	RI	
Hume	Lauren	Fairfield	ME	
Humfries	Cullen	White Horse Beach	MA	
Humphrey	Maddy	Winterport	ME	
Hunt	Faith	Boise	ID	
Hunt	Emily	Farmingdale	NY	
Hunt	Kaitlin	Monmouth	ME	
Hunter	Jason	Northport	ME	
Huntington	Dom	Orono	ME	
Huo	Emily	Biddeford	ME	
Hureau	Tess	Fort Collins	CO	
Hurlburt	Rowan	Lincolnville	ME	
Hutchins	Dakota	Fairfield	ME	
Hutchins	Trinity	Fairfield	ME	
Hutchinson	Courtney	Bangor	ME	

Hutchinson	Jessica	Canterbury	NH	
Hutchinson	Anna	Hooksett	NH	
Ilvonen	Karl	Rockland	ME	
Ingersoll	Derek	Kingston	MA	
Ingersoll	Nate	North Yarmouth	ME	
Ingersoll	Dianna	Windham	ME	
Inman	Morgan	Wales	ME	
Innis	Megan	Framingham	MA	
Irasubiza	Joshua	Orono	ME	
Ireland	Zach	Bangor	ME	
Ireland	Morgan	Presque Isle	ME	
Irujo	Carmen	Newburyport	MA	
Ismail	Alexis	Glenburn	ME	
Ismail	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Isnor	Erika	Baileyville	ME	
Ittleson	Claire	West Hartford	CT	
Ivanicka	Dominika	Orono	ME	
Ivey	Sam	Argyle Township	ME	
Izere	Henry	Orono	ME	
Jackson	Tony	Bradley	ME	
Jackson	Sydney	Upland	CA	

Jackson Gianino	Calista	Scarborough	ME	
Jackson-Coates	Mollie	Lubec	ME	
Jacobs	Lizzie	Glenburn	ME	
Jacobs	Nicholas	Glenburn	ME	
Jacobs	Nathan	Westbrook	ME	
Jacques	Keeva	Arundel	ME	
Jacques	Kyle	Orono	ME	
Jakacky	David	Orono	ME	
Jalbert	Rachel	Burlington	CT	
Jamerson-Martin	Maya	Parsonsfield	ME	
Jamieson	Kelci	Sterling	CT	
Jandreau	Isabelle	Madawaska	ME	
Janes	Ali	Avon	CT	
Jarvis	Alexa	Bangor	ME	
Jarvis	James	Kennebunk	ME	
Jarvis	Liam	Marshfield	MA	
Jenkins	Kristin	Bangor	ME	
Jenkins	Lily	New Canaan	CT	
Jennings	Lily	Scarborough	ME	
Jensen	Dustin	Old Town	ME	
Jensen	Katie	South Weymouth	MA	

Jerose	Maya	Enosburg Falls	VT	
Jeskewich	Isabella	Bloomington	IN	
Jiang	Qikai	Orono	ME	
Jipson	Storm	Auburn	ME	
Jobe	Devon	Orono	ME	
Jodoin	Kaitlyn	Gorham	ME	
Johanson	Chris	Old Town	ME	
Johansson	Elin	Landskrona		Sweden
Johnson	Chris	Bradley	ME	
Johnson	Ryan	Danielson	CT	
Johnson	Dane	Fall Creek	WI	
Johnson	Beatrice	Falmouth	ME	
Johnson	Ethan	Falmouth	ME	
Johnson	Will	Falmouth	ME	
Johnson	Riley	Gorham	ME	
Johnson	Kendra	Jonesboro	ME	
Johnson	Olivia	Levant	ME	
Johnson	Alexandra	Milwaukee	WI	
Johnson	Nicholas	North Berwick	ME	
Johnson	Ben	Orono	ME	
Johnson	Mei Li	Port Jefferson Station	NY	

Johnson	Abby	Richmond	ME	
Johnson	Jack	Saco	ME	
Johnson	Reid	South Berwick	ME	
Johnson	Jeff	Ware	MA	
Johnson	Mollie	Wareham	MA	
Johnson	Daisy	Westport	MA	
Johnstone	Brandon	North Waterboro	ME	
Jolin	Juliana	Sidney	ME	
Jolley	Melanie	Stony Brook	NY	
Jolliffe	Eli	Searsmont	ME	
Jolliffe	Emily	Searsmont	ME	
Jones	Kiersten	Brewer	ME	
Jones	Zach	Glenburn	ME	
Jones	Sarah	Himrod	NY	
Jones	Madison	Lamoine	ME	
Jones	Audrey	Scarborough	ME	
Jones	Brenna	Winterport	ME	
Jordan	Nate	Winterport	ME	
Joseph	Katley	Ottawa		Canada
Judkins	Jordyn	Deer Isle	ME	
Kackmeister	Amanda	Gray	ME	

Kahelin	Anna	Helsinki		Finland
Kahkonen	Tyler	Brewer	ME	
Kahle	John	Emmaus	PA	
Kalb	Kaleigh	Califon	NJ	
Kallas	Corinne	Brewer	ME	
Kane	Kat	Falmouth	ME	
Kane	Michael	Harpswell	ME	
Kane	Emily	Pembroke	MA	
Kaphle	Apurba	Fort Kent	ME	
Kaplan	Sam	Attleboro	MA	
Karkheck	Matt	Bridgewater	NH	
Karpman	Zoe	Landing	NJ	
Kashmark	Nathaniel	Sabin	MN	
Katz	Belu	Suffern	NY	
Kauppila	Wesley	Newburgh	ME	
Kaurin	Aleksandar	South Portland	ME	
Kay	Annie	Marblehead	MA	
Kayser	David	Scarborough	ME	
Kazilionis	Aaron	Scarborough	ME	
Keady	Olivia	Taunton	MA	

Keast	Matthew	Portland	ME	
Keast	Megan	Portland	ME	
Keating	Emily	Freedom	ME	
Kehler	Mani	Milford	ME	
Kelley	Myles	Appleton	ME	
Kelley	Dillon	Falmouth	ME	
Kelley	Mitchell	Falmouth	ME	
Kelley	Kaitlyn	Saco	ME	
Kelly	Ian	Bangor	ME	
Kelly	Dalton	Montvale	NJ	
Kelly	Owen	Westborough	MA	
Kelsey	Courtney	Hermon	ME	
Kemper	Kate	Rockport	ME	
Kempthorne-Curiel	Kiara	Bangor	ME	
Kenison	Matt	Topsham	ME	
Kennedy	Erin	Monmouth	ME	
Kennedy	Evan	Morrill	ME	
Kennedy	Bhreagh	Skowhegan	ME	
Kennedy	Jessie	Williston	VT	
Kenney	Wyatt	Gray	ME	
Kenney	Alyssa	Wells	ME	

Kerr	Stephen	Franklin	MA	
Ketch	Emily	Bradley	ME	
Keyes	Dylan	Hermon	ME	
Khalaf	Khulod	Old Town	ME	
Khat	Daniel	Sanford	ME	
Kiesman	Jerdon	Winterport	ME	
Kihn	Naomi	Warren	ME	
Kiley	Sarah	Holden	ME	
Kimball	Diana	North Yarmouth	ME	
Kindler	Henry	Kennebunk	ME	
King	Ashley	Bangor	ME	
King	Priscilla	Milford	ME	
King	Cade	Palermo	ME	
King	Parker	Palermo	ME	
King	Sam	Thomaston	ME	
King	Dylan	Uxbridge	MA	
King	Katie	Wayne	ME	
Kinney	Ryan	Bangor	ME	
Kinyon	Kalina	Westport	CT	
Kirby	Natalie	Hampden	ME	
Kirouac	Kayden	Auburn	ME	

Kirshkaln	David	Dexter	ME	
Kjellander	Olivia	Kingston	MA	
Klatt	Brian	Wethersfield	CT	
Klein	Zachary	Hampden	ME	
Klenert	Helen	Norton	MA	
Klimowich	Scott	New Milford	CT	
Klouda	Scott	Branford	CT	
Knapp	Willow	Bangor	ME	
Knapp	Dawson	Sanford	ME	
Knapp	Andrea	Sullivan	ME	
Knedler	Blake	New Gloucester	ME	
Kneissler	Casey	Fryeburg	ME	
Knight	Olivia	Raleigh	NC	
Knowles	Ava	Bucksport	ME	
Knowles	Kaylee	Bucksport	ME	
Knowles	Megan	Monmouth	ME	
Knowles	Joseph	Topsham	ME	
Knowles	Liam	Topsham	ME	
Knox	Emma	Mattapoisett	MA	
Kobrock	Carlee	Moodus	CT	
Koenig	Evan	Gorham	ME	

Koenig	Abbye	Old Town	ME	
Kogler	Kaleigh	Lexington	KY	
Kohler	Katie	York	ME	
Kohr	Maddie	Palmyra	PA	
Kohtala	Jordyn	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Kolodziej	Cam	Salem	MA	
Kolodziej	Christopher	Salem	MA	
Kondor-Ouellette	Sara	Wells	ME	
Koneff	Roy	Alton	ME	
Kontio	Emily	Orono	ME	
Korasadowicz	Bogumil	Baileyville	ME	
Koretsky	Alexandra	Presque Isle	ME	
Kornsey	Danny	Waterville	ME	
Korstanje	Thomas	Bar Harbor	ME	
Kosmin	Stephanie	North Chelmsford	MA	
Kostelnick	Isabelle	El Paso	IL	
Kotliarov	Antonia	Arlington	VA	
Kousky	Anna	Brunswick	ME	
Kovacs	Sam	Buxton	ME	
Kowal	Samual	Harmony	ME	
Kraemer	Kayla	Waterloo		Canada

Kratzer	Cassie	Biddeford	ME	
Kressel	Matteo	Haddon Heights	NJ	
Kribel	Katelyn	Old Town	ME	
Krivorotko	Dima	Orono	ME	
Kronberg	Karin	Tibro		Sweden
Kruczek	Jade	Dayton	ME	
Krull	Alexis	Old Town	ME	
Kubinsky	Bryn	Allentown	PA	
Kucia	Jackie	Rehoboth	MA	
Kueck	Alison	Scarborough	ME	
Kugell	Dominic	Oxford	ME	
Kulinski	Jason	Winthrop	ME	
Kummer	Sophie	Fryeburg	ME	
Kunesh	Sara	Searsmont	ME	
Kuoppala	Ida	Pietarsaari		Finland
Kusnierz	Brett	Garland	ME	
Kutzinski	Kira	Buende		Germany
Labb	Tommy	Ashland	MA	
Labbe	Kyle	Brunswick	ME	
Labbe	William	Brunswick	ME	
Labbe	Emily	Scarborough	ME	

Labonte	Delaney	York	ME	
Labrie	Josh	Gorham	ME	
LaBrier	John	Orland	ME	
LaChance	Olivia	Scarborough	ME	
Ladd	Mackenzie	Bangor	ME	
Ladd	Sophie	Byron	ME	
Ladd	Connor	South Paris	ME	
Ladner	Abby	Danville	PA	
Laffey	Kaycee	Brewer	ME	
LaFrance	Grace	Alfred	ME	
LaFrance	Sam	North Berwick	ME	
Lagace	Dominic	Springvale	ME	
Lage-Lichko	Steph	Waldoboro	ME	
Lajoie	Josh	Hebron	ME	
Lajoie	Jacob	Madawaska	ME	
Lalime	Jack	Otis	ME	
Lamb	Jasmine	Poland	ME	
Lambert	Noah	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lambert	Miranda	Fairfield	ME	
Lambert	Poppy	Greytown		New Zealand

Lambert	Levi	North Berwick	ME	
Lambert	Sophia	Presque Isle	ME	
Lambert	Noah	Standish	ME	
Lamkin	Chaz	Standish	ME	
Lamkins	Jordan	Southington	CT	
Lammert	Devon	Washington	DC	
Lamont	Chloe	Northbridge	MA	
LaMontagne	Jacob	Berwick	ME	
Lancaster	Mallory	Newport	VT	
Lander	Jack	Orrington	ME	
Lander	Meg	Orrington	ME	
Landry	Pierce	Farmington	CT	
Landry	Madison	Freeport	ME	
Landry	Hunter	Lewiston	ME	
Landsman	Baylor	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lane	Julia	Lancaster	MA	
Lang	Kassidy	Lyman	ME	
Langley	Alexys	Brewer	ME	
Langner	Olivia	Fort Fairfield	ME	
Langone	Gabrielle	Lynnfield	MA	
Lantagne	CJ	Acton	ME	

Lantheaume	Eliana	Chelmsford	MA	
LaPerriere	Caroline	Orono	ME	
Lapierre	Lauren	Sanford	ME	
LaPlant	Nicole	Canton	CT	
Lapointe	Gary	Greene	ME	
LaPorte	Sam	Duxbury	MA	
Largay	Bryce	Brewer	ME	
Larmore	Townsend	Virginia Beach	VA	
Larochelle	Sam	Durham	ME	
LaRosa	Talie	Longwood	FL	
Larson	Shelby	Reynoldsburg	OH	
Laskey	Sarah	Southington	CT	
Laskowski	Nick	North Weymouth	MA	
Lasorsa	Jolene	Lunenburg	MA	
Laubscher	Alec	Simsbury	CT	
Laurita	Louis	Hope	ME	
Lavallee	Joey	Falmouth	ME	
Lavigne	Trevor	York	ME	
Lavin	Madison	Ashland	MA	
Lavoie	Lee	Winthrop	ME	
Lavoy	Nathan	Portland	CT	

Lawrence	Wynonia	Malone	NY	
Lawrence	Matt	Topsham	ME	
Lawson	Erika	Penfield	NY	
Layton	Tyler	Peabody	MA	
Le	Phuoc	Da Nang		Viet Nam
Le	Khiana	Portland	ME	
Lear	Keaton	Vinalhaven	ME	
Leary	McKayla	South Berwick	ME	
Leathers	Alec	Ellsworth	ME	
Leavitt	Emily	Glenburn	ME	
LeCates	Iris	Cincinnati	OH	
Lecko	Veronica	Chicopee	MA	
LeClair	Emily	Bangor	ME	
LeClair	Jasmine	Presque Isle	ME	
LeClair	Hannah	Waterville	ME	
Lecomte	John	Melrose	MA	
LeConey	Evan	Bethel	ME	
Ledford	David	Hudson	ME	
Ledger	Katherine	Linneus	ME	
LeDuc	Ellie	Rumford	ME	
Lee	Kyle	Skowhegan	ME	

Lees	Justin	Naples	ME	
Lefebvre	Kerry	Freeport	ME	
Legris	Asher	Brewer	ME	
Leighton	Vee	Dexter	ME	
Leighton	Gavyn	Wells	ME	
Lekborg	Cooper	Georgetown	MA	
Lemay	Sarah- Theresa	Scarborough	ME	
Lembree	Hannah	Claremont	NH	
Lemieux	Daniel	Westford	MA	
Lenfest	Lucas	Smithfield	ME	
Lengyel	Roxana	Falmouth	MA	
Leonard	Rachel	Mount Desert	ME	
Lessard	Alexandra	Jackman	ME	
Lessard	Niko	Raymond	ME	
Lester	Tim	Cumberland Center	ME	
Letourneau	Kiana	Fairfield	ME	
Levasseur	Rebecca	Auburn	ME	
Lever	Maggie	Bangor	ME	
Levesque	Emily	Sidney	ME	
Levesque	Amanda	Swansea	MA	

Levesque	Savannah	Veazie	ME	
Levinson	Adam	Yarmouth	ME	
Lewandowski	Ruth	Portland	ME	
Lewis	MacKenzie	Augusta	ME	
Lewis	Shelby	Oakfield	ME	
Leys	Jack	Middletown	RI	
Libby	Owen	Bow	NH	
Libby	Tom	Camden	ME	
Libby	Erin	Cumberland Center	ME	
Libby	Immanuel	Saco	ME	
Libuda	Casey	Laconia	NH	
Lick	Trent	Orono	ME	
Liebler-Bendix	Ailin	Jamesville	NY	
Liedtka	Claire	San Antonio	TX	
Liem	Kendrick	Palo Alto	CA	
Lilley	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	
Lin	Hua	Portland	ME	
Lindell	Sarah	Cloverdale	CA	
Lindelow	Edward	Saltsjobaden		Sweden
Lindyberg	Jack	Stockton Springs	ME	
Lines	Eli	Trumansburg	NY	

Linkel	Reilly	Orland	ME	
Linscott	Jordan	Windsor	ME	
Lipka	Skyler	Shrewsbury	MA	
Lipp	Anastasia	New Gloucester	ME	
Little	Kennedy	Andover	MN	
Liu	Kaitlin	Brewer	ME	
Lizzotte	Hunter	Farmingdale	ME	
Lloyd	Jack	Waterville	ME	
Lobdell	Brady	Hampden	ME	
Loberti	Andrew	Bellingham	MA	
Lobley	Jordan	Orrington	ME	
Locke	Tyler	Brookfield	MA	
Loeser	Claire	Saco	ME	
Logan	Abby	Buxton	ME	
Lolar	Ethyn	Old Town	ME	
Longchamps	Nevaeh	Auburn	ME	
Longley	Hannah	Fairfield	ME	
Loper	Sydney	North Yarmouth	ME	
Lord	Griffin	Orono	ME	
Lord	Sarah	Wells	ME	
Lord	Anika	West Baldwin	ME	

Lorenc	Kayla	Oakland	NJ	
Lorenzo	Jacob	Falmouth	ME	
Lorom	Sydney	Houlton	ME	
Losquadro	Katie	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lotrionte	Meagan	Plymouth	MA	
Lounsbury	Sydney	Southbury	CT	
Love	Seneca	Bangor	ME	
Love	Johnny	Reading	MA	
Loveless	Austin	Cumberland Center	ME	
Lovering	Gabe	Auburn	ME	
Low	Sarah	Orland	ME	
Luchon	Adam	Willington	CT	
Lucia	Tori	Fairfield	CT	
Luckraft	Jake	East Falmouth	MA	
Lueders	Luke	Canton	ME	
Lufkin	Blake	Bangor	ME	
Lufkin	Mallory	Brandon	VT	
Lunedei	Jake	Monument Beach	MA	
Luo	Ning	Brewer	ME	
Luong	Joseph	Scarborough	ME	
Lupien	Allison	Waldoboro	ME	

Lupien	Emily	Waldoboro	ME	
Luu	Kiera	Silver Spring	MD	
Lydon Shay	Colton	Braintree	MA	
Lyford	Jennah	Hampden	ME	
Lynch	Danielle	Burlington	MA	
Lynch	Finnegan	Rockland	ME	
Lynch	Abigail	Westport	CT	
Lyons	Abby	Hampden	ME	
MacAskill	Erin	New Fairfield	CT	
MacBurnie	Amanda	Stillwater	ME	
MacDonald	Brianna	Holliston	MA	
MacDonald	Cam	Seabrook	NH	
MacDougall	Daniel	Taunton	MA	
MacFarlane	Olivia	Plymouth	MA	
Macgregor	Ellery	Greene	ME	
MacKay	Patrick	Ellsworth	ME	
Mackeldey	Seana	Dennysville	ME	
MacKinnon	Ian	Presque Isle	ME	
Maclaurin	Euan	South Portland	ME	
MacLean	Ella	Antigonish		Canada
MacLean	Cam	Augusta	ME	

MacLeod	Shayla	Wayland	MA	
MacMaster	Drew	West Boylston	MA	
MacMillan	Charlotte	Brunswick	ME	
MacNeil	Morgan	Bridgton	ME	
MacPherson	Tommy	Quincy	MA	
MacVane	Chloe	South Portland	ME	
Madden	Kaelyn	Saco	ME	
Maddock	Casey	Scarborough	ME	
Maddox	Audrey	Dixmont	ME	
Madison	Zach	Turner	ME	
Madore	Joe	Bridgewater	MA	
Madore	Paige	Bridgewater	MA	
Magee	Grace	Marion	MA	
Maguire	Anthony	Westbrook	ME	
Mahan	Madison	Portland	ME	
Mahar	Alexander	Rockland	ME	
Maher	Lauren	North Weymouth	MA	
Mahoney	James	Eddington	ME	
Mahoney	Ashley	Hampden	ME	
Mahoney	Julia	Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures		Canada

Maidman	Jonathan	Carrabassett Valley	ME	
Mailey	Trinity	Old Town	ME	
Major	Will	Topsfield	MA	
Malcolm	Adam	Palmyra	ME	
Malia	Patrick	Fryeburg	ME	
Malkin	Julian	Woodbury	CT	
Mallon	Sara	Newark	DE	
Malloy	Kenzie	Salem	MA	
Maloney	Katie	Louisville	CO	
Maloney	Maeve	West Hartford	CT	
Maloney	Liv	Worcester	MA	
Maltais	David	South Thomaston	ME	
Maltese	Sam	Camden	ME	
Manfredonia	Madeline	Southbury	CT	
Mann	Rick	Bowdoinham	ME	
Manning	Sarah	East Hampstead	NH	
Manning	Madison	Uxbridge	MA	
Mansfield	Sarah	Annandale	VA	
Mantini	Gianna	Dunbarton	NH	
Mantovani	Paige	Toms River	NJ	
Maranto	Nicholas	Brunswick	ME	

Marchessault	Mike	Cumberland Center	ME	
Marcincavage	Gabe	Framingham	MA	
Marcktell	Alex	Simsbury	CT	
Marcotte	Sarah	Bangor	ME	
Marcotte	Sarrah	Biddeford	ME	
Marino	Kyle	Pawcatuck	CT	
Mark	Michael	Houston	TX	
Marks	Charlie	Orono	ME	
Marsh	Hannah	Rowley	MA	
Marshall	Kaleb	Cushing	ME	
Marshall	Ella	Little Deer Isle	ME	
Marshall	Ennis	Little Deer Isle	ME	
Marshall	Kai	Natick	MA	
Marston	Matt	Fort Kent	ME	
Marston	Cassidy	Hollis Center	ME	
Marston	Caleb	South Portland	ME	
Martell	Kyle	Gray	ME	
Martin	Alex	Arrowsic	ME	
Martin	Matthew	Hopkinton	MA	
Martin	Ian	Kennebunk	ME	
Martin	Peter	Scarborough	ME	

Martin	Sarah	Sidney	ME	
Martin	Mchenna	Stonington	ME	
Martin	Gunnar	Unity	ME	
Martin	Jackson	Unity	ME	
Martinez	Ashley	Paterson	NJ	
Martwichuck	Abigail	Beverly	MA	
Marty	Hannah	Harwich	MA	
Marzano	Amaya	Freeport	ME	
Mason	Scott	Anson	ME	
Massa	Deanna	Everett	MA	
Masselli	John	Casco	ME	
Masterman	Sonia	Princeton	MA	
Masterson	Jackson	Kingfield	ME	
Mastrianno	Leah	Augusta	ME	
Mastrorillo	Brandon	Old Town	ME	
Mathers	Kassidy	Island Falls	ME	
Mathews	Lindsay	Fayetteville	NY	
Mathieu	Hannah	Sidney	ME	
Mathisen	Sam	Conway	NH	
Matteo	Spencer	Portland	ME	
Mattessich	Logan	Rockaway	NJ	

Mattrick	Amelia	Rochester	VT	
Mattson	Timber	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Mault	Jacqueline	Chester	ME	
Maurais	Hannah	Jay	ME	
Max	Theresa	Ottsville	PA	
May-Fleming	Iris	Nashville	TN	
Maybury	Michele	Brewer	ME	
Mayers	Victoria	Woonsocket	RI	
Mayhew	Zoe	Unity	ME	
Mayo	Matthew	Bridgton	ME	
Mayotte	Kaylee	Lebanon	ME	
Mazzola	Anthony	Ashland	MA	
McAfee	Drake	Biddeford	ME	
McAlary	Hannah	Saco	ME	
McAulay	Ryan	Shrewsbury	MA	
McAuliffe	Maggie	Foxboro	MA	
McBreairty	Meaghan	Hampden	ME	
McBreairty	Riley	Hampden	ME	
McBrine	Ethan	Biddeford	ME	
McCann	Charlie	Eliot	ME	
McCann	Hannah	Holden	ME	

McCann	Jack	Rehoboth	MA	
McCarthy	Gillian	Bangor	ME	
McCarthy	Natalie	Lincoln	ME	
McCarthy	Mike	Manchester	ME	
McCarthy	Madi	Orono	ME	
McCarthy Beaver	Quinn	Dedham	MA	
McCauley	Justin	Randolph	MA	
McClendon	David	Watertown	CT	
McClung	Ruby	Fircrest	WA	
McConnell	Erin	Ellington	CT	
McConville	Keely	Orono	ME	
McCracken	Joey	Lititz	PA	
McCrea	Lexi	Laconia	NH	
McCullough	Kaitlin	Ellsworth	ME	
McCullough	Nolan	Gorham	ME	
McDevitt	Griffin	Sandwich	MA	
McDonald	Meghan	Orono	ME	
McDonough	Katie	Groveland	MA	
McDowell	Yvey	Bristol	RI	
McDowell	Tab	Laingsburg	MI	
McElroy	Kimberlea	Carmel	ME	

McGarry	Morgan	Scarborough	ME	
McGee	Bailey	Durham	ME	
McGee	Lexi	South Berwick	ME	
McGlone	Aidan	Limington	ME	
McGrath	Corrine	Lyman	NH	
McGrath	Stephanie	Newburgh	ME	
McHatten	Paige	Mapleton	ME	
McInnis	Drew	Portland	ME	
McIntire	Cassidy	Winslow	ME	
McIntosh	Ashlee	Appleton	ME	
McIntosh	Micah	New Providence		Bahamas
Mcintyre	Duncan	Lincoln	ME	
McKelvy	David	Scarborough	ME	
McKendry	Elise	Long Pond Township	ME	
McKenney	Sydnie	Hampden	ME	
McKenney	Caitlin	Harmony	ME	
McKeon	Daniel	Searsport	ME	
McKinnon	Cara	Peabody	MA	
McLagan	Kayla	Hackettstown	NJ	
McLaughlin	Lily	Bangor	ME	

McLaughlin	Maria	Brewer	ME	
Mclaughlin	Delani	Greenbush	ME	
McLaughlin	Dawson	Houlton	ME	
McLaughlin	Emily	Hudson	MA	
McLellan	Sierra	Augusta	ME	
McLellan	Andrew	Calais	ME	
McLellan	Ivy	Calais	ME	
McLellan	Pehry	Monroe	ME	
McMerty	Tristan	Freehold	NJ	
McNally	Zoe	Bowdoin	ME	
McNish	Conner	Lincoln	ME	
McPhail	Ottilie	Bradford	ME	
McWhorter	Audrey	Tipp City	OH	
McWilliams	Sean	Plymouth	MA	
Meadar	Sydney	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Meaney	Lauren	North Reading	MA	
Medeiros	Josh	Scarborough	ME	
Mehre	Alex	Veazie	ME	
Mehrhoff	Isabelle	Mercer	ME	
Meirelles-Cochran	Antonio	Hyannis	MA	
Mejias	Arianna	Standish	ME	

Mejias	Jazmyne	Standish	ME	
Mellor	Rebekah	Stockton Springs	ME	
Melton	Michael	Blacksburg	VA	
Mendes	Ryan	Windham	ME	
Mendoza Yanes	Karla	Biddeford	ME	
Mentz	Haley	Vernon Rockville	CT	
Mercado	Isabella	Brimfield	MA	
Merchant	Maraeka	Lewiston	ME	
Meredith-Pickett	Sydney	Greenville	ME	
Merkle-Scotland	Maeve	Madison	CT	
Merrill	Isabella	Hope	ME	
Merz	Nolan	Rocklin	CA	
Messier	April	Camden	ME	
Metivier	Julia	Foxboro	MA	
Metz	Jordan	Nobleboro	ME	
Meyer	John	Brick	NJ	
Meyer-Waldo	Sarah	West Bath	ME	
Mezzadri	Dom	Blackstone	MA	
Michalski	Nate	Moodus	CT	
Michaud	Dana	Belgrade	ME	
Michaud	Jake	Hampden	ME	

Michaud	Adreanna	Leeds	ME	
Michaud	Marc	Machiasport	ME	
Michaud	Dante	North Berwick	ME	
Michaud	Aidan	North Yarmouth	ME	
Michaud	Conner	Presque Isle	ME	
Michaud	Camille	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Michaud	Jacob	Wells	ME	
Michaud	Ella	Winthrop	ME	
Mierzejewski	Karissa	New Hartford	CT	
Mierzejewski	Nicholas	New Hartford	CT	
Miljone	Liga	Kekava		Latvia
Millan Mendoza	Alice	Rockville	MD	
Millay	Chanthu	Brewer	ME	
Miller	Makayla	Bangor	ME	
Miller	Jenna	Charlton	MA	
Miller	Keyana	Chelmsford	MA	
Miller	Jordyn	Dedham	ME	
Miller	Abigail	Gorham	ME	
Miller	Dillon	Ledgewood	NJ	
Miller	Heath	Orono	ME	
Miller	Luke	Tewksbury	MA	

Miller	Katelyn	Trumbull	CT	
Miller	Matt	Wilmington	MA	
Millett	Nick	Orono	ME	
Milligan	Mary	Winthrop	ME	
Milliken	Brenna	Gray	ME	
Mills	Nic	Chelsea	ME	
Mills	Riley	Livermore Falls	ME	
Milton	Kara	Pembroke	MA	
Milton	Jacob	Portland	ME	
Minas	Katarina	Cranston	RI	
Misiaszek	Katy	West Boylston	MA	
Misler	Zara	Winterport	ME	
Mitchell	Sam	Bar Harbor	ME	
Mitchell	Audrey	York	ME	
Mittelstadt	Lexi	Wilton	ME	
Moery	Katie	Alexandria	VA	
Mohawass	Marina	Bangor	ME	
Mohr	Jacob	Plantsville	CT	
Moline	Brendan	Lincolnvile	ME	
Monios	Michael	Saint-Laurent		Canada
Moniz	Kyle	Salem	NH	

Monroe	Mabel	South Thomaston	ME	
Monteiro	Luke	Mystic	CT	
Montibello	Neal	Hanover	NH	
Montuori	Isabella	Northborough	MA	
Monzo	Charlie	Colonia	NJ	
Monzo	Parni	Colonia	NJ	
Moody	Kylie	Brookfield	CT	
Moody	Elizabeth	Chelmsford	MA	
Moon	Brianna	Howland	ME	
Mooney	Katie	Chepachet	RI	
Moore	Max	Camden	ME	
Moore	Sydney	Port Clinton	OH	
Moore	Elliott	Somerville	MA	
Mora	Josh	Windham	ME	
Morales	Sarah	Framingham	MA	
Moreau	Daniel	Hallowell	ME	
Morel	Jordyn	Fall River	MA	
Morgan	Aleigha	Dover	DE	
Morgan	Gage	Norridgewock	ME	
Morgan	Alex	Perry	ME	
Morgus	Matthew	Lancaster	NY	

Morin	Andrea	Ipswich	MA	
Morin	Emily	Lyman	ME	
Morin	Charis	Parkman	ME	
Morin	Abby	Winthrop	ME	
Morneault	Hollie	Madawaska	ME	
Morneault	Garrett	Washburn	ME	
Morphy	Elise	Regina		Canada
Morrill	Rya	Hudson	ME	
Morris	Patty	Attleboro	MA	
Morris	Samuel	Boulder	CO	
Morrison	Ally	Barnet	VT	
Morrison	Kara	Blue Hill	ME	
Morrison	Trevor	Hancock	ME	
Morrison	Tegan	Waterloo		Canada
Morrison	Bailey	Wells	ME	
Morrisette	Alexander	Brookfield	CT	
Morrissey	Lilly	Woodbridge	CT	
Morse	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Morton	Sam	Norway	ME	
Moser	Matisse	Falmouth	ME	

Mosqueda	Peter	Reading	MA	
Mower	Tayah	Lynnfield	MA	
Moynihan	Naomi	Orono	ME	
Muho	Donald	Millis	MA	
Muir	Mark	Hudson	ME	
Mulera	John	Rockville	MD	
Mulligan	Monica	Bangor	ME	
Mulligan	Jacob	Berwick	ME	
Mulligan	Abigail	Orono	ME	
Mulligan	Kacie	West Enfield	ME	
Mulligan	Aidan	West Simsbury	CT	
Mullin	Natalie	Cumberland Center	ME	
Mullins	Josh	Bangor	ME	
Mulrooney	Connor	Phippsburg	ME	
Mulroy	T.J.	Newton	NJ	
Munroe	Heather	Penobscot	ME	
Munson	Wyatt	Lincolnville	ME	
Murphy	Noah	Bangor	ME	
Murphy	Bart	Biddeford	ME	
Murphy	Fiona	Bridgton	ME	
Murphy	Davan	Brownsville	VT	

Murphy	Lisa	Holden	ME	
Murphy	Matthias	Lewiston	ME	
Murphy	Maegan	South Portland	ME	
Murphy	Sean	Wallingford	CT	
Murphy	Cassidy	Willow Grove	PA	
Murphy	Fiona	York	ME	
Murray	Kian	Brunswick	ME	
Murray	Emma	Danvers	MA	
Murray	Emily	Scarborough	ME	
Murray	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	
Murray	Mackenzie	Thomaston	ME	
Muscat	Abigail	Bass Harbor	ME	
Muscatell	Annabelle	Bangor	ME	
Mushero	Kayla	Lincoln	ME	
Musor	Destiny	Bangor	ME	
Muthig	Mya	North Berwick	ME	
Myers	Kyle	Brighton	MI	
Myers	Hagen	Portland	ME	
Myers	Sabina	Rehoboth	MA	
Mylander	Tess	Old Town	ME	
Myron	Amanda	Durham	ME	

Nadeau	Kassie	Vassalboro	ME	
Nahas	Natalie	Dover	NH	
Nally	Colin	Endicott	NY	
Namujju	Elizabeth	Old Town	ME	
Nangle	Sydney	Windham	ME	
Narcisse	Lizzi	Fayville	MA	
Narofsky	Sophia	Hampden	ME	
Nash	Ellie	Falmouth	ME	
Nason	Maraia	Sebago	ME	
Natalizia	Jake	Saunderstown	RI	
Nathan	Abby	Camden	ME	
Nault	Anna	Gorham	ME	
Nedder	Reagan	Attleboro	MA	
Negley	Jaidyn	Greene	ME	
Nelson	Jared	Scarborough	ME	
Neuhauser	Liv	Falmouth	ME	
Nevells	Kaden	Hermon	ME	
New	Syeira	Limerick	ME	
Newcomb	Madilyn	Perry	ME	
Newick	Carissa	North Berwick	ME	
Ney	Connor	Brunswick	ME	

Ngo	Vinh-Nhan	Bangor	ME	
Nguyen	Soren	Orono	ME	
Nguyen	Kelly	Portland	ME	
Niayesh	Mohammad	Detroit	ME	
Nicholas	Annika	Mars Hill	ME	
Nicholas	Nathaniel	Mechanicsville	MD	
Nichols	Addison	Bangor	ME	
Nichols	Kate	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Nichols	Matthew	Old Town	ME	
Nickels	Claire	Hampden	ME	
Ninteau	Emily	Dracut	MA	
Nkulikiyinka	Theophile	Orono	ME	
Noble	Meg	Arundel	ME	
Noble	Maddy	Lincoln	ME	
Noddin	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Noonan	Dakota	Winterport	ME	
Norbury	Kristina	Woodstown	NJ	
Nordman	Connor	Auburn	MA	
Norman	Vincent	Belfast	ME	
Norman	Ian	Holden	ME	
Norman	Luke	Holden	ME	

Norment	Lukas	Glenburn	ME	
Norsworthy	Jeff	Yarmouth	ME	
Nosovitski	Alec	Mansfield	MA	
Novak	Rebekah	Hampden	ME	
Nowak	Lilian	Bangor	ME	
Nowak	Claire	Geneva	IL	
Noyes	Kody	Topsham	ME	
Noyes	James	Warren	ME	
Nunes	Nicole	Danvers	MA	
Nutter	Hayden	Corinth	ME	
Nygaard	Zane	Old Town	ME	
Nygaard	Aubree	Orono	ME	
O'Brien	Seamus	Falmouth	ME	
O'Brien	Peter	Orono	ME	
O'Brien	Liam	Oxford	CT	
O'Brien	Erin	Santee	CA	
O'Clair	Michael	Standish	ME	
O'Connell	Megan	Sanford	ME	
O'Donnell	Mackenzie	Portland	ME	
O'Donnell	Laura	Tewksbury	MA	
O'Hagan	Caroline	Middletown	RI	

O'Keefe	Armand	South Orange	NJ	
O'Kelly	Luke	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
O'Leary	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	
O'Neill	Dan	Bangor	ME	
O'Reilly	Eileen	Norwood	MA	
O'Sullivan	Julianna	Belfast	ME	
O'Toole	Abby	Braintree	MA	
Oakes	Breanne	Hermon	ME	
Ochoa	Israel	Clermont	FL	
Oehler	Morgan	Elkridge	MD	
Ogle	Allison	Oxford	CT	
Oglesby	Wyatt	Black Hawk	CO	
Oliveira	Isabella	Boxford	MA	
Oliveira	Elijah	Lincoln	RI	
Oliver	Ellie	Leeds	ME	
Oliver	Tyler	North Berwick	ME	
Olivier	James	Augusta	ME	
Olsen	Amanda	Columbus	OH	
Olsen	Tucker	Hartford	ME	
Olshin	Jasmine	Scarborough	ME	

Olson	Zoe	Trenton	ME	
Olzinski	Molly	Johnson City	NY	
Orakwue	Chisom	Lagos		Nigeria
Oranje	Paige	Bangor	ME	
Orethun	Darien	Old Town	ME	
Orio	Mimi	Medfield	MA	
Ormiston	Cate	Wakefield	RI	
Orois Aznarez	Alba	Mollet del Valles		Spain
Ortiz	Sonora	Orono	ME	
Orton	Emma	Waterford	NY	
Orwig	Gracie	Manvel	TX	
Ostman	Victor	Danderyd		Sweden
Otash	Trent	Berwick	ME	
Ott	Noelle	Upton	MA	
Ouellette	Hayden	Augusta	ME	
Ouellette	Aimee	Bangor	ME	
Ouellette	Hope	Bangor	ME	
Ouellette	Eli	Bowdoinham	ME	
Ouellette	Dominique	Brewer	ME	
Ouellette	Emma	Derry	NH	
Ouimet	Allie	Old Town	ME	

Overturf	Maija	Corinth	ME	
Owen	Sydney	Old Town	ME	
Oxley	Cameron	Holden	ME	
Ozlanski	Sarah Renee	Hampden	ME	
Pacanza-Rogers	Estrella	Raymond	ME	
Pacheco	Mel	North Attleboro	MA	
Padilla	Mikayla	Midland	TX	
Paetow	Sabrina	Topsham	ME	
Pagliaro	Maria	Sandy Hook	CT	
Paine	Daniel	South Paris	ME	
Paine	Marissa	South Paris	ME	
Palazzo	Riley	Orange	CT	
Pallis	Tommy	Glastonbury	CT	
Palm	Gunnar	Kittery Point	ME	
Palmer	Mallory	Brunswick	ME	
Palmer	Jared	Orono	ME	
Palmer	Mikayla	West Gardiner	ME	
Palmore	Dylan	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Palome	Angelo	Randolph	NJ	
Panagakos	Gaby	Scarborough	ME	
Papsadora	Zach	Hermon	ME	

Paquin	Alyssa	Waterboro	ME	
Parent	Jeffery	Waldoboro	ME	
Park	Soojin	Old Town	ME	
Park	Jinyoung	Suwon-si		Korea, Republic of
Parker	Garrett	Brooksville	ME	
Parker	Scott	Denmark	ME	
Parker	Remy	Montclair	NJ	
Parker	Lacey	Plymouth	MA	
Parks	Gavin	Calais	ME	
Parrotta	Emma	Cape Neddick	ME	
Parsons	Taylor	Glastonbury	CT	
Parsons	Alia	Hancock	ME	
Pate	Mo	Orono	ME	
Patel	Kaya	Canterbury		United Kingdom
Patel	Niraj	Sanford	ME	
Paterson	Adam	Mapleton	ME	
Patin	William	Hampden	ME	
Patota	Sean	Swansea	MA	
Patten	Noelle	Hermon	ME	
Patterson	Michelle	Saco	ME	
Paul	Miles	Brewer	ME	

Pavlik	Zoe	Durham	NH	
Pawlowicz	Kenny	Pelham	NH	
Peacock	Hannah	Orono	ME	
Peakes	Olivia	Dexter	ME	
Pearson	Trevor	Holden	ME	
Peary	Alexandra	Cumberland Center	ME	
Pease	Josh	York	ME	
Peirce	Cammie	Hermon	ME	
Peirce	Neill	Sewickley	PA	
Peitz	David	Fairfield	ME	
Pellegrino	Kelly	Bangor	ME	
Pelletier	Marielle	Industry	ME	
Pelletier	Chelsea	Madawaska	ME	
Pelletier	Justin	Madawaska	ME	
Pelletier	Courtland	Methuen	MA	
Pelletier	Lacy	Wallagrass	ME	
Pellis	Rachel	Mount Kisco	NY	
Pellizzari	Giacomo	Venezia		Italy
Peluso	Gabriella	Dumont	NJ	
Pender	Troy	Amesbury	MA	

Pendleton	Annabelle	Auburn	ME	
Perez	Mary	Laguna Niguel	CA	
Perkins	Logan	Exeter	ME	
Perkins	Dominic	Kittery	ME	
Perkins	Shaelea	Marshfield	ME	
Perkins	Gwenyth	Medway	ME	
Perovic	Novak	Orono	ME	
Perrotta	Margaret	Freeport	ME	
Perry	Cole	Hallowell	ME	
Perry	Ryan	Middleboro	MA	
Perry	Riley	Veazie	ME	
Pesiri	Alex	Winthrop	MA	
Peters	Max	Falmouth	ME	
Peters	Erin	Houlton	ME	
Peters	Aidan	Old Town	ME	
Petersen	Olivia	Eliot	ME	
Peterson	Lydia	Auburn	ME	
Peterson	Josh	Levant	ME	
Peterson	Kerrick	Londonderry	NH	
Petherick	Andrew	Groton	CT	
Petrarca	Greg	Tiverton	RI	

Phelps	Kai	Ellsworth	ME	
Philips	Shelby	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Phillips	Randi	Chandler	AZ	
Phillips	Elizabeth	Houlton	ME	
Phinney	Cameron	Steep Falls	ME	
Phipps	Owen	Newburyport	MA	
Picard	Alex	Caribou	ME	
Pickard	Renee	Sabattus	ME	
Picone	Jojo	Bangor	ME	
Pierce	Alex	Rome	ME	
Pierini	Noah	Cumberland	RI	
Piette	Isaac	Littleton	NH	
Pigott	Sean	Tyngsboro	MA	
Pike	Aiden	Searsmont	ME	
Pinette	Tom	Limestone	ME	
Pinkham	Jon	Damariscotta	ME	
Pinkham	Jordan	Old Town	ME	
Pitman	Julia	Beverly	MA	
Pitman	Ava	Gorham	ME	
Pitrat	Liam	Hatfield	MA	
Pitt	Kaitryn	Westbrook	ME	

Place	Aidan	Eliot	ME	
Plant	Sydney	Bowdoinham	ME	
Plante	Kassie	Sanford	ME	
Plante	Colin	Stoughton	MA	
Pliskaner	Jacob	North Andover	MA	
Plummer	Nathan	Raymond	ME	
Plummer	Sydni	Windsor	ME	
Poirier	Samantha	Auburn	ME	
Poissant	Tristan	Orono	ME	
Poisson	Ben	Vancouver		Canada
Poisson	Brian	Wayland	MA	
Postras	Brennan	Caribou	ME	
Postras	Whitney	Westbrook	ME	
Polchies	Megan	Gorham	ME	
Poling	Tom	Stetson	ME	
Poliquin	Jamie	Lewiston	ME	
Pollack	Thomas	Blauvelt	NY	
Pollier	Kayla	Ware	MA	
Pomerleau	Sierra	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Pomerleau	Eliot	Scarborough	ME	
Pomeroy	Emily	Old Town	ME	

Ponzini	Nick	Burlington	MA	
Poole	Will	Brownville	ME	
Porter	Kevin	Hingham	MA	
Porter	Cody	Old Town	ME	
Porter	Sam	Sebago	ME	
Pothier	Mia	Biddeford	ME	
Poulin	Nick	Augusta	ME	
Poulin	Nathalie	Belgrade	ME	
Poutasse	Jack	Rockport	ME	
Power	Joshua	Auburn	ME	
Power	Esme	Hope	ME	
Power	Owen	Hope	ME	
Power	Jessie	Plymouth	MA	
Powers	Abby	Brunswick	ME	
Powers	Nick	Medway	ME	
Prats	Zoe	York	PA	
Pratt	Banalata	Bangor	ME	
Pratte	Michael	Bedford	NH	
Praul	Hunter	South China	ME	
Praul	Jacob	South China	ME	
Prejean	Delaney	Saco	ME	

Prejean	Desiree	Saco	ME	
Press	Ida	Uppsala		Sweden
Preston	Dean	Windham	ME	
Preston	Jaren	Windham	ME	
Prince	Maggie	York	ME	
Profenno	Lucas	Portland	ME	
Prokop	Matush	Skowhegan	ME	
Prybylo	Max	Bangor	ME	
Pugina	Mariia	Saint Petersburg		Russian Federation
Pulito	Gianna	Fairfield	CT	
Punch	Jessica	Hebron	ME	
Purple	Spencer	Westford	MA	
Qualey	Sara	Norridgewock	ME	
Quartararo	Juliet	Scarborough	ME	
Quint-Wood	Mia	South Portland	ME	
Quirion	Myles	Augusta	ME	
Radel	Sean	Kennebunk	ME	
Rae	Polly	Buxton	ME	
Rae	Josh	West Barnstable	MA	
Rafferty	Neil	Mason	NH	

Rafferty	Terence	River Edge	NJ	
Rafford	Kit	North Yarmouth	ME	
Rafford	Trevor	North Yarmouth	ME	
Rainsford	Luke	South Portland	ME	
Rajcula	Jed	Brookfield	CT	
Ralph	Dylan	Ridgefield	CT	
Ramos	Jordan	Warren	RI	
Ramsden	Ian	Portland	ME	
Rancourt	Kristen	Winslow	ME	
Rand	Emily	Billerica	MA	
Ransley	Sam	New Harbor	ME	
Rasco	Zale	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Rathbun	Molly	Gorham	ME	
Ratliffe	Mary	Fremont	NH	
Raval	Ria	Voorhees	NJ	
Raven	Kristen	Thorndike	ME	
Ray	Kaylee	Gardiner	ME	
Raymond	Kayla	Standish	ME	
Ready	Colin	Eliot	ME	
Reardon	Finnegan	Milton	MA	
Reardon	Dylan	North Reading	MA	

Reavis	Morgan	South Paris	ME	
Rec	Corinna	Kennebunk	ME	
Reed	Myah	Newport	ME	
Reed	Zack	Scarborough	ME	
Reed	Sydney	Skowhegan	ME	
Reed	Lauren	West Enfield	ME	
Reese	Connor	Veazie	ME	
Regan	Adam	Old Town	ME	
Regan	Nate	Old Town	ME	
Regan	Fiona	Orchard Park	NY	
Regis	Caroline	Acushnet	MA	
Reheuser	Kathleen	Keystone Heights	FL	
Reid	Emily	Dighton	MA	
Reinbach	Luke	Fryeburg	ME	
Renshaw	Alex	Marshfield	ME	
Renwick	Nolan	Milestone		Canada
Reynolds	Isaiah	Harrison	ME	
Reynolds	Dana	Kents Hill	ME	
Reynolds	Kelli	Mansfield	MA	
Reynolds	Mikayla	Waterville	ME	
Reynolds	Jackson	Winslow	ME	

Rezack	Stephen	South Berwick	ME	
Rheault	Riley	Portland	ME	
Rhoads-Doyle	Jamison	Holden	ME	
Rice	Anora	Georgetown	ME	
Rice	Jaylee	Hampden	ME	
Rice	Ollie	Kenduskeag	ME	
Rice	Keagan	New Gloucester	ME	
Rich	Max	Jamaica Plain	MA	
Rich	Kaily	Lebanon	ME	
Richard	Maddy	Ipswich	MA	
Richardson	Lauren	Brewer	ME	
Richardson	Taylor	Ellsworth	ME	
Richardson	Rachael	Hillsborough	NJ	
Richardson	Sadie	Milton Township	ME	
Richardson	Milo	Rogers	AR	
Ricker	Ashley	Gorham	ME	
Ricker	Kyle	Westport Island	ME	
Ridenour	Olivia	Richmond	ME	
Rider	Rebecca	Presque Isle	ME	
Ridley	Kaitlyn	Brunswick	ME	
Riley	Bryan	Augusta	ME	

Riley	Olivia	Brockton	MA	
Riley	Cc	Falmouth	MA	
Riley	Andrew	South Portland	ME	
Rinehart	Emerson	Lakeville	CT	
Rinoldo	Becca	Upton	MA	
Riordan	Declan	Bangor	ME	
Riordan	Quinn	Sudbury	MA	
Ritchie	Katie	Northport	ME	
Ritter	Clayton	Middletown	DE	
Rivera	Sofia	Oakhurst	NJ	
Rivera	Elaine	Ridgewood	NY	
Rivers	Nicole	Wakefield	MA	
Rivet	Ben	Groton	MA	
Roach	Lera	New Hill	NC	
Robbins	Sherralyn	Brewer	ME	
Robbins	Allison	Ellsworth	ME	
Robbins	Ethan	Holden	MA	
Robbins	Cameron	Old Town	ME	
Robbins	Noah	Searsmont	ME	
Roberge	Brook	Cape Neddick	ME	
Roberts	Paige	Colebrook	CT	

Roberts	Abigail	Damariscotta	ME	
Roberts	Sean	Harpswell	ME	
Roberts	Sam	Old Town	ME	
Roberts	Dimarco	Wells	ME	
Robertson	Haley	Brewer	ME	
Robinson	Ashley	Kennebunk	ME	
Robinson	Natalie	Wells	ME	
Rochette	Kelsey	Howell	MI	
Rocks	Morgan	Jonesport	ME	
Rockwood	Olivia	Windsor	VT	
Rodrigue	Grace	Augusta	ME	
Rodriguez	Sethany	Novelty	OH	
Rodriguez Santos	Sabrina	Enfield	CT	
Roebuck	Lewis	Wakefield	RI	
Roehrich	Kacey	Flanders	NJ	
Rogers	Halle	Medina	OH	
Rogers	Kirstie	Winslow	ME	
Rolfe	Avery	Windham	ME	
Roman	Victoria	Alexandria	NH	
Romero	Jesie	Hampden	ME	
Ronco	Lucas	Dover-Foxcroft	ME	

Rosander	Chad	Sanford	ME	
Rosati	Antonia	Medford	MA	
Roseman	Ben	Ellicott City	MD	
Rosenthal-Baxter	Andrew	Tariffville	CT	
Ross	Julia	Vancouver		Canada
Ross	Callie	Walpole	MA	
Rote	Ben	Brunswick	ME	
Rothwell	Angela	Camden	ME	
Rottari	Josiah	New Gloucester	ME	
Round	Elizabeth	North Andover	MA	
Roussel	Simon	Gorham	ME	
Rowe	Wyatt	Wells	ME	
Roy	Mike	Albion	ME	
Roy	Emilee	Hollis Center	ME	
Roy	Sydney	Lewiston	ME	
Roy	Brenna	Northwood	NH	
Roy	Tanya	Orono	ME	
Roy	Abby	Scarborough	ME	
Royle	Grace	Minot	ME	
Rozzi	Bethany	Portland	ME	

Rubianes	Abraham	Kittery	ME	
Rubin	Leo	Norwich	CT	
Rudai	Andi	Phoenix	MD	
Ruel	Luke	Keene	NH	
Ruggiero	Andrew	Swansea	MA	
Rukumbuzi	Francois	Westbrook	ME	
Rumsey	C.J.	Gray	ME	
Rusiecki	Aaron	Freeport	ME	
Rusk	Eleanore	Exeter	RI	
Russell	Alexander	Acton	MA	
Russell	Chloe	Gorham	ME	
Russell	Lynsie	Old Town	ME	
Russell	Gabe	Portland	ME	
Russo	Brianna	Randolph	MA	
Rutherford	Nick	Farmington	CT	
Ryan	Tim	Abington	MA	
Ryan	Shea	Buffalo	NY	
Ryan	Ally	Leeds	ME	
Ryan	Eryn	Leeds	ME	
Ryder	Greg	Cumberland Center	ME	
Ryder	Maggie	Sabattus	ME	

Ryder	Candice	Stratford	CT	
Sabatino	Lauren	Scarborough	ME	
Sabol	Michael	Finleyville	PA	
Sabourin	Cat	Stow	MA	
Sajen	Sreyas	Bangor	ME	
Sala	Emily	Bangor	ME	
Saleh	Ahmed	Cumberland Center	ME	
Salesky	Gwyn	Nashua	NH	
Salgado	Barb	Medway	MA	
Salisbury	Aidan	Temple	ME	
Salisbury	Will	Temple	ME	
Salley	Kyle	Smithfield	ME	
Saltzman	Lydia	Beverly	MA	
Sanchez	Phoenix	Oakland	ME	
Sanchez	Brian	Soledad	CA	
Sandberg	Amanda Linnea	Skurup		Sweden
Sanders	Robbie	Kennebunkport	ME	
Sanderson	Hannah	Northport	ME	
Sandor	Ildiko	Milford	ME	
Sands	Gabby	Plymouth	ME	
Santacrose	Maria	East Nassau	NY	

Santamaria	Sophia	Orono	ME	
Santerre	Haley	Brewer	ME	
Santiago	Steven	Hampden	ME	
Sargent	Jessica	Brewer	ME	
Sargent	Myles	Greenland	NH	
Sargent	Jake	Topsham	ME	
Saulter	Sammi	Waterville	ME	
Saunders	Brendan	Brewer	ME	
Savage	Emily	Plainville	CT	
Savage	Leah	Skowhegan	ME	
Sawicki	Kaitlyn	Nobleboro	ME	
Sawyer	Camden	Gorham	ME	
Scala	Ryan	Hampstead	NH	
Schaen	Victoria	Jackman	ME	
Schanck	Olivia	Wilton	ME	
Schell	Vinny	Oceanside	NY	
Schilling	Maggie	Orono	ME	
Schmidt-Svejstrup	Jacob	Charlottenlund		Denmark
Schmitt	Michael	Orefield	PA	
Schroeter	Ingrid	Orono	ME	
Schueller	Karleigh	Middleton	MA	

Schulitz	Ella	Weatogue	CT	
Schultz	Amber	Medfield	MA	
Schwab	Orion	Livermore Falls	ME	
Schwartz	Ethan	Ambler	PA	
Schweikert	Elyeah	Henderson	NV	
Schweizer	Katie	Old Town	ME	
Schwinn	Morgan	Marshfield	ME	
Sciarappa	Olivia	Charlton	MA	
Scobie	Claire	Hampden	ME	
Scocchi	P.J.	Wakefield	RI	
Scott	Olivia	Hampden	ME	
Scott	Zach	Hampden	ME	
Scott	Caden	Portland	ME	
Scott	Vincent	Readfield	ME	
Scott	Nate	Winthrop	ME	
Scrapchansky	Lea	Brunswick	ME	
Searing	Llewellyn	Milford	ME	
Sears	Justyn	Scarborough	ME	
Seavey	MaKayla	Ellsworth	ME	
Seddiqi	Parry	Bangor	ME	

Seekins	Katie	Oakland	ME	
Seeley	Lilli	Bangor	ME	
Seidakhmetov	Amir	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Seiders	Brooke	Orono	ME	
Senior	Brody	Newburyport	MA	
Serappa	Livia	Portland	ME	
Seregely	Mira	Budapest		Hungary
Sergi	Samuel	Brewer	ME	
Sernyk	Gabs	Windham	ME	
Sernyk	Isabella	Windham	ME	
Seuch	Matt	Orono	ME	
Sevigny	Hanna	York	ME	
Shaffer	Mikayla	Woodbridge	VA	
Shah	Abdulwahed	Orono	ME	
Shahmoradi	Hannah	Bangor	ME	
Shair	Sydney	Dedham	MA	
Shane	Amber	Vinalhaven	ME	
Shannon	Julia	Lee	ME	
Shantz	Anna	Wellfleet	MA	
Shanz	Ryan	Bristow	VA	
Sharma	Aakriti	Arlington	MA	

Sharp	Alainna	Glen Gardner	NJ	
Sharp	Andrew	Springfield	IL	
Sharrow	Olivia	Glenburn	ME	
Shaw	Claire	Bernard	ME	
Shaw	Parker	Corinth	ME	
Shaw	Chrissy	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Shaw	Remington	Newport	ME	
Shaw	Liana	Orono	ME	
Shaw	Oren	Turner	ME	
Shea	Maeve	Brunswick	ME	
Shea	Molly	Lynn	MA	
Sheehan	Nicole	Newbury	MA	
Sheehan	Joe	Swampscott	MA	
Sheehy	Tyler	Middletown	CT	
Sheets	Jodie	Hebron	ME	
Sheffield	Emma	Bangor	ME	
Shepherd	Noah	Fairfield	ME	
Sherburne	Sydney	South Portland	ME	
Sheridan	Grace	East Greenwich	RI	
Sherman	Nicholas	Hodgdon	ME	
Sherwood	Clement	Brookline	NH	

Shiber	Morgan	Port Deposit	MD	
Shields	Chloe	Eliot	ME	
Shink	Cassidy	Fayette	ME	
Shokal	James	Alexandria	NH	
Shooter	Cori	Monroe	ME	
Shorette	Lucas	Bradley	ME	
Siciliano	Katrina	Middleboro	MA	
Siciliano	Gabbie	Orono	ME	
Sickler	Kayla	Milford	NH	
Sickles	Rachael	Corinna	ME	
Sidaway	Jaymie	Dedham	ME	
Silva	Camilla	Framingham	MA	
Silva	Tori	North Waterboro	ME	
Silvera	Jasmine	Lowell	MA	
Simmons	Katie	North Yarmouth	ME	
Simmons	Emma	Tenants Harbor	ME	
Simon	Anne	Sandweiler		Luxembourg
Simon	Korinna	Southborough	MA	
Singer	Violet	Falmouth	ME	
Singer	Alyssa	Oxford	MA	
Siren	Ella	Skowhegan	ME	

Sirois	Thomas	Buxton	ME	
Sirois	Joshua	Springvale	ME	
Sirota	Jakub	Orono	ME	
Skidgel	Chrissy	Caribou	ME	
Skilton	Shannon	Swedesboro	NJ	
Slater	Abigail	Hebron	OH	
Slocum	Amelia	Bangor	ME	
Small	Faith Marie	Auburn	ME	
Smaracko	Marshall	Rollinsford	NH	
Smart	Dom	Bangor	ME	
Smart-Pelletier	Dylan	Bernard	ME	
Smiley	Ford	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Audrey	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Emma	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Travis	Belgrade	ME	
Smith	Anneliese	Bethel	ME	
Smith	Joshua	Bradley	ME	
Smith	Cassidy	Brewer	ME	
Smith	Olivia	Bucksport	ME	
Smith	Melanie	Cranford	NJ	
Smith	Chiara	East Montpelier	VT	

Smith	Eli	Farmingdale	ME	
Smith	Colby	Holden	ME	
Smith	Elaina	Keene	NY	
Smith	Brett	Kittery	ME	
Smith	Felicia	Lee	NH	
Smith	Hope	North Smithfield	RI	
Smith	Jasmine	Old Town	ME	
Smith	Jared	Orono	ME	
Smith	Adrianna	Reston	VA	
Smith	Evan	Saco	ME	
Smith	Meghan	Saint Paul	MN	
Smith	Dan	Scarborough	ME	
Smith	Megan	Sheffield	MA	
Smith	Corey	Sidney	ME	
Smith	Colin	Tenants Harbor	ME	
Smith	Tommy	Troy	ME	
Smith	Annie	Westford	MA	
Smith	Grace	Winslow	ME	
Smith	Kayla	Winter Garden	FL	
Smith	Jevin	Winthrop	ME	
Smith-D'Addio	Savanna	Old Town	ME	

Smy	Isabelle	Cumming	GA	
Snow	Tobin	North Yarmouth	ME	
Snow	Anna	Stetson	ME	
Snyder	Natalie	Lake Frederick	VA	
Soares	Mason	Bar Harbor	ME	
Soler	Shania	Genesee	PA	
Solomon	Jacob	South Portland	ME	
Soni	Jaitin	Osceola	IN	
Sorgini	Brianna	Amesbury	MA	
Sorice	Maddalena	Bangor	ME	
Sossong	Brooke	Old Town	ME	
Soucy	Dominic	Alton	NH	
Soucy	Evangeline	Augusta	ME	
Soucy	Melanie	Old Town	ME	
Sousa	Alexandra	Hopedale	MA	
Sousa	Ross	Somerset	MA	
Southworth	Katie	Hope	ME	
Southworth	Thomas	Hope	ME	
Spann	Jennifer	Newburgh	ME	
Spaulding	Anna	Brewer	ME	

Spaulding	Azaria	Hampden	ME	
Spaulding	Abby	Troy	ME	
Speakman	Brynne	Bethel	ME	
Spear	Kathleen	Portland	ME	
Speck	Birte	Reinheim		Germany
Spence	Parker	Falmouth	ME	
Spencer	Caroline	Falmouth	ME	
Sperrey	Alaina	Presque Isle	ME	
Spidle	Gavin	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Spiegel	Emma	Searsport	ME	
Spink-O'Brien	Bonnie	Bangor	ME	
Spinney	Jack	Newburyport	MA	
Sprague	Lydia	Marshfield	ME	
Spriggs	Holly	Dover	NH	
Springer	Marissa	Bar Harbor	ME	
Springer	Brooke	Glenburn	ME	
Squires	John	Southwest Harbor	ME	
St Peter	Melissa	Bucksport	ME	
St Peter	Connor	Kenduskeag	ME	
St Peter	Eleanor	Presque Isle	ME	
St Pierre	Nate	Augusta	ME	

St Pierre	Simon	Fryeburg	ME	
St Pierre	Elyse	Winslow	ME	
St.Germain	Hannah	Foxboro	MA	
Stamey	Mia	Westbrook	ME	
Stanard	Mark	Center Tuftonboro	NH	
Stanislaski	Kate	Somerville	MA	
Stanley	Nathaniel	Rockport	ME	
Stanton	Molly	Franklin	MA	
Stead	Sally	Cumberland	ME	
Steeves	Jacob	Skowhegan	ME	
Steinman	Kim	Cumberland Center	ME	
Stellmann	Will	South Paris	ME	
Stephens	Corey	Bangor	ME	
Sterling	Rachel	Minneapolis	MN	
Stevens	Braedon	Hermon	ME	
Stevens	Abby	Island Falls	ME	
Stevens	Abby	Smithfield	ME	
Stevens	Annie	Windham	ME	
Stevens	Katherine	Winslow	ME	
Stevens Shourds	Maggie	Bowdoinham	ME	
Stiverson	Camille	West Lafayette	IN	

Stockman	Emily	Northborough	MA	
Stoddard	Hannah	Standish	ME	
Stoelzel	Liz	Trumbull	CT	
Stokes-Dana	Kaden	Bangor	ME	
Stone	Kayla	Burlington	ME	
Stone	Hana	Danvers	MA	
Stone	Sam	Greenwood	ME	
Storer	Bree	Poland	ME	
Storman	Natalie	Alton	ME	
Storms	Benjamin	West Hartford	CT	
Story	Elijah	Huntsville	AL	
Stovall	Kathy	Phillips	ME	
Stover	Lindsey	Enfield	CT	
Stow	Courtney	Niantic	CT	
Stow	Kaitlyn	Niantic	CT	
Stratton	Garrett	Rumson	NJ	
Straub	Starla	Florence	AL	
Straub	Anna	Wallingford	CT	
Streinz	Caleb	Hersey	ME	
Strickler	James	Tewksbury	MA	
Strout	Justin	Limington	ME	

Stuart	Gabrielle	Chelmsford	MA	
Stuart	Ashlyn	Corinth	ME	
Stuart	Eve	Marblehead	MA	
Sturgess	Lauren	Naples	ME	
Sturgis	Julia	Gorham	ME	
Sturtevant	Levi	Bangor	ME	
Styles	Sarah	Guildhall	VT	
Suchovic	Jessie	Port Murray	NJ	
Sudbeck	Casey	Hampden	ME	
Suderley	Ethan	Winterport	ME	
Sudol	Sabrina	Ramsey	NJ	
Sudol	Samantha	Ramsey	NJ	
Sullivan	Riley	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Sullivan	Natalie	Dracut	MA	
Sullivan	Kelly	Old Town	ME	
Sullivan	Caileigh	Watertown	MA	
Supple	Ben	Kingston	MA	
Surat-Mosher	Noelle	Norwich	VT	
Suthers	Keenan	Belle River		Canada
Suttie	Elsie	Fairfield	ME	
Sutton	Kearson	Dover Foxcroft	ME	

Sutton	Trevor	Kennebunkport	ME	
Sutton	Kaitlyn	North Kingstown	RI	
Svec	Malcolm	Eastbrook	ME	
Swain	Bradley	Bellingham	MA	
Swanson	Parker	North Yarmouth	ME	
Swanson	Nathaniel	Peabody	MA	
Swartz	William	Freeland	MD	
Sweeney	Gillian	Byfield	MA	
Swift	Logan	Gorham	ME	
Swift	Forrest	Skowhegan	ME	
Swope	Samuel	Eagle Lake	ME	
Sylvain	Johnny	Portland	ME	
Szczechowicz	Jack	North Berwick	ME	
Szczechowicz	Nate	North Berwick	ME	
Szecsí	Isabella	Saddle Brook	NJ	
Szumilas	Kendall	Bucksport	ME	
Szymanski	Edison	Orono	ME	
Taggart	Emma	Raymond	ME	
Tallapureddy	Arihant	Bolton	CT	
Talon	Gabe	Old Town	ME	
Tanner	Desiree	Brunswick	ME	

Tanous	Haid	South Paris	ME	
Tanous	Marla	South Paris	ME	
Tasker	Morgan	Etna	ME	
Taylor	Kyla	Camden	ME	
Taylor	Sara	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Taylor	Justin	Hermon	ME	
Taylor	Ryan	Holliston	MA	
Taylor	James	Portland	ME	
Tedenby	Celine	Orono	ME	
Temple	Kylie	Richmond	ME	
Terril	Kyla	Sanford	ME	
Terrill	James	Bucksport	ME	
Terry	Grace	Gray	ME	
Testa	Lauren	Gray	ME	
Testa	Madeline	Gray	ME	
Testerman	Noah	West Simsbury	CT	
Teufel	Will	Topsham	ME	
Thayer	Rose	Sutton	MA	
Thibert	Alli	North Andover	MA	
Thibodeau	Landon	Freeport	ME	

Thiel	Sam	Middleton	MA	
Thielbar	Jillian	Albany Township	ME	
Thiessen	Matthew	Altona		Canada
Thomas	Elaine	Hampden	ME	
Thomas	Osiris	Kennebunk	ME	
Thompson	Olivia	Bridgton	ME	
Thompson	Rebecca	Broomfield	CO	
Thompson	Alyson	Howland	ME	
Thompson	Shannon	North Kingstown	RI	
Thompson	Gage	Sabattus	ME	
Thompson	Caroline	Topsham	ME	
Thompson	Lexi	Topsham	ME	
Thompson	Kadia	Wells	ME	
Thorman	Shelby	Bethel	ME	
Thorndike	Destiny	Phillips	ME	
Thornton	Sean	East Weymouth	MA	
Thornton	Jacob	Westbrook	ME	
Thorpe	Morgan	Wallingford	CT	
Throckmorton-Hansford	Willow	Somerville	ME	
Thurlow	Ryan	Cape Neddick	ME	
Thurston	Caleb	West Paris	ME	

Tibbetts	Elizabeth	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Tidd	Allisyn	Eddington	ME	
Tiemann	Maddie	Feasterville Trevose	PA	
Tillotson	Stephanie	Cumberland Foreside	ME	
Tillson	Ashley	Saco	ME	
Tirone	Stella	Freedom	ME	
Titcomb	Nick	Scarborough	ME	
Tobor	Zachary	Manchester	ME	
Todd	Sara	Bar Harbor	ME	
Toman	Anna	Gardiner	ME	
Tomascak	Nathan	Portland	ME	
Tomlinson	Laura	Wilbraham	MA	
Tompkins	Jillian	Brewer	ME	
Topchik	Amy	Scarborough	ME	
Topper	Izzy	Hudson Falls	NY	
Torres	Jose	Ponce		Puerto Rico
Torres	Quinn	Worcester	MA	
Towle	Annemarie	Augusta	ME	
Townsend	Lydia	Fairfield	ME	
Townsend	Mackenzie	Sanford	ME	
Tracey	Nathaniel	Union	ME	

Tracy	Jack	Standish	ME	
Trafton	Sophie	York	ME	
Tran	Renee	Bangor	ME	
Traphagen	Elizabeth	Franklin	MA	
Treadwell	James	Orono	ME	
Treat	Allison	Carmel	ME	
Trebilcock	Katie	Topsham	ME	
Tremblay	Brendon	Acton	ME	
Trimper	Ally	Orono	ME	
Trimper	Morgan	Orono	ME	
Trott	Ethan	Old Town	ME	
Troxell	Alec	Portland	ME	
True	Mikayla	Sedgwick	ME	
Trujillo	Jillian	Old Town	ME	
Truong	Khang	Sanford	ME	
Truso	Luc	Morrisville	VT	
Trussell	Zoey	Waterville	ME	
Trusty	Yuri	Bangor	ME	
Tschirhart	Julie	North Andover	MA	
Tubbs	Zach	Bangor	ME	
Tucker	Reilly	Falmouth	ME	

Tucker	Jake	Freeport	ME	
Tucker	Orion-Bay	Orono	ME	
Tucker	Bridget	Rowley	MA	
Turgeon	Gwenneth	Auburn	ME	
Turgeon	Riley	Brunswick	ME	
Turgut	Ata	Ankara		Turkey
Turlo	Jacob	Benton	ME	
Turlo	Jonathan	Hampden	ME	
Turner	Blake	North Yarmouth	ME	
Turturici	Tyler	Wilmington	DE	
Tweedie	Camden	Winthrop	ME	
Twohig	Amy	Washington	NJ	
Twombly	Megan	Hollis Center	ME	
Tyler	Caleb	Palermo	ME	
Tymm	Sarah	Billerica	MA	
Ulsamer	Percival	West Haven	CT	
Upham	C.J.	Old Town	ME	
Utsler	Zoe	Valley Village	CA	
Vaccaro	Sam	Kennebunk	ME	
Vaillancourt	Jon	Haverhill	MA	

Valentine	Sydney	Eliot	ME	
Valorose	Andrea	Dracut	MA	
Van Duijn	Claudio	Blue Hill	ME	
Van Leer	Keldan	Brunswick	ME	
Van Tassell	Jeremiah	Lyman	ME	
Van Tassell	Joel	Lyman	ME	
VanCoughnett	Lainey	Holmes	NY	
Vanderblue	Greta	Waterford	ME	
Vandereb	Schuyler	Orland	ME	
VanDyke	Andrew	Oakland	NJ	
Vanorse-Jones	Oliver	Rockland	ME	
Varga	Sabrina	East Meadow	NY	
Vargas	Andres	Lyman	ME	
Varneke	Pierce	Toms River	NJ	
Varney	Olivia	Augusta	ME	
Varney	Devon	Pittsfield	ME	
Varney	Ethan	Pittsfield	ME	
Varney	Abigail	Turner	ME	
Varney	Everet	Turner	ME	
Varnum	Alexa	Dixfield	ME	
Vasquez	Alessandra	Westbrook	ME	

Vatis	Lizzie	Fairfield	CT	
Veal	Marek	Perry	ME	
Vecchione	Hayley	Millville	MA	
Vegas	Guy	Portsmouth	RI	
Venard	Kevin	Sullivan	ME	
Ventola	Haley	Moneta	VA	
Verneau	Colleen	Cheshire	CT	
Verrill	Lilas	Peachtree Corners	GA	
Viamari	Joseph	Southwick	MA	
Vickers	Mei-Ella	Jamestown	RI	
Vickery	Kathleen	Old Town	ME	
Victoria	Steff	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Vidler	Amber	Saint Augustine	FL	
Viekman	Sarah	Old Town	ME	
Viel	Sophia	Beverly	MA	
Villapa	Alyssa Nicole	Melrose	MA	
Villeneuve	Donavan	Montreal		Canada
Vina Lopez	Maria	Santiago de Compostela		Spain
Vincent	Molly	Auburn	ME	
Viola	Caleb	South Portland	ME	
Violette	Isaac	Oakland	ME	

Virgin	Matt	Lewiston	ME	
Vital	Macy	West Haven	CT	
Vittum	Zoe	Brewer	ME	
Vittum	Richard	Burlington	MA	
Vogel	Allison	Bridgton	ME	
Vogelman	Christopher	Newtown	CT	
Voight	Emily	Sebastopol	CA	
Vose-Gimbel	Jack	South Portland	ME	
Voteur	Jenna	Orrington	ME	
Waggoner	Sam	Gorham	ME	
Wagner	Will	Gibsonia	PA	
Wald	Leah	Framingham	MA	
Walden	Seamus	Pittsfield	ME	
Walker	Ricky	Cumberland Center	ME	
Walker	Ben	Hodgdon	ME	
Walker	Samuel	Mount Desert	ME	
Walker	Kristjana	North Vancouver		Canada
Walker	Molly	South Portland	ME	
Wallace	Ben	Bridgewater	MA	
Wallace	Christina	West Enfield	ME	
Walorz	Kaity	Lakeville	MA	

Walsh	Jessie	Benton	ME	
Walsh	Liz	Benton	ME	
Walsh	Bridie	Braintree	MA	
Warburton	Evan	Old Town	ME	
Ward	Ashley	Williamsburg	VA	
Wardwell	Finn	Dedham	ME	
Warmuth	Claire	Brewer	ME	
Warner	Emma	Phippsburg	ME	
Warnick	Maddie	Rising Sun	MD	
Warren	Katelyn	Skowhegan	ME	
Wasylyna	Ethan	Exeter	NH	
Waterhouse	Mariette	Acton	ME	
Waterhouse	Ethan	Dayton	ME	
Waterman	Sadie	Sabattus	ME	
Watkins	Gwen	Orrington	ME	
Watras	Emma	Seal Cove	ME	
Watras	Julia	Seal Cove	ME	
Watson	Lily	Cedar Falls	IA	
Watson	Josh	Glenburn	ME	
Watt Arroyave	Alejandro	Warwick	RI	

Weafer	Sam	Orono	ME	
Weaver	Jacqui	North Haven	CT	
Webber	Isaac	Garland	ME	
Webber	Meg	Leeds	ME	
Webber	Josh	Springvale	ME	
Webster	Morgan	Harpswell	ME	
Webster	Guin	Kingfield	ME	
Weeks	Stephanie	Fall River	MA	
Weeks	Kylie	Friendship	ME	
Weinstein	Myky	Hartland	ME	
Weir	Kelsey	Copley	OH	
Weiss	Ma'ayan	Mount Kisco	NY	
Welch	Sarah	Pittsfield	ME	
Welch	Caroline	Readfield	ME	
Welch	Lily	Readfield	ME	
Wentworth	Sarah	Falmouth	ME	
Wentworth	Emma	Sidney	ME	
Werner	Shane	Cheshire	CT	
Wesley	Liv	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
West	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Westbrook	Phoebe	Binghamton	NY	

Westbrook	Katie	Methuen	MA	
Westhaus	Taylor	Saco	ME	
Westhaver	Caroline	Weatogue	CT	
Weymouth	Allison	Scarborough	ME	
Wheeler	Gideon	Bowdoin	ME	
Whinston	Julia	Silverthorne	CO	
White	John	Bangor	ME	
White	Kelsey	Bangor	ME	
White	Michaela	Bangor	ME	
White	William	Brunswick	ME	
White	Grady	Cumberland Center	ME	
White	Lizzie	Dixfield	ME	
White	Maggie	Duxbury	MA	
White	Emily	Jay	ME	
White	Kat	North Haven	ME	
White	Eva	Orono	ME	
White	Noah	Orono	ME	
White	Spencer	Saint Francis	MN	
White	Katie	Welcome	MD	
White	Emma	Wells	ME	

Whitham	Emily	Wakefield	MA	
Whiting	Lindsey	Derry	NH	
Whiting	Sophie	Saco	ME	
Whitley	Hannah	Londonderry	NH	
Wichterman	Dennis	Ellsworth	ME	
Wick	Kayleigh	Orono	ME	
Wicks	Natalie	Readfield	ME	
Wilborn	Bailey	Wichita	KS	
Wilbur	Joshua	Frankfort	ME	
Wilcox	Leah	Warren	ME	
Wildes	Jacob	Carmel	ME	
Wile	Tucker	Ipswich	MA	
Wilkins	Alex	Wells	ME	
Willard	Henry	Winterport	ME	
Wiley	Kendrah	Ripley	ME	
Williams	Madison	Bernard	ME	
Williams	Selena	Big Lake Township	ME	
Williams	Annabelle	Camden	ME	
Williams	Jacob	Irvine	PA	
Williams	Cooper	Liberty Township	OH	
Williams	Madeline	Mason Township	ME	

Williams	Anna	Norwell	MA	
Williams	Nathan	Orrington	ME	
Williams	Emma	Wilton	ME	
Williams	Maddie	Windham	ME	
Williamson	Dean	Teaneck	NJ	
Willigar	Sam	Veazie	ME	
Willis	Hayden	Rensselaer	NY	
Willis	Kyle	West Paris	ME	
Wilson	Zeke	Grand Haven	MI	
Wilson	Catrina	Harrison	ME	
Wilson	Mackenzie	Lasalle		Canada
Wilson	Jimmy	Plano	TX	
Wind	Willow	Orono	ME	
Wind	Meadow	Rumford	ME	
Winfree	Perry	Cary	NC	
Winn	Cait	Windham	ME	
Wintle	Rylan	Detroit	ME	
Wise	Sophia	Orono	ME	
Wisell	Mary Isabelle	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Witte	Lauren	Dexter	MI	

Wittmer	Torria	Hermon	ME	
Wofford	Lily	Dallas	TX	
Wohlstrom	Augusta	Clinton	CT	
Wolfe	Kaitlin	Walpole	MA	
Wolfenden	Jack	North Andover	MA	
Wolotsky	Isabella	Freeport	ME	
Wood	Marie	Acton	ME	
Wood	Makayla	Carver	MA	
Wood	Marissa	Machiasport	ME	
Wood	Cassandra	Milford	ME	
Woodruff	Tristan	Camden	ME	
Woods	Ethan	Harrisville	RI	
Woods	Addie	Hodgdon	ME	
Worgull	Tessa	Bangor	ME	
Worrick	Lauren	Aurora	CO	
Wortman	Daniel	Old Town	ME	
Wright	Jared	Brewer	ME	
Wright	Skyler	Old Town	ME	
Wyatt	Bruce	Gorham	ME	
Wynne	Eamon	Woonsocket	RI	
Wynott	Christian	Norway	ME	

Yahner	Olivia	Norwell	MA	
Yankura	Harriet	Owls Head	ME	
Yardley	Kira	Bangor	ME	
Yaskula	Mackenzie	Gorham	ME	
Yates	Bee	Casco	ME	
Yeaton	Lily	Wiscasset	ME	
Yesse	Hannah	South Portland	ME	
Yoder	Marlee	Durham	NH	
Yoon	myeongah	Hwaseong-Si		Korea, Republic of
York	John	Benton	ME	
York	Sara	Topsham	ME	
Yorkey	Lucas	Poland	ME	
Yost	Matt	Brunswick	ME	
Yost	Matt	Hampden	ME	
Yost	Wyatt	Lewiston	ME	
Young	Kenzie	Alton	ME	
Young	Kelby	Chelsea	ME	
Young	Josi	Hampden	ME	
Young	Ivan	Lincolnton	ME	
Young	Patrick	North Yarmouth	ME	

Young	Audrey	Owls Head	ME	
Young	Madelyn	Owls Head	ME	
Young	Star	Pembroke	MA	
Zachariason	Sarah	Stillwater	ME	
Zaenger	Calista	San Diego	CA	
Zanoni	Jude	Brewer	ME	
Zanotta	Alessio	Lee	ME	
Zanotta	Davide	Lee	ME	
Zeitlin	Benjamin	Milford	ME	
Zhu	Jie Ning	Belfast	ME	
Ziegra	Carolyn	Orono	ME	
Ziemer	Madison	Lombard	IL	
Zou	Karen	Quincy	MA	
Zucca	Kelvy	New Milford	CT	
Zulfiqar	Maryam	Rawalpindi		Pakistan
Zumwalt	Evelyn	Ellsworth	ME	
Zuras	Everett	Presque Isle	ME	
Zuras	Holden	Presque Isle	ME	
Zybert	Steven	Bangor	ME	

[Summer FLAS Competition now accepting applications](#) The Canadian-American Center is now accepting applications for Summer 2022 Foreign Language

Area Studies (FLAS) awards. The award competition is open to all graduate students who wish to improve their French proficiency in Canada. Summer FLAS is a federal grant to support graduate students studying French and undergraduate or graduate students studying less commonly taught Canadian languages, including First Nations languages like Maliseet, Mi'kmaq/Micmac, Passamaquoddy [...] [Read more UMaine Extension 4-H agricultural leadership program starts March 15](#) University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering a six-week session in its agricultural leadership program for Maine teens on Tuesdays, March 15–April 19, 3:30–5 p.m. The [Spring 2022 Agricultural Leadership Ambassador Program](#) will provide Maine youth ages 14–18 online and in-person opportunities to explore career pathways, post-secondary options, current issues in food systems, crop sciences, aquaculture and more. Current 4-H membership is not required. [...] [Read more BDN advances Extension 4-H leadership workshop](#) The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H offering a six-week session in its agricultural leadership program for Maine teens on Tuesdays, March 15–April 19 from 3:30–5 p.m. Register on the [program webpage](#). [Read more BDN shares Extension 4-H Science Club](#) The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H’s new five-session online food science club for ages 9–13. The club will meet weekly 3:30–4:30 p.m. March 22–April 19. The club is free to join; registration on the [4-H club webpage](#) is required by March 10 and limited to 10 participants. [Read more](#)

UMaine grants automatic admission and scholarships to Aspirations Incubator graduates

08 Mar 2022

University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy announced today that qualifying high school graduates from the Lerner Foundation’s [Aspirations Incubator](#) programs for rural Maine youth will receive \$500 merit scholarships and automatic admission to UMaine or its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, as UMS TRANSFORMS Affiliates. Aspirations Incubator (AI) is a six-year pilot initiative launched in 2017 by the Emanuel & Pauline A. Lerner Foundation that provides long-term, comprehensive mentoring programs in rural Maine communities to increase resiliency and build aspiration in young people and to introduce them to new opportunities. The Lerner Foundation decided to focus exclusively on this effort and committed more than \$8 million — the entirety of its endowment — to the AI pilot programs. More than 280 youth at five partner sites currently participate in AI programs, which start in seventh grade and continue through high school. At each AI site, a local youth-serving organization is paired with a nearby school district: EdGE Program of the Maine Seacoast Mission and SAD 37 in Cherryfield; Old Town/Orono YMCA and RSU 34 in Old Town; Game Loft and RSU 3 in Thorndike; Chewonki and RSU 1 in Bath; and University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Center at Bryant Pond and SAD 44 in Bethel. The first cohort of more than 60 AI participants will be high school seniors next fall, having been immersed for six years in mentoring, experiential learning, social and emotional development, and college and career readiness programs. UMaine has observed the success of the AI program through the Bryant Pond lens and established the UMS TRANSFORMS Affiliates initiative to further and to support the AI graduates’ aspirations. UMaine guarantees that AI graduates with a 3.0 grade point average will have automatic admission and a minimum \$500 annual award. “These students and their mentors are true inspirations, and the Aspirations Incubator provides an important model for rural youth development,” says Ferrini-Mundy. “These young people now have the tools needed to be successful college students, to pursue their career goals, and to become tomorrow’s leaders. “Aspirations Incubator is the kind of statewide, community-based initiative that embodies the spirit of UMS TRANSFORMS, funded by the Harold Alfond Foundation, so establishing affiliation for Aspirations Incubator graduates is a natural next step in supporting their ambitions and futures,” she says. “We look forward to seeing just how far their aspirations take them, and we hope to welcome them to UMaine and UMaine Machias to launch their college careers.” This commitment from UMaine recognizes the success of the program, the commitment of AI graduates and the importance of continuing to build aspiration and resilience by opening wider the doors to higher education, says Don Carpenter, executive director of the Lerner Foundation. "This is a huge step forward for the Aspirations Incubator program and, more important, for the students whose aspirations we have sought to build and nurture," Carpenter says."We are thrilled." The Aspirations Incubator program and the support of the Lerner Foundation has raised the bar for us in our youth development work, says Ryder Scott, executive director of UMaine 4-H Centers and lead administrator on the Lerner Foundation grant to the Bryant Pond Center. “With its focus on long-term relationships with youth, AI is making a difference for the young people of Maine in ways I never thought possible.” Eliot Cutler, president of the Lerner Foundation, hailed UMS TRANSFORMS Affiliates as “an investment in Maine’s future.” “When we created the Aspirations Incubator program, one of our aspirations was that it would be a gateway to four-year and advanced degrees for kids from rural Maine and smaller Maine communities. The university is helping to fulfill that ambition, and we are deeply grateful to President Ferrini-Mundy,” Cutler says. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Hopkins speaks to Realtor.com about sealing windows

02 Aug 2022

Kathy Hopkins, community educator at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to [Realtor.com](#) about the best techniques for sealing windows to save on energy bills. “It can be as simple as feeling around the edges of the frame on the inside to see if there’s a lot of cold air infiltrating,” Hopkins said. According to Hopkins, adding a barrier like curtains or cornices keeps warm air from seeping behind the window treatment and to the outside.

Howell catheter research receives funding from philanthropic organization for next steps

Howell catheter research receives funding from philanthropic organization for next steps Caitlin Howell, associate professor of chemical and biomedical engineering at the University of Maine, researches how to design catheters that are less likely to cause infections. News of her research caught the eye of a philanthropic organization, and now, her research has the backing it needs to potentially enter the medical market. Howell leads a team of researchers at the UMaine Biointerface and Biomimetics Lab studying different coatings that can help prevent protein deposition that could lead to urinary tract and blood infections. Together with Ana Flores-Mireles, assistant professor at the University of Notre Dame, they have shown that liquid-infused silicone (LIS) catheters can significantly reduce the deposition of the protein fibrinogen and decrease the risk of major pathogens in the urinary tract. Open Philanthropy, a grantmaking organization that supports research through philanthropic donations, contacted Howell directly after learning about her research in multiple news outlets and on the University of Maine [website](#). On Sept. 7, Howell received news that she was awarded \$350,000 in support from the organization. “We were very happy to learn that organizations like Open Philanthropy exist to identify and support research that has the potential to improve millions of lives. Having their support means that we can begin to focus on what needs to be done to move this technology to the market where it can begin to help people,” Howell says. The funding will support the next steps of Howell’s research, which is translating the technology to the market. The team will be working on intellectual property protection and licensing; customer discovery and market analysis; and beginning the FDA approval process. “Our goal is to get this technology to the point where it can help all those who rely on catheters. It will be a long process to get this into the hands of doctors and patients, as it is with nearly all new medical technologies, but we are motivated to get it done,” Howell says. Media contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu Intellectual property contact: Christopher Fasel, christopher.fasel@maine.edu

BDN shares ‘Broadway Rocks’ concert at Collins Center

19 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that Broadway star and University of Maine alum Merritt David Janes is returning to his alma mater to present the show “Broadway Rocks” at 8 p.m. on Sept. 24 for the Collins Center for the Arts Gala. Janes co-created the show with his classmates while studying at UMaine.

Sandweiss featured in American Scientist about grant that kick-started his research career

Daniel Sandweiss, professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Maine, was featured in the November-December 2022 issue of American Scientist, the magazine, published by Sigma Xi Scientific Society, discussing a Grant in Aid of Research (GIAR) that he received almost 40 years ago as a graduate student at Cornell. “The GIAR award allowed me to hire a professional topographer to work with me to create a precision profile across the ridges. The results showed that the ridges did not rise sequentially from shore to interior. This, in turn, helped support my El Niño origin hypothesis. ...The GIAR-supported work led to a paper in the inaugural issue of the journal Geoarchaeology and helped launch one of my main streams of research on the prehistory of El Niño,” Sandweiss said.

Wiscasset Newspaper, BDN advances maple syrup workshop for beginners

04 Jan 2022

The [Wiscasset Newspaper](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) advanced an in-person maple syrup production workshop for beginners offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Jan. 29. The class, “Backyard Sugaring: Maple Syrup 101,” first meets at Shaw Brothers Construction Company, 341 Mosher Road, Gorham, and finishes at Nash Valley Farm, 79 Nash Road, Windham. Registration is required, and can be done [online](#).

Media highlight Dunn joining UMaine ranks as a senior advisor

04 Jan 2022

The [Associated Press](#), [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5) noted that retired Brig. Gen. Diane Dunn, a University of Maine alumna with 33 years of military service, was named senior advisor for special initiatives, reporting to UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, effective Jan. 3. [U.S. News & World Report](#), the [Portland Press Herald](#) and [The Argus-Press](#) and the [Beaumont Enterprise](#) shared the AP report.

Media highlight UMaine American woodcock research

05 Jan 2022

[Positively Osceola](#), [Florida Weekly](#) and the [Monticello News and Jefferson County Journal](#) highlighted an award-winning University of Maine-led research effort to document the migratory patterns and habitat use of American woodcocks in 14 states along the Eastern Seaboard.

Lichtenwalner speaks to BDN about possible threat of avian flu coming to Maine

05 Jan 2022

Anne Lichtenwalner, University of Maine Cooperative Extension associate professor and director of the veterinary diagnostic laboratory, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the possible threat of North American avian flu coming to Maine after a case was detected in eastern Canada. “We’re free of it right now but that could change really fast,” she said. [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) shared the BDN story.

News Observer reports on plans, COVID-19 guidance for spring semester at UMaine Machias

05 Jan 2022

The [Machias Valley News Observer](#) reported on plans to maintain in-person learning at the University of Maine at Machias and other institutions across the University of Maine System next semester, as well as new guidance for all of them pertaining to COVID-19. “While all of our vaccination, exemption and testing protocols continue from last semester, the pandemic’s evolution with the fast-spreading omicron variant demands that we take greater advantage of the extra protection that booster shots give us,” said Chancellor Dannel Malloy.

Brewer discusses U.S. Capitol insurrection with News Center Maine

05 Jan 2022

Mark Brewer, professor and acting chair of the University of Maine Department of Political Science, spoke to [News Center Maine](#) about the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol and the political divide surrounding it on the eve of its first anniversary. “In the grand scope of recorded human history, democracy is a tiny little sliver, and it’s a very fragile thing,” Brewer said. “Any time it’s threatened, that threat needs to be taken seriously. I think the threat right now to American democracy is the biggest it’s been, perhaps in American history, but it’s definitely the biggest it’s been in a century at least.”

NYT interviews Kersbergen about struggles of Northeast organic dairy farms amid industry-wide change

05 Jan 2022

The [New York Times](#) interviewed Rick Kersbergen, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor, about the struggles Northeast organic dairy farms are facing amid industry-wide change. “There’s been an enormous growth of organic dairy farms west of the Mississippi — Texas, Colorado,” Kersbergen said. “That’s created a situation where these mega-organic dairy farms are able to produce organic milk at a much cheaper cost than those farms

in the Northeast.”

Dill discusses rat infestations in homes with the BDN

06 Jan 2022

Griffin Dill, an integrated pest management professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about rats infesting homes during the winter. “In the winter they can be found if they have taken up residence in your home, garage, barn, chicken coop or other dwellings,” he said. “You may not see the rat, but their presence can be seen.”

Media advance agriculture industry updates from UMaine Extension

06 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [The Piscataquis Observer](#), the [Sun Journal](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) advanced two online research updates specific to the agricultural industry hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension from 7–8 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 19. Register on the [event webpage](#).

Sporer discusses political polarization reflected in insurrection with BDN

06 Jan 2022

Karyn Sporer, an associate professor of sociology with the University of Maine, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the political polarization reflected in the insurrection on Jan. 6, 2021 at the U.S. Capitol. “It really doesn’t take much for someone to feel disengaged from their families or deviant or mildly stigmatized by family members for not being vaccinated,” said Sporer, who also serves as an investigator with the Department of Homeland Security’s National Counterterrorism, Innovation, Technology and Education Center.

BDN promotes first annual Statewide Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering

06 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) promoted the first annual Statewide Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering planned for Oct. 13–14. The event is sponsored by the University of Maine, University of New England, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Jackson Laboratory, Roux Institute, Northern Light Health and MaineHealth. Registration materials, abstract deadlines and other details will be available in mid-January on the UMaine [Institute of Medicine website](#).

UMaine announces first annual Statewide Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering for fall 2022

06 Jan 2022

The first annual Statewide Research Symposium on Biomedical Science and Engineering is planned for Oct. 13–14, sponsored by the University of Maine, University of New England, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Jackson Laboratory, Roux Institute, Northern Light Health and MaineHealth. The symposium, to be held at the University of New England Innovation Hall in Portland, will highlight the diverse, state-of-the-art work in Maine’s public and private academic institutions, healthcare systems and private industries as it relates to biological and physiological disciplines, medicine, biomedical engineering and data science. The program will include plenary sessions with keynote speakers, poster sessions and breakout sessions on selected topics. Registration materials, abstract deadlines and other details will be available in mid-January on the UMaine [Institute of Medicine website](#).

MLK Day Panel to Discuss ‘The State of Civil Rights in Maine’

10 Jan 2022

Maine’s attorney general and four other individuals with differing personal and professional perspectives will address the topic “The State of Civil Rights in Maine” as part of eastern and central Maine’s 2022 Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration. The free, online event will be livestreamed on YouTube from 9:30–10:45 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 17. The MLK Day celebration is co-sponsored by the Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP and the University of Maine Alumni Association. Aaron Frey, who, as attorney general, is the state’s chief civil rights enforcement official, will open the main part of the program with formal remarks about the event’s theme. Following his remarks, Frey will be joined by four others for a conversation about the topic: Maulian Dana of Indian Island, Penobscot Nation Tribal ambassador; State Rep. Richard Evans, a medical doctor from Dover-Foxcroft; David Patrick of Bangor, a racial equity and justice educator and consultant; and State Rep. Rachel Talbot Ross of Portland, the assistant majority leader of the Maine House of Representatives. Dana and Talbot Ross co-chair Maine’s Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations. Opening remarks will be presented by Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias; Michael Alpert, president of the Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP; and Jojo Oliphant, a member of the University of Maine Alumni Association’s board of directors. Visit <https://www.umainealumni.com/event/mlk2022/> for details on accessing the event on YouTube.

Yakima Herald-Republic shares UMaine Extension’s houseplant care resource

10 Jan 2022

The [Yakima Herald-Republic](#) shared an [online resource](#) from University of Maine Cooperative Extension that teaches readers how to care for houseplants in Maine.

Islander: DMR hosts shellfish warden training at Hutchinson Center

10 Jan 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) noted that the Maine Department of Marine Resources will hold shellfish warden training March 30-31 at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast.

Media highlight hydroponics for home gardeners workshop

10 Jan 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), the [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), the [Machias Valley News Observer](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) highlighted a webinar offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension to teach home gardeners about hydroponics. Registration for the webinar, which will be held 6–7:15 p.m. on Jan. 24, is [online](#).

Pen Bay Pilot advances new nonviolent communication program

10 Jan 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) advanced a new nonviolent communication professional development program offered by the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. Learn more about the online program, Helping to Calm Strong Emotions with Nonviolent Communication, on the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

Media promote winter equine care webinar

10 Jan 2022

[The Piscataquis Observer](#), [Boothbay Register](#), [Wiscasset Newspaper](#), [Sun Journal](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) promoted an online workshop from University of Maine Cooperative Extension about winter care for equines noon–1 p.m. Feb. 1. Register [online](#).

UMaine Extension personnel discuss challenges pandemic presents to disabled farmers with News Center

10 Jan 2022

[News Center Maine](#) interviewed Leilani Carlson, Maine AgrAbility coordinator at University of Maine Cooperative Extension; Leslie Forstadt, a human development specialist with Extension; and Richard Brzozowski, a food system program administrator at Extension, about the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic presents to farmers with disabilities, as well as services that can assist them. "A healthy farm is nothing without a healthy farmer," Carlson said.

King testifies in legislative committee hearing

11 Jan 2022

Benjamin King, University of Maine assistant professor of bioinformatics, testified Jan. 10 to the Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee on behalf of the University of Maine in support of LD 1771 to establish an advisory panel to better understand and make recommendations regarding the implications of genome-editing technology for Maine. [A copy of his testimony is online](#). In his testimony, King noted that Maine is a national leader in biomedical research as a result of multiple university- and community-based initiatives and partnerships. Those include UMaine's Institute of Medicine and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Engineering, and Maine INBRE (Institutional Development Award Network for Biomedical Research Excellence). UMaine involves students in nationally recognized biomedical research "to prepare the next generation of the in-demand biomedical and bioinformatics workforce whose discoveries and innovations will improve our public and economic health and quality of life in Maine and around the world," said King. "The ethical, legal and social implications of genome-editing are complex and interdisciplinary," King noted in his testimony. "Strategic public and private investments in biomedical research and education, including in ethical, legal and social implications, would further reinforce Maine's leadership role in genetics and biomedical research, including that related to the future of our heritage industries like fishing and farming. "The advisory panel proposed by LD 1771 would elevate what is already happening in Maine and better position the state to avoid the hazards of genome-editing technology and capitalize on the potential of the technology in the future." Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers updates for agricultural industry Jan. 19

11 Jan 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer two online research updates specific to the agricultural industry from 7–8 p.m. on Jan. 19. "Integrated Pest Management — Controlling Pests in Potatoes" will be presented by Paul Horne, entomologist, potato IPM expert and owner-director of IPM Technologies Pty Ltd., Victoria, Australia; followed by "Potato Early Dying Research Update and Disease Management" with Khalil Al-Mughrabi, a plant pathologist and specialist with the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries at the Government of New Brunswick, Canada. The cost is \$5; registration is required to receive the link. Register on the [event webpage](#). Eligible participants can earn one pesticide recertification credit and one CCA credit. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.554.4373 or stevenj@maine.edu.

BDN, Centralmaine.com highlight UMaine Society of Women Engineers award celebration for high school students

11 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) highlighted an event hosted by the University of Maine Society of Women Engineers on Dec. 11 to give eight Maine high school seniors its Certificate of Merit Award.

Sun Journal, Piscataquis Observer advance Alumni Association's MLK Day panel

11 Jan 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) and [The Piscataquis Observer](#) advanced a panel hosted by the University of Maine Alumni Association in which multiple speakers, including Maine Attorney General Aaron Frey, will discuss the state of civil rights in Maine. The free, online event will be livestreamed on YouTube from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Monday, Jan. 17. Opening remarks will be presented by Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias; Michael Alpert, president of the Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP; and Jojo Oliphant, a member of the University of Maine Alumni Association board of directors.

McNamara speaks with BDN, WAGM about new Maine Farm to School Institute

11 Jan 2022

Jade McNamara, a University of Maine assistant professor of human nutrition, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WAGM](#) (Channel 8 in Presque Isle) about the creation of a new Maine Farm to School Institute, an effort she is leading. The institute will train school communities and other stakeholders to establish their own farm to school programs and explore approaches to promote student nutrition education programs, including school gardens and local food sourcing. "The ability to have our own institute and tailor the needs around Maine schools is key," McNamara said to the BDN. "Creating school gardens, helping schools buy local produce from farmers is a great way to support our state's agriculture and support the health of our kids."

UPI interviews UMaine personnel about climate change threatening Maine's lobster industry

11 Jan 2022

[United Press International](#) (UPI) interviewed Damian Brady, an associate professor of marine sciences at the University of Maine; Amalia Harrington, a Maine Sea Grant marine Extension associate; and Andrew Goode, a UMaine postdoctoral researcher, about how climate change threatens Maine's lobster industry and efforts to better understand those possible ramifications. "We're not too hot for lobsters in any way shape or form, but it is getting hotter, especially in the southern part of their range," Brady said.

Ferrini-Mundy speaks with The Chronicle of Higher Education about COVID-19 guidance for this semester

11 Jan 2022

University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias President Joan Ferrini-Mundy spoke with [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) about COVID-19 guidance for in-person learning this semester at UMaine and its regional campus. The president said there will be a greater focus on flexibility and personal responsibility. The publication also highlighted a recent community message from University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy about guidance for the semester. "It is fair to recognize that a complete shutdown is not a long-term strategy," he said. [The Bharat Express News](#) shared the Chronicle story.

Call for proposals for the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series

12 Jan 2022

The Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Committee is accepting grant applications from the University of Maine to enhance the artistic, cultural, and intellectual life of the campus of the University of Maine and to support speaking engagements or lectures at the University of Maine at Machias. Grants support up to 50% of expenses associated with cultural events and speaking engagements and lectures. The CA/DLS committee accepts applications four times a year. The next application deadline is Jan. 31, 2022. Grant applications submitted by the above deadline are for projects starting on or after Feb. 22, 2022. Proposals must be submitted online using the CA/DLS Grant Application Form at umaine.edu/president/culturalaffairs/application. Past awards have supported lectures and lecture series; Culturefest, the International Dance Festival; exhibits, performances and guest artists.

Press Herald column highlights Scontras, proposed center named after him

12 Jan 2022

A column published in the [Portland Press Herald](#) highlighted Charles Scontras, renowned educator, author and labor historian who taught at the University of Maine for 36 years before passing away last year, and a bill that, if passed into law, would support the creation of a labor education center at the University of Southern Maine that will be named after him.

Press Herald editorial notes UMaine's research in wood composites

12 Jan 2022

An editorial from the [Portland Press Herald](#) about the revival and repurposing of the former Madison paper mill highlighted University of Maine research and development in wood composite technology. [Centralmaine.com](#) shared the editorial.

Brewer discusses ideological changes in Republican Party with CBS News

12 Jan 2022

Mark Brewer, professor and acting chair of the University of Maine Department of Political Science, spoke with [CBS News](#) about the ideological changes in the Republican Party, particularly as governors from the party address worker vaccine rules from private companies in varying ways. "It is no longer the case that government regulation or intervention is dead on arrival within the Republican Party," Brewer said. [CBSN Dallas-Ft. Worth](#), [WGSW](#) (100.5 FM in Saginaw, Michigan) and [Yahoo! News](#) shared the CBS News story.

Sun Journal highlights UMaine participation in study of septic standard for Lake Auburn watershed

13 Jan 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) highlighted the participation of University of Maine researchers in a study that examined the septic standard for the Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District. FB Environmental and the Horsley Witten Group also worked on the study. [Yahoo! News](#) shared the Sun Journal article.

Dill discusses how to combat browntail moths with Courier-Gazette

13 Jan 2022

Jim Dill, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension pest management specialist, spoke with the [Courier-Gazette](#) about how to combat browntail moths. Dill recommended killing them when they are caterpillars.

Bethel Citizen reports on outdoor leadership class

13 Jan 2022

[The Bethel Citizen](#) reported on students from the University of Maine Outdoor Leadership program learning about the history of the Inland Woods + Trails.

Courier advances Ranco's online talk about climate change and Wabanaki

13 Jan 2022

The [Biddeford-Saco-Old Orchard Beach Courier](#) advanced an online talk by Darren Ranco, an associate professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Studies at the University of Maine, titled "Wabanaki Climate Justice & Adaptation." The Biddeford Cultural and Heritage Center will host the webinar at 7 p.m. Jan. 20 via Zoom. To request the Zoom link for the event, contact the center at 207.283-3993 or bchc04005@gmail.com.

Connecticut Media highlight Mayewski's Arctic lecture

13 Jan 2022

[The Darien Times](#) and [Fairfield Citizen](#) highlighted a lecture by Paul Mayewski, director of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, titled "The Arctic, New England and the First Abrupt Climate Change Event in the Modern Era." The Darien Community Association hosted the talk as part of its Academic Lecture Series.

Melissa Jankowski: Aspiring forensic psychologist evaluates inmates, patients at N.C. prison complex

13 Jan 2022

To become a forensic psychologist, Melissa Jankowski decided to participate in a competitive internship at a prison complex famous for housing several high-profile inmates: the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, North Carolina. Many know FCC Butner for having housed Unabomber Ted Kaczynski and Tiger King Joe Exotic, but it doesn't only house incarcerated individuals. The complex also holds defendants awaiting trial and mental health patients committed by court to its Federal Medical Center. Jankowski, a University of Maine Ph.D. student in clinical psychology from Cassville, Missouri, conducts evaluations on all of them for the complex's Forensic Evaluation Service. She helps determine whether a defendant is competent to stand trial, can be found not guilty by reason of insanity and — if they are found not guilty by reason of insanity or unable to be restored to competency to proceed with their legal charges — whether they should be civilly committed to FCC Butner due to their dangerousness. She also is occasionally subpoenaed to testify in federal court on her findings. Her additional responsibilities include attending treatment team meetings, presenting cases to the in-house risk panel, conducting locked housing rounds and leading competency restoration, illness management and recovery groups. Working at FCC Butner reminds Jankowski of her desire to dispel a widely held belief that only bad people go to prison because they did bad things, a key reason behind her goal of becoming a forensic psychologist. Those bad things, she says, "are often the unfortunate sequelae of a plethora of other variables outside of inherent virtue," including developmental trauma, mental health issues, and a lack of resources and privilege. "Working in a correctional setting has opened my eyes to the historical and systemic complications that can result in incarceration, and has forced me to challenge many of my own internal assumptions and to acknowledge my own privilege," she says. "I find myself humbled each day." Jankowski's work at FCC Butner coincides with a competitive internship program offered by the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. When she isn't at the complex, Jankowski provides services for other organizations as part of her internship. She previously conducted neuropsychological assessments with retired professional football players for the National Football League Players Association Brain and Body Health Program. Other current and future rotations include conducting gender-affirming evaluations and care at the UNC Gender Equity and Wellness Initiative Clinic, assessing and treating patients at UNC's Psychiatric Emergency Services, and administering forensic and neuropsychological evaluations at a state hospital. For the next rotation of her internship, she will provide correctional psychology services at another facility in FCC Butner. Starting in March, her duties will involve, monitoring individuals' wellbeing, providing individual and group therapy and conducting suicide risk assessments, all of which she says should help inmates cope with prison life and tackle the behaviors and other mental health issues that may have resulted in their incarceration. While Jankowski plans to become a forensic psychologist, she says studying at UMaine taught her that becoming a great specialist requires diverse clinical experience. The internship at UNC School of Medicine provides the breadth of experience she seeks while also helping her specialize in forensic psychology. "UNC and FCC Butner also provide me with eight hours of protected research time each week," she says. "Coming from UMaine's scientist-practitioner program, it was important to me to further my research endeavors." In 2017, Jankowski [received a three-year National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship](#) to support her investigation into peer relationships and their association with risk and resilience in adolescence. She particularly focused on the interpersonal mechanisms of risk for, and influence of, "contagious" suicide and self-harm behaviors in adolescents. While the funding for the grant ended, Jankowski says her research in this area is ongoing. Her dissertation, she says, "examines how trait and state self-criticism differentially impact the perceived benefits and barriers to self-injurious behavior." "The NSF fellowship also afforded me the time to pursue research on problematic sexual behaviors, an issue that comes up frequently in forensic referral questions," she says. "I have publications in progress for each of these projects and look forward to furthering this line of research during the internship and beyond." Jankowski has studied at UMaine as a graduate student of clinical psychology since 2015. She received her master's degree in 2018, and expects to earn her Ph.D. this year. "Having attended internship interviews and been exposed to other programs, it is clear that the clinical training opportunities offered by UMaine are top-notch. Students in our program are afforded

developmentally appropriate supported autonomy in a way that is truly unique,” Jankowski says. “UMaine gave me the support and space to form my own professional identity, and the state of Maine provided a beautiful backdrop to escape from the stresses of graduate school. I can’t imagine having trained anywhere else.” Jankowski plans to pursue a postdoctoral fellowship after she graduates, a requirement to become a board-certified forensic psychologist. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Virtual MaineMBA Alumni Awards ceremony Jan. 20

13 Jan 2022

Portland, Maine Mayor Kate Snyder will be the keynote speaker at the virtual [MaineMBA Alumni Awards](#) ceremony, which will be released as an event video at 5 p.m. on Jan. 20. Other speakers participating in the inaugural event will be Dannel Malloy, Chancellor of the University of Maine System; Joan Ferrini-Mundy, President of the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias; John Volin, UMaine Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost; and Greg Powell, Chairman of the Harold Alfond Foundation, and CEO and President of Dexter Enterprises. During the event, the Graduate School of Business will honor four alumni with awards. The Dean’s Award to a recent MaineMBA graduate recognizes academic and co-curricular record, impact and contributions to the classroom environment. This year’s award will be presented by Jeannine Diddle Uzzi, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at USM. The U40 Alumni Award honors a graduate of the University of Maine System MBA from either UMaine or USM who is under the age of 40. The award, which recognizes the contributions of alums to their field, will be presented by Jenny Kordick, Executive Director of Maine Outdoor Brands. The Distinguished Alumni Award is given to graduates of the University of Maine MBA (Class of 1965–2021) who have made significant contributions of leadership or innovation to their field, community or firm. This year’s award will be presented by Dianne Watters, Senior Product Marketing Manager at Tyler Technologies and Chair of the Maine Business School Advisory Board. The Outstanding Accounting Award is given to any graduate of the University of Maine System MBA Accounting or Master of Accounting programs. The award honors individuals who have displayed leadership and generosity in their field, community or firm. This award will be presented by Patricia Brigham, Executive Director of the Maine Society of Certified Professional Accountants. [Please click here to RSVP](#) and receive a link to the event.

Portsmouth Herald highlights Master Gardener Volunteers helping church provide food to senior citizens

14 Jan 2022

The [Portsmouth Herald](#) highlighted how University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteers helped a church in Sanford provide food to senior citizens in need.

Spectrum News advances emerald ash borer survey

14 Jan 2022

[Spectrum News](#) advanced a survey from the University of Maine School of Forest Resources that asks forest managers and owners to describe their level of concern about the emerald ash borer and their understanding of its impacts. The survey can be found [online](#).

BDN promotes virtual MaineMBA Alumni Award ceremony

14 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) promoted the virtual MaineMBA Alumni Awards ceremony that the University of Maine Graduate School of Business will host at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20.

UMaine, UNH Extensions offer hydroponics for home gardeners Jan. 24

18 Jan 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners about hydroponic gardening from 6–7:15 p.m. on Jan 24. “[Hydroponics at Home](#)” will explain how to build a working hydroponic system for year-round indoor gardening with a few simple tools and materials. Jonathan Ebba, UNH Extension field specialist, will lead the workshop. Registration is required; a sliding scale program fee is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#) to attend live or receive a link to the recording. This is the fourth in a six-part [winter gardening webinar series](#) offered monthly through March for Maine and New Hampshire gardeners. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, 207.781.6099; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

Summer University Student Art Contest Winner Announced

18 Jan 2022

Rebecca Stanley’s photograph of a whale skull on Isle Au Haut has been selected as the winning entry in a student art contest sponsored by the University of Maine Division of Lifelong Learning. Her photograph will be used on this year’s Summer University poster and in other promotions. Stanley, who is from Aurora, Illinois and lives in Ellsworth, is a UMaine master’s student in forest resources, with a focus in human dimensions. She is expected to graduate in May 2022. Stanley is a recreation technician lead with Friends of Acadia, collaborating with National Park Service staff to study the recreational use of Acadia National Park. She maintains electronic trail counters on carriage roads and trails, monitors traffic counters on entrances and exits onto Acadia’s roads, and administers visitor questionnaires on an annual basis. The photograph selected as the student art contest winner was taken on Isle Au Haut, off the coast of Stonington, during a foggy morning hike this past summer. “Four of us in the NPS Resource Management division were out there collecting data on the campsites on Isle Au Haut,” Stanley says. “Dr. Jeff Marion, Virginia Tech, had done an assessment on the campground 20 years ago and we were assessing conditions after so many years. After, we hiked the mountain (and found) this whale skull, which was growing lichen around the crevices. The fog was dense, but light was beaming through the shallow canopy every once in a while as it is in the early fall.” Before joining the UMaine community, Stanley was a wilderness ranger with the U.S. Forest Service in the Minnesota’s Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. She also was an undergraduate student researcher in Grand Canyon National Park. She loves hiking Acadia’s peaks, playing chess and recreationally hauling lobsters with her husband, Tim. Stanley

has been an amateur photographer for five years. Summer University registration begins Feb. 1. More information is available [online](#).

Media advance soil health science course by UMaine Extension

18 Jan 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [The Piscataquis Observer](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) and advanced a five-session online course about soil health science for farmers and agricultural advisors offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension from 5:30–7 p.m. Feb. 14–March 25. Registration is required by Feb. 6, and can be done on the [course webpage](#).

Midcoast media highlight new photo exhibit at Hutchinson Center

18 Jan 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Republican Journal](#) and [VillageSoup](#) highlighted a new photography exhibit by the Zoom Lens Group opening Jan. 10 at the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. The show, on display through March, is free and open to the public from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday.

Media promote advanced beekeeping webinars

18 Jan 2022

The [Piscataquis Observer](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Sun Journal](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) promoted two advanced beekeeping webinars offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension next month. “[Honey Bee Diseases and Pests](#)” will be held from 6–8:30 p.m. Feb. 10 and 17. “[Swarming and Swarm Management](#),” will be held from 6–8:30 p.m. March 3 and 10.

Courier-Gazette highlights animal personalities, forest ecology talk led by Brehm

18 Jan 2022

The [Courier-Gazette](#) advanced a presentation led by Allison Brehm, a doctoral candidate in ecology and environmental science at the University of Maine, about how the individual personalities of wildlife affect surrounding forest ecosystems. The Merryspring Nature Center will host the presentation at noon on Feb. 1.

Aroostook County media advance new cooking classes led by Fishman

18 Jan 2022

The [County](#) and [Fiddlehead Focus](#) advanced a new series of online cooking classes for older Mainers led by Lisa Fishman, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension nutrition education professional. The first session of “Flavor of Aroostook – Cooking to Connect,” hosted by the Aroostook Agency on Aging, will be held from 3–4:30 p.m. Jan. 25.

Black Point Group features Newsom and her indigenous stories research in Acadia National Park

18 Jan 2022

[Black Point Group](#) featured Bonnie Newsom, an assistant professor of anthropology and a faculty associate with the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, and her research in Acadia National Park. She has been leading an effort to reanalyze archaeological collections from Wabanaki cultural sites in the park to create a framework for retelling stories of the past through an Indigenous archaeology lense.

Media report on Alumni Association’s MLK Day civil rights panel

18 Jan 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5) reported on a civil rights panel hosted by the University of Maine Alumni Association and Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Watch a recording of the panel, “The State of Civil Rights in Maine,” [online](#). [News Center Maine](#) also highlighted the event. [Yahoo! News](#) shared the Press Herald report.

UMaine-led workshop sets stage for expansion of Research Learning Experiences statewide this year

18 Jan 2022

A University of Maine-led virtual workshop about how to create Research Learning Experiences (RLEs) for first- and second-year students set the stage for their expansion to public universities across the state this year. Linda Beck, associate dean of experiential & global education at the University of Maine at Farmington; Steve Quackenbush, associate provost and dean of arts and science at UMF; and Jason Johnston, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, helped coordinate the workshop. RLEs are one-credit courses that allow students across academic disciplines to engage in open-ended research and scholarship at the start of their college careers. These fall semester classes, designed to bring incoming students to campus a week before the start of the fall semester, challenge them to gather data and samples, conduct experiments, create art and structures, study scientific reports and literature, explore the outdoors and collaborate to solve problems, answer questions and express their creativity. The University of Maine System created its pilot RLE program to bolster student success and retention. UMaine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, launched the RLE pilot program last semester by offering more than 30 course sections. With one year of the pilot program completed, the System now seeks to expand it to other universities. More than 100 faculty and staff from across the System attended the Jan. 14 workshop, including some with ideas for new RLEs. They

learned how to design, fund and evaluate the success of such immersive learning courses, and how to use them to advance scholarship. The System has earmarked funds for all of its universities to offer RLEs in the fall 2022 semester, said Brian Olsen, associate provost for student success and strategic initiatives at UMaine. “(RLEs) are a transformational way of learning,” said UMaine Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost John Volin. “Our hope is that students will transition from consumers of knowledge to producers of knowledge.” The RLE program is a UMS TRANSFORMS initiative created in response to the Harold Alfond Foundation's historic \$240 million grant to provide new opportunities for student support, faculty development and innovative collaborative degree programs to advance Maine’s economy and workforce in partnership with the public and private sectors. UMS TRANSFORMS has also called for the System to create the Maine Graduate and Professional Center, form a Maine College of Engineering, Computing and Information Science and upgrade facilities for UMaine Athletics. The Coalition of Life Transformative Education (CLTE) also is supporting the RLE initiative with a \$25,000 grant. More than 250 students participated in RLEs at UMaine and UMaine Machias last semester. Courses involved creating various goods with 3D printers, collecting data on the Damariscotta River Estuary from a research vessel, crafting inflatable sculptures, gardening like a medieval monk, and more. Olsen said UMaine has approved 50 class sections for its flagship and regional campus during the 2022-23 academic year. RLEs not only provide first- and second-year students experiential learning opportunities earlier in their studies. Olsen said students who participate in them can form lasting relationships and learn by example from juniors, seniors and graduate students who serve as peer mentors. The courses, he said, will provide students skills that will serve them throughout the remainder of their academic journeys and in their future careers. “This is an incredible opportunity for our System,” Olsen said. Workshop attendees spoke with UMaine and UMaine Machias faculty who conducted RLEs last year about their experiences, the lessons learned and the adjustments they hope to make. Karen Beefink, an associate professor of recreation and tourism management at UMaine Machias, described how she expanded her initial idea for a Bridge week program into her RLE “Outdoor Adventures and Stewardship.” During the first week of the semester, she and her students went on outdoor adventures, including hiking and an overnight camping trip, to connect with nature, local communities and each other. For the remainder of the semester, her students worked together to create a monitoring plan for the trail network on campus. Having peer mentors, a small cohort of students and a Bridge week where they could bond and explore contributed to the success of Beefink’s RLE, she said. “That Bridge week was key,” she said. “I cannot stress that enough how that first week built the foundation,” for the course. The workshop also highlighted a similar effort at the UMF: First Year Fusion. These programs began in 2019 to offer students a variety of five-day field experiences prior to orientation, followed by an eight-week-long first year seminar. UMF offered 10 sections of First Year Fusion in 2021, including “Art and Experience in America,” “Gardening for a Change” and “Sustainability in Action,” among others. “We decided to add an experiential component to our first year seminar,” Beck said. Daniel Sandweiss, professor of anthropology and Quaternary and climate studies at UMaine, said he proposed an RLE for the fall 2022 semester and attended the workshop Friday to acquire information that could help make his course more successful. Students in his RLE would search for 19th-century artifacts on campus during Bridge week through archival research, prospecting using georadar and small-scale excavation. For the remainder of the semester, they would analyze their finds and write reports about them. Sandweiss said he hopes that conducting an RLE will help him foster a stronger connection with students early in their academic careers and better understand how they learn. Sandweiss said he found the workshop interesting and helpful for his plans, particularly when he spoke with faculty who previously conducted RLEs. “Now I have a network to reach out to,” he said. “I think it would be very useful if in late spring, we could have another meeting with people who did it last year to get feedback on” new RLE plans. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Sun Journal highlights Knight’s class about keeping chickens

19 Jan 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) highlighted Colt Knight, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension livestock specialist, teaching a class for Lewiston Adult Education about keeping chickens from 6–8 p.m. April 13 at Adult Learning Center, 145 Birch St., Lewiston. Register [online](#).

Media promote webinar about extending growing season

19 Jan 2022

[The Irregular](#), the [Portland Press Herald](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) promoted a webinar offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension about how home gardeners can extend the growing season. “Extending the Gardening Season in New England” will be held from 6–7:15 p.m. on Feb. 7. Register [online](#).

BDN: UMaine helps state monitor moose mortality

19 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine is helping the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife monitor moose mortality in the state. According to the BDN, when technicians contracted by the department capture a moose, they “draw blood (which is later studied at the University of Maine), count the winter tick larvae, affix the GPS collar and weigh the animal with the helicopter before releasing it.” [Yahoo! News](#) shared the story.

Sorg cited in news stories about record overdose deaths in 2021

19 Jan 2022

[Maine Public](#), the [Portland Press Herald](#) and [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland) cited Marcella Sorg, a forensic anthropologist and a University of Maine research professor at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, in stories about the record number of overdose deaths in Maine in 2021. According to Maine Public, Sorg, who directs the center’s Rural Drug & Alcohol Research Program and compiles overdose data for the state, “estimated on Tuesday that 636 people died of drug overdoses in 2021, although she told state lawmakers that the figure is an estimate because of a slow-down in lab processing.” The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) shared the Maine Public story. The [Associated Press](#) shared the Press Herald story. [U.S. News & World Report](#), the [New Canaan Advertiser](#), [The Titusville Herald](#), the [San Francisco Chronicle](#) and [SFGate](#) shared the AP report.

BBC News Brazil interviews Olsen about how wayward Steller's sea eagle might have wandered to the U.S.

19 Jan 2022

[BBC News Brazil](#) interviewed Brian Olsen, professor of ornithology and associate provost for student success and strategic initiatives at the University of

Maine, about how a wayward Steller’s sea eagle — a rare bird native to northern Asia — could have wandered into the U.S., particularly in Boothbay Harbor. "Becoming wandering is usually a combination of the animal's own behavior and random external factors. So we will probably never know exactly what combination this was that brought the eagle here," Olsen said. Greg LeClair, a UMaine master's student in ecology and environmental sciences, also spoke to BBC News Brazil about the Steller’s sea eagle, particularly his effort to locate it.

Republican Journal: 4-H Agricultural Leadership Program participant is attending agricultural summit in D.C.

20 Jan 2022

The [Republican Journal](#) reported that Mia Fay, a student at the Belfast Community Outreach Program in Education, will be attending an agricultural summit in Washington, D.C. after completing University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s 4-H Agricultural Leadership Program.

BDN, Ellsworth American highlight Manning’s upcoming concert in Winter Harbor

20 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [The Ellsworth American](#) highlighted an upcoming concert featuring Deiran Manning, a collaborative pianist and vocal coach with the University of Maine, as part of the Winter Harbor Musical Festival. Manning, executive director of the festival, will perform with Deidre McArdle, its founder and artistic director, at 7 p.m. Feb. 4 at Hammond Hall, 427 Main St., Winter Harbor.

VillageSoup advances webinar about how to calm emotions with nonviolent communication

20 Jan 2022

The [VillageSoup](#) advanced a new online professional development program from the University of Maine Hutchinson Center titled “Helping to Calm Strong Emotions with Nonviolent Communication.” Learn more about the four-day workshop on the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

New craft beer industry report co-authored by UMaine featured in BDN

20 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) featured a new economic impact report about Maine’s craft beer industry co-authored by the Maine Brewers’ Guild and University of Maine School of Economics. According to the report, as cited in the BDN, “breweries and related activities by their suppliers and employees contributed a total of \$260.7 million to the Maine economy in 2020.”

BDN, WCAX report on UVM, UMaine study concluding that Mainers’ health worsened during pandemic

20 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WCAX](#) (Channel 3 in Burlington, Vermont) reported on a University of Vermont-led [study](#) involving University of Maine researchers that found that the mental and physical health among people in Maine and Vermont worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic. “Hopefully, we can take the data that we have and use it to design policies that are automatic, and policies that are easy to use and that are accessible with no stigma,” said Jonathan Malacarne, an assistant professor of agricultural economics at UMaine who co-authored the study. “So that when things happen — because things will always continue to happen — people can rely on them and it’s already built into their strategy.” [Vermont Business Magazine](#) and [Medical Xpress](#) shared the [UVM news release](#) about the study. Spectrum News also highlighted the study in a segment about StrengthenME, a new state program designed to provide Mainers mental health services for stress related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Media highlight UMaine students, alumni competing in 2022 Winter Olympics

20 Jan 2022

[The Boston Globe](#), [USA Today Network](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Portland Press Herald](#), [NBC Sports Chicago](#), [News Center Maine](#), [Courier-Gazette](#), [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) and [KOB](#) (Channel 5 in Medford, Oregon) highlighted University of Maine students and alumni who will be competing in the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. The [Sun Journal](#) shared the Press Herald story. [WPFO](#) (Channel 23 in Waterville) shared the coverage from WGME. The [BDN](#) published another story that focuses on two UMaine women’s ice hockey players who are competing in the event. [Yahoo! News](#) shared that story. The [Press Herald](#) featured a UMaine alumnus again in a report about all Maine Olympians. [Centralmaine.com](#) shared that Press Herald article. [OnlyLoudest](#) shared The Boston Globe article.

UMaine, HELP University sign five-year academic, research agreement

21 Jan 2022

A memorandum of understanding signed Dec. 3 between the University of Maine and HELP University, Malaysia will enhance educational, scientific and cultural cooperation between the two institutions. In a virtual ceremony, HELP president and co-founder Paul Chan and John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost, representing the University of Maine System, signed an MOU to establish a five-year partnership. Areas of focus include undergraduate and graduate student educational transfer pathways, joint research activities and collaborative programs, and faculty exchanges. “This MOU lays a foundation to be creative and innovative in exploring new academic and research collaborations,” said Volin. “Partnerships such as these send a strong positive signal that we are advancing and growing our international relationships, and they highlight the importance in the broader educational enterprise.” Chan noted the partnership benefits for students, faculty and staff at both universities. “In Asia, there's a great concern about climate change, sustainability issues, and UMaine is conducting this type of research,” Chan said. “Hence, besides the dual MBA program that we're discussing and the other credit transfer programs in business, psychology, education and so on, we would like to include research, staff development and training. I want to emphasize mobility because we want young Americans and our young Asians, who are both the future leaders of the world, to get to know each other.” Initial academic

collaborations for students that are being considered include a 2+2 transfer pathway for undergraduate business majors, a dual MBA program, a 3+1 transfer pathway for undergraduate psychology majors, and a graduate pathway in global policy. Also being explored: research collaborations, faculty visits and exchanges, and professional development certificate courses. Discussions with HELP University on collaboration possibilities were led by Muralee Das, an assistant professor of management in the Maine Business School; and UMaine Office of International Programs director Orlina Boteva and Lucy Sommo, director of international student recruitment. “With this partnership, UMaine has a unique opportunity to forge a constructive partnership to increase its international student enrollment from Southeast Asia,” said Boteva. HELP University, a private university in Malaysia, has a strong global composition of international students in its campuses in Malaysia. It also has international franchises in various parts of Asia. Since 1994, more than 4,500 HELP students have studied at some of the 100 U.S. and four Canadian partner universities through the American Degree Transfer Program. HELP University also has strong partnerships with Australian and United Kingdom universities. HELP University offers a wide range of degrees in the social sciences, humanities, computing and business analytics. It has 14 post-graduate programs, including the Master in Economic Crime Management, Master of Data Science and Master of Applied Business Analytics. HELP is the first university to be granted approval to offer the DBA and three master’s that recognize prior-experiential learning. It has recently initiated the Center for Regenerative Sustainability and collaborates with Thought for Food, a global key influencer in food sustainability activities. HELP has won many awards for its achievements, including the Forbes best performing education institution in Asia Pacific below \$1 billion. Norm O’Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business, emphasized the future opportunities for the MaineMBA through a dual MBA degree with HELP. “The fact that students would receive two MBA degrees, one from each institution, is not to be underestimated in the current global environment. This partnership has the potential to diversify the student experience, internationalize our classes, share knowledge and graduate leaders with a global perspective,” he said.

2022 MaineMBA Alumni Award winners named

21 Jan 2022

Orono, Maine — Four outstanding alumni of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business were honored at the inaugural MaineMBA Alumni Awards event on Jan. 20.

The alumni honorees are Michael Kuhn, manager of global strategic marketing, Johnson & Johnson, Boston; Ryan Curry, financial reporting manager, IDEXX, Gorham, Maine; Chris Treister, project manager, THOST Projektmanagement GmbH, Germany; and Josh Rosen of Portland, first graduate of the joint MaineMBA and J.D. program between UMaine and Maine Law School, who will complete his law degree this year and join the Boston-based law firm Foley Hoag as an associate attorney specializing in energy and climate law. The first MaineMBA Alumni Awards event was an important landmark for the Graduate School of Business, honoring alumni of the MaineMBA as well as those who graduated from the founding programs at UMaine and the University of Southern Maine, says Norm O'Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business. "Although the GSB was formally launched in 2019, we have alumni extending back more than a half-century, all of whom are members of our GSB family," O'Reilly says. "To our four inaugural winners, I congratulate you, and to all the nominees and nominators, I thank you." For the event's keynote address, Portland Mayor and MaineMBA student Kate Snyder sat down with O'Reilly to talk business, Portland and management education. A recording of the event and awards presentations is [online](#). Other speakers included University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy; UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy; UMaine Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost John Volin; and Chairman of the Harold Alfond Foundation and Chief Executive Officer and President of Dexter Enterprises Greg Powell. More information the alumni award recipients: **Distinguished Alumni Award Michael Kuhn, Class of 2014, UMaine MBA with a concentration in management Manager, Global Strategic Marketing, Johnson & Johnson, Boston** Michael Kuhn is a subject matter expert in orthopedic robotics, having clinically aided the launch of both spine and brain robotic programs throughout the U.S., Europe and China. Early in his career, Kuhn helped build the first orthopedic spine robotic organization and personally managed hundreds of early procedures with leading orthopedic and neurosurgeons throughout the U.S. The technology's capability was then leveraged and sold to Medtronic, the largest medical device manufacturer in the world, wrapped in the strategic framework to further lower the cost of healthcare through standardization and continues to be a major driver of growth and innovation within the industry. After a successful leadership stint with Medtronic, Kuhn moved to Johnson & Johnson to help build the foundation of digital health care in a more strategic corporate capacity. His published research on servitization and systems thinking has raised awareness of the shifting competitive needs in health care and has been recognized by the industry worldwide. Kuhn, a former member of the UMaine football team and recipient of a Correll Graduate Fellowship, also holds a master's degree in organizational behavior from the University of Pennsylvania. He is currently participating in the Stanford University Graduate School of Business Executive Development Program. **Outstanding Accounting MBA Alumni Ryan Curry, CPA, Class of 2012, UMaine MBA with a concentration in accounting Financial Reporting Manager, IDEXX, Gorham, Maine** Ryan Curry is a talented professional who is always willing to share his knowledge and expertise with others. He serves on the MECPA board, regularly contributing to improvement and advancement efforts. He also serves on the IDEXX Analyst Community Steering Committee, where he helps analysts learn, grow and connect. Curry personifies the concept of lifelong learning. He has numerous degrees and certifications — MBA, CPA, SAS Base Programming Specialist — and experience in public accounting and private industry. This experience provides him with a valuable perspective on the accounting profession, which he volunteers to share in conversations and presentations. This type of career path storytelling has become increasingly important to expand the pipeline of students entering the accounting profession. Curry, who served eight years in the Army National Guard and was deployed to Afghanistan, is devoted to both his profession and service to others. **U40 Award Chris Treister, Class of 2013, UMaine MBA with a concentration in management Project Manager, THOST Projektmanagement GmbH, Germany** Chris Treister, a Maine native and former UMaine football player, lives and works in Germany as a project manager at THOST Projektmanagement GmbH, a well-established project management firm spanning multiple industries, including health care, energy, mobility, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals and real estate. Upon completing his MBA in 2013, Treister signed contracts to play football professionally in Italy in 2014 and in Germany in 2015. He truly took his MBA internationally, living and working in many countries throughout Europe, and launching d1theory.com, a successful multinational sports business. Treister is listed in the Portland High School Hall of Fame and holds multiple passing records as a UMaine quarterback. **Dean's Award Josh Rosen, Classes of 2021 and 2022, UMaine MBA and Maine Law, Portland, Maine** Josh Rosen was an outstanding MBA student, and the first graduate of the joint MaineMBA and J.D. program between the University of Maine and Maine Law. During his time as a graduate student, he helped to organize a cross-divisional webinar on environmental and climate justice that attracted more than 400 participants; served as a consultant to several cities and towns in Maine on sustainability and climate policy; was a subject matter expert on offshore wind energy and supply chain development policy for the Maine International Trade Center; and maintained the highest standard of academic excellence. In addition to his outstanding academic, professional, and co-curricular record, Rosen is an outspoken advocate for diversity and equity initiatives. He will join one of Boston's most prominent law firms, Foley Hoag, as an associate attorney specializing in energy and climate law after completing his bar exam in summer 2022. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers beginners maple syrup workshop Jan. 29

21 Jan 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer an in-person maple syrup production workshop for beginners 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Jan. 29. The class first meets at Shaw Brothers Construction Company, 341 Mosher Road, Gorham, and finishes at Nash Valley Farm, 79 Nash Road, Windham. Snow date is Feb. 5. “[Backyard Sugaring: Maple Syrup 101](#)” includes how to identify and tap trees; collect and boil sap; and filter, grade and can syrup. Participants also will observe the process of sap collection with tubing, and the logistics of installing and maintaining this collection method. UMaine Extension sustainable agriculture professional Jason Lilley; Richard Morrill, Nash Valley Farm co-owner, Windham; and Frank Ferrucci, Maple Moon Farm co-owner, Lebanon, will lead the workshop. The \$15 fee includes the textbook “Backyard Sugarin’: A Complete How-To Guide” by Rink Mann. Registration is required; register on the [event webpage](#). Per University of Maine guidelines, face masks are required indoors for all, regardless of vaccination status. This program is sponsored by the Southern Maine Maple Sugarmakers Association. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Becky Gray, 207.781.6099; rebecca.gray@maine.edu.

Media advance winter care of alpacas, llamas webinar

21 Jan 2022

[The Franklin Journal](#), the [Advertiser Democrat](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) advanced a University of Maine Cooperative Extension online workshop about best practices for winter care of alpacas and llamas from noon–2 p.m. on Feb. 15. Register for “Winter Care of Camelids” [online](#).

Republican Journal highlights Fernandez’s talk about carbon management in farms, forests

21 Jan 2022

The [Republican Journal](#) highlighted an upcoming Zoom talk by Ivan Fernandez, a University of Maine professor of soil science and forest resources, titled “Maine’s Climate Future: The Role of Carbon Management in Farms and Forests.” The program, which will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 25, is part of the Belfast Garden Club Evening Lecture Series, co-sponsored by the All of Belfast Climate Dialogues. Register [online](#).

Waldo County 4-H Offers Explore 4-H Series

24 Jan 2022

University of Maine Extension Waldo County 4-H is now accepting registrations for Explore 4-H, a series of monthly workshops designed to connect Waldo County youth and their families to their local 4-H program. Each workshop in the series will explore a different 4-H project through hands-on learning. The series is open to all Waldo County youth ages 5–18 and their families. The first Explore 4-H workshop will be from 6–7 p.m. on Feb. 24, and will introduce youth to 4-H art projects. In this workshop, participants will be guided through the art of painting barn quilt squares. From 10 a.m.–noon on March 5, the Explore 4-H series will be visiting Pleasant View Stables in Knox, Maine to explore the ways youth can become involved in 4-H horse projects. From 1–3 p.m. on April 21, the Explore 4-H series will be at the Northern Solstice Alpaca farm in Unity, Maine. At this Explore 4-H workshop, participants will make their own felted products and meet the alpacas that produce fiber used to make products sold in the on-site farm store. Preregistration is required for each Explore 4-H workshop. To register, obtain more information or request a reasonable accommodation, please contact 207.342.5971 or mackensie.schofield@maine.edu.

Mette launches podcast about cases in educational leadership

24 Jan 2022

Associate professor of educational leadership Ian Mette is co-host of a new podcast from the [Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership](#). “JCEL Jabber” is co-hosted by Mette and JCEL editor Curtis Brewer, an associate professor of educational leadership at the University of Texas at San Antonio, and highlights important case studies recently published in the journal and how they are applicable to educators in the field. The first [episode](#) features a discussion about the case “[Challenging Whiteness at Claremont High School](#)” by Terri Nicol Watson, associate professor of educational leadership at City College of New York, and Angel Miles Nash, an assistant professor of leadership development at Chapman University. The authors and scholarly-practitioner Teresa Lance, an assistant superintendent of equity and innovation at a school district in Illinois, join the show to talk about how school leaders must recognize the ways in which whiteness is reinforced by school policies and often enacted by school leaders of all backgrounds. Future episodes of “JCEL Jabber” will appear quarterly, and can be heard on various podcast apps or at the show’s [online feed](#).

Centralmaine.com advances maple syrup production workshop

24 Jan 2022

[Centralmaine.com](#) advanced a maple syrup production workshop for beginners offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension at 9 a.m. on Jan. 9. Register on the [event webpage](#).

BDN highlights MaineMBA Alumni Award winners

24 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) highlighted four alumni of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business who were honored at the inaugural MaineMBA Alumni Awards event on Jan. 20.

Lowell Sun notes Pinette participating in Kerouac Centennial event

24 Jan 2022

The [Lowell Sun](#) noted that Susan Pinette, director of the University of Maine's Franco American Programs, is participating in a virtual bilingual panel during

the Jack Kerouac Centennial celebration in March. The event, “Tribute to Jack Kerouac: 100 Years, Still Alive,” will also feature Hermenegilde Chiasson, director of the film “Le Grand Jack,” and Jean-Christophe Cloutier, author of “La vie est d’hommage” and associate professor of English and comparative literature at the University of Pennsylvania; with cultural journalist Tanya Beaumont serving as moderator.

BDN interviews Ippolito about how TikTok works

24 Jan 2022

In a story about how two Maine homesteaders gained fame on TikTok, the [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Jon Ippolito about how the popular social media platform works and how it has become a tool for sharing information. “That format encourages a direct conversation with a standing or moving or dancing figure rather than a posed figure,” said Ippolito, a professor of new media at the University of Maine, adding that other platforms lack that intimacy.

UMaine virtual career fair Feb. 16

24 Jan 2022

The University of Maine Career Center will host the annual Career Fair virtually 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Feb. 16 on the [CareerLink](#) platform. UMaine’s Career Fair, the largest in the state, is held each year for UMaine and University of Maine at Machias students and alumni of all majors. All those with an @maine.edu address are welcome to attend. Upward of 150 employers from Maine and nationwide will participate. Summer jobs, internships, and part-time or full-time positions are available. Selected branches of the U.S. military also will be represented. Participants should register [online](#), create a Career Link profile and upload their resume prior to the event. Detailed instructions are available now in the [Student Virtual Career Fair Day of Guide](#) to help applicants research participating employers and to prepare attendees for timed for virtual interviews with individual recruiters. Career Center staff also are available to help with resume updates and to provide tips for successful online interviewing. The 2022 fair is underwritten by Bangor Savings Bank, Bath Iron Works/General Dynamics, Lewiston Public Schools, Northern Light Health, Pike Industries and Piscataqua Landscaping & Tree Service, with additional support from several area sponsors. Last year in the virtual Career Fair, there were 744 live chat sessions in which students connected with employers. More information is available [online](#). To request a reasonable accommodation or for assistance, contact the Career Center at 207.581.1359.

\$1.5M award launches WellNurse to address resiliency, reduce burnout

24 Jan 2022

Increasing resiliency and reducing burnout among University of Maine School of Nursing students, faculty and staff will be the focus of WellNurse, a new initiative made possible by a \$1.5 million award from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration to support and advance health and public safety workforce resiliency training. WellNurse will be a research and interprofessional program in collaboration with the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture, Clinical Psychology Program and New Balance Student Recreation Center. It will serve UMaine’s School of Nursing, which welcomed its largest first-year class of 115 students in fall 2021, and ultimately will be a model for health professional programs throughout the University of Maine System and beyond. The three-year award by HRSA, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is one of 34 nationwide. It is made possible by \$103 million in American Rescue Plan funding to help health and public safety professionals, particularly those in rural and medically underserved communities, reduce burnout and promote mental health. The funding also supports training efforts that build resilience for health care professionals at the beginning of their careers. [The full list of Health Workforce Resiliency Awards is online](#). As part of the Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Training Program, UMaine’s WellNurse will address a gap in developing and evaluating a systematic approach to reducing burnout and increasing resilience among students in nursing, says Kelley Strout, interim associate dean of health science, School of Nursing director and the principal investigator on the HRSA award. The initiative, focused on wellness in nursing education, will be key to supporting student success in the rigorous curriculum and ensuring on-time graduation, and in retaining faculty and staff. A resilient nursing workforce can withstand burnout and the demands precipitating current workforce shortages, Kelley noted in the award proposal. “We’ve seen unprecedented levels of stress, anxiety and burnout across the nursing profession related to working and learning in a high-stakes environment, while we continue to manage the additional demands generated from the pandemic,” says Strout, who is collaborating on the project with Rebecca Schwartz-Mette (co-investigator), associate professor of psychology, and Jade McNamara (co-investigator), assistant professor of human nutrition; and Joshua Bridges, assistant director of fitness and wellness at the campus Fitness Center. Liam O’Brien, professor of statistics at Colby College, leads the WellNurse evaluation team. To teach resilience-building skills, WellNurse will implement the evidence-based program, mindfulness-based stress reduction (MBSR), for all School of Nursing students, faculty and staff. Physical fitness and nutrition training, and peer mentoring also will be key. The three-year program will be the basis for a UMaine wellness, resilience and stress management curriculum in the School of Nursing. The nationally ranked School of Nursing includes 413 undergraduate and 43 graduate students, 14 full-time and 37 part-time faculty, three professional and one administrative staff members. It has close partnerships with more than 200 clinical agencies statewide, including Northern Light Health, the school’s primary training site. During the coronavirus pandemic, School of Nursing faculty and students have been deployed to address the greatest health care needs in Maine. This is the second HRSA award to the School of Nursing in the past seven months. UMaine received a four-year, \$1.7 million grant to launch the initiative, Promoting Diversity in Nursing Education, in partnership with Northern Light Health and Morgan State University. [A news release is online](#).

New 10-year roadmap released as guide to future of Maine’s aquaculture sector

25 Jan 2022

[The Maine Aquaculture Roadmap, 2022–2032](#), a 10-year plan that proposes four major goals and identifies over \$15 million in estimated resources needed to strengthen Maine’s aquaculture sector and working waterfronts over the next decade, was released Jan. 25 by [Maine Sea Grant at the University of Maine](#) and the [Maine Aquaculture Association](#) on behalf of [the Maine Aquaculture Hub](#). In recent years, Maine’s aquaculture sector has been steadily growing and its total economic impact has nearly tripled — from \$50 million in 2007 to \$137 million in 2014, according to the latest [Maine Aquaculture Economic Impact Report](#). Sustainable aquaculture has tremendous potential to bolster the state’s coastal economy, providing good jobs, local food security and diversification opportunities for working waterfront families. “Our aquaculture industry is a vital and growing part of our state’s coastal economy, supporting millions of dollars of economic value and thousands of jobs from Eastport to York,” said Heather Johnson, commissioner of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development. “The Roadmap will provide critically important guidance for an industry that represents a key to the future prosperity of Maine’s coastal communities.” The Roadmap was developed with feedback from approximately 150 stakeholders representing nearly 100 organizations and

companies operating in Maine’s marine economy. The full Roadmap can be viewed online [here](#). The [full news release](#) announcing the Maine Aquaculture Roadmap, 2022–2032 is posted on the Maine Aquaculture Association website. Contact: Heather Sandusky, heather.sadusky@maine.edu

Board authorizes \$14 million investment in UMaine women’s athletic facilities

25 Jan 2022

Orono, Maine — The University of Maine System Board of Trustees has approved up to \$14 million to implement priority 1 athletic field improvements to the University of Maine varsity soccer, softball and field hockey venues starting this spring, and to continue planning and design of the [UMaine athletics facilities master plan](#). The improvements are donor-funded and part of the \$240 million commitment the Harold Alfond Foundation has made to the University of Maine System. The projects, organized as the [UMS TRANSFORMS Initiative](#), included a \$90 million investment in UMaine athletics to fund upgrades to facilities in the state’s only Division I athletics program. The university is working to raise an additional \$20 million in donations to match the foundation’s grant to athletics. The Harold Alfond Foundation grant to UMS and the people and students of Maine was the eighth largest grant in the history of American public higher education when it was awarded in fall 2020. “UMaine’s commitment to competitive excellence and equity attracted the significant Alfond investments that will benefit students and athletes from all over Maine and beyond,” says Chancellor Dannel Malloy. “And our improved facilities will make our flagship campus a preferred destination for educational and community programs, and athletic competitions. Learners and athletes of all ages and from all corners of Maine will benefit.” “Black Bears everywhere are grateful for the strong support of the Harold Alfond Foundation and the donations that have followed to provide our athletic programs and student athletes of all ages with access to first-class facilities here in Orono,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “Investments authorized by the Board advance our vision for competitive excellence for UMaine athletics, our commitments to gender equity, and our plans to bring tens of thousands of Mainers to their flagship university every year to participate in our programs and visit our venues.” The construction and improvements to the field hockey, soccer and softball facilities will be the first step of a multiyear upgrade to the athletic department footprint. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2022. “We are extremely grateful and excited for the opportunity to play on our new field next year,” UMaine softball student-athlete Caitlyn Fallon says. “The renovations being done are going to elevate our program and we are so excited to be one of the first teams to experience it all.” “This move will allow us to meet our stated goals of compliance with gender equity regulations, improved accessibility and community engagement. It is also providing quality, competitive facilities our varsity programs need to be successful in Division I,” Director of Athletics Ken Ralph says. “We are thrilled the Board of Trustees has approved the construction of these three important facilities,” says Ralph. “These class-leading venues will set the stage for the further build-out of our athletics facility master plan and will be a point of pride for all of Black Bear Nation.” “The soccer stadium project is transformational for our program,” UMaine women’s soccer head coach Scott Athlerley says. “The fact that we are among the first approved projects of the athletics facilities master plan is a testament to our administration’s commitment to gender equity and providing our women’s soccer student-athletes with a first-class Division I experience. In a short time, we will be showcasing arguably the finest playing facility in the America East Conference and northeast region. The impact that this will have on our ability to attract and recruit championship-caliber student-athletes to our program will be profound.” “The importance of new facilities for our program cannot be overstated,” UMaine field hockey head coach Josette Babineau says. “To give fans a place to come and not only enjoy watching us play, but to be able to learn about our sport is so key to our program and our goals. We see this as just the beginning of what we can accomplish following up our America East Championship and NCAA tournament appearance. Having these facilities will allow us to give our athletes everything they need and deserve as a part of our program, while also showing potential recruits that the future is very bright for not only field hockey at UMaine, but athletics as a whole. We are grateful for the opportunity to be able to build upon what we have created, and thankful to the Harold Alfond Foundation and the University of Maine for providing the funding for these upgrades.” UMaine Athletics partnered with JLG Architects to develop the 10-year facilities master plan, designing it as a way to best enhance the student-athlete and fan experience at university events. The plan was carefully constructed to develop facilities to also support a variety of campus programming such as, but not limited to, large academic conventions, music and arts events, and ROTC activities. The facilities will add much-needed space for the university’s robust recreational sports programs, including all club and intramural sports. UMaine will be working with architects WBRC (Bangor, Maine) and Crawford & Associates (Kansas City, Missouri) to complete the athletics facilities master plan. “We are very grateful that our new facilities have been approved and that we will be breaking ground this spring,” UMaine softball head coach Jordan Fitzpatrick says. “It’s been a long time since our field has been upgraded and it’s much needed. I’m honored to have been a part of this process and happy that our program will be able to benefit from a state-of-the-art facility this fall.” These state-of-the-art facilities will be tailored to host a variety of youth and high school events. The UMaine Athletics footprint will be equipped to host high school championships, youth club sports and other regional events as UMaine strives to be the premier destination for youth activities in the state.

UMaine Extension webinar on winter care of equines Feb. 1

25 Jan 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering an online workshop about best practices for winter care of equines from noon–2 p.m. on Feb. 1. Workshop topics include winter health issues and options for fresh water, as well as mud management around the farmstead. Donna Coffin, UMaine Extension professor, and Dr. Beth McEvoy, consulting veterinarian and chief financial officer of Foxcroft Large Animal Veterinary Associates in Dover-Foxcroft, will lead the workshop. The fee is on a sliding scale, up to \$10; registration is required to receive the link. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Becky Gray, 207.781.6099; extension.agcumberland@maine.edu.

Media advance farm irrigation webinar

25 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), the [Sun Journal](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [The Irregular](#) advanced a University of Maine Cooperative Extension webinar for farmers considering adding an irrigation system from 10 a.m.–noon on Feb. 7. Register on the [event webpage](#).

MPR interviews Blackstone about why more people are choosing not to have children

25 Jan 2022

[Minnesota Public Radio](#) (MPR) interviewed Amy Blackstone, a University of Maine professor of sociology, about why more people are choosing not to have children.

BDN publishes Fink's op-ed highlighting benefits of autonomous vehicles, VEMI lab research**25 Jan 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) published an op-ed from Paul Fink, a graduate research assistant with the VEMI Lab at the University of Maine, titled "Self-driving vehicles are our future. UMaine is showing how." The op-ed highlights the potential benefits of autonomous vehicles and VEMI Lab's research. Fink is a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Media report on WellNurse initiative to address resiliency, reduce burnout in nursing students**25 Jan 2022**

[News Center Maine](#), [Mainebiz](#) and the [Associated Press](#) reported on WellNurse, a new initiative to increase resiliency and reduce burnout among students at the University of Maine School of Nursing. WellNurse, made possible by a \$1.5 million award from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, will be a research and interprofessional program in collaboration with the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture, Clinical Psychology Program and New Balance Student Recreation Center to support and advance health and public safety workforce resiliency training. The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared a news release about the initiative. [The Irregular](#), the [Portland Press Herald](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) promoted a webinar offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension about how home gardeners can extend the growing season.

Maine Business School presents a virtual screening of 'Trace the Line'**26 Jan 2022**

In celebration of Black History Month, the Maine Business School will present a virtual screening of the documentary film "[Trace the Line](#)" at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 16. The film was produced by Bravebird, an indigenous and female-owned production company. A Q&A with the producers, Alejandro Miranda Cruz and Noel Miranda, will follow the screening. [Click here](#) to join the free public virtual screening and watch a trailer of the film. "Trace the Line" is a powerful narrative that follows the lives of two artists, one Black and one white. These characters forge a relationship through the tumultuous year of 2020, showing what needs to happen for these two communities to work together and not against each other. "'Trace the Line' offers an intimate look at life in the United States while living through a pandemic, a spotlight on racial inequality, and increased political division," says C. Matt Graham, associate professor of business information systems. "The goal of sharing this film is to provide faculty, students and staff an opportunity to see life in these trying times through the lens of someone different than them. This film shows how art can be a medium to bring us together and remind us of what we have in common — our humanity." Miranda Cruz has a passion for creating authentic narratives that portray all people with dignity. He worked as an actor for 15 years, witnessing the lack of equity and diversity on set. With Huichol and Taino roots, Cruz was routinely typecast as a delinquent, a gang member and uneducated. As a script reader, he saw how stories of BIPOC communities were ignored and dismissed. These experiences set him on the path to transforming the narrative pushed by film and advertising.

Agri-Pulse interviews Irland about increasing foreign investment in U.S. forestland**26 Jan 2022**

[Agri-Pulse](#) interviewed Lloyd Irland, a faculty associate at the University of Maine School of Forest Resources and president of the Irland Group, about a growing number of foreign investments in U.S. forestland. "The asset values are fairly low volatility compared to common stocks or bonds," Irland said. "A lot of investors, whether they're domestic or foreign, are very attracted to that."

Jackson discusses agriculture worker shortage with Coastal Journal**26 Jan 2022**

The [Coastal Journal](#) interviewed Tori Jackson, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor of agriculture and natural resources, about the agriculture worker shortage in a story about a new farm-based training course offered by the Merrymeeting Food Council. "People are starting farms every day in Maine," Jackson said. "Along with that comes the need for people to be doing that work."

BDN interviews Pereira about getting new cows accustomed to milking**26 Jan 2022**

Glenda Pereira, assistant Extension professor and statewide dairy specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about how to get new cows accustomed to milking. "There are a lot of hormones in play when they become a (milk-producing) cow," she said. "Plus getting milked for the first time is an event they have not experienced before and it can all be stressful."

Fuller farewell from Livermore Falls Advertiser**26 Jan 2022**

The [Livermore Falls Advertiser](#) reported on the upcoming retirement of agriculture and non-timber forest products professional David Fuller after more than 24 years with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Franklin County. "I will miss working with the wonderful people of Franklin County," Fuller wrote in an email to the publication. "It has been a real privilege to serve all the folks over the years and I will also miss my co-workers dearly."

Socolow discusses feud between new and legacy media with WWD

26 Jan 2022

Michael Socolow, University of Maine associate professor of communication and journalism and director of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center, spoke with [Women's Wear Daily](#) (WWD) for an article titled “New Media Ventures Are Gunning for Legacy Media.”

News Center, Pen Bay Pilot report on upgrades to women’s athletics facilities

26 Jan 2022

News Center Maine and the [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) reported on The University of Maine System Board of Trustees approving up to \$14 million to implement priority 1 athletic field improvements to the University of Maine varsity soccer, softball and field hockey venues. Construction for these upgrades will begin in the spring. The projects, organized as a UMS TRANSFORMS initiative, are donor-funded and part of the \$240 million commitment the Harold Alfond Foundation has made to the System.

UMaine Extension virtual wild blueberry conference opens Feb. 1

27 Jan 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a virtual wild blueberry conference with 14 biweekly sessions from 4–6 p.m. Feb. 1–March 17. Conference topics include weed, pest and disease management; water use and drought planning; pollinators, production and research updates; marketing and business management; updates from the Maine Wild Blueberry Commission; and a certification panel discussion. UMaine Extension and University of Maine educators, researchers and industry experts will lead the sessions. The conference fee is \$0–\$50 sliding scale; registration is required. Register and find the agenda on the [event webpage](#). Pesticide credits will be available. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Mary Michaud, 207.581.3175; mary.j.michaud@maine.edu. More information also is available on the [conference website](#).

Innovate for Maine Fellows opens 2022 applications for students, companies

27 Jan 2022

The University of Maine Foster Center for Innovation is seeking Maine students and Maine companies to participate in the 2022 Innovate for Maine Fellows internship program. Applications are [now open](#). Innovate for Maine connects the best and brightest Maine college students with Maine’s most exciting growing companies for paid, meaningful, hands-on internship experiences. The program is looking for both student fellows to join the 2022 cohort and a variety of for-profit companies developing innovative products, services or processes to host them. Emphasizing innovation and entrepreneurship, Innovate for Maine prepares student fellows to collaborate with companies on innovation projects that accelerate company growth. Innovation projects can include work on new products or services, process improvements, market research, prototyping, sales forecasting and more. “Over the past two years, Maine businesses have faced incredible adversity,” says Renee Kelly, UMaine assistant vice president for innovation and economic development. “Finding talented employees is even more challenging now. Innovate for Maine introduces companies to new talent and helps students see their future opportunities in Maine’s workforce.” Eligible students include those enrolled in undergraduate or graduate degree programs at any college or university in Maine, as well as Maine residents enrolled in degree programs at colleges or universities outside of the state. Host companies can range in size from small startups to major corporations. Fellows can work full time or part time during the summer, with the possibility of continuing part time during the academic year. Trained innovation experts guide and mentor both the fellow and the company for the duration of the internship. UMaine recruits, screens, matches, hires and trains fellows to work on projects for companies selected to participate in the program. Since Innovate for Maine Fellows was established in 2012, student participants have gained exposure to innovative Maine companies and built strong networks that help them find opportunities to stay in Maine. A recent survey of Innovate for Maine Fellows alumni revealed that 70% of respondents were living in Maine and another 10% currently live outside of Maine, but plan to return as their careers progress. Nearly 20% of program alumni have started their own companies. To apply or learn more about Innovate for Maine Fellows, visit the program [website](#). The application deadline for both students and companies is March 7, 2022. Contact: Emma Wilson, [emma.wilson@maine.edu](#)

Ellsworth American highlights UMaine Extension, Master Gardeners helping build new community garden for food pantry

27 Jan 2022

The [Ellsworth American](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension and its Master Gardener Volunteers will help the Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry build a community garden in front of its new location.

Dagher discusses GBeam composite bridge technology on Composites Weekly podcast

27 Jan 2022

The [Composites Weekly](#) podcast featured Habib Dagher, founding director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, and Tim Kenerson, vice president of engineering for Advanced Infrastructure Technologies (AIT) Bridges, to discuss GBeam composite bridge technology. The technology was designed and patented at the Composites Center and licensed to AIT Bridges. It was used to create the new Grist Mill Bridge in Hampden.

Media advance wild blueberry conference

27 Jan 2022

[The Irregular](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [The Piscataquis Observer](#), the [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) and the Morning Sentinel promoted University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s upcoming virtual wild blueberry conference. Register for the conference, which includes 14 biweekly sessions from 4–6 p.m. Feb. 1–March 17, [online](#).

Task & Purpose highlights UMaine’s biomass jet fuel research

27 Jan 2022

In a story about the U.S. Air Force exploring renewable fuels, [Task & Purpose](#) highlighted University of Maine research into developing jet fuel from biomass. The UMaine Forest Bioproducts Research Institute (FBRI) is exploring optimal strategies for creating biomass-derived jet fuel at a commercial scale. [Popular Science](#) shared the Task & Purpose article.

Wheeler discusses coronavirus wastewater testing with BDN

27 Jan 2022

Robert Wheeler, an associate professor of microbiology at the University of Maine, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) about conducting wastewater testing for the virus that causes COVID-19 for the University of Maine System. Wheeler, a member of UMS Science Advisory Board, coordinates the testing for four System campuses — UMaine, University of Southern Maine's Gorham campus, the University of Maine at Fort Kent and the University of Maine at Presque Isle — as well as for the towns of Orono and Farmington. "I think it's clear that we are going to need to be on our toes for checking surveillance of SARS-CoV-2," Wheeler said.

UMaine College of Engineering presents its top annual awards

28 Jan 2022

The chief engineer of the Maine Department of Transportation is among the recipients of the University of Maine College of Engineering's top annual awards to alumni, faculty, staff and students. Joyce Taylor, chief engineer for MaineDOT and a 1986 graduate, received the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineering Award. Others honored at the 42nd Annual Edward Bryand Awards Ceremony were William Desisto, professor of chemical engineering, Ashley S. Campbell Award; Lauren Ross, assistant professor of hydraulics and water resources engineering, Early Career Research Award; Meredith Kirkmann, assistant professor of construction engineering technology, Early Career Teaching Award; Kimberly Goff, large center development associate, Vice President for Research Office, Leila C. Lowell Award; Saman Zare, mechanical engineering, Graduate Assistant Research Award; and Brandon Dixon, chemical and biomedical engineering, Graduate Assistant Teaching Award. This year's Bryand Awards Ceremony was a hybrid event held on Jan. 20 that included a small group of award recipients, and their friends and family, all gathered in Wells Conference Center on campus, and dozens of people attending virtually. The annual event was established in 1979 by Engineering Dean Jim Clapp. The first College Recognition Banquet was held in 1980. Criteria were established for two awards: the Ashley S. Campbell Award and the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineering Award. Other awards for individuals and students have been added throughout the years, including the Leila C. Lowell Award for staff members that began in 1983. More information the alumni award recipients: **Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineering Award Joyce Taylor '86, Chief Engineer MaineDOT** Taylor graduated from UMaine with a degree in chemical engineering and began her career at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection as an environmental engineer. She then moved to the Maine Department of Transportation. There, she rose through the ranks and became the chief engineer in 2013. Since then, she has worked on many high-profile projects, including the recently completed Sarah Mildred Long Bridge that spans the Piscataqua River. Taylor was the first president of Maine's Women Transportation Seminar Chapter (WTS), an organization dedicated to advancing women in the profession of transportation. She continues to dedicate her time and resources to WTS, and works to mentor women and other young engineers at MaineDOT. **Ashley S. Campbell Award William Desisto, Professor of Chemical Engineering** Desisto has been an integral member in the UMaine Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering for over 20 years. In that time, Desisto has gained national and international acclaim. He has been described as a selfless educator and one of the most popular professors among the students. Desisto also has been a creative and tireless researcher who has published over 90 peer-reviewed papers and filed three patents. **Early Career Research Award Lauren Ross, Assistant Professor of Hydraulics and Water Resources Engineering** Ross has reinvigorated the College of Engineering coastal engineering program through her research, making it nationally competitive and one of the leaders in the college in terms of number of master's and Ph.D. students, journal publications and funding. Ross also has established the Watershed Process and Estuary Sustainability Research Group, which seeks to develop science-based solutions to watershed and estuary management problems. **Early Career Teaching Award Meredith Kirkmann, Assistant Professor of Construction Engineering Technology** Kirkmann joined the university in 2017 with years of practical experience in engineering design and management. She willingly took on the role as the safety instructor and became a certified OSHA trainer. Kirkmann established a new Quality Control and Quality Assurance elective and reworked classes to promote active learning and problem solving. Kirkmann has also been a champion for equity in the workplace. She created a monthly forum for female students and is active in many organizations that promote equity in a male-dominated field. **Leila C. Lowell Award Kimberly Goff, Large Center Development Associate, Vice President for Research Office** Goff has been an asset to the College of Engineering for over three decades. Her exceptional skills in both written and spoken communications have been utilized to secure countless grant funding for faculty. Goff's dedication to the college is exemplified in her willingness to go the extra mile to accomplish large critical tasks in a timely fashion. **Graduate Assistant Research Award Saman Zare, Mechanical Engineering** Zare has shown himself to be an exceptional student who not only excels in research and scholarly work, but also in his coursework. Zare's research into the design, fabrication and characterization of advanced composite materials with novel thermal properties for energy harvesting has resulted in four published and one under-review peer-reviewed journals. In addition to academic activities, Zare has been a leader in the university community by organizing the UMaine student research symposiums and several outreach activities, as well as being the president of Graduate Student Government and a graduate advisor for the International Student Association. **Graduate Assistant Teaching Award Brandon Dixon, Chemical and Biomedical Engineering** Dixon is a natural teacher who never hesitates to share his vast knowledge with students at all levels. Dixon has served as a teaching assistant for five different courses at the 100, 200 and 300 levels. Using his ability to make even the most difficult engineering concept accessible and to spark excitement and enthusiasm for learning, he has become a favorite among both students and faculty. Dixon has taken his love of 3D printing and turned it into STEM activities for K-12 students. Contact: Christopher Karlen, christopher.karlen@maine.edu

UMaine Extension soil health science course starts Feb. 14

28 Jan 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a five-session online course about soil health science for farmers and agricultural advisors from 5:30-7 p.m. Feb. 14-March 25. This "[Soil Health Short Course](#)" is designed to improve understanding of soil health science and practical management strategies, including cover cropping, reduced tillage practices, crop rotation and soil testing and amendments. Each week includes independent study in addition to online participation. UMaine Extension educators and guest speakers will teach the course. The sliding scale \$60-\$120 fee includes a free soil health test, a \$60 value. Registration is required by Feb. 6 on the [course webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ellen Mallory,

207.581.2942; ellen.mallory@maine.edu. More information also is available on the [Extension agriculture website](#).

Media advance marshlands, climate change workshop

28 Jan 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Livermore Falls Advertiser](#), [Centralmaine.com](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) advanced a University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H online workshop for youth ages 12–18 years about marshlands and climate change from 1:30–2:45 p.m. on Feb. 23. Register [online](#).

Carter provides written testimony in legislative committee hearing

26 Jan 2022

Hannah Carter, dean of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, submitted written testimony Jan. 25 to the Legislature’s Joint Standing Committee on Education & Cultural Affairs in support of LD 1902, An Act To Establish a Pilot Program to Encourage Climate Education in Maine Schools. [A copy of her testimony is online](#). In addition to UMaine’s internationally recognized climate change research in Maine and throughout the world, UMaine Extension brings interdisciplinary education, research and service to every county, noted Carter, who is also a member of the Natural and Working Lands Working Group of the Maine Climate Council. The outreach not only helps homeowners to agriculture producers meet the challenges and opportunities brought by a changing climate, but also engages nearly 20,000 youth annually in experiential education increasingly connected to climate science. Through interdisciplinary climate education, “we’re not only connecting Maine youth to our natural world and empowering them to be its informed stewards, we’re helping them develop creative and critical thinking skills, solve real-world problems, be physically active and build self-esteem and self-reliance,” Carter wrote in her testimony. “With our expertise, experience and statewide resources and relationships, UMaine Cooperative Extension and our 4-H Youth Development programs are well-positioned if LD 1902 moves forward to partner with Maine schools and other organizations to develop high-quality, high-impact climate science education programs that foster more equitable student achievement and environmental outcomes.” Contact: Margaret Nagle, [nagle@maine.edu](#)

Ralph testifies in legislative committee hearing

26 Jan 2022

Ken Ralph, University of Maine athletics director, testified Jan. 25 before the Legislature’s Joint Standing Committee on Education & Cultural Affairs to express the strongest support for UMaine Division I student-athletes benefiting from their name, image and likeness (NIL), as is the intent of LD 1893, An Act Regarding the Use of a Student Athlete’s Name, Image, Likeness or Autograph. [A copy of his testimony is online](#). Ralph noted that UMaine student-athletes control and can now monetize their personal NIL according to NCAA and conference rules, as well as [university policies](#). The ability for UMaine student-athletes to derive an income from their name, image and likeness is also exciting and long overdue, he said. “We are not opposed to a simple state law that makes clear college student-athletes at Maine colleges and universities can earn compensation from NIL, consistent with institutional, conference and other governing organization policies, and that those institutional policies must be posted on publicly accessible websites. Additionally, we fully support the rights of our student-athletes to retain representation in negotiating deals and understanding their legal and tax implications, and encourage them to do so,” Ralph said. “However, other states that have moved too quickly to preempt NCAA guidelines and Congressional action have already begun repealing those laws, having realized they were more restrictive than what is finally allowed. As we work together to protect and promote this new tool for our student-athletes, let us not do the same here in Maine and unintentionally create confusion that jeopardizes eligibility and opportunity.” Contact: Margaret Nagle, [nagle@maine.edu](#)

Media highlight UMaine browntail moth research

28 Jan 2022

The [Times Record](#), [The Piscataquis Observer](#) and the [Courier-Gazette](#) published a news release from the Maine Forest Service which highlighted browntail research from the University of Maine.

Seed grant funds adolescent suicide prevention study

28 Jan 2022

Identification and management of mental health issues in pediatric care settings are the focus of an adolescent suicide prevention study funded by a seed grant from the University of Maine System Rural Health and Well-being Grand Challenge Initiative’s Injury Prevention Collaborative. The study, led by Jennifer Blossom, an assistant professor of psychology at University of Maine at Farmington, and Rebecca Schwartz-Mette, an associate professor of psychology at the University of Maine, will address the lack of established evidence-based suicide prevention interventions in the pediatric primary care setting. Rural areas face higher-than-average rates of suicide, and limited access to specialty and crisis resources. In their research, Blossom and Schwartz-Mette will explore the identification and management of mental health problems in the pediatric care setting as a scalable treatment option. Blossom, who participates in the Research Affiliates program, conducts research on the effectiveness and implementation of evidence-based interventions in pediatric primary care and community settings. Schwartz-Mette’s research in developmental psychopathology focuses on risk and protective factors in pediatric suicide. The UMS Rural Health and Well-being Grand Challenge Initiative’s Injury Prevention Collaborative has been seeding research awards since 2020. The program is coordinated by Marcella Sorg and Jamie Wren at the UMaine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, with assistance from UMaine’s Office of Research Development, and is open to all UMS researchers. The UMS Injury Prevention Collaborative coordinates current UMS resources related to rural injury and violence prevention for better collaboration, more robust applications for external funding, greater opportunities for students, and greater impact on the safety and well-being of Mainers. Learn more about the UMS Grand Challenge Pilot Initiative Launch on the Research and Development Plan website. Contact: [research@maine.edu](#)

Wastewater monitoring remains central to UMS COVID-19 tracking effort

31 Jan 2022

Wheeler Lab at UMaine leading robust surveillance program for four UMS campuses and two neighboring communities Orono, Maine — The University of Maine System wastewater testing effort that began in fall 2020 and expanded to additional campuses in 2021 is in full operation as students settle back into campus life for the January–May 2022 semester. Wastewater samples are collected twice weekly at the University of Maine in Orono, University of Maine at Fort Kent and University of Maine at Presque Isle, as well as on the University of Southern Maine Gorham campus. The wastewater testing program also analyzes samples collected at the municipal wastewater facilities in the towns of Orono and Farmington, which include contributions from the campuses located in those towns and the town populations — including any students who live off campus within the municipal sampling area. The wastewater testing program covers 5,615 residential students for the spring semester, representing 96% of the residential population of those campuses. Results are posted at the UMS [Together for Maine](#) website. Wastewater samples are tested for the presence of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, in UMaine associate professor of microbiology Robert Wheeler’s biosafety level 2 lab in Orono. The Wheeler Lab coordinates and conducts sample collection and lab testing for all participating sites with support from campus and municipal staff, and can typically return results in 48 hours. “We’ve refined procedures around sampling and testing and built significant capacity in our lab over the past year,” says Wheeler, a member of the UMS Science Advisory Board. “It is exciting to see plans for a statewide expansion of wastewater monitoring for SARS-CoV-2 and increasing acknowledgment of the value of the type of data we have been collecting on our campuses since 2020.” The System began conducting wastewater surveillance in August 2020, partnering with engineering, environmental sciences and survey firm Haley Ward (previously called CES, Inc.), for sample collection and coordination of testing with an outside lab. The Wheeler Lab conducted parallel lab testing on wastewater samples in August and September 2020 before taking over all lab analysis in October of that year. UMS now manages all aspects of the wastewater monitoring program and has conducted some level of wastewater sampling year-round since January 2021. The wastewater surveillance plan and ongoing monitoring is overseen by the UMS Science Advisory Board, established by Chancellor Dannel Malloy to help guide the System’s safe return planning. The board is chaired by Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of UMaine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, who also serves as the System’s vice chancellor for research and innovation. “We’re committed to keeping our university communities among the safest places in Maine to live, learn and work, and continued wastewater monitoring is an important part of that effort,” says Malloy. “Professor Wheeler’s wastewater testing has helped us keep a close eye on the virus so that we can remain safe together.” “As the state’s flagship and public research university, UMaine is proud to be home to a comprehensive wastewater monitoring program that supports COVID-19 tracking not only on our campuses, but also in two of our campus communities,” says Ferrini-Mundy. “The Wheeler Lab has been sampling and testing wastewater for more than a year, helping to advance the layered, science-driven planning and response efforts that have allowed us to safely deliver in-person learning experiences at UMaine and systemwide.”

About wastewater testing Quantitative SARS-CoV-2 measurements in untreated sewage can provide information on changes in total COVID-19 infection in the contributing community. Research also suggests that increases in viral material in community wastewater occur before signs or symptoms of COVID-19. This can help to provide an early warning of an increase in the number of infected people within a specific community, including those who are infected but don’t develop symptoms. Wastewater observation works because infected people may start shedding virus in their stool a few days before they show any symptoms of disease, or even if they never show symptoms. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and other agencies have initiated the [National Wastewater Surveillance System](#) to help public health officials understand the extent of COVID-19 infections in communities. For more information about University of Maine System wastewater testing, [please review our FAQs](#). Contact: Ashley Forbes, ashley.forbes@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hosts farm irrigation webinar Feb. 7

31 Jan 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a webinar for farmers considering adding an irrigation system from 10 a.m.–noon on Feb. 7. “[Getting Started With Irrigation](#)” will include how to assess current water supplies and evaluate irrigation’s cost-effectiveness, as well as options for irrigation equipment. Scheduled speakers are Candi Gilpatric, agricultural engineer with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Maine, and Trevor Hardy, manager and systems engineer for Brookdale Fruit Farm Inc. and Brookdale Farm Supplies, Hollis, New Hampshire. The webinar is free; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ellen Mallory, 207.581.2942; ellen.mallory@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host talk about “The Warming Sea” project Feb. 7

31 Jan 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk by renowned composer Lucas Richman and Maine Science Festival director Kate Dickerson about the collaborative effort to create “The Warming Sea” project from 3–4 p.m. Feb. 7. In January 2019, the Maine Science Festival commissioned Richman to create a symphonic piece about climate change. The festival team arranged a series of discussions between Richman and climate experts up and down the coast of Maine. These conversations, as well as perspectives provided by middle school students throughout the state, informed this new symphonic work, which the Bangor Symphony Orchestra will premiere in March. In this talk, Dickerson and Richman will discuss the genesis of the project, the experts who were part of it and how the piece was composed. Dickerson is both the director and founder of the [Maine Science Festival](#). She has worked with nonprofits, industry and educational institutions, and has expertise in the areas of environmental policy, pollution prevention and environmental cleanup. In her work with the Maine Science Festival, she has built a collaborative partnership of diverse organizations and companies throughout the state, culminating in an annual celebration of Maine science, technology and engineering. Richman, a Grammy Award-winning composer, has served as music director for the Bangor Symphony Orchestra since 2010 and has had his music performed by over 200 orchestras across the U.S. Over the course of nearly four decades, he has garnered an international reputation for his graceful musical leadership, earning rave reviews for his collaborations with artists in both the classical and commercial music arenas. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall on the UMaine campus in Orono. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom. To register and receive connection information, visit the [event webpage](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

UMaine, UNH Extensions offer ways to extend the growing season Feb. 7

31 Jan 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners about how to extend the growing season from 6–7:15 p.m. on Feb. 7. “[Extending the Gardening Season in New England](#)” includes season-extension strategies ranging from targeted use of mulches and row covers to the use of small high tunnels, with in-depth guidance for how to build and implement these tools in home gardens.

Frank Wertheim, UMaine Extension educator, and Becky Sideman, UNH Extension sustainable horticulture specialist, will lead the workshop. Registration is required; a sliding scale program fee is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#) to attend live or receive a link to the recording. This is the fifth in a six-part [winter gardening webinar series](#) offered monthly through March for Maine and New Hampshire gardeners. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, 207.781.6099; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

Sun Journal, Centralmaine.com advance talk about ‘Warming Sea’ project

31 Jan 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) advanced a talk hosted by the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions about “The Warming Sea” project from 3–4 p.m. Feb. 7. Register on the event [webpage](#).

BDN highlights open 2022 applications for Innovate for Maine Fellows

31 Jan 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that the University of Maine Foster Center for Innovation is seeking Maine students and Maine companies to participate in the 2022 Innovate for Maine Fellows internship program. [Applications are now open](#).

WABI reports on UMaine sports fair for National Women and Girls in Sports Day

31 Jan 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5) reported on the University of Maine hosting an interactive sports fair to celebrate National Women and Girls in Sports Day.

Handley discusses how snow helps plants with News Center

31 Jan 2022

[News Center Maine](#) interviewed David Handley, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension vegetable and small fruit specialist, about how snow can help strawberries, blueberries and other crops and plants. Snow can serve as an insulator, said Handley, who spoke to News Center Maine at Highmoor Farm, a Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station in Monmouth. “Though temperatures can be well below zero above that snow line, just a few inches beneath it, they are hovering around freezing, or just a few degrees less, temperatures the plants can tolerate,” he said.

Sorg discusses drug overdose, prescription drug tracking with BDN

31 Jan 2022

Marcella Sorg, a forensic anthropologist and a University of Maine research professor at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the history of drug overdose tracking and prescription drug data monitoring in Maine. Sorg directs the center’s Rural Drug & Alcohol Research Program and compiles overdose data for the state.

CLTE promotes RLE expansion, UMaine-led workshop

31 Jan 2022

The [Coalition for Life Transformative Education](#) (CLTE) shared a news release about a University of Maine-led virtual workshop about how to create Research Learning Experiences (RLEs) setting the stage for their expansion to public universities across the state. CLTE provided \$25,000 to support the RLE program, a UMS TRANSFORMS initiative created in response to the Harold Alfond Foundation’s historic \$240 million grant to provide new opportunities for student support, faculty development and innovative collaborative degree programs to advance Maine’s economy and workforce in partnership with the public and private sectors.

Dagher featured on U.S. Sen. Angus King’s ‘Inside Maine’ podcast

31 Jan 2022

Habib Dagher, founding director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, was featured on a recent episode of U.S. Sen. Angus King’s podcast, “[Inside Maine](#),” about the benefits of the recently passed annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for the state and nation.

UMaine Portland Gateway announces CONVERGE Maine seed grant winners

01 Feb 2022

Three interdisciplinary projects focused on meeting Maine needs have been awarded competitive seed grants through [University of Maine Portland Gateway](#) to facilitate convergent research across the University of Maine System. The grant program, CONVERGE Maine, brings together UMS experts with an interest in transdisciplinary work, developing and strengthening partnerships with other institutions and organizations within the state, and addressing a societal challenge or scientific question facing Maine today. Faculty and professional research staff and scientists were invited to submit proposals in late 2021. Each team agreed to attend a kickoff event to co-develop a research collaboration plan prior to receiving the award. Proposals that engage community members in a meaningful manner were given special consideration. Brief synopses of the funded projects follow. **Building Sustainable Transdisciplinary Networks to Support Just and Equitable Energy Transitions** This project will establish a cross-campus network to advance research on energy transformation, with a particular focus on inclusive, equitable and just approaches to that process. Decision-making around new renewable energy provides an exemplary applied scenario for this innovative pilot work. Research faculty across campuses work on various aspects of renewable energy, but often lack the

resources to come together in a coordinated way and, more importantly, to sustain a collaborative commitment to transdisciplinary teaching and research. This pilot initiative directly addresses this gap. Collaborators from UMaine include Jessica Jansujwicz, research assistant professor in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology; Linda Silka, a senior fellow at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions; and Sandra De Urioste-Stone, an associate professor in the School of Forest Resources and assistant vice president for research. **Transdisciplinary One Health Approach to Zoonotic Canid Parasites in Maine** The primary goal of this transdisciplinary research is to better understand the risk of parasites to wild and domestic canid health, as well as to human health. To address this goal, researchers will quantify the prevalence and distribution of gastrointestinal parasites in Maine wild canids, evaluate the effects of heavy metals on parasite infections in wild canids, examine the overlap in parasite species found in domestic dogs with those found in wild canids, and evaluate the potential zoonotic risk to pet owners. Collaborators from UMaine include Pauline Kamath, assistant professor of animal health, and Sue Ishaq, assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences, both in the School of Food and Agriculture; and Darren Ranco, associate professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Programs. External collaborators include Michele Walsh, state veterinarian, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The following University of Maine One Health [National Science Foundation \(NSF\) Research Traineeship \(NRT\)](#) graduate students also are participating in this project: Elizabeth Pellecer Rivera, Alaina Woods and Tegwin Taylor, Ph.D. candidates in ecology and environmental sciences; and Remy Babich, a Ph.D. candidate in biochemistry and biomedical sciences. **Farm-to-Product: Creating Sustainable Kelp-Based Bioplastics** The project researches how to create fully vertically integrated kelp-based bioplastic production in Maine, propelling development in the blue economy by leveraging the plastics and aquaculture expertise in the area. Researchers will use the proof-of-concept results generated in this project to apply for federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grants to engage in further research and development oriented to commercialization. Collaborators from University of Southern Maine include Asheesh Lanba, assistant professor of mechanical engineering and director of the Composites Engineering Research Laboratory, and Eklou Amendah, an assistant professor of marketing. Collaborator Adam St. Gelais is an aquaculture innovation specialist at the UMaine Aquaculture Research Institute. External collaborators include Katie Weiler, founder and CEO of Viable Gear Company; Davis Lee, chief technology officer at Clocktower Engineering; and Andrew Schoenberg, serving as technical advisor. The three projects represent the first round of awards through the CONVERGE Maine program of UMaine Portland Gateway. The Gateway, initiated in 2021 and located in Portland, Maine, serves as a connection to UMaine research, education and outreach by acting as the front door for university engagement in southern Maine and beyond. The Portland Gateway actively develops and fosters collaborations that address Maine's challenges, scientific questions, and education and business needs. Activities of the initiative are focused on preparing the knowledge and innovation workforce, contributing to societal advancement and propelling economic development. For more information on the CONVERGE Maine seed grants, contact Pips Veazey; alice.veazey@maine.edu or gateway@maine.edu. Contact: research@maine.edu

Researchers cite lowering homocysteine with vitamin supplements as an important approach to treating drug-resistant hypertension

01 Feb 2022

Using B vitamins to lower homocysteine levels is an effective means of reducing blood pressure and may be especially useful in the management of drug-resistant hypertension, according to researchers at the University of Maine and University of Arkansas. UMaine emeritus professor of psychology Merrill Elias, who also is emeritus cooperating professor in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Engineering, collaborated with Dr. Craig Brown, adjunct professor of ophthalmology at the University of Arkansas, to publish a peer-reviewed editorial in the American Journal of Hypertension on the treatment of drug-resistant hypertension by lowering homocysteine levels with B vitamins. Approximately 12.8% of the world population experiences drug-resistant hypertension, defined as a failure to reach a target blood pressure of 140/90 mmHg using three classes of antihypertension medication. A newer definition of hypertension, 130/80 mmHg, makes successful management even more difficult to achieve. Homocysteine is an intermediate compound involved in vitamin regulation. Elevated homocysteine is the result of genetic mutations or inadequate stores of vitamins B6, B12, folate and riboflavin (B2). High homocysteine is associated with impaired nitrous oxide synthesis, which is related to small vessel vasoconstriction and is a risk factor for hypertension, cardiovascular disease, stroke and neurological diseases. Lowering of homocysteine is relatively inexpensive because it is achieved by providing vitamin supplementation. While recent literature supports the efficacy and safety of homocysteine lowering in the treatment of hypertension, the validity of this generalization has been challenged, generating a controversy that has lasted over 15 years and has slowed the use of homocysteine lowering as a means of treating hypertension, according to the researchers. Elias and Brown reviewed the literature on both sides of the controversy and conclude that the early criticisms of homocysteine lowering were premature and that supplementation with sufficient nondietary-sourced vitamins B2 (riboflavin), B6, folate and B12 can safely lower blood pressures as much as 6 to 13 mmHg. The updated reference value for normal homocysteine is =10 µmol/L. However, many laboratories define normal homocysteine levels as high as 11.4 µmol/L. Elias and Brown argue that there is a need to update laboratory values for normal homocysteine and to determine whether risk-protective values should be even lower. Vitamin treatment is a potentially important adjunct to drug treatment of drug-resistant hypertension, but therapy should be conducted under the direction of a physician or qualified health care provider, the researchers note. Contact: Merrill Elias, mfelias@maine.edu

Summer University 2022 registration open

01 Feb 2022

Summer University 2022 courses are available for viewing on MaineStreet. Summer is a great time for students to continue their coursework and make progress toward completing their degree. With flexible summer course schedules and nearly 900 course offerings online and on campus, students can fit in the courses they need to meet their educational goals. The 2022 Summer University calendar consists of three- and six-week sessions, and an additional session for miscellaneous schedules, starting with May Session on May 9. Nearly 300 courses are offered online. Summer and winter provide additional opportunities for students to Think 30 credits per year to stay on track to graduate in four years. More information, including a course listing and how to register, is [online](#).

MPR News cites Climate Reanalyzer in polar vortex story

01 Feb 2022

[MPR News](#) cited the Climate Reanalyzer developed by Sean Birkel, a research assistant professor with the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, in a story titled "Possible polar vortex signs emerging in February."

Daily Mail references 2011 UMaine dog study

01 Feb 2022

In a story about new research concluding that cats' brains became smaller once humans began domesticating them 10,000 years ago, the [Daily Mail](#) referenced a 2011 study by University of Maine researchers which found evidence that humans in Texas bred and ate dogs 9,400 years ago.

NSF CAREER award to support research on teaching and learning of geometry using VR and AR technology

01 Feb 2022

Think back to when you learned geometry. If you grew up in the U.S., you most likely explored some of the basics in elementary school. Then, in high school, you probably had an entire class dedicated to geometry. In any case, you might remember studying two-dimensional diagrams meant to represent shapes, lines, planes, angles, curves and other concepts displayed in textbooks or on an overhead projector screen. Justin Dimmel, an assistant professor of mathematics education and instructional technology at the University of Maine, has long been interested in such diagrams and how they both aid and limit the learning and teaching of geometry. "My interest in diagrams began before graduate school, when I taught high school geometry," Dimmel says. "I would encourage my students to draw, explore and transform diagrams as mathematical thought experiments, and I was fascinated by the different diagrams they would create to reason about a mathematical situation." When two-dimensional diagrams are used to represent three-dimensional figures, students and teachers have to decode how the drawings would actually appear in the physical world. In other words, because the diagrams are flat, you can't walk around them to see how they look from different angles or where edges and lines actually meet. With the increasing availability and popularity of consumer virtual and augmented reality devices, Dimmel's research focuses on how such technology can be used to represent geometric diagrams in three-dimensions rather than two. He recently received a nearly \$672,000 National Science Foundation CAREER Award to support this work. It's the organization's most prestigious award for early career faculty. As Dimmel explains, there's nothing wrong with exploring two-dimensional geometric diagrams. It's a practice that has worked for thousands of years. But it has wide ranging implications beyond the realm of geometry. "People think about space, objects in space and the relationships of those objects all the time," he says. "It's fundamental to tasks ranging from engine repair to moving furniture to multivariable calculus, linear algebra and other advanced areas of mathematics." A few years after arriving at UMaine in 2015, Dimmel started the [Immersive Mathematics in Rendered Environments \(IMRE\) Lab](#), located in Shibles Hall. With a team of graduate and undergraduate research assistants, the lab has developed [VR teaching tools](#) that allow educators and students to explore 3D geometric figures — spatial diagrams or inscriptions — in virtual environments. Dimmel has led [initial research](#) into the affordances of these environments for teaching and learning geometry. "We're at a transformational moment in terms of our ability to use these technologies for educational purposes," he says. "Spatial inscriptions are largely free of material or physical constraints. You can investigate them at any size, in any orientation, any position in space, and potentially realize a far more varied set of mathematical concepts than what is possible with physical models. Dimmel's five-year research plan includes two parallel and complementary strands focused on teaching and learning. The teaching strand will seek to characterize existing representations for three-dimensional figures, and analyze how they figure into the instructional practices of high school geometry teachers. For this part of the project, he'll examine how three-dimensional figures are typically represented in geometry textbooks, as well as the words, symbols, diagrams, models and other means that high school geometry teachers use to communicate about and represent such figures. The learning strand will investigate the unique affordances of 3D diagrams in virtual and augmented reality. For this strand, Dimmel will use task-based interviews to collect data about students' experiences with learning geometry in immersive spaces. The overall goal is to generate the first approximation of a theory that explains how movement-based interactions with spatial inscriptions can contribute to the learning and teaching of high school geometry. He aims to create a common language that can be used to discuss both traditional and emerging representations of geometric diagrams. "Before we can compare the effects of different representations, we need to understand what they are, how they work, the kinds of task situations they enable, and how they constrain students and teachers to engage with those tasks," Dimmel says. In addition to research, Dimmel says he has two broader impact priorities for the project. The first is improved STEM education and educator development at all levels. To that end, he'll seek to create a multiyear professional development program for a dozen secondary mathematics teachers to help them use virtual and augmented reality in their schools. Second, he hopes the award leads to increased literacy and engagement with science and technology by the general public. He plans to launch an outreach program to rural Maine to create opportunities for the public to experience representations of mathematical ideas in immersive environments. "I see this as an opportunity to make a significant impact in Maine, especially rural areas, which are traditionally underrepresented in terms of access to STEM," he says. "We could be a place that people around the country and even around the world look to as a model of what learning could look like in the 21st century." It's unique for a faculty member in education to receive a NSF CAREER award, and Dimmel's is believed to be a first for a faculty member from UMaine's College of Education and Human Development. He says he's grateful to numerous colleagues and administrators at the college and university levels, as well as at the [Maine Center for Research in STEM Education](#) (RiSE Center), where he is an affiliated faculty member. He has collaborated with doctoral student [Camden Bock](#) for several years, contributing to research and other projects at the IMRE Lab. Staff members at the Office of Research Development and Office of Research Administration also were helpful in developing his research proposal. "The process worked like it was supposed to work," Dimmel says. "I came in as a new faculty member and was given the support needed to develop a program of research. This award is a reflection of the backing I've received from many people along the way." Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Abedi provides written testimony in legislative committee hearing

02 Feb 2022

Ali Abedi, University of Maine associate vice president for research and professor of electrical and computer engineering, presented written testimony Feb. 1 to the Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business in support of [a proposal to establish a Maine Space Corporation](#). The corporation would be governed by a board that would include a representative of the University of Maine System. [A copy of his testimony is online](#). In his testimony, Abedi noted that the space and aerospace economy present opportunities for Maine citizens, companies and communities. UMaine is highly competitive in attracting federal investment, particularly from NASA, to advance space knowledge and discovery, and to grow Maine's science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workforce and aerospace industry. In the last five years, UMaine research funding included \$11.6 million from NASA. Abedi, who leads UMaine's Wireless Sensing Laboratory (WiSe-Net) and directs the Center for Undergraduate Research, collaborated with the Amateur Satellite Corporation to build and operate MESAT1, [Maine's first small satellite](#). It will be launched this summer. "UMaine engineering and computing students are at the center of this exciting work, and our graduates have gone onto NASA and SpaceX, as well as dynamic companies in Maine like those who are also supporting LD 1923 including BluShift Aerospace and VALT Enterprise," Abedi wrote in his testimony. "Even for those who do not go on to work in this industry, their STEM education and workforce preparation including creative and critical thinking, communication skills, teamwork, leadership, and innovation has been furthered by the hands-on opportunities to work on these real-world projects. "In part, because of this innovation from our public universities, Maine is uniquely ready to capitalize on the new space market and significantly change our state's economic landscape by creating high-paying jobs, keeping our young people in the state, and serving the entire nation and our allies around the world with high-technology aerospace intellectual property, technology export and launch services." Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Win up to \$8,000 in essay contest for 2022 Graton Prize in Constitutional Law

02 Feb 2022

The University of Maine Department of Political Science is accepting essays for the 2022 Graton Prize in Constitutional Law, which comes with a grand prize of up to \$8,000. Participants must compose 2,000–5,000-word essays that answer one of five questions related to constitutional law by drawing — where appropriate — from the intent of the framers of the U.S. Constitution, actions of Congress or the executive branch, or landmark decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court. Any regularly enrolled undergraduate student may enter the contest. The department is offering up to five awards, one for each question. Applicants may choose to answer any one of the following questions:

- Does the Supreme Court need more justices? What constitutional authority would permit expanding the court? Which constitutional values would be served by doing so? Which would be threatened?
- Under what circumstances and to what extent is it constitutionally permissible for the federal government to require mandatory vaccinations?
- Is there a constitutional right to birth control? What are the broader constitutional stakes involved? E.g., how does the question implicate the class of rights ostensibly protected by substantive due process, or the common law doctrine of stare decisis?
- Is the judiciary the appropriate branch of government to guarantee individual rights and liberties? Or are rights sometimes best defended by the political branches? What distinguishes these cases? Were they anticipated by the framers of the nation's constitution?
- Is executive privilege a power from which only a sitting president can benefit? Can a former president invoke executive privilege even when a sitting president has waived it?

Essays must be submitted in hardcopy to 229 North Stevens Hall by noon on March 21. Participants must include a complete bibliography and proper citation in their essays. For questions about the contest, contact Robert Ballingall, assistant professor of political science, robert.ballingall@maine.edu.

2022 Maine Campus Compact Award Nominations

02 Feb 2022

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2022 Maine Campus Compact Awards Ceremony. This year the Donald Harward Faculty Award for Service-Learning Excellence, the Heart and Soul Student Award and the President's Campus Leadership Award will be presented. MCC also will recognize one outstanding community partner and one outstanding corporate partner at this year's virtual ceremony in April. The Donald Harward Faculty Award for Service-Learning Excellence will recognize three faculty members from member campuses who have made public service an integral part of their teaching. The award is presented to recipients who use service-learning and/or community action as an innovative teaching tool to engage students in civic leadership. Recipients also show clear evidence of reflection and reciprocity with community partners and demonstrate a commitment to advocating for service-learning and/or community action on campus and beyond. The Heart and Soul Student Award recognizes six undergraduate students from member campuses who are actively involved in turning their campuses and communities into places of democracy. These students have raised their voices on issues of local and global importance through civic engagement efforts. Recipients may have a wide variety of experiences in any of the following areas: community service, service-learning, activism, democratic engagement, or social justice. They also demonstrate leadership through their inclusive and innovative approaches to social, educational, environmental, health, economic, and/or legal issues facing their communities. The President's Campus Leadership Award recognizes a student organization or campus department at each Maine Campus Compact (MCC) member institution for contributions to community service, service-learning, and/or civic engagement efforts on their campus. The Community Partner of the Year Award and the Corporate Partner of the Year Award will recognize one community partner and one corporate partner each for their distinguished contributions and dedication to strengthening campuses and communities in Maine. Recipients must show a deep and widespread commitment to sustainable, meaningful and reciprocal partnerships with Maine higher education institutions that have a positive impact on our campuses and in our communities. Help us to officially recognize the outstanding contributions to service and service-learning excellence made at UMaine and UMaine Machias. Nominations are now being accepted for all five award categories through Feb. 11. Complete instructions and additional information can be found at umaine.edu/volunteer/awards/mcc. For questions, contact Lisa Morin, 207.581.4194; lisa.morin@maine.edu.

Ellsworth American: Irvine to lead virtual 'Silas Crockett' discussion

02 Feb 2022

The [Ellsworth American](#) reported that Margery Irvine, a University of Maine English lecturer, will lead an online book club discussion about "Silas Crockett" on March 6. The talk is sponsored by Word, the Blue Hill literary arts festival.

Media advance flower growers workshop

02 Feb 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [Sun Journal](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) advanced a University of Maine Cooperative Extension virtual conference for cut-flower growers from 6–8 p.m. from Feb. 28 through March 3. An additional in-person networking session is scheduled March 6 at Longfellow's Greenhouses, 81 Puddledock Road, Manchester. Register for "Flowering in the North 2022" on the event [webpage](#).

Sun Journal story about new safe syringe exchange cites UMaine data

02 Feb 2022

A [Sun Journal](#) article titled "Inaugural safe syringe exchange program in Lewiston honors founder's legacy" referenced overdose data from a May report released by the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center.

Rosenbaum discusses book banning in schools with News Center

02 Feb 2022

[News Center Maine](#) interviewed Judith Rosenbaum, associate professor and chair of the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, about book banning in schools. “When we ban books, we’re not taking information away from children,” Rosenbaum said. “We’re just taking a specific story away from them because they can still find that information somewhere else.”

UMaine ascends to highest tier of national research universities

03 Feb 2022

Maine’s research and innovation reputation takes a monumental step forward as the state’s public research university earns an R1 Carnegie Classification, UMaine joins the ranks of the nation’s top 146 doctoral research universities engaged in “very high research activity.” Orono, Maine — The University of Maine has been designated an R1 university by the prestigious [Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education](#). The R1 designation signifies “very high research activity” in recent years and it is the highest possible tier a doctoral research university can achieve in the Carnegie Classification. Updates are completed [every three years](#). Only 146 (3.7%) of the nation’s 3,982 degree-granting postsecondary institutions in the United States are [classified as top-tier doctoral research universities](#). “The research enterprise at the University of Maine is a vital state economic and educational asset,” said University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy. “The R1 designation is the world standard for research universities. With it, we will attract more talent, investment and innovation to Maine. Thanks to the dedication of our research faculty and staff at our flagship university, and the strategic leadership of President Ferrini-Mundy, Vice President for Research Kody Varahramyan, and their teams, Maine is becoming a global destination for discovery and innovation.” The goal of achieving R1 status was articulated in the [UMS Research and Development Plan FY20-FY24](#) published in May 2019. UMaine President Ferrini-Mundy, lead author of the plan, reported that faculty and staff had begun meeting to address the steps that would lead to a top-tier research designation. Building on the work of these research colleagues and others, Ferrini-Mundy was able to present an investment and development plan for [Carnegie R1 status by Fiscal Year 2024](#) at the Board of Trustees May 2020 meeting. “Recognition as a top-tier research university is a testament to how hard our faculty and staff work pursuing understanding and creating knowledge,” said Ferrini-Mundy, who is President of UMaine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, and UMS Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation. “We are honored to be an R1 university because of what it means for Maine and invite all communities, students, innovators and entrepreneurs to join us on our journey to define tomorrow.” “We also owe a great thanks to our supporters, partners and the people of Maine who invest their ideas, energy and dollars into our research mission,” Ferrini-Mundy said. “Increases in state and federal support for research projects and infrastructure have been critical in our advancement. Since 1998, the Maine Legislature has provided vital funding through the Maine Economic Improvement Fund. In addition, we thank Governor Mills, Senators Collins and King, and Congresspersons Pingree and Golden for their steadfast support for Maine and its public research university.” “I congratulate the University of Maine on this monumental achievement,” said Gov. Janet Mills. “This well-deserved designation reflects years of hard work by university staff, students and researchers that have improved the lives of people across Maine, and strengthened and diversified our economy. I have no doubt that this R1 designation will globalize Maine’s reputation as a topflight research institution and as a premier destination for innovation that will bring the best and brightest to our state.” “We commend the University of Maine on its well-deserved designation as one of the nation’s elite research universities, which recognizes the groundbreaking achievements and commitment to excellence by UMaine faculty, scientists, students and staff,” said Senators Collins and King and Representatives Pingree and Golden. “As an R1 university, UMaine’s education community will continue to attract top talent, create new research opportunities and ultimately drive further innovations.”

The Road to R1 for Maine and Its Public Research University

UMaine’s research enterprise spans the entire state, including the newly launched [UMaine Portland Gateway](#). And in the University of Maine System’s unified accreditation environment, faculty at other UMS universities have the opportunity to partner with UMaine researchers, allowing them to expand their own research along with the reach and impact of the flagship’s well-established research infrastructure. Over the last five years, research and development expenditures at UMaine have grown 80.2% to an all-time high of \$179.3 million for 2021. External funding in support of R&D increased 135% to \$133.6 million, and UMaine has achieved record graduate and doctoral student enrollments. See [UMaine’s 2021 Research Report online](#). “The R1 designation affirms that UMaine has reached the highest Carnegie Classification that identifies top doctoral-granting national universities with very high research activity,” said Kody Varahramyan, UMaine Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. “This is also in recognition that at UMaine, we have been creating a modern 21st-century research university, with nationally and internationally recognized programs of global impact and local relevance that address the workforce needs and advance the social and economic development of Maine and beyond.”

UMaine Reacts to Its R1 Designation

“I received my bachelor’s and master’s degrees in mechanical engineering from UMaine, and I am now pursuing a Ph.D. in offshore wind. I am grateful for the opportunities working and studying at a world-class institution have provided for me and especially proud of the connections I’ve made with other researchers around the world. I hope to continue supporting the renewable energy economy in Maine and sharing these experiences with future students.” — *Matt Fowler, Ph.D. student originally from Presque Isle, Maine and a research engineer at the [Advanced Structures and Composites Center](#)* “This achievement is a reflection of the efforts of our entire university community, years in the making. The dedication of our past and current students, faculty, staff and administrators to research excellence through the recruitment of outstanding faculty and staff, the development of excellent graduate programs, and a supportive environment and infrastructure for continued growth and success has led UMaine to be officially recognized as an R1 research institution.” — *Melissa Maginnis, Associate Professor of Microbiology in UMaine’s [Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences](#)* “For the University of Maine to achieve an R1 classification is a clear and critically important recognition of the research quality, prominence and broad problem-solving capability of the researchers and the research support structure that we have in our university.” — *Paul Mayewski, Professor and Director of the [Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine](#)* “This is an impressive accomplishment resulting from strategic leadership and visioning, and a strong collaboration and dedication of our UMaine community — administrators, faculty, researchers, students and partners. Being an R1 recognizes the talent, productivity, innovation, creativity and collaborative culture of our university.” — *Sandra De Urioste-Stone, Assistant Vice President for Research, Associate Professor in [UMaine’s School of Forest Resources](#)* “This is a very proud moment for all of us in Maine, as it puts UMaine in the top 4% of research colleges and universities. The R1 designation recognizes the transformational green energy and materials research taking place at UMaine, including offshore wind energy, sustainable forest-derived materials, large-scale 3D printing technology for boats and housing, more durable and lightweight composites bridges now being exported from Maine. All such projects address some of our most pressing issues while driving economic development and providing hands-on, relevant learning experiences for our students. Joining this elite rank puts UMaine on the map as one of the nation’s great research universities.” — *Habib Dagher, Executive Director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center* “Simply put, AIT Bridges would not exist without UMaine. We’ve worked hand-in-hand with the university for more than a decade to commercialize composite arch bridge systems and components developed at UMaine’s Advanced Structures and Composites Center, building our company in Brewer with a workforce that includes numerous UMaine engineers. The university is an essential innovation

and talent partner and we're thrilled to see their capabilities recognized by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education." — *Brit Svoboda '76, chair and CEO of [Advanced Infrastructure Technologies](#)*

About the Carnegie Classification®

The [Carnegie Classification](#)® has been the leading framework for recognizing and describing institutional diversity in U.S. higher education for the past four and a half decades. Starting in 1970, the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education developed a classification of colleges and universities to support its program of research and policy analysis. Derived from empirical data on colleges and universities, the Carnegie Classification was originally published in 1973, and subsequently updated in 1976, 1987, 1994, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2018 and 2021 to reflect changes among colleges and universities. This framework has been widely used in the study of higher education, both as a way to represent and control for institutional differences, and also in the design of research studies to ensure adequate representation of sampled institutions, students, or faculty. Contact: Dan Demeritt, dan.demeritt@maine.edu

Human-induced climate change impacts the highest reaches of the planet — Mount Everest

03 Feb 2022

Orono, Maine — Melting and sublimation on Mount Everest's highest glacier due to human-induced climate change have reached the point that several decades of accumulation are being lost annually now that ice has been exposed, according to a University of Maine-led international research team that analyzed data from the world's highest ice core and highest automatic weather stations. The extreme sensitivity of the high-altitude Himalayan ice masses in rapid retreat forewarns of quickly emerging impacts that could range from increased incidence of avalanches and decreased capacity of the glacier stored water on which more than 1 billion people depend to provide melt for drinking water and irrigation. At the rate at which the highest glaciers are disappearing, Mount Everest expeditions could be climbing over more exposed bedrock, potentially making it more challenging to climb as snow and ice cover continues to thin in the coming decades, according to UMaine climate scientists Mariusz Potocki and Paul Mayewski. The team's findings, published in the journal [Nature Portfolio Journal Climate and Atmospheric Science](#), are the latest research results from the 2019 National Geographic and Rolex Perpetual Planet Everest Expedition. The expedition's scientists, including six from UMaine's Climate Change Institute, studied environmental changes to understand future impacts for life on Earth as global temperatures rise. This latest research confirms the heights that human-sourced climate change reaches, and serves as a bellwether for other high-mountain glacier systems and the potential impacts as glacier mass declines, says Mayewski, a glaciologist and director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute who was the expedition leader and lead scientist for the Perpetual Planet Everest Expedition. "It answers one of the big questions posed by our 2019 NGS/Rolex Mount Everest Expedition — whether the highest glaciers on the planet are impacted by human-source climate change. The answer is a resounding yes, and very significantly since the late 1990s," Mayewski says. The study points to the critical balance snow-covered surfaces provide and the "potential for loss throughout high mountain glacier systems as snow cover is depleted by changes in sublimation — passing from a solid to vapor state — and surface melt driven by climate trends. Everest's highest glacier has served as a sentinel for this delicate balance and has demonstrated that even the roof of the Earth is impacted by anthropogenic source warming," the researchers note in their paper. In their investigation of the timing and cause of significant mass loss on South Col Glacier, the researchers used data analyzed from a 10-meter-long ice core and weather stations, as well as photogrammetric and satellite imagery, and other records. They estimated contemporary thinning rates approaching approximately 2 meters of water per year now that the glacier has turned from snowpack to ice, losing its ability to reflect solar radiation, resulting in rapid melting and increased sublimation. Once South Col Glacier ice was regularly exposed, approximately 55 meters of glacier thinning is estimated to have occurred in a quarter-century — thinning over 80 times faster than the nearly 2,000 years it took to form the ice at the surface. The researchers note that increasing overall surface ice mass loss in the region — the transition from permanent snowpack to majority ice cover — could have been triggered by climate change since the 1950s, with sublimation enhanced by rising air temperatures. The impacts of climate change on the glacier have been most intense since the late 1990s. Model simulations found that the region's extreme insolation means that ablation — loss of surface mass by melting or vaporization — can accelerate by a factor of more than 20 if snow cover gives way to ice. And while warming air temperatures caused most of the sublimation, declining relative humidity and stronger winds also were factors. "Climate predictions for the Himalaya suggest continued warming and continued glacier mass loss, and even the top of the Everest is impacted by anthropogenic source warming," says Potocki, a glaciochemist and doctoral candidate in the Climate Change Institute who collected the highest ice core on the planet. Other co-authors of the paper: Tom Matthews, Loughborough University; L. Baker Perry, Appalachian State University; Margit Schwikowski, Paul Scherrer Institut; Alexander M. Tait, National Geographic Society; Elena Korotkikh, Heather Clifford and Sean Birkel, UMaine; Shichang Kang, Chinese Academy of Sciences; Tenzing Chogyal Sherpa, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu, Nepal; Praveen Kumar Singh, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee; and Inka Koch, University of Tübingen. They were among the members of the international, multidisciplinary team of scientists, climbers and storytellers, led by the National Geographic Society and Tribhuvan University, and supported in partnership with Rolex, that conducted the scientific expedition to Mount Everest, believed to be the most comprehensive single scientific expedition to the mountain in history. The expedition team installed the two highest weather stations in the world (at 8,430 meters and 7,945 meters), collected the highest-ever ice core (at 8,020 meters), conducted comprehensive biodiversity surveys at multiple elevations, completed the highest elevation helicopter-based lidar scan, expanded the elevation records for high-dwelling species and documented the history of the mountain's glaciers. The highest altitude ice core and highest altitude weather station on land are key to the latest research paper and recently set two of [the expedition's three Guinness World Records](#). Contact: Kirsten Weymouth, kweymouth@ngs.org; Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Ann Schonberger passes away

03 Feb 2022

Editor's note: The family of Ann Schonberger has arranged a memorial gathering to celebrate her life on Saturday, April 9 at 2:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall. A memorial service will be held in Bangor later this year to honor the life and legacy of Ann Schonberger, retired director of the University of Maine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies program. Schonberger passed away Jan. 25 at the age of 81. [An obituary is online](#). Schonberger and her husband, Howard, a professor of history, joined the university community in 1971. She had a Ph.D. in mathematics education and was a faculty member in University College before being named director of the Women in the Curriculum and [Women's Studies](#) program in 1991. A nationally recognized activist and women's studies advocate, Schonberger was among the organizers of the First Maine Women's Studies Conference in 1990, launching what would be an annual statewide event led by women scholars and gender equity advocates. Schonberger was among an interdisciplinary group of faculty and graduate students who, in 1992, formed the Feminist Oral History Project to document the early feminist movement. With the large number of UMaine research projects on violence against women, Schonberger organized the Violence Against Women Research Collaborative in 2002, an interdisciplinary group of UMaine faculty and students, women's advocates and professionals in the community. Schonberger also was one of the organizers of the Maine Women's

Studies Consortium — faculty, staff and students who met over several decades and annually sponsored a women’s studies conference and research retreat. For her community activism to end domestic violence that included decades of volunteering with Spruce Run, Schonberger received the 2001 Presidential Public Service Award. She retired from UMaine in 2013, and three years later, she was inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame. Schonberger was one of UMaine's early stalwart champions of diversity, equity and inclusion. For countless undergraduate and graduate students, UMaine faculty and staff members, and women and girls throughout Maine, Schonberger was a mentor, advocate and leader. Her influences ranged from curricula changes and an institutional focus on nonsexist language to on-campus programming of interest to all community members. Many UMaine female faculty members were welcomed to — and encouraged to be involved in — the university community by Schonberger. She is remembered as a woman of great strength and commitment who always spoke her mind, and “a builder who got things done.” Howard Schonberger passed away in 1991. UMaine's annual Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Justice Memorial Lecture at UMaine is named in his honor.

University of Maine announces fall 2021 Dean's List

03 Feb 2022

The University of Maine recognized 3,102 students for achieving Dean’s List honors in the fall 2021 semester. Of the students who made the Dean’s List, 2,025 are from Maine, 1,009 are from 39 other states and 68 are from 25 countries other than the U.S. To be eligible for the Full-time Dean’s List, a student must have completed 12 or more calculable credits in the semester and have earned a 3.50 or higher semester GPA. Students who have part-time status during both the fall and spring semesters of a given academic year are eligible for Part-time Dean’s List. They must have completed 12 or more calculable credits over both terms and have earned a combined GPA in those terms of 3.50 or higher. [Also available is a breakdown of the Dean’s List by Maine counties.](#) *Please note that some students have requested that their information not be released; therefore, their names are not included.*

Last name	First name	City	State	Country
Abbotoni	Alyssa	Houlton	ME	
Abell	Madeline	Stoneham	MA	
Acharya	Arnav	Biratnagar Bazar		Nepal
Adams	Gabby	Bangor	ME	
Adams	Paige	Bedford	NH	
Adams	Brianna	Kennebunk	ME	
Adams	Abby	Mendon	MA	
Adams	Ileana	Milford	ME	
Adams	Mikayla	North Brookfield	MA	
Adams	Madelyn	Otisfield	ME	
Adams	Jack	Westerly	RI	
Adell	Josh	Gray	ME	
Adetogun	FoFo	Regina		Canada
Agatako	Au-Lionne	Naugatuck	CT	

Agbuya	Kyle	Waldo	ME	
Agneta	Dominic	Windham	ME	
Agor	Quill	Surry	VA	
Aiello	Nick	Nashua	NH	
Aiken	Chloe	Westford	MA	
Albert	Matthew	Bradford	ME	
Alexander	Tessa	Brunswick	ME	
Ali	Ethan	Cumberland Center	ME	
Allard	Alexis	Levant	ME	
Allen	Ryan	Chapel Hill	NC	
Allen	Benjamin	Johnston	RI	
Allen	Paige	Mendon	MA	
Allen	Nick	Minot	ME	
Allen	Gavin	Old Town	ME	
Alley	Ryan	Beals	ME	
Alley	Kenzie	Frankfort	ME	
Alley	Bayleigh	Jonesport	ME	
Alley	Chloe	Whiting	ME	
Allie	Carigan	Saco	ME	
Allison	Josh	Veazie	ME	
Alofs	Grace	Scarborough	ME	

Alofs	Zachary	Scarborough	ME	
Alsamsam	Maher	Bangor	ME	
Alshuwaysh	Hassan	Orono	ME	
Alward	Dustin	Mapleton	ME	
Ambach	Liv	Shrewsbury	MA	
Ambeliotis	Maggie	Peabody	MA	
Ambrosio	Hannah	Northport	NY	
Amendola	Isabella	Westbrook	CT	
Amero	Katelyn	Mapleton	ME	
Ames	Mike	Hollis Center	ME	
Amon	Ashlynn	Yuma	AZ	
Amos	Tyler	New Gloucester	ME	
Andersen	Mike	Beverly	MA	
Andersen	Patty	Durham	NH	
Andersen	Allie	Hewitt	NJ	
Andersen	Kenzie	Plymouth	MA	
Anderson	Payton	East Hartford	CT	
Anderson	Nolan	Newcastle	ME	
Anderson	Liam	Swansea	MA	
Anderson	Luke	Williamsburg	VA	
Andresen	Tyler	West Bath	ME	

Andrew	Colin	Beverly	MA	
Andrews	Cam	New Gloucester	ME	
Androlewicz	Connor	Lewiston	ME	
Apon	Donato	Portland	ME	
Applebee	MaryEllen	Old Town	ME	
Aquadro	Paul	East Dummerston	VT	
Archer	Jakob	Bangor	ME	
Ardell	Emma	Monticello	ME	
Ardito	Ava	Belgrade	ME	
Arend	Holly	Portland	ME	
Arey	Molly	Gorham	ME	
Armitage	Gwenyth	Falmouth	ME	
Armstrong	Isabelle	Falmouth	ME	
Arnold	Corbett	Lincoln	ME	
Arrowsmith	Ethan	Sanford	ME	
Arsenault	Laura	Gray	ME	
Arsenault	Katherine	New Gloucester	ME	
Artkop	Mikayla	Searsmont	ME	
Ashby	Seth	Hallowell	ME	
Ashe	Megan	Colchester	CT	

Ashfield	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Aspinall	Jensen	Thorndike	ME	
Atkinson	Isaac	Marshfield	ME	
Aubin	Tyler	Plaistow	NH	
Aughe	Zach	Clarkston	MI	
Austin	Kaleb	Orono	ME	
Austin	Jay	South China	ME	
Avellar	Sadie	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Avery	Nick	Bradley	ME	
Ayala	Rico	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Aylesworth	Emme	Lake Stevens	WA	
Baber	Georgia	Gorham	ME	
Bacon	Peter	Worcester	MA	
Badstubner	Anna	Shrewsbury	MA	
Baez-Vazquez	Estephanie	Waterville	ME	
Baiguy	Mikayla	Windham	ME	
Bailey	Madi	Topsham	ME	
Bair	Taylor	Cape Neddick	ME	
Baird	Jake	Colchester	VT	
Bairos	John	Taunton	MA	
Bajracharya	Siddhartha	Kathmandu		Nepal

Baldwin	Anna	Hampden	ME	
Baldwin	Connor	Hollis Center	ME	
Baldwin	Alyssa	Watertown	CT	
Ball	Rileah	West Glover	VT	
Balsley	Kayla	Summit	NJ	
Bamberger	Rae	Brunswick	ME	
Bamford	Hannah	Rochester	NH	
Banks	Grace	Naples	ME	
Banner	Alexis	Port Charlotte	FL	
Bannerman	Ellie	New Sharon	ME	
Baran	Jessica	Providence	RI	
Barboza	Liv	Cumberland	RI	
Bard	Marsha	Winslow	ME	
Barker	Ashley	Levant	ME	
Barnes	Alyssa	West Gardiner	ME	
Barrett	Kaleb	Freeport	ME	
Barry	Nick	Kennebunk	ME	
Bart	Phillip	Bar Harbor	ME	
Barteaux	Will	Bangor	ME	
Bartholomae	Ethan	Jefferson	ME	
Bartlett	Quinn	Carmel	ME	

Bartley	Alexa	Clinton	ME	
Bartow	Evan	Green Lake	WI	
Basile-Maslowe	Jasper	Newton Center	MA	
Bassett	Becca	Auburn	ME	
Bate	Julia	Hermon	ME	
Bates	Aidan	Burrillville	RI	
Bates	Silas	Orono	ME	
Batron	Rebecca	Exeter	ME	
Baubonis	Nick	Bucksport	ME	
Baumann	Jack	Falmouth	ME	
Baur	Alex	Windham	ME	
Bausman	Parker	Arlington	MA	
Beady	Peyton	Weymouth	MA	
Beal	Lilia	Cape Neddick	ME	
Beal	Kaitlin	Gouldsboro	ME	
Beale	Joseph	Topsham	ME	
Beaton	Zachary	Hermon	ME	
Beaucage	Andrew	Waldoboro	ME	
Beaulieu	Mychal	Hampden	ME	
Beaulieu	Caitlyn	Sanford	ME	
Beaulieu	Jaida	Washburn	ME	

Beauregard	Mark	Avon	CT	
Beckshaw	Marie	Haverhill	MA	
Beckwith	Gordon	Lewiston	ME	
Beede	Randy	Bowdoinham	ME	
Belcher	Conor	Hampton	NH	
Belden	Chris	North Billerica	MA	
Bell	Darius	Hamilton		Canada
Bell	Connor	Orono	ME	
Bellavance	Jade	Sanford	ME	
Belleau	Maggie	Lewiston	ME	
Bellenoit	Gamma	West Warwick	RI	
Belolipetskaia	Anna	Saint Petersburg		Russian Federation
Beltz	Alexandra	Sleepy Eye	MN	
Belvin	Morgan	Rochelle Park	NJ	
Bena	Sean	Dexter	ME	
Benard	Chloe	Ludlow	MA	
Bendo	Klei	Tirana		Albania
Benner	Sarah	Farmingdale	ME	
Bennett	Abigail	Brewer	ME	
Bennett	Kenzie	Calais	ME	

Bennett	Grace	Orono	ME	
Benning	Montana	Waterloo	WI	
Bennoch	Connor	West Bath	ME	
Benson	Gabby	Chelsea	ME	
Benson	Emily	Middleboro	MA	
Benson	Gabe	Millinocket	ME	
Benson	Tamra	Turner	ME	
Benson	Bruce	Westfield	MA	
Bent	Lucas	Berwick	ME	
Bentley	Veronica	Quincy	MA	
Bentzinger	Joshua	Camden	ME	
Beressi	Cam	Orono	ME	
Berg	Jillian	Hardwick	NJ	
Bergdoll	Abi	Burnham	ME	
Bergelin	Kevin	Lincolnton	ME	
Berger	Hadley	Camden	ME	
Bergeron	Lucas	Topsham	ME	
Bergonzi	Madeline	Quincy	MA	
Bergstrom	Katie	Brewster	NY	
Berkes	Anna	Winthrop	ME	
Bermeo	Grace	Biddeford	ME	

Bernard	Elizabeth	Hermon	ME	
Bernard	Joe	Uxbridge	MA	
Bernier	Abby	Pittsfield	ME	
Berry	Graham	Ashland	ME	
Berry	Maddy	Gorham	ME	
Bertsch	Thomas	Westerly	RI	
Bess	Evan	Madison	ME	
Best	Kate	Braintree	MA	
Betz	Trixie	Orono	ME	
Beyer	Cyrus	Concord	MA	
Bibula	Christopher	Yarmouth	ME	
Bickford	Will	Belfast	ME	
Bidwell	Jordan	Glastonbury	CT	
Biebel	Jenna	Auburndale	MA	
Bierman	Emmaline	Cherryfield	ME	
Bierman	Samantha	Sorrento	ME	
Bifulco	Hope	Camden	ME	
Bigelow	Sera	Durham	ME	
Bigelow	Ray	Moscow	ME	
Bigelow	Philip	Winslow	ME	
Bilella	James	Penobscot	ME	

Billiter	Mikayla	Hebron	CT	
Bilodeau	Sophie	Veazie	ME	
Bilodeau	Chloe	Westwood	NJ	
Bindell	Scott	Wantagh	NY	
Binette	Gabriella	Bethlehem	CT	
Binette	Joe	Sanford	ME	
Birch	Matthew	Orono	ME	
Birchler De Allende	Ian	Alexandria	VA	
Bisecco	Morgan	North Haven	CT	
Bisson	Adrien	Cornwall		Canada
Bista	Bivek	Damak		Nepal
Black	Isaac	Brooks	ME	
Black	Hayden	Hermon	ME	
Blackie	Layla	Milford	ME	
Blackwell	Peter	Bangor	ME	
Blackwell	Emily	Rockport	ME	
Blair	Madeline	Bethlehem	PA	
Blake	Lily	Liberty	ME	
Blanchard	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Blanchard	Lizzie	Gorham	ME	
Blanchard	Jane	Hallowell	ME	

Blanchard	Grace	Orrington	ME	
Blanchard	Amy	Saco	ME	
Blanchette	Hannah	Fall River	MA	
Blanchette	Jess	Maynard	MA	
Blanchette	Jonny	New Canada	ME	
Bland	Lindsay	Ellsworth	ME	
Blankenship	Forrest	Brunswick	ME	
Blayne	Brye	Missouri City	TX	
Bleakney	Allison	Old Town	ME	
Blier	Ethan	South Portland	ME	
Bloom	Sydney	Scarborough	ME	
Bloom	Josiah	Waterville	ME	
Bocage	Shyne	Tracy	CA	
Bock	Phil	Yarmouth	ME	
Bodkin	Porter	Acton	ME	
Bogner	Molly	Milford	MA	
Bois	Oliver	Hampden	ME	
Bois	Ryleigh	Scarborough	ME	
Boissonneault	Owen	Saco	ME	
Bolduc	Connor	Lewiston	ME	
Bolduc	Andrew	Winslow	ME	

Bolduc	Justin	Winslow	ME	
Bolender	Dan	East Waterboro	ME	
Boles	Ryan	South Portland	ME	
Bolvin	Sam	Skowhegan	ME	
Bonanno	Allie	Burlington	MA	
Bond	Kacie	Blue Hill	ME	
Bonetti	Ashley	Burlington	MA	
Boone	Christian	Glenburn	ME	
Boone	Libby	Presque Isle	ME	
Boos	Meghan	Naples	ME	
Borley	Mia	Dover		United Kingdom
Borodaenko	Danila	Camden	ME	
Boscarino	Adam	West Stockbridge	MA	
Bosse	Jillian	Madawaska	ME	
Bossow	Chloe	Waldoboro	ME	
Bouchard	Emily	Syracuse	NY	
Boucher	Abby	Carmel	ME	
Boucher	Jenna	Greene	ME	
Boucher	Hana	Presque Isle	ME	
Boucher	Valerie	Saint David	ME	
Boucher	Ally	Whitinsville	MA	

Boudreau	Paige	Dayton	ME	
Boudreau	Abby	Westminster	MA	
Boudreaux	Emma	Essex Junction	VT	
Bourett	Claire	Waldoboro	ME	
Bourgeois	Abby	York	ME	
Bourne	Mchale	New Gloucester	ME	
Bourque	Ryan	Benton	ME	
Bourque	David	Biddeford	ME	
Bourque	Casey	Gardiner	ME	
Boutin	Hailey	Lubec	ME	
Boutin	Andrew	Veazie	ME	
Bowden	Hope	Orland	ME	
Bowden	Emma	Orrington	ME	
Bowen	Claire	Hampden	ME	
Bowen	Kate	Norway	ME	
Bowen	Katherine	Rockport	ME	
Bowie	Thom	Orono	ME	
Bowker	Katelynn	Bangor	ME	
Bowman	Shawn	Bear	DE	
Boyd	Danielle	Plymouth Meeting	PA	

Boyer	Colby	Dighton	MA	
Boyes	Chloe	Windham	ME	
Boyle	Zachary	Orono	ME	
Boynton	Brody	Prospect	ME	
Bracher	Evie	Hope	ME	
Bradfield	Lydia	Sidney	ME	
Bradford	Maggi	Standish	ME	
Bradish	Hannah	Lyman	ME	
Bradley	Grace	Chester	CT	
Bradley	William	Stockton Springs	ME	
Bradstreet	Erin	Brunswick	ME	
Bradstreet	Leah	Pittsfield	ME	
Brady	Gabe	Dennysville	ME	
Braga	Haley	Stockton Springs	ME	
Brahan	Christopher	North Sutton	NH	
Brainerd	Nate	Bangor	ME	
Brandt	Adelaide	Limerick	ME	
Braun	Lilly	Portland	ME	
Breazeale	David	Jenison	MI	
Breen	Lynden	Saint John		Canada
Brennan	Alexa	Belgrade	ME	

Brennan	Kyle	Harpswell	ME	
Brennan	Riley	Manasquan	NJ	
Brennan	Noah	Wakefield	MA	
Brennan	Elizabeth	West Chester	PA	
Brenner	Jonathan	Livermore	ME	
Bressette	Gavin	Oakland	ME	
Brewer	Kristen	Monticello	ME	
Brich	Tea	Glenwood	NJ	
Bridges	Kelsey	Hermon	ME	
Bridges	Graham	Wells	ME	
Briggs	Alex	Orono	ME	
Briley	Anna	Old Town	ME	
Brindisi	Sarah	Trumbull	CT	
Brittain	Katie	Wilton	ME	
Broadaway	Taylor	Tulsa	OK	
Brock	Maggie	Waterville	ME	
Broderick	Ava	Lincoln	ME	
Brogan	Maddi	North Attleboro	MA	
Brooks	Mercedes	Exeter	RI	
Brooks	Ben	Monmouth	ME	
Brooks	Cam	Portland	ME	

Broome	Zach	Portland	ME	
Brovender	Nick	Boxford	MA	
Brown	Alex	Bangor	ME	
Brown	Brett	Bangor	ME	
Brown	Ruby	Bar Harbor	ME	
Brown	Joey	Billerica	MA	
Brown	Matt	Clinton	ME	
Brown	Christine	Howland	ME	
Brown	Peta-Gay	Manchester	CT	
Brown	Camryn	Orono	ME	
Brown	Ashley	Richmond	ME	
Brown	Sydney	Saco	ME	
Brown	Sarah	Saint Louis	MO	
Brown	Sydney	Vineyard Haven	MA	
Brown	Kaitlyn	Weare	NH	
Brown	Jon	Wells	ME	
Brown	William	West Enfield	ME	
Brown	Burdette	Whiting	ME	
Bruneski	Dawson	New Norway		Canada
Brunetti	Olivia	Warner	NH	
Brunken	Shannon	Stony Brook	NY	

Brusie	Emma	Hudson	NY	
Bryant	Cole	Farmingdale	ME	
Bryer	Graham	Boothbay	ME	
Bucco	Angelina	Danvers	MA	
Buck	Emma	Howland	ME	
Buck	Luke	Sidney	ME	
Bucknor	Tiana	Milton		Canada
Bui	Morgan	Ottawa		Canada
Bulley	Kenzie	Bangor	ME	
Bunker	Danny	Bucksport	ME	
Bunker	Brian	Gorham	ME	
Burby	Noah	Winterport	ME	
Burgartz	Tim	Orono	ME	
Burgess	James	Carmel	ME	
Burkard	Lauren	Stockton Springs	ME	
Burke	Caitlin	Allentown	NJ	
Burke	Christopher	Norwell	MA	
Burmeister	Rory	Brewer	ME	
Burnell	Jack	Portland	ME	
Burnham	Jaden	Lisbon	ME	
Burns	Andrew	Freeport	ME	

Burns	Delaney	Gorham	ME	
Burrell	Sami	Pownal	ME	
Burris	Brandon	Orono	ME	
Burtis	Max	Brunswick	ME	
Bush	Scout	Blacksburg	VA	
Bush	Clayton	Warren	NJ	
Bushy	Emily	Arthur	ND	
Bustamante	Olivia	Evanston	IL	
Butala	Simon	Downingtown	PA	
Butler	Savy	Orono	ME	
Butler	Brennon	Westford	MA	
Buxton	Brooke	Veazie	ME	
Buzby	Noa	Southampton	PA	
Buzzell	Audrey	Greenbush	ME	
Byorak	Ben	Brewer	ME	
Byrd	Joby	Livermore Falls	ME	
Byrne	Emily	Standish	ME	
Caccese	Anthony	Levant	ME	
Cadorette	Abby	Bangor	ME	
Cako	Ersilda	Vlore		Albania
Caldwell	Ethan	Albion	ME	

Call	Ricco	Newry	ME	
Callaghan	Owen	Dedham	MA	
Callahan	Lily	North Weymouth	MA	
Callahan	Sarah	Salem	MA	
Callahan	Kiely	Standish	ME	
Callahan	Ivalani	Waterboro	ME	
Callahan	Bridget	Wilbraham	MA	
Callanan	Courtney	South Berwick	ME	
Callas	Jacob	Brooks	ME	
Camire	Brooke	Acton	ME	
Camire	Kyle	Winslow	ME	
Campagna	Samantha	York	ME	
Campanella	Sophia	Hollywood	FL	
Campano	Syd	Pepperell	MA	
Campbell	Killian	Kittery	ME	
Campbell	Margaret	San Diego	CA	
Campbell	Aileen	South Portland	ME	
Campbell	Ben	Wells	ME	
Campo	John	Toms River	NJ	
Canale	Marlee	Egg Harbor City	NJ	

Canders	Lily	Brewer	ME	
Canelli	Hailey	Braintree	MA	
Cannell	Wyatt	Readfield	ME	
Cantwell	Ashley	Merrimack	NH	
Cao	Jacob	Sanford	ME	
Capelle	Ashleigh	Hyannis	MA	
Capreri	Anthony	Pennsburg	PA	
Capuzzi	Clare	Morris Plains	NJ	
Carbon	Pius	Mannheim		Germany
Carbone	Emma	Richmond	ME	
Card	Katie	Woolwich	ME	
Cardin	Rooster	Hermon	ME	
Caret	Eli	Oakland	ME	
Cargile	Owen	Westbrook	ME	
Carmichael	Chase	Bucksport	ME	
Carmone	Syerra-Marie	Berkley	MA	
Carney	Isak	Brunswick	ME	
Carney	Ashley	York	ME	
Caron	Meg	Bangor	ME	
Caron	Lydia	Glenburn	ME	
Carpenter	Ken	Hermon	ME	

Carpenter	Erica	Trumbull	CT	
Carrara	Ashley	Brandon	VT	
Carreira	Kat	Eddington	ME	
Carrier	Kylie	Buckfield	ME	
Carrier	Kayla	Burlington	CT	
Carrier	Devon	Calais	ME	
Carriere	Brooke	Orono	ME	
Carroll	Hope	Portland	ME	
Carrolton	Eleanor	Bath	ME	
Carrolton	William	Bath	ME	
Carson	Colton	Bryant Pond	ME	
Carter	Max	Bangor	ME	
Carter	Isaiah	Harrison	ME	
Carter	David	Raynham	MA	
Carter	Jacob	Winthrop	ME	
Cartwright	Joy	Ellsworth	ME	
Cartwright	Sam	Old Town	ME	
Carver	Brandon	Peru	ME	
Casavant	Meg	Mapleton	ME	
Casey	Darby	Bellmawr	NJ	
Casey	Andrea	Tribes Hill	NY	

Casey	Mallory	Turner	ME	
Cashman	Stella	Winterport	ME	
Cassidy	Will	Auburn	ME	
Castillo Garcia	Annabel	Coral Gables	FL	
Castillo Parkman	Kassidy	Falmouth	ME	
Castonguay	Abby	Livermore	ME	
Castro-Rovira	Gabriella	Andover	MA	
Catalano	Jessica	Chicopee	MA	
Catuogno	Angelina	Newport	VT	
Caulfield	Graden	Yarmouth	ME	
Cavalieri	Nick	Malvern	PA	
Cavanagh	Becca	Norwalk	CT	
Caviglia	Nicholas	Fresno	CA	
Cavilla	Robert	Tenaflly	NJ	
Cavo	Maura	Springfield	VA	
Cecelya	Jack	Hudson	MA	
Celani	Lydia	Auburn	ME	
Cellini	Renee	Whitman	MA	
Chabot	Haylee	Saint George	ME	
Chadburn	Autumn	Sabattus	ME	
Chahley	Peyton	Hampden	ME	

Chalande	Christopher	Cape Neddick	ME	
Chalmers	Brooke	Framingham	MA	
Chalmers	Matthew	Framingham	MA	
Chamberland	Andrew	Topsham	ME	
Chambers	Gabriel	Harmony	ME	
Chambers	Brian	Kittery	ME	
Chambers	Caitlin	Topsham	ME	
Champagne	Hail	Lewiston	ME	
Chapin	Emily	Gorham	ME	
Chaplin	Jacob	Blackstone	MA	
Chaplin	Louise	Northeast Harbor	ME	
Chapman	Lauren	Exeter	ME	
Chappelle	Tim	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Chappelle	Christopher	Milford	ME	
Chaput	Sarah	Lewiston	ME	
Chard	Brewster	Topsham	ME	
Charette-LaBreque	Abbey	Bangor	ME	
Charrier	Megan	Sanford	ME	
Chase	Kelsey	Chesapeake	VA	
Chase	Mackenzie	Chesapeake	VA	
Chau	Nhan	Orono	ME	

Chavaree	Alanna	Indian Island	ME	
Chazin-Knox	Kalina	Washington	ME	
Chen	Kiley	Hillsborough	NJ	
Cheney	Sarah	Wilmington	MA	
Chern	Lara	Webster	NH	
Cherry	Haley	Whiting	ME	
Chevarie	Andrew	Leominster	MA	
Chhoeuk	Kimmy	Shrewsbury	MA	
Childs	Sophie	Litchfield	ME	
Childs	Lindsey	Palermo	ME	
Chiruna	Steven	Plymouth	MA	
Choi	Yongjoon	Orono	ME	
Cholod	Caleb	Portland	ME	
Chouinard	Ben	Windham	ME	
Chretien	Noah	Shapleigh	ME	
Christakis	Colby	Gorham	ME	
Christensen	Erin	Brant Rock	MA	
Christian	Logan	Hampden	ME	
Christiansen	Erik	Naples	ME	
Christuk	Catherine	Newbury	MA	
Cielinski	Cameron	Keene	NH	

Ciesielski	Kate	Duxbury	MA	
Cilley	Mike	Chesterville	ME	
Ciola	Jenna	Bethany	CT	
Cirone	Stephen	Jonesport	ME	
Clancey	Tom	Fairfield	CT	
Clark	Saylor	Bedford	NH	
Clark	Sarah	Berlin	NH	
Clark	Syeira	Lancaster	MA	
Clark	Hannah	Mapleton	ME	
Clark	Fisher	New Fairfield	CT	
Clark	Keely	Yucaipa	CA	
Clarke	Tyler	Holden	ME	
Claybaugh	Juliette	Brooklin	ME	
Cleaves	Joseph	Jefferson	ME	
Clement	Evie	Falmouth	ME	
Clement	Libby	Monmouth	ME	
Clements	Lindsay	Newburgh	ME	
Clemons	Hannah	Harpswell	ME	
Clifford	Emery	Benton	ME	
Clifford	Sam	Walpole	MA	

Clifton	William	Marshfield	ME	
Climo	Cassidy	Bradley	ME	
Cline	Tori	Bangor	ME	
Cloutier	Amanda	Brunswick	ME	
Cloutier	Samantha	Readfield	ME	
Clukey	Peter	Portland	ME	
Cobb	Katie	Fairfield	ME	
Cobb	Amelia	Gray	ME	
Cobb	Nicole	Gray	ME	
Cobb	Johnny	Holden	ME	
Cochran	Dakota	North Yarmouth	ME	
Coffey	Devin	Glen Mills	PA	
Coffin	Connor	Scarborough	ME	
Coffin	Jonah	Sudbury	MA	
Coker	Kassidy	Bangor	ME	
Colby	Sadie	Sidney	ME	
Cole	James	Belfast	ME	
Cole	Denise	Taunton	MA	
Coleman	Aiden	Wakefield	MA	
Collard	Braden	Missoula	MT	
Collett	Kylie	Weymouth	MA	

Colley	Libby	Bangor	ME	
Colliver	Elijah	Blacksburg	VA	
Colter	Emily	Hampden	ME	
Combs	Ian	Weare	NH	
Comeau	Alli	Ipswich	MA	
Comeau Duran	Stacey	Glenburn	ME	
Comeau-Waite	Lily	Leeds	ME	
Congdon	Caleb	Kennebunk	ME	
Conley	James	Standish	ME	
Connelly	Chantal	Hampden	ME	
Connolly	Caeli	Elizabethtown	PA	
Connolly	Julia	Kennebunk	ME	
Connor	Mackenzie	Orono	ME	
Conroy	Jordan	Halifax	MA	
Conway	Kjer	Rutland	VT	
Cook	Colby	Amesbury	MA	
Cook	Jacob	Perry	ME	
Cook	Isabella	Scarborough	ME	
Cook	Danielle	Surprise	AZ	
Coombs	Rachel	Randolph	NJ	
Coomey	Rori	Eliot	ME	

Cooper	Mackenzie	Acton	MA	
Cooper	Jocelyn	Boxford	MA	
Corbett	Patrick	Calais	ME	
Cordes	Oz	Porter	ME	
Cormican	Meghan	Quincy	MA	
Cormier	Madeleine	Ipswich	MA	
Cormier	Kettie Rose	Tolland	CT	
Cormier	Paige	Wolcott	CT	
Cornell	Grace	Greenfield Center	NY	
Corradi	Mia	Cheshire	CT	
Cortez	Nicole	Deer Isle	ME	
Cosgrove	Brian	East Greenwich	RI	
Cossar	Casey	Stetson	ME	
Costa	Isabella	Taunton	MA	
Costello	Sarah	Old Town	ME	
Cote	Jacob	Bangor	ME	
Cote	Laura	East Millinocket	ME	
Cote	Cam	Orono	ME	
Cote	Vanessa	Rumford	ME	
Cote	Elaina	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Cotner	Stella	Saint Paul	MN	

Cotroneo	Raist	Bangor	ME	
Cotton	Ben	Glenburn	ME	
Couch	Corinne	Mount Rainier	MD	
Coulombe	Emily	Berlin	NH	
Courser	Madi	Warner	NH	
Courtois	Madi	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Courtois	Logan	Waterville	ME	
Couture	Ethan	Dixfield	ME	
Couture	Brian	South Berwick	ME	
Covino	Ariana	Milford	MA	
Cowan	Katherine	Barnet	VT	
Cowan	Caleb	Madison	ME	
Cowperthwaite	Dendra	Skowhegan	ME	
Cox	Matthew	Bar Harbor	ME	
Cox	Amanda	Hermon	ME	
Cox	Jenna	North Granby	CT	
Coxen	Amber	Dayton	ME	
Craig	Ailsa	Dorchester	MA	
Crapa	Sebastian	Alexandria	VA	
Crapo	Morgan	Orono	ME	
Crawford	Caitlin	New Portland	ME	

Cray	Ashley	Old Town	ME	
Craybas	Evan	Newtown	CT	
Creamer	Mac	Chelsea	ME	
Creamer	Spencer	Cumberland	RI	
Creaser	Max	Auburn	ME	
Credit	Alicia	New Gloucester	ME	
Cremmen	Kelly	Lebanon	ME	
Cringle	Liam	Pittsburgh	PA	
Cripps	Nate	Kennebunk	ME	
Crisci	Joe	East Haven	CT	
Crispin	Crispin	Auburn	ME	
Crone	Jennifer	Orono	ME	
Cronin	Hanna	Methuen	MA	
Cronin	Garrett	York	ME	
Crosby	Kendra	Winthrop	ME	
Cross	Alexander	Bangor	ME	
Crossman	Fallon	Hampden	ME	
Crowder	Mimi	Waterford	MI	
Crowley	Connor	Fairhaven	MA	
Cruz	Aaliyah	Waterville	ME	
Cummings	Julia	Brewer	ME	

Cummings	Brandon	Casco	ME	
Cummings	Kasey	Casco	ME	
Cummings	Brandon	Windham	ME	
Cummings	Connor	Windham	ME	
Cunningham	Erica	Howell	NJ	
Cunningham	Will	Portland	ME	
Cunningham	Alex	Sagamore Beach	MA	
Cunningham	Maya	Stoneham	MA	
Curioli	Laura	Hampden	ME	
Curran	Claire	Pine Island	NY	
Currie	Rissa	Colchester	CT	
Curry	Kalley	Hermon	ME	
Curtis	Victoria	Belfast	ME	
Cusack	Peter	Sanford	ME	
Cushing	Riley	Nobleboro	ME	
Cushman	Grace	Pownal	ME	
Cushman	Biaggio	Raymond	ME	
Cusick	Rebecca	West Warwick	RI	
Cusson	Lauren	Eliot	ME	
Cusumano	Bri	Trumbull	CT	

Cyr	Gabriela	Bangor	ME	
Cyr	Alec	Caribou	ME	
Cyr	Jake	East Waterboro	ME	
Cyr	Devin	Westbrook	ME	
Cyr	Kallie	Westbrook	ME	
Czerwinski	Fred	Bowdoinham	ME	
Czuchra	Nicholas	Searsmont	ME	
D'Ambrosio	Tyler	Queensbury	NY	
D'Arcy	Josh	Salisbury	MA	
Dacey	Ellie	Hampden	ME	
Dacey	William	Hampden	ME	
Dagher	Joseph	Veazie	ME	
Daigle	Andre	Caribou	ME	
Daigle	Alex	Madawaska	ME	
Daigle Thompson	Juliette	Bangor	ME	
Daigneault	Ben	Poland	ME	
Dalton	Elizabeth	Lamoine	ME	
Dalton	Brockton	York	ME	
Daly	Tommy	Bangor	ME	
Daly	Cameron	Brunswick	ME	
Daly-O'Donnell	Galen	Walpole	ME	

Damboise	Oliviah	Old Town	ME	
Daniels	Garrett	Falmouth	ME	
Danis	Justin	North Reading	MA	
Danner	Ben	Waterville	ME	
Darcey	Brenna	Coventry	CT	
Daries	Eve	Brewer	ME	
DaSilva	Chloe	Orono	ME	
Daub	Elyse	Orono	ME	
Davenport	James	Cumberland Center	ME	
Davey	Jocelyn	Burlington	CT	
David	Hunter	Bow	NH	
Davids	Leila	Bangor	ME	
Davie	Maxwell	Bennington	NH	
Davies	Kristin	Groveland	MA	
Davis	Gwen	Bangor	ME	
Davis	Sam	Belfast	ME	
Davis	Nate	Freeport	ME	
Davis	Elizabeth	Gray	ME	
Davis	Jinny	Jonesboro	ME	
Davis	Caroline	Kenduskeag	ME	
Davis	Jennifer	Kingfield	ME	

Davis	Kaylin	Livingston	CA	
Davis	Amanda	Middleboro	MA	
Davis	Taylor	South Portland	ME	
Davis	Holly	South Weymouth	MA	
Davison	Katie	Charlton	MA	
Davison	Emily	North Waterboro	ME	
Dawe	Adam	Gander		Canada
Dawson	Naomi	Old Town	ME	
Day	Matthew	Garland	ME	
De Jesus	Jaira Mariz	Summit	NJ	
De Lorenzi	Jack	Portland	ME	
de Souza	Jamie	Old Town	ME	
De Vries	Livia	Fryeburg	ME	
Dean	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Dean	Sophie	Keene	NH	
Dean	Jenny	Madison	ME	
Debeauchamp	Jazmine	Brandenburg	KY	
DeBlois	Brandon	Smithfield	RI	
DeBoer	Staci	Waterville	ME	
Decker	Isabelle	Chesterville	ME	
Deer	Savanna	Franklin	MA	

Deighan	Hannah	Beverly Hills	MI	
Delaney	Jamie	Limington	ME	
Delaney	Drew	Livermore	ME	
Delaney	Arianna	Mansfield	MA	
Delano	Allie	Mansfield	MA	
Delano	Chloe	Portland	ME	
Deleard	Fed	Hancock	ME	
Delile	Zack	Clinton	ME	
DelMonico	Justin	North Andover	MA	
Delmonte	Sarah	West Brookfield	MA	
Delorge	Michael	Saco	ME	
DelVecchio	Kellie	Exeter	RI	
DeMarte	Venae	Naperville	IL	
DeMerchant	Dylan	Bath	ME	
DeMoura	Ethan	Berwick	ME	
Denbow	Emma	Harrington	ME	
Denico	Aubrey	Standish	ME	
Denico	Sadie	Standish	ME	
DeRosby	Bryce	Hampden	ME	
Desbois	Eric	Orono	ME	
Deschenes	Jeffrey	Amesbury	MA	

DeSimone	Grace	Waterboro	ME	
Desjardins	Erica	Bangor	ME	
Desjardins	Luca	South Portland	ME	
Desjardins	Makayla	Wallagrass	ME	
Desmond	Evan	Stockholm	ME	
Desmond	Evan	Windham	ME	
Dever	Griffin	Bath	ME	
Devers	Finn	North Attleboro	MA	
Dexter	Troy	New Gloucester	ME	
DiBiase	Lauren	South Portland	ME	
Dickson	Evan	Arundel	ME	
Didonato	Aidan	Wendell	MA	
DiFilippo	Ally	Essex Fells	NJ	
DiFrumolo	David	Woburn	MA	
DiGirolamo	Emma	Belgrade	ME	
DiGirolamo	Jack	Belgrade	ME	
DiLeo	Annalisa	Brookfield	CT	
Dill	Zack	Milford	ME	
Dimek	Isabel	Dixmont	ME	
Dimick	Hannah	Gorham	ME	
Dimock	Nate	Madison	ME	

Dimond	Lucas	Topsham	ME	
Dineen	Maeve	Beverly	MA	
Dingley	Rachel	Hebron	CT	
Dionne	Colby	Raymond	ME	
DiSpirito	Dominique	Woonsocket	RI	
Dix	Nathan	Gorham	ME	
Dixon	Elliot	Albion	ME	
Dixon	PhilAnn	Wallingford	PA	
Dodge	Amanda	Gilbertsville	PA	
Dodge	Lindsey	Orono	ME	
Dodge	Sarah	Orono	ME	
Doering	Tre	Webster	MA	
Doherty	Anthony	Braintree	MA	
Doherty	Liam	Brunswick	ME	
Doiron	Rhiannon	Orono	ME	
Doliber	Tyler	Acton	ME	
Domin	Natalie	Freeport	ME	
Donovan	Shane	Dorchester Center	MA	
Donovan	Emma	Quebec		Canada
Doody	Janell	Corinth	ME	

Doore	Georgia	Brewer	ME	
Dore	Becky	Grantham	NH	
Dorey	Sarah	Dedham	ME	
Dorr	Erin	Stockton Springs	ME	
Dostie	Alec	Bristol	NH	
Doucette	Logan	Bradley	ME	
Doughty	Ian	Union	ME	
Doughty	Katie	Winslow	ME	
Douin	Kyle	Augusta	ME	
Dow	Ian	Manchester	ME	
Downes	Lena	Belfast	ME	
Downing	Emma	Orono	ME	
Downing	Patrick	Stillwater	ME	
Doyle	Kellen	Orono	ME	
Doyle	Phelan	South Portland	ME	
Doyle	Kaitlyn	Windham	NH	
Drage	Aidan	Wiscasset	ME	
Dray	Andrew	Marlborough	MA	
Drew	Freya	Lafayette	NJ	
Drexler	Ashley	Orono	ME	
Drinkert	Daisy	Orono	ME	

Driscoll	Ryan	Eliot	ME	
Dritschilo	Hannah	Brunswick	ME	
Drobot	A.J.	Southampton	PA	
Drumm	Emilyann	Oxford	ME	
Duarte	Henry	Brentwood	NH	
Dubay	Jake	Old Town	ME	
Dube	Brady	Orrington	ME	
Dube	Avery	Windham	ME	
Dubuc	Samuel	Windham	ME	
Dudley	Paige	Sidney	ME	
Duffield	Charlie	Center Harbor	NH	
Dulac	Chantel	Lewiston	ME	
Dumas	Mitch	Stillwater	ME	
Dumont	Noah	Wolcott	CT	
Dunbar	Ashton	Lee	ME	
Dunham	William	Scarborough	ME	
Dunlap	Emily	Old Town	ME	
Dunn	Ana	HOLDEN	ME	
Dunn	Vanessa	Wiscasset	ME	
Dunnock	Megan	Hanover	PA	
Dunphy	Ashley	Hermon	ME	

Dunton	Dyllon	Bangor	ME	
Dupler	Jessica	Kennebunkport	ME	
Duplisea	Christopher	Old Town	ME	
Duplissie	Aubrey	Brewer	ME	
Dupuis	Darby	Hooksett	NH	
Dupuis	Peter	Northbridge	MA	
Durall	Ashley	Weston	MA	
Durand	Donovan	Minneapolis	MN	
Durkee	Olivia	Old Town	ME	
Durocher	Sarah	Buxton	ME	
Dustin	Adam	Bowdoin	ME	
Dustin	Bram	Hebron	ME	
Dutton	Juliette	Derry	NH	
Dwelley	Lynn	Lincoln	ME	
Dyer	Alex	Buxton	ME	
Dyer	Sarah	Winterport	ME	
Dyer	Hannah	Worcester	MA	
Dziewietin	Meryl	Worcester	MA	
Eason	Alex	Mount Desert	ME	
Easterbrooks	Phillip	Winthrop	ME	
Eastlack	Lauren	Rangeley	ME	

Eastman	Gunnar	Bangor	ME	
Eastman	Madison	Wells	ME	
Eberle	Charles	Califon	NJ	
Economy	Sara	Hampden	ME	
Edgecomb	Brooke	Scarborough	ME	
Edgerly	Emily	Madison	ME	
Edwards	Julian	Freeport	ME	
Edwards	Colin	Harrison	ME	
Edwards	Madison	South Salem	NY	
Eldredge	Michaela	South Dennis	MA	
Elhefnawi	Mustafa	Bangor	ME	
Ellis	Colby	Kennebunk	ME	
Elsemore	Lauren	South Portland	ME	
Emanuel	Will	Falmouth	ME	
Emerson	Carter	Hampden	ME	
Emerson	Emily	Topsham	VT	
Emerson	Mackenzie	Waldoboro	ME	
Emond	Brynn	Wales	ME	
Enck	Abby	Gorham	ME	
English	Kate	Ledyard	CT	
Enos	Kya	Taunton	MA	

Erb	Christopher	Readfield	ME	
Erikson	Theo	Orono	ME	
Erlandson	Tatum	Orono	ME	
Ernenwein	Max	York	ME	
Eshleman	Will	Norway	ME	
Estrach	Liron	Old Town	ME	
Esty	Colby	Skowhegan	ME	
Ettinger	Andrew	Hollis Center	ME	
Evangelista	Danika	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Evangelista	Jaclyn	Stoughton	MA	
Evans	Amelia	Chelsea	ME	
Evans	Avery	Virginia Beach	VA	
Evans-Ralston	C.J.	Oxford	PA	
Everett	Alexis	Chelsea	ME	
Facey	Rushanne	Ellsworth	ME	
Faherty	Kaylee	Scarborough	ME	
Fahey	James	Bangor	ME	
Fahey	Cedric	Orono	ME	
Falcone	Frankie	Pembroke	MA	
Falkner	Chloe	Standish	ME	
Fallon	Caitlyn	Warwick	RI	

Fargo	Allie	Key Largo	FL	
Farischon	Nicholas	Lafayette	NJ	
Farnham	Matt	Hermon	ME	
Farnsworth	Jordan	Princeton	MA	
Farrell	Jilleon	Manchester	ME	
Farrell	Erin	Saco	ME	
Farrington	Koby	Lincoln	ME	
Farris	Kenny	Stow	MA	
Farrow	Max	Orono	ME	
Faulkingham	Hannah	Hillsborough	NH	
Faulkner	Maddie	Holden	ME	
Favreau	Gretchen	Falmouth	ME	
Fay	Sophia	Belfast	ME	
Fazendin	Carly	Sarasota	FL	
Fecteau	Zachery	Westbrook	ME	
Feely	Michael	South Portland	ME	
Feeney	E.	Winthrop	ME	
Feero	Kyle	Alton	ME	
Feid	Julia	North Attleboro	MA	
Feierbergs	Kristians	Riga		Latvia

Fein	Gabe	Fayette	ME	
Feinstein	Molly	Merion Station	PA	
Feix	Jon	Bangor	ME	
Felix	Julia	Oak Bluffs	MA	
Fennelly	Meg	Bethlehem	CT	
Fenwick	Hailey	Kingfield	ME	
Ferland	Myla	Rockland	ME	
Fernandez	Grace	Carmel	IN	
Ferreira	Will	Orono	ME	
Ferreira	Aalliyah	Portland	ME	
Ferrell	Hannah	Bucksport	ME	
Ferrell	Fiona	Falmouth	ME	
Ferri	Cassie	Springfield	MA	
Festa	Gregg	Oakland	NJ	
Fetcho	Maya	North Easton	MA	
Fetha	Allison	Hermon	ME	
Fielding	Callie	Raymond	ME	
Filer	Collette	Bangor	ME	
Findley	Beca	Seymour	CT	
Fine	Ryan	Germansville	PA	
Finlay	Morgan	Windsor	CT	

Finley	Grace	Kittery	ME	
Fiore	Alexiis	Portland	ME	
Firkin	Kieran	Orono	ME	
Firstenberg	Jessica	Marlton	NJ	
Firth	Connor	Vienna	ME	
Fisher	Abigail	Auburn	ME	
Fisher	Zoe	Beverly	MA	
Fisher	Sam	Pembroke	NH	
Fisher	Charlotte	Township of Washington	NJ	
Fitch	Elijah	Liberty Hill	TX	
Fitts	Madison	Pittsfield	ME	
Fitzgerald	Colin	Lititz	PA	
Fitzgerald	Brendan	Mansfield	MA	
Fitzgerald	Patrick	Millville	MA	
Fitzjurls	Shannen	Bangor	ME	
Fitzpatrick	James	Dayton	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Emma	Fayette	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Conor	Mansfield	MA	
Flaherty	Rory	Braintree	MA	
Flannery	Michael	Concord	MA	
Flannery	Zachary	Hampden	ME	

Fleischner	Leah	Trumbull	CT	
Fleming	Patrick	Enfield	CT	
Fletcher	Madyson	East Falmouth	MA	
Flight	Jared	Woburn	MA	
Flint	Sam	Danvers	MA	
Flubacher	Riley	Winter Harbor	ME	
Flubacher	Tara	Winter Harbor	ME	
Flynn	Faith	Culpeper	VA	
Flynn	Kate	Lee	NH	
Fogg	Kate	Dedham	ME	
Foglio	Sam	Shapleigh	ME	
Foglio	Evan	Waterboro	ME	
Foley	Morgan	Hopedale	MA	
Fonger	Emma	Jackson	ME	
Fonger	Morgan	Jackson	ME	
Fontaine	Bronte	Brunswick	ME	
Ford	Ethan	Appleton	ME	
Ford	Colleen	Camden	ME	
Foreman	Haley	Portland	ME	
Forgue	Clay	Winthrop	ME	
Fosgate	Jeffrey	Lyman	ME	

Foster	Margo	Newport Center	VT	
Foster	Olivia	Wolcott	VT	
Fountain	Alex	Liberty	ME	
Fournier	Blaise	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Foust	Sarah	Pittston	ME	
Fox	Conor	Freeport	ME	
Fox	Jette	Glen Allen	VA	
Fox	Matt	Monmouth	ME	
Fox	Claudia	Owls Head	ME	
Foye	Eliza	Eliot	ME	
Fracassa	Lauren	Warwick	RI	
Frager	Laini	Portland	ME	
Frahn	Spencer	Auburn	ME	
Francis	Landyn	Bangor	ME	
Francis	Sade	Hampden	ME	
Francis-Mezger	Dominic	Searsport	ME	
Franco	Matthew	East Setauket	NY	
Franey	Kyra	Pittston	ME	
Frank	Josh	South Portland	ME	
Fraser	Caitlin	Brewer	ME	
Fraser	Jesse	Rockport	ME	

Fraser	Caiden	West Bath	ME	
Frasier	Kara	Sanford	ME	
Frazer	Devin	Danbury	NH	
Frechette	Amren	Windham	ME	
Fredericks	Mason	Brewer	ME	
Freedman	Emily	Portland	ME	
Freeman	Julia	Scarborough	ME	
Fremouw	Kell	Orono	ME	
French	Jasmine	New Gloucester	ME	
French	Nathaniel	Stow	MA	
French	Rebecca	Topsham	ME	
Fritz	Sam	Georgetown	MA	
Frost	Stephanie	Bangor	ME	
Frost	Noah	Caribou	ME	
Fuller	Megan	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Fuller	Grace	Weymouth	MA	
Furlong	Julia	Weymouth	MA	
Furtado	Michael	Coventry	RI	
Gabbard	Lauren	East Hampton	NY	
Gadsby	Gabby	Blue Hill	ME	
Gagne	Alyssa	Minot	ME	

Gagner	Toni	Baileyville	ME	
Gagnon	Alec	Brewer	ME	
Gagnon	Emily	Medway	ME	
Gagnon-Victor	Eliott	Ellsworth	ME	
Gaines	Susannah	Lexington	MA	
Galgano	Sierra	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Gallagher	Colin	Bangor	ME	
Gallego	Paula	L'Hospitalet de Llobregat		Spain
Gallup	Kyla	Portland	ME	
Ganc	Ava	Troy	NY	
Ganzel	Autumn	Linneus	ME	
Garcia	Alyssa	Colchester	VT	
Gardner	Marlowe	Ambler	PA	
Garfein	Laura	Walnut Creek	CA	
Gariepy	Evan	New Prague	MN	
Garrison	Sydney	Mars Hill	ME	
Gasper	Katie	Mount Vernon	ME	
Gassman	Danielle	Kennebunk	ME	
Gates	Ethan	Greene	ME	
Gates	Jordyn	South Paris	ME	

Gauvin	Emile	Burien	WA	
Gay	John	Jeannette	PA	
Gaynor	Joseph	Sandown	NH	
Gebhart	Kennedy	Bangor	ME	
Gebreselassie	Alazar	Old Town	ME	
Gehrich	Anastasia	Barrington	IL	
Geiger	Kenyon	Carmel	ME	
Geis	Bennet	Camden	ME	
Geiser	Jennah	Brewer	ME	
Geiser	Nick	Holden	ME	
Gelb	David	Manalapan	NJ	
Gellis Morais	Bell	Montevideo		Uruguay
Gendreau	Nate	Gray	ME	
Genereux	Adam	Sanford	ME	
Geng	David	Scarborough	ME	
Genoter	Melissa	Townsend	MA	
Genrich	Jonathan	Bar Harbor	ME	
Gentle	Keegan	Houlton	ME	
George	Taylor	Kittery	ME	
Gerace	Michael	Bel Air	MD	
Gerencer	Alex	Carrabassett Valley	ME	

Gernhard	Maddy	Spring	TX	
Gerrie	Elyana	Corinna	ME	
Gervais	Mikki	Sabattus	ME	
Gessner	Bridget	Huntingdon Valley	PA	
Gibbons	Emma	Orono	ME	
Gichana	Maria	North Andover	MA	
Giguere	Jaimie	Orono	ME	
Gil	Jason	Sanford	ME	
Gil	Annika	South China	ME	
Gilgan	Chelsea	Bangor	ME	
Gill	Madeline	Moorestown	NJ	
Gill	Avani	Surrey		Canada
Gillespie	Ethan	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Gillis	Kenzie	Glenburn	ME	
Gilman	Madi	West Enfield	ME	
Gilmore	Lydia	Bangor	ME	
Gilmore	Callie	Marshfield	MA	
Gilpatric	Riley	Auburn	ME	
Gingras	Rowan	Brookline	NH	
Ginsburg	Max	Attleboro Falls	MA	
Glass	Ryan	Topsham	ME	

Glatter	Sarah	Orono	ME	
Gleason	Gavin	Beverly	MA	
Gleason	Devon	Winslow	ME	
Glick	Joshua	Longmeadow	MA	
Glover	Emma	Cheshire	CT	
Glueck	Molly	Waterville	ME	
Goldman	Luke	Toms River	NJ	
Gomez	Alo	Dorchester	MA	
Gomm	Makenzie	Bradley	ME	
Goncalves Da Silva	Luiz	Malden	MA	
Gonsalves	Joe	Foxboro	MA	
Gonzalez	Derrick	Secaucus	NJ	
Gonzalez Merrill	Angel	Skowhegan	ME	
Goodale	Jesse	Lincolnton	ME	
Goodenough	Turner	Eliot	ME	
Goodman	Connor	Miami Beach	FL	
Goodrich	Matthew	Winterport	ME	
Goodwin	Drew	Bass Harbor	ME	
Gordesky-Hooper	Tovin	Burlington	VT	
Gordon	Drew	Litchfield	ME	
Gosline	Hannah	Waterville	ME	

Gosselin	Brandon	Augusta	ME	
Gosselin	Avery	Burnham	ME	
Gosselin	Luke	Saco	ME	
Gould	Tim	Riverview		Canada
Gould	Rhiannon	Washington	ME	
Goulet	Hanna	Springvale	ME	
Goulette	Joey	York	ME	
Grace	Emma	Rockville Centre	NY	
Graham	Grace	Cary Plantation	ME	
Grant	Alli	Berwick	ME	
Grant	Katelyn	Orrington	ME	
Grant	Emalee	Union	ME	
Graves	Chance	Newport	ME	
Gray	Jasmine	La Mirada	CA	
Greaney	Bella	Dedham	MA	
Greco	Avery	Lewiston	ME	
Greeley	Emily	Kingston	MA	
Green	Wyatt	Augusta	ME	
Greene	Megan	Calais	ME	
Greenlaw	Kathleen	Bangor	ME	
Greenlee	Amelia	Cumberland Center	ME	

Greenwood	James	Lewiston	ME	
Gregory	Jasmine	Winslow	ME	
Grey	Sam	Plymouth	MA	
Griffin	Eric	Brewer	ME	
Griffin	Brenda	Wells	ME	
Griffith	Juliet	Burke	VA	
Griffith	William	Maplewood	NJ	
Griffith	Adeline	Orono	ME	
Griffith	Matthew	Stillwater	ME	
Griffiths	Eva	Portland	ME	
Grindle	Riley	Ellsworth	ME	
Grogan	Leann	Orono	ME	
Groom	Kaycie	Peabody	MA	
Grous	Emma	Ashford	CT	
Grover	Ethan	Bangor	ME	
Gruitch	Alex	Englewood	CO	
Grunwald	Abigail	Port Matilda	PA	
Guarnieri	Martin	Belgrade	ME	
Guerrette	Nickolas	Caribou	ME	
Guerrette	Ronald	Caribou	ME	
Guidi	Dan	Bangor	ME	

Guillemette	Gabrielle	Lyman	ME	
Gundermann	Sara	Palmyra	PA	
Gunster	Brennan	Duxbury	MA	
Gurney	Lauren	Shelter Island Heights	NY	
Gushue	Niall	Raymond	ME	
Gutheinz	Izzy	Camden	ME	
Guy	Henry	Worthington	OH	
Gylstorff	Caroline	Risskov		Denmark
Ha	Tiffany	Gray	ME	
Ha	Trizzie	Gray	ME	
Hadley	Zoe	Miami	FL	
Hagarman	Sydney	Old Town	ME	
Haggerty	Jillian	Houlton	ME	
Halana	Ibrahim	Portland	ME	
Hale	Glenice	Bangor	ME	
Hale	Molly	Cumberland Center	ME	
Haley	Caitlin	Plymouth	MA	
Haley	Emily	Portland	ME	
Hall	Chappy	Brunswick	ME	
Hall	Kayla	Eagle River	AK	

Hall	Danielle	Sidney	ME	
Hallagan	Isabelle	Falmouth	ME	
Halliday	Jason	Falmouth	ME	
Halpern	Gabby	Goffstown	NH	
Ham	Melissa	Teaticket	MA	
Hamer	Evan	Scarborough	ME	
Hamilton	Erik	Monroe	ME	
Hamilton	Jess	Worcester	MA	
Hamlin	Luke	Searsmont	ME	
Hammill-Nordfors	Camryn	Bangor	ME	
Hammond	Caroline	Auburn	ME	
Hammond	Nick	Lyman	ME	
Hand	Jessica	Chelmsford	MA	
Handley	Makenzie	Bangor	ME	
Hanington	Sarah	Lincoln	ME	
Hanks	Lily	Dudley	MA	
Hanlon	Madeline	North Smithfield	RI	
Hanna	Mackenzie	Lamoine	ME	
Hannan	Lauren	East Brunswick	NJ	
Hanscom	Emily	Bethel	ME	
Hanselmann	Steve	Sanford	ME	

Hansen	Mitchell	Redwood City	CA	
Hanson	Trevor	Diamond	IL	
Harakles	Lila	Scarborough	ME	
Harden	Ian	Augusta	ME	
Harder	Katie	Orono	ME	
Harding	Seth	Biddeford	ME	
Harding	Brady	Howland	ME	
Harding	Courtney	Presque Isle	ME	
Hardison	Kaori	Orono	ME	
Hardy	Amy	Deer Isle	ME	
Hardy	Caitlyn	Exeter	ME	
Hargesheimer	Evan	Portland	ME	
Hargrove	Hannah	Sidney	ME	
Harmatys	Grace	Livermore	ME	
Harmon	Danielle	Lincoln	RI	
Harper	Luke	Madison	ME	
Harper	Sam	Madison	ME	
Harrenstein	Annabella	Plympton	MA	
Harriman	Parker	Bangor	ME	
Harrington	Emalee	Bethel	ME	
Harrington	Jack	York	ME	

Harris	Rachel	Bangor	ME	
Harris	Anthony	Nazareth	PA	
Harris	Wyatt	Scarborough	ME	
Harris	Dorothy	Sinclair	ME	
Harris	Shailey	Windham	NH	
Hart	Chloe	Orrington	ME	
Hart	John	Shirley	MA	
Hart	Cooper	Waterville	ME	
Harthorne	Wyatt	Dyer Brook	ME	
Hartley	Madisyn	Pittsfield	ME	
Hartley	Sofia	Poland	ME	
Hartmann	Emily	Sparta	IL	
Hartt	Bill	Carmel	ME	
Harvey	Alexa	Durham	ME	
Harwood	Tyler	Brewster	MA	
Harzewski	Matt	Dixmont	ME	
Hase	Zachary	Buxton	ME	
Hasselbaum	Cam	Bellingham	MA	
Hatt	Arianna	Lovell	ME	
Haufler	Morgan	Whitman	MA	
Haughton	Dylan	Bangor	ME	

Haverty	Erin	Fitchburg	MA	
Hawkins	Courtney	Brewer	ME	
Hayden	Amelia	Surry	ME	
Hayes	Anna	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Hayes	Michael	New Hyde Park	NY	
Hayes	Aidan	North Yarmouth	ME	
Hayes	Kenzie	Presque Isle	ME	
Haynes	Jarred	Westbrook	ME	
Hays-Peterson	Katrina	Syracuse	NY	
Hayward	Riley	Farmingdale	ME	
Hayward	Tatum	Scarborough	ME	
Hazlewood	Jaclyn	Westbrook	ME	
Heartquist	Jacob	Lowell	MA	
Hebda	Owen	Rehoboth	MA	
Hebert	Katharynne	Chepachet	RI	
Hebert	Ben	Madawaska	ME	
Hebert	Keri	Madawaska	ME	
Hebert	Branden	Presque Isle	ME	
Hebert	Bobby	Scituate	MA	
Hebert	Cheyenne	Stockton Springs	ME	
Heichel	Jackson	Croton on Hudson	NY	

Heikkinen	Kaisa	Paris	ME	
Heiser	Emma	Saint James	NY	
Helfen	Kaitlyn	Brewer	ME	
Helinski	Mina	Whitinsville	MA	
Hembree	Tamara	Holden	ME	
Henderson	Reed	Gorham	ME	
Henderson	Savanah	Las Vegas	NV	
Henderson	Isabel	Orono	ME	
Hendricks	Shea	Falmouth	ME	
Henning	Olivia	Lewes	DE	
Hepler	Ada	Orono	ME	
Herbert	Maddie	Westbrook	ME	
Hernandez	Kay	Newburgh	NY	
Hersey	Mickey	Brewer	ME	
Hershbine	Nicholas	Exeter	ME	
Herzig	Elizabeth	Colrain	MA	
Hess	Jordan	Orono	ME	
Heyland	Jared	Newington	NH	
Heyse	Marybeth	Bangor	ME	
Hickey	Lauren	Westbrook	CT	
Hickey	Allyssa	Winthrop	ME	

Hicks	Adam	Marshfield	MA	
Higgins	Alex	Skowhegan	ME	
Hild	Oliver	Hiram	ME	
Hill	Archer	Bar Harbor	ME	
Hill	Delia	Winterport	ME	
Hillgraf	Max	Portland	ME	
Hills	Emily	Searsmont	ME	
Hills	Olivia	Searsmont	ME	
Hills	Julia	Windham	ME	
Hinds	Hayley	Windsor	ME	
Hines	Kelsey	Eddington	ME	
Hinz	Jacob	Austin	TX	
Hipsky	Erika	Blue Hill	ME	
Hisakawa	Maho	Camden	ME	
Hixon	Noah	Orono	ME	
Ho	Dylan	Westbrook	ME	
Hobson	Kat	Phoenix	AZ	
Hodgdon	Aurora	Sanford	ME	
Hodgdon	Chloe	South Paris	ME	
Hodgkins	Luke	Jefferson	ME	

Hodgkins	Desiree	Westbrook	ME	
Hodgkins	Molly	Windham	ME	
Hodson	Julianna	Pittsfield	NH	
Hodson	John	Wiscasset	ME	
Hoenshell	Cathryn	Littleton	MA	
Hogan	Jack	Saunderstown	RI	
Hogg	Kayleigh	Palmyra	PA	
Hokanson	Devon	Leominster	MA	
Holbrook	Sam	South Portland	ME	
Holbrook	Jacob	Southington	CT	
Hollander	Evan	Blackstone	MA	
Holm	Zach	Amston	CT	
Holmes	Nathaniel	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Holmes	Xavier	Clarksburg	MD	
Holmes	Ashley	Waldoboro	ME	
Holmes	Alex	Winterport	ME	
Holst-Grubbe	Nathan	Middlebury	CT	
Holt	Logan	Belgrade Lakes	ME	
Holt	Chase	Cape Neddick	ME	
Holt	Allison	South Portland	ME	
Holubcova	Tereza	Praha		Czech Republic

Holyoke	Lauren	Holden	ME	
Homa	MacKenna	Westbrook	ME	
Hood	Emma	Old Town	ME	
Hopp	Zach	Maple Grove	MN	
Horne	Joe	Berwick	ME	
Hornschild-Bear	Liam	Freeport	ME	
Horowitz	Rebekah	Bangor	ME	
Horr	Ellie	Brewer	ME	
Horton	Molly	North Yarmouth	ME	
Horvath	Sarah	Danielson	CT	
Hoskins	Devin	Topsham	ME	
Hotham	Jimmy	Blaine	ME	
Hotham	Lizzy	Blaine	ME	
Houck	Kylie	Orono	ME	
Houde	Cameron	Dayton	ME	
Houghton	Abby	Bangor	ME	
House	Natalee	Farmington	ME	
Howard	Blue	Gouldsboro	ME	
Howard	Skye	Gouldsboro	ME	
Howe	Ethan	Hampden	ME	
Howell	Aaron	Cumberland Center	ME	

Howell	Cadi	Mount Desert	ME	
Howell	Ryan	Portland	ME	
Howland	Mikyla	Haynesville	ME	
Howlett	Brooke	Mars Hill	ME	
Hoxie	Jared	Holden	ME	
Hoy	Andrew	King of Prussia	PA	
Hu	Miao	Bucharest		Romania
Hubbard	Porter	Veazie	ME	
Hubbert	Shay	Millville	PA	
Hubby	Claire	Chanhassen	MN	
Hudock	Alexy	North Berwick	ME	
Huegel	Ken	Livingston	NJ	
Hughes	Baxter	Bangor	ME	
Hughes	Aurora	Dudley	MA	
Hughes	Bronwyn	Portland	ME	
Hughes	Mackenzie	Saugus	MA	
Hughes	Cameron	West Warwick	RI	
Hume	Lauren	Fairfield	ME	
Humfries	Cullen	White Horse Beach	MA	
Humphrey	Maddy	Winterport	ME	
Hunt	Faith	Boise	ID	

Hunt	Emily	Farmingdale	NY	
Hunt	Kaitlin	Monmouth	ME	
Hunter	Jason	Northport	ME	
Huntington	Dom	Orono	ME	
Huo	Emily	Biddeford	ME	
Hureau	Tess	Fort Collins	CO	
Hurlburt	Rowan	Lincolnville	ME	
Hutchins	Dakota	Fairfield	ME	
Hutchins	Trinity	Fairfield	ME	
Hutchinson	Courtney	Bangor	ME	
Hutchinson	Jessica	Canterbury	NH	
Hutchinson	Anna	Hooksett	NH	
Ilvonen	Karl	Rockland	ME	
Ingersoll	Derek	Kingston	MA	
Ingersoll	Nate	North Yarmouth	ME	
Ingersoll	Dianna	Windham	ME	
Inman	Morgan	Wales	ME	
Innis	Megan	Framingham	MA	
Irasubiza	Joshua	Orono	ME	
Ireland	Zach	Bangor	ME	
Ireland	Morgan	Presque Isle	ME	

Irujo	Carmen	Newburyport	MA	
Ismail	Alexis	Glenburn	ME	
Ismail	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Isnor	Erika	Baileyville	ME	
Ittleson	Claire	West Hartford	CT	
Ivanicka	Dominika	Orono	ME	
Ivey	Sam	Argyle Township	ME	
Izere	Henry	Orono	ME	
Jackson	Tony	Bradley	ME	
Jackson	Sydney	Upland	CA	
Jackson Gianino	Calista	Scarborough	ME	
Jackson-Coates	Mollie	Lubec	ME	
Jacobs	Lizzie	Glenburn	ME	
Jacobs	Nicholas	Glenburn	ME	
Jacobs	Nathan	Westbrook	ME	
Jacques	Keeva	Arundel	ME	
Jacques	Kyle	Orono	ME	
Jakacky	David	Orono	ME	
Jalbert	Rachel	Burlington	CT	
Jamerson-Martin	Maya	Parsonsfield	ME	
Jamieson	Kelci	Sterling	CT	

Jandreau	Isabelle	Madawaska	ME	
Janes	Ali	Avon	CT	
Jarvis	Alexa	Bangor	ME	
Jarvis	James	Kennebunk	ME	
Jarvis	Liam	Marshfield	MA	
Jenkins	Kristin	Bangor	ME	
Jenkins	Lily	New Canaan	CT	
Jennings	Lily	Scarborough	ME	
Jensen	Dustin	Old Town	ME	
Jensen	Katie	South Weymouth	MA	
Jerose	Maya	Enosburg Falls	VT	
Jeskewich	Isabella	Bloomington	IN	
Jiang	Qikai	Orono	ME	
Jipson	Storm	Auburn	ME	
Jobe	Devon	Orono	ME	
Jodoin	Kaitlyn	Gorham	ME	
Johanson	Chris	Old Town	ME	
Johansson	Elin	Landskrona		Sweden
Johnson	Chris	Bradley	ME	
Johnson	Ryan	Danielson	CT	

Johnson	Dane	Fall Creek	WI	
Johnson	Beatrice	Falmouth	ME	
Johnson	Ethan	Falmouth	ME	
Johnson	Will	Falmouth	ME	
Johnson	Riley	Gorham	ME	
Johnson	Kendra	Jonesboro	ME	
Johnson	Olivia	Levant	ME	
Johnson	Alexandra	Milwaukee	WI	
Johnson	Nicholas	North Berwick	ME	
Johnson	Ben	Orono	ME	
Johnson	Mei Li	Port Jefferson Station	NY	
Johnson	Abby	Richmond	ME	
Johnson	Jack	Saco	ME	
Johnson	Reid	South Berwick	ME	
Johnson	Jeff	Ware	MA	
Johnson	Mollie	Wareham	MA	
Johnson	Daisy	Westport	MA	
Johnstone	Brandon	North Waterboro	ME	
Jolin	Juliana	Sidney	ME	
Jolley	Melanie	Stony Brook	NY	
Jolliffe	Eli	Searsmont	ME	

Jolliffe	Emily	Searsmont	ME	
Jones	Kiersten	Brewer	ME	
Jones	Zach	Glenburn	ME	
Jones	Sarah	Himrod	NY	
Jones	Madison	Lamoine	ME	
Jones	Audrey	Scarborough	ME	
Jones	Brenna	Winterport	ME	
Jordan	Nate	Winterport	ME	
Joseph	Katley	Ottawa		Canada
Judkins	Jordyn	Deer Isle	ME	
Kackmeister	Amanda	Gray	ME	
Kahelin	Anna	Helsinki		Finland
Kahkonen	Tyler	Brewer	ME	
Kahle	John	Emmaus	PA	
Kalb	Kaleigh	Califon	NJ	
Kallas	Corinne	Brewer	ME	
Kane	Kat	Falmouth	ME	
Kane	Michael	Harpswell	ME	
Kane	Emily	Pembroke	MA	
Kaphle	Apurba	Fort Kent	ME	
Kaplan	Sam	Attleboro	MA	

Karkheck	Matt	Bridgewater	NH	
Karpman	Zoe	Landing	NJ	
Kashmark	Nathaniel	Sabin	MN	
Katz	Belu	Suffern	NY	
Kauppila	Wesley	Newburgh	ME	
Kaurin	Aleksandar	South Portland	ME	
Kay	Annie	Marblehead	MA	
Kayser	David	Scarborough	ME	
Kazilionis	Aaron	Scarborough	ME	
Keady	Olivia	Taunton	MA	
Keast	Matthew	Portland	ME	
Keast	Megan	Portland	ME	
Keating	Emily	Freedom	ME	
Kehler	Mani	Milford	ME	
Kelley	Myles	Appleton	ME	
Kelley	Dillon	Falmouth	ME	
Kelley	Mitchell	Falmouth	ME	
Kelley	Kaitlyn	Saco	ME	
Kelly	Ian	Bangor	ME	
Kelly	Dalton	Montvale	NJ	
Kelly	Owen	Westborough	MA	

Kelsey	Courtney	Hermon	ME	
Kemper	Kate	Rockport	ME	
Kempthorne-Curiel	Kiara	Bangor	ME	
Kenison	Matt	Topsham	ME	
Kennedy	Erin	Monmouth	ME	
Kennedy	Evan	Morrill	ME	
Kennedy	Bhreagh	Skowhegan	ME	
Kennedy	Jessie	Williston	VT	
Kenney	Wyatt	Gray	ME	
Kenney	Alyssa	Wells	ME	
Kerr	Stephen	Franklin	MA	
Ketch	Emily	Bradley	ME	
Keyes	Dylan	Hermon	ME	
Khalaf	Khulod	Old Town	ME	
Khat	Daniel	Sanford	ME	
Kiesman	Jerdon	Winterport	ME	
Kihn	Naomi	Warren	ME	
Kiley	Sarah	Holden	ME	
Kimball	Diana	North Yarmouth	ME	
Kindler	Henry	Kennebunk	ME	
King	Ashley	Bangor	ME	

King	Priscilla	Milford	ME	
King	Cade	Palermo	ME	
King	Parker	Palermo	ME	
King	Sam	Thomaston	ME	
King	Dylan	Uxbridge	MA	
King	Katie	Wayne	ME	
Kinney	Ryan	Bangor	ME	
Kinyon	Kalina	Westport	CT	
Kirby	Natalie	Hampden	ME	
Kirouac	Kayden	Auburn	ME	
Kirshkaln	David	Dexter	ME	
Kjellander	Olivia	Kingston	MA	
Klatt	Brian	Wethersfield	CT	
Klein	Zachary	Hampden	ME	
Klenert	Helen	Norton	MA	
Klimowich	Scott	New Milford	CT	
Klouda	Scott	Branford	CT	
Knapp	Willow	Bangor	ME	
Knapp	Dawson	Sanford	ME	
Knapp	Andrea	Sullivan	ME	
Knedler	Blake	New Gloucester	ME	

Kneissler	Casey	Fryeburg	ME	
Knight	Olivia	Raleigh	NC	
Knowles	Ava	Bucksport	ME	
Knowles	Kaylee	Bucksport	ME	
Knowles	Megan	Monmouth	ME	
Knowles	Joseph	Topsham	ME	
Knowles	Liam	Topsham	ME	
Knox	Emma	Mattapoisett	MA	
Kobrock	Carlee	Moodus	CT	
Koenig	Evan	Gorham	ME	
Koenig	Abbye	Old Town	ME	
Kogler	Kaleigh	Lexington	KY	
Kohler	Katie	York	ME	
Kohr	Maddie	Palmyra	PA	
Kohtala	Jordyn	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Kolodziej	Cam	Salem	MA	
Kolodziej	Christopher	Salem	MA	
Kondor-Ouellette	Sara	Wells	ME	
Koneff	Roy	Alton	ME	
Kontio	Emily	Orono	ME	

Korasadowicz	Bogumil	Baileyville	ME	
Koretsky	Alexandra	Presque Isle	ME	
Kornsey	Danny	Waterville	ME	
Korstanje	Thomas	Bar Harbor	ME	
Kosmin	Stephanie	North Chelmsford	MA	
Kostelnick	Isabelle	El Paso	IL	
Kotliarov	Antonia	Arlington	VA	
Kousky	Anna	Brunswick	ME	
Kovacs	Sam	Buxton	ME	
Kowal	Samual	Harmony	ME	
Kraemer	Kayla	Waterloo		Canada
Kratzer	Cassie	Biddeford	ME	
Kressel	Matteo	Haddon Heights	NJ	
Kribel	Katelyn	Old Town	ME	
Krivorotko	Dima	Orono	ME	
Kronberg	Karin	Tibro		Sweden
Kruczek	Jade	Dayton	ME	
Krull	Alexis	Old Town	ME	
Kubinsky	Bryn	Allentown	PA	
Kucia	Jackie	Rehoboth	MA	
Kueck	Alison	Scarborough	ME	

Kugell	Dominic	Oxford	ME	
Kulinski	Jason	Winthrop	ME	
Kummer	Sophie	Fryeburg	ME	
Kunesh	Sara	Searsmont	ME	
Kuoppala	Ida	Pietarsaari		Finland
Kusnierz	Brett	Garland	ME	
Kutzinski	Kira	Buende		Germany
Labb	Tommy	Ashland	MA	
Labbe	Kyle	Brunswick	ME	
Labbe	William	Brunswick	ME	
Labbe	Emily	Scarborough	ME	
Labonte	Delaney	York	ME	
Labrie	Josh	Gorham	ME	
LaBrier	John	Orland	ME	
LaChance	Olivia	Scarborough	ME	
Ladd	Mackenzie	Bangor	ME	
Ladd	Sophie	Byron	ME	
Ladd	Connor	South Paris	ME	
Ladner	Abby	Danville	PA	
Laffey	Kaycee	Brewer	ME	
LaFrance	Grace	Alfred	ME	

LaFrance	Sam	North Berwick	ME	
Lagace	Dominic	Springvale	ME	
Lage-Lichko	Steph	Waldoboro	ME	
Lajoie	Josh	Hebron	ME	
Lajoie	Jacob	Madawaska	ME	
Lalime	Jack	Otis	ME	
Lamb	Jasmine	Poland	ME	
Lambert	Noah	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lambert	Miranda	Fairfield	ME	
Lambert	Poppy	Greytown		New Zealand
Lambert	Levi	North Berwick	ME	
Lambert	Sophia	Presque Isle	ME	
Lambert	Noah	Standish	ME	
Lamkin	Chaz	Standish	ME	
Lamkins	Jordan	Southington	CT	
Lammert	Devon	Washington	DC	
Lamont	Chloe	Northbridge	MA	
LaMontagne	Jacob	Berwick	ME	
Lancaster	Mallory	Newport	VT	
Lander	Jack	Orrington	ME	
Lander	Meg	Orrington	ME	

Landry	Pierce	Farmington	CT	
Landry	Madison	Freeport	ME	
Landry	Hunter	Lewiston	ME	
Landsman	Baylor	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lane	Julia	Lancaster	MA	
Lang	Kassidy	Lyman	ME	
Langley	Alexys	Brewer	ME	
Langner	Olivia	Fort Fairfield	ME	
Langone	Gabrielle	Lynnfield	MA	
Lantagne	CJ	Acton	ME	
Lantheaume	Eliana	Chelmsford	MA	
LaPerriere	Caroline	Orono	ME	
Lapierre	Lauren	Sanford	ME	
LaPlant	Nicole	Canton	CT	
Lapointe	Gary	Greene	ME	
LaPorte	Sam	Duxbury	MA	
Largay	Bryce	Brewer	ME	
Larmore	Townsend	Virginia Beach	VA	
Larochelle	Sam	Durham	ME	
LaRosa	Talie	Longwood	FL	
Larson	Shelby	Reynoldsburg	OH	

Laskey	Sarah	Southington	CT	
Laskowski	Nick	North Weymouth	MA	
Lasorsa	Jolene	Lunenburg	MA	
Laubscher	Alec	Simsbury	CT	
Laurita	Louis	Hope	ME	
Lavallee	Joey	Falmouth	ME	
Lavigne	Trevor	York	ME	
Lavin	Madison	Ashland	MA	
Lavoie	Lee	Winthrop	ME	
Lavoy	Nathan	Portland	CT	
Lawrence	Wynonia	Malone	NY	
Lawrence	Matt	Topsham	ME	
Lawson	Erika	Penfield	NY	
Layton	Tyler	Peabody	MA	
Le	Phuoc	Da Nang		Viet Nam
Le	Khiana	Portland	ME	
Lear	Keaton	Vinalhaven	ME	
Leary	McKayla	South Berwick	ME	
Leathers	Alec	Ellsworth	ME	
Leavitt	Emily	Glenburn	ME	
LeCates	Iris	Cincinnati	OH	

Lecko	Veronica	Chicopee	MA	
LeClair	Emily	Bangor	ME	
LeClair	Jasmine	Presque Isle	ME	
LeClair	Hannah	Waterville	ME	
Lecomte	John	Melrose	MA	
LeConey	Evan	Bethel	ME	
Ledford	David	Hudson	ME	
Ledger	Katherine	Linneus	ME	
LeDuc	Ellie	Rumford	ME	
Lee	Kyle	Skowhegan	ME	
Lees	Justin	Naples	ME	
Lefebvre	Kerry	Freeport	ME	
Legris	Asher	Brewer	ME	
Leighton	Vee	Dexter	ME	
Leighton	Gavyn	Wells	ME	
Lekborg	Cooper	Georgetown	MA	
Lemay	Sarah-Theresa	Scarborough	ME	
Lembree	Hannah	Claremont	NH	
Lemieux	Daniel	Westford	MA	
Lenfest	Lucas	Smithfield	ME	

Lengyel	Roxana	Falmouth	MA	
Leonard	Rachel	Mount Desert	ME	
Lessard	Alexandra	Jackman	ME	
Lessard	Niko	Raymond	ME	
Lester	Tim	Cumberland Center	ME	
Letourneau	Kiana	Fairfield	ME	
Levasseur	Rebecca	Auburn	ME	
Lever	Maggie	Bangor	ME	
Levesque	Emily	Sidney	ME	
Levesque	Amanda	Swansea	MA	
Levesque	Savannah	Veazie	ME	
Levinson	Adam	Yarmouth	ME	
Lewandowski	Ruth	Portland	ME	
Lewis	MacKenzie	Augusta	ME	
Lewis	Shelby	Oakfield	ME	
Leys	Jack	Middletown	RI	
Libby	Owen	Bow	NH	
Libby	Tom	Camden	ME	
Libby	Erin	Cumberland Center	ME	
Libby	Immanuel	Saco	ME	
Libuda	Casey	Laconia	NH	

Lick	Trent	Orono	ME	
Liebler-Bendix	Ailin	Jamesville	NY	
Liedtka	Claire	San Antonio	TX	
Liem	Kendrick	Palo Alto	CA	
Lilley	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	
Lin	Hua	Portland	ME	
Lindell	Sarah	Cloverdale	CA	
Lindelov	Edward	Saltsjobaden		Sweden
Lindyberg	Jack	Stockton Springs	ME	
Lines	Eli	Trumansburg	NY	
Linkel	Reilly	Orland	ME	
Linscott	Jordan	Windsor	ME	
Lipka	Skyler	Shrewsbury	MA	
Lipp	Anastasia	New Gloucester	ME	
Little	Kennedy	Andover	MN	
Liu	Kaitlin	Brewer	ME	
Lizzotte	Hunter	Farmingdale	ME	
Lloyd	Jack	Waterville	ME	
Lobdell	Brady	Hampden	ME	
Loberti	Andrew	Bellingham	MA	
Lobley	Jordan	Orrington	ME	

Locke	Tyler	Brookfield	MA	
Loeser	Claire	Saco	ME	
Logan	Abby	Buxton	ME	
Lolar	Ethyn	Old Town	ME	
Longchamps	Nevaeh	Auburn	ME	
Longley	Hannah	Fairfield	ME	
Loper	Sydney	North Yarmouth	ME	
Lord	Griffin	Orono	ME	
Lord	Sarah	Wells	ME	
Lord	Anika	West Baldwin	ME	
Lorenc	Kayla	Oakland	NJ	
Lorenzo	Jacob	Falmouth	ME	
Lorom	Sydney	Houlton	ME	
Losquadro	Katie	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lotrionte	Meagan	Plymouth	MA	
Lounsbury	Sydney	Southbury	CT	
Love	Seneca	Bangor	ME	
Love	Johnny	Reading	MA	
Loveless	Austin	Cumberland Center	ME	
Lovering	Gabe	Auburn	ME	
Low	Maria	Brewer	ME	

Low	Sarah	Orland	ME	
Luchon	Adam	Willington	CT	
Lucia	Tori	Fairfield	CT	
Luckraft	Jake	East Falmouth	MA	
Lueders	Luke	Canton	ME	
Lufkin	Blake	Bangor	ME	
Lufkin	Mallory	Brandon	VT	
Lunedei	Jake	Monument Beach	MA	
Luo	Ning	Brewer	ME	
Luong	Joseph	Scarborough	ME	
Lupien	Allison	Waldoboro	ME	
Lupien	Emily	Waldoboro	ME	
Luu	Kiera	Silver Spring	MD	
Lydon Shay	Colton	Braintree	MA	
Lyford	Jennah	Hampden	ME	
Lynch	Danielle	Burlington	MA	
Lynch	Finnegan	Rockland	ME	
Lynch	Abigail	Westport	CT	
Lyons	Abby	Hampden	ME	
MacAskill	Erin	New Fairfield	CT	
MacBurnie	Amanda	Stillwater	ME	

MacDonald	Brianna	Holliston	MA	
MacDonald	Cam	Seabrook	NH	
MacDougall	Daniel	Taunton	MA	
MacFarlane	Olivia	Plymouth	MA	
Macgregor	Ellery	Greene	ME	
MacKay	Patrick	Ellsworth	ME	
Mackeldey	Seana	Dennysville	ME	
MacKinnon	Ian	Presque Isle	ME	
Maclaurin	Euan	South Portland	ME	
MacLean	Ella	Antigonish		Canada
MacLean	Cam	Augusta	ME	
MacLeod	Shayla	Wayland	MA	
MacMaster	Drew	West Boylston	MA	
MacMillan	Charlotte	Brunswick	ME	
MacNeil	Morgan	Bridgton	ME	
MacPherson	Tommy	Quincy	MA	
MacVane	Chloe	South Portland	ME	
Madden	Kaelyn	Saco	ME	
Maddock	Casey	Scarborough	ME	
Maddox	Audrey	Dixmont	ME	

Madison	Zach	Turner	ME	
Madore	Joe	Bridgewater	MA	
Madore	Paige	Bridgewater	MA	
Magee	Grace	Marion	MA	
Maguire	Anthony	Westbrook	ME	
Mahan	Madison	Portland	ME	
Mahar	Alexander	Rockland	ME	
Maher	Lauren	North Weymouth	MA	
Mahoney	James	Eddington	ME	
Mahoney	Ashley	Hampden	ME	
Mahoney	Julia	Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures		Canada
Maidman	Jonathan	Carrabassett Valley	ME	
Mailey	Trinity	Old Town	ME	
Major	Will	Topsfield	MA	
Malcolm	Adam	Palmyra	ME	
Malia	Patrick	Fryeburg	ME	
Malkin	Julian	Woodbury	CT	
Mallon	Sara	Newark	DE	
Malloy	Kenzie	Salem	MA	
Maloney	Katie	Louisville	CO	
Maloney	Maeve	West Hartford	CT	

Maloney	Liv	Worcester	MA	
Maltais	David	South Thomaston	ME	
Maltese	Sam	Camden	ME	
Manfredonia	Madeline	Southbury	CT	
Mann	Rick	Bowdoinham	ME	
Manning	Sarah	East Hampstead	NH	
Manning	Madison	Uxbridge	MA	
Mansfield	Sarah	Annandale	VA	
Mantini	Gianna	Dunbarton	NH	
Mantovani	Paige	Toms River	NJ	
Maranto	Nicholas	Brunswick	ME	
Marchessault	Mike	Cumberland Center	ME	
Marcincavage	Gabe	Framingham	MA	
Marckettell	Alex	Simsbury	CT	
Marcotte	Sarah	Bangor	ME	
Marcotte	Sarrah	Biddeford	ME	
Marino	Kyle	Pawcatuck	CT	
Mark	Michael	Houston	TX	
Marks	Charlie	Orono	ME	
Marsh	Hannah	Rowley	MA	
Marshall	Kaleb	Cushing	ME	

Marshall	Ella	Little Deer Isle	ME	
Marshall	Ennis	Little Deer Isle	ME	
Marshall	Kai	Natick	MA	
Marston	Matt	Fort Kent	ME	
Marston	Cassidy	Hollis Center	ME	
Marston	Caleb	South Portland	ME	
Martell	Kyle	Gray	ME	
Martin	Alex	Arrowsic	ME	
Martin	Matthew	Hopkinton	MA	
Martin	Ian	Kennebunk	ME	
Martin	Peter	Scarborough	ME	
Martin	Sarah	Sidney	ME	
Martin	Mchenna	Stonington	ME	
Martin	Gunnar	Unity	ME	
Martin	Jackson	Unity	ME	
Martinez	Ashley	Paterson	NJ	
Martwichuck	Abigail	Beverly	MA	
Marty	Hannah	Harwich	MA	
Marzano	Amaya	Freeport	ME	
Mason	Scott	Anson	ME	
Massa	Deanna	Everett	MA	

Masselli	John	Casco	ME	
Masterman	Sonia	Princeton	MA	
Masterson	Jackson	Kingfield	ME	
Mastrianno	Leah	Augusta	ME	
Mastrorillo	Brandon	Old Town	ME	
Mathers	Kassidy	Island Falls	ME	
Mathews	Lindsay	Fayetteville	NY	
Mathieu	Hannah	Sidney	ME	
Mathisen	Sam	Conway	NH	
Matteo	Spencer	Portland	ME	
Mattessich	Logan	Rockaway	NJ	
Mattrick	Amelia	Rochester	VT	
Mattson	Timber	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Mault	Jacqueline	Chester	ME	
Maurais	Hannah	Jay	ME	
Max	Theresa	Ottsville	PA	
May-Fleming	Iris	Nashville	TN	
Maybury	Michele	Brewer	ME	
Mayers	Victoria	Woonsocket	RI	
Mayhew	Zoe	Unity	ME	

Mayo	Matthew	Bridgton	ME	
Mayotte	Kaylee	Lebanon	ME	
Mazzola	Anthony	Ashland	MA	
McAfee	Drake	Biddeford	ME	
McAlary	Hannah	Saco	ME	
McAulay	Ryan	Shrewsbury	MA	
McAuliffe	Maggie	Foxboro	MA	
McBreairty	Meaghan	Hampden	ME	
McBreairty	Riley	Hampden	ME	
McBrine	Ethan	Biddeford	ME	
McCann	Charlie	Eliot	ME	
McCann	Hannah	Holden	ME	
McCann	Jack	Rehoboth	MA	
McCarthy	Gillian	Bangor	ME	
McCarthy	Natalie	Lincoln	ME	
McCarthy	Mike	Manchester	ME	
McCarthy	Madi	Orono	ME	
McCarthy Beaver	Quinn	Dedham	MA	
McCauley	Justin	Randolph	MA	
McClendon	David	Watertown	CT	
McClung	Ruby	Fircrest	WA	

McConnell	Erin	Ellington	CT	
McConville	Keely	Orono	ME	
McCracken	Joey	Lititz	PA	
McCrea	Lexi	Laconia	NH	
McCullough	Kaitlin	Ellsworth	ME	
McCullough	Nolan	Gorham	ME	
McDevitt	Griffin	Sandwich	MA	
McDonald	Meghan	Orono	ME	
McDonough	Katie	Groveland	MA	
McDowell	Yvey	Bristol	RI	
McDowell	Tab	Laingsburg	MI	
McElroy	Kimberlea	Carmel	ME	
McGarry	Morgan	Scarborough	ME	
McGee	Bailey	Durham	ME	
McGee	Lexi	South Berwick	ME	
McGlone	Aidan	Limington	ME	
McGrath	Corrine	Lyman	NH	
McGrath	Stephanie	Newburgh	ME	
McHatten	Paige	Mapleton	ME	
McInnis	Drew	Portland	ME	
McIntire	Cassidy	Winslow	ME	

McIntosh	Ashlee	Appleton	ME	
McIntosh	Micah	New Providence		Bahamas
Mcintyre	Duncan	Lincoln	ME	
McKelvy	David	Scarborough	ME	
McKendry	Elise	Long Pond Township	ME	
McKenney	Sydney	Hampden	ME	
McKenney	Caitlin	Harmony	ME	
McKeon	Daniel	Searsport	ME	
McKinnon	Cara	Peabody	MA	
McLagan	Kayla	Hackettstown	NJ	
McLaughlin	Lily	Bangor	ME	
McLaughlin	Maria	Brewer	ME	
Mclaughlin	Delani	Greenbush	ME	
McLaughlin	Dawson	Houlton	ME	
McLaughlin	Emily	Hudson	MA	
McLellan	Sierra	Augusta	ME	
McLellan	Andrew	Calais	ME	
McLellan	Ivy	Calais	ME	
McLellan	Pehry	Monroe	ME	
McMerty	Tristan	Freehold	NJ	
McNally	Zoe	Bowdoin	ME	

McNish	Conner	Lincoln	ME	
McPhail	Ottilie	Bradford	ME	
McWhorter	Audrey	Tipp City	OH	
McWilliams	Sean	Plymouth	MA	
Meador	Sydney	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Meaney	Lauren	North Reading	MA	
Medeiros	Josh	Scarborough	ME	
Mehre	Alex	Veazie	ME	
Mehrhoff	Isabelle	Mercer	ME	
Meirelles-Cochran	Antonio	Hyannis	MA	
Mejias	Arianna	Standish	ME	
Mejias	Jazmyne	Standish	ME	
Mellor	Rebekah	Stockton Springs	ME	
Melton	Michael	Blacksburg	VA	
Mendes	Ryan	Windham	ME	
Mendoza Yanes	Karla	Biddeford	ME	
Mentz	Haley	Vernon Rockville	CT	
Mercado	Isabella	Brimfield	MA	
Merchant	Maraeka	Lewiston	ME	
Meredith-Pickett	Sydney	Greenville	ME	
Merkle-Scotland	Maeve	Madison	CT	

Merrill	Isabella	Hope	ME	
Merz	Nolan	Rocklin	CA	
Messier	April	Camden	ME	
Metivier	Julia	Foxboro	MA	
Metz	Jordan	Nobleboro	ME	
Meyer	John	Brick	NJ	
Meyer-Waldo	Sarah	West Bath	ME	
Mezzadri	Dom	Blackstone	MA	
Michalski	Nate	Moodus	CT	
Michaud	Dana	Belgrade	ME	
Michaud	Jake	Hampden	ME	
Michaud	Adreanna	Leeds	ME	
Michaud	Marc	Machiasport	ME	
Michaud	Dante	North Berwick	ME	
Michaud	Aidan	North Yarmouth	ME	
Michaud	Conner	Presque Isle	ME	
Michaud	Camille	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Michaud	Jacob	Wells	ME	
Michaud	Ella	Winthrop	ME	
Mierzejewski	Karissa	New Hartford	CT	
Mierzejewski	Nicholas	New Hartford	CT	

Miljone	Liga	Kekava		Latvia
Millan Mendoza	Alice	Rockville	MD	
Millay	Chanthu	Brewer	ME	
Miller	Makayla	Bangor	ME	
Miller	Jenna	Charlton	MA	
Miller	Keyana	Chelmsford	MA	
Miller	Jordyn	Dedham	ME	
Miller	Abigail	Gorham	ME	
Miller	Dillon	Ledgewood	NJ	
Miller	Heath	Orono	ME	
Miller	Luke	Tewksbury	MA	
Miller	Katelyn	Trumbull	CT	
Miller	Matt	Wilmington	MA	
Millett	Nick	Orono	ME	
Milligan	Mary	Winthrop	ME	
Milliken	Brenna	Gray	ME	
Mills	Nic	Chelsea	ME	
Mills	Riley	Livermore Falls	ME	
Milton	Kara	Pembroke	MA	
Milton	Jacob	Portland	ME	

Minas	Katarina	Cranston	RI	
Misiaszek	Katy	West Boylston	MA	
Misler	Zara	Winterport	ME	
Mitchell	Sam	Bar Harbor	ME	
Mitchell	Audrey	York	ME	
Mittelstadt	Lexi	Wilton	ME	
Moery	Katie	Alexandria	VA	
Mohawass	Marina	Bangor	ME	
Mohr	Jacob	Plantsville	CT	
Moline	Brendan	Lincolnvile	ME	
Monios	Michael	Saint-Laurent		Canada
Moniz	Kyle	Salem	NH	
Monroe	Mabel	South Thomaston	ME	
Monteiro	Luke	Mystic	CT	
Montibello	Neal	Hanover	NH	
Montuori	Isabella	Northborough	MA	
Monzo	Charlie	Colonia	NJ	
Monzo	Parni	Colonia	NJ	
Moody	Kylie	Brookfield	CT	
Moody	Elizabeth	Chelmsford	MA	
Moon	Brianna	Howland	ME	

Mooney	Katie	Chepachet	RI	
Moore	Max	Camden	ME	
Moore	Sydney	Port Clinton	OH	
Moore	Elliott	Somerville	MA	
Mora	Josh	Windham	ME	
Morales	Sarah	Framingham	MA	
Moreau	Daniel	Hallowell	ME	
Morel	Jordyn	Fall River	MA	
Morgan	Aleigha	Dover	DE	
Morgan	Gage	Norridgewock	ME	
Morgan	Alex	Perry	ME	
Morgus	Matthew	Lancaster	NY	
Morin	Andrea	Ipswich	MA	
Morin	Emily	Lyman	ME	
Morin	Charis	Parkman	ME	
Morin	Abby	Winthrop	ME	
Morneault	Hollie	Madawaska	ME	
Morneault	Garrett	Washburn	ME	
Morphy	Elise	Regina		Canada
Morrill	Rya	Hudson	ME	
Morris	Patty	Attleboro	MA	

Morris	Samuel	Boulder	CO	
Morrison	Ally	Barnet	VT	
Morrison	Kara	Blue Hill	ME	
Morrison	Trevor	Hancock	ME	
Morrison	Tegan	Waterloo		Canada
Morrison	Bailey	Wells	ME	
Morrisette	Alexander	Brookfield	CT	
Morrissey	Lilly	Woodbridge	CT	
Morse	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Morton	Sam	Norway	ME	
Moser	Matisse	Falmouth	ME	
Mosqueda	Peter	Reading	MA	
Mower	Tayah	Lynnfield	MA	
Moynihan	Naomi	Orono	ME	
Muho	Donald	Millis	MA	
Muir	Mark	Hudson	ME	
Mulera	John	Rockville	MD	
Mulligan	Monica	Bangor	ME	
Mulligan	Jacob	Berwick	ME	
Mulligan	Abigail	Orono	ME	
Mulligan	Kacie	West Enfield	ME	

Mulligan	Aidan	West Simsbury	CT	
Mullin	Natalie	Cumberland Center	ME	
Mullins	Josh	Bangor	ME	
Mulrooney	Connor	Phippsburg	ME	
Mulroy	T.J.	Newton	NJ	
Munroe	Heather	Penobscot	ME	
Munson	Wyatt	Lincolnville	ME	
Murphy	Noah	Bangor	ME	
Murphy	Bart	Biddeford	ME	
Murphy	Fiona	Bridgton	ME	
Murphy	Davan	Brownsville	VT	
Murphy	Lisa	Holden	ME	
Murphy	Matthias	Lewiston	ME	
Murphy	Maegan	South Portland	ME	
Murphy	Sean	Wallingford	CT	
Murphy	Cassidy	Willow Grove	PA	
Murphy	Fiona	York	ME	
Murray	Kian	Brunswick	ME	
Murray	Emma	Danvers	MA	
Murray	Emily	Scarborough	ME	
Murray	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	

Murray	Mackenzie	Thomaston	ME	
Muscat	Abigail	Bass Harbor	ME	
Muscatell	Annabelle	Bangor	ME	
Mushero	Kayla	Lincoln	ME	
Musor	Destiny	Bangor	ME	
Muthig	Mya	North Berwick	ME	
Myers	Kyle	Brighton	MI	
Myers	Hagen	Portland	ME	
Myers	Sabina	Rehoboth	MA	
Mylander	Tess	Old Town	ME	
Myron	Amanda	Durham	ME	
Nadeau	Kassie	Vassalboro	ME	
Nahas	Natalie	Dover	NH	
Nally	Colin	Endicott	NY	
Namujju	Elizabeth	Old Town	ME	
Nangle	Sydney	Windham	ME	
Narcisse	Lizzi	Fayville	MA	
Narofsky	Sophia	Hampden	ME	
Nash	Ellie	Falmouth	ME	
Nason	Maraia	Sebago	ME	
Natalizia	Jake	Saunderstown	RI	

Nathan	Abby	Camden	ME	
Nault	Anna	Gorham	ME	
Nedder	Reagan	Attleboro	MA	
Negley	Jaidyn	Greene	ME	
Nelson	Jared	Scarborough	ME	
Neuhauser	Liv	Falmouth	ME	
Nevells	Kaden	Hermon	ME	
New	Syeira	Limerick	ME	
Newcomb	Madilyn	Perry	ME	
Newick	Carissa	North Berwick	ME	
Ney	Connor	Brunswick	ME	
Ngo	Vinh-Nhan	Bangor	ME	
Nguyen	Soren	Orono	ME	
Nguyen	Kelly	Portland	ME	
Niayesh	Mohammad	Detroit	ME	
Nicholas	Annika	Mars Hill	ME	
Nicholas	Nathaniel	Mechanicsville	MD	
Nichols	Addison	Bangor	ME	
Nichols	Kate	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Nichols	Matthew	Old Town	ME	

Nickels	Claire	Hampden	ME	
Ninteau	Emily	Dracut	MA	
Nkulikiyinka	Theophile	Orono	ME	
Noble	Meg	Arundel	ME	
Noble	Maddy	Lincoln	ME	
Noddin	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Noonan	Dakota	Winterport	ME	
Norbury	Kristina	Woodstown	NJ	
Nordman	Connor	Auburn	MA	
Norman	Vincent	Belfast	ME	
Norman	Ian	Holden	ME	
Norman	Luke	Holden	ME	
Norment	Lukas	Glenburn	ME	
Norsworthy	Jeff	Yarmouth	ME	
Nosovitski	Alec	Mansfield	MA	
Novak	Rebekah	Hampden	ME	
Nowak	Lilian	Bangor	ME	
Nowak	Claire	Geneva	IL	
Noyes	Kody	Topsham	ME	
Noyes	James	Warren	ME	
Nunes	Nicole	Danvers	MA	

Nutter	Hayden	Corinth	ME	
Nygaard	Zane	Old Town	ME	
Nygaard	Aubree	Orono	ME	
O'Brien	Seamus	Falmouth	ME	
O'Brien	Peter	Orono	ME	
O'Brien	Liam	Oxford	CT	
O'Brien	Erin	Santee	CA	
O'Clair	Michael	Standish	ME	
O'Connell	Megan	Sanford	ME	
O'Donnell	Mackenzie	Portland	ME	
O'Donnell	Laura	Tewksbury	MA	
O'Hagan	Caroline	Middletown	RI	
O'Keefe	Armand	South Orange	NJ	
O'Kelly	Luke	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
O'Leary	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	
O'Neill	Dan	Bangor	ME	
O'Reilly	Eileen	Norwood	MA	
O'Sullivan	Julianna	Belfast	ME	
O'Toole	Abby	Braintree	MA	
Oakes	Breanne	Hermon	ME	
Ochoa	Israel	Clermont	FL	

Oehler	Morgan	Elkridge	MD	
Ogle	Allison	Oxford	CT	
Oglesby	Wyatt	Black Hawk	CO	
Oliveira	Isabella	Boxford	MA	
Oliveira	Elijah	Lincoln	RI	
Oliver	Ellie	Leeds	ME	
Oliver	Tyler	North Berwick	ME	
Olivier	James	Augusta	ME	
Olsen	Amanda	Columbus	OH	
Olsen	Tucker	Hartford	ME	
Olshin	Jasmine	Scarborough	ME	
Olson	Zoe	Trenton	ME	
Olzinski	Molly	Johnson City	NY	
Orakwue	Chisom	Lagos		Nigeria
Oranje	Paige	Bangor	ME	
Orethun	Darien	Old Town	ME	
Orio	Mimi	Medfield	MA	
Ormiston	Cate	Wakefield	RI	
Orois Aznarez	Alba	Mollet del Valles		Spain
Ortiz	Sonora	Orono	ME	
Orton	Emma	Waterford	NY	

Orwig	Gracie	Manvel	TX	
Ostman	Victor	Danderyd		Sweden
Otash	Trent	Berwick	ME	
Ott	Noelle	Upton	MA	
Ouellette	Hayden	Augusta	ME	
Ouellette	Aimee	Bangor	ME	
Ouellette	Hope	Bangor	ME	
Ouellette	Eli	Bowdoinham	ME	
Ouellette	Dominique	Brewer	ME	
Ouellette	Emma	Derry	NH	
Ouimet	Allie	Old Town	ME	
Overturf	Maija	Corinth	ME	
Owen	Sydney	Old Town	ME	
Oxley	Cameron	Holden	ME	
Ozlanski	Sarah Renee	Hampden	ME	
Pacanza-Rogers	Estrella	Raymond	ME	
Pacheco	Mel	North Attleboro	MA	
Padilla	Mikayla	Midland	TX	
Paetow	Sabrina	Topsham	ME	
Pagliaro	Maria	Sandy Hook	CT	
Paine	Daniel	South Paris	ME	

Paine	Marissa	South Paris	ME	
Palazzo	Riley	Orange	CT	
Pallis	Tommy	Glastonbury	CT	
Palm	Gunnar	Kittery Point	ME	
Palmer	Mallory	Brunswick	ME	
Palmer	Jared	Orono	ME	
Palmer	Mikayla	West Gardiner	ME	
Palmore	Dylan	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Palome	Angelo	Randolph	NJ	
Panagakos	Gaby	Scarborough	ME	
Papsadora	Zach	Hermon	ME	
Paquin	Alyssa	Waterboro	ME	
Parent	Jeffery	Waldoboro	ME	
Park	Soojin	Old Town	ME	
Park	Jinyoung	Suwon-si		Korea, Republic of
Parker	Garrett	Brooksville	ME	
Parker	Scott	Denmark	ME	
Parker	Remy	Montclair	NJ	
Parker	Lacey	Plymouth	MA	
Parks	Gavin	Calais	ME	

Parrotta	Emma	Cape Neddick	ME	
Parsons	Taylor	Glastonbury	CT	
Parsons	Alia	Hancock	ME	
Pate	Mo	Orono	ME	
Patel	Kaya	Canterbury		United Kingdom
Patel	Niraj	Sanford	ME	
Paterson	Adam	Mapleton	ME	
Patin	William	Hampden	ME	
Patota	Sean	Swansea	MA	
Patten	Noelle	Hermon	ME	
Patterson	Michelle	Saco	ME	
Paul	Miles	Brewer	ME	
Pavlik	Zoe	Durham	NH	
Pawlowicz	Kenny	Pelham	NH	
Peacock	Hannah	Orono	ME	
Peakes	Olivia	Dexter	ME	
Pearson	Trevor	Holden	ME	
Peary	Alexandra	Cumberland Center	ME	
Pease	Josh	York	ME	
Peirce	Cammie	Hermon	ME	
Peirce	Neill	Sewickley	PA	

Peitz	David	Fairfield	ME	
Pellegrino	Kelly	Bangor	ME	
Pelletier	Marielle	Industry	ME	
Pelletier	Chelsea	Madawaska	ME	
Pelletier	Justin	Madawaska	ME	
Pelletier	Courtland	Methuen	MA	
Pelletier	Lacy	Wallagrass	ME	
Pellis	Rachel	Mount Kisco	NY	
Pellizzari	Giacomo	Venezia		Italy
Peluso	Gabriella	Dumont	NJ	
Pender	Troy	Amesbury	MA	
Pendleton	Annabelle	Auburn	ME	
Perez	Mary	Laguna Niguel	CA	
Perkins	Logan	Exeter	ME	
Perkins	Dominic	Kittery	ME	
Perkins	Shaelea	Marshfield	ME	
Perkins	Gwenyth	Medway	ME	
Perovic	Novak	Orono	ME	
Perrotta	Margaret	Freeport	ME	
Perry	Cole	Hallowell	ME	
Perry	Ryan	Middleboro	MA	

Perry	Riley	Veazie	ME	
Pesiri	Alex	Winthrop	MA	
Peters	Max	Falmouth	ME	
Peters	Erin	Houlton	ME	
Peters	Aidan	Old Town	ME	
Petersen	Olivia	Eliot	ME	
Peterson	Lydia	Auburn	ME	
Peterson	Josh	Levant	ME	
Peterson	Kerrick	Londonderry	NH	
Petherick	Andrew	Groton	CT	
Petrarca	Greg	Tiverton	RI	
Phelps	Kai	Ellsworth	ME	
Philips	Shelby	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Phillips	Randi	Chandler	AZ	
Phillips	Elizabeth	Houlton	ME	
Phinney	Cameron	Steep Falls	ME	
Phipps	Owen	Newburyport	MA	
Picard	Alex	Caribou	ME	
Pickard	Renee	Sabattus	ME	
Picone	Jojo	Bangor	ME	
Pierce	Alex	Rome	ME	

Pierini	Noah	Cumberland	RI	
Piette	Isaac	Littleton	NH	
Pigott	Sean	Tyngsboro	MA	
Pike	Aiden	Searsmont	ME	
Pinette	Tom	Limestone	ME	
Pinkham	Jon	Damariscotta	ME	
Pinkham	Jordan	Old Town	ME	
Pitman	Julia	Beverly	MA	
Pitman	Ava	Gorham	ME	
Pitrat	Liam	Hatfield	MA	
Pitt	Kaitryn	Westbrook	ME	
Place	Aidan	Eliot	ME	
Plant	Sydney	Bowdoinham	ME	
Plante	Kassie	Sanford	ME	
Plante	Colin	Stoughton	MA	
Pliskaner	Jacob	North Andover	MA	
Plummer	Nathan	Raymond	ME	
Plummer	Sydni	Windsor	ME	
Poirier	Samantha	Auburn	ME	
Poissant	Tristan	Orono	ME	
Poisson	Ben	Vancouver		Canada

Poisson	Brian	Wayland	MA	
Poitras	Brennan	Caribou	ME	
Poitras	Whitney	Westbrook	ME	
Polchies	Megan	Gorham	ME	
Poling	Tom	Stetson	ME	
Poliquin	Jamie	Lewiston	ME	
Pollack	Thomas	Blauvelt	NY	
Pollier	Kayla	Ware	MA	
Pomerleau	Sierra	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Pomerleau	Eliot	Scarborough	ME	
Pomeroy	Emily	Old Town	ME	
Ponzini	Nick	Burlington	MA	
Poole	Will	Brownville	ME	
Porter	Kevin	Hingham	MA	
Porter	Cody	Old Town	ME	
Porter	Sam	Sebago	ME	
Pothier	Mia	Biddeford	ME	
Poulin	Nick	Augusta	ME	
Poulin	Nathalie	Belgrade	ME	
Poutasse	Jack	Rockport	ME	
Power	Joshua	Auburn	ME	

Power	Esme	Hope	ME	
Power	Owen	Hope	ME	
Power	Jessie	Plymouth	MA	
Powers	Abby	Brunswick	ME	
Powers	Nick	Medway	ME	
Prats	Zoe	York	PA	
Pratt	Banalata	Bangor	ME	
Pratte	Michael	Bedford	NH	
Praul	Hunter	South China	ME	
Praul	Jacob	South China	ME	
Prejean	Delaney	Saco	ME	
Prejean	Desiree	Saco	ME	
Press	Ida	Uppsala		Sweden
Preston	Dean	Windham	ME	
Preston	Jaren	Windham	ME	
Prince	Maggie	York	ME	
Profenno	Lucas	Portland	ME	
Prokop	Matush	Skowhegan	ME	
Prybylo	Max	Bangor	ME	
Pugina	Mariia	Saint Petersburg		Russian Federation

Pulito	Gianna	Fairfield	CT	
Punch	Jessica	Hebron	ME	
Purple	Spencer	Westford	MA	
Qualey	Sara	Norridgewock	ME	
Quartararo	Juliet	Scarborough	ME	
Quint-Wood	Mia	South Portland	ME	
Quirion	Myles	Augusta	ME	
Radel	Sean	Kennebunk	ME	
Rae	Polly	Buxton	ME	
Rae	Josh	West Barnstable	MA	
Rafferty	Neil	Mason	NH	
Rafferty	Terence	River Edge	NJ	
Rafford	Kit	North Yarmouth	ME	
Rafford	Trevor	North Yarmouth	ME	
Rainsford	Luke	South Portland	ME	
Rajcula	Jed	Brookfield	CT	
Ralph	Dylan	Ridgefield	CT	
Ramos	Jordan	Warren	RI	
Ramsden	Ian	Portland	ME	
Rancourt	Kristen	Winslow	ME	
Rand	Emily	Billerica	MA	

Ransley	Sam	New Harbor	ME	
Rasco	Zale	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Rathbun	Molly	Gorham	ME	
Ratliffe	Mary	Fremont	NH	
Raval	Ria	Voorhees	NJ	
Raven	Kristen	Thorndike	ME	
Ray	Kaylee	Gardiner	ME	
Raymond	Kayla	Standish	ME	
Ready	Colin	Eliot	ME	
Reardon	Finnegan	Milton	MA	
Reardon	Dylan	North Reading	MA	
Reavis	Morgan	South Paris	ME	
Rec	Corinna	Kennebunk	ME	
Reed	Myah	Newport	ME	
Reed	Zack	Scarborough	ME	
Reed	Sydney	Skowhegan	ME	
Reed	Lauren	West Enfield	ME	
Reese	Connor	Veazie	ME	
Regan	Adam	Old Town	ME	
Regan	Nate	Old Town	ME	
Regan	Fiona	Orchard Park	NY	

Regis	Caroline	Acushnet	MA	
Reheuser	Kathleen	Keystone Heights	FL	
Reid	Emily	Dighton	MA	
Reinbach	Luke	Fryeburg	ME	
Renshaw	Alex	Marshfield	ME	
Renwick	Nolan	Milestone		Canada
Reynolds	Isaiah	Harrison	ME	
Reynolds	Dana	Kents Hill	ME	
Reynolds	Kelli	Mansfield	MA	
Reynolds	Mikayla	Waterville	ME	
Reynolds	Jackson	Winslow	ME	
Rezack	Stephen	South Berwick	ME	
Rheault	Riley	Portland	ME	
Rhoads-Doyle	Jamison	Holden	ME	
Rice	Anora	Georgetown	ME	
Rice	Jaylee	Hampden	ME	
Rice	Ollie	Kenduskeag	ME	
Rice	Keagan	New Gloucester	ME	
Rich	Max	Jamaica Plain	MA	
Rich	Kaily	Lebanon	ME	
Richard	Maddy	Ipswich	MA	

Richardson	Lauren	Brewer	ME	
Richardson	Taylor	Ellsworth	ME	
Richardson	Rachael	Hillsborough	NJ	
Richardson	Sadie	Milton Township	ME	
Richardson	Milo	Rogers	AR	
Ricker	Ashley	Gorham	ME	
Ricker	Kyle	Westport Island	ME	
Ridenour	Olivia	Richmond	ME	
Rider	Rebecca	Presque Isle	ME	
Ridley	Kaitlyn	Brunswick	ME	
Riley	Bryan	Augusta	ME	
Riley	Olivia	Brockton	MA	
Riley	Cc	Falmouth	MA	
Riley	Andrew	South Portland	ME	
Rinehart	Emerson	Lakeville	CT	
Rinoldo	Becca	Upton	MA	
Riordan	Declan	Bangor	ME	
Riordan	Quinn	Sudbury	MA	
Ritchie	Katie	Northport	ME	
Ritter	Clayton	Middletown	DE	
Rivera	Sofia	Oakhurst	NJ	

Rivera	Elaine	Ridgewood	NY	
Rivers	Nicole	Wakefield	MA	
Rivet	Ben	Groton	MA	
Roach	Lera	New Hill	NC	
Robbins	Sherralyn	Brewer	ME	
Robbins	Allison	Ellsworth	ME	
Robbins	Ethan	Holden	MA	
Robbins	Cameron	Old Town	ME	
Robbins	Noah	Searsmont	ME	
Roberge	Brook	Cape Neddick	ME	
Roberts	Paige	Colebrook	CT	
Roberts	Abigail	Damariscotta	ME	
Roberts	Sean	Harpswell	ME	
Roberts	Sam	Old Town	ME	
Roberts	Dimarco	Wells	ME	
Robertson	Haley	Brewer	ME	
Robinson	Ashley	Kennebunk	ME	
Robinson	Natalie	Wells	ME	
Rochette	Kelsey	Howell	MI	
Rocks	Morgan	Jonesport	ME	

Rockwood	Olivia	Windsor	VT	
Rodrigue	Grace	Augusta	ME	
Rodriguez	Sethany	Novelty	OH	
Rodriguez Santos	Sabrina	Enfield	CT	
Roebuck	Lewis	Wakefield	RI	
Roehrich	Kacey	Flanders	NJ	
Rogers	Halle	Medina	OH	
Rogers	Kirstie	Winslow	ME	
Rolfe	Avery	Windham	ME	
Roman	Victoria	Alexandria	NH	
Romero	Jesie	Hampden	ME	
Ronco	Lucas	Dover-Foxcroft	ME	
Rosander	Chad	Sanford	ME	
Rosati	Antonia	Medford	MA	
Roseman	Ben	Ellicott City	MD	
Rosenthal-Baxter	Andrew	Tariffville	CT	
Ross	Julia	Vancouver		Canada
Ross	Callie	Walpole	MA	
Rote	Ben	Brunswick	ME	
Rothwell	Angela	Camden	ME	
Rottari	Josiah	New Gloucester	ME	

Round	Elizabeth	North Andover	MA	
Roussel	Simon	Gorham	ME	
Rowe	Wyatt	Wells	ME	
Roy	Mike	Albion	ME	
Roy	Emilee	Hollis Center	ME	
Roy	Sydney	Lewiston	ME	
Roy	Brenna	Northwood	NH	
Roy	Tanya	Orono	ME	
Roy	Abby	Scarborough	ME	
Royle	Grace	Minot	ME	
Rozzi	Bethany	Portland	ME	
Rubianes	Abraham	Kittery	ME	
Rubin	Leo	Norwich	CT	
Rudai	Andi	Phoenix	MD	
Ruel	Luke	Keene	NH	
Ruggiero	Andrew	Swansea	MA	
Rukumbuzi	Francois	Westbrook	ME	
Rumsey	C.J.	Gray	ME	
Rusiecki	Aaron	Freeport	ME	
Rusk	Eleanore	Exeter	RI	
Russell	Alexander	Acton	MA	

Russell	Chloe	Gorham	ME	
Russell	Lynsie	Old Town	ME	
Russell	Gabe	Portland	ME	
Russo	Brianna	Randolph	MA	
Rutherford	Nick	Farmington	CT	
Ryan	Tim	Abington	MA	
Ryan	Shea	Buffalo	NY	
Ryan	Ally	Leeds	ME	
Ryan	Eryn	Leeds	ME	
Ryder	Greg	Cumberland Center	ME	
Ryder	Maggie	Sabattus	ME	
Ryder	Candice	Stratford	CT	
Sabatino	Lauren	Scarborough	ME	
Sabol	Michael	Finleyville	PA	
Sabourin	Cat	Stow	MA	
Sajen	Sreyas	Bangor	ME	
Sala	Emily	Bangor	ME	
Saleh	Ahmed	Cumberland Center	ME	
Salesky	Gwyn	Nashua	NH	
Salgado	Barb	Medway	MA	
Salisbury	Aidan	Temple	ME	

Salisbury	Will	Temple	ME	
Salley	Kyle	Smithfield	ME	
Saltzman	Lydia	Beverly	MA	
Sanchez	Phoenix	Oakland	ME	
Sanchez	Brian	Soledad	CA	
Sandberg	Amanda Linnea	Skurup		Sweden
Sanders	Robbie	Kennebunkport	ME	
Sanderson	Hannah	Northport	ME	
Sandor	Ildiko	Milford	ME	
Sands	Gabby	Plymouth	ME	
Santacrose	Maria	East Nassau	NY	
Santamaria	Sophia	Orono	ME	
Santerre	Haley	Brewer	ME	
Santiago	Steven	Hampden	ME	
Sargent	Jessica	Brewer	ME	
Sargent	Myles	Greenland	NH	
Sargent	Jake	Topsham	ME	
Saulter	Sammi	Waterville	ME	
Saunders	Brendan	Brewer	ME	
Savage	Emily	Plainville	CT	

Savage	Leah	Skowhegan	ME	
Sawicki	Kaitlyn	Nobleboro	ME	
Sawyer	Camden	Gorham	ME	
Scala	Ryan	Hampstead	NH	
Schaen	Victoria	Jackman	ME	
Schanck	Olivia	Wilton	ME	
Schell	Vinny	Oceanside	NY	
Schilling	Maggie	Orono	ME	
Schmidt-Svejstrup	Jacob	Charlottenlund		Denmark
Schmitt	Michael	Orefield	PA	
Schroeter	Ingrid	Orono	ME	
Schueller	Karleigh	Middleton	MA	
Schulitz	Ella	Weatogue	CT	
Schultz	Amber	Medfield	MA	
Schwab	Orion	Livermore Falls	ME	
Schwartz	Ethan	Ambler	PA	
Schweikert	Elyeah	Henderson	NV	
Schweizer	Katie	Old Town	ME	
Schwinn	Morgan	Marshfield	ME	
Sciarappa	Olivia	Charlton	MA	
Scobie	Claire	Hampden	ME	

Scocchi	P.J.	Wakefield	RI	
Scott	Olivia	Hampden	ME	
Scott	Zach	Hampden	ME	
Scott	Caden	Portland	ME	
Scott	Vincent	Readfield	ME	
Scott	Nate	Winthrop	ME	
Scrapchansky	Lea	Brunswick	ME	
Searing	Llewellyn	Milford	ME	
Sears	Justyn	Scarborough	ME	
Seavey	MaKayla	Ellsworth	ME	
Seddiqi	Parry	Bangor	ME	
Seekins	Katie	Oakland	ME	
Seeley	Lilli	Bangor	ME	
Seidakhmetov	Amir	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Seiders	Brooke	Orono	ME	
Senior	Brody	Newburyport	MA	
Serappa	Livia	Portland	ME	
Seregely	Mira	Budapest		Hungary
Sergi	Samuel	Brewer	ME	
Sernyk	Gabs	Windham	ME	
Sernyk	Isabella	Windham	ME	

Seuch	Matt	Orono	ME	
Sevigny	Hanna	York	ME	
Shaffer	Mikayla	Woodbridge	VA	
Shah	Abdulwahed	Orono	ME	
Shahmoradi	Hannah	Bangor	ME	
Shair	Sydney	Dedham	MA	
Shane	Amber	Vinalhaven	ME	
Shannon	Julia	Lee	ME	
Shantz	Anna	Wellfleet	MA	
Shanz	Ryan	Bristow	VA	
Sharma	Aakriti	Arlington	MA	
Sharp	Alainna	Glen Gardner	NJ	
Sharp	Andrew	Springfield	IL	
Sharrow	Olivia	Glenburn	ME	
Shaw	Claire	Bernard	ME	
Shaw	Parker	Corinth	ME	
Shaw	Chrissy	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Shaw	Remington	Newport	ME	
Shaw	Liana	Orono	ME	
Shaw	Oren	Turner	ME	
Shea	Maeve	Brunswick	ME	

Shea	Molly	Lynn	MA	
Sheehan	Nicole	Newbury	MA	
Sheehan	Joe	Swampscott	MA	
Sheehy	Tyler	Middletown	CT	
Sheets	Jodie	Hebron	ME	
Sheffield	Emma	Bangor	ME	
Shepherd	Noah	Fairfield	ME	
Sherburne	Sydney	South Portland	ME	
Sheridan	Grace	East Greenwich	RI	
Sherman	Nicholas	Hodgdon	ME	
Sherwood	Clement	Brookline	NH	
Shiber	Morgan	Port Deposit	MD	
Shields	Chloe	Eliot	ME	
Shink	Cassidy	Fayette	ME	
Shokal	James	Alexandria	NH	
Shooter	Cori	Monroe	ME	
Shorette	Lucas	Bradley	ME	
Siciliano	Katrina	Middleboro	MA	
Siciliano	Gabbie	Orono	ME	
Sickler	Kayla	Milford	NH	
Sickles	Rachael	Corinna	ME	

Sidaway	Jaymie	Dedham	ME	
Silva	Camilla	Framingham	MA	
Silva	Tori	North Waterboro	ME	
Silvera	Jasmine	Lowell	MA	
Simmons	Katie	North Yarmouth	ME	
Simmons	Emma	Tenants Harbor	ME	
Simon	Anne	Sandweiler		Luxembourg
Simon	Korinna	Southborough	MA	
Singer	Violet	Falmouth	ME	
Singer	Alyssa	Oxford	MA	
Siren	Ella	Skowhegan	ME	
Sirois	Thomas	Buxton	ME	
Sirois	Joshua	Springvale	ME	
Sirota	Jakub	Orono	ME	
Skidgel	Chrissy	Caribou	ME	
Skilton	Shannon	Swedesboro	NJ	
Slater	Abigail	Hebron	OH	
Slocum	Amelia	Bangor	ME	
Small	Faith Marie	Auburn	ME	
Smaracko	Marshall	Rollinsford	NH	
Smart	Dom	Bangor	ME	

Smart-Pelletier	Dylan	Bernard	ME	
Smiley	Ford	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Audrey	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Emma	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Travis	Belgrade	ME	
Smith	Anneliese	Bethel	ME	
Smith	Joshua	Bradley	ME	
Smith	Cassidy	Brewer	ME	
Smith	Olivia	Bucksport	ME	
Smith	Melanie	Cranford	NJ	
Smith	Chiara	East Montpelier	VT	
Smith	Eli	Farmingdale	ME	
Smith	Colby	Holden	ME	
Smith	Elaina	Keene	NY	
Smith	Brett	Kittery	ME	
Smith	Felicia	Lee	NH	
Smith	Hope	North Smithfield	RI	
Smith	Jasmine	Old Town	ME	
Smith	Jared	Orono	ME	
Smith	Adrianna	Reston	VA	

Smith	Evan	Saco	ME	
Smith	Meghan	Saint Paul	MN	
Smith	Dan	Scarborough	ME	
Smith	Megan	Sheffield	MA	
Smith	Corey	Sidney	ME	
Smith	Colin	Tenants Harbor	ME	
Smith	Tommy	Troy	ME	
Smith	Annie	Westford	MA	
Smith	Grace	Winslow	ME	
Smith	Kayla	Winter Garden	FL	
Smith	Jevin	Winthrop	ME	
Smith-D'Addio	Savanna	Old Town	ME	
Smy	Isabelle	Cumming	GA	
Snow	Tobin	North Yarmouth	ME	
Snow	Anna	Stetson	ME	
Snyder	Natalie	Lake Frederick	VA	
Soares	Mason	Bar Harbor	ME	
Soler	Shania	Genesee	PA	
Solomon	Jacob	South Portland	ME	
Soni	Jaitin	Osceola	IN	
Sorgini	Brianna	Amesbury	MA	

Sorice	Maddalena	Bangor	ME	
Sossong	Brooke	Old Town	ME	
Soucy	Dominic	Alton	NH	
Soucy	Evangeline	Augusta	ME	
Soucy	Melanie	Old Town	ME	
Sousa	Alexandra	Hopedale	MA	
Sousa	Ross	Somerset	MA	
Southworth	Katie	Hope	ME	
Southworth	Thomas	Hope	ME	
Spann	Jennifer	Newburgh	ME	
Spaulding	Anna	Brewer	ME	
Spaulding	Azaria	Hampden	ME	
Spaulding	Abby	Troy	ME	
Speakman	Brynne	Bethel	ME	
Spear	Kathleen	Portland	ME	
Speck	Birte	Reinheim		Germany
Spence	Parker	Falmouth	ME	
Spencer	Caroline	Falmouth	ME	
Sperrey	Alaina	Presque Isle	ME	
Spidle	Gavin	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Spiegel	Emma	Searsport	ME	

Spink-O'Brien	Bonnie	Bangor	ME	
Spinney	Jack	Newburyport	MA	
Sprague	Lydia	Marshfield	ME	
Spriggs	Holly	Dover	NH	
Springer	Marissa	Bar Harbor	ME	
Springer	Brooke	Glenburn	ME	
Squires	John	Southwest Harbor	ME	
St Peter	Melissa	Bucksport	ME	
St Peter	Connor	Kenduskeag	ME	
St Peter	Eleanor	Presque Isle	ME	
St Pierre	Nate	Augusta	ME	
St Pierre	Simon	Fryeburg	ME	
St Pierre	Elyse	Winslow	ME	
St.Germain	Hannah	Foxboro	MA	
Stamey	Mia	Westbrook	ME	
Stanard	Mark	Center Tuftonboro	NH	
Stanislaski	Kate	Somerville	MA	
Stanley	Nathaniel	Rockport	ME	
Stanton	Molly	Franklin	MA	
Stead	Sally	Cumberland	ME	
Steeves	Jacob	Skowhegan	ME	

Steinman	Kim	Cumberland Center	ME	
Stellmann	Will	South Paris	ME	
Stephens	Corey	Bangor	ME	
Sterling	Rachel	Minneapolis	MN	
Stevens	Braedon	Hermon	ME	
Stevens	Abby	Island Falls	ME	
Stevens	Abby	Smithfield	ME	
Stevens	Annie	Windham	ME	
Stevens	Katherine	Winslow	ME	
Stevens Shourds	Maggie	Bowdoinham	ME	
Stiverson	Camille	West Lafayette	IN	
Stockman	Emily	Northborough	MA	
Stoddard	Hannah	Standish	ME	
Stoelzel	Liz	Trumbull	CT	
Stokes-Dana	Kaden	Bangor	ME	
Stone	Kayla	Burlington	ME	
Stone	Hana	Danvers	MA	
Stone	Sam	Greenwood	ME	
Storer	Bree	Poland	ME	
Storman	Natalie	Alton	ME	
Storms	Benjamin	West Hartford	CT	

Story	Elijah	Huntsville	AL	
Stovall	Kathy	Phillips	ME	
Stover	Lindsey	Enfield	CT	
Stow	Courtney	Niantic	CT	
Stow	Kaitlyn	Niantic	CT	
Stratton	Garrett	Rumson	NJ	
Straub	Starla	Florence	AL	
Straub	Anna	Wallingford	CT	
Streinz	Caleb	Hersey	ME	
Strickler	James	Tewksbury	MA	
Strout	Justin	Limington	ME	
Stuart	Gabrielle	Chelmsford	MA	
Stuart	Ashlyn	Corinth	ME	
Stuart	Eve	Marblehead	MA	
Sturgess	Lauren	Naples	ME	
Sturgis	Julia	Gorham	ME	
Sturtevant	Levi	Bangor	ME	
Styles	Sarah	Guildhall	VT	
Suchovic	Jessie	Port Murray	NJ	
Sudbeck	Casey	Hampden	ME	
Suderley	Ethan	Winterport	ME	

Sudol	Sabrina	Ramsey	NJ	
Sudol	Samantha	Ramsey	NJ	
Sullivan	Riley	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Sullivan	Natalie	Dracut	MA	
Sullivan	Kelly	Old Town	ME	
Sullivan	Caileigh	Watertown	MA	
Supple	Ben	Kingston	MA	
Surat-Mosher	Noelle	Norwich	VT	
Suthers	Keenan	Belle River		Canada
Suttie	Elsie	Fairfield	ME	
Sutton	Kearson	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Sutton	Trevor	Kennebunkport	ME	
Sutton	Kaitlyn	North Kingstown	RI	
Svec	Malcolm	Eastbrook	ME	
Swain	Bradley	Bellingham	MA	
Swanson	Parker	North Yarmouth	ME	
Swanson	Nathaniel	Peabody	MA	
Swartz	William	Freeland	MD	
Sweeney	Gillian	Byfield	MA	
Swift	Logan	Gorham	ME	

Swift	Forrest	Skowhegan	ME	
Swope	Samuel	Eagle Lake	ME	
Sylvain	Johnny	Portland	ME	
Szczechowicz	Jack	North Berwick	ME	
Szczechowicz	Nate	North Berwick	ME	
Szecsí	Isabella	Saddle Brook	NJ	
Szumilas	Kendall	Bucksport	ME	
Szymanski	Edison	Orono	ME	
Taggart	Emma	Raymond	ME	
Tallapureddy	Arihant	Bolton	CT	
Talon	Gabe	Old Town	ME	
Tanner	Desiree	Brunswick	ME	
Tanous	Haid	South Paris	ME	
Tanous	Marla	South Paris	ME	
Tasker	Morgan	Etna	ME	
Taylor	Kyla	Camden	ME	
Taylor	Sara	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Taylor	Justin	Hermon	ME	
Taylor	Ryan	Holliston	MA	
Taylor	James	Portland	ME	
Tedenby	Celine	Orono	ME	

Temple	Kylie	Richmond	ME	
Terril	Kyla	Sanford	ME	
Terrill	James	Bucksport	ME	
Terry	Grace	Gray	ME	
Testa	Lauren	Gray	ME	
Testa	Madeline	Gray	ME	
Testerman	Noah	West Simsbury	CT	
Teufel	Will	Topsham	ME	
Thayer	Rose	Sutton	MA	
Thibert	Alli	North Andover	MA	
Thibodeau	Landon	Freeport	ME	
Thiel	Sam	Middleton	MA	
Thielbar	Jillian	Albany Township	ME	
Thiessen	Matthew	Altona		Canada
Thomas	Elaine	Hampden	ME	
Thomas	Osiris	Kennebunk	ME	
Thompson	Olivia	Bridgton	ME	
Thompson	Rebecca	Broomfield	CO	
Thompson	Alyson	Howland	ME	
Thompson	Shannon	North Kingstown	RI	
Thompson	Gage	Sabattus	ME	

Thompson	Caroline	Topsham	ME	
Thompson	Lexi	Topsham	ME	
Thompson	Kadia	Wells	ME	
Thorman	Shelby	Bethel	ME	
Thorndike	Destiny	Phillips	ME	
Thornton	Sean	East Weymouth	MA	
Thornton	Jacob	Westbrook	ME	
Thorpe	Morgan	Wallingford	CT	
Throckmorton-Hansford	Willow	Somerville	ME	
Thurlow	Ryan	Cape Neddick	ME	
Thurston	Caleb	West Paris	ME	
Tibbetts	Elizabeth	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Tidd	Allisyn	Eddington	ME	
Tiemann	Maddie	Feasterville Trevose	PA	
Tillotson	Stephanie	Cumberland Foreside	ME	
Tillson	Ashley	Saco	ME	
Tirone	Stella	Freedom	ME	
Titcomb	Nick	Scarborough	ME	
Tobor	Zachary	Manchester	ME	
Todd	Sara	Bar Harbor	ME	
Toman	Anna	Gardiner	ME	

Tomascak	Nathan	Portland	ME	
Tomlinson	Laura	Wilbraham	MA	
Tompkins	Jillian	Brewer	ME	
Topchik	Amy	Scarborough	ME	
Topper	Izzy	Hudson Falls	NY	
Torres	Jose	Ponce		Puerto Rico
Torres	Quinn	Worcester	MA	
Towle	Annemarie	Augusta	ME	
Townsend	Lydia	Fairfield	ME	
Townsend	Mackenzie	Sanford	ME	
Tracey	Nathaniel	Union	ME	
Tracy	Jack	Standish	ME	
Trafton	Sophie	York	ME	
Tran	Renee	Bangor	ME	
Traphagen	Elizabeth	Franklin	MA	
Treadwell	James	Orono	ME	
Treat	Allison	Carmel	ME	
Trebilcock	Katie	Topsham	ME	
Tremblay	Brendon	Acton	ME	
Trimper	Ally	Orono	ME	

Trimper	Morgan	Orono	ME	
Trott	Ethan	Old Town	ME	
Troxell	Alec	Portland	ME	
True	Mikayla	Sedgwick	ME	
Trujillo	Jillian	Old Town	ME	
Truong	Khang	Sanford	ME	
Truso	Luc	Morrisville	VT	
Trussell	Zoey	Waterville	ME	
Trusty	Yuri	Bangor	ME	
Tschirhart	Julie	North Andover	MA	
Tubbs	Zach	Bangor	ME	
Tucker	Reilly	Falmouth	ME	
Tucker	Jake	Freeport	ME	
Tucker	Orion-Bay	Orono	ME	
Tucker	Bridget	Rowley	MA	
Turgeon	Gwenneth	Auburn	ME	
Turgeon	Riley	Brunswick	ME	
Turgut	Ata	Ankara		Turkey
Turlo	Jacob	Benton	ME	
Turlo	Jonathan	Hampden	ME	
Turner	Blake	North Yarmouth	ME	

Turturici	Tyler	Wilmington	DE	
Tweedie	Camden	Winthrop	ME	
Twohig	Amy	Washington	NJ	
Twombly	Megan	Hollis Center	ME	
Tyler	Caleb	Palermo	ME	
Tymm	Sarah	Billerica	MA	
Ulsamer	Percival	West Haven	CT	
Upham	C.J.	Old Town	ME	
Utsler	Zoe	Valley Village	CA	
Vaccaro	Sam	Kennebunk	ME	
Vaillancourt	Jon	Haverhill	MA	
Valentine	Sydney	Eliot	ME	
Valorose	Andrea	Dracut	MA	
Van Duijn	Claudio	Blue Hill	ME	
Van Leer	Keldan	Brunswick	ME	
Van Tassell	Jeremiah	Lyman	ME	
Van Tassell	Joel	Lyman	ME	
VanCoughnett	Lainey	Holmes	NY	
Vanderblue	Greta	Waterford	ME	
Vandereb	Schuyler	Orland	ME	
VanDyke	Andrew	Oakland	NJ	

Vanorse-Jones	Oliver	Rockland	ME	
Varga	Sabrina	East Meadow	NY	
Vargas	Andres	Lyman	ME	
Varneke	Pierce	Toms River	NJ	
Varney	Olivia	Augusta	ME	
Varney	Devon	Pittsfield	ME	
Varney	Ethan	Pittsfield	ME	
Varney	Abigail	Turner	ME	
Varney	Everet	Turner	ME	
Varnum	Alexa	Dixfield	ME	
Vasquez	Alessandra	Westbrook	ME	
Vatis	Lizzie	Fairfield	CT	
Veal	Marek	Perry	ME	
Vecchione	Hayley	Millville	MA	
Vegas	Guy	Portsmouth	RI	
Venard	Kevin	Sullivan	ME	
Ventola	Haley	Moneta	VA	
Verneau	Colleen	Cheshire	CT	
Verrill	Lilas	Peachtree Corners	GA	
Viamari	Joseph	Southwick	MA	
Vickers	Mei-Ella	Jamestown	RI	

Vickery	Kathleen	Old Town	ME	
Victoria	Steff	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Vidler	Amber	Saint Augustine	FL	
Viekman	Sarah	Old Town	ME	
Viel	Sophia	Beverly	MA	
Villapa	Alyssa Nicole	Melrose	MA	
Villeneuve	Donavan	Montreal		Canada
Vina Lopez	Maria	Santiago de Compostela		Spain
Vincent	Molly	Auburn	ME	
Viola	Caleb	South Portland	ME	
Violette	Isaac	Oakland	ME	
Virgin	Matt	Lewiston	ME	
Vital	Macy	West Haven	CT	
Vittum	Zoe	Brewer	ME	
Vittum	Richard	Burlington	MA	
Vogel	Allison	Bridgton	ME	
Vogelman	Christopher	Newtown	CT	
Voight	Emily	Sebastopol	CA	
Vose-Gimbel	Jack	South Portland	ME	
Voteur	Jenna	Orrington	ME	

Waggoner	Sam	Gorham	ME	
Wagner	Will	Gibsonia	PA	
Wald	Leah	Framingham	MA	
Walden	Seamus	Pittsfield	ME	
Walker	Ricky	Cumberland Center	ME	
Walker	Ben	Hodgdon	ME	
Walker	Samuel	Mount Desert	ME	
Walker	Kristjana	North Vancouver		Canada
Walker	Molly	South Portland	ME	
Wallace	Ben	Bridgewater	MA	
Wallace	Christina	West Enfield	ME	
Walorz	Kaity	Lakeville	MA	
Walsh	Jessie	Benton	ME	
Walsh	Liz	Benton	ME	
Walsh	Bridie	Braintree	MA	
Warburton	Evan	Old Town	ME	
Ward	Ashley	Williamsburg	VA	
Wardwell	Finn	Dedham	ME	
Warmuth	Claire	Brewer	ME	
Warner	Emma	Phippsburg	ME	
Warnick	Maddie	Rising Sun	MD	

Warren	Katelyn	Skowhegan	ME	
Wasylyna	Ethan	Exeter	NH	
Waterhouse	Mariette	Acton	ME	
Waterhouse	Ethan	Dayton	ME	
Waterman	Sadie	Sabattus	ME	
Watkins	Gwen	Orrington	ME	
Watras	Emma	Seal Cove	ME	
Watras	Julia	Seal Cove	ME	
Watson	Lily	Cedar Falls	IA	
Watson	Josh	Glenburn	ME	
Watt Arroyave	Alejandro	Warwick	RI	
Weafer	Sam	Orono	ME	
Weaver	Jacqui	North Haven	CT	
Webber	Isaac	Garland	ME	
Webber	Meg	Leeds	ME	
Webber	Josh	Springvale	ME	
Webster	Morgan	Harpswell	ME	
Webster	Guin	Kingfield	ME	
Weeks	Stephanie	Fall River	MA	
Weeks	Kylie	Friendship	ME	
Weinstein	Myky	Hartland	ME	

Weir	Kelsey	Copley	OH	
Weiss	Ma'ayan	Mount Kisco	NY	
Welch	Sarah	Pittsfield	ME	
Welch	Caroline	Readfield	ME	
Welch	Lily	Readfield	ME	
Wentworth	Sarah	Falmouth	ME	
Wentworth	Emma	Sidney	ME	
Werner	Shane	Cheshire	CT	
Wesley	Liv	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
West	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Westbrook	Phoebe	Binghamton	NY	
Westbrook	Katie	Methuen	MA	
Westhaus	Taylor	Saco	ME	
Westhaver	Caroline	Weatogue	CT	
Weymouth	Allison	Scarborough	ME	
Wheeler	Gideon	Bowdoin	ME	
Whinston	Julia	Silverthorne	CO	
White	John	Bangor	ME	
White	Kelsey	Bangor	ME	
White	Michaela	Bangor	ME	
White	William	Brunswick	ME	

White	Grady	Cumberland Center	ME	
White	Lizzie	Dixfield	ME	
White	Maggie	Duxbury	MA	
White	Emily	Jay	ME	
White	Kat	North Haven	ME	
White	Eva	Orono	ME	
White	Noah	Orono	ME	
White	Spencer	Saint Francis	MN	
White	Katie	Welcome	MD	
White	Emma	Wells	ME	
Whitham	Emily	Wakefield	MA	
Whiting	Lindsey	Derry	NH	
Whiting	Sophie	Saco	ME	
Whitley	Hannah	Londonderry	NH	
Wichterman	Dennis	Ellsworth	ME	
Wick	Kayleigh	Orono	ME	
Wicks	Natalie	Readfield	ME	
Wilborn	Bailey	Wichita	KS	
Wilbur	Joshua	Frankfort	ME	
Wilcox	Leah	Warren	ME	
Wildes	Jacob	Carmel	ME	

Wile	Tucker	Ipswich	MA	
Wilkins	Alex	Wells	ME	
Willard	Henry	Winterport	ME	
Willey	Kendrah	Ripley	ME	
Williams	Madison	Bernard	ME	
Williams	Selena	Big Lake Township	ME	
Williams	Annabelle	Camden	ME	
Williams	Jacob	Irvine	PA	
Williams	Cooper	Liberty Township	OH	
Williams	Madeline	Mason Township	ME	
Williams	Anna	Norwell	MA	
Williams	Nathan	Orrington	ME	
Williams	Emma	Wilton	ME	
Williams	Maddie	Windham	ME	
Williamson	Dean	Teaneck	NJ	
Willigar	Sam	Veazie	ME	
Willis	Hayden	Rensselaer	NY	
Willis	Kyle	West Paris	ME	
Wilson	Zeke	Grand Haven	MI	
Wilson	Catrina	Harrison	ME	

Wilson	Mackenzie	Lasalle		Canada
Wilson	Jimmy	Plano	TX	
Wind	Willow	Orono	ME	
Wind	Meadow	Rumford	ME	
Winfree	Perry	Cary	NC	
Winn	Cait	Windham	ME	
Wintle	Rylan	Detroit	ME	
Wise	Sophia	Orono	ME	
Wisell	Mary Isabelle	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Witte	Lauren	Dexter	MI	
Wittmer	Torria	Hermon	ME	
Wofford	Lily	Dallas	TX	
Wohlstrom	Augusta	Clinton	CT	
Wolfe	Kaitlin	Walpole	MA	
Wolfenden	Jack	North Andover	MA	
Wolotsky	Isabella	Freeport	ME	
Wood	Marie	Acton	ME	
Wood	Makayla	Carver	MA	
Wood	Marissa	Machiasport	ME	
Wood	Cassandra	Milford	ME	

Woodruff	Tristan	Camden	ME	
Woods	Ethan	Harrisville	RI	
Woods	Addie	Hodgdon	ME	
Worgull	Tessa	Bangor	ME	
Worrick	Lauren	Aurora	CO	
Wortman	Daniel	Old Town	ME	
Wright	Jared	Brewer	ME	
Wright	Skyler	Old Town	ME	
Wyatt	Bruce	Gorham	ME	
Wynne	Eamon	Woonsocket	RI	
Wynott	Christian	Norway	ME	
Yahner	Olivia	Norwell	MA	
Yankura	Harriet	Owls Head	ME	
Yardley	Kira	Bangor	ME	
Yaskula	Mackenzie	Gorham	ME	
Yates	Bee	Casco	ME	
Yeaton	Lily	Wiscasset	ME	
Yesse	Hannah	South Portland	ME	
Yoder	Marlee	Durham	NH	
Yoon	myeongah	Hwaseong-Si		Korea, Republic of

York	John	Benton	ME	
York	Sara	Topsham	ME	
Yorkey	Lucas	Poland	ME	
Yost	Matt	Brunswick	ME	
Yost	Matt	Hampden	ME	
Yost	Wyatt	Lewiston	ME	
Young	Kenzie	Alton	ME	
Young	Kelby	Chelsea	ME	
Young	Josi	Hampden	ME	
Young	Ivan	Lincolnton	ME	
Young	Patrick	North Yarmouth	ME	
Young	Audrey	Owls Head	ME	
Young	Madelyn	Owls Head	ME	
Young	Star	Pembroke	MA	
Zachariason	Sarah	Stillwater	ME	
Zaenger	Calista	San Diego	CA	
Zanoni	Jude	Brewer	ME	
Zanotta	Alessio	Lee	ME	
Zanotta	Davide	Lee	ME	
Zeitlin	Benjamin	Milford	ME	
Zhu	Jie Ning	Belfast	ME	

Ziegra	Carolyn	Orono	ME	
Ziemer	Madison	Lombard	IL	
Zou	Karen	Quincy	MA	
Zucca	Kelvy	New Milford	CT	
Zulfiqar	Maryam	Rawalpindi		Pakistan
Zumwalt	Evelyn	Ellsworth	ME	
Zuras	Everett	Presque Isle	ME	
Zuras	Holden	Presque Isle	ME	
Zybert	Steven	Bangor	ME	

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Androscoggin County

Auburn: Becca Bassett, Will Cassidy, Lydia Celani, Max Creaser, Crispin Crispin, Abigail Fisher, Spencer Frahn, Riley Gilpatric, Caroline Hammond, Storm Jipson, Kayden Kirouac, Rebecca Levasseur, Nevaeh Longchamps, Gabe Lovering, Annabelle Pendleton, Lydia Peterson, Samantha Poirier, Joshua Power, Faith Marie Small, Gwenneth Turgeon, Molly Vincent **Durham:** Sera Bigelow, Alexa Harvey, Sam Larochelle, Bailey McGee, Amanda Myron **Greene:** Jenna Boucher, Ethan Gates, Gary Lapointe, Ellery Macgregor, Jaidyn Negley **Leeds:** Lily Comeau-Waite, Adreanna Michaud, Ellie Oliver, Ally Ryan, Eryn Ryan, Meg Webber **Lewiston:** Connor Androlewicz, Gordon Beckwith, Maggie Belleau, Connor Bolduc, Hail Champagne, Sarah Chaput, Chantel Dulac, Avery Greco, James Greenwood, Hunter Landry, Maraeka Merchant, Matthias Murphy, Jamie Poliquin, Sydney Roy, Matt Virgin, Wyatt Yost **Lisbon:** Jaden Burnham **Lisbon Falls:** Joby Byrd, Riley Mills, Orion Schwab **Livermore:** Jonathan Brenner, Abby Castonguay, Drew Delaney, Grace Harmatys **Livermore Falls:** Tanna Herlihy, Orion Schwab **Mechanic Falls:** Jordyn Kohtala, Sierra Pomerleau, Elizabeth Tibbetts **Minot:** Nick Allen, Alyssa Gagne, Grace Royle **Poland:** Ben Daigneault, Sofia Hartley, Jasmine Lamb, Bree Storer, Lucas Yorkey **Sabattus:** Autumn Chadburn, Mikki Gervais, Renee Pickard, Maggie Ryder, Gage Thompson, Sadie Waterman **Turner:** Tamra Benson, Mallory Casey, Zach Madison, Oren Shaw, Abigail Varney, Everet Varney **Wales:** Brynn Emond, Morgan Inman

Aroostook County

Ashland: Graham Berry **Blaine:** Jimmy Hotham, Lizzy Hotham **Caribou:** Alec Cyr, Andre Daigle, Noah Frost, Nickolas Guerrette, Ronald Guerrette, Alex Picard, Brennan Poitras, Chrissy Skidgel **Cary Plantation:** Grace Graham **Dyer Brook:** Wyatt Harthorne **Eagle Lake:** Samuel Swope **Fort Fairfield:** Olivia Langner **Fort Kent:** Apurba Kaphle, Matt Marston **Haynesville:** Mikyla Howland **Hersey:** Caleb Streinz **Hodgdon:** Nicholas Sherman, Ben Walker, Addie Woods **Houlton:** Alyssa Abbotoni, Keegan Gentle, Jillian Haggerty, Sydney Lorom, Dawson McLaughlin, Erin Peters, Elizabeth Phillips **Island Falls:** Cassidy Mathers, Abby Stevens **Limestone:** Tom Pinette **Linneus:** Autumn Ganzel, Katherine Ledger **Madawaska:** Jillian Bosse, Alex Daigle, Ben Hebert, Keri Hebert, Isabelle Jandreau, Jacob Lajoie, Hollie Morneault, Chelsea Pelletier, Justin Pelletier **Mapleton:** Dustin Alward, Katelyn Amero, Meg Casavant, Hannah Clark, Paige McHatten, Adam Paterson **Mars Hill:** Sydney Garrison, Brooke Howlett, Annika Nicholas **Monticello:** Emma Ardell, Kristen Brewer **New Canada:** Jonny Blanchette **Oakfield:** Shelby Lewis **Presque Isle:** Libby Boone, Hana Boucher, Courtney Harding, Kenzie Hayes, Branden Hebert, Morgan Ireland, Alexandra Koretsky, Sophia Lambert, Jasmine LeClair, Ian MacKinnon, Conner Michaud, Rebecca Rider, Alaina Sperrey, Eleanor St Peter, Everett Zuras, Holden Zuras **Saint David:** Valerie Boucher **Sinclair:** Dorothy Harris **Stockholm:** Evan Desmond **Wallagrass:** Makayla Desjardins, Lacy

Pelletier **Washburn:** Jaida Beaulieu, Garrett Morneault

Cumberland County

Bridgton: Morgan MacNeil, Matthew Mayo, Fiona Murphy, Olivia Thompson, Allison Vogel **Brunswick:** Tessa Alexander, Rae Bamberger, Forrest Blankenship, Erin Bradstreet, Max Burtis, Isak Carney, Amanda Cloutier, Cameron Daly, Liam Doherty, Hannah Dritschilo, Bronte Fontaine, Chappy Hall, Anna Kousky, Kyle Labbe, William Labbe, Charlotte MacMillan, Nicholas Maranto, Kian Murray, Connor Ney, Mallory Palmer, Abby Powers, Kaitlyn Ridley, Ben Rote, Lea Scrapchansky, Maeve Shea, Desiree Tanner, Riley Turgeon, Keldan Van Leer, William White, Matt Yost **Cape Elizabeth:** Sierra Galgano, Ethan Gillespie, Anna Hayes, Nathaniel Holmes, Luke O'Kelly, Dylan Palmore, Zale Rasco, Gavin Spidle, Sara Taylor, Mary Isabelle Wisell **Casco:** Brandon Cummings, Kasey Cummings, John Masselli, Bee Yates **Cumberland:** Sally Stead **Cumberland Center:** Ethan Ali, James Davenport, Amelia Greenlee, Molly Hale, Aaron Howell, Tim Lester, Erin Libby, Austin Loveless, Mike Marchessault, Natalie Mullin, Alexandra Peary, Greg Ryder, Ahmed Saleh, Kim Steinman, Ricky Walker, Grady White **Cumberland Foreside:** Stephanie Tillotson **Falmouth:** Gwenyth Armitage, Jack Baumann, Kassidy Castillo Parkman, Evie Clement, Garrett Daniels, Will Emanuel, Gretchen Favreau, Fiona Ferrell, Isabelle Hallagan, Jason Halliday, Shea Hendricks, Beatrice Johnson, Ethan Johnson, Will Johnson, Kat Kane, Dillon Kelley, Mitchell Kelley, Joey Lavallee, Jacob Lorenzo, Matisse Moser, Ellie Nash, Liv Neuhauser, Seamus O'Brien, Max Peters, Violet Singer, Parker Spence, Caroline Spencer, Reilly Tucker, Sarah Wentworth **Freeport:** Kaleb Barrett, Andrew Burns, Nate Davis, Natalie Domin, Julian Edwards, Conor Fox, Liam Hornschild-Bear, Madison Landry, Kerry Lefebvre, Amaya Marzano, Margaret Perrotta, Aaron Rusiecki, Landon Thibodeau, Jake Tucker, Isabella Wolotsky **Gorham:** Molly Arey, Georgia Baber, Maddy Berry, Lizzie Blanchard, Brian Bunker, Delaney Burns, Emily Chapin, Colby Christakis, Hannah Dimick, Nathan Dix, Abby Enck, Reed Henderson, Kaitlyn Jodoin, Riley Johnson, Evan Koenig, Josh Labrie, Nolan McCullough, Abigail Miller, Anna Nault, Ava Pitman, Megan Polchies, Molly Rathbun, Ashley Ricker, Simon Roussel, Chloe Russell, Camden Sawyer, Julia Sturgis, Logan Swift, Sam Waggoner, Bruce Wyatt, Mackenzie Yaskula **Gray:** Josh Adell, Laura Arsenault, Amelia Cobb, Nicole Cobb, Elizabeth Davis, Nate Gendreau, Tiffany Ha, Trizzie Ha, Amanda Kackmeister, Wyatt Kenney, Kyle Martell, Brenna Milliken, C.J. Rumsey, Grace Terry, Lauren Testa, Madeline Testa **Harpswell:** Kyle Brennan, Hannah Clemons, Michael Kane, Sean Roberts, Morgan Webster **Harrison:** Isaiiah Carter, Colin Edwards, Isaiiah Reynolds, Catrina Wilson **Naples:** Grace Banks, Meghan Boos, Erik Christiansen, Justin Lees, Lauren Sturgess **New Gloucester:** Tyler Amos, Cam Andrews, Katherine Arsenault, Mchale Bourne, Alicia Credit, Troy Dexter, Jasmine French, Blake Knedler, Anastasia Lipp, Keagan Rice, Josiah Rottari **North Yarmouth:** Dakota Cochran, Aidan Hayes, Molly Horton, Nate Ingersoll, Diana Kimball, Sydney Loper, Aidan Michaud, Kit Rafford, Trevor Rafford, Katie Simmons, Tobin Snow, Parker Swanson, Blake Turner, Patrick Young **Portland:** Donato Apon, Holly Arend, Lilly Braun, Cam Brooks, Zach Broome, Jack Burnell, Hope Carroll, Caleb Cholod, Peter Clukey, Will Cunningham, Jack De Lorenzi, Chloe Delano, Aalliyah Ferreira, Alexiis Fiore, Haley Foreman, Laini Frager, Emily Freedman, Kyla Gallup, Eva Griffiths, Ibrahim Halana, Emily Haley, Evan Hargesheimer, Max Hillgraf, Ryan Howell, Bronwyn Hughes, Matthew Keast, Megan Keast, Khiana Le, Ruth Lewandowski, Hua Lin, Madison Mahan, Spencer Matteo, Drew McInnis, Jacob Milton, Hagen Myers, Kelly Nguyen, Mackenzie O'Donnell, Lucas Profenno, Ian Ramsden, Riley Rheault, Bethany Rozzi, Gabe Russell, Caden Scott, Livia Serappa, Kathleen Spear, Johnny Sylvain, James Taylor, Nathan Tomascak, Alec Troxell **Pownal:** Sami Burrell, Grace Cushman **Raymond:** Biaggio Cushman, Colby Dionne, Callie Fielding, Niall Gushue, Niko Lessard, Estrella Pacanza-Rogers, Nathan Plummer, Emma Taggart **Scarborough:** Grace Alofs, Zachary Alofs, Sydney Bloom, Ryleigh Bois, Connor Coffin, Isabella Cook, William Dunham, Brooke Edgecomb, Kaylee Faherty, Julia Freeman, David Geng, Evan Hamer, Lila Harakles, Wyatt Harris, Tatum Hayward, Calista Jackson Gianino, Lily Jennings, Audrey Jones, David Kayser, Aaron Kazilionis, Alison Kueck, Emily Labbe, Olivia LaChance, Sarah-Theresa Lemay, Ryan Lilley, Joseph Luong, Casey Maddock, Peter Martin, Morgan McGarry, David McKelvy, Josh Medeiros, Emily Murray, Ryan Murray, Jared Nelson, Ryan O'Leary, Jasmine Olshin, Gaby Panagakos, Eliot Pomerleau, Juliet Quartararo, Zack Reed, Abby Roy, Lauren Sabatino, Justyn Sears, Dan Smith, Nick Titcomb, Amy Topchik, Allison Weymouth **Sebago:** Maraia Nason, Sam Porter **South Portland:** Ethan Blier, Ryan Boles, Aileen Campbell, Taylor Davis, Luca Desjardins, Lauren DiBiase, Phelan Doyle, Lauren Elsemore, Michael Feely, Josh Frank, Sam Holbrook, Allison Holt, Aleksandar Kaurin, Euan Maclaurin, Chloe MacVane, Caleb Marston, Maegan Murphy, Mia Quint-Wood, Luke Rainsford, Andrew Riley, Sydney Sherburne, Jacob Solomon, Caleb Viola, Jack Vose-Gimbel, Molly Walker, Hannah Yesse **Standish:** Maggi Bradford, Emily Byrne, Kiely Callahan, James Conley, Aubrey Denico, Sadie Denico, Chloe Falkner, Noah Lambert, Chaz Lamkin, Arianna Mejias, Jazmyne Mejias, Michael O'Clair, Kayla Raymond, Hannah Stoddard, Jack Tracy **Steep Falls:** Cameron Phinney **West Baldwin:** Anika Lord **Westbrook:** Owen Cargile, Devin Cyr, Kallie Cyr, Zachery Fecteau, Jarred Haynes, Jaclyn Hazlewood, Maddie Herbert, Dylan Ho, Desiree Hodgkins, MacKenna Homa, Nathan Jacobs, Anthony Maguire, Kaitryn Pitt, Whitney Poitras, Francois Rukumbuzi, Mia Stamey, Jacob Thornton, Alessandra Vasquez **Windham:** Dominic Agneta, Mikayla Baiguy, Alex Baur, Chloe Boyes, Ben Chouinard, Brandon Cummings, Connor Cummings, Evan Desmond, Avery Dube, Samuel Dubuc, Amren Frechette, Julia Hills, Molly Hodgkins, Dianna Ingersoll, Ryan Mendes, Josh Mora, Sydney Nangle, Dean Preston, Jaren Preston, Avery Rolfe, Gabs Sernyk, Isabella Sernyk, Annie Stevens, Maddie Williams, Cait Winn **Yarmouth:** Christopher Bibula, Phil Bock, Graden Caulfield, Adam Levinson, Jeff Norsworthy

Franklin County

Carrabassett Valley: Alex Gerencer, Jonathan Maidman **Chesterville:** Mike Cilley, Isabelle Decker **Farmington:** Natalee House **Industry:** Marielle Pelletier **Jay:** Hannah Maurais, Emily White **Kingfield:** Jennifer Davis, Hailey Fenwick, Jackson Masterson, Guin Webster **New Sharon:** Ellie Bannerman **Phillips:** Kathy Stovall, Destiny Thorndike **Rangeley:** Lauren Eastlack **Temple:** Aidan Salisbury, Will Salisbury **Wilton:** Katie Brittain, Lexi Mittelstadt, Olivia Schanck, Emma Williams

Hancock County

Bar Harbor: Phillip Bart, Ruby Brown, Matthew Cox, Jonathan Genrich, Archer Hill, Thomas Korstanje, Noah Lambert, Baylor Landsman, Katie Losquadro, Sam Mitchell, Mason Soares, Marissa Springer, Sara Todd **Bass Harbor:** Drew Goodwin, Abigail Muscat **Bernard:** Claire Shaw, Dylan Smart-Pelletier, Madison Williams **Blue Hill:** Kacie Bond, Gabby Gadsby, Erika Hipsky, Kara Morrison, Claudio Van Duijn **Brooklin:** Juliette Claybaugh **Brooksville:** Garrett Parker **Bucksport:** Nick Baubonis, Danny Bunker, Chase Carmichael, Hannah Ferrell, Ava Knowles, Kaylee Knowles, Olivia Smith, Melissa St Peter, Kendall Szumilas, James Terrill **Dedham:** Sarah Dorey, Kate Fogg, Jordyn Miller, Jaymie Sidaway, Finn Wardwell **Deer Isle:** Nicole Cortez, Amy Hardy, Jordyn Judkins **Eastbrook:** Malcolm Svec **Ellsworth:** Lindsay Bland, Joy Cartwright, Rushanne Facey, Elliott Gagnon-Victor, Riley Grindle, Alec Leathers, Patrick MacKay, Kaitlin McCullough, Kai Phelps, Taylor Richardson, Allison Robbins, MaKayla Seavey, Dennis Wichterman, Evelyn Zumwalt **Gouldsboro:** Kaitlin Beal, Blue Howard, Skye Howard **Hancock:** Fed Deleard, Trevor Morrison, Alia Parsons **Holden:** Ana Dunn **Lamoine:** Elizabeth Dalton, Mackenzie Hanna, Madison Jones **Little Deer Isle:** Ella Marshall, Ennis Marshall **Mount Desert:** Alex Eason, Cadi Howell, Rachel Leonard, Samuel Walker **Northeast Harbor:** Louise Chaplin **Orland:** Hope Bowden, John LaBrier, Reilly Linkel, Sarah Low, Schuyler Vandereb **Otis:** Jack Lalime **Penobscot:** James Bilella, Heather Munroe **Seal Cove:** Emma Watras, Julia Watras **Sedgwick:** Mikayla True **Sorrento:** Samantha Bierman

Southwest Harbor: Elaina Cote, Camille Michaud, John Squires **Stonington:** Mchenna Martin **Sullivan:** Andrea Knapp, Kevin Venard **Surry:** Amelia Hayden **Trenton:** Zoe Olson **Winter Harbor:** Riley Flubacher, Tara Flubacher

Kennebec County

Albion: Ethan Caldwell, Elliot Dixon, Mike Roy **Augusta:** Kyle Douin, Brandon Gosselin, Wyatt Green, Ian Harden, MacKenzie Lewis, Cam MacLean, Leah Mastrianno, Sierra McLellan, James Olivier, Hayden Ouellette, Nick Poulin, Myles Quirion, Bryan Riley, Grace Rodrigue, Evangeline Soucy, Nate St Pierre, Annemarie Towle, Olivia Varney **Belgrade:** Ava Ardito, Alexa Brennan, Emma DiGirolamo, Jack DiGirolamo, Martin Guarnieri, Dana Michaud, Nathalie Poulin, Travis Smith **Belgrade Lakes:** Logan Holt **Benton:** Ryan Bourque, Emery Clifford, Jacob Turlo, Jessie Walsh, Liz Walsh, John York **Chelsea:** Gabby Benson, Mac Creamer, Amelia Evans, Alexis Everett, Nic Mills, Kelby Young **Clinton:** Alexa Bartley, Matt Brown, Zack Delile **Fairfield:** Kiana Letourneau **Farmingdale:** Sarah Benner, Cole Bryant, Riley Hayward, Hunter Lizzotte, Eli Smith **Fayette:** Gabe Fein, Emma Fitzpatrick, Cassidy Shink **Gardiner:** Casey Bourque, Kaylee Ray, Anna Toman **Hallowell:** Seth Ashby, Jane Blanchard, Daniel Moreau, Cole Perry **Kents Hill:** Dana Reynolds **Litchfield:** Sophie Childs, Drew Gordon **Manchester:** Ian Dow, Jilleon Farrell, Mike McCarthy, Zachary Tobor **Monmouth:** Ben Brooks, Libby Clement, Matt Fox, Kaitlin Hunt, Erin Kennedy, Megan Knowles **Mount Vernon:** Katie Gasper **Oakland:** Gavin Bressette, Eli Caret, Phoenix Sanchez, Katie Seekins, Isaac Violette **Pittston:** Sarah Foust, Kyra Franey **Readfield:** Wyatt Cannell, Samantha Cloutier, Christopher Erb, Vincent Scott, Caroline Welch, Lily Welch, Natalie Wicks **Rome:** Alex Pierce **Sidney:** Lydia Bradfield, Luke Buck, Sadie Colby, Paige Dudley, Danielle Hall, Hannah Hargrove, Juliana Jolin, Emily Levesque, Sarah Martin, Hannah Mathieu, Corey Smith, Emma Wentworth **South China:** Jay Austin, Annika Gil, Hunter Praul, Jacob Praul **Vassalboro:** Kassie Nadeau **Vienna:** Connor Firth **Waterville:** Estephanie Baez-Vazquez, Josiah Bloom, Maggie Brock, Logan Courtois, Aaliyah Cruz, Ben Danner, Staci DeBoer, Molly Glueck, Hannah Gosline, Cooper Hart, Danny Kornsey, Hannah LeClair, Jack Lloyd, Mikayla Reynolds, Sammi Saulter, Zoey Trussell **Wayne:** Katie King **West Gardiner:** Alyssa Barnes, Mikayla Palmer **Windsor:** Hayley Hinds, Jordan Linscott, Sydni Plummer **Winslow:** Marsha Bard, Philip Bigelow, Andrew Bolduc, Justin Bolduc, Kyle Camire, Katie Doughty, Devon Gleason, Jasmine Gregory, Cassidy McIntire, Kristen Rancourt, Jackson Reynolds, Kirstie Rogers, Grace Smith, Elyse St Pierre, Katherine Stevens **Winthrop:** Anna Berkes, Jacob Carter, Kendra Crosby, Phillip Easterbrooks, E. Feeney, Clay Forgue, Allyssa Hickey, Jason Kulinski, Lee Lavoie, Ella Michaud, Mary Milligan, Abby Morin, Nate Scott, Jevin Smith, Camden Tweedie

Knox County

Appleton: Ethan Ford, Myles Kelley, Ashlee McIntosh **Camden:** Joshua Bentzinger, Hadley Berger, Hope Bifulco, Danila Borodaenko, Colleen Ford, Bennet Geis, Izzy Gutheinz, Maho Hisakawa, Tom Libby, Sam Maltese, April Messier, Max Moore, Abby Nathan, Angela Rothwell, Kyla Taylor, Annabelle Williams, Tristan Woodruff **Cushing:** Kaleb Marshall **Friendship:** Kylie Weeks **Hope:** Evie Bracher, Louis Laurita, Isabella Merrill, Esme Power, Owen Power, Katie Southworth, Thomas Southworth **North Haven:** Kat White **Owls Head:** Claudia Fox, Harriet Yankura, Audrey Young, Madelyn Young **Rockland:** Myla Ferland, Karl Ilvonen, Finnegan Lynch, Alexander Mahar, Oliver Vanorse-Jones **Rockport:** Emily Blackwell, Katherine Bowen, Jesse Fraser, Kate Kemper, Jack Poutasse, Nathaniel Stanley **Saint George:** Haylee Chabot **South Thomaston:** David Maltais, Mabel Monroe **Tenants Harbor:** Emma Simmons, Colin Smith **Thomaston:** Sam King, Mackenzie Murray **Union:** Ian Doughty, Emalee Grant, Nathaniel Tracey **Vinalhaven:** Keaton Lear, Amber Shane **Warren:** Naomi Kihn, James Noyes, Leah Wilcox **Washington:** Kalina Chazin-Knox, Rhiannon Gould

Lincoln County

Boothbay: Graham Bryer **Boothbay Harbor:** Tim Chappelle, Sydney Meader, Riley Sullivan **Damariscotta:** Jon Pinkham, Abigail Roberts **Jefferson:** Ethan Bartholomae, Joseph Cleaves, Luke Hodgkins **New Harbor:** Sam Ransley **Newcastle:** Nolan Anderson **Nobleboro:** Riley Cushing, Jordan Metz, Kaitlyn Sawicki **Somerville:** Willow Throckmorton-Hansford **Waldoboro:** Andrew Beaucage, Chloe Bossow, Claire Bourett, Mackenzie Emerson, Ashley Holmes, Steph Lage-Lichko, Allison Lupien, Emily Lupien, Jeffery Parent **Walpole:** Galen Daly-O'Donnell **Westport Island:** Kyle Ricker **Wiscasset:** Aidan Drage, Vanessa Dunn, John Hodson, Lily Yeaton

Oxford County

Albany Township: Jillian Thielbar **Bethel:** Emily Hanscom, Emalee Harrington, Evan LeConey, Anneliese Smith, Brynne Speakman, Shelby Thorman **Bryant Pond:** Colton Carson **Buckfield:** Kylie Carrier **Byron:** Sophie Ladd **Canton:** Luke Lueders **Denmark:** Scott Parker **Dixfield:** Ethan Couture, Alexa Varnum, Lizzie White **Fryeburg:** Livia De Vries, Casey Kneissler, Sophie Kummer, Patrick Malia, Luke Reinbach, Simon St Pierre **Greenwood:** Sam Stone **Hartford:** Tucker Olsen **Hebron:** Bram Dustin, Josh Lajoie, Jessica Punch, Jodie Sheets **Hiram:** Oliver Hild **Lovell:** Arianna Hatt **Mason Township:** Madeline Williams **Milton Township:** Sadie Richardson **Newry:** Ricco Call **Norway:** Kate Bowen, Will Eshleman, Sam Morton, Christian Wynott **Otisfield:** Madelyn Adams **Oxford:** Emilyann Drumm, Dominic Kugell **Paris:** Kaisa Heikkinen **Peru:** Brandon Carver **Porter:** Oz Cordes **Rumford:** Vanessa Cote, Ellie LeDuc, Meadow Wind **South Paris:** Jordyn Gates, Chloe Hodgdon, Connor Ladd, Daniel Paine, Marissa Paine, Morgan Reavis, Will Stellmann, Haid Tanous, Marla Tanous **Waterford:** Greta Vanderblue **West Paris:** Caleb Thurston, Kyle Willis

Penobscot County

Alton: Kyle Feero, Roy Koneff, Natalie Storman, Kenzie Young **Argyle Township:** Sam Ivey **Bangor:** Gabby Adams, Maher Alsamsam, Jakob Archer, Connor Ashfield, Will Barteaux, Peter Blackwell, Sam Blanchard, Katelynn Bowker, Nate Brainerd, Alex Brown, Brett Brown, Kenzie Bulley, Abby Cadorette, Meg Caron, Max Carter, Abbey Charette-LaBrequé, Tori Cline, Kassidy Coker, Libby Colley, Jacob Cote, Raist Cotroneo, Alexander Cross, Gabriela Cyr, Juliette Daigle Thompson, Tommy Daly, Leila Davids, Gwen Davis, Erica Desjardins, Dyllon Dunton, Gunnar Eastman, Mustafa Elhefnawi, James Fahey, Jon Feix, Collette Filer, Shannen Fitzjurs, Landyn Francis, Stephanie Frost, Colin Gallagher, Kennedy Gebhart, Chelsea Gilgan, Lydia Gilmore, Kathleen Greenlaw, Ethan Grover, Dan Guidi, Glenice Hale, Camryn Hammill-Nordfors, Makenzie Handley, Parker Harriman, Rachel Harris, Dylan Houghton, Marybeth Heyse, Rebekah Horowitz, Abby Houghton, Baxter Hughes, Courtney Hutchinson, Zach Ireland, Alexa Jarvis, Kristin Jenkins, Ian Kelly, Kiara Kempthorne-Curiel, Ashley King, Ryan Kinney, Willow Knapp, Mackenzie Ladd, Emily LeClair, Maggie Lever, Seneca Love, Blake Lufkin, Sarah Marcotte, Gillian McCarthy, Lily McLaughlin, Makayla Miller, Marina Mohawass, Sam Morse, Monica Mulligan, Josh Mullins, Noah Murphy, Annabelle Muscatell, Destiny Musor, Vinh-Nhan Ngo, Addison Nichols, Connor Noddin, Lilian Nowak, Dan O'Neill, Paige Oranje, Aimee Ouellette, Hope Ouellette, Kelly Pellegrino, Jojo Picone, Banalata Pratt, Max Prybylo, Declan Riordan, Sreyas Sajen, Emily Sala, Parry Seddiqi, Lilli Seeley, Hannah Shahmoradi, Emma Sheffield, Amelia Slocum, Dom Smart, Ford Smiley, Audrey Smith, Emma Smith, Maddalena Sorice, Bonnie Spink-O'Brien,

Corey Stephens, Kaden Stokes-Dana, Levi Sturtevant, Renee Tran, Yuri Trusty, Zach Tubbs, Sam West, John White, Kelsey White, Michaela White, Tessa Worgull, Kira Yardley, Steven Zybert **Bradford:** Matthew Albert, Otilie McPhail **Bradley:** Nick Avery, Cassidy Climo, Logan Doucette, Makenzie Gomm, Tony Jackson, Chris Johnson, Emily Ketch, Lucas Shorette, Joshua Smith **Brewer:** Abigail Bennett, Rory Burmeister, Ben Byorak, Lily Canders, Julia Cummings, Eve Daries, Georgia Doore, Aubrey Duplissie, Caitlin Fraser, Mason Fredericks, Alec Gagnon, Jennah Geiser, Eric Griffin, Courtney Hawkins, Kaitlyn Helfen, Mickey Hersey, Ellie Horr, Kiersten Jones, Tyler Kahkonen, Corinne Kallas, Kaycee Laffey, Alexys Langley, Bryce Largay, Asher Legris, Kaitlin Liu, Maria Low, Ning Luo, Michele Maybury, Maria McLaughlin, Chanthu Millay, Dominique Ouellette, Miles Paul, Lauren Richardson, Sherralynn Robbins, Haley Robertson, Haley Santerre, Jessica Sargent, Brendan Saunders, Samuel Sergi, Cassidy Smith, Anna Spaulding, Jillian Tompkins, Zoe Vittum, Claire Warmuth, Jared Wright, Jude Zanon **Burlington:** Kayla Stone **Carmel:** Quinn Bartlett, Abby Boucher, James Burgess, Kenyon Geiger, Bill Hartt, Kimberlea McElroy, Allison Treat, Jacob Wildes **Chester:** Jacqueline Mault **Corinna:** Elyana Gerrie, Rachael Sickles **Corinth:** Janell Doody, Hayden Nutter, Maija Overturf, Parker Shaw, Ashlyn Stuart **Dexter:** Sean Bena, David Kirshkaln, Vee Leighton, Olivia Peakes **Dixmont:** Isabel Dimek, Matt Harzewski, Audrey Maddox **East Millinocket:** Laura Cote **Eddington:** Kat Carreira, Kelsey Hines, James Mahoney, Allisyn Tidd **Etna:** Morgan Tasker **Exeter:** Rebecca Batron, Lauren Chapman, Caitlyn Hardy, Nicholas Hershbine, Logan Perkins **Garland:** Matthew Day, Brett Kusnierz, Isaac Webber **Glenburn:** Christian Boone, Lydia Caron, Stacey Comeau Duran, Ben Cotton, Lauren Dean, Kenzie Gillis, Alexis Ismail, Lauren Ismail, Lizzie Jacobs, Nicholas Jacobs, Zach Jones, Emily Leavitt, Lukas Norment, Olivia Sharrow, Brooke Springer, Josh Watson **Greenbush:** Audrey Buzzell, Delani McLaughlin **Hampden:** Anna Baldwin, Mychal Beaulieu, Oliver Bois, Claire Bowen, Peyton Chahley, Logan Christian, Emily Colter, Chantal Connelly, Fallon Crossman, Laura Curioli, Ellie Dacey, William Dacey, Bryce DeRosby, Sara Economy, Carter Emerson, Zachary Flannery, Sade Francis, Ethan Howe, Natalie Kirby, Zachary Klein, Brady Lobdell, Jennah Lyford, Abby Lyons, Ashley Mahoney, Meaghan McBairty, Riley McBairty, Sydnie McKenney, Jake Michaud, Sophia Narofsky, Claire Nickels, Rebekah Novak, Sarah Renee Ozlanski, William Patin, Jaylee Rice, Jesie Romero, Steven Santiago, Claire Scobie, Olivia Scott, Zach Scott, Azaria Spaulding, Casey Sudbeck, Elaine Thomas, Jonathan Turlo, Matt Yost, Josi Young **Hermon:** Julia Bate, Zachary Beaton, Elizabeth Bernard, Hayden Black, Kelsey Bridges, Rooster Cardin, Ken Carpenter, Amanda Cox, Kalley Curry, Ashley Dunphy, Matt Farnham, Allison Fetha, Courtney Kelsey, Dylan Keyes, Kaden Nevells, Breanne Oakes, Zach Papsadora, Noelle Patten, Cammie Peirce, Braedon Stevens, Justin Taylor, Torria Wittmer **Holden:** Tyler Clarke, Johnny Cobb, Maddie Faulkner, Nick Geiser, Tamara Hembree, Lauren Holyoke, Jared Hoxie, Sarah Kiley, Hannah McCann, Lisa Murphy, Ian Norman, Luke Norman, Cameron Oxley, Trevor Pearson, Jamison Rhoads-Doyle, Colby Smith **Howland:** Christine Brown, Emma Buck, Brady Harding, Brianna Moon, Alyson Thompson **Hudson:** David Ledford, Rya Morrill, Mark Muir **Indian Island:** Alanna Chavaree **Kenduskeag:** Caroline Davis, Ollie Rice, Connor St Peter **Lee:** Ashton Dunbar, Julia Shannon, Alessio Zanotta, Davide Zanotta **Levant:** Alexis Allard, Ashley Barker, Anthony Caccese, Olivia Johnson, Josh Peterson **Lincoln:** Corbett Arnold, Ava Broderick, Lynn Dwelley, Koby Farrington, Sarah Hanington, Natalie McCarthy, Duncan McIntyre, Conner McNish, Kayla Mushero, Maddy Noble **Medway:** Emily Gagnon, Gwenth Perkins, Nick Powers **Milford:** Ileana Adams, Layla Blackie, Christopher Chappelle, Zack Dill, Mani Kehler, Priscilla King, Ildiko Sandor, Llewellyn Searing, Cassandra Wood, Benjamin Zeitlin **Milinoeket:** Gabe Benson **Newburgh:** Lindsay Clements, Wesley Kauppila, Stephanie McGrath, Jennifer Spann **Newport:** Chance Graves, Myah Reed, Remington Shaw **Old Town:** Gavin Allen, MaryEllen Applebee, Allison Bleakney, Anna Briley, Sam Cartwright, Sarah Costello, Ashley Cray, Olivia Damboise, Naomi Dawson, Jamie de Souza, Jake Dubay, Emily Dunlap, Christopher Duplisea, Olivia Durkee, Liron Estrach, Alazar Gebreselassie, Sydney Hagarman, Emma Hood, Dustin Jensen, Chris Johanson, Khulod Khalaf, Abbye Koenig, Katelyn Kribel, Alexis Krull, Ethyn Lolar, Trinity Mailey, Brandon Mastrotillo, Tess Mylander, Elizabeth Namujju, Matthew Nichols, Zane Nygaard, Darien Orehun, Allie Ouimet, Sydney Owen, Soojin Park, Aidan Peters, Jordan Pinkham, Emily Pomeroy, Cody Porter, Adam Regan, Nate Regan, Cameron Robbins, Sam Roberts, Lysie Russell, Katie Schweizer, Jasmine Smith, Savanna Smith-D'Addio, Brooke Sossong, Melanie Soucy, Kelly Sullivan, Gabe Talon, Ethan Trott, Jillian Trujillo, C.J. Upham, Kathleen Vickery, Sarah Viekmann, Evan Warburton, Daniel Wortman, Skyler Wright **Orono:** Hassan Alshuwaysh, Kaleb Austin, Silas Bates, Connor Bell, Grace Bennett, Cam Beressi, Trixie Betz, Matthew Birch, Thom Bowie, Zachary Boyle, Alex Briggs, Camryn Brown, Tim Burgartz, Brandon Burris, Savy Butler, Brooke Carriere, Nhan Chau, Yongjoon Choi, Mackenzie Connor, Cam Cote, Morgan Crapo, Jennifer Crone, Chloe DaSilva, Elyse Daub, Eric Desbois, Lindsey Dodge, Sarah Dodge, Rhiannon Doiron, Emma Downing, Kellen Doyle, Ashley Drexler, Daisy Drinkert, Theo Erikson, Tatum Erlandson, Cedric Fahey, Max Farrow, Will Ferreira, Kieran Firkin, Kell Fremouw, Emma Gibbons, Jaimie Giguere, Sarah Glatte, Adeline Griffith, Leann Grogan, Katie Harder, Kaori Hardison, Isabel Henderson, Ada Hepler, Jordan Hess, Noah Hixon, Kylie Houck, Dom Huntington, Joshua Irasubiza, Dominika Ivanicka, Henry Izere, Kyle Jacques, David Jakacky, Qikai Jiang, Devon Jobe, Ben Johnson, Emily Kontio, Dima Krivorotko, Caroline LaPerriere, Trent Lick, Griffin Lord, Charlie Marks, Madi McCarthy, Keely McConville, Meghan McDonald, Heath Miller, Nick Millett, Naomi Moynihan, Abigail Mulligan, Soren Nguyen, Theophile Nkulikiyinka, Aubree Nygaard, Peter O'Brien, Sonora Ortiz, Jared Palmer, Mo Pate, Hannah Peacock, Novak Perovic, Tristan Poissant, Tanya Roy, Sophia Santamaria, Maggie Schilling, Ingrid Schroeter, Brooke Seiders, Matt Seuch, Abdulwahed Shah, Liana Shaw, Gabbie Siciliano, Jakub Sirota, Jared Smith, Edison Szymanski, Celine Tedenby, James Treadwell, Ally Trimper, Morgan Trimper, Orion-Bay Tucker, Sam Weafer, Eva White, Noah White, Kayleigh Wick, Willow Wind, Sophia Wise, Carolyn Ziegra **Orrington:** Grace Blanchard, Emma Bowden, Brady Dube, Katelyn Grant, Chloe Hart, Jack Lander, Meg Lander, Jordan Lobley, Jenna Votour, Gwen Watkins, Nathan Williams **Plymouth:** Gabby Sands **Stetson:** Casey Cossar, Tom Poling, Anna Snow **Stillwater:** Patrick Downing, Mitch Dumas, Matthew Griffith, Amanda MacBurnie, Sarah Zachariason **Veazie:** Josh Allison, Sophie Bilodeau, Andrew Boutin, Brooke Buxton, Joseph Dagher, Porter Hubbard, Savannah Levesque, Alex Mehre, Riley Perry, Connor Reese, Sam Willigar **West Enfield:** William Brown, Madi Gilman, Kacie Mulligan, Lauren Reed, Christina Wallace

Piscataquis County

Brownville: Will Poole **Dover-Foxcroft:** Sadie Avellar, Rico Ayala, Megan Fuller, Kate Nichols, Shelby Philips, Lucas Ronco, Chrissy Shaw, Kearson Sutton, Steff Victoria, Liv Wesley **Greenville:** Sydney Meredith-Pickett **Parkman:** Charis Morin

Sagadahoc County

Arrowsic: Alex Martin **Bath:** Eleanor Carrolton, William Carrolton, Dylan DeMerchant, Griffin Dever **Bowdoin:** Adam Dustin, Zoe McNally, Gideon Wheeler **Bowdoinham:** Randy Beede, Fred Czerwinski, Rick Mann, Eli Ouellette, Sydney Plant, Maggie Stevens Shourds **Georgetown:** Anora Rice **Phippsburg:** Connor Mulrooney, Emma Warner **Richmond:** Ashley Brown, Emma Carbone, Abby Johnson, Olivia Ridenour, Kylie Temple **Topsham:** Madi Bailey, Joseph Beale, Lucas Bergeron, Andrew Chamberland, Caitlin Chambers, Brewster Chard, Lucas Dimond, Rebecca French, Ryan Glass, Devin Hoskins, Matt Kenison, Joseph Knowles, Liam Knowles, Matt Lawrence, Kody Noyes, Sabrina Paetow, Jake Sargent, Will Teufel, Caroline Thompson, Lexi Thompson, Katie Trebilcock, Sara York **West Bath:** Tyler Andresen, Connor Bennoch, Caiden Fraser, Sarah Meyer-Waldo **Woolwich:** Katie Card

Somerset County

Anson: Scott Mason **Detroit:** Mohammad Niayesh, Rylan Wintle **Fairfield:** Katie Cobb, Lauren Hume, Dakota Hutchins, Trinity Hutchins, Miranda

Lambert, Hannah Longley, David Peitz, Noah Shepherd, Elsie Suttie, Lydia Townsend **Harmony:** Gabriel Chambers, Samual Kowal, Caitlin McKenney **Hartland:** Myky Weinstein **Jackman:** Alexandra Lessard, Victoria Schaan **Long Pond Township:** Elise McKendry **Madison:** Evan Bess, Caleb Cowan, Jenny Dean, Nate Dimock, Emily Edgerly, Luke Harper, Sam Harper **Mercer:** Isabelle Mehrhoff **Moscow:** Ray Bigelow **New Portland:** Caitlin Crawford **Norridgewock:** Gage Morgan, Sara Qualey **Palmyra:** Adam Malcolm **Pittsfield:** Abby Bernier, Leah Bradstreet, Madison Fitts, Madisyn Hartley, Devon Varney, Ethan Varney, Seamus Walden, Sarah Welch **Ripley:** Kendrah Willey **Skowhegan:** Sam Bolvin, Dendra Cowperthwaite, Colby Esty, Angel Gonzalez Merrill, Alex Higgins, Bhreagh Kennedy, Kyle Lee, Matush Prokop, Sydney Reed, Leah Savage, Ella Siren, Jacob Steeves, Forrest Swift, Katelyn Warren **Smithfield:** Lucas Lenfest, Kyle Salley, Abby Stevens

Waldo County

Belfast: Will Bickford, James Cole, Victoria Curtis, Sam Davis, Lena Downes, Sophia Fay, Vincent Norman, Julianna O'Sullivan, Jie Ning Zhu **Brooks:** Isaac Black, Jacob Callas **Burnham:** Abi Bergdoll, Avery Gosselin **Frankfort:** Kenzie Alley, Joshua Wilbur **Freedom:** Emily Keating, Stella Tirone **Jackson:** Emma Fonger, Morgan Fonger **Liberty:** Lily Blake, Alex Fountain **Lincolnville:** Kevin Bergelin, Jesse Goodale, Rowan Hurlburt, Brendan Moline, Wyatt Munson, Ivan Young **Monroe:** Erik Hamilton, Pehry McLellan, Cori Shooter **Morrill:** Evan Kennedy **Northport:** Jason Hunter, Katie Ritchie, Hannah Sanderson **Palermo:** Lindsey Childs, Cade King, Parker King, Caleb Tyler **Prospect:** Brody Boynton **Searsmont:** Mikayla Artkop, Nicholas Czuchra, Luke Hamlin, Emily Hills, Olivia Hills, Eli Jolliffe, Emily Jolliffe, Sara Kunesch, Aiden Pike, Noah Robbins **Searsport:** Dominic Francis-Mezger, Daniel McKeon, Emma Spiegel **Stockton Springs:** William Bradley, Haley Braga, Lauren Burkard, Erin Dorr, Cheyenne Hebert, Jack Lindyberg, Rebekah Mellor **Thorndike:** Jensen Aspinall, Kristen Raven **Troy:** Tommy Smith, Abby Spaulding **Unity:** Gunnar Martin, Jackson Martin, Zoe Mayhew **Waldo:** Kyle Agbuya **Winterport:** Noah Burby, Stella Cashman, Sarah Dyer, Matthew Goodrich, Delia Hill, Alex Holmes, Maddy Humphrey, Brenna Jones, Nate Jordan, Jerdon Kiesman, Zara Misler, Dakota Noonan, Ethan Suderley, Henry Willard

Washington County

Baileysville: Toni Gagner, Erika Isnor, Bogumil Korasadowicz **Beals:** Ryan Alley **Big Lake Township:** Selena Williams **Calais:** Kenzie Bennett, Devon Carrier, Patrick Corbett, Megan Greene, Andrew McLellan, Ivy McLellan, Gavin Parks **Cherryfield:** Emmaline Bierman **Dennysville:** Gabe Brady, Seana Mackeldey **Harrington:** Emma Denbow **Jonesboro:** Jinny Davis, Kendra Johnson **Jonesport:** Bayleigh Alley, Stephen Cirone, Morgan Rocks **Lubec:** Hailey Boutin, Mollie Jackson-Coates **Machiasport:** Marc Michaud, Marissa Wood **Marshfield:** Isaac Atkinson, William Clifton, Shaelea Perkins, Alex Renshaw, Morgan Schwinn, Lydia Sprague **Perry:** Jacob Cook, Alex Morgan, Madilyn Newcomb, Marek Veal **Whiting:** Chloe Alley, Burdette Brown, Haley Cherry

York County

Acton: Porter Bodkin, Brooke Camire, Tyler Doliber, C.J. Lantagne, Brendon Tremblay, Mariette Waterhouse, Marie Wood **Alfred:** Grace LaFrance **Arundel:** Evan Dickson, Keeva Jacques, Meg Noble **Berwick:** Lucas Bent, Ethan DeMoura, Alli Grant, Joe Horne, Jacob LaMontagne, Jacob Mulligan, Trent Otash **Biddeford:** Grace Bermeo, David Bourque, Seth Harding, Emily Huo, Cassie Kratzer, Sarrah Marcotte, Drake McAfee, Ethan McBrine, Karla Mendoza Yanes, Bart Murphy, Mia Pothier **Buxton:** Sarah Durocher, Alex Dyer, Zachary Hase, Sam Kovacs, Abby Logan, Polly Rae, Thomas Sirois **Cape Neddick:** Taylor Bair, Lilia Beal, Christopher Chalande, Chase Holt, Emma Parrotta, Brook Roberge, Ryan Thurlow **Dayton:** Paige Boudreau, Amber Coxen, James Fitzpatrick, Cameron Houde, Jade Kruczek, Ethan Waterhouse **East Waterboro:** Dan Bolender, Jake Cyr **Eliot:** Rori Coomey, Lauren Cusson, Ryan Driscoll, Eliza Foye, Turner Goodenough, Charlie McCann, Olivia Petersen, Aidan Place, Colin Ready, Chloe Shields, Sydney Valentine **Falmouth:** Isabelle Armstrong **Hollis Center:** Mike Ames, Connor Baldwin, Andrew Ettinger, Cassidy Marston, Emilee Roy, Megan Twombly **Kennebunk:** Brianna Adams, Nick Barry, Caleb Congdon, Julia Connolly, Nate Cripps, Colby Ellis, Danielle Gassman, James Jarvis, Henry Kindler, Ian Martin, Sean Radel, Corinna Rec, Ashley Robinson, Osiris Thomas, Sam Vaccaro **Kennebunkport:** Jessica Dupler, Robbie Sanders, Trevor Sutton **Kittery:** Killian Campbell, Brian Chambers, Grace Finley, Taylor George, Dominic Perkins, Abraham Rubianes, Brett Smith **Kittery Point:** Gunnar Palm **Lebanon:** Kelly Cremen, Kaylee Mayotte, Kaily Rich **Limerick:** Adelaide Brandt, Syeira New **Limington:** Jamie Delaney, Aidan McGlone, Justin Strout **Lyman:** Hannah Bradish, Jeffrey Fosgate, Gabrielle Guillemette, Nick Hammond, Cassidy Lang, Emily Morin, Jeremiah Van Tassell, Joel Van Tassell, Andres Vargas **North Berwick:** Alexy Hudock, Nicholas Johnson, Sam LaFrance, Levi Lambert, Dante Michaud, Mya Muthig, Carissa Newick, Tyler Oliver, Jack Szczechowicz, Nate Szczechowicz **North Waterboro:** Emily Davison, Brandon Johnstone, Tori Silva **Old Orchard Beach:** Madi Courtois, Danika Evangelista, Blaise Fournier, Amir Seidakhmetov **Parsonsfield:** Maya Jamerson-Martin **Saco:** Carigan Allie, Amy Blanchard, Owen Boissonneault, Sydney Brown, Michael Delorge, Erin Farrell, Luke Gosselin, Jack Johnson, Kaitlyn Kelley, Immanuel Libby, Claire Loeser, Kaelyn Madden, Hannah McAlary, Michelle Patterson, Delaney Prejean, Desiree Prejean, Evan Smith, Ashley Tillson, Taylor Westhaus, Sophie Whiting **Sanford:** Ethan Arrowsmith, Caitlyn Beaulieu, Jade Bellavance, Joe Binette, Jacob Cao, Megan Charrier, Peter Cusack, Kara Frasier, Adam Genereux, Jason Gil, Steve Hanselmann, Aurora Hodgdon, Daniel Khat, Dawson Knapp, Lauren Lapierre, Megan O'Connell, Niraj Patel, Kassie Plante, Chad Rosander, Kyla Terril, Mackenzie Townsend, Khang Truong **Shapleigh:** Noah Chretien, Sam Foglio **South Berwick:** Courtney Callanan, Brian Couture, Reid Johnson, McKayla Leary, Lexi McGee, Stephen Rezack **Springvale:** Hanna Goulet, Dominic Lagace, Joshua Sirois, Josh Webber **Waterboro:** Ivalani Callahan, Grace DeSimone, Evan Foglio, Alyssa Paquin **Wells:** Graham Bridges, Jon Brown, Ben Campbell, Madison Eastman, Brenda Griffin, Alyssa Kenney, Sara Kondor-Ouellette, Gavyn Leighton, Sarah Lord, Jacob Michaud, Bailey Morrison, Dimarco Roberts, Natalie Robinson, Wyatt Rowe, Kadia Thompson, Emma White, Alex Wilkins **York:** Abby Bourgeois, Samantha Campagna, Ashley Carney, Garrett Cronin, Brockton Dalton, Max Ernenwein, Joey Goulette, Jack Harrington, Katie Kohler, Delaney Labonte, Trevor Lavigne, Audrey Mitchell, Fiona Murphy, Josh Pease, Maggie Prince, Hanna Seigny, Sophie Trafton [Back to full list](#)

UMaine Extension offers advanced beekeeping webinars starting Feb. 10

03 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer two advanced beekeeping webinars, two sessions each, beginning with “[Honey Bee Diseases and Pests](#)” 6–8:30 p.m. Feb. 10 and 17. The \$50 fee includes the required textbook. Registration is required on the [event webpage](#) to receive the links. The next course, “[Swarming and Swarm Management](#),” will be held 6–8:30 p.m. March 3 and 10. The fee is \$35. Registration is required on the [event webpage](#) to receive the links. Both courses will be taught by EAS-certified master beekeeper Erin MacGregor Forbes. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.781.6099; rebecca.gray@maine.edu.

Media advance UMaine Extension sessions for aspiring 4-H volunteers

03 Feb 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [The Piscataquis Observer](#), [Livermore Falls Advertiser](#), the [Daily Bulldog](#), the [Sun Journal](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) advanced online information sessions from University of Maine Cooperative Extension for adults interested in becoming Maine 4-H volunteers. The sessions will be held from 7–8 p.m. March 1 and 8. Registration is required by Feb. 18 on the [event webpage](#).

Medical Xpress advances new American Journal of Hypertension editorial from UMaine, University of Arkansas researchers

03 Feb 2022

[Medical Xpress](#) shared a news release about a new peer-reviewed editorial in the American Journal of Hypertension from University of Maine and University of Arkansas researchers. In the piece, they argued that using B vitamins to lower homocysteine levels is an effective means of reducing blood pressure and may be especially useful in the management of drug-resistant hypertension.

Courier-Gazette, Bethel Citizen highlight UMaine journalism students who received Maine Press Association scholarships

03 Feb 2022

The [Courier-Gazette](#) and [The Bethel Citizen](#) noted that the [Maine Press Association](#) awarded two journalism scholarships to University of Maine students Meaghan Bellavance and Emma H. Smith. Bellavance is a fifth-year student with a double major in journalism and anthropology. Smith is a fourth-year student with a double major in journalism and women's, gender, and sexuality studies.

CCI Swiss Alps ice core research featured in The Conversation article about the 'worst year ever to be alive'

03 Feb 2022

[The Conversation](#) published an article about what scientists and historians consider to be "worst year to be alive" — 536 — that featured a 2018 study co-authored by several scientists from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, including director Paul Mayewski. They collaborated with other researchers to investigate an ice core in the Swiss-Italian Alps that yielded evidence showing that a 7th-century switch from gold to silver currencies in western Europe occurred a quarter of a century earlier than previously thought. [Nature World News](#), [Phys.org](#) and [EconoTimes](#) shared The Conversation piece.

International media report on UMaine-led study documenting that human-induced climate change impacts the highest reaches of the planet

03 Feb 2022

[National Geographic](#), [CBS News](#), [BBC News](#), [CNN](#), [The Independent](#), [The Hill](#), [The Weather Channel](#), the [Daily Mail](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [Spectrum News](#), [Live Science](#), the Agence France-Presse, [Sky News](#), [CNET](#), [Pardafas](#), [ScienceAlert](#), [The Kathmandu Post](#), [The Malaysian Insight](#), [WION](#) and [Down To Earth](#) reported on a new study from a University of Maine-led international research team that found that human-induced climate change impacts the highest reaches of the Earth: Mount Everest. According to UMaine Climate Change Institute scientists Paul Mayewski, Mariusz Potocki and their colleagues, the extreme sensitivity of the high-altitude Himalayan ice masses in rapid retreat forewarns of quickly emerging impacts that could range from increased incidence of avalanches and decreased capacity of the glacier-stored water on which more than 1 billion people depend to provide melt for drinking water and irrigation. The team's findings, published in the journal [Nature Portfolio Journal Climate and Atmospheric Science](#), are the latest research results from the 2019 National Geographic and Rolex Perpetual Planet Everest Expedition, in which six UMaine Climate Change Institute scientists participated. As of Feb. 7, the journal article, "Mt. Everest's Highest Glacier Is a Sentinel for Accelerating Ice Loss," is in the 99th percentile — ranked 343rd — of the 189,583 tracked articles of a similar age in all journals and the first percentile — ranked first — of the one tracked articles of a similar age in npj Climate and Atmospheric Sciences. [Science Magazine](#), [Verve Times](#), [Phys.org](#), [SciTechDaily](#), [The Daily Check](#) and [FocusTechnica](#) shared a news release about the study. [Big World Tale](#) shared the Daily Mail article. [The Business Standard](#), [The Times of India](#), [The Straits Times](#), the [Philippine Daily Inquirer](#), [News24](#), [TRT World](#) the [Daily Sun](#), the [Kashmir Observer](#), [i24News](#), [moneycontrol.com](#), [Independent Online](#), [Barron's](#), [NDTV](#), the [Hindustan Times](#), [CTGN](#), [TRENDS](#), [The Standard](#), [The Journal](#), [The Pioneer](#), [The Nation](#) and [Dawn](#) shared the Agence France-Press report. [MSN](#), [Public Radio of Armenia](#), [The Business Post](#), [Wilderness magazine](#) and [Yahoo! News](#) shared the BBC News report. [United News of India](#), the [Twiner-Herald](#) and [WWJ Newsradio 950](#) (Detroit) shared the CNN report.

CUGR names 2022–2024 Research Faculty Fellows

03 Feb 2022

The University of Maine's Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) has named the 2022–2024 Research Faculty Fellows. CUGR Research Faculty Fellows are a cohort of faculty members who were nominated by their respective deans and selected by the center. The program is designed to support faculty efforts toward improving undergraduate research mentoring skills, expanding curricula to include research and scholarship experiences, and developing proposals for additional funding, specifically for undergraduate students. Each CUGR Research Fellow is provided \$1,200 to support an undergraduate research assistant of their choosing during their second year in the program. The 2022–2024 CUGR Research Faculty Fellows are:

- Rebecca Buchanan, assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction with the College of Education and Human Development.
- Matthew Chatfield, assistant professor of evolution and eco-health with the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture.
- Chaofen Chen, assistant professor of computer science with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
- Amelia Couture Bue, assistant professor of communication and journalism with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
- Justin Dimmel, assistant professor of mathematics education and instructional technology with the College of Education and Human Development.
- Alice Doughty, lecturer, instructor and Golden Undergraduate Coordinator with the School of Earth and Climate Sciences at the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture.
- Robby Finley, assistant professor of philosophy with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

- Kelsi Hobbs, assistant professor of economics with the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture.
- Kara Peruccio, assistant professor of history and women's, gender and sexuality studies with College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
- Lauren Ross, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering with the College of Engineering.
- Jared Talbot, assistant professor of biology and ecology with the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture.

UMaine Extension offers advanced beekeeping webinars starting Feb. 10

07 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer two advanced beekeeping webinars, two sessions each, beginning with “[Honey Bee Diseases and Pests](#)” 6–8:30 p.m. Feb. 10 and 17. The \$50 fee includes the required textbook. Registration is required on the [event webpage](#) to receive the links. The next course, “[Swarming and Swarm Management](#),” will be held 6–8:30 p.m. March 3 and 10. The fee is \$35. Registration is required on the [event webpage](#) to receive the links. Both courses will be taught by EAS-certified master beekeeper Erin MacGregor Forbes. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.781.6099; rebecca.gray@maine.edu.

Darling Marine Center Recruiting Student Researchers

07 Feb 2022

University of Maine’s Darling Marine Center is recruiting student researchers to contribute to a variety of marine and environmental research projects this summer. DMC hosts 25–30 undergraduate researchers on the Walpole campus each summer to collaborate with UMaine faculty and other DMC-based researchers on projects ranging from the fundamental biology of microorganisms active in the Damariscotta River estuary, to studies of the ecology of oysters and lobsters, to the local communities that farmed and wild-caught seafood support. More than 15 paid internships are available this season. Learn more on the center’s [website](#).

Featured Art Faculty Exhibition opens Feb. 11

07 Feb 2022

The University of Maine Department of Art will open this year’s faculty exhibition, “Faculty 2022,” on Feb. 11 in the Lord Hall Gallery. The exhibition, Feb. 11–March 18, was curated by Lord Hall Gallery director Susan Smith and features works by Susan Groce, James Linehan, Ed Nadeau, Greg Ondo, Ellen Roberts and Owen Smith, a UMaine professor of intermedia who passed away Oct. 14. Gallery hours are 9–4 p.m. weekdays. The gallery is wheelchair accessible.

Register-Herald notes Kurbatov co-planning volcano data workshop

07 Feb 2022

[The Register-Herald](#) noted that Andrei Kurbatov, an associate professor with the University of Maine School of Earth and Climate Sciences and Climate Change Institute, is helping plan a four-part volcano eruptions data workshop called Tephra Fusion 2022.

Media advance mushroom cultivation webinar

07 Feb 2022

[The Ellsworth American](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [The Piscataquis Observer](#) advanced a University of Maine Cooperative Extension webinar for home gardeners about mushroom cultivation from noon–1:15 p.m. Feb. 25. Register for “Spring Has Spawned: Getting Your Garden Ready for Mushroom Cultivation” on the [event webpage](#).

Wired reports on evolution database co-created by Kinnison, Wood

07 Feb 2022

[Wired](#) reported on a database that Michael Kinnison, a University of Maine professor of evolutionary applications, and Zach Wood, a postdoctoral research associate with the UMaine School of Biology and Ecology, helped create called Phenotypic Rates of Change Evolutionary and Ecological Database (PROCEED). According to its [website](#), the database serves as a continuously updated repository of rates of phenotypic change described in peer-reviewed manuscripts. New Bottom: [Ars Technica](#) and [Nature World News](#) shared the Wired article.

AP: UMaine sponsoring Maine Science Festival ‘Field Trip Day’

07 Feb 2022

The [Associated Press](#) reported that the University of Maine is sponsoring “Field Trip Day” during the Maine Science Festival. The [Bangor Daily News](#), [WABI](#) (Channel 5), [U.S. News & World Report](#), the [Stamford Advocate](#), [The Darien Times](#) and [The Clay Center Dispatch](#) shared the AP report.

Media report on UMaine earning R1 Carnegie Classification

07 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Spectrum News](#), [News Center Maine](#), [WABI](#) (Channel 5), [WVII](#) (Channel 7), [WMTW](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) and [Mainebiz](#)

reported on the University of Maine receiving an R1 designation from the prestigious Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. The R1 designation signifies “very high research activity” in recent years and is the highest possible tier a doctoral research university can achieve in the Carnegie Classification.

Dumas elected to MOFGA board

07 Feb 2022

UMaine food science innovation coordinator Rob Dumas has been elected to the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association board of directors. As the food science innovation coordinator and facility manager for the School of Food and Agriculture, Dumas is responsible for leveraging the resources of the university system to support economic growth in Maine’s food and agriculture sector. “An abiding interest in local food and agriculture was one of the things that lured me to Maine,” says Dumas. “My work at UMaine allows me to engage with people across UMaine’s food system and I’ve had the opportunity to learn so much since joining the university in 2019. It’s an honor to be entrusted to participate in the governance of a well-established and vital community organization such as MOFGA.” In addition to his role within SFA, Dumas also works as part of Cooperative Extension and UMaine’s Office of Innovation and Economic Development, positioning him to facilitate broad-based support for Maine’s food sector. Dumas is a certified executive chef through the American Culinary Federation (currently serving as the President of the Down East Chapter) and a U.S. Navy veteran. Dumas earned a bachelor’s degree in culinary arts at the New England Culinary Institute in Vermont.

Maine Business School and Graduate School of Business ranked among the best online programs nationwide

08 Feb 2022

Orono, Maine — University of Maine online undergraduate business and MBA programs have been ranked among the best nationwide by U.S. News & World Report. This is the first year the bachelor of science in business administration (BSBA) online program has been considered, and was ranked No. 40 for best online undergraduate business program. “When you work with talented faculty and staff, you know they bring an excellent learning experience to each student, whether they are connecting online or in-person,” says Faye Gilbert, executive dean of the Maine Business School. “It is then very exciting to receive the commendation of a No. 40 ranking by U.S. News to reinforce our status as an AACSB-accredited program, and the view of quality here.” The Maine Business School began offering a BSBA in Management as an online option for students in fall 2019. For more information about this program, visit umaine.edu/business. The MaineMBA ranked No. 84 in online Master of Business Administration programs nationwide. “Rankings such as these have become benchmarks for business schools across the country and around the world,” says Norm O’Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business. “Our MBA ranking holds steady, which we view as a very positive result given the intensifying competition and the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic to drive more and more MBA programs to the online environment.” The Graduate School of Business currently offers 10 concentrations as part of the online MaineMBA, including [business analytics](#), [finance](#), [outdoor industry management](#) and [public and nonprofit management](#). U.S. News & World Report rankings are based on five categories, including engagement, student excellence, expert opinion, faculty credentials and training, and student services and technology. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@umaine.edu

Policy Center accepting applications for Maine Policy Scholars Program

08 Feb 2022

The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center is now accepting applications for the Maine Policy Scholars Program for the 2022–23 academic year. The program is a yearlong research scholarship in which a student from each of the University of Maine System universities, working closely with a faculty advisor, examines an issue of public policy relevance to Maine and delivers a final report and presentation. The program will run from May 2022–April 2023. Scholarships of \$5,000 will be awarded to one undergraduate student from each university in the System. An additional \$1,000 is available to each recipient for research expenses. Apply [online](#). For more information, visit the policy center’s [website](#). The late Peter Cox founded the program, which is funded by the Maine Community Foundation and administered by the policy center, to engage students from the University of Maine System in the public policy process.

UMaine welcomes U.S. Department of State Global UGRAD-Pakistan student

08 Feb 2022

International student Afsah Pervaiz has joined the University of Maine community as part of the U.S. Department of State’s Global Undergraduate Exchange Program in Pakistan (Global UGRAD-Pakistan). Pervaiz is an undergraduate student studying microbiology. The Global UGRAD-Pakistan program, established in 2010, places Pakistani participants at U.S. colleges and universities for a semester of study abroad, leadership skills building and professional development. It is part of a broader U.S. Department of State effort to promote greater understanding between the people of the United States and other countries. Through semester-long academic coursework, exploration of U.S. culture, participation in community service projects, and interactions with Americans in their host communities and campuses, Global UGRAD-Pakistan participants develop expertise in their academic fields and gain a broad and nuanced understanding of American culture and values. Global UGRAD-Pakistan participants enrich the lives of the Americans they meet by sharing their culture and bringing a global perspective to their host communities. The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program in Pakistan is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by IREX. [More information about the program is online](#).

Applications available for 2022 Maine Government Summer Internship Program

08 Feb 2022

The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center is now accepting applications for the 2022 Maine Government Summer Internship Program. The program connects students with paid full-time positions with town and city governments and various state agencies. Internships last for 12 weeks, from May 31–Aug. 19. Students of all majors can apply. Job areas education, engineering, environment, conservation, law, data analysis, finance, economics and communications. To qualify for the program, students must be either a Maine resident or attending a college or university in the state and be at least in the midst of completing their second year of college. Most internships will be based in the Augusta area, but a select number will be offered in other locations. Previous internship

opportunities have been available in other locations across the state. The program will offer more than 40 internships this year. Students apply to the program when supervisors request interns. The program selection committee then evaluates students for available positions based on their skills and interests. Students interested in the program must apply online by March 1. Application materials include a cover letter, resume and transcript. For more information about the program, visit the policy center [website](#).

Morning Ag Clips advances farm food safety webinar

08 Feb 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) advanced an informational webinar from University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension about a new program for produce farmers to help them start or improve their farm food safety planning. “Jump-start to Farm Food Safety” will be held from 4–5 p.m. March 1. Learn more on the [program webpage](#).

Pen Bay Pilot highlights DMC recruiting student researchers

08 Feb 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared an announcement from University of Maine’s Darling Marine Center about its effort to recruit student researchers to contribute to a variety of marine and environmental research projects this summer. Learn more on the center’s [website](#).

Victor’s BDN op-ed calls for ‘a different kind of climate action’

08 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) published an op-ed from Erin Victor, a University of Maine doctoral student, titled “The case for a different kind of climate action.” Victor is a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Holland discusses browntail moths with WMTW

08 Feb 2022

[WMTW](#) interviewed Lynne Holland, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension horticulture and social media professional, about browntail moths. “Reach out to your neighbors especially if you find browntail moths in your neighborhood. Reach out to your neighbors and town officials, and let them know you’ve found them, so that perhaps as a community, you can be working on this nuisance,” she said.

Stateline highlights UMaine research in offshore wind story

08 Feb 2022

In a story titled “Offshore Wind Takes Off at Last. States Have Been Counting on It,” [Stateline](#), a daily news publication funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts organization, highlighted research on floating platform technology for offshore wind development from the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center. The story was also shared in the [Concord Monitor](#), [The Columbian](#) and [Yahoo! News](#).

UMaine Extension offers webinar about winter care of camelids Feb. 15

09 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering an online workshop about best practices for winter care of alpacas and llamas from noon–2 p.m. on Feb. 15. “[Winter Care of Camelids](#)” topics include practical approaches to water and shelter management, nutritional demands during winter, differences among feeds and why a balanced ration is critical to animal well-being. Anne Lichtenwalner, UMaine Extension associate professor, veterinarian and director of the Extension Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, will lead the workshop. The fee is a sliding scale of \$0–10; registration is required to receive the link. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Becky Gray, 207.781.6099; extension.agcumberland@maine.edu.

Collins Center presents ‘Nobunto’ a cappella quintet Feb. 13

09 Feb 2022

The University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts will present “Nobunto,” a female a cappella quintet from Zimbabwe, at 3 p.m. on Feb. 13. In addition to a live public performance, Nobunto will perform a livestream concert hosted by the Collins Center for K–6 students from about 35 schools in the morning on Feb. 14. Nobuntu has drawn international acclaim for performances ranging from traditional Zimbabwean songs to Afro jazz and gospel. The quintet was nominated for Best Musician of the Year at the Zimbabwe International Women Awards in London in 2015 and is a two-time winner for the Best Imbube Group at the Bulawayo Arts Awards. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the Collins Center [website](#).

Spring 2022 RCR training for undergraduates offered online

09 Feb 2022

The Office of Research Compliance will be offering an online Responsible Conduct of Research training Feb 15–March 15 for undergraduate students participating in research sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA). More information and a link to registration is available at [Undergraduate Responsible Conduct of](#)

[Research \(RCR\) Training](#). Students who complete the training, which is required by the sponsors identified above, will receive a certificate of completion valid for four years.

Browntail moth initiative on campus this month

09 Feb 2022

Arborists will be working on campus this month to remove browntail moth nests from trees. The Angela Mech lab led the identification of the browntail moth infestations on campus, largely in crab apple and oak trees. The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry announced that February is Browntail Moth Awareness Month in an effort to encourage nest removal during the moth's dormant period to help slow the spread.

Morning Ag Clips advances dairy webinar series featuring Pereira

09 Feb 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) advanced a dairy webinar series hosted by the University of Vermont (UVM) Extension Northwest Crops and Soils Program that features Glenda Pereira, assistant Extension professor and statewide dairy specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Pereira will offer the talk "Genetic Considerations for Organic Dairy Herds," focusing on crossbreeding rotations, feed efficiency of crossbreds and polled and disbudding management.

Observer, Sun Journal: UMaine now houses one of the rarest mushrooms in the U.S.

09 Feb 2022

[The Piscataquis Observer](#) and [Sun Journal](#) reported that Northwoods Sporting Journal columnist and sporting camp operator Bud Utecht gave the University of Maine an *Entoloma Indigoferum*, one of the rarest mushrooms in the U.S., that he found in the Jo Mary Lake area of the North Woods. The mushroom, which had previously never been discovered in Maine, is now in the UMaine Herbarium.

BDN reports on Maine Baseball hosting America East Tournament

09 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Maine Baseball will host the America East Tournament beginning on May 25. "We're excited about having it back here," said head coach Nick Derba.

The Conversation publishes capital riot article co-authored by Fried

09 Feb 2022

Amy Fried, professor in the Department of Political Science, is coauthor of a piece in [The Conversation](#) titled "The Jan. 6 Capitol attacks offer a reminder – distrust in government has long been part of Republicans' playbook."

BDN notes Diamond's retirement

09 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared a news release about John Diamond, president and CEO of the University of Maine Alumni Association, announcing his plans to retire at the end of June.

NPR cites new Everest research in story about glaciers shrinking

09 Feb 2022

In a story about glaciers across the world shrinking, [NPR](#) cited a new University of Maine-led study that revealed that melting and sublimation on Mount Everest's highest glacier due to human-induced climate change have reached the point that several decades of accumulation are being lost annually now that ice has been exposed. Paul Mayewski, director of the UMaine Climate Change Institute and co-author of the new study, told NPR that the glacier, called the South Col glacier, is expected to disappear in about 30 years. [WPRL-FM](#), [WPSU-FM](#), [KBBI](#), [WBHM-FM](#), [Georgia Public Broadcasting](#), [WSSB-FM](#), [KUAF-FM](#) and [North Country Public Radio](#) shared the NPR report.

Ippolito co-authors chapter in 'Art, Museums & Digital Cultures: Rethinking Change'

09 Feb 2022

University of Maine professor of new media Jon Ippolito co-authored the chapter "Used to Be Different, Now It's the Same? The Post-Pandemic Makeover of Museums" in the book "Art, Museums & Digital Cultures: Rethinking Change." More information can be found on the [webpage](#) for the book.

UMaine viral study earns \$440K from the National Institutes of Health

09 Feb 2022

A University of Maine study of the behavior of a virus that can lead to deadly brain disease was recently awarded \$440,410 from the National Institutes of Health. The study looks at how the virus, known as JC polyomavirus (JCPyV), interacts with receptors on human host cells. Little is known about how the

virus infects human cells, even though JCPyV affects up to 80% of the population and causes chronic kidney infection in hosts. In immunocompromised patients, however, JCPyV can also cause progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML), a deadly brain disease that destroys the protective layer around its nerve fibers. If left unattended, it can be fatal within a year. The project is led by Melissa Maginnis, associate professor in molecular and biomedical sciences, in collaboration with Samuel Hess, professor of physics. Based on the findings of previous studies, the researchers hypothesize that a certain type of serotonin receptors, a subfamily known as 5-HT2Rs, let JCPyV enter the cells. Once inside, the virus recruits more of those same receptors into clusters to ferry more JCPyV into the cell. With the NIH funding, Maginnis and her team will look at the mechanisms that cause these clusters of serotonin receptors to form, how these clusters trigger the signals that cause more viral infection, and whether these receptors and their associated proteins bring the virus to the endoplasmic reticulum, the part of the cell that creates proteins and delivers them throughout the body. “This grant allows us to continue exciting work in (our) lab to uncover how viruses modulate cellular receptor functions to facilitate viral invasion of host cells. Moving forward, we will define how cellular signals initiated from the receptor prime the cell for viral infection, ultimately preparing the cell for a virus takeover,” Maginnis says. Understanding this process of viral entry could be the key to developing treatments that can address PML. The findings could also provide more insight into how other similarly structured viruses — including coronaviruses, herpesviruses and hemorrhagic fever Ebola and Marburg viruses — enter cells and activate the cellular signals that allow them to spread. The lab work for the study is innovative and well-suited for student training. Preliminary data for the studies was gathered entirely by UMaine graduate and undergraduate students. UMaine graduate students in Maginnis’ laboratory will work on the next steps of the project for their dissertation research projects. Portions of the projects will also be used as independent projects for undergraduate researchers. “This project provides excellent student training opportunities through which they develop and hone their laboratory skill set, using viruses as tools to ask probing questions about cell biology. More importantly, research experiences for graduate and undergraduate students allow them to experiment with their own potential, which can open new doors for professional and personal growth,” Maginnis says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Newsweek features Cooperative Extension study about equine ownership in article about viral Reddit post

10 Feb 2022

[Newsweek](#) cited a University of Maine Cooperative Extension study about the cost of equine ownership in an article about a viral Reddit post about a woman refusing her friend’s grandchildren a ride on her horse. According to the study, as cited in the article, the survey showed that the average yearly cost of owning a horse equates to \$3,876 for every horse, while the median cost amount is \$2,419 a year per horse, which can include boarding, feed, health care, farrier, bedding, equipment, insurance and taxes.

BDN: Former UMaine women’s hockey players facing off against Team USA at the Winter Olympics

10 Feb 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#) reported that two former UMaine women’s hockey players, Tereza Vanisova and Vendula Pribylova, will face the U.S. Olympic Women's Ice Hockey Team on Friday in the quarterfinals of the Beijing Winter Olympics as members of the Czech Republic team. Vanisova is the UMaine career scoring leader with 129 points in 129 games, and was also among the Czech leaders in ice time. [Yahoo! News](#) shared the BDN report.

Her Campus publishes student article on preparing for post-graduation interviews

10 Feb 2022

The national online publication about college student life, [Her Campus](#), published an article written by UMaine student Julianne Llerena about preparing for post-graduation interviews. Llerena, who is a third-year media studies student, advised interviewees to act professional, dress the part, be punctual, research the company and prepare answers ahead of time.

Media outlets promote Cooperative Extension webinar on agricultural industry updates

10 Feb 2022

The [Sun-Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) promoted a webinar offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension about effective irrigation management for potato production featuring University of Wisconsin assistant professor Yi Wang. The cost is \$5; registration is required to receive the webinar link. Register [online](#).

Washington Post features UMaine media historian in article about the decline of Winter Olympics viewership

10 Feb 2022

In a report about the decline in viewership of the Winter Olympics broadcast, the [Washington Post](#) featured Michael Soclow, media historian and associate professor of communication and journalism. Soclow, who authored a book about the Olympics and broadcasting in 2016, said, “Considering that Olympic videos on YouTube and TikTok are going to rack up hundreds of millions of views, I wouldn’t be surprised if these Olympic Games end up being one of the most-viewed video events in U.S. history.” Combined with widespread interest in China, the games in Beijing could become the most-viewed video program in world history, added Socolow, also director of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center.

UMaine Extension offers webinar for agricultural industry Feb. 16

10 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer an update for the agricultural industry from 7–8 p.m. Feb. 16. “[Efficient Irrigation Management for Potato Production](#)” will be presented by University of Wisconsin assistant professor Yi Wang. The cost is \$5; registration is required to receive the link. Register on the [event webpage](#). Participants can earn one CCA credit. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.554.4373 or stevenj@maine.edu.

School of Performing Arts’ ‘Terra Nova’ captures the bravery, brutality of an Antarctic expedition

10 Feb 2022

An all-student cast of seven will present the University of Maine School of Performing Arts Division of Theatre and Dance production of “Terra Nova” by Ted Tally, opening Feb. 11 in Hauck Auditorium at the University of Maine. Directed by UMaine theatre instructor Julie Arnold Lisnet, “Terra Nova” is adapted from the journals of Robert Scott’s ill-fated expedition to Antarctica, documenting the winter of 1911–12 when Scott and a team of five Englishmen raced five Norwegians to become the first to reach the geographic South Pole. Public performances are 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11–12 and 17–19, and 2 p.m. Feb. 13 and 20. Tickets are \$12 or free with a student MaineCard and [available for purchase online](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Birdie Sawyer, 207.581.2584; frederick.sawyer@maine.edu. “Terra Nova” is presented with generous support from the Alton ’38 and Adelaide Hamm Campus Activity Fund. “Terra Nova” blends scenes of Scott and his men at various stages of their ordeal, with flashbacks of Scott and his young wife and fateful encounters of his Norwegian rival, Roald Amundsen, whose party beat him to the South Pole by 34 days. Refusing the use of sled dogs as unsporting, Scott and his team struggle to drag their heavy gear across a frozen wasteland, only to find that Amundsen had beaten them. To prepare for the physicality of their roles, UMaine cast members collaborated with Paul Mayewski, director of the Climate Change Institute. Mayewski, who has made more than 100 first ascents into the mountains and traveled thousands of kilometers across the Antarctic shelf, explored the motivations of an Antarctic explorer, discussing hypothermia, snow blindness, sleeping conditions, hygiene and the challenge of “putting one foot in front of another in unimaginably harsh conditions.” Mayewski will host a special audience talk-back session after the Feb. 13 matinee performance. “Terra Nova” is a study of British pride and upper-class resolve, but it is in the tragic trip back, as the members of the expedition die one by one, that the play reaches its climax, capturing the bravery of men who must accept the bitter knowledge that suffering and death will be the only reward. Lisnet explains why she was drawn to the story: “A fourth-grade social studies activity pack on Scott and Amundsen fired my imagination many long years ago,” she says. “Their story has haunted me since. In a place where no human is native, Scott and his men endured hardships, beyond our comprehension, all the while maintaining their humanity.” Connor Bolduc, a theater and philosophy major from Lewiston who plays the role of Norwegian team leader Roald Amundsen, agrees. “There’s something so painful — so terrifying — but also so powerful of watching the tragedy of these men struggling through the Antarctic and ultimately not getting anything out of it. I don’t know if they would’ve all been forgotten, but what seems apparent is that Scott and his men can reach a lot of audiences and help them think about what it means to risk everything for something you want or love,” Bolduc says. “The play is so brutally honest, and it leaves the audience perplexed while taking them through the ominous journey of Scott and his men,” says Patty Morris, a history major from Attleboro, Massachusetts, who plays Evans, a member of Scott’s party. “Not only am I telling a story of this man, but telling a story that ought to be remembered throughout history, and helping people learn history through the medium of theater.” Contact: Brian Jansen, brian.jansen@maine.edu

‘The Maine Question’ asks what happens if Mount Everest loses all of its snow and ice

10 Feb 2022

No place on Earth can escape the effects of climate change, not even Mount Everest. The highest glacier on the world’s tallest mountain — the South Col Glacier — is rapidly disappearing. A new University of Maine-led study found that the glacier is losing several decades of ice and snow accumulation annually due to human-induced climate change. These findings are the latest from the 2019 National Geographic and Rolex Perpetual Planet Everest Expedition, led by UMaine Climate Change Institute director Paul Mayewski. In the first episode of Season 6 of “[The Maine Question](#),” Mayewski and UMaine Ph.D. student Mariusz Potocki, co-authors of the new study, elaborate on the findings and their implications for mountaineering and the glacier-stored water on which more than 1 billion people depend to provide melt for drinking water and irrigation. They also describe what it takes to conduct research on the rooftop of the world. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Ferrini-Mundy, Malloy attending Gov. Mills’ State of the State Address

10 Feb 2022

University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy will be attending Gov. Janet Mills’ State of the State address at 7 tonight in the House Chamber. The governor is expected to discuss a number of university matters and has asked the president and chancellor to attend. The address will be livestreamed on Maine Public Radio and Television and other media outlets. Learn more on the governor’s [website](#).

Bishop testifies at legislative hearing on credentialing for educators

10 Feb 2022

Penny Bishop, dean of the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, provided testimony to the Maine Legislature’s Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on Feb. 8 about proposed changes to Chapter 115, the state rule governing credentialing for teachers and other educational personnel. Bishop urged lawmakers to eliminate an Emergency Teacher Certificate provision, which enables people to teach Maine students without any formal preparation, and which was adopted at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. [A copy of her testimony is online](#). Citing research from the [Maine Education Policy Research Institute](#), a joint venture of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and the University of Southern Maine, she noted that Maine’s annual teacher turnover rate is 8.7%, meaning that, of the approximately 15,000 teaching positions in Maine schools this year, 1,300 of them will need to be refilled next year. A wealth of other research suggests that high-quality teacher preparation programs are key to keeping educators in the teaching workforce. “Well-prepared teachers stay in schools longer. Strong preparation makes it more likely they will remain in the profession, which results in fewer disruptions to student learning and fewer dollars being spent unnecessarily,” Bishop said in her testimony. She gave the example of RSU 25, serving the communities of Bucksport, Orland, Prospect and Verona Island, which has replaced an average of 16 teachers per year over the past three years. Conservatively, Bishop said that amounts to \$160,000 in additional costs for the district to recruit and on-board new teachers — money, she argued, would be better spent directly investing in the classroom, increasing teacher pay or on other community priorities. Bishop said Chapter 115 contains other options that give schools flexibility to respond to workforce shortages, such as a Conditional Certificate or a waiver from the commissioner of education for teachers who are not yet fully certified. Bishop was joined in providing testimony by representatives from other University of Maine System campuses, including Alana Margeson, director of the education program at the University of Maine at Presque Isle; Flynn Ross, chair of teacher education at USM; and Kathy Yardley, dean of the College of Education, Health and Rehabilitation at the University of Maine at Farmington. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

UMaine competes against teacher shortage with ad airing during Olympics

10 Feb 2022

The University of Maine unveiled a new promotional campaign this month highlighting its [teacher preparation](#) programs as pK–12 schools across the country struggle to find qualified teachers. The ad began airing during the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics, which are expected to be one of the most-watched events of the year on television, cable and streaming.

According to the Maine Department of Education, the state [faces teacher shortages](#) in several areas, including general elementary, early childhood, special education, mathematics, middle-level science and adapted physical education. UMaine’s “Why Teach” video will air more than 120 times throughout coverage of the Olympic games, and is being promoted on university websites and social media channels.

SooZin Cha is one of about 70 seniors from UMaine currently completing intensive student teaching placements in 39 schools across Maine, from Scarborough to Houlton, in preparation for joining the teaching workforce. Student teaching is the final step before graduation and recommendation to the Maine Department of Education for initial teacher licensure.

“UMaine has really prepared me for the classroom and helped me make invaluable connections. I’m so excited to have a classroom of my own,” Cha says.

With nearly 800 UMaine undergraduate students, including more than 700 in [majors](#) that lead to teacher certification, the College of Education and Human Development has the state’s largest teacher preparation program. The college also offers several [graduate programs](#) and ongoing [professional development](#) to help teachers keep their certifications up-to-date or advance in their careers.

“Having been a teacher myself, it’s incredibly rewarding work,” says Penny Bishop, dean of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. “We like to say a great teacher inspires others to achieve greatness. We’re proud to play a leadership role in strengthening pK–12 education, particularly in these uncertain times.”

The college has established several initiatives to address the teacher shortage in recent years. That includes an accelerated [4+1 master’s program in special education](#) that allows students pursuing an undergraduate degree in special education at UMaine, the University of Maine at Augusta or the University of Maine at Machias to earn a bachelor’s degree (B.S.) and a master’s degree (M.Ed.) in five years.

The [Master of Arts in Teaching](#) degree is another accelerated program that leads to initial teacher certification, designed for those already holding an undergraduate degree in any field and interested in becoming a secondary school teacher. The college also has made it easier for aspiring teachers with a bachelor’s degree to take classes needed to achieve certification through the Maine DOE [alternative pathways](#) program.

“Vibrant and healthy communities, and the economy of a state, are built on a strong foundation of pK–12 education,” says Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias, and vice chancellor for research and innovation for the University of Maine System. “Teachers make a difference, and being an effective teacher who can reach a diverse audience requires specialized knowledge and skill. We are proud of our UMaine education graduates and know that they can serve as an inspiration to a new generation of classroom educators.”

In addition to the promotional video featured during the Olympics, UMaine is doing direct mail and electronic outreach, including social media campaigns, to prospective in-state and out-of-state students to boost awareness of the opportunities afforded to aspiring teachers at UMaine. The university also promotes the availability of [loan forgiveness programs](#) that can provide up to \$17,500 in student debt relief for educators who teach in subject areas or communities affected by teacher shortages.

Besides Cha, the student teacher, the new video features two UMaine graduates — 2022 Maine Teacher of the Year Kelsey Stoyanova, who teaches English at Hampden’s Reeds Brook Middle School in RSU 22, and Class of 2020 graduate Jarod Webb, an English teacher at Orono High School in RSU 26 — talking about what they love about teaching and why it’s so important.

Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

UMaine study shows mindful adults age with better mental health

10 Feb 2022

Aging happens to all of us. If you are a mindful person, though, you may be better equipped to handle the effects of growing older. According to a University of Maine study led by associate professor of psychology Rebecca MacAulay, published in the journal *Aging & Mental Health*, aging adults with high levels of “trait mindfulness,” or a person’s innate ability to pay attention to the present moment without judgment, showed measures of greater well-being and mental health. Mindful adults also demonstrated more mental resilience to stressful situations. In the study, 121 adults between the ages of 55 and 87 were evaluated for their levels of trait mindfulness using the scientifically validated Mindful Attention Awareness Scale. The subjects were then given an array of psychological tasks to gauge their levels of executive function, or the set of mental skills that allow individuals to plan, track and achieve their goals, including working memory, the ability to switch back and forth between tasks, and the ability to filter out irrelevant information. Researchers also measured the subjects’ psychological resilience and emotional response to stressful, unexpected situations. The results showed that subjects with higher levels of trait mindfulness were generally older and more educated, and exhibited less stress, depression and anxiety. The researchers also found that trait mindfulness was tied to better inhibitory control, the subjects’ ability to focus their attention and filter out irrelevant information in tasks. Moreover, results showed that the harmful effect of perceived stress on inhibitory control was significantly reduced in those who were higher in mindfulness. “It is increasingly recognized that stress, which is on average higher in those with lower socioeconomic status, can have devastating effects on physical and mental health. Importantly, trait mindfulness mediated the relationship between perceived stress and inhibitory control even after adjusting for lower education and global cognition. These findings support that trait mindfulness creates a mental buffer that reduces perceived stress and negative emotional reactivity across a range of older adults, which may have long-term benefits on multiple health outcomes,” says MacAulay. The study, like many psychological research projects, had some limitations. For example, the participants were nearly 95% white and non-Hispanic, and personal bias can factor into subjects’ responses. Still, the findings

suggest that having a mindful personality is not only associated with better well-being and mental health as we age, but also might give us the ability to be more resilient and flexible with our thinking. The study's subject recruitment method also focused on finding participants with diverse backgrounds, particularly older adults who are not college educated, economically insecure or both. "These findings raise the exciting possibility that increasing trait mindfulness as an intervention target may help attenuate the harmful impact of stress-related negative affect on brain health in older adults," MacAulay says. "My next step for this research is to adapt mindfulness practices for a socioeconomically diverse older adult population to see if increasing mindfulness through practice shows the same beneficial relationships with brain health and well-being." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine alumnus and Olympic bobsledder featured in Providence Journal, News Center

11 Feb 2022

[The Providence Journal](#) and [News Center Maine](#) reported on University of Maine alumnus Frank Del Duca in an article about becoming an Olympic luger or bobsledder. Del Duca, who is representing the U.S. at the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics, was a top sprinter and jumper at UMaine, capturing the America East Conference title in long jump, before he attended a bobsled tryout in 2015. The [Milford Daily News](#), [Seacoast Online](#), [Foster's Daily Democrat](#), [MetroWest Daily News](#), [The Herald News](#), [The Newport Daily News](#), [The Norwich Bulletin](#) and [SouthCoast Today/The Standard Times](#) shared the Providence Journal story.

BDN, Pen Bay Pilot share UMaine Business School top ranking

11 Feb 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#) and the [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared the University of Maine Business School and Graduate School of Business' recent rankings by U.S. News & World Report as among the best online programs nationwide. This is the first year the bachelor of science in business administration online program was ranked No. 40 for best online undergraduate business program, and the MaineMBA ranked No. 84 in online Master of Business Administration programs nationwide.

WAGM-TV interviews UMaine Extension's Coffin about houseplants

11 Feb 2022

[WAGM-TV](#) (Channel 8 in Presque Isle) consulted Donna Coffin, professor at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about houseplant health and maintenance for a "County Ag Report" segment. Coffin emphasized the importance of indirect light, high humidity, warm temperatures and proper watering in order for houseplants to thrive.

Local radio stations highlight UMaine browntail moth research effort

11 Feb 2022

[Z107.3](#) and [Q106.5](#) featured browntail moth research from the University of Maine in a report about statewide efforts to curtail the pest population. The article cited a pilot study by Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology at the University of Maine, and graduate student Sadia Crosby to determine if pheromones could be the key to disrupting the Maine pests population and help reduce the infestation across Maine.

Virtual event celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Juneau Icefield Research Program

11 Feb 2022

The Juneau Icefield Research Program (JIRP) is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. JIRP, an education and research program with academics, is based in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, with significant science support provided by the Climate Change Institute (CCI). As part of JIRP's yearlong anniversary celebration, the program is holding a virtual event at 8 p.m. EST on Feb. 17. [More information is online](#). During the virtual event, UMaine professor Seth Campbell, JIRP director of academics and research, will provide information about the program's history, current activities and future goals. He will be joined by Ben Santer, Julia Rosen and Steve Squyres, who also will provide remarks on JIRP and the state of science now and in the future. Santer is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, an American Geological Union Fellow, a MacArthur Award recipient and a JIRP board member. He also was the lead author of the 1995 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report chapter focused on human attributions to climate change. Rosen, a former JIRP participant, is an independent journalist covering science and technology for publications, including the New York Times, The Atlantic, Scientific American and LA Times. Squyres, also a former JIRP student who credits his start in the sciences to the program, is the chief scientist of Blue Origin and professor emeritus at Cornell University. He also was the chief scientist for the NASA Mars Rover missions.

Tarp use on small Northeast farms subject of new UMaine Extension publication

11 Feb 2022

A new University of Maine Cooperative Extension publication, "[Tarping in the Northeast: A Guide for Small Farms](#)," provides the most up-to-date information on an emerging practice of tarping — applying reusable tarps to the soil surface between crops and then removing them prior to planting — for weed and soil management. Intended for beginning and experienced farmers, and based on research and farmer experience, the guide highlights successful tarping practices, as well as situations to avoid. Topics include basic information on how and why tarps work in the field; a range of management practices, from weed seed depletion to tillage reduction; and case studies of six farmers currently using tarps. This guide is the result of a [Tarping and Soil Solarization working group](#) project initiated by UMaine researcher and Wilson Center director Sonja BIRTHSEL, who did her dissertation on ecological weed management, including the effects of tarping and solarizing on weed dynamics. With colleagues, she successfully applied for a working group grant through the Northeast IPM Center at Cornell University to gather resources, identify knowledge gaps and discuss future research. BIRTHSEL also formed a working group of Extension professionals, farmers who were expanding their use of tarping and researchers from six Northeast states who were investigating aspects of tarping. "My goal in forming this working group was simply to establish channels of communication, so we could coordinate research and outreach across the Northeast, and make sure we weren't all re-inventing the same wheel. I was really excited to put together a team of people with different kinds of expertise

— farmers, Extension staff and researchers with specialties in a range of areas, from weed management to entomology to soil microbiology — so we could take a really comprehensive look at tarping practices from multiple viewpoints and all learn together," says Birthisel. The production of the guide took form over 18 months, led by University of New Hampshire Agroecology Laboratory postdoctoral research associate, then graduate student, Natalie Lounsbury; UMaine Extension sustainable agriculture professional Jason Lilley; Cornell Small Farm Program Extension specialist Ryan Maher; and Birthisel. "This research group worked with farmers who pioneered using tarps to enhance their vegetable production systems and soil health. The guide includes those farmers' practical setbacks and successes, and research-based data to highlight both why this system works and how to make it work. Farmers who are newly adopting the practice will be able to draw on this resource to ensure increased success sooner," says Lilley. This publication was funded in part by the [Northeast IPM Center](#) through Grant #2018-70006-28882 from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Crop Protection and Pest Management, Regional Coordination Program. Additional funding was provided through Northeast SARE Project LNE18-371, Northeast SARE project LNE19-382, USDA NIFA OREI 2014-51300-22244, USDA NIFA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (Niles, 2018-68006-28098), USDA NIFA Hatch Projects 100682, 1004501 and 1013971, and the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station.

Holešínský competes in Winter Olympics

11 Feb 2022

University of Maine alumnus Adrián Holešínský was added to Team Slovakia, which is competing in the 2022 Olympic Winter Games. He joins seven other Black Bears who also traveled to Beijing. Learn more on the UMaine Athletics [website](#).

Lauren Babb: UMaine broadens horizons for chemistry master's student

14 Feb 2022

At the University of Maine, Lauren Babb found new experiences — both academic and personal — and opportunities to meet people who inspired her. Babb, a chemistry master's student, began her graduate studies at UMaine in the fall 2019. She has been involved in research to create renewable fuel from biomass and study the capture of fluorinated contaminants in water. [The Journal of Chemical Education](#) recently published a paper she co-authored detailing a Chemistry and Racism course she co-taught at her alma mater, Barnard College. She also co-created and co-instructed a course called Black Feminist Theory and Expression at UMaine. As an activist and writer, Babb, an Indo-Caribbean student raised in central New Jersey, collaborated with members of the Penobscot Nation, and learned more about environmental racism. She also discovered a passion for downhill skiing. "UMaine has shown me that I am a force and that I have skills that I never believed I had within me," she says. We asked Babb to tell us more about her UMaine experience: **Why did you choose to come to UMaine?** I came to UMaine because I wanted to learn from Brian Frederick and Thomas Schwartz. My undergraduate principal investigator has an active collaborative research group with Frederick and Schwartz at UMaine. I was assigned to this collaborative research project studying wood residue-based biofuels in fall 2017. I had spent years working with not just my future co-advisors, but also many graduate students at UMaine, so coming here felt like I was already part of the catalysis/surface science family. **Describe any research or other scholarly pursuits in which you have participated.** There are multiple ongoing scientific pursuits and a whole host of community-oriented pursuits that I make time for. I started my journey as a scientist working on creating an alternative renewable fuel source from wood-residue-based biofuels. From there, I was given the opportunity to work on a greener pathway to synthesize a statin precursor drug. It was around this time COVID had shut down the world, and in a few short months, the world witnessed the horrific murder of George Floyd on every television and computer screen. I say this because for many, this was a transformational awakening and I, too, felt similarly. I started reaching out to my community members and doing what I know my mother does for me when I am traumatized, which is to listen and show compassion. It was a result of listening to the local Penobscot community members that helped me orient what science projects would best serve the community. That connection birthed a collaborative project that focuses on an area I hope to spend my scientific career thinking, studying and speaking about, which is identifying, treating and cleaning polluted systems, particularly in areas where there are poor and/or majority Black or Brown populations. These projects include dioxin and mercury water treatment. From there, I developed a natural interest in thinking about the detection of air pollutants downwind from industrial factories, and UMaine has the Frontier Institute for Research in Sensor Technologies (FIRST). I have a personal deep interest in dehalogenation chemistry, but above all else, I value community and being able to make the knowledge and application accessible. I know that sounds ambitious, but I want to clarify that I do not believe I will do this alone. Moreover, I am lucky that I have two incredible advisors who are able to support me and allow me to maintain my humanity while still pushing me to be the best scientist I can be. What draws me to the scientific field is that collaboration and interdisciplinary science is not just accepted but encouraged. I think collaboration should also include the people's voices who may be impacted by the research you are pursuing. **How have these prepared you for future opportunities in your chosen field?** My research and other scholarly pursuits have helped me in growing my knowledge, confidence and comfortability with speaking about science. I would also be remiss if I didn't say they are helpful on paper for anyone who needs to read my CV. More important than paper is the people you meet and are molded by as you pursue your passions. I have met and will hopefully continue to meet some incredible individuals, more than I can name, who inspire me to be creative and allow me to be myself. What has prepared me for the opportunities I may have later on in my career is the relationships I have built along the way. **Please tell us about the project you are working on at Williams Hall.** I have the distinct honor of being a part of the planning committee for the mural being erected in Williams Hall, named after the first Black woman to graduate with a B.A. and M.S. in mathematics, Beryl Elizabeth Warner Williams. The ability to get an intimate look into the richness of Beryl's life has been a highlight of my graduate school experience. It pains me to think we don't have room for all of it to be seen. However, what we have curated, with the guidance of her direct descendant Rachael Williams, is breathtakingly beautiful. What stood out to me from the collection of mural materials was the pages of Williams' diary from her first year of college in 1932. She preserved her spirit at 18 years of age and comforted me with her experiences, thoughts and expressions, which I, too, share as a student at the University of Maine. Her footnotes about the "brute" weather that January made me laugh out loud. Reading Beryl's words 90 years later, her innermost thoughts paralleled my own. She was an optimistic, bright force not to be overlooked. Her legacy immortalized on the walls of Williams Hall provides a necessary beacon of joy, integrity and truth, particularly for Black women and girls, and for us all. I hope that this mural — when gazed upon — serves as a reminder that your lives and existence at UMaine are connected to a lineage of strong independent Black women; women whose legacies, spirits and bravery serve to inspire us as we celebrate our own lives on the sovereign land of Marsh Island. **Beyond academics, what extracurricular activities occupy your time?** I really need balance in my life to be productive, so there are a whole host of activities outside of science that I make time for. That really breaks down into three categories: activism, exercise and reading. Activism for me has been about finding community outside of the lab and partaking in collective thinking about social equity practices. It is nothing uber radical, but it gives me purpose outside of myself. I have also found lifelong friendships and connections from both the local and greater Maine community that I am extremely grateful for. **Have you worked closely with a mentor, professor or role model who made your time at UMaine better, and if so, how?** There are so many people. Just to give context, from April 2020–February 2021, I had met over 300 Mainers both affiliated and not affiliated with the university spanning areas of activism, environmental law, consulting and engineering, including professors of all types of disciplines, community pillars, small business owners, entrepreneurs and just people who care about Maine. I have never been more social in my life. It feels too complicated trying to pick just one person and one interaction because

it is my nature to name and honor everyone. **Did you have an experience at UMaine that shaped or changed how you see yourself?** The most life-changing experience I have had since moving to Maine comes from what I can only call fate when I met my labmate and now friend Mackenzie Todd. Mackenzie is a phenomenal person and brilliant chemical engineering doctoral candidate. She introduced me to the sport of downhill skiing, and I only wished I could verbalize how therapeutic it has been for me. In one ski season, I went from not being able to stand up on skis to successfully navigating my first black diamond trail, and she was by my side through all of it. It is memories like these I will have forever, and they are some of the brightest spots in my life. I love the surprising ways in which I have transformed to be able to ski down a gigantic mountain. Perhaps I might just become a mountaineer next.

Describe UMaine in one word and explain. Rooted. I choose this word for its obvious imagery, as we are blessed to be so close to the beautiful forests in our own town, but also because we are connected throughout the state of Maine to so many other institutions in the UMS network. I have a deep respect and reverence for the opportunities UMaine has afforded me, and like an aged tree, you cannot help but be transfixed by its greatness as it stands in nature. In that same breath, I can also acknowledge the ways in which UMaine remains planted, and while I personally may not agree with all of them, I appreciate the ability and willingness for this campus to grow. Like many literal trees or institutions, that growth can be slow, but is it happening one day at a time. As each ring emerges on its vast metaphorical bark, we also see new opportunities that connect to both the past, present and future of this institution. Most importantly, I honor the way UMaine has produced so many strong and healthy intellectuals that continue to grow into beautiful, brilliant and vast individuals. **What difference has UMaine made in your life?** UMaine has taught me the most basic skill of life, and that is survival. I know that may come off as negative, but for me it has been a catalyst for positive growth. I could not have predicted the ways in which UMaine would change my life, and I can't untangle that shock from the reality that we are experiencing a global pandemic with an overwhelming amount of lives lost and lives that will continue to be lost globally. Admittedly, it is hard to remain positive in times of mass grief. UMaine allows me to breathe life into multiple facets of myself while still being a productive scientist. I have already mentioned the supportive people who surrounded me and that I have transformed into a ski bunny. Academically, I have developed skills in engineering and fundamental science methods that I never imagined understanding, let alone using. I have also made really tough life decisions since enrolling at UMaine that I don't think I would have been this brave to follow through with had I been in any other graduate school environment. For starters, halfway into my second year I cut off all my hair, which was not an easy decision, but one I only regret 5% of the time. I also have been able to connect to my other passions since coming to UMaine, and that centers around reading and writing; mostly writing at the moment. UMaine has given me inspiration and space to find my narrative voice. It is through these small things that I understand what are the basic things in life I need to not just survive, but to thrive. Family, community, exercise, academics, compassion and love are my ingredients to a happy life. UMaine has shown me that I am a force and that I have skills that I never believed I had within me. **What are your plans after graduation?** I have many plans I want to see through post graduation, the first of which will be planting my overgrown roots in new, uncharted territory. Ultimately, I hope to begin a long career as a chemist in an interdisciplinary environment, pursuing justice and liberty for marginalized communities and peoples and most importantly, being unapologetically happy.

Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension releases 2021 Maine tick program data

14 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab 2021 Surveillance Program data is available on the [Maine Tick Data webpage](#). In 2020, the lab included testing for Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis and tularemia, in addition to tests for Lyme disease, anaplasmosis and babesiosis, the three most common tick-borne diseases. In 2021, the lab received nearly double the number of tick submissions than it did in 2020. According to Griffin Dill, UMaine Extension Tick Lab manager, "the increase was primarily driven by an unprecedented number of American dog tick submissions. Fortunately, dog ticks are not known to transmit pathogens here in Maine." Dill also noted that the infection rates for Lyme disease, Anaplasma and Babesia increased significantly compared to 2020, ranging from a 3% increase for Babesia to a nearly 6% increase for Lyme disease. For 2022, the UMaine Extension Tick Lab will be adding another pathogen, *Borrelia miyamotoi*, to the testing panel for deer ticks and related tick species. While *Borrelia miyamotoi* is related to the bacteria that causes Lyme disease, it causes a relapsing fever-like illness in humans. More information on different tick species in Maine, tick management, tick-borne diseases and submitting tick specimens to the lab is available on the [tick laboratory website](#), or by contacting 207.581.3880, 800.287.0279 (in Maine); tickID@maine.edu.

BDN shares information about 'Terra Nova'

14 Feb 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about the University of Maine's performance of "Terra Nova," a play adapted from the journals of Robert Scott's ill-fated expedition to Antarctica. Public performances are at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 17–19, and 2 p.m. Feb. 20. Tickets are \$12 or free with a student MaineCard and [available for purchase online](#).

Media advance UMaine Extension publication on tarping

14 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), the [Daily Bulldog](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [Phys.org](#) shared information about a new University of Maine Cooperative Extension publication called "Tarping in the Northeast: A Guide for Small Farms." The publication provides the most up-to-date information on an emerging practice of tarping — applying reusable tarps to the soil surface between crops and then removing them prior to planting — for weed and soil management.

Medical Xpress, Knowridge Science Report shared UMaine study about mindfulness and aging

14 Feb 2022

[Medical Xpress](#) and [Knowridge Science Report](#) shared a University of Maine study published in the journal Aging & Mental Health that showed aging adults with high levels of "trait mindfulness," or a person's innate ability to pay attention to the present moment without judgment, showed measures of greater well-being and mental health.

Media shares new UMaine tick data

14 Feb 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [Lincoln County News](#) highlighted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab 2021 Surveillance Program data is now available on the [Maine Tick Data webpage](#).

Maine Women magazine features UMaine graduate student

14 Feb 2022

UMaine graduate student Sadia Crosby was profiled in [Maine Women magazine](#). Crosby shared her work with browntail moths as a graduate student at University of Maine, as well as her experience farming oysters.

BDN features UMaine engineering professor in article about PFAS

14 Feb 2022

In an article about “forever chemicals” at the Old Town Landfill, the [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Jean MacRae, an associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine. MacRae told the BDN, “The issues with landfills are big because they’re really the only way to deal with PFAS contamination once it happens. Water can be treated to get PFAS out of the water by passing it through an activated carbon charcoal filter. And if you do that, you’ll stick the PFAS to the charcoal, but then you have contaminated charcoal.”

Sandweiss named 2022 Distinguished Maine Professor

14 Feb 2022

A longtime University of Maine professor who is a world-renowned researcher in Latin American archaeology and paleoclimatology is the 2022 Distinguished Maine Professor, the university’s most prestigious faculty award. Daniel Sandweiss is a UMaine professor in the Anthropology Department and the Climate Change Institute. He also is a cooperating professor in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, and the School of Policy and International Affairs. The annual Distinguished Maine Professor Award, administered by the University of Maine Alumni Association, honors a UMaine professor who exemplifies the highest qualities of teaching, research and public service. The UMaine classes of 1942 and 2002 sponsor the award, which includes a \$4,200 prize. Sandweiss will be honored at this year’s virtual Alumni Achievement Awards and Recognition Ceremony on May 12. Sandweiss has been a member of the UMaine community since 1993. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses — from the popular introductory anthropology class in human evolution and prehistory to graduate seminars in Quaternary studies and archaeology to meet individual research needs of graduate students. As an educator, Sandweiss is known for his steadfast commitment to student success, including mentoring tomorrow’s leaders in archaeology, and to helping build an inclusive, supportive UMaine community. Sandweiss’ decades of research focus on early human settlement, subsistence and associated environments in South America; the initial colonization of the New World’s coastal margins; and the origins and periodicity of El Niño and its effects on past human societies. Currently, he is leading a National Science Foundation study of the ecological context of early settlement in a southern Peruvian coastal valley, circa 5000–1000 BP. Sandweiss began his research career as a faunal analyst specializing in mollusk remains. He soon expanded his research to consider environment and climate change, conducting pioneering research on the origins of El Niño and fluctuations of its frequency and intensity over time. His research on El Niño events also provided a scientific foundation for exploring the impact of climatic disasters on cultural change in the Andes. He has investigated prehistoric sites along the western coast of South America, including Quebrada Jaguay in southern Peru where he discovered evidence of the most ancient fishing community in the Western hemisphere. Sandweiss also is credited with discovering variation in the frequency of El Niño events during the Holocene (the last 11,400 years) and, in the process, demonstrating the value of archaeological remains as records of past climates and early maritime adaptations. His research shed light on the role of earthquakes and El Niño floods in Peruvian beach-ridge formation and the effects of the Spanish Conquest on the preservation of these ridges. In collaboration with Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl, Sandweiss excavated Túcume in Peru, South America’s largest pyramid center. And in 1993, Sandweiss was the first American archaeologist to conduct fieldwork in Cuba following the Cuban Revolution. Through the years, funding sources for Sandweiss’ international research included the National Science Foundation, National Geographic Society, NASA and TIMEX Corporation. Sandweiss’ extensive publishing history spans decades and includes co-authoring a recent paper in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences on the earliest adobe monumental architecture discovered in the Americas. His publications on prehistoric marine exploitation systems and El Niño history represent seminal contributions to the fields. Throughout his career, Sandweiss has been dedicated to fostering and enhancing interactions among Andeanist archaeologists, with particular focus on building better bridges to colleagues in Latin America. That started with his work as a Ph.D. student at Cornell University, where he founded the Northeast Conference on Andean Archaeology and Ethnohistory, and the publication series *Andean Past*. National and international recognition of his career accomplishments include three Society for American Archaeology Presidential Recognition Awards and creation of the Dan Sandweiss Founder’s Award by the Northeast Conference on Andean Archaeology and Ethnohistory. He is a Fellow of both the Geological Society of America, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). In 2016, Sandweiss received the Geological Society of America’s “Rip Rapp Archaeological Geology Award,” given annually in recognition of outstanding contributions to the interdisciplinary field of archaeological geology. At UMaine, Sandweiss received the 2015 Outstanding Faculty Research Award and the 2021 Outstanding Service and Outreach Award, both in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and UMaine’s 2017 Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award. In 2014, he received the inaugural Graduate Student Advocacy Award from the University of Maine Graduate Student Government, an annual award named in his honor when he finished a nine-year term as dean and associate provost for graduate studies. Sandweiss is the chief cooperating curator of UMaine’s Hudson Museum, and a longtime research associate for Norway’s Kon Tiki Museum and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History Division of Anthropology. He also is vice president and a board member of the Institute of Andean Research. In 2018, Sandweiss was named to sequential two-year terms as the national president-elect, president, and past president of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective multidisciplinary collegiate honor society founded at UMaine. He was previously Northeast regional vice president and vice president for chapter development and currently chairs the Phi Kappa Phi board of directors. Most recently, he has been named president-elect of the Society for American Archaeology and will be serving for one year before serving a two-year term as president. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Snow removal from UMaine residential parking lots this week

14 Feb 2022

The University of Maine will be removing snow from residential parking lots this week. Residential students and guests must move their vehicles to alternative parking from noon–5 p.m. on the assigned dates for snow removal at each lot. Vehicles that remain in residential lots after 5 p.m. on the day snow is being removed will be ticketed and towed at the owners’ expense. Students and guests may move their vehicles once the barricades have been removed. All

vehicles must be back in the cleared residential parking lots by 7 a.m. the following day. Snow removal schedule is:

- Tuesday, Feb. 15: the Colvin, York North, York South and Aroostook lots. Alternative parking is available at the Belgrade, Libby and Nutting lots.
- Wednesday, Feb. 16: the Gannett, Cumberland, Androscoggin, Knox and Tennis Court lots. Alternative parking is available at the Belgrade, Libby and Nutting lots.
- Thursday, Feb. 17: the Stodder, Balentine and Steam Plant lots. Alternative parking is available at the Alfond and Memorial Gym lots.
- Friday, Feb. 18: Hilltop lot. Alternative parking is available at the Collins Center for the Arts lot.

For more information, visit umaine.edu/parking.

UMaine Process Development Center unveils new capacity for renewable packaging research

15 Feb 2022

Partnership with Kiefel brings state-of-the-art fiber thermoforming machine to Orono The University of Maine Process Development Center (PDC), long recognized for its expertise in processing fiber for pulp and paper applications, is now home to new equipment that will advance renewable packaging research significantly for Maine's forest products industry. Kiefel — an international leader in thermoforming and joining technology that is part of the Siegsdorf, Germany-based Brueckner Group — has selected UMaine as a key research partner to expand and accelerate its expertise in fiber thermoforming. Thermoforming is a manufacturing process, traditionally employed with plastics, that uses heat and pressure to form sheets of material into three-dimensional objects using a mold. With Kiefel's fiber thermoforming machines, packaging can be manufactured from natural fibers such as cellulose, straw or plants instead of plastic. Over the past three years, the company has developed its series of NATUREFORMER KFT machines to produce thermoformed packaging products made from natural plant fibers. UMaine is the first university in the United States to receive one of the machines for renewable packaging R&D. "Kiefel and Brueckner have a long tradition of collaboration with educational institutions and we consider these partnerships vital to innovation," says Matthias Sieverding, president and CEO of Brueckner Group U.S.A, which is headquartered in Portsmouth, N.H. "In recent years, Kiefel has invested significantly in the development of fiber thermoforming and we sought to work with UMaine because of their expertise in fiber processing and leadership in wood-based bioeconomy research and development. We're particularly excited to see how UMaine researchers might employ nanocellulose to optimize the barrier properties of thermoformed fiber and help enhance product quality." The NATUREFORMER KFT Lab machine at PDC is a smaller version of Kiefel's commercially available units, and is specifically designed for R&D and product development. "This partnership is significant for both UMaine and the state of Maine," says PDC director Colleen Walker. "With Kiefel's NATUREFORMER, our researchers can explore new value-added uses for Maine wood fiber in sustainable packaging applications and PDC will meaningfully contribute to the growth of fiber thermoforming knowledge in Maine and beyond. We're honored to be chosen as Kiefel's first university partner in the U.S. and looking forward to working closely with the company to advance knowledge and support innovation." A recently announced \$361,651 [award](#) from the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) will allow UMaine to establish a wood fiber thermoforming knowledge center at PDC with the NATUREFORMER machine from Kiefel as its centerpiece. Access to this equipment will offer researchers and PDC industry clients expanded opportunities for experimentation and new discoveries, and add to the R&D capabilities available through UMaine's [Forest Bioproducts Research Institute](#). "Maine's flagship research university is driving a range of bio-based material innovations that offer tremendous potential to grow Maine's forest products industry and this award will help develop new capabilities in cutting-edge, sustainable manufacturing," says Heather Johnson, commissioner of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development. Contact: Ashley Forbes, ashley.forbes@maine.edu

Artisan food experiences more meaningful with more information, research says

15 Feb 2022

Foodie culture is growing in Maine, as more consumers seek to know where their food comes from and how it gets to their plate. If artisan food producers want to make their goods stand out in the crowd, new research from UMaine says that providing more information about the products is a good way to do so. A Maine Business School [study](#) published in the journal Sustainability examined how consumers expect different benefits from specialty foods compared to more typical or conventional foods. Specifically, researchers Erin Percival Carter, assistant professor of marketing at the Maine Business School, and Stephanie Welcomer, professor of management at the Maine Business School, found that specialty foods are more likely to be associated with purpose, connection and meaning than their conventional counterparts. "So much of the information out there that is designed to help farmers selling commodity products in commodity markets," Carter says. "But when I buy a beautiful wheel of artisan cheese from one of Maine's amazing cheesemakers, everything about my experience with that product is different from my experience with a more conventional, everyday cheese. We wanted to dig into the psychology of consumers of specialty products and help producers determine how to make products even more appealing for those consumers." The researchers conducted a survey of consumers at the Maine Cheese Festival. Participants were asked to compare the shopping experience of a "typical" versus "special" cheese. For both types of cheese, survey participants were asked how likely they were to closely read labels, to seek out additional information beyond the package (for example, from a website); how much the buying experience is improved by the information; and how pleasurable and meaningful the experience of buying and consuming the cheese was overall. The results showed consumers are more likely to read and value information about "special" cheeses than they are for "typical" cheeses. Consumers also deemed the "special" products to be both more meaningful and pleasurable, though information was only beneficial for driving meaning- and not pleasure-related benefits. The research suggests that to stand out and increase profits, artisan cheesemakers and other producers should carefully craft personal, meaningful information about their products. For example, cheesemakers could use cards near their cheese displays that share where the cheese is sourced, the date of milking and the process used to make it. The cards could direct consumers to a website, podcast, video series or social media account with more detailed information and personal stories from the cheesemonger. "While many artisan producers feel pressure to imitate market leaders and adopt clean and stripped down packaging, that kind of packaging does not play to the strengths of an artisan product," Percival Carter says. "If you have an artisan product, it's important to think of the story of your product. Partnering directly with smaller-scale producers in Maine to do this kind of research that is specific to their strengths and challenges has been really exciting and I look forward to doing more of it in the future." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension shares PFAS resources for farmers

15 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is making a dynamic set of resources about on-farm PFAS contamination available online to the public in one

location. “[Guide to Investigating PFAS Risk on Your Farm](#)” is a comprehensive collection of resources about contamination from Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Maine. Topics include Maine’s response to contamination at agricultural sites, steps to determining risks and mitigation options for farms, and information on the sources of PFAS contamination. The new website will be updated as the research and resulting information evolves. The resources are from multiple Maine state agencies, including the Departments of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Health and Human Services, Environmental Protection, and Maine CDC. Supporting organizations contributing information include UMaine Extension, Maine Farmland Trust and Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association. This work is supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) project 2019-70028-30464 and 2020-70028-32729. For more information about agriculture in Maine, contact 207.581.3188, extension@maine.edu; or visit UMaine Extension’s [agriculture website](#).

Guidance for studying abroad in summer, fall 2022 released

15 Feb 2022

The University of Maine Office of International Programs has released application deadlines and guidance for students interested in studying abroad in summer and fall 2022. Students who would like to study abroad through a direct exchange program for fall 2022 need to visit Erika Clement, the study abroad advisor, or Shania Soler, study abroad assistant, and complete an application by Feb. 22. Students interested in summer 2022 programs or fall 2022 programs with study abroad providers such as USAC, API, SIT Study Abroad and CIS Abroad have an application deadline of March 11. To make an appointment, contact studyabroad@maine.edu. Clement is holding walk-in hours from 1-4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 17 in room 300 at Stodder Hall.

Media shares UMaine Extension’s online PFAS resources

15 Feb 2022

[CentralMaine.com](#), the [Daily Bulldog](#), [WFXV \(Bangor\)](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) shared the online package of PFAS resources for farmers provided by University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

Media advances Cooperative Extension food safety workshop

15 Feb 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#), the [Daily Bulldog](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension webinar about a new program for produce farmers to help them start or improve their farm food safety planning from 4–5 p.m. on March 1.

Media reports on former UMaine football players’ induction into Maine Sports Hall of Fame

15 Feb 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#), [Sun Journal](#), [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) and [Fox Bangor](#) (Channel 7 in Bangor) reported on two former University of Maine football players being inducted into the Maine Sports Hall of Fame. Ron Cote played quarterback for three years at UMaine and then had a long coaching career at both the high school and college levels, including winning more than 350 games as a boys’ and girls’ basketball coach at Biddeford High School. Mike DeVito played nine NFL seasons as a defensive end for the Kansas City Chiefs and New York Jets after playing for UMaine.

Bangor Daily News reports on UMaine sophomore ice hockey player in Winter Olympics

15 Feb 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine women’s sophomore ice hockey winger Rahel Enzler and her Swiss team will face Finland for the bronze medal at the Winter Olympics in Beijing.

Bangor Daily News quotes Birkel in report about frost quakes

15 Feb 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#) quoted Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and research assistant professor at the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, in an article about frost quakes. Birkel explained how climate change and extreme weather events are creating better conditions for frost quakes.

AP reports on UMaine tick data showing increase in Lyme disease

15 Feb 2022

[The Associated Press](#) reported that, according to new data from the University of Maine Tick Lab, a higher percentage of ticks tested positive for the pathogen that causes Lyme disease last year than the previous year, growing by almost 6%. The [Bangor Daily News](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), the [Sun Journal](#), [Centralmaine.com](#), [New England Cable News](#) (NECN), [Spectrum News](#), the [Clay Center Dispatch](#), [WFXV Bangor](#) (Channel 7), [WABI](#) (Channel 5), [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland), the [Herald-Standard](#), WCSH, the [Daily Bulldog](#) and the [Titusville Herald](#) shared the report.

Media reports on Process Development Center pulp machine

15 Feb 2022

[News Center Maine](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine’s [Process Development Center](#) has a new machine that takes pulp and makes paper plates, bowls and cups. The goal is to eliminate plastics and instead use paper products that serve the same purposes. The machine is the first of

its kind at any university in the U.S.

Sandweiss named president-elect of the Society for American Archaeology

15 Feb 2022

Daniel Sandweiss, a University of Maine professor in the Anthropology Department and the Climate Change Institute, and the 2022 Distinguished Maine Professor, has been named president-elect of the Society for American Archaeology. He will serve as president-elect for one year before serving a two-year term as SAA president. Sandweiss is an internationally recognized archaeologist whose research on maritime adaptations and climate change in Latin America focuses on the coast of Peru. He is a fellow of both the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Geological Society of America, and the current president of Phi Kappa Phi. He is a former director of the SAA board, and chairs the H. and T. King Grant for Precolumbian Archaeology Review Committee. He also has chaired the SAA Committee on the Americas, International Government Affairs, and the task force for editors of Latin American Antiquity. At UMaine, Sandweiss also is a cooperating professor in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, and the School of Policy and International Affairs.

Research shows importance of proper soil moisture for wild blueberries

15 Feb 2022

Wild blueberries are one of Maine's most iconic and important native cash crops. New research shows that to help wild blueberries thrive in all sorts of conditions, proper soil moisture management is even more essential than previously thought — especially over the long term. According to a UMaine study conducted in collaboration with the Milbridge-based wild blueberry company Jasper Wyman & Son, wild blueberries, which are regarded as a relatively drought-tolerant crop, are more sensitive to dry water conditions over a long period of time. The study, published in the journal *Climate*, highlights the importance of effective plant water management, especially as the warming climate is predicted to dry out Maine's soil. The study looked at changes in monthly drought conditions for 89 wild blueberry fields in Maine's Washington and Hancock counties over a period of 71 years. The researchers looked at how changes in drought related to the health of wild blueberry vegetation in the same areas over a period of 21 years, from 2000 to 2020, which were measured using satellite-based remotely sensed data from Google Earth Engine. Researchers also analyzed how water conditions affected wild blueberry yield using data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Jasper Wyman & Son. The results showed that drought has not significantly increased in these areas over the past seven decades, but the areas are warming quickly and, as a result, the moisture of the soil is expected to decrease in the future due to increasing evaporation and crop water loss. Although the study did not investigate precipitation frequency, it did show that long-term water conditions were more likely to affect wild blueberry crops' vigor and yield than short-term conditions. It also showed that drought conditions affected fields that weren't irrigated more than ones that were. "Wild blueberry fields should be well prepared and introduced to effective irrigation management systems to mitigate the impacts of projected future warming conditions," says Kallol Barai, a master's student in the School of Biology and Ecology who led the study. Maintaining the right amount of water in the soil in wild blueberry fields is tricky, though, as the soil doesn't uniformly hold moisture even within the same field. As such, the researchers emphasized the importance of precision irrigation systems — which use technology to schedule and target watering at just the right time and place — in wild blueberry fields as a way to efficiently and effectively manage the crop's water needs. "By adopting precision agriculture, wild blueberry fields can be divided into management zones that each receives customized management inputs. Precision irrigation management requires regular monitoring of crop water stress to forecast crop water needs in real-time. To do that, future research should be focused on developing efficient water stress monitoring techniques specifically for wild blueberries," Barai says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension 4-H offers sessions for aspiring volunteers March 1, 8

16 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part online information session for adults interested in becoming Maine 4-H volunteers, 7–8 p.m. March 1 and 8. "[Start Your 4-H Volunteer Journey Today](#)" will offer participants information about the UMaine Extension 4-H youth development program, options for volunteering and requirements to become a volunteer. Current UMaine Extension 4-H members and volunteers will discuss their experiences and hands-on activities will be offered. Registration is required by Feb. 18; register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jennifer Lobley, 207.255.3345; jennifer.lobley@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension hosts webinar about mushroom cultivation Feb. 25

16 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners about mushroom cultivation from noon–1:15 p.m. Feb. 25. "[Spring Has Spawned: Getting Your Garden Ready for Mushroom Cultivation](#)" topics include basic fungal biology and growing methods, necessary tools and materials, culinary and ecological benefits, suitable mushroom species, and best times to prepare, plant and expect harvests. Louis Giller, North Spore education and events coordinator, Westbrook, leads the workshop. Registration is required; a sliding scale fee is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#) to attend live or receive the recording link. This is the first in a five-part [spring gardening webinar series](#) offered through April for Maine gardeners. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, 207.781.6099; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

Media reports on UMaine alum performance at bobsledding Olympics

16 Feb 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#), [WCYY-FM \(Portland\)](#), [WJBQ-FM \(Portland\)](#), [WBLM-FM \(Portland\)](#), [WEZO-FM \(Brewer\)](#) and [WSHK-FM \(Dover, New Hampshire\)](#) reported that former University of Maine track athlete, Frank Del Duca, finished 13th out of 30 in the two-man bobsled competition at the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics. Del Duca was the leading American and second among North Americans.

UMaine professor featured in Maine Public report about climate change and snowmobiles

16 Feb 2022

A [Maine Public](#) report about the impact of climate change on snowmobiling in Maine featured Sean Birkel, research assistant professor at the University of Maine Climate Change Institute. Birkel, also Maine state climatologist, said that in the past century, Maine has lost one to two weeks of winter and by 2050, the state will lose another one to two weeks.

Maine Business School's Graduate School of Business ranked globally by CEO Magazine

16 Feb 2022

The MaineMBA, offered by the Graduate School of Business at the University of Maine, has again been globally ranked by CEO Magazine as having a Tier One Online MBA Program. This is the third year in a row the MaineMBA has landed in the Top 50 globally on this ranking, showcasing the quality and consistency of the AACSB-accredited program. "This continued high ranking is a testament to the quality of our student body, the success of our alumni and the strength of the MaineMBA faculty from both the University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine," says Norm O'Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business. "I believe that I speak on behalf of all of our students, alums, staff and faculty when I say that the Graduate School of Business is on a great trajectory of and continued success in the future is expected." The Graduate School of Business currently offers 10 concentrations as part of the online MaineMBA, including [business analytics](#), [finance](#), [outdoor industry management](#) and [public and nonprofit management](#). CEO Magazine has been ranking top online MBA programs since 2012. The 2022 rankings reflect an aggregate of three years' data and uses a ranking system entirely geared and weighted towards fact-based criteria including quality of faculty, international diversity, accreditation, faculty to student ratio, price, international exposure, work experience, professional development and gender parity. Click here to see the rankings: <http://bit.ly/CEOMagRankings2022> Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

NSF awards RiSE Center \$1.35M for STEM education project in coastal schools

16 Feb 2022

A Maine Center for Research in STEM Education initiative to explore how engaging students in coastal research projects can help them build data literacy and career competency while also informing local policy and planning has received a \$1.35 million award from the National Science Foundation. The University of Maine-based RiSE Center supports middle and high school students in real-world science research projects, including coastal monitoring and tracking the changes in local ocean water properties, as well as engaging in the design and construction of the sensor units used to collect this data. The students will be able to see the impacts of their work, as data they gather will be used to shape community policy decisions and planning. The four-year project is expected to impact at least 2,500 students from economically challenged rural Maine communities, many of whom would be the first of their family to attend college. "The ocean is central to life on our planet, and many of the challenges society faces involve the ocean, whether they are related to changing climate, fisheries, ocean health, or coastal development," says Sara Lindsay, co-principal investigator of the project, associate professor of marine sciences and assistant director of the RiSE Center. "This project is exciting because it gives teachers and students the chance to focus their learning through the lens of their 'backyard ocean' and build skills in observing, engineering, working with data and communicating as they investigate how the ocean is changing and what that means for their communities." Initially, the RiSE Center will be working with the Belfast Area High School and other schools in RSU 71 schools. In the last half of the project, other coastal districts and their communities will become part of the project. Twenty teachers from multiple school districts will also be trained through the program as peer guides to teach their colleagues and future students to use this model to build stronger connections between communities and their schools. The program will also introduce students to local career opportunities where STEM research skills and knowledge are required. A group of business and nonprofit partners will be involved in mentoring, job shadowing and providing internships to students in the program. Partners will develop lessons that focus on marine sciences and the data that students collect to use in various courses, from science and mathematics to social studies and statistics, in collaborative summer institutes and school-year work sessions. Through the programs, UMaine researchers will generate a model for teachers to guide this approach to student research. They will look at surveys collected from participating students to see how elements of the project — like community relevance, marine sciences emphasis and real-world research involvement — impact the students' learning, engagement and attitude towards STEM and STEM careers. The surveys will be separated by gender and, where possible, racial and ethnic groups to better understand how to make STEM education more inclusive for diverse and underrepresented groups. "This project gives students and their schools a chance to contribute to their communities, while at the same time providing authentic collaborative science research experiences for them. It also provides the opportunity for interested community members to enrich the educational experiences and career knowledge of local students," says Susan McKay, principal investigator on the project, director of the RiSE Center and professor of physics. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

2022 Winter Carnival is Feb. 22–26

17 Feb 2022

Editor's note: Schedule updated Feb. 18. The University of Maine Winter Carnival, Feb. 22–26, "College of Blizzardry," will feature Harry Potter-themed events throughout the week. This year's Winter Carnival events will be held as a competition between graduating classes. The winning class will receive programming funds to bring new events to campus. All week long, students can participate in a Horcrux Scavenger Hunt, where clues will be released in the morning to find seven hidden items on campus to return to the Center for Student Involvement for a prize. Winter Carnival is organized by the Center for Student involvement, and students and staff across campus. The festivities are also sponsored by the Division of Student Life, Maine Bound, UMaine Student Government and the Campus Activities Board. The full schedule includes:

Tuesday, Feb. 22

- Quidditch, 4–6 p.m., New Balance Student Recreation Center

Become Harry and the team and fly around the court on our very own UMaine broomsticks. Win prizes as a team.

Wednesday, Feb. 23

- Carnegie R1 Top-Tier Research Institution Recognition Event, hosted by President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School Kody Varahramyan, 11–11:30 a.m. North Pod, Memorial Union

- Virtual Reality Escape Room, noon–8 p.m., Lown Room, Memorial Union

Strap on a headset (sanitized between uses) and step into this virtual escape room with up to four people. Register on the Center for Student Involvement [website](#).

- Reindeer and Hot Cocoa, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., Mall

Meet a few reindeer friends and drink hot cocoa by the bonfire.

Thursday, Feb. 24

- Student Organization Fair, noon–3 p.m., New Balance Student Recreation Center

Meet over 100 clubs and organizations on campus and learn how to get involved.

- Casino Night, 8–10 p.m., North Pod, Memorial Union

The Campus Activities Board will be bringing the high stakes for this casino night. Play for the chance to win big and walk away with prizes.

Friday, Feb. 25

- Harry Potter Trivia, 9–11 p.m., Bear’s Den Pub, Memorial Union

Dust off your Harry Potter knowledge and show off your skills to win some sweet Hogwarts gifts. Snacks will be available for all students and alcoholic beverages available for purchase by students who are 21+.

Saturday, Feb. 26

- Anthem and Aria: Magicians, 9 p.m. – 11 p.m., Neville 101

Prepare to be amazed by these [psychic soulmates](#).

MBS, GSB welcomed several business leaders as guest speakers in fall 2021

17 Feb 2022

In fall 2021, the Maine Business School and Graduate School of Business welcomed guest speakers to their classrooms, both in-person and via Zoom. “Faculty brought in world-class speakers from Maine, the U.S. and around the world to share their accumulated knowledge with students,” says Jason Harkins, associate dean of the Maine Business School and Graduate School of Business. “The speakers came from startups, private equity, major consumer brands and Fortune 100 companies, all connecting students’ knowledge to practice. These partnerships are just one key part of the value of studying business at the University of Maine.” Some of the speakers who shared their expertise with UMaine business students included:

- Pavel Ezekiev, founder of NEO Ventures, spoke to Ivan Manev’s International Management class.
- Brian Rahill, CDO of CourseStorm, spoke to MBA students in Jason Harkins’ Startup and Entrepreneurship class.
- Anastasia Amoroso, managing director and chief investment strategist at iCapital Network, spoke to Sebastian Lobe’s Investment Strategy class.
- Bristyn Leasure, MBS alumna and industry marketing lead at Oracle NetSuite, spoke to Erin Percival-Carter’s Personal Selling and Sales Management class.
- Amber Chadwari, MBS alumna and AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner (CCP) for Cloud Financial Operations at Amazon Web Services, spoke to Matt Graham’s Digital Business Transformation class.
- Annie Grègoire, general manager for L’Oréal International Distribution – North America, spoke to MBA students in Nadège Levallet’s Managerial Marketing class.
- Tim Graciano, head of data science at Convoy, spoke to Angie Zheng’s MBA students in her Data Analysis for Business class.

‘The Maine Question’ asks how Portland Gateway will help the state prosper

17 Feb 2022

Maine faces many complex entrepreneurial, economic, environmental and educational challenges. To help tackle them, the University of Maine created Portland Gateway, a one-stop connection to UMaine resources. True to its name, the gateway provides companies and municipalities across Maine access to the university’s research, facilities and personnel to help solve problems and support initiatives for growth. In Episode 2 of Season 6 of “The Maine Question,” Alice Pips Veazey, director of Portland Gateway, discusses the launch of this initiative, and the difference it is making in southern Maine and statewide. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Media shares research about soil moisture and wild blueberries

17 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Lincoln County News](#), [Phys.org](#) and [Gamers Grade](#) shared a University of Maine study about the importance of soil moisture to wild blueberry crops. According to the study, conducted in collaboration with the Milbridge-based wild blueberry company Jasper Wyman & Son, wild blueberries, which are regarded as a relatively drought-tolerant crop, are more sensitive to dry water conditions over a long period of time.

Dumas featured in BDN article about eating invasive species

17 Feb 2022

Robert Dumas, food science innovation coordinator at the University of Maine, was quoted in a [Bangor Daily News](#) article about eating invasive species. Dumas provided information about foraging for and preparing invasive species like autumn olive and Japanese knotweed.

UMaine Extension publication featured in story about free-range poultry farm in the Midwest

17 Feb 2022

[Inforum](#) quoted a University of Maine Cooperative Extension publication about a new free-range chicken and turkey processing plant in Minnesota called Spring Prairie Farm. According to UMaine Extension educational materials, the white-feathered, single-comb chicken is popular with producers due to its meaty physique and phenomenal rate of growth.

Hillas’ BDN op-ed says Vladimir Putin keeps the West guessing about his motives in Ukraine

17 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) published an op-ed from Kenneth Hillas Jr., a retired senior diplomat who is an adjunct professor in the University of Maine School of Policy and International Affairs. Hillas wrote that Russia’s objectives in the Ukraine crisis remain unclear, and President Vladimir Putin is keeping the West guessing.

Socolow’s Washington Post op-ed argues that viewers will decide whether the Olympics soften China’s international image

17 Feb 2022

Michael Socolow, associate professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism and director of the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, is the author of an opinion piece out this week in [the Washington Post](#). Socolow argues that it's not necessarily immoral or unethical to enjoy watching the Olympic Games. It is, however, if you allow the "halo effect" to alter your perception of China's dictatorship and its repression. The op-ed was shared by the [Wyoming County Press Examiner](#).

UMaine research connects rising temperatures with browntail moth resurgence

17 Feb 2022

Editor's note: This story was updated on Feb. 23, 2022.

Over the past few years, browntail moth caterpillars have been an itchy scourge to Maine’s residents and visitors. New research shows that with climate change, the problem is only going to get worse.

The browntail moth is an invasive pest that feeds on the foliage of a variety of deciduous tree species and whose caterpillars cause acute skin and lung irritation to the people who encounter them. Since it was introduced to Maine in 1904, browntail moth outbreaks have ebbed and flowed, but the recent outbreak of browntail moths that started around 2018 has reached a scale that Maine hasn’t experienced in over 70 years. A team of researchers from the UMaine School of Biology and Ecology, and the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry set out to see whether warming temperatures caused by climate change could have played a role in the severe outbreak. Their study compared predictive statistical models of 23 years of annual browntail moth defoliation estimates for Maine to the climate data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) over the course of that same time period. According to their results, published in the journal *Environmental Entomology*, climatic factors — particularly rising late summer and early fall temperatures, and spring precipitation — are significant predictors of browntail moth population outbreaks. Warmer falls result in more mature populations going into and then coming out of their overwintering shelters in the spring. The Maine Forest Service’s surveys over the past two years have also shown continued spread of the browntail moth into northern and western areas of Maine. Eleanor Groden, UMaine professor emerita of entomology and principal investigator of the study, says that the researchers explored management strategies that target the caterpillars in their winter webs. Groden’s colleagues — including Angela Mech and Philip Fanning at the School of Biology and Ecology, as well as Barbara Cole in the Department of Chemistry — continue to investigate promising techniques for management of this pest, like using synthetic pheromones to confuse moths during mating season and testing bioinsecticides that specifically target the browntail moth with reduced impacts on other species in the ecosystem. The browntail moth isn’t the only invasive species in Maine that has benefitted from the warming climate. In fact, some of the browntail moths competitors have also been expanding as a result of climate change, and the quality of the plants that they feed upon has been waning as well. Because of this, researchers say that it is difficult to predict what will happen with browntail moths in the future. “These are important studies, as our current warming climate trends suggest that we will continue to be facing this menace at least in the near future if not longer,” Groden says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine research finds new way to keep track of how land-based wind turbines impact bats

18 Feb 2022

Generating renewable energy is important to meeting climate goals, but making sure that projects are planned in a way that is mindful of the environment is equally important. Research shows that measuring acoustic activity from bats might be the most efficient way to keep land-based wind energy turbines from killing the nocturnal creatures while getting the most energy possible out of the facilities. Many migratory tree-roosting bats die after coming in contact with spinning wind turbines at commercial renewable energy facilities in North America, particularly during the calm, warm late summer and fall nights when bats are most active. Preventing turbines from spinning when bats are active has been shown to reduce bat mortality rates, but this practice, known as curtailment, can reduce the amount of electricity generated so much that it is uneconomical for facility operators. Moreover, facility operators don’t know the site-specific

relationship between bat activity and wind speed and temperature, and the method of hand-counting bat carcasses to estimate mortality rates is very labor-intensive and often imprecise. A University of Maine-led [study](#) published in the Wildlife Society Bulletin looked at how effective acoustic detectors mounted on the turbines were at measuring risk to bats and designing site-specific curtailment strategies to minimize such risk. The researchers looked at two commercial wind energy facilities in West Virginia over the course of seven years. They paired acoustic monitoring of bat echolocation along with the wind speed and turbine speed, as well as manual counts of fresh bat carcasses. Although fatalities of 12 of 14 bat species that occur in West Virginia have been documented at wind energy facilities, three of the species — hoary bats, eastern red bats and silver-haired bats — accounted for 72% of the deaths in the region. The researchers found that bat activity while turbines were running explained around 80% of the variation in numbers of carcasses found at the facilities. Bat activity when turbines weren't operating, though, had little or no relationship with fatality rates. "Acoustic detectors provide a window into the behavior of bats near turbines and provide critical feedback for measuring and managing mortality risk," says Trevor Peterson, who [conducted the research as a Ph.D. student in ecology and environmental sciences](#) at the University of Maine and now works for Stantec Consulting Services Inc., in Topsham. The results show that acoustic monitoring is an effective way to design, evaluate and manage strategies to protect bats from wind turbines while also achieving the most renewable energy production possible. "When we understand the factors that influence the number of bats flying near turbines on a finer timescale, we can design smarter curtailment strategies that prevent turbine operation when bats are most active and allow for greater renewable energy generation during conditions with lower risk," Peterson says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host talk on increasing resilience on the Maine coast, Feb. 28

18 Feb 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk on how the Island Institute collaborates with coastal communities to build resilience from 3–4 p.m. on Feb. 28. The Island Institute works alongside Maine's island and coastal leaders to build community resilience and share solutions for addressing the coast's most critical issues. In this talk, Suzanne MacDonald, chief community development officer with the institute, will provide examples of the innovation unlocked by its place-based, relationship-driven approach in a time of increasingly rapid change. She also will discuss the internal systems and structures developed to ensure responsiveness to communities and their emergent needs. MacDonald oversees strategy development for the institute's interconnected economic, social and climate resilience programs. She has been a catalyst and leader with several national and global networks focused on island sustainability and currently serves as chair of the Efficiency Maine Trust Board of Directors, on various groups of the Maine Climate Council and on the steering committee of the Climate Strong Islands Network. All talks in the Mitchell Center's [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Updates for this event will be posted to the [event webpage](#). To request reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension hosts flower growers conference Feb. 28–March 3

18 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a virtual conference for cut-flower growers from 6–8 p.m. every day from Feb. 28–March 3. An additional in-person networking session is scheduled March 6 at Longfellow's Greenhouses, 81 Puddledock Road, Manchester. "[Flowering in the North 2022](#)" webinars will include presentations about using high tunnels, popular flower varieties, succession planting and post-harvest handling with time for questions and group discussions. UMaine Extension staff and industry experts will lead the webinars. The conference fee is \$60; the in-person session is \$15. Registration is required to receive the link. Register on the [event webpage](#). Space is limited for the in-person session; face masks and no evidence of COVID-19 symptoms will be required regardless of vaccination status. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Becky Gray, 207.781.6099; extension.agcumberland@maine.edu.

Media boosts UMaine Extension houseplant seminar

18 Feb 2022

[The Daily Bulldog](#), [PenBay Pilot](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [Lincoln County News](#) and the [Piscataquis Observer](#) shared a University of Maine Cooperative Extension webinar for home gardeners about effective houseplant care that will take place from noon–1:15 p.m. March 4.

Dill discusses UMaine Extension tick research with News Center Maine

18 Feb 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab's 2021 [Surveillance Program data](#). The report featured Griffin Dill, the Tick Lab coordinator, who said that editing genes in ticks "really kind of opens up new avenues for research on their physiology and [the] way they interact with the pathogens they become infected with."

Jumpstart to farm food safety with UMaine, UNH Extensions

22 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension are hosting an informational webinar about a new program for produce farmers to help them start or improve their farm food safety planning from 4–5 p.m. March 1. "[Jumpstart to Farm Food Safety](#)" is a yearlong technical support program available by application to produce farmers in Maine and New Hampshire that includes an on-site visit, prioritizing needs and developing a food safety plan. Rob Machado, UMaine Extension assistant professor and food science specialist; Jason Bolton, Extension associate professor and food safety specialist; and Mary Choate, UNH Extension associate field specialist and food safety field specialist, will lead the webinar. The webinar is free; registration is required. Register on the [program webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Robson Machado, 207.581.3144; robson.machado@maine.edu. This program is funded by USDA NIFA grant 2021-70020-35647.

Media advances UMaine Extension workshop on propagating trees

22 Feb 2022

[The Daily Bulldog](#), [The Piscataquis Observer](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Extension webinar for home gardeners on propagating trees and shrubs in winter months, from 6–7:15 p.m. March 7. Learn more and register on the [program webpage](#).

Media shares UMaine Extension workshop on next generation farmers

22 Feb 2022

[The Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#) and the [Machias Valley News Observer](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s eight-session series online for Maine farming, fishing or forestry producers ages 20–35 who are interested in agricultural business training.

Media boosts UMaine Extension mushroom cultivation workshop

22 Feb 2022

[CentralMaine.com](#), the Bangor Daily News shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension webinar for home gardeners about mushroom cultivation set for noon-1:15 p.m. Feb. 25. Learn more and register on the [program webpage](#).

CentralMaine.com shares Mitchell Center talk on coastal resilience

22 Feb 2022

[CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine talks on how the Island Institute collaborates with coastal communities to build resilience, 3 p.m. Feb. 28. Learn more on the [program webpage](#).

Coffin featured in WAGM-TV story about microgreens

22 Feb 2022

Donna Coffin, University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor, was featured in a [WAGM-TV](#) County Ag Report about growing microgreens at home. Coffin said, “You’re starting some seeds in a seedling mixture, a soilless mixture, usually. You get them to grow up to a certain height, and then you cut them and eat them when they’re small. So, it gives you some greens for your salad, or accents for your dinner. But the important thing is that it gives people something to grow, something green, and something to tend to.”

News Center Maine features UMaine alums on U.S. Olympic bobsled team

22 Feb 2022

News Center Maine reported about two University of Maine graduates who competed in the same bobsled in the four-man sled competition in the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics. Frankie Del Duca, a Bethel, Maine native, and James Reed, who was born in Germany, were both star sprinters at UMaine.

Socolow writes for Slate about Olympics viewership

22 Feb 2022

Michael Socolow, director of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center, wrote an article for [Slate](#) about the 2022 Winter Olympics viewership. Socolow said that “it’s possible that the 2022 Olympics will be one of the most-watched events in U.S. history,” but that viewership is misrepresented as low because “we’re watching on our phones and in our browsers.” [WGN Radio](#) spoke with Socolow about his Slate article, and [Forbes](#) cited the article in a report about TV ratings for the Beijing Winter Olympics.

Lichtenwalner quoted on WMTW report about avian influenza

22 Feb 2022

Anne Lichtenwalner, director of the University of Maine Animal Health Laboratory, was featured in a [WMTW](#) report about avian influenza in Knox County. Lichtenwalner said that chicken owners using free-range methods “really need to rethink things this year” because of the H5N1 strain detected in Knox County.

O’Reilly featured in BNN Bloomberg article about Olympic sponsorship

22 Feb 2022

Norm O’Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business at the University of Maine, was quoted in a [BNN Bloomberg](#) report about whether Olympic sponsorship is effective for businesses. O’Reilly said, “There are agencies that will measure brand preference and sponsorship awareness and you can be darn sure that if a brand has renewed [their sponsorship], they’re getting back more than they invest.”

International media report on UMaine browntail moth research

22 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Associated Press](#) and [New York Post](#) reported about University of Maine research that shows browntail moth outbreaks will worsen with warming weather. Eleanor Groden, a UMaine professor emerita of entomology and the principal investigator on the study, said, “These are important studies, as our current warming climate trends suggest that we will continue to be facing this menace at least in the near future if not longer.” [ABC News](#), [CBS News](#), [MSN](#), the [Independent](#), the [Daily Mail](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), [India Today](#), [Kaiser Health News](#), [Spectrum News](#), [Phys.org](#), [WBZ](#) (Channel 4 in Boston) [WABI](#) (Channel 5), [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland), the [Miami Herald](#), the [Times Union](#), [KCBY](#) (Channel 11 in North Bend, Oregon) the [Bennington Banner](#), the [Stamford Advocate](#), [CT Insider](#), [The Day](#), the [Biloxi Sun Herald](#), [PIX](#) (Channel 11 in New York City), [WBUR](#), the [El Dorado News-Times](#) and [Yahoo! News](#) shared the AP report.

Speaker Fecteau visits UMaine as Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow

22 Feb 2022

Maine House Speaker Ryan Fecteau visited the University of Maine Feb. 18 for tours, discussions with students and a meeting with UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy as a Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. Since 2006, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center has hosted distinguished policymakers from Maine as guests on campus for a day of interacting with students, faculty and administrators. Speaker Fecteau, who represents Biddeford, was joined on the campus visit by House Majority Leader and UMaine alumna Michelle Dunphy of Old Town. His visit included a roundtable with early childhood education majors at the Durst Child Development Learning Center, led by UMaine director Margo Brown. Speaker Fecteau has submitted legislation to strengthen and grow Maine's early childhood workforce, including through wage supplements for early childhood educators ([LD 1652](#)), an initiative Gov. Janet Mills proposed funding in her recently released supplemental budget. “It was wonderful to meet with Maine’s future early childhood educators. I consider them the workforce behind Maine’s workforce. Recruiting and retaining the child care professionals is one of the best investments we can make in our children and our communities,” said Speaker Fecteau. Fecteau also was a special guest at the weekly meeting of Wilde Stein, part of the Rainbow Resource Center in the UMaine Division of Student Life. At his alma mater, Catholic University of America, Fecteau served as president of CUAllies, which supports equal representation and treatment of LGBTQIA+ students. In addition, Fecteau toured the Advanced Manufacturing Center with Director John Belding, the Advanced Structures and Composites Center with Executive Director Habib Dagher and Foster Center for Innovation with Associate Vice President Renee Kelly. The Speaker also went on a site walk at the construction of Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center (EEDC), led by Dean Dana Humphrey. As a legislator, Fecteau has supported investments in career and technical education, including the state appropriation that helped make Ferland EEDC possible. “I see great potential in UMaine’s Manufacturing Center’s progress on composite building materials that will contribute to making housing more affordable and energy efficient,” said Speaker Fecteau. “Maine needs many different kinds of solutions to the housing crunch we’re facing right now. The research that has gone into new Maine-made products for the construction industry is very exciting.” “We appreciate Speaker Fecteau’s leadership and focus on public education and student success, and commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion,” said President Ferrini-Mundy, who presented the representative with his commemorative plaque as a Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Extension 4-H member from Limington wins national award for cattle showing

23 Feb 2022

A long-time member of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H program for youth development won a national award for showing cattle. At the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado on Jan. 14, Lauren Pride and her heifer calf PFF Krew won Grand Champion Percentage Aberdeen Female in the Junior Show. She also won Junior Calf Division Champion Percentage Aberdeen in the open show. Pride is a decorated award-winner for cattle shows in Maine and beyond, but her recent championship is her most prestigious and impressive yet. “Denver was always the biggest show that I could have gone to for my breed,” Pride says. “We got out there and we had such an amazing experience meeting new people and seeing different calibers of livestock.” Pride lives in Limington and graduated from Bonny Eagle High School in June 2021. She has been involved with 4-H since she was 5 years old and comes from a 4-H family. Both of her two older brothers, Ben and Adam, were involved with 4-H, and her parents Troy and Kathleen met in 4-H and have served as volunteers. Though Pride is currently in the 4-H beef and marketing programs, she has been involved with a number of other 4-H programs, including racing pigs, sheep, baby beef, market lambs and clothing and textiles. Pride has been the president of many 4-H clubs throughout her years in the group, and is currently the president of her Cumberland County 4-H club. “It is exciting that Lauren’s hard work in 4-H has led her to have such amazing adventures. It is a testament to the 4-H volunteers and parents who helped prepare Lauren to succeed,” says Mitch Mason, UMaine Extension 4-H youth development educator in Cumberland County. This year will be Pride’s last in 4-H, but she has participated virtually in the National 4-H Conference and still plans to participate in shows. Pride says that participating in 4-H unlocked her passion for agricultural communications, which she hopes to pursue in the future in her schooling and career. “I could talk about my cows all day long,” Pride says. “Sale day was one of my favorite days — talking to everybody about my products, what you are buying and what goes into every part of it and just being really knowledgeable about the products.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension to host “How Not to Kill Your Houseplants” webinar March 4

23 Feb 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners about effective houseplant care on March 4, noon–1:15 p.m. “[How Not to Kill Your Houseplants](#)” includes tips for matching a potting medium, watering, lighting, containers, pest control and humidity to a plant's needs. Karen Ramsey, owner of Ledgewood Gardens Greenhouses in Orrington, will lead the workshop. Registration is required; a sliding scale fee is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#) to attend live or receive the recording link. This is the second in a five-part [spring gardening webinar series](#) offered through April for Maine gardeners. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, 207.781.6099; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

BDN advances UMaine psychosis detection webinar

23 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about a free, live webinar hosted by University of Maine Rural Integrated Behavioral Health in Primary Care Training Program about early detection of psychosis. The webinar will take place on Friday, April 1, 10:30 a.m.–noon. [Register for the webinar online](#).

Spectrum News features UMaine partnership with Camden school

23 Feb 2022

[Spectrum News](#) reported on an AP Environmental Science class at Camden Hills Regional High School that works with the University of Maine to monitor rising sea levels in various coastal spots.

Tahoe Quarterly profiles artist and UMaine alum

23 Feb 2022

Jesse Melanson, who studied new media at the University of Maine, was profiled in [Tahoe Quarterly](#) for his bold and striking murals in cities across the country.

Media feature UMaine 4-H alums selected as National Ag Day representatives

23 Feb 2022

[Farms.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) reported that two Maine 4-H alumni, Ashton Caron and Elizabeth Eaton, were selected by the National 4-H Council in a competitive application process to represent National 4-H in the 2022 National Agriculture Day Training, part of the National Agriculture Day Student Leadership Program.

BDN featured de Leon op-ed about Indigenous storytelling

23 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) published a column co-written by Michelle de Leon, graduate student in ecology and environmental sciences at the University of Maine. De Leon argues that listening to and sharing the stories of Indigenous peoples in Maine can influence change in tribal and nontribal communities.

PPH features UMaine artisanal food study

23 Feb 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported on a Maine Business School study that found artisanal food producers looking to make their products stand out should provide consumers with more point-of-sale information about their food.

Fiddlehead Focus features UMaine study in article about snowmobile fundraiser

23 Feb 2022

In an article about the Madawaska Snowmobile Association's Neon Glow Run and Spaghetti Feed fundraiser on Feb. 20, the [Fiddlehead Focus](#) featured a study conducted by the University of Maine about the tourism impact of snowmobiling in Maine. According to the study, \$459 million was brought in as direct spending, supporting more than 3,000 jobs during the 2018–19 season alone.

Media advances UMaine ranking as one of Forbes' best employers in the country

23 Feb 2022

The [Times Record](#) and [Sun Journal](#) reported that the University of Maine was ranked by Forbes as one of the best employers in the country. UMaine was ranked at number 160 among midsize employers.

PPH quotes Brewer in article about opioid epidemic and State of the State

23 Feb 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) spoke with Mark Brewer, professor and interim chair of political science at the University of Maine, about the lack of attention to the opioid epidemic in Gov. Janet Mills' State of the State. Brewer said Mills seems to have focused on issues important to more voters, such as COVID and the economy. "If you look at issues that are important to people, those are the two big ones," he said. [CentralMaine.com](#) and the [Sun Journal](#) shared the report.

Calderwood featured in Scientific American report on wild blueberries

23 Feb 2022

Lily Calderwood, UMaine Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, was featured as an expert on wild blueberries in [Scientific American](#)'s 60-Second Science program about installing solar panels in wild blueberry fields. Calderwood said, "There's a lot of interest and motivation behind finding ways to have clean energy in Maine. So farmers and blueberry farmers have a place in that space. We're just trying to figure out where that might be."

Curtis named to Penobscot Marine Museum board

23 Feb 2022

Greg Curtis, head of Special Collections at Fogler Library, has been appointed to the [Penobscot Marine Museum](#) board of trustees.

UMaine research shows circular economies are lacking in their approach to social justice

23 Feb 2022

No matter how environmentally and economically sustainable a system claims to be, it can't truly be positively transformative without considering the people in it. A team of University of Maine researchers set out to see how social justice plays a role in the "circular economy," and what steps might be taken to improve the approach in the future. The circular economy is an economic system that focuses on long-term sustainability, maximization of reuse and the reduction of waste. It has long been touted as a cure to social, environmental and economic ills. However, the role of social justice in the circular economy has yet to be thoroughly examined. Without consideration for the social dimension, such as what role labor plays in the system or ensuring inclusive representation in decision-making processes, the circular economy may not be as beneficial as its proponents claim it to be. In a [study](#) published in the journal *Local Environment*, UMaine researchers conducted focus groups with circular economy experts and analyzed reports authored by U.S.-based governmental, nonprofit and business groups on circular economies to see whether and how "justice" emerges as part of the conversation. The researchers divided justice into four sub-categories: neoliberal justice, which is achieved through individual actions and the free market; procedural justice, which gives representation to all parties who have stake in the outcome of a decision-making process; distributive justice, which centers on the fair distribution of benefits and harms; and compensatory justice, which compensates communities that have been historically disadvantaged. The researchers searched the literature for certain keywords related to justice and analyzed the texts to see which category it would fall under. "Circular economies are often framed as addressing social problems, but there hasn't been much research exploring how this is supposed to happen," says Brieanne Berry, the study's lead author and a postdoctoral research associate at UMaine. "We wanted to understand in a systematic way how proponents of circular economies are thinking and talking about justice." The researchers also held virtual focus groups with experts in the circular economy, where they asked direct questions about how the participants conceptualize justice, as well as the opportunities and barriers to designing circular economies. The researchers analyzed the focus group transcripts for justice-related content and grouped it into the four categories. The results showed that while experts understand and advocate for the need for justice to be a key component in the circular economy, these ideas are rarely represented in the literature about circular economies in the U.S. When the topic of justice did come up, it was most often focused on neoliberal justice — more so than any of the other three forms of justice combined. For example, references to jobs and labor were more about the quantity of jobs created by the circular economy rather than the quality of jobs created. Attempts at addressing the other forms of justice were often vague, aspirational or couched in neoliberal ideas. Berry said that the researchers were surprised that the word "justice" only appeared four times in the 1,181 pages of text analyzed. "The prevalence of neoliberal framings of justice mirrors what we see in other sustainability efforts, such as the organic food movement," says Michael Haedicke, associate professor of sociology and co-author of the study. "But this mindset overlooks the institutionalized inequalities that make it difficult for some groups of people to benefit from these efforts." The researchers emphasized the importance of including more complete, nuanced and actualized justice in the design of circular economies in order for the system to create the sustainable, transformative change that it aims to achieve. "This work really demonstrates that circular economies won't be just and equitable unless they are designed intentionally with those goals in mind. We can't expect to prioritize expectations of profit and environmental sustainability and achieve justice goals," says Berry. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine, Nova Scotia Community College sign transfer articulation agreement

23 Feb 2022

The University of Maine has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Nova Scotia Community College to create a pathway for undergraduate students to transfer to UMaine to earn a bachelor's degree. This is the ninth community college [transfer agreement with UMaine](#) and the first MOU in recent years with a Canadian community college. Academically qualified students interested in transferring to UMaine typically complete an admissions application early in the semester prior to the semester they are planning to transfer. The MOU with Nova Scotia Community College will provide undergraduate transfer admission opportunities for academically qualified students or graduates to pursue a minimum of 30 credit hours. The initial UMaine bachelor's degree programs expected to be included are in the Maine Business School and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This academic year, UMaine enrolled approximately 675 new undergraduate transfer students and offered 25 undergraduate articulation agreements to ease the transfer process. The Canadian resident tuition rate is the same rate as the low Maine resident tuition rate. "UMaine is a proud member of the greater Maritime region and is committed to advancing people and economies on both sides of the border," says Brian Olsen, associate provost for student success and strategic initiatives. "Our graduates use their UMaine experience to support their communities and to open doors to opportunities across the globe." Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine celebrates its Carnegie R1 top-tier research institution recognition

23 Feb 2022

The University of Maine celebrated its Carnegie R1 top-tier research institution recognition with a reception Feb. 23 in the North Pod, Memorial Union. UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and Kody Varahramyan, vice president for research and dean of the Graduate School, hosted the event. Information about the Carnegie R1 designation for UMaine, announced earlier this month, is [online](#).

Grew helps international team report a new boron mineral from Tibet

24 Feb 2022

Edward Grew, research professor in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences at the University of Maine, has helped a team of Chinese and Italian scientists obtain official recognition of a new boron mineral discovered as nano-inclusions in chromite deposits from a mine in Tibet. The new mineral has been approved by the Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification of the International Mineralogical Association. The full story is on the School of Earth and Climate Sciences [website](#).

Ellsworth American reports on RiSE Center \$1.35 million grant

24 Feb 2022

[The Ellsworth American](#) reported on a Maine Center for Research in STEM Education (RiSE Center) initiative in coastal schools receiving a \$1.35 million award from the National Science Foundation. The RiSE Center will support middle and high school students in real-world science research projects, including

coastal monitoring and tracking the changes in local ocean water properties, as well as engaging in the design and construction of the sensor units used to collect this data.

WMTW features UMaine mental health research in schools

24 Feb 2022

[WMTW](#) reported on researchers at the University of Maine who are working with schools across the state to assess how students are doing with their mental health and well-being, and what schools need to do to support them. Rebecca Schwartz-Mette, director of the UMaine Peer Relations Lab which goes into schools to work with students, told reporters, "Schools have their hands full, they have always had their hands full, and now during the pandemic, it's even more challenging."

BDN highlights UMaine research in article about Orono efforts to curtail browntail moth populations

24 Feb 2022

In an article about Orono trying to take advantage of a short window to make a dent in the browntail moths' population before the caterpillars start coming out of their nests as the weather warms, the [Bangor Daily News](#) cited newly published research by a team from the University of Maine and the state Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry that found that a continually warming climate likely means browntail moths will only grow worse in Maine.

Farms.com shares story about Extension 4-H member winning national award

24 Feb 2022

[Farms.com](#) shared a story about a long-time member of University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H program for youth development, Lauren Pride, who won Grand Champion Percentage Aberdeen Female in the Junior Show with her heifer calf PFF Krew National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado on Jan. 14. Pride also won Junior Calf Division Champion Percentage Aberdeen in the open show.

Fox Bangor features UMaine R1 Designation celebration

24 Feb 2022

[Fox Bangor](#) reported on the University of Maine celebrating its Carnegie designation as one of the top-tier of research universities in the country. President Joan Ferrini-Mundy told reporters that the university has been striving for this designation, and students from Maine and beyond can go to UMaine for the opportunity to work with world-class researchers on projects that matter to Maine and beyond.

WABI features UMaine Winter Carnival

24 Feb 2022

[WABI](#) reported on the University of Maine's 2022 Winter Carnival. The theme of the carnival is "College of Blizzardry," and despite the 60 degree highs, the celebration kicked off with hot chocolate and a bonfire on the Mall.

Media boosts Extension tree pruning workshop

24 Feb 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about an in-person, hands-on workshop about fruit tree pruning in Waterford, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. March 19, hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District. Registration and payment information is available on the [event webpage](#).

Media advances accounting workshop for farmers

24 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension online introductory accounting workshop for farms and agricultural businesses from noon–2 p.m. starting March 7 and continuing on March 8, 14 and 15. The workshop is free and includes software. Registration on [the workshop webpage](#) is required.

UMaine prepares to host 21st year of Hirosaki virtual exchange program

24 Feb 2022

The Intensive English Institute (IEI) at the University of Maine is preparing to host the 21st year of the Hirosaki program. Professor Tokuji Noro, faculty in the English Department of Hirosaki University in Hirosaki, Japan, and 20 college students will participate in the two-week virtual program Feb. 28–March 10. The students will work to improve their English reading, writing and conversation skills, learn more about Maine, and meet with host families and students from our community. "UMaine is proud to be continuing a decades-long partnership with Hirosaki University through this short-term English language program and our bilateral exchange program," said Orlina Boteva, director of the Office of International Programs. "Through the process of learning a new language, students gain not only linguistic skills, but also intercultural communication skills and develop global competencies, which are critical for education in the 21st century." Cheryl Robertson, who will teach the short-term program, said she is excited to be working with the Hirosaki students for a third year. "We hope the students will be able to travel to the UMaine campus in 2023, when we offer the program again next year," she said. Hirosaki University is located in Aomori province of Japan. The partnership was established during a Maine governor's mission to Japan in 2000.

‘The Maine Question’ asks how Native American stories should be told

24 Feb 2022

Much of the knowledge about Native Americans comes from people who are not Indigenous. Euro-American archaeologists in particular have held notable influence on how people think about Native Americans’ past and present. A team of Wabanaki researchers and students is looking to change that dynamic. They aim to reframe how their ancestors' stories are told. In [Episode 3 of Season 6 of “The Maine Question,”](#) Bonnie Newsom, a member of the Penobscot Nation and an assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Maine, and Isaac St. John, the tribal historic preservation officer for the Houlton band of Maliseet Indians and a graduate student at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, discuss their work to change public perception of Wabanaki stories and reconnect Indigenous people with their past. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

UMaine International Dance Festival returns Feb. 26

24 Feb 2022

After a year’s hiatus due to COVID-19, the 2022 International Dance Festival (IDF) — one of the biggest and most anticipated events on campus and in the greater Bangor community — is back. The International Dance Festival (IDF) is a student-led initiative started in 2005 that showcases traditional music, dance and costumes from around the world, represented by the diverse student body at the University of Maine. This year’s festival will feature over 30 performers from the UMaine community. Performances will be held at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Feb. 26, at the Collins Center for the Arts. Admission is free. Masks are required for all attendees. Attendees 5 years or older must provide proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test from the last 72 hours. For more information, contact the Office of International Programs, 207.581.3437 or go [online](#).

UMaine Wabanaki Center and Aquaculture Research Institute collaborate on undergraduate fellowship program

24 Feb 2022

Undergraduate students from across the nation will learn about sustainable aquaculture in Maine through the lens of Indigenous science and traditional ecological knowledge in a new University of Maine initiative funded by the United States Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). AquEOUS: **A**quaculture **E**xperiential **O**pportunities for Undergraduate Students, led by the UMaine Wabanaki Center and Aquaculture Research Institute (ARI), is one of 23 USDA-funded Research and Extension Experiences for Undergraduates (REEUs) awarded this year. The UMaine fellowship program will be offered annually for five years and will ultimately include 42 students. Students and staff will complete 10-week research projects and participate in training that enhances inclusive science communication skills, traditional ecological knowledge and field techniques. “Aquaculture is one of Maine’s seven targeted technology areas and one of the fastest-growing food sectors in the world,” says Debbie Bouchard, director of ARI. “This rapid growth and its related research questions about sustainability and equity make Maine an ideal laboratory for studying sustainable aquaculture in the United States.” Leveraging the Wabanaki Center’s unique relationships with Wabanaki and other Indigenous Knowledge Keepers, the AquEOUS program will improve access to experiential science training in aquaculture for a diverse cohort of undergraduates while piloting new modes of learning through traditional ecological knowledge. “This is a unique opportunity for students to learn from elders and develop a new holistic perspective that may change the way they think about sustainability in their research,” says Donna Loring, Penobscot Nation Elder and former Maine State Representative, who will consult on the program. The first step in this project is engagement at the tribal level, says professor Darren Ranco, chair of Native American Programs at UMaine and a member of the Penobscot Nation. “It is critical that Wabanaki communities bring their own knowledge systems, mentorship and vision to extend and enhance Native and non-native student learning,” he says. AquEOUS also will collaborate with the Wabanaki Youth in Science (WaYS) program, which provides mentoring and training opportunities in the life sciences for Native American youth in Maine. This program, which was motivated by a shortage of young natural resource professionals on tribal lands, uses a multifaceted approach to recruit and retain native youth in STEM fields. A defining characteristic of WaYS is the integration of Indigenous science through cultural and ecological knowledge keepers. Working with the program will broaden the impact of ARI’s programming. “AquEOUS will embrace and weave Wabanaki knowledge, values and decision making throughout all levels of the program utilizing the WaYS educational model,” says WaYS director tish carr. Faculty and staff will gain as much as the students through this unique opportunity, says program co-principal investigator Meggan Dwyer. “Ultimately,” she says, “we hope that this program opens a career path in aquaculture to any person who is interested.” Contact: Meggan Dwyer, meggan.dwyer@maine.edu

UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Center produces world’s largest 3D-printed logistics vessel for U.S. Department of Defense

25 Feb 2022

Orono, Maine — The University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center has achieved a groundbreaking milestone in composite manufacturing with the production of two 3D-printed prototype logistics vessels for the U.S. Department of Defense. Marine Corps Systems Command’s Advanced Manufacturing Operations Cell (AMOC), in collaboration with the UMaine Composites Center, used advanced manufacturing techniques to successfully develop the expendable polymeric composite ship-to-shore vessels. The longer of the two vessels, the largest ever 3D-printed, simulates ship-to-shore movement of 20-foot containers representing equipment and supplies. The second vessel can transport a Marine rifle-squad with organic equipment and three days of supplies. The prototypes can be connected, maximizing the transport capability of a single-tow vehicle. The ship-to-shore logistics vessels align with the 38th Commandant of Marine Corps Gen. David Berger’s vision to “seek the affordable and plentiful at the expense of the exquisite and few when conceiving of the future amphibious portion of the fleet,” due to relatively low-cost, speed and ease of production. “Our national security and economic security depend on an innovative and robust American manufacturing base,” said Barbara K. McQuiston, director of Defense Research and Engineering for Research and Technology, Office of the Secretary of Defense. “I applaud the University of Maine’s Advanced Structures and Composites Center for their pioneering work in the field of additive manufacturing. The advancements made here will bolster domestic manufacturing and ultimately support our warfighters in the field.” Joining McQuiston for the unveiling Feb. 25 at the UMaine Composites Center were U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King, U.S. Department of Defense leadership and University of Maine officials. “In 2019, UMaine unveiled the world’s largest 3D-printed object — a 25-foot patrol boat. Today, we celebrated the creation of 3D-printed vessels that will be more than twice as large and represent the next remarkable leap in innovation by UMaine,” said Senators Susan Collins and Angus King and Representative Jared Golden in a statement. “This accomplishment is a prime example of how UMaine is leading the nation in large-scale additive manufacturing technology. These new boats continue the Composite Center’s contributions to our

national defense and will help fuel new breakthroughs in advanced manufacturing that will create good jobs here in Maine.” [caption id="attachment_89026" align="center" width="1024"]



U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King, U.S. Department of Defense leadership and University of Maine officials participated in the Feb. 25 event celebrating the UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Center's production of the world's largest 3D-printed logistics vessel for the U.S. Department of Defense. [caption] Using traditional materials and methods, landing craft utility vessels can take over one year to produce. The UMaine Composites Center printed and assembled one of the two vessels in a month. The vessels were produced using the world's largest polymer 3D printer, which the center commissioned on Oct. 10, 2019, [earning three Guinness World Records](#). To demonstrate the printer's capabilities, the Composites Center 3D-printed a 5,000-pound boat, 3Dirigo, in 72 hours, and printed a U.S. Army communications shelter in 48 hours. The printer, with both additive and precise subtractive manufacturing capabilities, enables rapid prototyping for both defense and civilian applications. "This project demonstrates the art of the possible and the potential for AM to fundamentally alter how we think about connectors and their role in mobility and distribution within a contested environment," said LtGen Edward Banta, Deputy Commandant – Installation & Logistics, U.S. Marine Corps. "As the Marine Corps seeks to modernize logistics to better respond to current and future conflicts, advancements in additive manufacturing will ensure we remain agile, lethal and expeditionary," said William Williford, executive director of Marine Corps Systems Command. The latest project to create the two 3D-printed logistics vessels is a significant milestone toward demonstrating advanced manufacturing techniques to rapidly constitute critical DOD assets closer to the point of need. The previously successful prototype was 3D printed in 2020, made from 25% aluminum. The vessels manufactured by the UMaine Composites Center are multimaterial composites with engineering polymer and fiber reinforcement. "The University of Maine is at the forefront of cutting-edge research and high-impact technologies, including advanced manufacturing, AI and 3D printing important for industries in Maine and beyond," said University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy. "These prototype vessels are the latest innovations from the Composites Center that demonstrate the future of manufacturing. This is an exciting time for Maine's Carnegie R1 research enterprise. Congratulations to the talented group of faculty, staff and students for this milestone achievement." "The leadership, vision and innovation of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center continue to make a difference in Maine and worldwide," said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, vice chancellor for research and innovation for the University of Maine System. "The center's research and development capacity in collaboration with partners in Maine and beyond, its problem-solving capabilities and focus on workforce development are an important part of our Carnegie R1 top-tier research institution." "Two years ago, we demonstrated that it was possible to 3D print a 25-foot patrol vessel in three days. Since then, partnering with the DOD, we have been improving material properties, speeding up the printing process and connecting our printer with high-performance computers that can monitor the print. With these tools in place, we have now printed a prototype vessel that will be tested by the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC). The Advanced Structures and Composites Center is at the cutting edge of advanced manufacturing research and development, advancing state-of-the-art technologies like large-scale additive manufacturing and high-performance computing to develop practical, rapidly deployable and cost-effective solutions for defense and civilian applications," said Habib Dagher, executive director of the UMaine Composites Center. "We thank our partners at the DOD, USMC, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) and our Congressional delegation for their continued support. Today's groundbreaking achievement couldn't have been possible if not for the tremendous effort of our dedicated team of 260 ASCC faculty researchers, staff and students." "These demonstration vessels represent an initial step toward defining future forward manufacturing capabilities, and also a balance between expendable system cost, performance and ease of manufacture," said Kyle Warren, UMaine senior program manager and principal investigator on the project.

The Advanced Structures and Composites Center is a world-leading interdisciplinary center for research, education and economic development, encompassing material sciences, advanced manufacturing and engineering of composites and structures. Housed in a 100,000-square-foot ISO-17025-accredited facility, the center has been recognized nationally and internationally for cutting-edge research programs leading and impacting new industries, including offshore wind and marine energy, civil infrastructure, biobased composites, large-scale 3D printing, soldier protection systems and innovative defense-related applications. The Marine Corps' AMOC, established in 2019, conducts testing, experimentation and analysis to source innovative techniques and leverage advanced manufacturing technology. AMOC also provides 24/7 3D printing help desk support for the Fleet Marine Force and all equipment program offices. Contact: Meghan Collins, mc@maine.edu

University of Maine Foundation President/CEO Jeff Mills to be recognized with national award for foundation leadership

28 Feb 2022



The President and CEO of the University of Maine Foundation is one of two leaders being honored with the national 2022 CASE Commonfund College and University Foundation Award. Jeffery Mills, Ph.D., President and CEO of the University of Maine Foundation, will be recognized for his contributions at the 2022 CASE Conference for College and University Foundations in April. "This national award is a wonderful recognition for Jeff and his colleagues at the University of Maine Foundation, and for the entire UMaine community," said University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "Investments in UMaine's vision and values help us define tomorrow in Maine and beyond." College and University Foundations are nonprofit organizations that cultivate and manage private assets to support the missions of the colleges and universities with which they are affiliated. This prestigious award recognizes professionals who have made extraordinary contributions to the advancement, quality, and effectiveness of their foundations and the sector. "The CASE Commonfund College and University Foundation Award is considered to be a pinnacle achievement recognizing individuals in our profession who have made valuable contributions through best practices, leadership and distinguished service. The University of Maine is very fortunate to have Jeff at the helm of their Foundation," said Leonard Raley, chair of the award selection committee, and President and CEO of the University System of Maryland Foundation, Inc. Mills, who has more than 29 years in educational advancement, was appointed to the University of Maine Foundation in 2012 as the President and CEO after serving as the Vice President of University Advancement and President and CEO of the University of Maine Alumni Association from 2002–05. Highlights of his accomplishments at the University of Maine Foundation include the launch of a comprehensive giving campaign with a \$200 million goal, ending the campaign with over \$208 million raised. The campaign also increased fundraising to an all-time high average of \$36 million and secured the largest capital campaign gift in university history. Additionally, Mills launched the faculty, staff and administration giving campaign, which raised more than \$1.2 million this past year. Most recently, through its ongoing collaboration with the Harold Alfond Foundation, the University of Maine System received a \$240 million grant in support of academic, student welfare and athletic activities — at the time the eighth largest gift in the U.S. to a public institution of higher education, and the largest ever in New England. Mills will lead the private fundraising efforts to fulfill this historic gift. Previously, Mills and his team at Monmouth University in New Jersey received a CASE award for most improved educational fundraising, among other CASE awards presented under his leadership. In his letter of support, Robert Strong, Chairman of the University of Maine Foundation, wrote: "Under Jeff's leadership every capital campaign during his tenure has exceeded its fundraising goal." Strong also notes Mills' leadership during the merger of the university's Office of Advancement and the University of Maine Foundation, leading to greater alignment and greater philanthropic success. Sharon Beales, Vice President, Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the Northampton Community College Foundation, will be honored with the second award. Both Mills and Beales are active members of CASE and have led development programs that have received CASE Educational Fundraising Awards. The Commonfund College and University Foundation Award is underwritten by the Commonfund Institute, the research and education arm of Commonfund, which provides investment management services to nonprofit organizations. The University of Maine Foundation has offices in Orono and Falmouth. Contact: Monique Hashey, monique@maine.edu

Careers in outdoor recreation and leadership event to be held March 1

28 Feb 2022

The University of Maine Outdoor Leadership program and Career Center are sponsoring a job fair and panel discussions for students interested in careers in the outdoors on Tuesday, March 1 at the Memorial Union. Maine's outdoor industries generate about \$3 billion in economic activity, according to the federal Bureau of Economic Analysis. Created in 2019, UMaine's Outdoor Leadership program, part of the College of Education and Human Development, uses the

state's wilderness as both classroom and teacher to prepare students for jobs and careers in the outdoors. More than 20 organizations and businesses in the outdoor recreation, education, tourism and other fields will have tables at the job fair, taking place from noon–4 p.m. in the Memorial Union's North Pod. The panel discussions will take place from 1–1:45 p.m. in the Lown Room. UMaine lecturer in outdoor leadership Lauren Jacobs will moderate a panel featuring conservation law enforcement officials from Baxter State Park, the Maine Warden's Service, Maine Marine Patrol, the Maine Forest Service and Acadia National Park. Maine Outdoor Brands executive director Jenny Kordick will moderate a discussion on career paths in outdoor industries from 2–2:45 p.m. That panel will have employees of companies that are members of Maine Outdoor Brands, including Garmin International, Hyperlite Mountain Gear, She Summits Co. and L.L. Bean. A [livestream](#) will be available. For more information, or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Lauren Jacobs, lauren.jacobs@maine.edu.

BDN publishes letter from Diamond, Mills highlighting Minsky's legacy of service, philanthropy

28 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) published a letter to the editor co-authored by John Diamond, president and CEO of the University of Maine Alumni Association, and Jeffery Mills, president and CEO of the University of Maine Foundation, that highlights the legacy of civic service and philanthropy of alumnus Lenoard Minsky, who passed away on Feb. 21 at the age of 94. Minsky served on and chaired the Alumni Association's board of directors, and was an incorporator and honorary member of the UMaine Foundation's board. Minsky Recital Hall on campus is named after him and his wife, Renee.

Press Herald reports on Wellnurse Initiative at UMaine

28 Feb 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported on WellNurse, a new initiative to increase resiliency and reduce burnout among students at the University of Maine School of Nursing. WellNurse, made possible by a \$1.5 million award from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, will be a research and interprofessional program in collaboration with the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture, Clinical Psychology Program and New Balance Student Recreation Center to support and advance health and public safety workforce resiliency training. The [Sun Journal](#) shared the Press Herald report.

BDN advances online panel to address Russia's invasion of Ukraine

28 Feb 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) advanced an online panel to discuss Russia's invasion of Ukraine and its implications for the U.S., hosted by the University of Maine Alumni Association as part of its public affairs webinar series. The panel will feature faculty members affiliated with UMaine's Political Science Department, William S. Cohen Institute for Leadership and Public Service, and School of Policy and International Affairs. Register [online](#) for the free event, which will be held at noon on Thursday, March 3.

WVII reports on International Dance Festival

28 Feb 2022

[WVII](#) (Channel 7) reported on the 2022 International Dance Festival at the University of Maine. The festival is a student-led initiative started in 2005 that showcases traditional music, dance and costumes from around the world, represented by the diverse student body at UMaine.

Press Herald: UMaine nursing school enrollment rises amid pandemic

28 Feb 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that enrollment at the University of Maine School of Nursing has increased amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Kelley Strout, director of the nursing school, said "we have not lost any students due to fears of the pandemic. We've seen the opposite. They've risen to the occasion." The first-year class consists of 115 students, a record high, according to Strout. [Centralmaine.com](#) shared the Press Herald article.

Media report on the UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Center producing world's largest 3D-printed logistics vessel

28 Feb 2022

The [Associated Press](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [WABI](#) (Channel 5), [News Center Maine](#), [Seapower Magazine](#), [3D Printing Industry](#) and [Mainebiz](#) reported on the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites producing the world's largest 3D-printed logistics vessel. The watercraft is one of two 3D-printed prototype logistics vessels the UMaine Composites Center produced for the U.S. Department of Defense. The longer of the two vessels, the largest ever 3D-printed, simulates ship-to-shore movement of 20-foot containers representing equipment and supplies. "When we started working on this project, we had no one that could actually know how to operate that printer. So we had to teach our own people and the students learned without staff at the same time. And eventually we ended up having three different crews that worked around the clock to print this vessel," Habib Dagher, executive director of UMaine Composites Center, told WABI. The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared a [news release](#) about the project. [U.S. News & World Report](#), the [New Delhi Times](#), the [Portland Press Herald](#), [Manufacturing.net](#), [Manufacturing Business Technology](#), [Industrial Equipment News](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) shared the AP report.

Eastport Health Care opens pediatric clinic on UMaine Machias campus

28 Feb 2022

Eastport Health Care Inc., now has two locations in Machias with a new pediatric clinic located on the first floor of Sennett Hall at the University of Maine at Machias. EHC UMM Pediatrics opened Feb. 28 with hundreds of new patients, newborn to age 18, and a clinical support staff led by Alfred Wakeman, a certified physician assistant specializing in general pediatrics and a member of the Washington County community for decades. EHC UMM Pediatrics is open from 8 a.m.– 5 p.m. Monday–Friday, and can be reached by calling 207.255.0980. EHC, with locations in Eastport, Machias and Calais, is a Federally

Qualified Health Center (FQHC), providing comprehensive medical, dental and behavioral health care to residents of Washington County and beyond. EHC provides chronic illness management, health education and prevention programs, and support in connecting patients to community resources, and also offers eligible patients a sliding fee discount program. EHC is a nonprofit entity that receives a portion of its funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In the new location, EHC anticipates providing 5,000 childhood vaccinations a year, including those for COVID-19, and disseminating at-home COVID test kits for patients and their families. The pediatrics clinic with four patient rooms, including a procedure room, occupies more than 3,500 square feet on the first floor of Sennett Hall, a residence hall that has been unoccupied on campus since fall 2019. EHC has signed a lease with the University of Maine System to locate the new clinic in the building until all EHC Machias-based services relocate in the next 24 months to a larger facility in the community, possibly a now empty, 10,000-square-foot former retail store. EHC also has primary care and behavioral health services at 53 Fremont St., Machias, all of which will join pediatrics in the future setting. EHC UMM Pediatrics is planning a grand opening in the coming weeks. “We needed to open quickly, in order to offer a continuum of care for children here in Washington County, and we needed to find the right place,” says Ellen Krajewski, MPH, CEO of Eastport Health Care, Inc. “UMaine Machias was very welcoming and receptive. EHC has had an ongoing partnership with UMaine Machias, partnering on COVID vaccination clinics for students, employees, and the public, and previously collaborating on health professions education. This was the next step and an important collaboration for our community.” UMaine Machias has a strong commitment to engagement and has long collaborated with community partners such as EHC to contribute to the quality of life in Washington County, says Daniel Qualls, UMaine Machias vice president for academic affairs and head of campus. “We welcome EHC UMM Pediatrics to campus and look forward to exploring possible learning opportunities for our students with the growth of Eastport Health Care in Down East Maine.” Through an advertisement in local newspapers, EHC announced that it was expanding its services and welcomed new pediatric patients. The response was overwhelming, says Krajewski, with the first of the many new patients scheduled for appointments on the clinic’s opening day. Some have known Wakeman throughout their childhood. “Alf has been in Machias for many years and is beloved in Washington County, where he has been one of only a few pediatric providers,” she says. “He goes the extra mile to care for young patients and he is extremely popular. Expanding the face of EHC is an investment in our future. Taking care of our children’s health now means a healthier future for Washington County.” The EHC Board of Directors is very pleased to offer local quality pediatric primary care to our families, says board chair Marilú Scott. “The expansion at (UMaine Machias) will allow Eastport Health Care to strengthen full-service primary care for the entire age spectrum in easily accessed locations. The EHC Board of Directors is also excited about this collaborative effort with (UMaine Machias). They share our commitment to the community.” Contact: Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Fogler Library receives legacy gift from alumnus Lee Gagnon ’59

01 Mar 2022

University of Maine Fogler Library has received an \$800,000 gift from the estate of Lee Gagnon, a member of the Class of 1959, to support an endowed memorial fund in honor of his parents, according to University of Maine Foundation President/CEO Jeffery Mills. The Lionel J. Gagnon and Germaine Fortin Gagnon Memorial Fund will provide resources for the library’s procurement of resources, including books, videos, tapes, computer equipment, software and supplies, speakers, programs and materials in perpetuity. The balance of the fund, established in 2000, now exceeds \$1 million. Gagnon, a native of Waterville, Maine who was living in Charlestown, Rhode Island, passed away Aug. 1, 2021 at the age of 83. “This gift will advance the ability of the state’s largest research library to provide excellent resources to our university community, across the University of Maine System and the state,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “As part of our Carnegie R1 top-tier research institution, Fogler has a critical role in supporting students, faculty, staff and Maine residents.” Gagnon, who graduated from UMaine with a degree in economics, had a long and successful career in insurance and banking in Connecticut, where he raised his family. He retired from Webster Financial Corp. as executive vice president, chief operating officer and secretary. Gagnon served in the military, both in active and reserve duty. According to Gagnon’s daughter, Terry Driscoll, he was grateful for the opportunities he had in his life and credited UMaine with providing him with the foundation for his future success. He was an avid reader and always maintained a large library of his own. Gagnon’s brother Lawrence and two grandchildren also are UMaine graduates. The Lionel J. and Germaine Fortin Gagnon Memorial Fund to benefit Folger Library was established as a tribute to UMaine and to help future students. Gagnon’s parents were married in 1936 and established a family farm in Oakland, Maine that they operated with their four children. The couple retired in 1973. Gagnon cited fond memories of growing up on the farm, and his parents’ unconditional love, support and encouragement in his life endeavors as his motivation for honoring them with this gift. “Lee worked with Foundation staff in 2000 to set this fund in place as a part of his estate planning process. This is a good example of how important it is to take the time to ensure that your wishes are clearly defined for those in charge of handling your estate. This is a classic example of a true legacy gift and we are very grateful to Lee for his generous gift and his faith in our services,” says Mills. Contact: Monique Hashey, monique@maine.edu

UMaine Panel to Address Russia’s Invasion of Ukraine

01 Mar 2022

Three experts in international affairs will discuss Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and its implications for the U.S. as part of the University of Maine Alumni Association’s public affairs webinar series. The online event will be held from noon-1:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 3. It will feature faculty members affiliated with UMaine’s Political Science Department, William S. Cohen Institute for Leadership and Public Service, and School of Policy and International Affairs: The Hon. Kenneth Hillas, adjunct professor of international affairs and a former U.S. State Department official; Seth Singleton, adjunct professor of political science and Libra Professor of International Relations; and James Warhola, professor emeritus of political science. Richard Powell, a UMaine political science professor and Cohen Institute director, will moderate the panel discussion. The online event is free and open to the public. Visit <https://bit.ly/3skSHHD> for more information.

Leonard named marketing and communications lead for UMaine Machias

01 Mar 2022

Jacqueline Leonard has been named assistant director of marketing and communications for the University of Maine at Machias, effective Feb. 28. Leonard will be a primary contact for regional media and stakeholders, and will serve as the liaison with the University of Maine Division of Marketing and Communications, Enrollment Management, campus leaders and community members. Leonard was a member of the Down East community for 11 years before moving to Old Town. She received an associate degree in business technology – information management from UMaine Machias and a bachelor’s degree in liberal arts with a marketing minor from UMaine. She will receive her MBA from UMaine in May. For the past six years, Leonard has been a professional academic advisor in the UMaine Graduate School of Business.

UMaine Extension co-hosting dairy conference noted in media

01 Mar 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) noted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension is co-hosting an upcoming dairy conference with the Maine Dairy Industry Association (MDIA). The “2022 Maine Dairy Seminar and MDIA Annual Meeting” will be held from 9 a.m.–3:15 p.m. March 10 at the Waterville Elks Lodge, 76 Industrial St., Waterville. Register [online](#) by March 9.

Media advances talk about community planning for natural disasters

01 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) advanced an upcoming talk from the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions about how community planning and partnerships can help reduce vulnerability to natural disasters. The talk will be held from 3–4 p.m. on March 7 both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall at UMaine. Register [online](#).

Piscataquis Observer advances Extension ‘Garden in a Box’ workshop

01 Mar 2022

[The Piscataquis Observer](#) shared information about a five-part “Garden in a Box” education series at the Thompson Free Library, hosted by the Piscataquis Regional Food Center and University of Maine Cooperative Extension Piscataquis County. “Tips and Tricks for Garden Chores,” the first in the series, will be held March 24 at 6 p.m. The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared the report.

BDN reports on new clinic at University of Maine at Machias

01 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Eastport Health Care Inc. now has two locations in Machias with a new pediatric clinic located on the first floor of Sennett Hall at the University of Maine at Machias.

BDN advances outdoors career workshop

01 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about the University of Maine Outdoor Leadership program and Career Center sponsoring a job fair and panel discussions for students interested in careers in the outdoors on March 1 at the Memorial Union. More information can be found on the event [webpage](#).

Morning Ag Clips highlights 4-H member who won national cattle showing award

01 Mar 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) shared a news release about a long-time member of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H program for youth development who won a national award for showing cattle. At the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado on Jan. 14, Lauren Pride of Limington, Maine and her heifer calf PFF Krew won Grand Champion Percentage Aberdeen Female in the Junior Show. She also won Junior Calf Division Champion Percentage Aberdeen in the open show.

BDN features Extension in potato industry report

01 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) quoted Steve Johnson, area crops specialist and potato educator at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Presque Isle, in an article about farming in the potato industry. Johnson said, “We’re farming smarter. I would stack our growers up against growers in any other parts of the world. They’re that good.” [WGME](#) shared the BDN report.

Northern Light Health features UMaine Nursing award

01 Mar 2022

UMaine Nursing was awarded a \$1.7 million award from HRSA to diversify the nursing workforce. The grant provides funding to reform admission standards in the school and implement an evidence-based holistic admission process; support inclusive communities and student support in the Nursing Living Learning Community; modify curriculum across the school to include concepts and behaviors that promote diversity; student scholarships for first-generation and racial and ethnic minorities; faculty exchanges with Morgan State University; and comprehensive DEI integrated training in collaboration with Northern Light Health. Research and evaluation about the effectiveness of grant activity will be published and disseminated by various collaborators, faculty and staff at UMaine Nursing and beyond. Northern Light Health featured the collaboration and effort in its [annual report](#).

Farmtario reports on UMaine weed control research

01 Mar 2022

[Farmtario](#) reported on University of Maine research about methods of weed control. Eric Gallandt, UMaine professor of weed ecology, said integrated management must go beyond tillage to include crop rotation, cover crops, seedbed preparation and managing “seed rain,” which refers to the spread of weed

seeds.

3D Printing Industry features UMaine in article about renewable energy

01 Mar 2022

[3D Printing Industry](#) included the University of Maine’s eco-friendly turbine blade mold 3D printing process, which is backed by \$2.8 million in federal funding, in an article about the ways in which 3D printing is used to advance renewable energy technology.

UMaine MARINE Initiative seed grant awardees announced

01 Mar 2022

Three University of Maine projects have been awarded competitive seed grant funding to facilitate research collaborations across marine-related disciplines, academic units and research centers as part of the [UMaine MARINE Initiative](#). The purpose of this seed grant is to focus on collaborative, innovative pilot studies, with the clear intention of using this work to elevate future external proposals to a highly competitive level. Faculty and professional research staff/scientists were invited to submit proposals in October, addressing a timely marine science challenge, concern or question. Supported projects receive awards up to \$35,000. Summaries of awarded projects: **Do biological particles scavenge and remove microplastic fibers from the ocean?** Marine plastic pollution is a ubiquitous issue throughout the world’s oceans, including Maine’s coastline. Microplastics pose health risks for humans, fish and wildlife, and therefore have important economic implications. Ocean plastic pollution is part of a complex cycle, with estimated inputs to the oceans exceeding the known removal rates. This project proposes to analyze a set of microplastic samples obtained from sinking particles collected in the eastern North Atlantic that may contain some of the first direct evidence for biological removal of plastic from the ocean. The results of the analysis would be relevant to microplastic cycling in Maine’s highly seasonal, productive coastal ocean environment. This knowledge will inform the sustainable management of plastic pollution in the shared “commons” of Maine’s coastline and Blue Economy. Collaborators from UMaine include Margaret (Meg) Estapa, assistant professor of chemical oceanography; Onur Apul, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering; Lauren Ross, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering; Mikayla Clark, graduate student in the School of Marine Sciences; Sudheera Yaparathne, postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Outside collaborator Colleen Durkin is a scientist at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute in Moss Landing, California.

Creating partnerships to provide the communities of Jonesport and Beals with economic data to guide local decision-making Small-town municipal officials are tasked with decision-making related to their communities’ adaptation to environmental changes and other socially and economically disruptive events (such as the COVID-19 pandemic). These vulnerabilities are particularly notable in Maine’s small, coastal communities where reliance on commercial fishing leaves them particularly vulnerable to fluctuations and collapses in their fisheries, and other environmental and economic shocks. Researchers propose a pilot project to develop and model the social, economic, and technological frameworks necessary to guide local-level decision-making in the pandemic’s aftermath. Collaborators from UMaine include Kristen Grant from Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and Megan Bailey from the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. **Developing pathways for new approaches to blue carbon science: Filling a critical knowledge gap in coastal ecosystem management using a model eDNA collaborative science initiative** Blue carbon was identified as a critical research need in the Maine Climate Action Plan. Accurate carbon accounting will assist in determining climate neutrality for the state, while increasing the potential for new economic opportunities involving carbon credits. These ecosystems provide invaluable services that buffer coastal communities against the effects of climate change such as protecting against storm surge and coastal erosion. Tidal marshes are particularly affected by human activities and threatened by sea level rise. In Maine, about half of tidal marshes are impacted by flow restrictions from culverts or road crossings, which can threaten further loss. Removing these restrictions can restore the ecosystem functioning of marshes, but identifying the need for restriction removal and monitoring the recovery of these restrictions can be costly and time consuming. This project proposes to use environmental DNA (eDNA) to better understand the connections between microorganism communities and carbon sequestration in restricted and unrestricted marsh areas. Collaborators from UMaine include Andrew Rominger, assistant professor of ecological bioinformatics; Suzanne Ishaq, assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences Bridie McGreavy, associate professor of environmental communication; Katharine Ruskin, lecturer and undergraduate coordinator in ecology and environmental sciences; and Heather Richard, first year P.h.D. student in ecology and environmental science. UMaine MARINE brings together researchers with an interest in all fields of marine sciences, including but not limited to oceanography, marine biology, policy, fisheries, aquaculture, seafood sciences, economics, social sciences, anthropology and seafood sciences. For more information visit the [UMaine MARINE website](#). Contact: research@maine.edu

Study of algae in Acadia National Park lakes shows recovery from acidification

02 Mar 2022

Acadia National Park is known for its beautiful lakes — and they can tell scientists a lot about the health of the environment. New research shows that regulations to reduce human-caused sulfur in the atmosphere have made a difference for lakes in Acadia National Park, though climate change may slow that recovery. Research from the 1990s showed that human-caused atmospheric pollution in the 20th century caused the acidification of lakes across eastern North America starting in the 1940s. Acidification of lakes causes the decrease of dissolved organic carbon in lakes, which impacts lake ecology and makes water appear clearer. Since the Clean Air Act Amendments were federally enacted in 1990, the northeastern United States has received significantly less atmospheric acid depositions with the goal of restoring ecosystems like lakes that were impacted by the pollution. However, climate change can also impact lake water clarity, as rising temperatures drive the production and release of dissolved organic carbon, while shifts in precipitation caused by climate change also can bring in more organic matter. Researchers from the University of Maine and the National Park Service wanted to see how these changing acidification dynamics were affecting the ecosystems in different types of lakes in Maine. In an [article](#) published in the Journal of Paleolimnology, scientists reconstructed historical pigment records of algae and diatoms — a particular type of algae with a silica shell, which is usually negatively impacted by acidification — from two lakes in Acadia National Park, Jordan Pond and Seal Cove Pond. Despite being close geographically, the two lakes are very different. Jordan Pond is considered a “clear-water” or oligotrophic lake, meaning its waters are relatively low in plant nutrients with abundant oxygen at its depths. Seal Cove Pond is a “brown-water” or mesotrophic lake with a moderate amount of nutrients. “Recovery from acidification is partially dependent on water clarity, which is impacted by climate change. Across North America and northern and central Europe, there is an ongoing trend toward ‘brownification’ of lakes. Several studies have described ecological changes in clear- vs. brown-water lakes in response to reductions in acid deposition and browning, and our paleolimnological study provides long-term context for interpreting those changes,” says Rachel Fowler, biology lab coordinator who served as the principal investigator of the project for her Ph.D. in the University of Maine Climate Change Institute. The researchers took sediment cores from the deepest parts of both ponds and analyzed the concentrations of different types of algae and the way they varied over time. The results showed the algae in the lakes responded differently over time to acidification. Despite their differences, both ecosystems are recovering since environmental regulations have reduced the amount of

atmospheric sulfur in the area, with many types of algae returning where they had once been pushed out by acidification. “An exciting takeaway is that this study illustrates the effectiveness of the Clean Air Act Amendments. We can see signs of recovery from acid deposition using the remains of algae preserved in the sediments of Jordan Pond and Seal Cove Pond,” says Fowler. However, the results also suggested that clear-water lakes like Jordan Pond are more sensitive to climate warming than brown-water lakes like Seal Cove Pond. Recovery of the algal ecosystem has been slower for Jordan Pond, and may continue to be hampered by the effects of climate change. “Lake color and clarity are major regulators of lake ecology. They can alter the physical and chemical structure of lakes, and contribute to the types and amount of algae living in lakes, too. With the trend toward brownification of lakes due to climate change and other environmental factors, it’s essential that we understand the ecological consequences for the lakes we value for drinking water, recreation and year-round natural beauty,” says Fowler. Fowler conducted the research with Jasmine Saros, associate director of the Climate Change Institute and professor in the School of Biology and Ecology; Kate Warner, Ph.D. in ecology and environmental sciences; and Bill Gawley, biologist at Acadia National Park. The research was funded in part by a Second Century Stewardship award from Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Jazz Ensemble presents big band concert March 4 in Machias

02 Mar 2022

The UMaine Jazz Ensemble will present a concert of big band music on Friday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. at Powers Hall in the University of Maine at Machias Performing Arts Center. The Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of School of Performing Arts lecturer Dan Barrett, is UMaine’s premiere auditioned big band, performing on campus and throughout the state. The March 4 concert will feature music by Marian McPartland, Roy Hargrove, Tom Kubis, Woody Shaw, Bob Brookmeyer, Sammy Nestico, and other great jazz composers and arrangers. Admission to this event is free and open to the public, and is supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series (CA/DLS). For more information, contact brian.jansen@maine.edu.

Boston-based Guerilla Opera’s UMaine residency begins March 4-5

02 Mar 2022

Guerilla Opera, an multidisciplinary artist-run opera cooperative based in Boston, will be at the University of Maine March 4-5, preparing for the premiere of UMaine School of Performing Arts professor Beth Wiemann's new work "I Give You My Home" in June. This residency is a collaboration between Guerilla Opera, UMaine's School of Performing Arts and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies units, and the Nichols House Museum of Boston. The opera is based on the life of the architect, suffragette and peace activist Rose Standish Nichols (1872–1960). The residency includes a presentation by artistic director Aliana De La Guardia on contemporary opera (March 4, 1 p.m.), a vocal master class open to the public by De La Guardia (March 4, 4 p.m.) and a public performance of Wiemann's piece (March 5, 7:30 p.m.), with most residency events taking place in Minsky Recital Hall. These public events will follow current UMaine COVID protocols, and are presented free of charge. In a collaboration with UMaine's Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Program, guest scholar Mona Siegel (California State University, Sacramento) will give an April 11 talk on the World War I-era Women's Peace Movement that was a passion of Rose Standish Nichols. The Guerilla Opera events and Siegel's visit are funded by UMaine’s Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund, the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, the UMaine Arts Initiative and the Hamm Campus Fund. For more information, visit <https://umaine.edu/spa/event/guerilla-opera-residency/> or contact brian.jansen@maine.edu.

UMaine, UNH Extensions offer webinar on propagating trees, shrubs March 7

02 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of New Hampshire Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners on propagating trees and shrubs in winter months, from 6–7:15 p.m. March 7. “[Propagating Trees and Shrubs in the Winter Months](#)” includes suggestions on which trees and shrubs to propagate during late winter or early spring dormancy, essential tools and supplies, and best practices. Bryan Peterson, UMaine associate professor of environmental horticulture, will lead the workshop. Registration is required; a sliding scale program fee is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#) to attend live or receive a link to the recording. This is the last in a six-part [winter gardening webinar series](#) offered monthly through March for Maine and New Hampshire gardeners. For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, 207.781.6099; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host talk on how community planning can reduce natural disaster risks, March 7

02 Mar 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk on how community planning and partnerships can help reduce our vulnerability to natural disasters from 3–4 p.m. on March 7. The U.S. sustains more than \$51 billion in losses and 361 deaths per year, on average, from weather and climate hazards. In Maine, these hazards have been on the rise for decades and include flooding, coastal storm surge, tropical storms and severe winter weather. A strong commitment to community and multi-agency partnerships is crucial for successful efforts to reduce vulnerability to these natural hazards. In this talk, Samuel Roy will discuss the practices and benefits of hazard-mitigation planning and funding, the partnerships that make it happen, the skills and capacities that support these efforts, and success stories from Maine. Roy is the natural hazards planner for the Maine Emergency Management Agency. In this role, he oversees the development of Maine’s natural hazards risk analysis and assessment for the State Emergency Operations Plan, and provides technical and collaborative assistance for local hazard mitigation planning. He also serves as the agency liaison to natural science and academic communities and coordinates natural hazards educational and internship programs. Roy is a faculty fellow with the Mitchell Center and received his Ph.D. in Earth and climate sciences from UMaine in 2015. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Updates for this event will be posted to the [event webpage](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

UMaine research about humans harassing seals could inform public outreach

02 Mar 2022

Seals can look irresistibly cute to beachgoers, but harassing the pinnipeds can cause them stress and potentially even lead to their death. By researching when these incidents occur and what they entail — from feeding or touching the seals to shooting them or hitting them with a boat — a group of UMaine researchers and collaborators involved in marine mammal conservation hopes to help better inform policy and public outreach to protect Maine’s seals. A UMaine-led study published in the journal [Conservation Science and Practice](#) looked at the past several decades of reported incidents of seal stranding, when the animal is found on a beach, or in coastal waters dead or in need of assistance. The study included incidents that occurred in Maine between 2007–19 using data from the Maine Department of Marine Resources, Marine Mammals of Maine and Allied Whale at the College of the Atlantic. These organizations represent members of a national network of marine mammal stranding organizations that respond to and collect data from stranded marine mammals. With input from stranding organizations, the researchers developed detailed classifications for the types of human impacts observed on stranded seals, dividing general categories like “harrassment” into more specific subgroups, including physical contact, displacement from land, feeding and canine interaction. “Our initial exploration of the data found that the traditional mode of categorizing human interaction cases among stranded marine mammals obscures potentially important trends in Maine, where the majority of cases fall into a single broad category of ‘harassment,’” says Kristina Cammen, a UMaine assistant professor of marine mammal science in the School of Marine Sciences. “By breaking this category down, we offer stranding networks new tools to understand and respond to the threats that are facing our local seal populations.” The results found that, overall, human harassment of seals in Maine has increased over the period studied. There were more reports of human harassment of seals in areas of southern Maine, where the human population is denser and more tourists pass through during the summer, though the rates of harassment were the same even in less densely populated areas with fewer overall incidents. Moreover, the study found that there is variation in the rate and type of human interaction, depending on the age of the animal, the season and the specific species. For example, humans were most likely to approach harbor seal pups, while adult gray seals were most likely to show evidence of interaction with fishing gear. “Many of the stranding reports for animals that were harassed showed that the harassment was done with the best intentions, people believing that the animal required intervention and wanting to help the animal. This research is important because it helps stranding networks better understand where and how to focus their outreach and education so that they may empower the public to actually help these animals rather than harass them,” says Emma Newcomb, the recently graduated UMaine Honors undergraduate student who completed her senior thesis on this topic and co-authored the published study. The researchers explain that these differences can be attributed to the life history and habits of different seal species. For example, harbor seals give birth to and nurse their pups in coastal Maine during the late spring and early summer during peak tourist season. Public misinformation also can play a role in seal harassment. Harbor seal mothers commonly leave pups alone on beaches while foraging offshore, and well-meaning people thinking the pup is abandoned and needs help may intervene and disrupt mother-pup bonds, ultimately reducing the baby seal’s chance of survival. The researchers hope that the results of the study, as well as the more specific classification scheme, will inform public outreach programs aimed at helping seals to better target their messaging to the right issues at the right time. “Marine mammal stranding organizations can integrate our research findings into the public talks they give and the conversations they have with members of the general public who call their hotline or approach them on the beach. Together with these organizations, we hope to help address the growing rates of human harassment with protected seal species,” says Cammen. Cammen says that if you come across a stranded marine mammal, you should not approach it. Newcomb says to stay 150 feet away, and if you do come upon an animal unexpectedly, you should talk quietly and move to give it space. Stranded marine mammals in Maine should be reported to the Maine Marine Animal Reporting Hotline at 1.800.532.9551. “It never hurts to call when you see an animal on a beach, but a seal on a beach does not inherently mean it is unhealthy or needs help. It is important to let the stranding networks decide what animals need intervention and what animals are fine on their own,” says Newcomb. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Latest edition of UMaine Today magazine now available

02 Mar 2022



The latest edition of UMaine Today magazine is now available. Copies of the winter 2021–22 edition of UMaine Today magazine are now available. To receive a copy, please email nagle@maine.edu with your name and campus mailing address.

WMTW News 8 interviews Wallhead about planning for spring gardening

02 Mar 2022

Matthew Wallhead, University of Maine Cooperative Extension ornamental horticulture specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, spoke with [WMTW News 8](#) about spring cleanup for lawns and gardens. Wallhead said March is a great time to start a notebook, plan your garden and begin gathering supplies. If you are starting your own seeds at home, there are several plant varieties that can be planted already, such as celery, onion, leeks, lisianthus and foxglove.

Q106.5 features historical photos of University of Maine ski jump

02 Mar 2022

[Q106.5](#) featured historical photographs of a ski jump that used to stand at Bennoch Road in Orono. The “University Ski Jump” was built in the 1920s and played a huge part in wintertime campus activities for students at UMaine’s yearly Winter Carnival.

The Hub highlights forum on women in classical music at UMaine

02 Mar 2022

[The Hub](#) reported that Jessica Meyer, recipient of the Bangor Symphony Orchestra's second Ellis-Beauregard Foundation Composer Award, will participate in a forum on women in classical music at the University of Maine's Minsky Recital Hall, presented as part of Women's History Month at the University of Maine.

Harnesslink quotes Marean in article about standardbred horses

02 Mar 2022

Don Marean, vice chair of the University of Maine Board of Agriculture, was quoted in an article in [Harnesslink](#) about the Standardbred Transition Alliance's new program to help ensure the safety of standardbred horses that are retiring from racing. Marean said, "We are very excited about this new program, which is huge for the future of Standardbreds. Having a point person an owner can reach out to who can physically walk them through the transition from racing is imperative to keep Standardbreds from ending up in trouble or in a kill pen. By eliminating the possible middleman, retiring racehorses have a significantly better chance for a quality life after the track."

Hejrati receives 2022 NSF Early CAREER Award

02 Mar 2022

For his research using robots to aid mobility, Babak Hejrati, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Maine, has been awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award. The annual CAREER awards are one of the organization's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty and include a federal grant for research and education activities for five consecutive years. Through the award by the NSF Disability and Rehabilitation Engineering (DARE) program, Hejrati will establish a framework for helping people with mobility issues — such as older adults with mobility decline and those who have had a stroke — to improve their walking ability using wearable robots. People with walking problems due to aging or neurological disorders such as stroke and Parkinson's disease often participate in gait training therapy to improve their walking ability. Walking is a complex skill that requires highly coordinated leg and arm movements. Current methods for gait training often focus on improving leg movements, but often overlook the importance of arm movement, particularly arm swing, which impacts stability, balance and the efficiency of energy use while walking. Hejrati plans to develop two new wearable robotic devices to examine how the neural circuits that control limb movements interact while walking at different speeds to produce coordinated arm and leg movements in subjects without mobility issues. In patients with mobility issues, the robotic devices will be able to help induce proper whole-body response and enhance their walking ability. "This research presents a paradigm shift in the way that physical therapy is conducted. Instead of only focusing on the legs, one should consider improving the whole-body response consisting of both upper and lower limbs movements. Such an approach is poised to generate more effective and lasting effects since it targets the neuromotor system that controls the movements, and it is based on the concept of motor learning exercises that are trending in the field of gait rehabilitation," says Hejrati. The project also will engage students with disabilities, who are underrepresented in science and engineering. Their involvement in research using assistive robotic devices will encourage them to pursue further education and careers in this field, and help with student retention. Other underrepresented groups such as female engineering students will participate in the research activities through summer research camps. "Involving students who traditionally do not get a chance to participate in activities beyond their classes can promote their motivation to successfully complete their program and see how their work can make a difference to the lives of many people. It will also encourage more underrepresented students to consider STEM majors and careers in future when they can see relatable examples," says Hejrati. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Dill speaks to BDN about rat birth control

02 Mar 2022

Griffin Dill, integrated pest management professional at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) about controlling rat populations using bait that contains rat birth control chemicals. Dill said, "Stopping the reproductive success as a control method is an interesting avenue that has potential. Any research in that direction to steer us away from the lethal options that have downstream effects on wildlife and pets is good."

Corey Sampson: MaineMBA at sea

02 Mar 2022

The Maine Business School says students can earn a MaineMBA from anywhere and Corey Sampson from Durham, Maine, can confirm that that's true. A 2011 graduate of Maine Maritime Academy and a licensed marine engineer, Sampson has spent his career traveling the globe working for offshore drilling contractors. Taking classes on an oil rig in the middle of the ocean obviously has its challenges, but Sampson makes it work. [Read his profile on the Maine Business School website.](#)

Researchers highlight value of communicating across disciplines

02 Mar 2022

Collaborating across different fields of study is an important element of addressing climate change and societal challenges. By looking at a particular multidisciplinary project, a group of University of Maine researchers showed how communication shapes collaboration in many different ways. UMaine researchers from a range of disciplines — including anthropology, ecology and environmental science, genetics, journalism, marine science and Native American studies — collaborated on a [study](#) published in the journal *Frontiers in Communication*. The researchers looked at communication among partners from different disciplines in developing science for coastal resilience using environmental-DNA, or eDNA. eDNA is generally defined as genetic material free in the environment rather than collected directly from organisms themselves. It is a relatively new application of genetic technologies, particularly for

larger plants and animals, so definitions and applications are still developing among academic researchers and communities of environmental managers and other practitioners. The researchers conducted their research as part of [the Maine-eDNA Project](#), a statewide, multi-institutional initiative funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The goal of the Maine-eDNA project is to establish the state as a national leader in environmental monitoring, ecological understanding and sustainability of coastal ecosystems. “The Maine-eDNA Project is transdisciplinary. Our goal is to create knowledge about eDNA in ways that support decision making about water quality, fisheries stewardship, and climate adaptation. Communication shapes all aspects of how we create knowledge together,” says Bridie McGreavy, associate professor of environmental communication and lead author of the study. The researchers used ethnographic research techniques to investigate how strategic communication influences this large-scale collaboration by observing and participating in Maine-eDNA Project meetings and interviewing team members in different roles, from varied disciplines and demographic backgrounds. They used a technique known as knowledge mapping to identify different perceptions and definitions of eDNA across the group, and to foster discussion about how the transdisciplinary nature of the project creates space to explore the ethical issues associated with the new science. They also are working on an anti-oppressive data management approach known as Biocultural Labels to address differences in what “data” means, and to take a more equitable approach to data management and sharing, especially with Wabanaki Tribal Nations. The published results showed that participants had different definitions of eDNA, and of communication and expertise, but they also showed both reflexive and relational approaches to communicating across these differences. Because eDNA is a relatively new science, participants might be more flexible in their definitions than in previous related studies. Many participants also had been part of transdisciplinary studies before and drew upon that experience to inform how they approached this project. The researchers’ engaged approach — participating as team members while also conducting research related to the project — has already contributed to more equitable collaborative practices. For example, one of the interview questions asked about the kinds of visual images participants use to communicate about eDNA, which created an opportunity for a participant to raise a concern about the ethical implications of using the double helix as a visual image in light of the relationship between DNA research, colonialism and eugenics. Sharing this concern and the lived experiences and academic history underlying it promoted project-wide efforts to use questions about ethics to grapple with the intersections between language, knowledge and power. This rich dialogue has led to a series of presentations as part of the project, including a half-day ethics workshop. Invited speakers with diverse perspectives about Indigenous ethics, applied biomedical ethics and environmental ethics participated. Another outcome of the ongoing focus on ethics has been integration of related research and emerging best practices in the project’s two graduate courses. “Our engaged research is helping us understand how communication shapes transdisciplinary collaboration. This approach builds capacity for ethical communication practices, such continually posing questions about shared responsibilities in doing this work. This research can provide a model for related efforts that aim to create knowledge in inclusive, equitable, and transdisciplinary ways,” says McGreavy. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Space Initiative set to propel the next generation of innovators

02 Mar 2022

The University of Maine Space Initiative brings together faculty, administrators, staff and students to advance Maine’s space-based economy and help meet the demand for a highly skilled workforce in space-related research, technology development and commercialization. The mission of the initiative is to support research and development in space science and engineering through a multidisciplinary approach. This includes the direct participation of non-STEM researchers to provide a unique perspective, supporting the needs of a new and innovative space economy workforce. Associate Vice President for Research Ali Abedi is leading the UMaine Space Initiative in collaboration with a representative group of faculty serving on the initiative’s steering committee. “UMaine Space focuses on several key areas, including the development of enhanced internship programs with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and other aerospace industry partners, with an emphasis on fostering growth within the Maine-based space economy,” says Abedi, who also serves as director of the Center for Undergraduate Research. Opportunities for training of faculty, graduate students and undergraduate students in project development and strategic planning is a key part of this special focus, along with the design of interdisciplinary experiential learning opportunities for students. The initiative also fosters outreach activities to K–12 groups, geared toward developing interest in space-related careers, a necessary step in the road map to building the next generation of innovators. Several milestones have been reached recently which have brought positive attention to the state’s capabilities within the space sector. In late 2020, the Maine Space Grant Consortium received a [U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration \(EDA\) grant](#) of \$444,009 to develop a strategic plan for the [Maine SpacePort Complex](#). The new Maine SpacePort Complex will develop, manufacture and launch nanosatellites into polar orbit. The complex will include an Innovation Hub with research, development and manufacturing facilities, and launch facilities in designated Opportunity Zones. This new initiative, along with the SpacePort Complex and the continued expansion of the new space economy in Maine, aligns with the state’s Economic Development Strategy and the [University of Maine System R&D Plan](#). As Maine’s land, sea and space grant university, recently designated as a [Carnegie R1 top-tiered research institution](#), UMaine has been uniquely positioned to address the research and development needs of the state. Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School Kody Varahramyan says “the UMaine Space Initiative is part of a series of university-wide initiatives that have been strategically created as part of the University of Maine System’s Research and Development Plan, and are supporting the realization of an innovation-driven Maine economy for the 21st century, addressing the workforce, and social and economic needs.” For more detailed information about the initiative visit the [UMaine Space Initiative website](#). Contact: research@maine.edu

Fogler Library creates subject guide on Ukraine and the Russian invasion

03 Mar 2022

Fogler Library staff have created a [LibGuide](#) about the Ukraine crisis. The guide includes links to information as it happens, a map of events to date, a history of the relationship between Russia and Ukraine, books at the Fogler Library on the topic and more.

Race, gender and law scholar Dorothy Roberts to host online presentation on March 7

03 Mar 2022

Acclaimed scholar of race, gender, and law Dorothy Roberts, Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Chair in the Carey Law School and founding director of the Penn Program on Race, Science & Society in the Center for Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, will deliver the 2022 Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Justice Lecture on Monday, March 7 at 6 p.m. [via Zoom](#). Roberts’s lecture — introduced and facilitated by Bruce King, co-executive director of Maine Inside Out — is titled “Family Surveillance” and draws from Roberts’ forthcoming book, “Torn Apart: How the Child Welfare System Destroys Black Families — and How Abolition Can Build a Safer World” (Basic Books, 2022). Roberts’ talk argues that the U.S. child welfare system is a state apparatus that investigates, supervises and terrorizes Black families to control them, not to protect their children, describing how warrantless home investigations, monitoring of families by state agents, civilians deputized to report on parents and coerced compliance with agency dictates reflect a

carceral logic with parallels in the criminal punishment system. State Child Protective Services authorities increasingly use modern surveillance technologies and coordinate with law enforcement agencies to manage regulated populations more efficiently. Family policing should therefore be a focus of critiques of the prison industrial complex and part of the movement to abolish it. Dorothy Roberts' pathbreaking work in law and public policy focuses on urgent social justice issues in policing, family regulation, science, medicine and bioethics. Her major books include "Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-first Century" (New Press, 2011); "Shattered Bonds: The Color of Child Welfare" (Basic Books, 2002), and "Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction, and the Meaning of Liberty" (Pantheon, 1997). She is the author of more than 100 scholarly articles and book chapters, as well as a co-editor of six books on such topics as constitutional law and women and the law. The annual Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Lecture honors Schonberger's legacy as a UMaine professor of history and an activist scholar before his death in 1991. At UMaine, his interests included U.S. foreign policy during war and periods of colonialism and imperialism, and the struggles for democracy and democratic socialism at home and abroad. This event is part of the Spring 2022 History Symposium Series and is co-sponsored by the Maine Scholars Strategy Network; the Center for the Arts and Humanities at Colby College; UMaine's Women's Gender, and Sexuality Studies; the UMaine School of Social Work; the UMaine Department of Sociology; the UMaine Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series; and the University of Maine School of Law. Monday's Schomberger Peace and Social Justice Lecture is [accessible online](#). For more information, contact brian.jansen@maine.edu.

CCIDS profiles Step Up Program participant

03 Mar 2022

The University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) recently posted a story on its website, "A college exploration conversation with Jake and Christy." The article features Jake, a high school junior on the autism spectrum who is exploring his college options and attended a UMaine campus tour with his mother, Christy, in late November. Last July, Jake participated in the Step Up Program, a month-long learning experience for high school juniors or seniors with an autism spectrum diagnosis who are interested in attending college and are clients of the Maine Department of Labor's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR). The program is a collaboration among UMaine's Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, the College of Education and Human Development, Student Accessibility Services and the Maine Department of Labor DVR. [Read the full story on the CCIDS website.](#)

CRSF webinar and field tour recordings of Maine's coastal spruce-fir forest available online

03 Mar 2022

The Center for Research on Sustainable Forests (CRSF) and Forest Stewards Guild hosted the third installment in their Maine Forest Climate Change webinar series. Over 80 attendees joined the Feb. 23 webinar about Maine's coastal spruce-fir forest and biohabitat corridors, while 15 individuals participated in the associated field tour on Feb. 24. The webinar recording and field tour video are available [online](#).

PPH op-ed cites Rural Vitality Lab research

03 Mar 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) published an op-ed this week that responds to recent reports about Maine's mixed record on mental health support for children, and points to changes that could be made in rural communities and schools to better support whole child development. The piece, "Rural Maine families need mental health support," cites research from the [Rural Vitality Lab](#), led by associate professor of educational leadership Catharine Biddle, and Colby College education professors Lyn Mikel Brown and Mark Tappan, as well as the [Beyond Crisis Schooling](#) project, led by Biddle and lecturer in educational leadership Maria Frankland.

News Center Maine features Family Futures Downeast

03 Mar 2022

[News Center Maine](#) featured Family Futures Downeast, a collaboration among five nonprofit and public organizations, and the University of Maine at Machias and Washington Community College that provides transportation, peer support, and academic counseling to help parents stay in school. Family Futures Downeast is not only breaking down economic barriers to a college degree, it also is helping kids thrive alongside their parents. While parents are in night classes, their children ages 8 and younger are enrolled in free child care centers at UMaine Machias and Washington Community College.

Media highlights Maine Aquaculture Distributing Mapping Manual

03 Mar 2022

[The Ellsworth American](#), [Aquaculture North America](#), [Wiscasset Newspaper](#), [FishFocus](#), [DeliciousFood.com](#), [Boothbay Register](#) and [Mount Desert Islander](#) featured the [Maine Aquaculture Distributing Mapping Manual](#), a collaborative project underway between the University of Maine School of Economics, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Maine Aquaculture Association, Gulf of Maine Research Institute and the Island Institute that explores in detail the costs, volumes, availability and reach of the identified distribution channels, along with consumer preferences for Maine seafood across the country.

UMaine lake algae study featured in media

03 Mar 2022

[Phys.org](#), [ScienMag](#), [Verve Times](#), [Environmental News Network](#), [Science Daily](#), [Eurasia Review](#) and the [Mount Desert Islander](#) highlighted research from the University of Maine that shows regulations to reduce human-caused sulfur in the atmosphere have made a difference for lakes in Acadia National Park, though climate change may slow that recovery. Rachel Fowler, biology lab coordinator who served as the principal investigator of the project for her Ph.D. in the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, said, "Several studies have described ecological changes in clear- vs. brown-water lakes in response to reductions in acid deposition and browning, and our paleolimnological study provides long-term context for interpreting those changes."

News Center Maine features UMaine teaching commercial

03 Mar 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported on a [commercial campaign from the University of Maine called "Why Teach,"](#) which features testimonies from current and former UMaine students about why they want to be teachers. The campaign was launched during the Winter Olympics to address the teacher shortage nationally and across Maine.

Wahle speaks with AP about declining baby lobster numbers

03 Mar 2022

Rick Wahle, director of the University of Maine Lobster Institute, spoke with the [Associated Press](#) about the continuing decline of baby lobster populations. Wahle said the trend of below-average baby lobster settlement numbers in the Gulf of Maine continued in 2021. [U.S. News and World Report](#), [WPRI \(Providence, RI\)](#), [News Center Maine](#), [Spectrum News 1](#), [Newsradio WGAN](#), [NBC 10 Boston](#), [Spectrum News 9 \(Tampa\)](#), [WCLZ \(South Portland\)](#), [WMTW \(Portland\)](#), [WABI 5 \(Bangor\)](#), [CapeCod.com](#) and [Fox 22 \(Bangor\)](#) shared the AP report.

Summer FLAS Competition now accepting applications

04 Mar 2022

The Canadian-American Center is now accepting applications for Summer 2022 Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) awards. The award competition is open to all graduate students who wish to improve their French proficiency in Canada. Summer FLAS is a federal grant to support graduate students studying French and undergraduate or graduate students studying less commonly taught Canadian languages, including First Nations languages like Maliseet, Mi'kmaq/Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Abenaki/Penobscot, for six weeks over the summer. The grant pays for tuition and offers a living allowance stipend. The award covers tuition up to \$5,000 and offers a \$2,500 stipend. To be eligible for a Summer FLAS fellowship, a student must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident; already be at the intermediate or advanced level in French; be enrolled or accepted in a full-time graduate program at UMaine; and be enrolled in a six-week intensive summer language study (140 contact hours) in French. Credits can be transferred to UMaine. The application deadline is March 15. For more information, visit the [FLAS Award webpage](#) or contact Frederic Rondeau, frederic.rondeau@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension 4-H agricultural leadership program starts March 15

04 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering a six-week session in its agricultural leadership program for Maine teens on Tuesdays, March 15–April 19, 3:30–5 p.m. The [Spring 2022 Agricultural Leadership Ambassador Program](#) will provide Maine youth ages 14–18 online and in-person opportunities to explore career pathways, post-secondary options, current issues in food systems, crop sciences, aquaculture and more. Current 4-H membership is not required. The program is free; registration is required. Register on the [program webpage](#). Current CDC and University of Maine health guidelines will be followed for all in-person events. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Alisha Targonski, 207.622.7546; extension.4hagleadership@maine.edu.

Media advance Extension 4-H leadership workshop

04 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Centralmaine.com](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) shared information about University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H offering a six-week session in its agricultural leadership program for Maine teens on Tuesdays, March 15–April 19 from 3:30–5 p.m. Register on the [program webpage](#).

Media shares Extension 4-H Food Science Club

04 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [Daily Bulldog](#) shared information about University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H's new five-session online food science club for ages 9–13. The club will meet weekly 3:30–4:30 p.m. March 22–April 19. The club is free to join; registration on the [4-H club webpage](#) is required by March 10 and limited to 10 participants.

'The Maine Question' asks what the future holds for Maine aquaculture

04 Mar 2022

Aquaculture is a growing industry in Maine. It yields more than \$100 million in overall economic impact each year, nearly three times as much as the \$50 million it contributed in 2007. Farmers and businesses in working waterfronts support the economy by cultivating Atlantic salmon, oysters, sea vegetables and other aquatic flora and fauna. Despite the increased consumption of seafood harvested from Maine waters, the industry faces several hurdles to further expansion. Most Americans consume fish from overseas, and many wild-caught populations are in severe decline and danger of collapse. The Maine Aquaculture Roadmap, 2022–2032 was created to help tackle the challenges the state aquaculture industry faces and identify resources to support it. In Episode 4 of Season 6 of "The Maine Question," Heather Sadusky, marine extension associate with Maine Sea Grant and coordinator for the Maine Aquaculture Hub, and Deborah Bouchard, director of the University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute, describe this 10-year plan to bolster the industry. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or "The Maine Question" [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Sun Gazette promotes Fried's online talk about restoring trust in government, institutions

07 Mar 2022

The [Sun Gazette](#) promoted an upcoming online talk by Amy Friend, a University of Maine professor of political science, about restoring trust in elected officials and public institutions at 2 p.m. March 14.

Morning Ag Clips advances Master Food Preserver Program

07 Mar 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) advanced University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Master Food Preserver Program. Learn more and register on the program [webpage](#).

HerMoney features Barrett in story about tax brackets

07 Mar 2022

[HerMoney](#) interviewed David Barrett, a lecturer in accounting with the Maine Business School at the University of Maine, for a story titled "These are the New 2022 Tax Brackets and Why They Matter."

Centralmaine.com advances dairy conference co-hosted by UMaine Extension

07 Mar 2022

[Centralmaine.com](#) promoted an upcoming dairy conference co-hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Dairy Industry Association (MDIA). The 2022 Maine Dairy Seminar and MDIA Annual Meeting will be held from 9 a.m.–3:15 p.m. March 10, at the Waterville Elks Lodge, 76 Industrial St. Register for the event [online](#).

Porter discusses thriving potato crop with News Center Maine

07 Mar 2022

Greg Porter, a University of Maine professor of agronomy, spoke with [News Center Maine](#) about the banner 2021 season for potato production and the work from farmers and researchers to bolster the industry.

WVII reports on Alumni Association's panel about Russia invading Ukraine

07 Mar 2022

[WVII](#) (Channel 7) reported on the University of Maine Alumni Association's panel about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and its implications for the U.S. The panel featured Hon. Kenneth Hillas, adjunct professor of international affairs and a former U.S. State Department official; Seth Singleton, adjunct professor of political science and Libra Professor of International Relations; and James Warhola, professor emeritus of political science.

BDN highlights UMaine faculty and students participating in 2022 Maine Science Festival

07 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) highlighted the University of Maine faculty and students who are participating in the 2022 Maine Science Festival from March 16–20.

New York Times interviews UMaine researchers about the role animal personalities play in nature

07 Mar 2022

The [New York Times](#) interviewed University of Maine scientists Alessio Mortelliti, an associate professor of wildlife habitat ecology, and Malcolm Hunter Jr., a professor emeritus of wildlife ecology, about the role animal personalities play in nature. "Personality is found in all taxa," Mortelliti said. "It's important to know and appreciate that personality can be a consideration in terms of managing these systems," Hunter said.

Concert for a Cause on March 8 at Collins Center for the Arts

07 Mar 2022

The University of Maine School of Performing Arts presents its annual Concert for a Cause at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 8 at the Collins Center for the Arts. This year, the concert brings together the University of Maine Concert Band, directed by Philip Edelman, with the Leonard Middle School Symphonic Band, directed by Shianne Priest, and the Bangor High School Band, directed by Matthew Tipton, to raise funds for Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center's Champion the Cure Challenge to support local cancer research and treatment. The Concert for a Cause began five years ago when Edelman decided that the Concert Band was capable and ready to add another performance to its schedule. Working with Team RUSH (Remember – Uplift – Support – Honor) for Champion the Cure, led by Priest at Leonard Middle School and Gert Nesin, principal at Leonard Middle School, was a natural fit. "Our students care deeply about the community, and everyone knows someone affected by cancer," says Edelman, who is an assistant professor of music education in the School of Performing Arts. "The Concert for a Cause is a wonderful opportunity to use music as a way to give back," says Priest. "Cancer research saves lives and music heals. Our young musicians are passionate about using their talent to make a difference." Each year, Concert for a Cause features the stories of local survivors throughout the concert. The event will also feature raffles. Admission is free, with organizers asking for a suggested donation of \$12. Generous

support from the Alton '38 and Adelaide Hamm Campus Activity Fund means that 100% of proceeds go to Champion the Cure. For more information, contact Brian Jansen, 207.581.1955; brian.jansen@maine.edu.

President Ferrini-Mundy to deliver State of the University address March 8

07 Mar 2022

University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy will give the 2022 State of the University address at 10 a.m., March 8 in Minsky Recital Hall, located in the Class of 1944 Hall. The event is free and open to the public, and will be livestreamed: <https://youtu.be/MgvNVjsFaNs>. The event will feature guest appearances by UMaine Faculty Senate president and professor William Nichols; Alicia Cruz-Urbe, the Edward Sturgis Grew Associate Professor of Mineralogy and Petrology, School of Earth and Climate Sciences; Zachary Wyles, president of University of Maine Student Government; and Valeria Roach, a sophomore in the NROTC (Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps) Program and native of Ukraine. Short videos will focus on the fostering learner success at the University of Maine at Machias; the UMaine School of Nursing diversity, equity and inclusion initiative; Maine's national R1 top-tier research university designation; the Research Learning Experience (RLE) initiative of UMS TRANSFORMS; and students' Black Bears Care campaign. Please be prepared at the door to show evidence of vaccination, or documentation of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of arrival or documentation of a positive COVID test within 90 days of arrival.

Maine Geological Survey uses RLE students' report about Harriman Point

08 Mar 2022

The Maine Geological Survey is using a [report](#) prepared by students from a 2021 Research Learning Experience (RLE) course that describes the geological and anthropological features of Harriman Point, a natural preserve in Brooklin, Maine. Christopher Gerbi, a professor with the University of Maine School of Earth and Climate Sciences, and students from his Sharing Geoscience on Maine's Public Lands RLE wrote the report "Bedrock, Glaciers, and People at Harriman Point, Brooklin, Maine." The Maine Geological Survey published the report as its [latest Maine Geologic Fact and Locality \(GFL\) release](#). Student co-authors include Allie Andersen, Briana Batista, Christopher Bibula, Sean Burke, Matt Henriques, Iris May-Fleming, Daphne McCollom, Brenna Murphy, Ian Ramsden, Katie Ritchie, Hana Stone, Tommy Young. The Maine Coast Heritage Trust, which manages the Harriman Point preserve, worked with the class by helping identify a property to study and reviewing the report. RLEs are courses that allow students across academic disciplines to engage in open-ended research and scholarship at the start of their college careers. The RLE program is a UMS TRANSFORMS initiative funded by the Harold Alfond Foundation's historic \$240 million grant to provide new opportunities for student support, faculty development and innovative collaborative degree programs to advance Maine's economy and workforce in partnership with the public and private sectors. "A major goal of this RLE was to take new work from observation through publication, crossing between science and communication," says Gerbi, who also serves as associate dean of research for the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. "I'm proud of how the students collaboratively developed a document in such a short time that we can share with the public."

UMaine's MIRT Accelerator program selects four teams for 2022 cohort

08 Mar 2022

Four faculty-led innovation teams have been selected to participate in the fifth cohort of the University of Maine's [Maine Innovation Research and Technology Accelerator \(MIRTA\) program](#). The 2022 projects will develop research innovations in accessibility education, aquaculture, computer-aided breast cancer detection and marine sciences. MIRTA, coordinated by UMaine's [Foster Center for Innovation](#), assists teams from Maine research institutions to advance lab discoveries into public and commercial use. Teams work 20 hours a week for 16 weeks doing market research, intellectual property analysis and business model development to bring their inventions to market. Guiding them throughout the process are business incubation staff from the Foster Center. Additionally, each team has an advisory committee of industry and technology experts who provide feedback and advice. The teams are eligible for up to \$25,000 each to help develop commercialization implementation plans. To kick off the program, this year's cohort recently completed an immersive boot camp designed to introduce them to all aspects of the commercialization process. Commercialization plans vary depending on the type of invention a team brings to MIRTA, and the result could be starting a new company or licensing to an existing one. From the 17 teams in the first four MIRTA cohorts, seven new startups have been formed, seven patents have been filed or issued, and the teams have collectively raised more than \$2.3 million in external funding and prototype sales to support ongoing commercialization. Companies that have been formed after participation in MIRTA include [Neuright](#), winner of the \$25,000 David Shaw prize at the statewide Top Gun accelerator program in 2019, and [UNAR Labs](#) selected to join the first cohort of the Roux Institute Startup Residency Program in 2021. MIRTA is made possible by support from the University of Maine System Research Reinvestment Fund (RRF) and the Maine Technology Institute. RRF is a pool of competitive internal grants allocated to advance research projects along the path from discovery to becoming commercial products with public benefit. All projects are tied to Maine businesses or industries critical to the future of the state. The MIRTA 5.0 teams are: *Future Fish Tags* Future Fish Tags is pursuing commercialization of biocompatible implants made from printed titanium foam metals in order to improve tissue integration and animal welfare, and maximize the retention of conventional and electronic tags used on aquatic animals. Team: Walt Golet, assistant professor of marine sciences, UMaine and Gulf of Maine Research Institute; Sammi Nadeau, Pelagic Fisheries Lab technician; with external partner Brian McLaughlin, founder and CEO, Amplify Additive *Oyster Pod* Oyster Pod is pursuing commercialization of a 3D-printed aquaculture tank insert made from forest product feedstocks and bioplastic and designed to capitalize on the space-saving and energy-reducing principles of vertical aquaculture to maximize the growth of Eastern Oysters and improve efficiencies for Maine's small shellfish farmers. Team: Doug Gardner, professor of sustainable materials and technology; Matthew Nixon, Ph.D. candidate, aquaculture and aquatic resources, and owner of Muddy River Farm Aquaponics *WAVED: Wavelet-based Assessment and Visualization for Early Detection* WAVED is pursuing commercialization of patented computer-aided detection (CAD) technology that uses a patient's mammographic history and clinical data to identify the physical markers believed to be linked to malignant tumor onset and growth, leading to early detection of breast cancer. Team: Andre Khalil, professor of biomedical engineering, UMaine; Kendra Batchelder, interdisciplinary Ph.D. candidate in computational biomedicine *Wheelchair Odyssey* Wheelchair Odyssey is pursuing development and commercialization of immersive software to simulate wheelchair navigation in inaccessible, real-world settings. The software will be designed for students in higher education so that they can experience the everyday obstacles that wheelchair users face, learn about related Americans with Disabilities Act access requirements, and hear first-person stories from people with disabilities. Team: Karen Barrett, professor and program coordinator of rehabilitation services, University of Maine at Farmington; J. Chad Duncan, chair/program director, orthotics and prosthetics, Salus University; Avery Olmstead, accessibility subject matter expert

Media advances Extension seed starting webinar

08 Mar 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [Lincoln County News](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners about starting seeds indoors, from noon–1:15 p.m. on March 25. “Seed Starting at Home” features best practices for starting vegetable and flower seedlings indoors, such as proper timing, supplies for success and practical tips for managing light, temperature and moisture. Kate Garland, UMaine Extension horticultural professional, leads the workshop. Registration [online](#) is required.

BDN features Maine AgrAbility program**08 Mar 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) featured a new program to introduce fishermen to yoga, which is a collaboration between yoga instructor and Port Clyde oyster farmer Antonia Small, Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association and Maine AgrAbility. Maine AgrAbility is a nonprofit collaboration of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Alpha One, dedicated to helping farmers, fishermen, and forest workers work safely and more productively.

O’Reilly quoted in Washington Post article about Olympics and Putin**08 Mar 2022**

Norm O’Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business at the University of Maine, was quoted in a [Washington Post](#) article about the consequences of the Olympics collaborating with autocrats like Russia’s Vladimir Putin. O’Reilly said, “The effectiveness of sponsorship is built in perception, and these brands are at high risk if they react in the wrong way — or don’t react. Similarly, there is big opportunity if they react in the right way. There are a lot of pieces here. It goes either way.”

UMaine Extension Master Food Preserver Program applications open**09 Mar 2022**

Applications for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Food Preserver Program are now available. The 10-session course meets Tuesdays, June 14–Sept. 6, from 5:30–8:30 p.m., at the UMaine Extension office, 75 Clearwater Drive, Falmouth, and at Brunswick High School, 116 Maquoit Road, Brunswick. The 35-hour course combines lecture, discussion and hands-on kitchen lab practice. Topics include food preservation techniques such as canning, drying, freezing and fermenting; food storage and safety; and prevention of foodborne illness. Upon graduation, Master Food Preservers volunteer in their communities using research-based information and hands-on educational activities from UMaine Extension and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The program is open to Maine residents ages 18 and older. The course fee is \$300; limited financial assistance is available. Apply on the [program webpage](#) by 4:30 p.m. May 6. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Eavan Sibole, 207.781.6099; 800.287.1471 (toll-free in Maine); eavan.sibole@maine.edu.

Breen and Millett help NH-ME LEND trainees prepare for Disability Policy Seminar**09 Mar 2022**

In late January, the New Hampshire-Maine Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (NH-ME LEND) Program hosted a two-state panel discussion as part of its virtual Spring Kick Off Event, "Organizing to Influence Your State’s Policy." Maine State Senator Catherine Breen and State Representative Sawin Millett were joined on the panel by two parent advocates and two individuals with disabilities who have helped to enact change in their state’s disability policies. “Policy work is really problem-solving; always trying to figure out where we can find agreement on what government’s job is,” said Breen. “When I boil down all of the different debates I’ve had over the years about policies or bills or budgets, they all come down to one thing: do people agree what the job of government is? That’s where you find the widest disparities and opportunity for agreement.” The panel generated robust discussions with trainees about the influence of people with disabilities and family members on policy, building coalitions, educating legislators, and responding to failures and setbacks. The session was designed to help prepare NH-ME LEND trainees to participate in the annual Disability Policy Seminar (DPS) in Washington, D.C. on March 28–30. DPS is a three-day federal legislative conference that provides trainees with the opportunity to network, learn about disability policy and meet with their congressional delegations. NH-ME LEND is a federally funded graduate-level interdisciplinary leadership training program that prepares students, family members and professionals to assume leadership roles in the field of neurodevelopmental disabilities. Program partners include the University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability, the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS), and the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. More information is on the [CCIDS website](#).

BDN advances UMaine Hutchinson Center professional development event for teachers**09 Mar 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about a professional development workshop for teachers at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast on March 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. DKG’s annual S-T-R-E-T-C-H-Your Teaching Workshop features session topics that are appropriate for all elementary, middle school and high school educators. Among the featured presenters will be Maine’s 2021 Teacher of the Year Cindy Soule and Ellsworth High School teacher Heidi Omlor. Registration fee is \$40 and includes lunch and a contact certificate for 5.5 hours. For a registration form and session information, contact mimiken7@gmail.com or visit the [program webpage](#). Deadline for registration is March 11.

Centralmaine.com reports on \$800,000 donation to Fogler Library**09 Mar 2022**

[Centralmaine.com](#) reported that the University of Maine Fogler Library has received an \$800,000 gift from the estate of Lee Gagnon, a Waterville native and a member of the class of 1959, to support an endowed memorial fund in honor of his parents. The Lionel J. Gagnon and Germaine Fortin Gagnon Memorial

Fund will provide resources for the library’s procurement of resources, including books, videos, tapes, computer equipment, software and supplies, speakers, programs and materials in perpetuity. UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy said, “This gift will advance the ability of the state’s largest research library to provide excellent resources to our university community, across the University of Maine System and the state. As part of our Carnegie R1 top-tier research institution, Fogler has a critical role in supporting students, faculty, staff and Maine residents.”

WABI highlights State of the University, R1 designation

09 Mar 2022

[WABI](#) reported on the University of Maine’s State of the University on March 8. Among the topics discussed at the State of the University was UMaine’s Carnegie designation as an R1 institution. UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy said, “Special thanks to our remarkable faculty and staff who are committed to making a difference in this area. They are doing just that. And, that is the main reason why we’re being recognized with this national designation that applies to fewer than 4% of universities.”

Kimball speaks to Offshore Source about wave energy

09 Mar 2022

In an article about developing wave energy on the U.S. East Coast, Richard Kimball, Presidential Professor of Ocean Engineering and Energy at the University of Maine, told [Offshore Source](#) that a scaled ocean field test site in Castine and a full-scale demonstration site in Mohegan are available to move wave energy systems from concept to commercial maturity. Kimball said, “Our work in marine policy, fisheries and regulatory domains in support of offshore energy development has been key for several commercial tidal and river projects in the U.S., as well. A healthy industry requires a robust ecosystem of suppliers, service providers and stakeholders working together locally and regionally. This also includes a better understanding of local and regional stakeholder expectations as projects are proposed.”

Socolow writes about ‘headline stress disorder’ for The Conversation

09 Mar 2022

Michael Socolow, associate professor of communication and journalism at the University of Maine, wrote an article for [The Conversation](#) about the impacts of stressful news. Socolow said, “We all eat; but some of us eat far too much. When that occurs, everyday behavior is transformed into actions that can threaten health and survival. Likewise, most of us strive to stay informed, but it’s likely that in certain situations, for certain people, staying informed when the news is particularly frightening can threaten their mental health.” [AllSides](#), [MSN](#), [HeraldNet](#), [Asian Express](#), [InnerSelf](#), [Derrick](#) and the [Wausau Pilot & Review](#) shared Socolow’s article.

Brewer speaks to Portland Phoenix about dark money in nonprofit organizations

09 Mar 2022

Mark Brewer, professor and chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of Maine, spoke with the [Portland Phoenix](#) about the role of dark money in 501(c)(4) nonprofit organizations. Brewer said, “When one hears about ‘dark money’ in American politics, the bulk of that dark money is flowing through 501(c)(4) groups. No limits on spending combined with no requirement for donor disclosure is a recipe for mischief.”

Rickard led PFAS communication training for DEP

09 Mar 2022

Last fall, Laura Rickard, University of Maine associate professor of communication and a Mitchell Center faculty fellow, led risk communication training for the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The training, largely for new DEP staff who are or will be testing for PFAS at people's homes and on their property, focused on effective ways to communicate PFAS risks. A story about the initiative is [online](#).

Xue receives NSF Early CAREER award for hydrodynamic sensing research

09 Mar 2022

Qian Xue, University of Maine assistant professor of mechanical engineering, has been awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award for her research on the hydrodynamic sensing model of seal whiskers. NSF CAREER awards are one of the organization’s most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty and include a federal grant for research and education activities for five consecutive years. Xue researches the sensing ability of seal whiskers, which have attracted increasing research interest because of their exceptional sensitivity and accuracy. Previous studies have shown that blindfolded seals can use their whiskers to track the disturbances left behind by moving objects in the water, known as hydrodynamic trails, that were generated several minutes before, as well as discriminate the size and shape of upstream objects through their wakes. However, relatively little is known about the mechanisms of seal whisker sensing. Xue’s research looks at how the unique geometry of seal whiskers responds to different vibrations in the water, including self-induced vibrations in calm water and wake-induced vibrations from other objects at both the single-whisker and whisker-array levels. Xue will use a tool known as an immersed-boundary-method based fluid-structure interaction computer model to simulate the vibrations of a single whisker and multiple whiskers in a wide range of parameters. The simulation results will be validated by comparing them to the previously obtained experimental measurements in order to better understand how the whiskers respond to fluid vibrations. “The acquired knowledge will be transformative by inspiring innovative passive hydrodynamic sensing mechanisms associated with seal whisker geometry. These sensors can be particularly useful for marine robotics to support tools for orientation, navigation, detection and tracking. The immersed boundary method is an advanced numerical method especially designed for simulating complex geometries and moving, deformable boundaries, which is ideal for simulating flow-induced vibrations of complex whisker geometries,” says Xue. The research aims to inspire sensing mechanisms based on seal whiskers and contribute to the fundamental understanding of flow-induced vibration properties of bluff and slender bodies like whiskers, which can have applications across engineering fields. The research will also be part of an engineering education plan for undergraduate and graduate engineering students, as well as students in grades 3–12, and the

general public. “An exciting aspect of this research is that it provides an excellent opportunity to develop activities that support engineering education at different education levels, in the classroom and in the lab. I plan to create seal whisker sensing related hands-on activities to inspire students in grades 3 through 12 to participate in STEM education, and also develop multidisciplinary educational and research projects for undergraduate and graduate students interested in bio-inspired engineering,” says Xue. Xue’s \$500,000 award will start on March 1, 2022, and is estimated to continue through February 2027. The project is jointly funded by the Fluids Dynamics Program and the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). This year, UMaine’s Babak Hejrati, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, was also [awarded a 2022 NSF CAREER award](#) for his work using robots to aid mobility. “The award is an important step for me to establish and advance leadership in the area of bio-inspired engineering, especially for flow-related problems. It’s also very exciting to see multiple NSF CAREER awards in mechanical engineering this year, which will allow us to establish strong multidisciplinary research programs in the department,” says Xue. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

‘The Maine Question’ explores Maine maple syrup

10 Mar 2022

Maple syrup is a staple product in Maine, and many rejoice when the sugaring season returns each year. At the end of winter when the temperatures are just right, producers harvest gallons of sap to transform into sweet syrup inside their sugar shacks. In Episode 5 of Season 6 of the “[The Maine Question](#)” podcast, Jason Lilley, a sustainable agriculture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, describes how the producers make maple syrup from sap. He also discusses the future of the maple industry in Maine and shares a few tips and recipes. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Renowned Ukrainian violinist to perform at UMaine on March 26

10 Mar 2022

Renowned Ukrainian violinist Solomia Soroka will perform in a free public concert at 7:30 p.m. March 26 in Minsky Recital Hall at the University of Maine. Soroka’s performance, hosted by the UMaine School of Performing Arts, will feature music faculty members Phillip Silver, professor of piano and musicology, and Noreen Silver, instructor of cello and chamber music. The program will include works by Ukrainian composers Mykola Lysenko, Yevhen Stankovych and Vasyl Barvinsky as a tribute to the nation of Soroka’s birth. Soroka, a professor of violin at Goshen College, Indiana, was born in Lviv, Ukraine. She made her solo debut at age 10, playing Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto with the Lviv Philharmonic Orchestra. Her playing combines warmth and passion with consummate technical skill. Soroka has appeared as soloist and chamber musician at concerts and festivals throughout the world, and has served on the faculty of the Kyiv Conservatory. The inclusion of music by Ukrainian composers in this program is a change from the originally planned selection. “Music is a reflection of the soul of a nation,” says Phillip Silver. “In these terrible times, this choice of repertoire can be understood as an assertion of the national soul engaged in a struggle for survival. Particularly poignant is the fate in an earlier time of composer Vasyl Barvinsky, whose music was either destroyed or banned from performance by the Soviets.” Soroka has performed premieres of a number of contemporary Ukrainian compositions for violin and has recorded many of them for Toccata Classics in London. She is praised for being “a truly wonderful musician” (The Press, Christchurch, New Zealand), and as one who “plays with great warmth and authority” (BBC Music Magazine). For more information, contact Brian Jansen, brian.jansen@maine.edu.

2022 Cohen Lecture is April 4

10 Mar 2022

The 2022 Cohen Lecture, “The Importance of American Leadership in a Dangerous World,” with General Jim Mattis, Medal of Honor Recipient Kyle Carpenter and Secretary William S. Cohen will be at 11 a.m., April 4 in Hutchins Concert Hall, Collins Center for the Arts. The free public lecture, offered by UMaine’s William S. Cohen Institute for Leadership and Public Service, will be moderated by Felicia Knight, president of The Knight Canney Group. To attend, RSVP to 207.581.1755 or 800.622.8499, or go [online](#). No backpacks, large bags, food or beverages will be allowed at the lecture. To request a disability accommodation, call 207.581.1755.

2022 Maine Science Festival features UMaine scientists

10 Mar 2022

The Maine Science Festival (MSF) will come back after two years away due to the pandemic, from March 16–20. It is a program of the Maine Discovery Museum in Bangor and will include more than 70 events and activities, many of which will feature University of Maine scientists. All events, except for the headliner performance, are free to the public. MSF is like an arts or music festival, but for science. The five-day celebration showcases the science and technology happening in Maine in the format of an arts or music festival, with events for all ages. Through forums, workshops, talks, art exhibits, film screenings and hands-on activities, attendees learn about science happening and being used in Maine. Since 2015, MSF has had over 50,000 attend its events. UMaine faculty and students will be involved in a number of MSF events throughout the festival. In addition, the university is sponsoring the Maine Science Festival Field Trip Day, which features curated events for nearly 600 middle school-aged students around the state, at the Cross Center from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. March 17. Field Trip Day presenters at the event include UMaine Artificial Intelligence faculty and students; Sheila Pendse, communications and outreach at the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute, who is coordinating the “Ask me anything about Engineering” event; and Melissa Maginnis, associate professor of microbiology, who will conduct hands-on activities centered on viruses. [Tech Night](#) is an event for middle school-aged students planned and presented by Project>Login that will take place starting at 4:30 p.m. on March 18 at the Maine Discovery Museum. At the event, there will be a presentation to explore the [MIT App Inventor](#) with team members from the UMaine Cooperative Extension 4-H youth development program, including Greg Kranich, Sheila Norman and Emily Mott. [Online registration](#) is required prior to the event. Danielle Levesque, assistant professor of mammalogy and mammalian health, and Fayeza Ahmed, assistant professor of adult and geriatric neuropsychology, health psychology and aging, will present at [5 Minute Genius](#), which features short, sharp talks by some of Maine’s finest scientists with five minutes per talk, plus five minutes for questions, at the Bangor Arts Exchange at 7:30 p.m. on March 18. The hands-on Exploration Station at the Cross Insurance Center starting at 9 a.m. on March 19 is sponsored in part by the Versant Power Astronomy Center. UMaine scientists will also be presenting at MSF forums at the Cross Insurance Center that day. Susanne Lee, faculty fellow at the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, will present at the [Missing Links in Climate Change](#) forum at 9:30 a.m. Liam Riordan, professor of history, will moderate a forum on

[Preserving and Managing Maine Forests](#) at 12:30 p.m. Sean Birkel, research assistant professor at the Climate Change Institute, will present [Introduction to Climate Reanalyzer](#), a data visualization website that provides access to climate and weather forecast models, at 1:30 p.m. The Hudson Museum at the Collins Center for the Arts will feature two MSF art exhibits starting at 6 p.m. March 19 — [Lessons from the Past: Cultural Collapse and Decline](#) and [Insects Everywhere!](#) Lindsay Decker, science reference librarian at the Fogler Library, will host a forum called [Information Overload](#) about identifying and verifying scientific information on the Internet at 11:30 a.m. on March 20 at 51 Main St., Bangor. Scarlett Tudor, education and outreach coordinator at UMaine's Aquaculture Research Institute, also will host a workshop on [Setting Up a Betta Tank for Success](#) at 1 p.m. on March 20 at the Maine Discovery Museum; [online registration](#) is required for the workshop. The headliner event for MSF is a performance of [The Warming Sea](#), an exploration of climate change through the lens of science and symphonic music composed by Grammy award-winner Lucas Richman at 7 p.m. on March 19 at UMaine's Collins Center of the Arts. Tickets are \$25 per person, or \$10 for students. The opening panel on climate change research in Maine will include Katherine Allen and Seth Campbell, both assistant professors in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences; and Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology. The reaction panel will include Birkel, Tudor and Heather Hamlin, associate professor and associate director of the School of Marine Sciences. UMaine volunteers at MSF include Faith Erhardt, advisor of Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honor Society in Education and student volunteers from various groups. The full programming for the festival can be found on the MSF [website](#).

Cammen speaks to News Center Maine about seal harassment

10 Mar 2022

Kristina Cammen, UMaine assistant professor of marine mammal science in the School of Marine Sciences, was interviewed on [News Center Maine](#) about her research about seal harassment. Cammen emphasized that seals found along Maine's shores should be left alone, as her research shows that well-meaning human interaction can lead to the seals' death.

Fox 22 interviews UMaine student born in Ukraine

10 Mar 2022

[Fox 22 Bangor](#) interviewed Valeria Roach, a UMaine sophomore who was born in Ukraine, about the ongoing Russian invasion. Roach talked about her biological family, who remain in Ukraine, and said, "The least we can do is talk about it and bring awareness to it so people can know what's going on."

O'Reilly pens op-ed for PPH about Putin and the Olympics

10 Mar 2022

Norm O'Reilly, dean of the UMaine Graduate School of Business and professor of marketing and sport management, co-authored an op-ed for the [Portland Press Herald](#) stating that the international athletic community needs to take more drastic measures to isolate Russia. The piece read, "This systematic ostracization of Russia from the global sporting community, including explicit denouncement by Russian and Belarusian athletes, will be a personal cost to Putin and will anger elite Russians who benefit from the prestige of sport. This could be the fuel needed to embolden ordinary Russian and Belarusian citizens to encourage an end to senseless aggression."

Ukrainian UMaine graduate speaks to BDN

10 Mar 2022

Iaryna Iasenytska, a recent UMaine graduate living in her hometown of Kyiv in Ukraine, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) about her experience with the Russia-Ukraine war. Iasenytska said, "Civilians and servicemen and whole families were wounded or died during these evacuations. International law or what it means to have a ceasefire has no meaning nor importance to the Russian forces."

Rosenbaum-Andre to address international conference

10 Mar 2022

Judith Rosenbaum-Andre, associate professor and chair of the Department of Communication and Journalism, will give a keynote address at a conference on spoilers, organized by the University of Zurich, March 17–19. The keynote address: "Spoilers and the Narrative Experience: Lessons from Ten Years of Empirical Research." Rosenbaum-Andre's research examines the role played by spoilers in the narrative experience; how social media usage impacts people's attitudes, behaviors, and connections; and media literacy, fake news, and misinformation. [More about the conference is online](#).

Blais and Ippolito present Still Water lab internationally

10 Mar 2022

New media professors and [Still Water lab](#) co-directors Joline Blais and Jon Ippolito presented their projects that explore regenerative models of creation, informed by Indigenous partners, permaculture and online collaboration in a Zoom presentation at the Cultural Center of Belgrade, Serbia, on March 3. Ippolito also was a remote speaker in two online panels: "Circumventing NFT Platform Constraints" on Feb. 28 at Eyebeam in New York, which invited artists to imagine how their digital work could survive future cycles of technological obsolescence, and "The Future of Collecting: From Museum to DAO," a Twitter Space organized on March 5 by DRP.io in Berlin that considered new forms of curation made possible by the blockchain and whether they serve artists, as well as traditional galleries and museums.

Kamundala named finalist for 2022 Truman Scholarship

10 Mar 2022

Crispin Kamundala, a University of Maine junior, was named a finalist for a 2022 Harry S. Truman Scholarship, a prestigious, merit-based scholarship for

college juniors pursuing public service careers. Kamundala is the only finalist from Maine this year. Kamundala's story isn't like that of many other students' on campus. He came to Maine as a teenager from Kenya, where his family was living in a refugee camp in hopes of escaping the corrupt political regime in their home country, the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He had to learn English in high school — French is his first language — but still managed to take college-level courses in order to graduate early. Before coming to UMaine, he attended Central Maine Community College for a year to see how he managed with the college workload. He transferred to UMaine for his sophomore year in 2020. Now, he is a political science major with a minor in legal studies. He is the vice president of the UMaine Pre-Law Society and a member of the National Political Science Honors Society, Pi Sigma Alpha. Kamundala is also an accomplished athlete, competing on UMaine's track team in triple jump and boxing competitively outside of school. He also works at Abbott Laboratories in Scarborough, where he is a team lead in processing testing kits. "People ask me, 'Crispin, how do you do it?'" Kamundala says. "I say, 'I used to carry cement in Africa. I used to carry cement in my back for a whole day to get \$5 a day. I'm used to hard work. I've been working hard my whole life.'" The [Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation](#) scholarship was created by Congress in 1975 as a living memorial to President Truman and a monument to public service. Recipients can receive up to \$30,000 for graduate or professional school, and earn access to leadership development activities and special opportunities for internships and employment with the federal government. Kamundala applied for the Truman Scholarship with hopes of covering his tuition for law school, which he plans to enter after graduating from the University of Maine next year. He aims to be an immigration lawyer — first, in the United States, but eventually in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He plans to study abroad next semester in Lyon, France to brush up on his modern French legalese for that exact reason. "My hope is to create a law firm and help immigrants just like me," Kamundala says. "A lot of people are suffering and my dream is to help people out." Finalists from the Truman Scholarship are selected based on their record of community service, government involvement and leadership experience, as well as academic, writing and analytical abilities. Kamundala used what he learned in his UMaine coursework to help him secure a finalist spot for the prestigious scholarship, particularly Introduction to American Law with Ryan LaRoche and Mediation with Jason Canniff. For his Truman Scholarship application, he said he used what he learned in those classes to write about police brutality in America and the potential to mediate community conflicts. His leadership and community service experiences were carried out at Maine People's Alliance and at the African Youth Alliance. The person that Kamundala says helped him the most during his time at UMaine was Cassandra Belka in TRIO Student Support Services, a federally funded program within College Success Programs that provides personalized support, advising and mentoring to students who are first-generation, income-eligible or have a disability. "Cassandra Belka is one of the people I have been working with since I started," Kamundala says. "She looked over my essays, proofread my work, and just helped me with my schoolwork. Being part of the TRIO program helped me a lot." The 2022 competition elicited 705 applications from 275 institutions. Kamundala is one of 189 finalists from 126 institutions who will interview virtually with the Foundation's Regional Review Panels through April 4. The winners will be announced April 15. Mark Brewer, professor and chair of the Department of Political Science, and Truman campus representative, supported Kamundala's application, as did the UMaine Office of Major Scholarships, the faculty and community members who wrote recommendation letters and the Writing Center. To learn more about this and other prestigious national merit-based scholarships, contact Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler, director of the Office of Major Scholarships. nives.dalbowheeler@maine.edu. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

2022 Hartman Awards to be presented April 1

10 Mar 2022

The 2022 Maryann Hartman Awards recognizing the inspirational achievements of Maine women will be presented to community leader and certified nursing assistant ZamZam Mohamud of Lewiston; recently retired Opportunity Housing, Inc., founding president and CEO Bonnie-Jean Brooks of Stockton Springs; and long-time senior executive and UMaine alumna Susan Bell of Hallowell, former director of the Maine Forest Service and the first woman in the United States to serve in such a role. The women will be honored in a free public ceremony and reception at 5:30 p.m., April 1 at Buchanan Alumni House at the University of Maine. To attend the ceremony, RSVP [online](#) or by phone: 207.581.1591. Note that space is limited for the event. The Maryann Hartman Awards, named for the late UMaine associate professor of communication, have recognized Maine women's achievements in the arts, politics, business, education and community service since 1986. Maryann Hartman (1927–80) was a distinguished educator, feminist, scholar and humanitarian. This year, the UMaine Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program is partnering with the Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost to continue the three-decade tradition of honoring Maine women by enhancing awareness of their unique accomplishments. The work of the Hartman Award winners provides inspiration to others and testifies to women's potential to positively impact the contemporary world. Mohamud has been a community bridge builder in her adopted hometown since 2001. For nearly two decades, she was a certified nursing assistant at Central Maine Medical Center and worked as a translator when needed. In the Lewiston community, she served as a liaison between other immigrants and the city. Mohamud found her way into the role as community leader by being visible, but the motivation came from a desire to give back. She has volunteered for just about every major institution in town: the library, school department, police department and hospitals. She even served on the School Committee, the first Somali ever to do so. If a newly settled refugee needs help navigating rental housing, or if a school is facilitating a discussion on cultural diversity and inclusion, or if the police want to do outreach in a predominantly immigrant neighborhood, they call Mohamud. Brooks is an advocate for people with mental illness, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. She founded Opportunity Housing, Inc., now called OHI, in 1979. The nonprofit started with two residential homes offering support services to people with intellectual disabilities and/or mental illness. Today, OHI supports nearly 600 people with disabilities in their own homes or in one of OHI's 32 group homes. In the past four decades, Brooks has consulted for public and private agencies nationwide and in four other countries. She founded the Maine Association for Community Service Providers; was appointed to the Maine Department of Health and Human Services' Federal Policy Impact Council; and served as a staff member and program consultant to the President's Committee on Mental Retardation, now the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities. She has provided congressional testimony on Medicaid policy, housing issues, fraud and abuse investigations, the Fair Labor Standards Act, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration issues. Bell has had a more than 40-year career in public administration, public policy, management and education, with leadership responsibilities in all three branches of Maine state government. The former three-term legislator served as deputy commissioner of the Maine Department of Conservation and then directed the Maine Forest Service from 1992–95 — the first woman in the country to be named state forester. For eight years, Bell was a senior policy advisor and a member of Gov. Angus King's executive management team. She went on to serve as director of the Office of Clerks of Court and was a senior project manager at Bernstein Shur Government Solutions for six years, through 2012. A former biology and human physiology teacher, Bell led a public health education project and established Project Graduation at Oxford Hills High School, an alcohol-free celebration for graduating students that served as a prototype for the nation, helping to protect the lives of graduating seniors in every state. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Legislature's Joint Resolution commends UMaine's R1 designation

10 Mar 2022

In a Joint Resolution March 9, the Maine State Legislature recognized the University of Maine for its national designation as a Carnegie R1 research university. The resolution commended the university "on its well-deserved designation and the groundbreaking achievements and commitment to excellence

by the faculty, scientists, students and staff.” UMaine is the only university in Maine designated as an R1 doctoral research university in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. The designation provides Maine with national recognition for having a top-tier research university, impacting recruitment of undergraduate and graduate students, and UMaine’s ability to attract and retain top faculty. The R1 Carnegie Classification, which only 3.7% of the degree-granting postsecondary institutions in the U.S. have, also can improve Maine’s competitiveness for federal and corporate partnerships, and lead to more patents, startups and opportunities to attract research-focused businesses to Maine. Among those in Augusta for the reading of the resolution and congratulations were UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy; former UMaine professor George Jacobson, a member of the “Faculty Five” that helped advocate for state research and development funding, leading to the passage of the Maine Economic Improvement Fund (MEIF); Maine State Chamber of Commerce President and UMaine alumnus Dana Connors; and James Donnelly, vice chair of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees who who helped create MEIF when he served in the Legislature. “State investment and the leadership of UMaine faculty helped bring an R1 top-tier research university designation to Maine,” said Ferrini-Mundy. “We are incredibly grateful for the support our research enterprise receives from the Legislature and federal delegation, and are especially appreciative of the vision of elected leaders 25 years ago when they created the Maine Economic Improvement Fund to support Maine-focused research.” “The achievement of Carnegie R1 status is an immense accomplishment for the University of Maine and for the state of Maine, which is already benefiting from innovative ideas and technologies that will be the basis of a productive and creative economy. We should view the R1 designation with pride, but it’s also a new and exciting chapter, I believe, in Maine history,” [noted Sen. Rick Bennett](#), who helped create MEIF established by the Maine Legislature in 1997 and launched what is now a quarter-century of public university research and development investment. The Legislature’s Joint Select Committee on Research and Development, created by a Joint Order of the Maine Legislature, was directed to develop and recommend a plan for the support of applied research and development in five technologies identified as having growth potential in the state’s Science and Technology Action Plan: aquaculture and marine sciences and technology; biotechnology; composite materials engineering; environmental sciences and technology; and information sciences and technology. Today, MEIF has a more than five-to-one return on investment for the state. MEIF was an investment that “put us on a path to be home to discoveries and advancements for years to come,” [said Majority Leader Michelle Dunphy on the House floor](#). Today, she said, the R1 designation is “a huge milestone for our state.” “This designation is a signal that this is a place where serious, groundbreaking study happens and it will become a magnet for additional resources to test our new ideas,” said Dunphy. “Perhaps most importantly, this designation will allow the University of Maine students and staff — our constituents — to stand on the cutting-edge of new realms of discovery and innovation at a time when we sorely need those talents to address the challenges that face us today. Our local businesses, farms, entrepreneurs and anyone who wonders where their aspirations can take them have just got a tremendous resource and a partner.” The Joint Resolution noted that UMaine, “already a vital state economic and educational asset, has greatly increased its research and innovation reputation, becoming a premier location for research and development that attracts highly talented experts, creates new research opportunities and drives further innovations.” In the past five years, research and development expenditures at UMaine have grown 80.2% to an all-time high of \$179,300,000 for 2021 and external funding in support of research and development has increased to \$133,600,000. UMaine is now one of only 146 of the 3,982 degree-granting postsecondary institutions in the U.S. classified as top-tier doctoral research universities. “We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize the University of Maine on its designation as a national R1 research university and commend the university on its well-deserved designation and the groundbreaking achievements and commitment to excellence by the faculty, scientists, students and staff,” the resolution noted. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Lily Canders: Heading into kindergarten

10 Mar 2022

When Maine Speaker of the House Ryan Fecteau [visited the University of Maine campus](#) Feb. 18 as a Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, his first stop was the Katherine M. Durst Child Development Learning Center. There, Speaker Fecteau, who has proposed legislation to strengthen and grow Maine’s early childhood workforce, held a roundtable discussion with early childhood education students. Lily Canders, a junior from Brewer, Maine, was one of the students who met with Speaker Fecteau. Canders says her goal is to become a kindergarten teacher after she graduates in May 2023. She says she appreciated having the Speaker visit and talk about the importance of early childhood education. [Read her profile on the College of Education and Human Development website](#).

Extensive NSF-funded study of bacteria on intertidal rockweed across the North Atlantic

11 Mar 2022

Algae such as rockweeds are a fundamental part of marine ecosystems, providing habitat and food to many other marine organisms while also providing ecosystem services. Algae produce oxygen as a by-product of photosynthesis, so oxygenation of the water and atmosphere is one such ecosystem service. In turn, algae depend on bacteria to maintain their normal shapes and health. New sequencing methods are illuminating the relationships between marine bacteria and marine algae, as demonstrated in research by 15 scientists from countries across the North Atlantic, including four who hold graduate degrees from the University of Maine. Principal investigators Susan Brawley, a professor at the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, and Hilary Morrison, a senior scientist at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, led a team of researchers in a sweeping study funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) of the bacteria associated with the foundational intertidal rockweed *Fucus vesiculosus*. The results were [published](#) in the *Journal of Phycology*. The researchers found that the bacterial communities on this brown alga were similar between eastern and western shores of the North Atlantic at similar latitudes, but varied along a north to south gradient across the host biogeographic range — Greenland to North Carolina on western shores, and Norway to Spain in the eastern Atlantic. The researchers also observed the disappearance of the alga from areas of the North Carolina coast where it had long been abundant, emphasizing the pressing need to understand the bacterial-host interactions and particular bacterial communities associated with the host alga in southern regions experiencing host retreat as marine ecosystems are altered by climate change. “Our research showed that the structure of bacterial communities on this rockweed depends upon both current and past environments, including the changing biogeographic ranges of *Fucus vesiculosus* related to past glacial cycles,” says Brawley. “Some of these bacteria are vital to *Fucus* algae. By searching for ones that are common across algal tissues over this large study with 16 field sites across the North Atlantic, we can narrow our search for the ones that determine whether this macroalga can persist on the shore.” Previous research has shown that bacteria are so essential to the host’s structure that algae can literally fall apart if given an antibiotic treatment to remove the bacteria. The researchers hoped to find which of the bacteria were important to *Fucus vesiculosus*. After sequencing the bacterial communities at a portion of one of the genes that supports bacterial protein synthesis, they classified the bacteria from genus to ecotype by a marker gene analysis technique called Minimum Entropy Decomposition, which is now widely used by microbiologists. This results in each different type of bacterium being assigned a different Amplicon Sequence Variant (ASV) ID. “This is like a molecular fishing expedition that can narrow our search for those bacteria that may be most important to the alga,” Brawley says. “Finding bacteria that are tissue-specific suggests, but doesn’t prove, that they might be particularly important to the function of the tissue and the persistence of the alga. We have isolated pure cultures of some of these bacteria and are studying their genomes, relative growth rates, and competition with each other.” For example, the study uncovered many unrecognized members of the bacterial genus *Granulosicoccus* through their

association with particular tissues — from the holdfast that binds the alga to a surface, to the reproductive organs, to the main photosynthetic tissue. The research also revealed distinctive levels of different environmental factors that correlated with particular *Granulosicoccus*’ associations with *Fucus* at northern, central and/or southern latitudes, and showed how these *Granulosicoccus* relate to bacteria in this genus found on other kinds of marine life like sponges, coral, and red and green algae. “Before you can understand how and why, you have to understand who,” Brawley says. “This is a very rich source of who is where.” There were some unintended discoveries as part of the field research, as well. Over the course of the project’s years of field research, the scientists observed the local extinction of *Fucus vesiculosus* at a site in Beaufort, North Carolina, where it had long been abundant. The site was considered the southernmost range of *F. vesiculosus* when the study started in 2015; it had disappeared by late 2016. Temperature sensors the researchers had at the site suggested that stress from warmer air and seawater temperatures, combined with tropical storms during its autumn reproductive season, could explain its disappearance and failure to reappear through 2021. “We don’t know where the southern edge of the U.S. range is now,” Brawley says. “We are interested as marine biologists to know how vulnerable organisms are on the shore to climate change. Our ongoing research is exploring possible effects of the bacteria on the *Fucus* through physiological and genomic studies. We want to know whether some bacteria are protective and whether the structure of the bacterial community on the host has been perturbed by climate change.” Brawley isn’t the only researcher on the project with connections to UMaine. Authors Kyle Capistrant-Fossa and Charlotte Quigley are recent UMaine M.S. and Ph.D. graduates, respectively. Ester Serrão, another author on the study, received her Ph.D. from UMaine in 1996 and is now a professor and Pew Foundation Marine Fellow at the University of Algarve in Portugal. Leigh Stearns, also a Ph.D. graduate of the University of Maine in geology and climate science, collected *Fucus* at its northern range in Ummannaq, Greenland, during her ongoing glaciology research there as a professor of geology at the University of Kansas. Brawley pointed out how rich on scientific and human levels it has been to have a team of researchers spanning disciplines and seven home countries. The *Journal of Phycology* wrote a highlight on the article’s research and used a photograph taken in Acadia National Park at one of the study’s 16 North Atlantic field sites on the December cover. The researchers have also compared the bacterial communities on two other species of brown algae on the coast of Maine — *Fucus spiralis*, found in the high intertidal zone, and *Fucus distichus* in the low intertidal zone — to see how their bacterial communities compare to those of mid-zoned *Fucus vesiculosus* further north and south of Maine. For example, the scientists are testing whether bacterial community structure of the high zone *F. spiralis* on the Maine shore might resemble bacterial communities on *F. vesiculosus* at warmer locations like North Carolina, Delaware and Spain more than those on *F. vesiculosus* in the mid intertidal zone of Maine shores. Brawley noted that the published and ongoing studies “suggest how much the community structure of the bacteria on *Fucus vesiculosus* changes on yearly, seasonal, and latitudinal scales, and contributes to understanding how sensitive the microbiome of *F. vesiculosus* is to the changing environment.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Jennifer Smith-Mayo: Rethinking how we talk about science

11 Mar 2022

Jennifer Smith-Mayo was in the United Kingdom filming a documentary about a Jesuit priest when she felt a calling. Smith-Mayo had been working as a photographer and videographer for most of her professional life. Her resume is diverse, working for well-known outlets such as National Geographic and Down East in locations all over the world, from Rome to the Democratic Republic of Congo. “I was traveling a lot and saw everything, from encountering dire poverty in Africa coupled with indomitable human spirit to meeting the Pope a couple of times in Vatican City,” Smith-Mayo says. Despite the thrill of a jetsetter life, Smith-Mayo was getting burnt out, and she felt herself yearning for more. “There was something else that I was called to do,” Smith-Mayo says. “I’ve always been fascinated by science and I wanted to do something in that world, but with the tools that I came with — photography, videography and communication work that I’ve done.” So, Smith-Mayo started as an Ecology and Environmental Science Ph.D. student, but eventually moved on to the communication Ph.D. program. She is co-advised by Bridie McGreavy, associate professor, Department of Communication and Journalism, and Heather Leslie, director of the Darling Marine Center. Smith-Mayo wasn’t a stranger to UMaine when she started her doctorate. She completed her master’s degree in liberal arts with a concentration in new media at UMaine in 2011. “I love UMaine,” Smith-Mayo says. “This is a thriving campus. We’re not afraid to try to do new work and build relationships. That’s really important to keep a university moving forward.” Smith-Mayo’s graduate research focuses on the communication between groups in the Maine-eDNA (environmental DNA) Project, a research, education and outreach program that is working to establish Maine as a leader in the groundbreaking process of collecting environmental DNA, or eDNA. eDNA are genetic samples collected from the surrounding areas rather than the subject itself to determine the presence or absence of the subject in an area. Because eDNA is so new, though, the exact definition is still emerging. Some of Smith-Mayo’s research is focused on how groups engaged with Maine-eDNA can best communicate to empower all voices involved in the conversation about how to define and use eDNA. “Part of my dissertation will be focused on using questions to help us learn from each other and work with each other,” Smith-Mayo says. “What are the communication elements that help us become better collaborators? And how do they shape our collaborations? That’s what I’m curious about.” Smith-Mayo has a four-year appointment on the team that conducts team science and communication research for the Maine-eDNA project. Her work with them will be folded into her thesis, and [she recently co-authored a paper](#) with that group of researchers. “I’m not just an observer on the outside working on the project. I’m participating in it,” Smith-Mayo says. “You’re doing these multiple roles at once and you work with a small team of people to sort of figure out what’s going on.” Smith-Mayo also works with the ethics of eDNA research. She is in the Biocultural Labels working group, which is made up of people from [Local Contexts](#), a group called [Equity for Indigenous Research and Innovation Coordinating \(ENRICH\) Hub](#), the Wabanaki Tribal Nations and the Maine-eDNA project. Biocultural Labels grew out of a graduate pilot project from last semester as part of her coastal team science class. The project takes a collaborative approach to collecting eDNA, adding digital markers, metadata and graphical icons to eDNA data that contain information about the cultural rights and Indigenous lands from which the samples were gathered. “We’re collecting data from their tribal homelands and we’re learning about it. We’re asking researchers and scientists and the university at large to think about what that means — what are the responsibilities for doing this work and doing it in an ethical way?” Smith-Mayo says. “We’re trying to help the research community and the Wabanaki Nations build relationships together and start to work with data in a more responsible way.” Smith-Mayo intends to finish her Ph.D. in 2024, and after her contract on her job ends, she hopes to find a fellowship or postdoctoral position where she can continue her work helping scientists and researchers better communicate their work in new ways, such as through stories. For example, she is doing work with an underwater drone that comes with a virtual headset, allowing head motions to drive the drone underwater. The underwater drone has proven handy in a number of different applications, from wowing undergraduates with a virtual reality-like experience and saving an eDNA sediment trap that had dropped to the bottom of a pond, to filming a sediment corer at work underwater to add to a researcher’s presentation. “If you have a visual, it helps people better comprehend what’s going on. It brings my photography, videography and art background into a science project and I think it gives people the opportunity to see there are lots of ways to think about an idea or a problem,” Smith-Mayo says. “Visuals — and visual collaborations — can offer a space for discussion, listening and sharing our multiple perspectives. It doesn’t always have to be one way, it can be a lot of ways.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine study finds social media verification not enough to sell products

11 Mar 2022

Social media influencers are some of the most powerful celebrities of the internet era, and verification — the blue check mark that indicates the account has been vetted and the user’s identity has been confirmed — is one of the most highly sought-after tools of the trade. New research from Maine Business School at the University of Maine shows that verification isn’t always a positive, as social media consumers associate verification more with celebrity than credibility and are much less likely to trust product endorsements from verified accounts if the content is inconsistent with the influencer’s brand. The [study](#), published in February in the Journal of Consumer Behavior, was conducted in two parts. For the first part of the study, the researchers recruited 223 participants ages 18 to 57 for the study from Amazon Mechanical Turk, a crowdsourcing marketplace run by the multinational technology company. Participants were asked how often they used Instagram and how familiar they were with the concept of Instagram verification. Then, participants were asked to rate various social media users on a scale from one to seven on three variables: authenticity, celebrity and credibility. For the second part of the study, the researchers recruited 450 participants aged 18 to 42 from Amazon Mechanical Turk. The participants were presented with either a fitness or beauty influencer account — one showed a woman in a push-up position, the other showed a woman smiling — that were either verified or unverified and advertised a product. The participants were again asked to rate them on a scale from one to seven on various factors that were eventually consolidated into ratings for attractiveness, trustworthiness, credibility and celebrity. In addition to rating the influencers, the participants were asked to rate how well the advertisement “fit” with the account and how likely they were to buy the product. The results showed that not only do consumers associate verification more with celebrity than authenticity or credibility, but because of that, they are less likely to trust a verified social media influencer if they are advertising a brand that is inconsistent with their usual messaging. Even when the brand seems suited to the social media influencer, consumers do not trust verified accounts more than their unverified counterparts. “The demand for verification is so great that one can buy the verified badge through a ‘black market’ made possible by third-parties. I wanted to understand why verification is so desirable and consequently, if it’s presence would produce advertising benefits. The results yield surprising and important implications because verification can harm trust. Endorser trust has been shown to influence many crucial facets, including intent to purchase. The research shines a much-needed light on a symbol that should be far more carefully considered — by both the influencer and the advertising partner,” says Jazlyn Dumas, principal investigator of the study, who completed the research for her University of Maine Honors College capstone thesis project. The study was funded through the UMaine [Center for Undergraduate Research’s Artificial Intelligence Scholarship](#) and Charlie Slavin Research Grant. Dumas now works as a marketing and social media specialist for the Marden’s Surplus and Salvage corporate headquarters in Winslow, Maine. Billions of dollars are spent on social media endorsement partnerships every year, particularly with verified influencers. The results of the studies indicate to marketing researchers and managers that if they are going to spend money to partner with verified influencers — who often come at a premium cost — they should carefully consider the content that they aim to promote. “One of the unique aspects of this research is the fact that currently advertisers are paying a premium for verified influencers. Through multiple studies we found that, on the consumers’ side, verification can negatively impact brand perception. In fact, our findings suggest that it might serve advertisers better to pay less for partnerships with unverified influencers who are more closely aligned with their brand identity,” says Rusty Stough, assistant professor of marketing at the Maine Business School. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host talk on advancing equity and environmental justice in Maine March 21

11 Mar 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk by Jessica Scott of the Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future on efforts to move Maine toward climate and environmental justice 3–4 p.m. on Monday, March 21. The Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF) has been working with a variety of state agencies, the Maine Climate Council and members of the public to explore opportunities to advance climate and environmental justice for the state. In this talk, Jessica Scott, senior climate advisor with GOPIF, will share recent achievements, highlight ongoing work, and discuss opportunities for collaboration with universities and other organizations across Maine to bring the benefits of climate action to all Maine people. Prior to joining GOPIF, Scott was assistant secretary for the environment for the state of New York, where she developed policy and programs to advance former Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s climate goals, with a focus on clean transportation, natural and working lands, and the inclusion of equity and justice across all policies. She has more than a decade of climate and environmental policy expertise, working with academic institutions, nonprofit organizations and local, state and federal governments. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Updates for this event will be posted to the [event webpage](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Maine Climate and Agriculture Network to host webinar series about climate change and agriculture

11 Mar 2022

The Maine Climate and Agriculture Network is offering a three-webinar series about climate change and agriculture on March 22, March 28 and April 14. Each webinar will consist of several short presentations followed by questions and a general discussion. Speakers will include farmers, outreach professionals, and agricultural and climate scientists. The first webinar from 2–3 p.m. on March 22 will discuss adapting to climate change on the farm. Panelists include Sarah Simon at Maine Farmland Trust; Melissa Law at Bumblefoot Organic Farm; Ben Crockett at Opportunity Farms at Morrison Center; and Jason Lilley, sustainable agriculture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The following webinar from 2–3 p.m. on March 28 also will discuss adapting to climate change on the farm. Panelists include Caro Roszell, New England soil health specialist at the American Farmland Trust; Jeremy Barker Plotkin, co-owner of Simple Gifts Farm; Alessia McCobb and Virginia Winkler, owners of Sound Pine Farm; and Rebecca Long, sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional with UMaine Extension. From 1–2 p.m. on April 14, panelists will discuss using seaweed as feedstock to reduce methane emissions from cows. Andre Brito, associate professor in agriculture, nutrition and food system at the University of New Hampshire, and Nichole Price, senior research scientists and benthic marine ecologist at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, will present at the webinar. The series is free and open to the public. Learn more and register on the program [webpage](#).

UMaine Extension webinar for northern Maine strawberry growers March 23

11 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar about strawberry production and pest management in northern Maine, from 6–7:30 p.m. on March 23. “[Strawberry Production and Pest Management for Northern Maine](#)” will illustrate how best to produce strawberries in northern Maine, including site preparation, variety selection, plant growth, winter protection and pest management. David Handley, UMaine Extension vegetable and fruit specialist, will lead the workshop. The webinar is free; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#). This webinar is approved for one pesticide recertification credit. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.834.3905; sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

BDN features Extension 4-H exhibit at Cabin Fever Reliever

11 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the big attraction for children at the Penobscot Fly Fishers' Cabin Fever Reliever event was the opportunity to go up on the stage and shoot a bow and arrow or throw an atlatl at an exhibit sponsored by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H division. Eri Martin, program coordinator for the [4-H Camp and Learning Center at Greenland Point](#), told the BDN, "4-H is currently the No. 1 youth organization in the United States.

Media features Extension strawberry growing workshop

11 Mar 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's webinar about strawberry production and pest management in northern Maine, which will take place from 6–7:30 p.m. on March 23. "Strawberry Production and Pest Management for Northern Maine" will illustrate how best to produce strawberries in northern Maine, including site preparation, variety selection, plant growth, winter protection and pest management. Register on the event [webpage](#).

Q106.5 highlights UMaine resources about reversing falls

11 Mar 2022

In an article about reversing falls in Maine, [Q106.5](#) featured a webpage by [Maine Sea Grant](#) about the phenomenon and where it can be seen across the state. Reversing falls are a rare phenomenon in inlets where freshwater meets the ocean. Water from the ocean will start flowing into the inlet of a river creating a backflow of water that changes the flow of the river.

Scott featured on Maine Calling

11 Mar 2022

Ryder Scott, executive director, [University of Maine 4-H Centers](#), was a VIP caller on Maine Public's radio show, [Maine Calling](#). Along with other panelists and callers, Scott discussed statewide efforts to increase outdoor education in Maine prompted by the pandemic, and how educators are finding innovative and enriching ways to boost students' learning and well-being in the great outdoors.

Rubin speaks with media about rising gas prices

11 Mar 2022

Johnathan Rubin, professor of economics at the University of Maine and director of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, spoke with [CentralMaine.com](#) and [News Center Maine](#) about the rising price of gasoline. Rubin said, "Some of this rise in the price of crude oil is really due to the economic recovery in the United States and the rest of the world as we come out of COVID, which had artificially dampened the demand for transportation as people stayed home. Then, of course, the war tensions on top of that. It's a combination of all those factors."

USAC offers webinar on women studying abroad on March 16

11 Mar 2022

In honor of Women's History Month, the [University Studies Abroad Consortium \(USAC\)](#) will look into the not-so-distant past to see how three women found their place in a global society through study abroad. Panelists will share moments of courage, how they've failed (and gotten back up again) and why students — regardless of gender identity — should empower themselves by taking a chance on the meaningful self-discovery that comes with international study. Panelists include Orlina Boteva, USAC Board of Directors and director of the Office of International Programs at the University of Maine; Laura Rostowske Reilly, USAC Resident Director in Valencia, Spain; and Juliana Aguiar, USAC alumna, Valencia, Spain '18, Chiang Mai, Thailand '19 and Puntarenas, Costa Rica '19. The online panel will take place on March 16 at noon. Join the webinar on Zoom using [this link](#).

UMaine biotech start-up Neuright to be featured in March 15 Innovation Blender

11 Mar 2022

Kristy Townsend, University of Maine alumna and former faculty member, and cofounder of Neuright Inc., will lead a discussion, "Neuright Inc. Tackles Peripheral Neuropathy — Catch It Early, Fix It Fast," as part of the Innovation Blender series sponsored by MaineHealth Innovation and The Roux Institute. The event is noon–12:45 p.m. EST March 15 via Zoom. [Registration is online](#). Neuright is a UMaine biotech start-up and academic spin-out company that has commercialized a new patent-pending theragnostic medical device for peripheral neuropathy, a condition of nerve death in tissues and organs that is common with aging, diabetes, and more than 30 other diseases and disorders. Founders Townsend and former UMaine graduate student Magdalena Blaszkiewicz have recently partnered with neurologists at The Ohio State University to begin comprehensive first-in-human testing comparing healthy and neuropathic patients and have begun developing a diagnostic algorithm from their nerve activity data. Learn more about [neurightlabs.com](#).

Pandemic mental health impacts on adolescents quantified in new UMaine study

11 Mar 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic has been an isolating and lonely time for almost everyone. For adolescents especially, the loneliness accompanied by pandemic-

related school closures and the like has led to an increase in mental health issues like depression and self-destructive behavior, according to a University of Maine-led study. The [study](#), published in the Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology, looked at 362 middle and high school adolescents in rural Maine during the first several months of the pandemic in the United States. The participants reported about their mental health before the pandemic and again in June 2020, after months of lockdowns and isolation. Adolescents specifically reported on their depressive symptoms; frequency of non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI) like cutting, pulling hair or hitting; and suicide risk. The study also assessed adolescents' feelings of loneliness and health anxiety due to COVID in March 2020, during the first week of school shutdowns in Maine. To gather this information, smartphone-based ecological momentary assessment (EMA) was used. Three times a day for seven days, students responded to questions on a smartphone app called LifeData about their COVID-19 loneliness and health anxiety to track fluctuations in COVID-related distress. The results showed that all adolescents in the study, regardless of whether they were feeling depressed before the pandemic, experienced increased depressive symptoms as a function of increased COVID-related loneliness. Loneliness also exacerbated suicide risk for adolescents already experiencing some level of suicidality before the pandemic. Surprisingly, elevated loneliness also predicted more frequent self-injury for adolescents who hadn't been self-injuring prior to the pandemic. "These findings were concerning because they suggest that perhaps these kids turned to self-injury as a new way to cope with feelings of isolation and loneliness," says Rebecca Schwartz-Mette, director of the Peer Relations Lab at the University of Maine and principal investigator of the study. Teens who self-injured prior to the pandemic and who experienced intense health anxiety experienced more frequent self-injury. However, a decrease in self-injury was observed for self-injuring teens who reported very high levels of loneliness. "Additional research is needed to replicate this finding, but it may suggest that some adolescents benefited from being at home with increased monitoring and family support, and perhaps less school-based, peer stress," says Schwartz-Mette. The study shows that the effects of COVID-19 and pandemic-related closures were largely negative for most adolescents. The results also suggest that how adolescents felt in the first days of isolation is essential to understanding their adjustment months later. Youth already experiencing mental health challenges and risks may have fared especially poorly during the pandemic, but other groups not previously identified as being at risk may be facing new mental health challenges. The researchers emphasize the necessity to meet youths' mental health care needs now and develop effective treatment options for youth suffering from the psychological impacts of the pandemic. "Our results punctuate what we already knew. Adolescents need mental health support. Now more than ever. The good news is that schools are aware, we have widely available telehealth options to reach youth who have previously been underserved, and, because the pandemic has affected all of us, perhaps the stigma around seeking support is shrinking," says Schwartz-Mette. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Enhancing well-being the focus of April 6 Inspired Innovators webinar

14 Mar 2022

The steps that businesses and organizations can take to help communities and people enhance well-being will be the focus of an April 6 webinar in the Inspired Innovators speaker series, sponsored by the Maine Business School and Graduate School of Business. From noon–1 p.m., Jason Harkins, associate dean of the Maine Business School, and Vienna Morrill, senior manager at BerryDunn, will lead a panel featuring MEMIC, MMG Insurance and Unum representatives. The webinar is free and open to the public. [Registration is required and available online](#). "Well-being involves all aspects of a life well lived," says Harkins. "We are excited to partner with the work of these employers to assess aspects of well-being for our students and employees, and to provide ideas for next steps in enhancing well-being within our organizations." Panelists will share insights into how leaders in their organizations are engaging with well-being, what their organizations are currently doing to help their employees, and changes they anticipate in the expectations and value of well-being for employees in the future. Harkins will share information from students and employees about how they currently think about their well-being, and what employers can do to enhance it. Well-being involves all aspects of a life well lived and includes supportive relationships and the pursuit of goals that have meaning. Moving a step beyond the notion of wellness, perceptions of our physical, social, mental, career, financial and overall well-being impact our lives, and our contributions to organizations and society. As an increasingly important part of being an employer of choice, this webinar emphasizing shared experiences will spark ideas about impacting the lives of employees in organizations. "Well-being is a lens that helps us make sense of many of today's greatest workplace challenges — from talent shortages and retention to employee burnout and engagement," says Morrill.

UMaine efforts to conserve American elm featured in Washington Post

11 Mar 2022

A feature for the [Washington Post Magazine](#) highlighted the University of Maine's contribution to efforts to conserve the American elm tree in Castine, Maine. The article noted that back in the 1970s, when there was no treatment for the devastating Dutch elm disease that decimated tree populations throughout the United States, University of Maine researcher Richard Campana was one of the first to try to create a serum to inoculate against the disease. Castine's elms were injected with his experimental fungicide, and some believe it was this treatment that helped save many of the elms. The disease has since found its way to the tree populations in Castine. Arborist Bill Burman is working with researchers at the University of Maine to study infected trees in the area.

PREP to host virtual development workshop for educators March 18

14 Mar 2022

The Penobscot River Educational Partnership (PREP) is hosting a professional development day Friday, March 18, for approximately 1,400 area educators. PREP is a collaborative partnership organization focused on improving student learning by providing high-quality professional development for educators. It has 27 members, including 23 school districts in the Greater Bangor/Eastern Maine area and four higher education partners: The University of Maine, University of Maine Augusta at Bangor, Husson University and Eastern Maine Community College. Betsy Webb, Libra Professor of Educational Leadership at UMaine, is PREP's executive director. The event will provide regional professional development on a variety of topics, including technology, student engagement, wellness, STEM, literacy, math, outdoor learning spaces, teacher clarity, home-school relationships, adaptive leadership and social-emotional and equity learning. There will be 180 different presentation sessions throughout the day from organizations such as Bangor Public Health and Community Services; Bangor Region YMCA; Acadia Hospital; Northern Light Primary Care; the Maine Multicultural Center; Maine Department of Education; Maine and County Teachers of the Year; Maine School Safety Center; EMCC; Husson University; UMaine Augusta at Bangor; UMaine; and several school district leaders. This year's keynote speaker is Greta Peay, founder and CEO of Diversity Matters, LLC. Peay joined Nevada's Clark County School District in 1987, following eight years at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System, in Charlotte, North Carolina. She has dedicated more than 40 years of service to the education profession. Her career is best described as a change agent and advocate for social justice and equitable opportunities. A bilingual speaker, Peay is nationally known for her professional development skills in the areas of literacy, language acquisition, cultural responsiveness, equity, diversity and inclusion. She retired from the Clark County School District as the chief instructional services officer. For PREP, she has designed a presentation for all educators, titled

“The Journey of Equity: Creating Healthy Schools — Social and Emotional Learning.” Social and emotional learning (SEL) provides a foundation for healthy development. It is the process children, youth and adults go through to develop the skills to engage with others, manage their emotions, show empathy, handle stress, resolve stress, set goals and make responsible decisions to succeed in work and life. For more information, contact Betsy Webb: betsy.webb@maine.edu.

Media share UMaine tuition-free summer courses for high school students

14 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [WBZN](#), [WBLM](#), [WCYY](#), [WJBO](#), [News Center Maine](#), [B98.5 FM](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) shared information about the University of Maine Early College summer course, with over 50 online courses available to high school students tuition-free. [Registration is online](#).

Media highlights Extension produce safety webinar

14 Mar 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [PenBay Pilot](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about UMaine Cooperative Extension’s online produce safety class for Maine farmers who must comply with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), or who want to hone their food safety skills. Register by March 28 on the [course webpage](#).

BDN highlights \$90 million in congressional funds to UMaine, UMS

14 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Sen. Susan Collins secured nearly \$90 million in congressional funds to support more than a dozen projects across the University of Maine System, with about \$58.5 million of the total going to UMaine.

Media features Extension tractor safety workshop

14 Mar 2022

[The Daily Bulldog](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about the UMaine Cooperative Extension four-session tractor safety workshop. Designed for adults and youth at least 14 years old, participants will learn how to safely handle tractors and equipment, how to avoid hazards, and minimize chances of accidents. For more information and to register, visit the program [webpage](#).

Xue featured in BDN for NSF award

14 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Qian Xue, University of Maine assistant professor of mechanical engineering, has been awarded a National Science Foundation Faculty Early CAREER Development Award for her research on the hydrodynamic sensing model of seal whiskers.

MaineBiz features UMaine 'factory of the future'

14 Mar 2022

[MaineBiz](#) reported on an omnibus federal funding package that includes \$35 million to help build a digital research laboratory at the University of Maine. The facility, dubbed the “[factory of the future](#),” will advance large-scale, biobased additive manufacturing using technologies such as artificial intelligence, high-performance computing, and arrays of large 3D printers and subtractive systems.

Media features Maine Science Festival headliner performance at UMaine

14 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on the long-awaited full premiere of Lucas Richman’s symphonic work “[The Warming Sea](#),” the festival’s commission from the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, which will take place on Saturday, March 19, at 7 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts. [WGME](#) shared the BDN report. For more information and a full schedule of MSF events, visit mainesciencefestival.com.

UMaine social work graduate students pen op-ed for BDN

14 Mar 2022

Kessie Silas, Jamie Kane, Andy Bradley and Alli O’Neil, social work graduate students at the University of Maine, wrote an op-ed for the [Bangor Daily News](#) arguing that the state of Maine has the power to decrease the number of deaths from overdoses by expanding the [Good Samaritan Law](#), which prevents a person who seeks medical assistance for a person experiencing a drug-related overdose or who is themselves experiencing a drug-related overdose from being arrested or prosecuted for drug-related violation of laws. [A bill](#) currently before the Legislature will also [strengthen protections](#) for bystanders who administer a potentially lifesaving dose of naloxone.

Medical Xpress features UMaine study on adolescent mental health during the pandemic

14 Mar 2022

[Medical XPress](#) featured a UMaine-led study that found the loneliness accompanied by pandemic-related school closures and the like has led to an increase in mental health issues such as depression and self-destructive behavior in adolescents.

Maine Monitor features UMaine nursing students working during the pandemic

14 Mar 2022

[The Maine Monitor](#) featured University of Maine School of Nursing students Sara Todd, Paige Solans and Tanya Roy in an article about nursing students working during the pandemic. The Maine Monitor reported that even as Maine hospitals worry about pandemic burnout and a nursing shortage, graduating nursing students like Solans are eager to work. According to the story, so many new nurses have entered the field in recent years that [a study this year](#) found the projected statewide workforce shortfall for 2025 has shrunk in half.

Media reports on UMaine study about social media verification

14 Mar 2022

[B2B News Network](#), [Phys.org](#), [Newswire](#) and the [Horizons Tracker](#) shared a UMaine study about the downsides of social media verification. The study showed that consumers associate verification more with celebrity than credibility and are much less likely to trust product endorsements from verified accounts if the content is inconsistent with the influencer's brand.

BDN features UMaine research in article about blue tarps and microplastics

14 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) featured a UMaine [student research study](#) that found blue plastic tarp microplastics are affecting snails and slugs on Maine farms. Rachel White, a Ph.D. student in ecology and environmental sciences, created a synthetic stomach acid that dissolves the gastropods to look at parasites, but also found microplastics, particularly blue fibers like those found in blue tarps. “We were seeing small microplastics that really piqued our interest. They have been ingesting these plastics,” White told the BDN. Anne Lichtenwalner, White’s advisor and director of the university’s veterinary diagnostic laboratory, said, “I was surprised and horrified. The process of seeing [the plastics] involved surviving an artificial stomach acid, which suggests they go through the digestive system.” [Z107.3](#) and [Q106.5](#) shared the BDN report.

Maine Monitor features Extension PFAS resources

14 Mar 2022

In an article about the “slow-motion disaster” of PFAS contamination on farms, the [Maine Monitor](#) featured University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s resources for farmers to deal with “forever chemicals” that might be contaminating their land. UMaine Extension has a [site for farmers](#) to guide them through investigating PFAS, and has trained agricultural support networks to field PFAS inquiries.

New research highlights challenge of Maine craft breweries growing authentically

14 Mar 2022

Craft beer is a fast-growing industry, particularly in Maine and New England. New research shows that as the industry continues to grow, owners need to make decisions about scale and growth, which can be tough for brands whose success is built on local values. Researchers looked at six Maine craft breweries, conducting field observations in the facilities, as well as formal and informal interviews with brewmasters, brewery owners, customers, home brewers and local bar owners that offer beer from the six locales. Depending on the subject, the interviews asked questions about the role of local patrons and their preference for local craft beer; how the breweries build relationships with the local community; the role of innovation at the breweries; and challenges to the breweries’ growth. The researchers applied a coding process to divide the responses by socially base and economic-based values. Then, they further examined the responses and identified broader categories that indicated the breweries’ core values — as well as their conflicting values. The results showed that there are several challenges faced by Maine’s craft breweries as they try to expand while remaining true to the values that brought them success in the first place: the tension between experimentation and mass production; between local authenticity and geographical expansion; and between independence and corporate partnership. “The study’s findings confirms what we suspected in the brewing industry and it is nice to have verification that they focus on a balance of social and economic responsibility as guiding principles that direct decisions,” says Jason Bolton, co-author of the study and area coordinator of engineering innovation at Maine Business School. The collaborative study, which also included Niclas Erhardt, the study’s lead author and former UMaine faculty member in the Maine Business School, and Matthew Luth, both at Valparaiso University in Indiana; and Carolos Martin-Rios at the EHL Hospitality Business School in Lausanne, Switzerland, was published in the journal [Sustainability](#) in February. “The researchers assert that craft breweries need to pay attention to community reactions to attempted growth if they want to successfully maintain their brand and stay true to their founding core values,” says Erhardt. For example, after years of success, Bissell Brothers Brewery opened a small-scale brewery in its hometown of Milo, miles away from the larger metropolitan area of Portland, in order to emphasize its commitment to localism. The craft brewery market is more competitive than ever, and customers increasingly expect engagement from their favorite brands. “In addition to social and economic growth, there seems to be a constant balancing act of innovative and authentic product offerings. To assist craft breweries, it will be helpful to follow this data over the next few years as craft breweries adapt to product trends, increasing competition and local consumer demand,” Bolton says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Pinette presents about Jack Kerouac tonight for Radio-Canada

15 Mar 2022

Susan Pinette, professor of modern languages and director of Franco-American Programs at the University of Maine, will present on a Radio-Canada panel entitled Tribute to Jack Kerouac: 100 Years, Still Alive!, organized in collaboration with the Quebec Delegation in Boston as part of the Mois de la Francophonie 2022. The panel, which will discuss Jack Kerouac’s francophone legacy in the United States in the first half of the 20th century, will take place at 6 p.m. March 15. Learn more and register [online](#).

UMaine Extension webinar for northern Maine strawberry growers March 23**15 Mar 2022**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar about strawberry production and pest management in northern Maine, from 6–7:30 p.m. on March 23. “[Strawberry Production and Pest Management for Northern Maine](#)” will illustrate how best to produce strawberries in the region, including site preparation, variety selection, plant growth, winter protection and pest management. David Handley, UMaine Extension vegetable and fruit specialist, will lead the workshop. The webinar is free; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#). This webinar is approved for one pesticide recertification credit. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.834.3905; sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

UMaine-UNB International History Graduate Student Conference returns March 26**15 Mar 2022**

After being on hiatus for a couple of years, history graduate students of the University of Maine and the University of New Brunswick announce the return of the UMaine-UNB International History Graduate Student Conference on March 26–27. In its 21st year, the conference will be held virtually via Zoom. Everyone is welcome to register and attend via [this link](#). The conference program and abstracts are [online](#). More information is available from conference chair Evan Zarkadas, evangelos.zarkadas@maine.edu. The UMaine-UNB History Graduate Student Conference has been jointly hosted by graduate students at both universities since 1998. The conference site traditionally alternates every other year between the two campuses in Orono and Fredericton, New Brunswick. The conference offers an opportunity for history graduate students from UMaine, University of New Brunswick and universities across the U.S. and Canada to present their work among friends, other graduate students and faculty from the host institution. The conference allows graduate students to gain experience presenting a paper at a conference, and hear feedback about their research.

Media features Extension weed management workshop**15 Mar 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Sun-Journal](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s free webinar about managing weeds in the home landscape from 6–7:30 p.m. on March 30. Register on the [event webpage](#).

Media shares Waldo County Extension Association rural living workshop**15 Mar 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) advanced University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Waldo County Extension Association weekly workshops on rural living on April 2, 9, 16 and 23. “[Rural Living Month](#)” workshop topics include homestead livestock choices; working with children and teens in the garden; Maine’s invasive forest insects; and home cheesemaking. The fee is \$10 per workshop; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#).

Centralmaine.com features climate change and agriculture webinar series**15 Mar 2022**

[Centralmaine.com](#) shared information about the Maine Climate and Agriculture Network’s three-webinar series about climate change and agriculture. The series, which runs March 22, 28 and April 14, is free and open to the public. To learn more and to register, visit [the program webpage](#).

Pinette speaks with Le Devoir about Jack Kerouac**15 Mar 2022**

Susan Pinette, professor of modern languages and director of Franco-American Programs at the University of Maine, spoke with Montreal-based newspaper [Le Devoir](#) about the legacy of French-Canadian immigration in an article about the francophone legacy of author Jack Kerouac.

Fox 22 Bangor interviews social media verification researchers**15 Mar 2022**

[Fox 22 Bangor](#) published a story about a UMaine study that shows social media verification isn’t always a positive for influencers trying to sell products. Fox 22 Bangor interviewed Jazlyn Dumas, principal investigator of the study, who completed the research for her Honors College capstone thesis project, and Rusty Stough, assistant professor of marketing at the Maine Business School who served as Dumas’ advisor on the project.

UMaine data featured in BDN column about Arctic charr in Green Lake**15 Mar 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) cited research conducted in part by University of Maine biologist Michael Kinnison that concluded the charr in Green Lake are more closely related to those found in Wassataquoik and Gardner Lakes than Floods Pond, leading the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reverse its position and refer to the population as native again in 2019 after being declared nonnative in 2018.

Howell interviewed for NS Medical Devices about engineering implants for human bodies

15 Mar 2022

Caitlin Howell, assistant professor of biomedical engineering at the University of Maine, spoke with [NS Medical Devices](#) about the challenges of engineering implants for the human body, which is naturally resistant to foreign objects. Howell said, “Antibiotics work well, but the emergence of antibiotic-resistant organisms means that we constantly need different or stronger treatments to kill the infection. This may be a slow-moving problem, but it is a very serious one. Often, there are multiple microbes, so when you kill one you are just making room for others.”

UMaine study shows Penobscot River restoration efforts may benefit both salmon and seals

15 Mar 2022

New research led by the University of Maine finds that river restoration efforts and increasing river herring runs may help lessen the impacts that seals have on salmon. Whole ecosystem restoration may be helping predators and prey alike. Efforts to restore seal populations in the Gulf of Maine started with federal protections in 1972. Their population growth over the past few decades has at once heartened and concerned conservationists, who want to see seal populations recover, but also worry about the impacts seals can have on other parts of their ecosystem, including their prey. Seal predation has been a growing concern in the Penobscot River, where restoration efforts have focused on bringing back fish runs for species like the endangered Atlantic salmon that migrate from saltwater to freshwater. In a [study](#) published in the journal *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* in February 2022, the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, Maine Department of Marine Resources and Maine Sea Grant scientists analyzed data collected since 2012 on injuries that likely came from seals on salmon passing upriver at dams in the Penobscot River. They compared injury rates among salmon of different sizes, sex and age, and also evaluated the relationship between salmon injury rate and the presence of other fish in the estuary, including seasonal timing and magnitude of river herring returns. “Previous studies have focused on seal abundance and the number of seal-induced injuries detected. By combining multiple long-term data sets, we were able to take a more holistic look at how major river restoration efforts have affected the relationship between seals and salmon in the Penobscot River,” says Lauri Leach, the study’s principal author and 2021 Sea Grant Knauss Fellow. The analysis showed that seal-induced injuries to salmon declined between 2012 and 2019, coinciding with an increase in river herring and overall estuary fish biomass. The results suggested that even though seal populations in the region are increasing, increasing the river’s forage fish, like river herring, may provide Atlantic salmon with some level of protection from seal predation. The researchers also found that salmon with a seal-induced injury often had multiple injuries, such as large cuts and wounds caused by lampreys. Although scientists cannot know whether one injury predisposes a salmon to others, the data are evidence that migrating salmon face multiple stressors, not just the hungry pinnipeds. “We were surprised to see a strong relationship between increasing river herring returns and decreasing seal-induced injury to salmon. Although this finding is encouraging, we also recognize that the injuries we see only represent failed predation attempts. Future research on seal foraging behavior and diet in the Penobscot River estuary is needed to help explain how injury relates to what seals are successfully eating,” says Leach. The study shows that restoration focused on ecosystem health can benefit multiple species in ecosystems like the Penobscot River and can shift predator-prey interactions in a way that supports restoration and conservation efforts of both predators and prey. “Though challenging to implement and assess, multi-species or ecosystem-based approaches to management have great potential for widespread benefits, from fish to seals and even human residents and visitors to the region,” says Kristina Cammen, assistant professor at the School of Marine Sciences and co-author of the study. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine study shows pathogen and drug work together to fight fungal lung infection

15 Mar 2022

Pathogens don’t always work against drug treatments. Sometimes, they can strengthen them, according to a new University of Maine study. Diseases caused by a combination of bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites — also known as polymicrobial infections — are challenging to treat because scientists don’t fully understand how pathogens interact during infection and how these interactions impact the drugs used to treat them. In a [study](#) published in the journal *Infection and Immunity*, researchers in the Molecular & Biomedical Sciences Department looked at two pathogens that often occur at similar sites, particularly in cystic fibrosis and mechanically ventilated patients: *Candida albicans* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. *Candida* is the fourth most common hospital-acquired pathogen, and is particularly difficult to treat. It is targeted by a number of antifungal agents, but some only slow it rather than kill it outright. Meanwhile, *P. aeruginosa* infects 90% of all adult cystic fibrosis patients. Combined, *C. albicans* and *P. aeruginosa* cause more serious disease in cystic fibrosis and ventilated patients. The researchers investigated the effectiveness of an antifungal drug, fluconazole, in the test tube and during infection of the zebrafish with both pathogens. Fluconazole is known to slow fungal growth, but *Candida* can become tolerant to the drug and not only survive, but also develop tolerance that leads to failed therapy and, potentially, death. What the study found was promising. The results showed that *P. aeruginosa* works with fluconazole to eliminate drug tolerance and clear the *C. albicans* infection in the culture and the zebrafish. “Polymicrobial infections are challenging to treat not only because of the lack of understanding of how invading microorganisms interact but also because we don’t know how these interactions affect treatment efficacy. Our work demonstrates that polymicrobial interactions can indeed affect treatment efficacy and, most importantly, it highlights the importance of nutrient availability in the environment — such as iron in our study — and how it modulates treatment efficacy,” says Siham Hattab, lead author of the study who conducted the research as part of her Ph.D. in the Department of Molecular and Biomolecular Sciences. What’s more, the bacteria also enhance the drug’s ability against a second pathogenic *Candida* species that tends to be more resistant to the drug. The increased effectiveness of the drug suggests to the researchers that there is still much more to learn about how current drugs work when targeting these dangerous and complex polymicrobial infections. “We are really excited to have revealed that sometimes drugs against fungal infection can work even better in a more ‘real-world’ situation than in the test tube. There is still a lot to learn about how pathogens interact during infection, and it will be interesting to see how the bacteria manage to work with the drugs to target *Candida*,” says Robert Wheeler, associate professor of microbiology and senior author of the study. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Arts Initiative seed grant awardees announced

16 Mar 2022

The [UMaine Arts Initiative \(UMAI\)](#) is pleased to announce winners of a new competitive seed grant program, created to encourage innovative and interdisciplinary collaborations that seek to build a diverse, inclusive, sustainable and equitable community of art researchers, practitioners, supporters and promoters. The University of Maine Arts Initiative, launched in 2021 by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, is a collaborative of UMaine and University of Maine Machias faculty, administrators, staff and students committed to the principle that the arts play an integral role in public research institutions. UMAI seeks to increase resources and support for the arts in order to reinforce their significance and enhance their

visibility on campus and beyond. Chosen projects support new interdisciplinary collaborations with emphasis given to applicants from art-centered academic units and museums. Funding ranged from \$5,000 to \$15,000. Brief summaries of the five projects selected in this initial funding round are as follows:

Technology and Tradition: Shaping Indigenous Collections for the Future

Collaborators include Gretchen Faulkner, Jonathan Roy and Alexander Cole, with graduate students Luke McKinney, Reed Hayden and Anna Martin. The Hudson Museum will collaborate with the Advanced Structures and Composites Center and the Intermedia Programs to replicate a culturally sensitive object in its collection, HM5040, a Tlingit Frog Clan Helmet. This object is subject to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and repatriation of the object has been requested by Tlingit. The museum has received permission from the Tlingit for this project. All aspects of the creation of the replica will be visually documented. The visual documentation will result in a temporary exhibit in the Hudson Museum's Minsky Gallery consisting of framed images, a time-lapse segment and the replica. The project will allow the museum to develop a proof of concept for object replication, protocols and procedures for the replication of museum objects for conservation, repatriation and educational purposes, and provide a basis for future projects, which would be supported by external funding.

Interdisciplinary Educational Outreach & Engagement Project Migration of Birds and Monarch Butterflies Through the Use of Motus Wildlife Tracking Station and an Exploration of Birds Through the Visual Arts

Collaborators include George Kinghorn, Amber Roth and external partners from the Cobscook Institute. Using the migration of birds and monarch butterflies as the subject of interdisciplinary inquiry, this collaborative project will boost UMaine's research capacity for examining how climate change affects migration patterns while also engaging high school students from rural communities in scientific research and the visual arts at UMaine. Participants will investigate wildlife migration, learn scientific methods for understanding animal movements and mortality risks, and interpret data. Students will also explore bird species through hands-on art making activities led by Zillman Art Museum and a curatorial project featuring images of birds from the museum's collection. Construction of a Motus Wildlife Tracking Station on campus will expand the knowledge of animal movements, behaviors and demographics. The station technology blends biology, engineering and computer science fields, and will contribute to diverse STEM curricular and research activities across campus. Undergraduate and graduate students will co-develop scientifically sound learning activities for high school participants.

The Island Soundscape Project

Collaborators include Steve Norton, N.B. Aldrich, Laura Artesani and MacKenzie Stetzer. Artists propose the Island Soundscape Project as an interdisciplinary nexus for research and creative work in the arts, music, education, history and environmental studies. The project is part of the field of study known as acoustic ecology, or soundscape ecology, and is an aspect of the larger contemporary field of Sound Studies. The Island Soundscape Project seeks collaborations with local historical societies, libraries, arts organizations and schools to promote the idea of the soundscape as an element in the preservation and identity of the various island communities off the coast of Maine. This project, already underway, will bring University of Maine graduate and undergraduate students from multiple disciplines into a direct relationship with Maine's island communities while concurrently connecting with public school arts education to demonstrate the enriching possibilities of soundscape studies to both students and instructors.

Residency for Opera 'I Give You My Home: Rose Standish Nichols Story'

Collaborators include Beth Wiemann and Kara Peruccio. UMaine's Music Division will sponsor a residency by guest artists of Boston's Guerilla Opera, featuring a workshop of a new chamber opera by professor Beth Wiemann. The workshop will present scenes from the opera, based on the life of Rose Standish Nichols. The new opera dramatizes parts of modern American history through Nichols' activism in the suffragette and WWI peace movements, and places a contemporary perspective on Nichols' life within the restrictions of her time. Master classes and panels on contemporary opera for the UMaine community and the general public will also be conducted. These events are part of a long-term collaboration between Wiemann, Guerilla Opera and the Nichols Museum in Boston (Rose Nichols' family home). The residency, March 3-6, 2022, connected it to Women's History Month, and precedes the first premiere of the fully staged piece in the Nichols Museum in June 2022.

Art & Creative Ecologies Series (ACES)

Collaborators include Justin Wolff, David Hart and a broad range of additional faculty. Funding will support a series of visiting artist events and collaborative facilitated workshops in 2022. The transdisciplinary workshops will convene faculty, staff, students and community partners with an interest in how art and design contribute meaningfully to discourses and actions related to climate change, and ecological and social sustainability. Workshops will be facilitated by an expert with demonstrated success working imaginatively and collaboratively to bring art and arts-based research to bear on our most pressing global challenges. In addition, visiting artists working at the intersection of art and the environment will demonstrate what is possible under the rubric of "creative ecologies." The long-term objective is to situate UMaine at the forefront of art-science research collaborations focused on ecological and social sustainability. UMAI is currently soliciting submissions for another competitive seed grant program. This specific call for proposals, in line with the objectives of MEIF, seeks to enhance strategic collaborations across the arts and STEM disciplines in support of economic development in Maine. Proposals for the Economic Development Through the Arts RFP must be submitted via the [UMaine InfoReady Portal](#), which is now open for submissions. Applications are due on April 1, 2022. Visit the [UMaine Arts Initiative webpage](#) for more information. Contact: research@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers seed-starting webinar March 25

16 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners about starting seeds indoors from noon–1:15 p.m. on March 25. "[Seed Starting at Home](#)" features best practices for starting vegetable and flower seedlings indoors, such as proper timing, supplies for success and practical tips for managing light, temperature and moisture. Kate Garland, UMaine Extension horticultural professional, leads the workshop. Registration is required; a sliding scale fee is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#) to attend live or receive the recording link. This is the third in a five-part [spring gardening webinar series](#) offered through April for Maine gardeners. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, 207.781.6099; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

MBS and ROTC to host benefit dodgeball tournament March 27

16 Mar 2022

The Maine Business School (MBS) Corps in collaboration with the Army and Naval-Marine ROTC will host its annual "Heroes and Hope" dodgeball tournament on Sunday, March 27 starting at 12:30 p.m. in the Field House. The event will benefit two local veteran organizations: [Maine Veterans Project](#) and [Service Dog Strong](#). To get involved, register a team of five to compete in the tournament; donate to the event's [Go Fund Me page](#); [sign up](#) to contribute to the bake sale; share information about the event with others who would like to support local veterans; or stop by the event with friends to sample the bake sale and cheer for the teams.

UMaine Extension 4-H explores Maine's changing tidepools

16 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer an online weekly club for youth ages 13–18 about Maine's tidepools and how to be citizen scientists, from 4–5 p.m. April 12–May 17. An optional field day will be held April 22, rain date April 21, at Southern Maine Community College, 2 Fort Road, South Portland. The [4-H Tidepool Immersion Discovery Ecology Workshop Series](#) will explore the intertidal zone while contributing to marine science research. Participants will learn about animals that might be seen during low tide and how to identify them using photos taken with a cell phone. Additional topics are invasive species, climate change, species identification and how to participate in research. UMaine Extension 4-H professional Sarah Sparks and University of New England graduate student Emily Pierce will lead the workshop. The workshop is free; participation is limited to 15. Register by March 31 on the [event webpage](#) to receive the link and materials. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.8206; sarah.sparks@maine.edu. This workshop is supported by the Maine Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) at the University of Maine.

Down East features Extension 4-H summer camps

16 Mar 2022

In an article about nine Maine summer camps that kids will love, [Down East](#) magazine featured the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H camps and learning centers at Blueberry Cove, Bryant Pond, Greenwood Point and Tanglewood. The article highlighted the fact that all sites offer traditional residential camps, off-site adventure trips, year-round school programs, custom programs and programs for adults.

BDN features Aspiration Incubator merit scholarships to UMaine

16 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy's announcement that qualifying high school graduates from the Lerner Foundation's [Aspirations Incubator](#) programs for rural Maine youth will receive \$500 merit scholarships and automatic admission to UMaine or its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, as UMS TRANSFORMS Affiliates.

Media promote renowned Ukrainian violinist performing at UMaine

16 Mar 2022

The [Ellsworth American](#), [Mount Desert Islander](#) and [WABI](#) shared information about renowned Ukrainian violinist Solomia Soroka performing in a free public concert at 7:30 p.m. March 26, in Minsky Recital Hall. The program will include works by Ukrainian composers Mykola Lysenko, Yevhen Stankovych and Vasyl Barvinsky.

Republican Journal highlights Hartmann Award winner

16 Mar 2022

The [Republican Journal](#) highlighted the achievements of Stockton Springs resident Bonnie-Jean Brooks. The Maryann Hartman Awards are awarded annually by UMaine to honor Maine women's achievements in the arts, politics, business, education and community service. Brooks founded Opportunity Housing Inc., now called OHI, in 1979, and has spent the past four decades consulting for public and private agencies nationwide and in four other countries.

Country Folks features UMaine first-year in family profile

16 Mar 2022

[Country Folks](#) interviewed Ashton Caron, a first-year in the animal and veterinary sciences program at the University of Maine, and his family about their farm, where they breed Belted Galloway. The family also is involved in University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H programs.

Media reports on UMaine study about drug treatments for fungal pathogens

16 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Lab Roots](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [News Azi](#), [News Medical](#), [Cystic Fibrosis News Today](#) and [RT Magazine](#) reported on a UMaine study that found pathogens don't always work against drug treatments. Sometimes, they can strengthen them. The researchers found that a pathogen called *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* works with a drug called fluconazole to eliminate drug tolerance and clear *Candida albicans* infection, which are common in hospital settings.

Bishop interviewed for Kennebec Journal story on teacher shortages

16 Mar 2022

College of Education and Human Development dean Penny Bishop discussed teacher shortages in a recent [Kennebec Journal](#) article. Bishop described the issues facing the education profession since COVID-19 as “the perfect storm.” She said the pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing, longer term issues related to support for teachers and teacher education programs. “It’s a wonderful and noble profession and there is nothing like it — it enables every other profession, but society doesn’t value it as important as other professions,” she said. Bishop said even before the pandemic, nationwide enrollment in teacher preparation programs was down 30%. She said it hasn’t been as severe in Maine or New England, but it has become “more pervasive” due to the pandemic.

Micinski pens article about Ukrainian refugee protection for Washington Post

16 Mar 2022

Nicholas Micinski, Libra Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at the University of Maine, wrote an article for the [Washington Post](#) about the European Union granting Ukrainian refugees temporary protection in a departure from their response to past migrant crises. Micinski wrote, “The Ukraine crisis shows that the E.U. can and does cooperate on migration when it wants to — however, this is shaped by internal politics.”

Boteva featured on podcast about how universities are supporting Ukrainian and Russian students

16 Mar 2022

On March 11, 2022, Orlina Boteva, director of the University of Maine Office of International Programs, participated in a panel of higher education professionals on a special episode of "Office Hours with Dr. De Veau." Professionals from four universities came together to provide insight into the work their institutions are doing to support Ukrainian and Russian community members on their campuses. Listen to the podcast episode [here](#).

UMaine Extension offers weed management webinar March 30

17 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a free webinar about managing weeds in the home landscape from 6–7:30 p.m. March 30. “[Weed Management in the Home Landscape and Garden](#)” includes an overview of different types of weeds and how to identify them; weed control focused on cultural methods and mulching; and a discussion about herbicide use. Donna Coffin, a UMaine Extension professor, will lead the workshop. The webinar is free; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#). The program has been approved for one pesticide recertification credit. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sharon Paradis, 207.834.3905; sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

East to keynote Maine Sustainability and Water Conference on March 31

17 Mar 2022

Judy East, director of the Bureau of Resource Information and Land Use Planning in the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, will present the [keynote address](#), "Getting from us/them polarization to partnership with, sometimes, strange bedfellows," at the Maine Sustainability and Water Conference on March 31. East, who also serves on the Maine Climate Council, will talk about her experience working in rural communities to bridge divides and balance conservation and economic development. More information about the [keynote](#) and the [conference](#) is on the Sen. George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions website.

Machias Valley News Observer advances Extension wildlife damage prevention workshop

17 Mar 2022

The [Machias Valley News Observer](#) shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension webinar about wildlife damage prevention in home gardens, which will take place from noon–1:15 p.m. April 1. The workshop will discuss methods to help reduce losses in home gardens from raccoons, deer, rabbits and woodchucks. Adam Vashon, a USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service wildlife biologist, will lead the workshop. Learn more and register on the [program webpage](#).

Media boosts UMaine psychosis webinar

17 Mar 2022

[Centralmaine.com](#) and the [Sun Journal](#) shared information about a free, live webinar about early detection of psychosis hosted by the University of Maine Rural Integrated Behavioral Health in Primary Care Training Program, from 10:30 a.m.–noon on April 1. A certificate of attendance will be provided to participants. Register [here](#).

BDN shares Mitchell Center event about forest management and tick disease

17 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about a talk on how forest management practices may affect ticks and tick-borne disease on March 28 from 3–4 p.m., hosted by Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions. Allison Gardner, assistant professor in the School of Biology and Ecology at UMaine, will discuss results from the project and how they could inform practical recommendations to protect rural community health while sustaining the economic and other benefits that forests provide. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. To register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#).

Phys.org, BDN feature UMaine research about seal and salmon restoration

17 Mar 2022

[Phys.org](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) featured research from the University of Maine that shows river restoration efforts and increasing river herring runs may help lessen the impacts that seals have on salmon. The study shows that restoration focused on ecosystem health can benefit multiple species in ecosystems like the Penobscot River, and can shift predator-prey interactions in a way that supports restoration and conservation efforts of both predators and prey.

Jamison speaks with Maine Public about hemp farming in Maine

17 Mar 2022

John Jamison, professor, soil & water quality, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was a panelist on the [Maine Public](#) show Maine Calling that focused on what Maine is doing to help hemp farmers dealing with lower-than-expected demand. Maine hemp farmers are struggling or have dropped out altogether due to oversupply and strict regulations.

Jackson, Wilson featured in News Center Maine about women STEM professionals database

17 Mar 2022

Tori Jackson, Extension professor of agriculture and natural resources, and Laura Wilson, 4-H science professional, both with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, were interviewed for a report about an international database with women around the world who are in science, technology, engineering or mathematics professions called FabFems. The directory allows students, parents and school counselors to connect with role models who can give guidance about next steps for those interested in pursuing STEM careers. Wilson told [News Center Maine](#), "A lot of children in the state don't necessarily know how to articulate their needs, and if they do, a lot of parents don't know the next steps. For me, it's exciting to see that eye-opening like, 'Oh, I can do this, too,' moment." Jackson added, "'I'm no longer the only woman in the room almost ever, which is great.'"

AP reports on \$1 million in federal funding for Maine Climate Science Information Exchange project

17 Mar 2022

The [Associated Press](#) reported that the University of Maine will receive \$1 million in federal funding to establish the Maine Climate Science Information Exchange, a new coordination hub that will share research and support the Maine Climate Action Plan. [News Center Maine](#), [Spectrum News](#), [Connecticut Post](#), [New Haven Register](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), [The Titusville Herald](#), [The Telegraph](#), the [New Canaan Advertiser](#), the [Herald Review](#), the [Herald-Standard](#), the [Intelligencer](#), [Seattlepi.com](#), [SFGate](#), [WABI-5](#) (Bangor), [WGME](#) (Portland), [Fox 23](#) (Portland) and [WRAL-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Raleigh, North Carolina) shared the AP report.

Maine Sustainability & Water Conference returns to Augusta Civic Center on March 31

18 Mar 2022

On Thursday, March 31, hundreds of people from around the state will converge on the Augusta Civic Center for the 2022 Maine Sustainability & Water Conference. This year's event, from 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m., will be the first since 2019 at which conference attendees will gather in person to reconnect, exchange information and grow new collaborations to address sustainability and water resource challenges in Maine. The conference was canceled in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic and held virtually in 2021. Judy East, director of the Bureau of Resource Information and Land Use Planning in the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, will deliver the [conference keynote](#). In her talk, East will draw from her decades of experience living and working in rural communities to balance conservation and economic development needs. She will share strategies and stories of how we can work together and move [from polarization to partnership](#). The conference will feature [10 concurrent sessions](#) spread between the morning and afternoon, with a full-day session focused on solid waste management. Other sessions include PFAS risks in Maine, rural health and sustainability, coastal resilience, tick-borne disease and more. A [poster competition](#) where more than 30 of Maine's most exceptional high school, undergraduate and graduate students present their research will also be held. Poster topics include the COVID-19 response in inland and coastal communities, use of biochar for wild blueberry crops, resilience in transitioning mill towns, microplastics, arsenic in well water and produce and much more. The conference, organized by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine, provides a forum for researchers, students, policymakers, community leaders and Maine citizens to present new findings and network with others involved with sustainability and water resource issues in Maine. Held for more than 25 years, the conference attracts hundreds of participants each year. "This conference provides a wonderful opportunity to learn about and celebrate many inspiring efforts to create a brighter environmental, social and economic future in Maine," says David Hart, Mitchell Center director. "By mixing science with passion and collaboration with resolve, the conference serves as an essential gathering place on the road to solutions." For more information and to register, visit the [Mitchell Center website](#).

Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions:

The Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine aspires to be a leader and valued partner in understanding and solving problems related to the growing challenge of improving human well-being while protecting the environment. We collaborate with diverse stakeholders and bring together faculty and students from many different fields. By connecting knowledge with action, we seek to create a brighter environmental, social and economic future in and beyond Maine. Contact: Ruth Hallsworth, hallsworth@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host talk on ticks and forest management March 28

18 Mar 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk on how forest management practices may affect ticks and tick-borne disease 3–4 p.m. on Monday, March 28. Maine has seen a five-fold increase in the incidence of Lyme disease, which is transmitted by the black-legged tick, over the past decade. This increase is attributed to the effects of climate change and increasing interactions between humans and wildlife, including in forested landscapes. Active forest management may affect individual risk of exposure to ticks, as well as the spread of tick-borne diseases. The [Maine Forest Tick Survey](#) is a community science project launched in 2018 to help identify forest management practices that inhibit tick-borne disease transmission, and also serve a range of public health, economic and ecological interests. Allison Gardner, assistant professor in the School of Biology and Ecology at UMaine, will discuss results from the project and how they could inform practical recommendations to protect rural community health while sustaining the economic and other benefits that forests provide. Gardner’s research focuses on the ecology of infectious diseases in humans and wildlife that are transmitted by vectors such as ticks and mosquitoes. Her goal is to translate her findings into the development of effective and sustainable management strategies. Gardner is a faculty affiliate of the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, the Maine Center for the Genetics in the Environment, and the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering at UMaine. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Updates for this event will be posted to the [event webpage](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

UMaine announces tuition-free summer courses for high school students

18 Mar 2022

Editor's note: Story updated on March 21. University of Maine Early College summer course registration is open, with over 50 online courses available to high school students tuition-free. Qualified high school students can earn up to 12 college credits per year at UMaine and its regional campus in Machias. Early College students have access to world-class faculty at Maine’s flagship university and only Carnegie R1 top-tier research institution. UMaine’s flexible summer schedule includes online and live courses, and several unique on-site experiences summarized below: Live and online classes May 9–Aug. 19: UMaine has a long history of being a leader in supporting Early College programming. Classes are taught by expert faculty and many meet general education requirements of the University of Maine System, as well as the majority of colleges nationwide. Students statewide will benefit from the flexibility and variety of online and live Early College courses offered this summer. Early college is a partnership between the University of Maine System and the Maine Department of Education, and supported by the Maine Legislature. INT 188 (Introduction to Integrated Science and Career Exploration) July 18–Aug. 12: INT 188 is a three-credit course that involves lecture and laboratory instruction in data collection and analysis; measuring and graphing techniques; scientific writing; and evidence-based thinking. It includes group work, a research project, a career-planning assignment focusing on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields — which entails informational interviews with industry leaders — and a final Research Symposium at the end of the course. The four-week course will have three location options: Orono, Machias or the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. Outdoor Leadership Experience Aug. 8–17: Students will attend an intensive 10-day training at UMaine’s 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Bryant Pond. Students will earn four UMaine credits through a series of two courses: KPE 207 (Wilderness First Aid) and KPE 265 (Outdoor and Adventure Activities). Students will also become certified in CPR and wilderness first aid. This residential program is limited to 10 students. Room and board is \$725. Registration online at explorec.maine.edu. Interested students and parents are encouraged to contact Kari Suderley, director of Early College Programs, 207.581.8024; um.earlycollege@maine.edu or Christy Alley, director of Early College at Machias, 207.255.1268; ummearlycollege@maine.edu to learn more about the application process. Applications are due one week prior to course start dates.

Media features Extension 4-H tidepool workshop

18 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#), the [Irregular](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about an online weekly club about Maine’s tidepools and how to be citizen scientists for youth ages 13–18, hosted by The club will meet from 4–5 p.m. on Tuesdays, April 12–May 17, and an optional field day will be held April 22, rain date April 21, at Southern Maine Community College, 2 Fort Road in South Portland. Register by March 31 on the [event webpage](#).

Atmos cites UMaine study about red pandas

18 Mar 2022

In an article about red panda conservation in light of the popular new Disney movie “Turning Red,” [Atmos](#), a climate and culture magazine, cited a 1989 study from the University of Maine that showed mortality of wild red panda cubs in Nepal was as high as 86% in 1987.

Phys.org highlights UMaine study about craft breweries

18 Mar 2022

[Phys.org](#) reported on UMaine-led research that shows as the craft brewing industry continues to grow, owners need to make decisions about scale and growth, which can be tough for brands whose success is built on local values. The study, which involved field research at craft breweries throughout the state, showed that there are several challenges faced by Maine’s craft breweries as they try to expand while remaining true to the values that brought them success: the tension between experimentation and mass production; between local authenticity and geographical expansion; and between independence and corporate partnership.

Lilley speaks to BDN about tractor fuel efficiency

18 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Jason Lilley, sustainable agriculture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about how to stretch fuel efficiency for even the oldest farm tractors. Lilley recommended looking at the tractor’s tires first, saying, “Take a look at your tires and your ballast weight on the tires. You also want to make sure your tires are gripping so you are not continually spinning in place.”

Bolton speaks to Washington Post about cleaning sponges

18 Mar 2022

Jason Bolton, extension professor and food safety specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was interviewed for the [Washington Post](#) about the importance of washing kitchen sponges. Bolton said that it is essential to clean and sanitize your sponge regularly, ideally every day. You can wash the sponge with warm water and soap, then microwave it on high for 1 minute or soak the sponge in a bleach solution. [Borneo Bulletin](#) shared the Washington Post article.

American leadership in a dangerous world the focus of UMaine Cohen Lecture April 4

18 Mar 2022

“The Importance of American Leadership in a Dangerous World” will be the focus of the 2022 Cohen Lecture featuring Gen. James Mattis, former Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen and Medal of Honor recipient Lance Cpl. Kyle Carpenter at the University of Maine on April 4. The 11 a.m. in-person event in the Collins Center for the Arts, moderated by Felicia Knight, president of the Knight Canney Group, is free and open to the public. Registration is required by calling 207.581.1755 or going online: bit.ly/3vSvPRN. To request a reasonable accommodation, call 207.581.1755. The Cohen Lecture is offered by UMaine’s Cohen Institute for Leadership and Public Service, directed by professor of political science Richard Powell and designed to model, promote and teach leadership and civic engagement through programs that reflect and honor Secretary Cohen's public service legacy. Cohen, a Bangor native who represented Maine in Congress for 24 years before joining President Clinton’s cabinet, established the series when he donated a collection of his Congressional papers to UMaine’s Fogler Library. In 2001, he also donated his papers from his tenure as secretary of defense. Cohen is CEO and chair of the Cohen Group in Washington, D.C., which provides global business consulting. Mattis served as the 26th secretary of defense, 2017–18. During his 43 years in the Marine Corps, he commanded combat tours at the platoon, battalion, regiment, brigade, division, force and theater levels. This included command of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom and the 1st Marine Division during the invasion of Iraq in 2003. His time in the military culminated with three years as commander of U.S. Central Command, where he oversaw joint efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq, and helped shape U.S. policy toward Iran. Currently, Mattis is the Davies Family Distinguished Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, where he lectures and writes on domestic and international security policy. Carpenter was a 20-year-old Marine rifleman in Afghanistan in 2010 when he threw himself on a grenade during a Taliban attack to save the life of another serviceman. During his three-year recovery at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, he underwent nearly 40 surgeries. In 2014, Carpenter was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Barack Obama for his self-sacrificing act. He is the youngest living recipient of the nation’s highest military award for valor. In addition to the Medal of Honor, Carpenter’s military awards include a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, NATO Service Medal, Combat Action Ribbon and the Purple Heart, the award for which he is most proud. UMaine’s Cohen Institute trains future generations of young people destined for leadership roles in a variety of disciplines to be ethical, visionary, innovative, civil, thoughtful and independent-minded in the service of Maine, the United States and the world. Its signature programs include the Cohen Lecture, direction of UMaine’s interdisciplinary minor in leadership studies, a Washington D.C. leadership program, a summer leadership program for Maine high school students and numerous other projects and initiatives. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Call for proposals for the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series

21 Mar 2022

The Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Committee is accepting grant applications from the University of Maine to enhance the artistic, cultural and intellectual life of the campus of the University of Maine and to support speaking engagements or lectures at the University of Maine at Machias. Grants support up to 50% of expenses associated with cultural events, and speaking engagements and lectures. The CA/DLS committee accepts applications four times a year. The next application deadline is March 28, 2022. Grant applications submitted by the above deadline are for projects starting on or after April 25, 2022. Please consider submitting applications for programs and events for the fall 2022 semester on this grant application cycle. Proposals must be submitted online using the CA/DLS Grant Application Form at umaine.edu/president/culturalaffairs/application. Past awards have supported lectures and lecture series; Culturefest, the International Dance Festival; exhibits, performances and guest artists.

Institute of Medicine to hold seminar on air pollution during pregnancy March 25

21 Mar 2022

The University of Maine Institute of Medicine will host a free webinar, “Air Pollution Exposure During Pregnancy and Maternal/Child Health,” from noon–1 p.m. on March 25. The webinar will feature Abby Fleisch, associate professor of pediatrics at Tufts University School of Medicine, attending physician of pediatric endocrinology and diabetes at Maine Medical Center and researcher at the Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation at the Maine Medical Center Research Institute. Fleisch will describe her research examining the health impact of prenatal exposure to air pollution, and studies nested within two prebirth cohorts: the Boston-based Project Viva cohort and the New Hampshire Birth Cohort Study. The studies examine the impact of exposure to air pollution from outdoor sources like traffic and indoor sources like wood stoves on maternal and child cardiometabolic health. Fleisch’s research is focused on the extent to which early life exposures to environmental toxicants such as air pollution and household chemicals are associated with childhood obesity and bone health. Fleisch is the principal investigator of an Outstanding New Environmental Scientist R01 award from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. She received the Academic Pediatric Association Michael Shannon Research Award in 2012 and an Endocrine Society Early Career Investigator Award in 2016. Fleisch is also a peer mentor for the Harvard Medical School-Harvard Catalyst Grant Review and Support Program, and an affiliated faculty member and advisor to the New England Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit. She sees endocrinology patients at the Pediatric Subspecialty Clinic at Maine Medical Center. Registration is required; register online [here](#).

UMaine Grad Fair is March 22–24

21 Mar 2022

University Bookstore hosts its annual Grad Fair from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. on March 22–24 in the Memorial Union. As the first in-person fair since 2019, the Grad Fair has been extended to three days to allow graduating students time to meet with vendors, get all their graduation to-dos done and celebrate their achievement. Vendors will be outside and in the bookstore, and in the North Pod. University Credit Union will participate from its location on the ground floor of Union. Undergraduate students will be able to get \$5 off their cap and gown in the bookstore during the Grad Fair. In addition, there will be specials and discounts only available from vendors during the three-day period.

BDN, Centralmaine.com boost Extension food safety training for volunteer cooks

21 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer four options for online food safety training for volunteer cooks from 9 a.m.–noon on April 5. “[Cooking for Crowds](#)” offers up-to-date information on how to handle, transport, store and prepare foods safely for large group functions, such as soup kitchens, church suppers, food pantries and community fundraisers. Register and find more details on the [program webpage](#).

Village Soup, PenBay Pilot boost professional development program about nonviolent communication

21 Mar 2022

The [Village Soup](#) and [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared information about an online professional development program, “Past Trauma, Current Relations: How Nonviolent Communication Helps Us Communicate,” through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. In this training, participants will learn how to strengthen connections with people in/through conflict, gain an understanding of the neurological basis for reactivity and increase their ability to self-regulate. For more information and to register, visit the [program webpage](#).

The Business Download highlights UMaine engineers in offshore wind energy

21 Mar 2022

In an article about pioneers in floating offshore wind power, the [Business Download](#) featured the University of Maine’s Advanced Structures and Composites Center director Habib Dagher, and engineers Jacob Ward and Anthony Viselli, who both grew up in rural Maine and graduated from UMaine. Today, these engineers and their team are making history — and making sure the United States leads the world — in renewable offshore wind power.

PenBay Pilot boosts Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Social and Human Services workshop

21 Mar 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared information about a one-day professional development program, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Social and Human Services Training & Workshop, on May 20, from 9:30 a.m.–noon, through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center. Designed to deepen participants' awareness around diversity, equity and inclusivity, this program will support participants in the social and human services fields to increase how they can implement strategies to make their practice a safer space for all. For more information about upcoming [professional development programs, scholarships or to register, go online](#).

Researchers speak with Penobscot Bay Press about social factors influencing lobster industry

21 Mar 2022

Theresa Burnham, a postdoctoral research associate with the University of Maine; Carla Guenther, Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries chief scientist; and Josh Stoll, assistant professor of marine policy at UMaine, spoke with the [Penobscot Bay Press](#) about their research into socioeconomic factors affecting the health of the lobster industry. The researchers participated in a Feb. 25 online event hosted by the Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries entitled “Developing Social Indicators of Resilience in Maine’s Lobster Fishery,” alongside Kathleen Reardon, senior lobster biologist with the Maine Department of Marine Resources, and Patrice McCarron, executive director of the Maine Lobstermen’s Association. Burnham told the Penobscot Bay Press, “Our project has the goal of allowing for monitoring of the human side of the fishery in an equally extensive way because those socioeconomic indicators are also critical, but for the resilience of lobstermen, and coastal communities in Maine.”

BDN, Sun Journal report on upcoming Cohen Lecture, featuring Mattis

21 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Sun Journal](#) shared information about the 2022 Cohen Lecture on April 4 at the University of Maine. The headliner is former Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis, President Donald Trump’s first secretary of defense. Mattis will be joined by Medal of Honor Recipient Kyle Carpenter and Bangor native William S. Cohen, who served as secretary of defense during the Clinton administration and a Maine senator.

Media features UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in article about South Pole temperature record

21 Mar 2022

[USA Today](#), [Staten Island Live](#) and [Metro](#) (United Kingdom) featured data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer in an article about North and South Pole warming. According to the University of Maine’s Climate Reanalyzer, which is based on the U.S. National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration weather models, the Arctic as a whole was 6 degrees warmer than was normal from 1979–2000 this past Friday. The Antarctic continent was about 8.6 degrees warmer. [Yahoo News](#) and [MSN](#) shared the USA Today report.

Dill speaks to BDN about emergence of rare new tick-borne disease

21 Mar 2022

Griffin Dill, director of the University of Maine Tick Lab, was interviewed by the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the fact that antibodies for Heartland virus have shown up on blood samples taken from deer in Maine. Dill said, “It’s something to be aware of. It could potentially appear here but it could be one of those things that an infected tick brought in and it fed on deer, but will not establish a population.”

Peronto speaks to Maine Homes Magazine about gardening in Maine

21 Mar 2022

Marjorie Peronto, University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator, was quoted in [Maine Homes Magazine by Downeast](#) this week on gardening in Maine. Peronto said, “Our growing season is limited — that’s the biggest challenge. So you enjoy it while you can, and if you plan appropriately, you can have a great garden.”

Survey seeks feedback about diversity, equity and inclusion on campus

21 Mar 2022

Leaders of the University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias are asking students, faculty, staff and administrators to participate [in a survey](#) about their experiences with diversity, equity and inclusion on campus by March 31. The voluntary survey administered by the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS) should take about 15 minutes to complete and explores participants’ perceptions of how UMaine and UMaine Machias are doing in their commitment and continuous effort to improve diversity, equity and inclusion. The aggregate results should be available in May and will help influence decisions about policy, practice, programs, curriculum and events. The University of Maine System Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Steering Committee selected the survey to use across all of its universities and campuses.

UMaine and Maine Medical Center study illustrates how Lyme disease-causing ticks have increased in Maine

21 Mar 2022

Tracking the types of ticks that plague Maine helps scientists predict which tick-borne pathogens might become a problem. New research shows that blacklegged ticks have been increasing in abundance in a Midcoast forest over the past 30 years — and bringing more Lyme disease with it. Blacklegged ticks infected with a certain bacteria are the primary vector for Lyme disease, a bacterial infection that can cause joint, heart and nervous system damage if left untreated. Past studies have shown that blacklegged ticks have been expanding their range in the Northeast and Midwest since the Last Glacial Maximum, and further northward in the last two decades as climate change warms areas once too cold for the critter. To track ticks over time in a Maine forest, researchers from the University of Maine and the Maine Medical Center Research Institute’s Lyme & Vector-Borne Disease Laboratory collected and tested ticks from small mammals in the Holt Research Forest, located in the town of Arrowsic in Sagadahoc County, over the course of three decades. Jack Witham, a recently retired associate scientist with UMaine’s Center for Research on Sustainable Forests, collected over 3,000 ticks from over 10,000 animals during this time. Small mammal trapping is a useful tool for studying ticks because it gives scientists information about pathogens in the host mammals in addition to the data they gather about the ticks themselves. Some small mammals are extremely effective reservoir hosts for the bacterium that causes Lyme disease, and they will pass that bacteria on to the ticks that bite them. By trapping the small mammals and collecting the ticks, the researchers aimed to quantify the population trend of a variety of tick species, including blacklegged ticks, and how they corresponded to the fluctuations in furry hosts in the Midcoast area. When tick surveillance began in 1989, researchers found only vole ticks, squirrel ticks and dog ticks feeding on species of mice, voles, squirrels, chipmunks and shrews. The first blacklegged tick was found on a red squirrel in 1996 and the first detection of the Lyme bacteria in 2001. By 2007, the blacklegged tick population was established, with all life stages of a breeding population present: eggs, larvae, nymphs and adults. The increase in blacklegged ticks over time was not related to white-footed mouse abundance, which fluctuated but did not increase over time. Researchers are concerned that this emergence-establishment pattern will repeat for additional vector tick species that are expanding northward toward Maine. Cape Cod, Massachusetts hosts an established population of the lone star tick, which transmits pathogens that cause diseases like human monocytic ehrlichiosis and tularemia, and can cause red meat allergy. Meanwhile, ticks such as the vole tick have declined. “This study reinforces other studies that illustrate patterns of emergence and establishment of ticks and tick-borne pathogens. It also reminds us that public health is tied to how we manage our natural environment,” says Susan Elias, first author and staff scientist at the Maine Medical Center Research Institute’s Vector-borne Disease Lab, who conducted the research as part of her Ph.D. work at UMaine. The researchers suggested that the emergence of blacklegged ticks in the Holt Research Forest could be linked in part to climate change and an increase in the local population of white-tailed deer, the primary blood meal host for adult ticks (though deer are not reservoirs for the bacteria that causes Lyme disease). Meanwhile, one small mammal in the study rose above the rest when it came to carrying blacklegged ticks. White-footed mice represented the majority of all the study’s captures, three times more than red-backed voles and 10 and 13 times more than chipmunks or short-tailed shrews, respectively. White-footed mice hosted just over 94% of all the blacklegged ticks found, and 15% of all white-footed mice had blacklegged ticks on them. What’s more, the population of white-tailed deer and white-footed mice overlap in Maine. White-footed mouse populations, too, have been found to be expanding northward. “Continued surveillance at the Holt Research Forest would be helpful, especially since we anticipate the emergence of the lone star tick in Maine,” Elias says. The [study](#) was published in the Journal of Medical Entomology in December 2021. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine’s 2022 Career Ready Games begin March 28

22 Mar 2022

The University of Maine Career Center, Maine Business School and Enterprise will host the 2022 Career Ready Games from Monday, March 28, to Friday, April 1. The Career Ready Games is a series of challenges open to all UMaine students that present participants with an opportunity to showcase their skills and compete as an individual or a team. The challenges will be administered online via Brightspace, and each day will cover a career preparedness skill: the Pitch, the Motivation, the Interview, the Scenario and the Final. Daily challenges should take between 5–10 minutes to complete. The program is designed to engage UMaine students by highlighting the value of developing career-ready skills while informing them about the variety of career support services available to them on campus. Enterprise provided UMaine with the funding for this new, innovative career program as a result of the university being the top recruiting school for the company in Maine. A celebratory and networking lunch will be held for participants and guests on April 7 at 12:30 p.m. in the North

Pod in the Memorial Union, with several Enterprise employees, who are also UMaine alumni, in attendance. Participants will earn 10 points for every completed challenge, and every 10 points earns one ticket for the gift card drawing for one of 10 \$50 gift cards that will take place at the luncheon. All participants will also receive a Career Essentials Kit, valued at \$50 per kit, at the lunch. The top three highest scoring teams receive a monetary gift for a charitable contribution to an organization of their choice — \$200 for third place, \$300 for second place and \$500 for first place. The checks will be distributed on Maine Day on Wednesday, April 27. [Register online](#) by March 27.

UMaine Intermedia Arts and Humanities in Medicine graduate certificate program accepting applications

22 Mar 2022

The University of Maine Intermedia Arts and Humanities in Medicine graduate certificate program is accepting applications for fall 2022. The program, offered in partnership with Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center, brings together arts and humanities graduate students with medical practitioners to explore approaches to health and well-being. The 15-credit program, designed to be completed in a year, focuses on the role and function of arts and humanities in helping support and promote well-being for health care providers and, indirectly, their patients. The program is also an opportunity for arts-based practitioners interested in the role of health and well-being. Students in the arts, humanities and medicine collaborate to fathom what it means to live a full, well life and the creative approaches to health for professional development that can inform their human-centered work. Discussions, readings, presentations and projects focus on current and important topics in medicine, practices of health, and the value of an engagement in the arts and humanities for the well-being of practitioners and their patients. Students can [apply online](#) for the fall semester. The Graduate Certificate in Arts and Humanities in Medicine is a concentration in UMaine Intermedia Programs and supported by the university's Institute of Medicine. More information is on the [Arts and Humanities in Medicine website](#).

UMaine Extension offers online produce safety course for Maine growers in April

22 Mar 2022

For Maine farmers who must comply with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) or who want to hone their food safety skills, University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part online Produce Safety Alliance grower training 7:45 a.m.–noon April 14 and 8 a.m.–noon April 15. The [Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training](#) provides farm food safety and management best practices based on FSMA requirements. Participants who complete the course are eligible for the FSMA certificate that may be required for their farm compliance. Three pesticide credits also are available. The \$20 fee includes all materials; open to Maine residents only. Register by March 28 on the [course webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Theresa Tilton, 207.942.7396; theresa.tilton@maine.edu. This course is co-sponsored by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Kersbergen featured in Country Folks about the business of hay

22 Mar 2022

[Country Folks](#) reported the 2022 Vermont Grazing and Livestock Conference, where Rick Kersbergen, professor of sustainable dairy and forage systems at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, presented. Kersbergen spelled out options for grazers, and reviewed the other factors that might come into play, no matter what system for hay is chosen.

Pereira featured in Country Folks about dairy herd genetics

22 Mar 2022

Glenda Periera, University of Maine professor of food and agriculture and Extension dairy specialist, was featured in [Country Folks](#) article about the importance of genetics in organic dairy herds. The article focused on a webinar Periera presented as part of a series hosted by New England land grant universities and their researchers. Periera focused on the genetic advantages a farmer can have by utilizing artificial intelligence, which a farmer can use to select a bull for specific traits to focus on improving a certain part of a herd.

Licensing deal brings Afari mobility device invented by UMaine professors to market

22 Mar 2022

In 2013, professor of interdisciplinary disability studies and social work Elizabeth DePoy had been persuaded by her husband to run in a 5K. She knew she was fit enough to complete the course, but balance challenges had her worried about competing. She began searching for a device that would allow her to run upright with adequate support and found nothing. It was then that DePoy turned to her husband, professor of interdisciplinary disability studies and social work Stephen Gilson, and said “Let’s invent something that looks good and that functions.” What the pair came up with was a sleek, three-wheeled device designed to facilitate upright mobility and help users maintain balance while effortlessly navigating all kinds of terrain. They called it the Afari, and using a prototype built by professor of mechanical engineering Vince Caccese, DePoy completed her 5K. Better still, she came away with a long list of ideas for how to improve it. Even in its early stages, the Afari attracted significant attention. This was anticipated — DePoy and Gilson knew there was a need for thoughtfully designed products that people with mobility challenges would be proud to use. “If you go back to the research on the abandonment of mobility devices, even just for walking, you find that one of the major reasons people don’t use them is because they’re ugly,” says DePoy. “Just like any other person, I’m not going to use something I’m embarrassed to use. Another reason people abandon devices is because they don’t function. We wanted something a person would be proud to use and not feel stigmatized. Instead of people looking at you saying ‘Oh, I feel so sorry for you,’ they’re saying ‘What is that? I wish I had one.’” In 2017, the Afari was featured in the Access+Ability exhibition at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum in Manhattan. The exhibition highlighted more than 70 innovative designs, exploring “how users and designers are expanding and adapting accessible products and solutions in ways previously unimaginable.” Initially developed in Maine with engineering support from Ryan Beaumont (’04, ’07G), principal of R.M. Beaumont Corporation, the Afari has gone through numerous design iterations since its Smithsonian debut. Now, the Afari has been exclusively licensed for production and sale by Mobella, a company founded to commercialize stylish, functional mobility solutions for people with active lifestyles. Mobella founder Henry Kaufman saw potential in the Afari from the start. Kaufman purchased an early model of the device after losing significant mobility to Guillain-Barre

Syndrome. Not one to be sidelined from the active and engaged life he was used to living, Kaufman sought new ways to do the things he enjoyed. “I had started to design mobility assistance products of my own — I wanted to be able to have things that were beautiful and that I could be proud to use,” says Kaufman. “Then, I saw the Afari at the Cooper Hewitt exhibition and I knew I had to have one. When I finally received my Afari, it was even better than I had imagined. When I walk with my Afari along the river near my home, I feel like I am flying! “When we launched Mobella, I knew the Afari needed to be part of our portfolio, and we are thrilled with the partnership we have with the team at UMaine who made it happen. Afari reflects the spirit of Mobella and is the first of many very cool products we will bring to our customers.” Two versions of the Afari are available at GoMobella.com - the “commuter” is intended for use on firmer terrain, such as sidewalks and paved paths, while the “off-road” will also handle softer, looser surfaces, such as sand and snow. For DePoy and Gilson, the match with Mobella is ideal because of Kaufman’s commitment to centering beautiful, non-stigmatizing design and functionality with customization to meet individual users’ needs and wants. “Mobella is creating a range of ways to individualize their products,” says Gilson. “It’s not just one size fits all. We don’t buy into the notion of universal design, and Mobella gets that. If you make this product and allow people to customize it according to their needs and desires, it begins to build in choice on a wider scale.” That choice, says DePoy, is crucial, and it has informed all their work with the Afari and on new products the professors are developing. “This is the first device we sought to create, and we still are creating,” says DePoy. “We make products for people who want to be mobile. That’s not just about movement. It’s about continuing to live your life without having somebody tell you ‘Oh no, you can’t,’ or thinking ‘Oh no, I can’t.’ If you are a typical shopper, you have a choice of what product you want to buy, what you want it to look like. Everybody should have that choice.” Contact: Ashley Forbes, ashley.forbes@maine.edu

Free psychosis detection webinar offered by UMaine Rural Integrated Behavioral Health in Primary Care Training Program on April 1

23 Mar 2022

The University of Maine Rural Integrated Behavioral Health in Primary Care (RIBHPC) Training Program will offer a free, live webinar about early detection of psychosis from 10:30 a.m.–noon on Friday, April 1. The webinar is: “Screening for Early Emerging Mental Experiences (SEE ME): A model for early detection of psychosis within integrated primary care.” Despite the prominence of primary care in the prevention of serious and chronic physical health conditions, its role in the early detection of and intervention in major mental health conditions has been peripheral, particularly in the U.S. Screening for Early Emerging Mental Experiences (SEE ME) is a three-stage psychosis screening, triage and engagement model designed to address this in U.S. integrated care settings. The webinar will be presented by Kristen Woodberry, faculty scientist at Maine Medical Center Research Institute and research assistant professor at Tufts School of Medicine, and Whitney Taggart, behavioral health clinician at Midcoast Pediatrics. The workshop will cover the arguments for and against psychosis screening within integrated care; the stages of the SEE ME model; and the skills that mental health clinicians embedded in primary care can employ to improve early detection and intervention in serious mental health conditions. It will also offer a chance to hear directly from individuals with lived experience of psychosis and a behavioral health clinician involved in the Maine feasibility project. [Register for the webinar online](#). A certificate of attendance will be provided to participants. For more information, contact Dyan Walsh, dyan.walsh@maine.edu. This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$1.48 million.

UMaine Extension hosts webinar about wildlife damage prevention April 1

23 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar about wildlife damage prevention in home gardens from noon–1:15 p.m. April 1. “[Preventing Wildlife Damage to Home Gardens](#)” will discuss methods to help reduce losses in home gardens from raccoons, deer, rabbits and woodchucks. Adam Vashon, a USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service wildlife biologist, will lead the workshop. Registration is required; a sliding scale fee is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#) to attend live or receive the recording link. This is the fourth in a five-part [spring gardening webinar series](#) offered through April for Maine gardeners. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, 207.781.6099; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension 4-H hires assistant professor Andrew Hudacs

23 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension recently named Andrew Hudacs as assistant Extension professor for statewide 4-H teen leadership and development. Hudacs will be working to strengthen and develop teen leadership opportunities for Maine 4-H, including career exploration and workforce development. Hudacs most recently served as the director of the Office of Educator Preparation and Professional Development Center at the University of Southern Maine. Prior to higher education, Andrew worked in state government education agencies for over a decade. He was the director of assessment, and the state coordinator of national and international assessments at the Maine Department of Education. Hudacs also worked in the fields of school improvement, career and technical education, and assessments at the Vermont Agency of Education. His experience in public schools includes serving as a middle and high school counselor, and special needs coordinator. Hudacs earned his Ed.D. in educational leadership and policy studies from the University of Vermont. His research interests include precollege factors related to college persistence, education and workforce development in rural communities, and preparation for college and careers through a diversity of learning experiences. When he is not working in education and youth development, Hudacs enjoys spending time with his family in New Gloucester and being outdoors in all four seasons.

Graduate School waives program application fees for Maine nurses, educators

23 Mar 2022

The University of Maine Graduate School is waiving application fees for Maine nurses and educators seeking to enroll in a graduate program with the School of Nursing, and College of Education and Human Development, respectively. Fee waivers are available until June 30 for any upcoming term. Prospective students in nursing can use the waiver when applying for the Master of Science in Nursing program, the Graduate Certificate in Nursing Education program or the Certificate of Advanced Studies in Nursing program. The waiver will automatically be applied once they submit their applications. The Graduate School also is sending waiver codes by email to current PreK–12 educators. Those codes may be used toward applications for any graduate certificate or degree program in the College of Education and Human Development that is accepting new students. UMaine currently has about 60 graduate students in the School of Nursing and more than 850 in the College of Education and Human Development. “The COVID-19 pandemic has interrupted the plans of many nurses and educators who had planned to seek an advanced degree,” says Scott Delcourt, associate vice president for graduate studies and senior associate

dean. “The University of Maine is extending this application fee waiver to help these individuals take the first step toward enrolling in a graduate program to improve their skills and seek more advanced positions within their organizations.” For questions, contact Crystal Burgess, director of graduate communications, at crystal.burgess@maine.edu.

Sun Journal, BDN boost Extension workshop about gardening for pollinators

23 Mar 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension free webinar about gardening with pollinators in mind, 6–7:30 p.m. on April 13. “Planting for Pollinators” will offer practical tips for gardeners on ways to provide food, habitat and water resources for pollinators to help address the decline in insect, native bee and bird species. The webinar is free; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#).

Z107.3 cites historical UMaine research about naming the city of Bangor

23 Mar 2022

[Z107.3](#) referenced [research done at the University of Maine in the 1950s](#) that showed Bangor had many names before it was officially called Bangor, including Kenderguit, Condukeag, Kenduskeag, Kadesquit, Kedesquit Settlement at Kenduskeag Stream, Kenduskeag Plantation, Sunbury and Sunnyside. The article details the theories about why the Reverend Seth Noble, the representative from the community who was sent South to headquarters of the Massachusetts Commonwealth to incorporate the town and pass along the name, chose to be “Bangor,” despite the community favoring the name “Sunbury.”

Calhoun speaks to Seacoastonline about ‘Big Nights’ for migrating frogs, salamanders

23 Mar 2022

Aram Calhoun, professor of wetland ecology at the University of Maine, spoke with [Seacoastonline](#) about the spring phenomenon of the “Big Night” migration of amphibians to vernal pools. Calhoun said that some species of amphibian travel hundreds of feet, some travel miles, and that she has tracked them over mountain tops as they leave vernal pools after breeding and migrate to summer refugia.

News Center Maine features UMaine climate change researchers

23 Mar 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that six scientists from the University of Maine who were on the 2019 National Geographic and Rolex Perpetual Planet Everest Expedition are releasing their findings from their ice research conducted there. The team’s goal was to determine whether the highest elevation point of Earth has been impacted by human activity. Mariusz Potocki, research team member and graduate student, said the team found that “every year, about 2 meters of ice is gone.” Paul Mayewski, director of the UMaine Climate Change Institute, told News Center Maine, “The surface of that glacier has transitioned from a snowy white surface, which reflects a lot of incoming radiation to a darker surface that absorbs a great deal of heat. And at this rate, which is expected to continue if not increase, the glacier will disappear in the next 20 to 30 years.”

AP, News Center Maine highlight UMaine tick research

23 Mar 2022

The [Associated Press](#) and [News Center Maine](#) reported on research from the University of Maine and Maine Medical Center Research Institute’s Lyme & Vector-Borne Disease Laboratory that shows blacklegged ticks, which can transmit Lyme disease, have been increasing in abundance in a forest in the midcoast region over the last three decades. The [Bangor Daily News](#), [WHDH](#) (Channel 7 in Boston), the [Herald-Standard](#) (Uniontown, Pennsylvania), [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor), [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Auburn), [WVFX](#) (Channel 7 in Bangor) [U.S. News and World Report](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and the [Portland Press Herald](#) shared the AP report.

Kelley Lab research paper in top 100 downloaded in microbiology for Scientific Reports

23 Mar 2022

Research published by Joshua Kelley, University of Maine assistant professor of biochemistry in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, and the graduate student Katherine Jarvis has been named one of the top 100 downloaded microbiology papers for Scientific Reports for 2021. The paper, [“Temporal dynamics of viral load and false negative rate influence the levels of testing necessary to combat COVID-19 spread,”](#) received 12,756 article downloads in 2021. The study used a computer model that weighed the dynamics of both viral load and false negative rate of tests on the ability of testing to combat viral spread of COVID-19 for a university-sized population. The results showed that nonuniform distribution of viral loads and false negative tests required a higher frequency of testing over a greater proportion of the population in order to keep the virus under control through university testing plans. “When COVID-19 shut everything down in early 2020, many universities, including UMaine, were trying to come up with plans to reopen safely. I was at a meeting where the problem of ‘how many tests and how often?’ was brought up, and I thought, ‘this is a solvable problem,’ and I wanted to help the University make the best decisions they could,” says Kelley. “Our paper is significant in that simplistic models of viral spread ignored the fact that transmissibility and detectability of the virus changed with time. A model with simplistic assumptions about those variables would lead to overly optimistic ideas about how often testing would be needed in order to stop the virus,” he says. [Scientific Reports](#) is an online peer-reviewed open access scientific journal published by Nature Portfolio, covering all areas of the natural sciences. The journal published more than 1,080 microbiology papers in 2021, and so a position in the top 100 most downloaded articles indicates the science is of real value to the research community. “I published it because I wanted these ideas to be out there in case they were helpful to others, but I really didn’t expect it to get the attention that it has,” says Kelley. “I’m proud of the work we did on this paper, and I hope that it has been helpful to the people who have looked at it.” The study was published in Scientific Reports in April 2021. Kelley’s research primarily focuses on the spatio-temporal regulation of G-protein coupled receptor signaling using yeast as a model organism, with live cell microscopy in microfluidics devices, computational image analysis, yeast genetics and biochemical approaches. “I normally study how signaling molecules

work in time and space,” says Kelley. “From the point of view of a mathematical model, a protein transmitting a signal to another protein is no different from a sick person transmitting a virus to a healthy person, and so I was able to apply what I know of modeling cell signaling to address questions about viral spread. “When we completed the COVID-19 model, we realized that the approach we took for epidemiology may actually work very well for our receptor signaling modeling efforts, and so Katherine Jarvis built a new model of receptor signaling for her master’s thesis that we are currently working on finishing up for a publication.” All the most downloaded articles can be viewed on Scientific Reports’ [Top 100 in Microbiology](#) page. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

President Ferrini-Mundy appointed to President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science

24 Mar 2022

University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy has been appointed to the President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science by President Joe Biden. The 16-member President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science evaluates nominees for the nation’s highest scientific honor. The [National Medal of Science](#) is a Presidential Award to recognize individuals for their outstanding contributions to knowledge in the physical, biological, mathematical, engineering, social and behavioral sciences, according to a [White House news release on the key appointment](#). Since its establishment, the National Medal of Science has been awarded to 506 distinguished scientists and engineers whose careers spanned decades of research and development. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King applauded the appointment, noting that President Ferrini-Mundy, a former senior official at the National Science Foundation who leads Maine’s only Carnegie R1 top-tier research institution, is “one of the most respected voices on the importance of STEM education.” “During her time at the University of Maine, Dr. Ferrini-Mundy has worked to solidify the school as a global leader in education and research, and she has helped train a new generation of Maine scientists,” said [Collins and King in a joint news release](#). “We congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition, and we know that she will be an immense asset to the President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science.” President Ferrini-Mundy serves as president of UMaine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, and vice chancellor for research and innovation for the University of Maine System. Most recently under her leadership, UMaine achieved [Carnegie R1 designation](#), joining the top 4% of the nation’s top-tier doctoral research universities. “The appointment by President Biden to serve on the President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science is a distinct honor,” says President Ferrini-Mundy. “The recognition of the importance, value and contributions of the sciences, in all their forms, reminds us of the difference they make in our lives and in society. The same is true of the arts and humanities. Together, they are critical to who we are and what we can become, and it’s important to recognize and appreciate people who advance them.” Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Student Symposium virtual open office hours

24 Mar 2022

Join University of Maine Student Symposium event staff during their live Zoom office hours on Friday, March 25, 10 a.m.–noon. The team is available to answer questions regarding any aspects of the UMaine Student Symposium (UMSS22). Log in with an [@maine.edu](#) address [here](#) to join.

UMaine professor, graduate assistant to present at AgingME food insecurity webinar March 25

24 Mar 2022

Maine’s Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP), also known as AgingME, will host a free, live webinar about food insecurity among older adults as part of their Spring Lunch & Learn Series on Friday, March 25, at noon. Mary Ellen Camire, UMaine professor of food science and nutrition, and graduate assistant Lily Brickman will lead the presentation. Food insecurity is the disruption of food consumption or eating patterns. Limited incomes can cause food insecurity in older adults, but lack of transportation, impaired mobility and social isolation are other factors that can affect food status. This webinar will explore causes of food insecurity and demonstrate tools to assess this problem. Strategies for improving food security and stretching food budgets will also be discussed. A certificate of attendance can be provided upon request. Registration [online](#) is required. For questions or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Polly Madson Cox, polly.madson@maine.edu.

Waldo County Extension Association offers rural living workshops in April

24 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Waldo County Extension Association (WCEA) will offer four online weekly workshops with a rural living theme starting 9–11 a.m. on April 2. Additional dates are April 9, 16 and 23. “[Rural Living Month](#)” workshop topics include homestead livestock choices; working with children and teens in the garden; Maine’s invasive forest insects; and home cheesemaking. This series is organized by WCEA in lieu of its annual Rural Living Day event, postponed the past two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The fee is \$10 per workshop; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#). Financial assistance is available. All proceeds go to the WCEA scholarship fund. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.342.5971; sadee.mehuren@maine.edu.

‘The Maine Question’ asks how changing conditions in the Arctic affect the state

24 Mar 2022

Changes in the Arctic affect Maine, despite them being separated by more than 1,000 miles. Several scientists from the University of Maine study these shifting conditions of the climate and environment in the region and their impacts. In 2018, the UMaine Arctic Initiative was formed to build on their work and enhance collaboration in the campus community and with outside stakeholders. In this Episode 6 of Season 6 of “[The Maine Question](#)” podcast, scientists Karl Kreutz and Kristin Schild from UMaine Arctic and the UMaine Climate Change Institute discuss their research, and elaborate on the region and its shifting conditions influence the state. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Schwartz-Mette interviewed by WVFX about adolescent mental health research

24 Mar 2022

Rebecca Schwartz-Mette, an associate professor of clinical psychology at the University of Maine, spoke with [WVFX \(Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor\)](#) about her research tracking how the pandemic has influenced the mental health of middle and high school aged youth in the state. “Nearly all kids experienced increases in their depressive symptoms regardless of whether or not they were feeling depressed at all prior to the pandemic,” Schwartz-Mette said.

UMaine Climate Reanalyzer featured in Washington Post article warm weather in the Arctic

24 Mar 2022

Data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer showing temperature differences from normal predicted over the Arctic this week was used in a [Washington Post](#) article a “bomb cyclone” — a storm or zone of low pressure that intensifies at breakneck speed, bringing unseasonably warm weather to the region. The data showed that the temperature difference is around 50 degrees (28 Celsius) above normal at the North Pole.

Lilley speaks with Centralmaine.com about Maine Maple Sunday

24 Mar 2022

Jason Lilley, the sustainable agriculture and maple professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was interviewed for [Centralmaine.com](#) about the return of Maine Maple Sunday. Lilley said that the state's 500-plus licensed producers were left reeling in March 2020 when the pandemic began, particularly due to the cancellation of the annual Maine Maple Sunday celebration that year. “Maine Maple Sunday is the weekend that many of our small- and medium-scale producers sell the majority of their crop,” Lilley said. “To have that just completely disappear, and really within a week or so of the event itself, caused a lot of uncertainty and a lot of stress.”

WVFX features Tudor’s Maine Science Festival presentation

24 Mar 2022

Scarlet Tudor, University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute outreach coordinator, was featured on [WVFX \(FOX 22/ABC 7 in Bangor\)](#) with her presentation for children as part of the Maine Science Festival about properly cleaning and maintaining a fish tank. Tudor said, “Kids doing something that seems like, ‘Oh I’m just taking care of a fish.’ It explores so much more, though, like interests in electrical, plumbing, biology, wire quality, all of these different fields.”

Brewer speaks with AP about relief payments connection to election year

24 Mar 2022

Mark Brewer, a political science professor at the University of Maine, was interviewed for the [Associated Press](#) about Gov. Janet Mills’ proposed rebate to Maine residents of \$850 to help with increased costs due to inflation. Brewer said, “There's some real policy reason to do this. But at the same time, it's also clear that this is an election year, and in an election year there are few things as popular as giving voters what voters see as free money from the state.” [MSN](#), [U.S. News and World Report](#), [Newsmax](#), [WTOP](#) (Washington, D.C.), [ABC News](#), multiple outlets nationwide shared the AP report.

New research shows certain exercises can help with muscular dystrophy

24 Mar 2022

Muscular dystrophy is a debilitating disease that causes the weakness and breakdown of skeletal muscles that progressively worsens over time. According to a team of University of Maine researchers, certain activities may help strengthen muscles affected by muscular dystrophy — and they figured it out by stimulating zebrafish and watching them work out. Zebrafish are an effective test model of muscular dystrophy because of the molecular similarities between zebrafish and human muscles. Zebrafish can also be bred with a mutation that closely models Duchenne muscular dystrophy, a severe type of muscular dystrophy that affects young boys. Zebrafish can’t lift weights, though, so UMaine researchers used a process called neuromuscular electrical stimulation (NMES), which stimulates specific nerves to elicit muscle contraction. The researchers designed four NMES regimens and named them after four common weight lifting routines: power, strength, hypertrophy and endurance. The zebrafish were then put into an underwater 3D printed “gym” made up of tunnels and electrodes, and the researchers analyzed their skeletal muscles to see how they had changed. The study found that while each of the NMES weight lifting “routines” affected the zebrafish neuromuscular junction morphology, swimming and survival differently, only one — the endurance neuromuscular stimulation (eNMES) — improved all three, as long as it was accompanied by a certain antioxidant, heme oxygenase, and a receptor called integrin alpha7. “eNMES is defined by high-frequency, low-voltage pulses, which is similar to a high-repetition, low-weight workout that we would do in the gym. The longstanding consensus in the muscular dystrophy field is that minimizing resistance training preserves muscle strength and mass because it lowers the risk for muscle damage. However, our data suggest that a certain level of NMES-induced activity is actually beneficial for overall muscle health,” says Elisabeth Kilroy, first author of the study who conducted the research for her Ph.D. at UMaine. Kilroy is now the director of the neuroMuscular Observational Research (MOVR) at the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The [study](#) was published March 24, 2022, in the journal ELife. The research suggests that the right type of resistance training might be beneficial to human patients with muscular dystrophy. There is also potential for NMES to improve mobility and strength in patients with muscular dystrophy, though not much is known about applying the technology this way. “I think the most exciting aspect is that we established a model for neuromuscular plasticity in healthy versus diseased muscle, and this model will allow us to elucidate mechanisms that could be the basis for potential therapeutics in the future,” says Clarissa Henry, professor of biological sciences, director of Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering, and principal director of the [Henry Lab](#). Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine students receive National Sexual Misconduct Campus Climate Survey today

25 Mar 2022

University of Maine students will have the opportunity to fill out National Sexual Misconduct Campus Climate Survey to give direct feedback in relation to

sexual misconduct incidents at the University of Maine. Students will receive an email invitation to complete the survey from the organization that is collecting the data, eduOutcomes, on March 25. UMaine is working hard to improve services and support for students in regards to matters of sexual misconduct on campus and encourages students to take the time to complete this survey. It will provide valuable information about the UMaine campus and help us take steps to ensure it is as safe as possible. Participation is voluntary, and responses will be anonymous. Upon completion of the survey, students will have an option to enter their name into a drawing to win one of 10 \$50 gift cards to the University Bookstore. For more information, contact Heather Hogan, heather.hogan@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host talk on PFAS in Maine on April 4

25 Mar 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk on PFAS, also known as “forever chemicals,” and the PFAS crisis in Maine 3–4 p.m. on Monday, April 4. PFAS, a group of thousands of chemicals with the ability to repel both water and oil, has been used in commercial and consumer products for more than 60 years, yet research on their toxicity and persistence in the environment has only been published in the past two decades. Today in Maine, PFAS contamination has closed multiple farms and contaminated soils, well water, food and wildlife. The scope of the crisis continues to grow and the state is mounting a multimillion-dollar, ongoing response. In this talk, “[The Forever Chemicals: PFAS in Maine — What they are, where they come from and what can we do about them](#),” members of the Mitchell Center’s PFAS Research Initiative will give a whirlwind tour of PFAS chemistry, the history of these chemicals in Maine, what Maine people know about them and the search for solutions. The PFAS Research Initiative team brings together expertise in environmental engineering, wastewater management, data science, economics, communication and wildlife ecology to address PFAS in Maine. They work closely with diverse stakeholders from state agencies, the agricultural community, public health advocates, the wastewater treatment industry and other sectors. Their research has included an [assessment](#) of the environmental, economic and social aspects of management options for PFAS-contaminated wastewater sludge. Members of the team will also present a session on PFAS at the [Maine Sustainability & Water Conference](#) on March 31 at the Augusta Civic Center. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Updates for this event will be posted to the [event webpage](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition to open April 8

25 Mar 2022

The University of Maine Department of Art will present the 2022 Juried Student Art Exhibition, April 8–29 in Lord Hall Gallery, featuring works by current students in studio art courses. The opening reception is 5:30–7 p.m., April 8. Lord Hall Gallery is open 9 a.m.–4 p.m. weekdays. This year’s annual exhibition includes paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, two- and three- dimensional design, sculpture and ceramic work selected from more than 150 submissions. Jurors are interim gallery director Susan Smith and former director and emerita professor of art Laurie Hicks.

UMaine Extension planting for pollinators webinar April 13

25 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a free webinar about gardening with pollinators in mind, 6–7:30 p.m. on April 13. “[Planting for Pollinators](#)” will offer practical tips for gardeners on ways to provide food, habitat and water resources for pollinators to help address the decline in insect, native bee and bird species. UMaine Extension horticulture professional Kate Garland will also focus on native plants and best landscape management practices. The webinar is free; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sharon Paradis, 207.834.3905 or 800.287.1421 (in Maine); sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

Media boosts Extension wildlife damage prevention webinar

25 Mar 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension webinar about wildlife damage prevention in home gardens, from noon–1:15 p.m. April 1. The webinar will discuss methods to help reduce losses in home gardens from raccoons, deer, rabbits and woodchucks. This is the fourth in a five-part spring gardening webinar series offered through April for Maine gardeners. For more information and to register, visit the program [webpage](#).

BDN, Boothbay Register shares Extension agriculture symposium for Maine teens

25 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Boothbay Register](#) advanced a University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H agricultural symposium for Maine teens April 18–19. Participants will take part in hands-on learning opportunities, engage with industry professionals on the UMaine and University of Maine at Augusta-Bangor campuses, develop leadership skills and make friendships with teens from throughout the state.

Morning Ag Clips advances Extension farm labor guidelines webinar

25 Mar 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) shared information about University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s online discussion on Farm Labor Guidelines in April. The April 19 session will focus on the requirements of the H-2A program. The April 21 session will cover the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Key topics will include avoiding common overtime, child labor and recordkeeping-related violations in agricultural settings. More information, including dates and registration links, is available [online](#).

Media feature UMaine muscular dystrophy study

25 Mar 2022

[Muscular Dystrophy News Today](#), [Lab+Life Scientist](#), [Science Daily](#), [Latestly](#), [The News Headline](#), [News Azi](#), [Hindustan Times](#), [FOX 22 Bangor](#), [Devdiscourse](#), [The Print](#), [India.com](#) and [Today Headline](#) reported on a University of Maine study that shows certain activities may help strengthen muscles affected by muscular dystrophy. The researchers used a process called neuromuscular electrical stimulation (NMES), which stimulates specific nerves to elicit muscle contraction in zebrafish with a mutation that models a certain type of muscular dystrophy. The results showed that the right type of resistance training might be beneficial to human patients with muscular dystrophy.

International media features UMaine Climate Reanalyzer in article about Conger Ice Shelf collapsing

25 Mar 2022

[The Independent](#), the [Irish Independent](#), [Sunday World](#) cited data from the UMaine Climate Reanalyzer showing record high temperatures in Antarctica in an article about the Conger ice shelf in Antarctica collapsing and breaking off into an iceberg. According to the data, the Antarctic continent as a whole on Friday was 4.8C warmer than a baseline temperature between 1979 and 2000.

Mortelliti quoted by Toronto Star about red squirrel personalities

25 Mar 2022

Alessio Mortelliti, a University of Maine wildlife ecologist, was featured in the Toronto Star for his research studying the behavior of small rodents in the Penobscot Experimental Forest in Maine. The column, which focused on the charming behavior of red squirrels in the writer's local park, highlighted a UMaine [video](#) featuring Mortelliti and his research. "Like humans, animals have personalities," Mortelliti said in the video. "There's shyer mice, more aggressive mice, more curious mice, more active mice."

UMaine officially designated an Age-Friendly University

25 Mar 2022

The University of Maine has achieved full, endorsed membership in the Age-Friendly University (AFU) Global Network. The AFU Global Network, led by Dublin City University, is supported in the United States by the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. The AFU initiative promotes maximizing the intergenerational appeal of higher education programming through a 10-principle framework, with the goal of expanding inclusiveness and the age-friendly focus within individual academic institutions. The AFU Global Network includes 90 higher education institutions around the world. UMaine is the first public university in the state of Maine having achieved this status and only the second higher education institution in the state designated as an AFU. University of New England was the first. "This is terrific news and an achievement that everyone at the University of Maine should be very proud of. It serves to confirm the wide variety of ways in which older adults are able to share their expertise and experience and remain actively involved on the flagship campus, including engaging in decision making and advisement, participatory research, life-long learning, encore career preparation, intergenerational mentoring and so much more," says Len Kaye, director of the UMaine Center on Aging. UMaine engages older adults in a variety of ways in the daily life of the various colleges, schools, departments and administrative units. UMaine offers a variety of opportunities for older adults to participate in research programs carried out by the Center on Aging and Cooperative Extension Citizen Science initiative, as well as educational opportunities offered through the Division of Lifelong Learning and UMaineOnline. Individuals 65 and older can receive a tuition waiver for undergraduate programs. Aging research is carried out in a wide range of colleges, schools and departments. UMaine encourages intergenerational exchange and learning not just on campus but throughout the community, such as fostering intergenerational learning through the Wabanaki Leadership Institute. UMaine provides discounted memberships for older adults to museums and free access to UMaine museums galleries, including Zillman Art Museum, Lord Hall Art Gallery and Hudson Museum, as well as a discount on tickets for shows and concerts at Collins Center for the Arts and Hauck Auditorium. UMaine also provides older adults with multiple ways of staying active through discounted on-campus gym memberships and older adult-based fitness classes. Given that Maine is the oldest state in the nation based on median age (45.1 years) and has the largest proportion of 65-and-older residents at 21.2% according to the 2020 Census, such a designation is timely and warranted. The state of Maine was also [designated an Age-Friendly State](#) by AARP in 2019. With the AFU designation, UMaine will continue to create opportunities for older adults by expanding partnerships with aging-focused organizations, cultivating a space for older adults to participate in campus life, developing inclusive marketing that promotes older adults' presence on campus and expanding university programming for retirees and all older Mainers that encourages their continued active engagement in the life of the university. Contact: Len Kaye, len.kaye@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hires first statewide communications leader

28 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension recently named Aroostook native Melissa Arndt to serve as its first-ever director of marketing and communications. In this new role, Arndt will provide strategic direction for organizational marketing and communication efforts, and lead the UMaine Extension communications and marketing team. Arndt will also work closely with the University of Maine marketing and communications division, strengthening the connection between Extension and the university. "We are thrilled that Melissa has joined Extension, as she brings a wealth of experience working with other organizations that also have statewide missions," said Hannah Carter, dean of UMaine Extension. "We believe she will help us to elevate Extension's mission and increase our ability to share research-based information and educational programs, and connect with more individuals and communities across the state and beyond." The new position comes at a time when the organization is aiming to leverage the effectiveness of its newly expanded digital programming. With offices and staff covering all 16 counties, UMaine Extension has historically had a statewide reach. With the arrival of the pandemic, however, many Extension programs moved temporarily online and became accessible to a much larger audience. While most UMaine Extension programs will return to an in-person format going forward, the organization will continue to implement digital programming and bring practical knowledge from the university to even more people in Maine. "The depth and breadth of Extension's educational offerings is astonishing," said Arndt. "Faculty and staff are conducting research and developing programs to teach Mainers how to preserve food, build a food-based business, grow vegetables sustainably, manage pests, care for livestock, make healthy food choices, develop leadership skills, adapt to climate change and so much more. We want to

make sure everyone in Maine has an opportunity to learn from this work which, in turn, helps build healthy communities and a strong, sustainable economy.” Arndt grew up on a potato and beef farm in Aroostook County, where she participated in a variety of Extension 4-H programs. A graduate of Middlebury College in Vermont, she has worked in Maine for the last 27 years, most recently providing strategic communications leadership for statewide and regional nonprofit organizations. For more information, contact melissa.arndt@maine.edu or visit extension.umaine.edu.

UMaine Extension farm tractor safety classes start April 4

28 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer four-session farm tractor safety courses in two locations starting April 4, 5:30–7:30 p.m., at Gorham Public Works, 80 Huston Road, Gorham. Classes continue April 11 and 25, ending April 30, 9 a.m.–noon. The course also will be held 4–6 p.m. April 4, 11, and 25, and 5–8 p.m. May 2, at Kramer’s, Inc., 2400 West River Road, Sidney. The [Farm Tractor Safety Course](#) includes classroom lectures, homework and tractor driving time. Designed for adults and youth at least 14 years old, participants will learn how to safely handle tractors and equipment, how to avoid hazards, and minimize chances of accidents. This course is required for 14- and 15-year-olds who plan to operate farm equipment for hire on farms other than those owned by their families. Certificates will be issued after successful completion of the course. The sliding scale fee of \$0–\$40 includes the course manual. Registration and access to a computer, tablet or smartphone are required. Register and find more information on the [program webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jason Lilley, 207.781.6099; extension.agcumberland@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offers food safety training for volunteer cooks in April

28 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer four options for online food safety training for volunteer cooks starting 9 a.m.–noon April 5. Additional sessions are 1–4 p.m. April 7 or 13, and 5–8 p.m. April 19. “[Cooking for Crowds](#)” offers up-to-date information on how to handle, transport, store and prepare foods safely for large group functions such as soup kitchens, church suppers, food pantries and community fundraisers. Participants receive a “Cooking for Crowds” training manual, certificate of attendance and more. This class meets the Good Shepherd Food Bank food safety training requirements. The \$15 per person fee includes all materials; registration is required. Register and find more details on the [program webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine); ksavoie@maine.edu.

Composites World reports on UMaine 3D-printed logistics vessels

28 Mar 2022

[Composites World](#) reported on the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center’s production of two 3D-printed prototype logistics vessels for the U.S. Department of Defense, a groundbreaking milestone in composite manufacturing.

Media features UMaine’s live black bear mascot

28 Mar 2022

[WHOM-FM \(Portland\)](#), [WJBO-FM \(Portland\)](#), [WCYY-FM \(Portland\)](#), [WSHK-FM \(Dover, New Hampshire\)](#), [WBLM-FM \(Portland\)](#) and [WQCB-FM \(Brewer\)](#) highlighted UMaine’s historical use of a live black bear mascot, which started when a small black bear named “Jeff” was loaned to the school by a local animal collector in 1914. Many live bear mascots would call Orono their home over the next five decades, but the state of Maine would ban the use of live mascots in 1969, prompting UMaine to switch to a human mascot in a black bear suit.

Caron speaks with Adotas about ‘friends with benefits’

28 Mar 2022

Sandra Caron, a professor of family relations and human sexuality at the University of Maine, spoke with [Adotas](#) about the impacts of casual sex on friendship. “It may sound great in the beginning, but sex often complicates things in ways you don’t expect,” Caron said. “It’s almost like a plane. The plane has to move forward. It takes off or it lands. You can’t just be in this holding pattern forever.”

Erich speaks with BDN about ‘mudpocalypse’

28 Mar 2022

Sue Erich, professor of plant and soil chemistry at University of Maine, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) about this year’s mud season, which some Mainers are referring to as “mudpocalypse.” “There is nothing really mysterious about it and we all know about mud. It’s basically soil particles and water,” Erich said.

Kopec interviewed in PPH about PFAS in fish

28 Mar 2022

Dianne Kopec, a research fellow at the University of Maine’s Sen. George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, spoke with the [Portland Press Herald](#) about her research studying how PFAS moves between soil, groundwater and surface water. Kopec told the PPH that she is hoping to expand her work to study the movement of the chemicals from organism to organism. She also said some PFAS compounds collect in fish liver or eggs, which affects other animal predators more than humans. [New Hampshire Union Leader](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and the [Marietta Daily Journal](#) shared the PPH article.

BDN features Ferrini-Mundy’s appointment to President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science

28 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy has been appointed to the President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science by President Joe Biden. The 16-member President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science evaluates nominees for the nation’s highest scientific honor.

MacRae interviewed in BDN about PFAS in wastewater treatment plants

28 Mar 2022

Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) for an article about PFAS in Maine’s waterways. MacRae said that wastewater treatment plants make the water safe enough to pump back into a waterway, but they don’t treat it for PFAS, and they’re not required to. “PFAS are not reliably removed in wastewater treatment, which is designed to remove more ‘normal’ organic matter ... like food and feces, not so much these low-level, hard-to-degrade contaminants like PFAS. So, unfortunately, you end up with contaminated water and contaminated solids,” MacRae said.

Lichtenwalner featured on Maine Calling speaking on avian influenza

28 Mar 2022

Anne Lichtenwalner, associate professor of animal and veterinary science; director, University of Maine Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Cooperative Extension and School of Food and Agriculture, was a VIP caller on a [Maine Public’s](#) show, Maine Calling, about bird migration and how the cases of avian flu that have been detected in Maine affect both wild and domestic birds.

Golet named chair of U.S. ICCAT Advisory Committee

28 Mar 2022

Walter Golet, assistant professor in the School of Marine Sciences and sited at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, has been named chair of the U.S. ICCAT Advisory Committee. The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) is one of many regional fisheries management organizations where countries and fishing entities come together to discuss and develop international fisheries management measures. It oversees the conservation and management of a variety of Atlantic marine species, including tunas, swordfish, marlin and sharks, and adopts measures to minimize bycatch of turtles and seabirds associated with these fisheries. The responsibility is shared among ICCAT’s 52 members, including the United States, according to the [NOAA website](#). The Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to ICCAT was established under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. Committee members representing commercial industries, recreational fishing organizations, environmental groups and academia give advice to U.S. ICCAT commissioners on international issues related to the conservation and management of Atlantic highly migratory species.

Thirty-eight faculty members receive tenure and/or promotion

28 Mar 2022

At the University of Maine, 38 faculty members have received tenure and/or promotion this spring. The annual announcement recognizes outstanding achievement in teaching, scholarship and research, and community engagement. Tenure for 28 of the faculty members was approved by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees on March 28. “It’s rewarding to recognize these members of UMaine’s world-class faculty for their leadership in the classroom, in research and scholarship, and in outreach,” says John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. “They contribute to the transformative UMaine student experience for undergraduate and graduate students, and the university’s overall strength and success as a comprehensive Research 1 university.”

Promoted to Professor

College of Engineering

- William Manion, Construction Engineering Technology

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Darren Ranco, Anthropology and Native American Programs

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- Heather Hamlin, Aquaculture
- Sara Lindsay, Marine Sciences
- Paul Rawson, Marine Sciences

Promoted to Associate Research Professor

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- L. Brian Perkins, School of Food and Agriculture

Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure

College of Education and Human Development

- Justin Dimmel, Mathematics Education and Instructional Technology
- Leah Hakkola, Higher Education

College of Engineering

- Sheila Edalatpour, Mechanical Engineering
- Aaron Gallant, Geotechnical Engineering
- Bashir Khoda, Mechanical Engineering
- Lauren Ross, Hydraulics and Water Resources Engineering
- Qian Xue, Mechanical Engineering

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Donald Beith, Philosophy
- Matthew Brichacek, Chemistry
- Philip Edelman, Music Education
- Zachary Ludington, Spanish
- Rebecca MacAulay, Psychology
- Karyn Sporer, Sociology
- Peter Stechlinski, Mathematics

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- Katherine Allen, Earth and Climate Sciences
- Seth Campbell, Glaciology
- Andrew Crawley, Regional Economics Development
- Angela Daley, Health Economics and Policy
- Allison Gardner, Arthropod Vector Biology
- Valerie Herbert, Nursing
- Pauline Kamath, Animal Disease/Diagnostics
- Joshua Kelley, Biochemistry
- Benjamin King, Bioinformatics
- Danielle Levesque, Mammalogy and Mammalian Health
- Ek Han Tan, Plant Genetics
- Mary Tedesco-Schneck, Nursing

Maine Business School

- Tanya Beaulieu, Management Information Systems
- Stephen Jurich, Finance

Promoted to Associate Extension Professor with Continuing Contract

Cooperative Extension

- Deborah Bouchard, Aquatic Animal Health Specialist
- Colt Knight, Extension Livestock Educator
- Robson Machado, Food Science Specialist
- Alicyn Smart, Plant Pathologist

Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Printing Services expands payment options

29 Mar 2022

University of Maine Printing Services can now accept MasterCard and Visa credit and debit cards, as well as Black Bear Bucks as forms of payment. These new forms of payment allow students, staff, faculty, departments and all other users to have greater flexibility when making purchases at the on-campus print shop. Printing Services is located in Keyo Building on campus.

2022 Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit to be held April 15

29 Mar 2022

The 2022 Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit will be held virtually on Friday, April 15, from 9 a.m.–noon. This year’s theme is “Improving Maine’s Food System.” Food waste data is grim. The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that 40% of food produced is never eaten, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture finds that this waste costs the average U.S. household over \$1,800 per year. Food is now the single largest component of Maine’s solid waste stream at approximately 30% based on a 2011 Maine Waste Characterization Study. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, Mainers pay to haul 97% of food waste to landfills, where it releases contaminants and produces methane gas that threatens water and climate. Food waste also squanders valuable resources like water, energy, labor and soil, which are used to produce food that is never eaten. But there are solutions today. The Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit is Maine’s major food waste event that brings together the state’s food system participants — consumers, farms, food businesses, feeding partners, community leaders and policy makers — to educate and take action to end food waste. “For this year’s summit, we really want to include everyone who cares about access to good, nutritious food in Maine,” says Susanne Lee, faculty fellow at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine. “There are so many simple food waste solutions that everyone can do now, with important economic, social and environmental benefits for all.” This year’s keynote speakers include Angel Veza, senior manager of Capital Innovation & Engagement for ReFED (Rethink Food Waste through Economics & Data), a U.S. nonprofit leader in identifying data-driven solutions to end food waste; and Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, Maine First District Representative and leading supporter of bi-partisan legislation to end food waste. Interactive sessions including Mitchell Center student interns will encourage attendees to learn more about how they can get involved in these food waste solutions. Presenting interns include William Dunham, Ryan Fitzmaurice, Ellie Hunt, Kalina Kinyon and Hannah Mathieu of UMaine, Hannah Crayton of Thomas College, and Ariana Walker of the University of New England. “We’re really excited to present the work that we have been doing and help people see how they can benefit from reducing food waste,” says Crayton. Summit sessions include:

- **Why Stop Food Waste?** — Q&A discussion with food waste experts including Ivan Fernandez, UMaine climate and soils scientist; Travis Blackmer, UMaine economist; Ryan Parker, director of Food Corps in Maine. Moderated by David Cash, Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency Region 1
- **“Maine Success Stories”** — Panel featuring model food waste reduction efforts, with Commissioner Randy Liberty, Maine Department of Corrections; Nick Jackson, Jackson Regenerational Farm; Dixie Shaw, Aroostook County Catholic Charities; and Troy Moon, Portland Sustainability director. Moderated by Pips Veazey, director of the Portland Gateway, and Ashley Forbes, communications manager for the Foster Center for Innovation
- **Maine Food Waste Pilots** — Mitchell Center student interns presenting food waste pilots developed to test and measure food waste solutions and benefits
- **Food Waste Solution Workshops** — Breakout groups focused on how to get started, including food tracking systems, school education, food donation and food recycling

This second annual summit is hosted by the Mitchell Center and the Portland Gateway. The event is free and open to the public. [Register online](#) by April 11. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Susanne Lee at susanne.lee@maine.edu.

Media highlights Extension hiring first-ever director of marketing and communications

29 Mar 2022

The [Piscataquis Observer](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Portland Press Herald](#) and [US News 18](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension recently named Aroostook native Melissa Arndt to serve as its first-ever director of marketing and communications. Arndt will provide strategic direction for organizational marketing and communication efforts, and lead the UMaine Extension communications and marketing team. Arndt will also work closely with the University of Maine marketing and communications division, strengthening the connection between Extension and the university.

Media advances Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit

29 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) shared information about the 2022 Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit, which will be held virtually on April 15, from 9 a.m.–noon. This year’s theme is “Improving Maine’s Food System.” This second annual summit is hosted by the Mitchell Center and the Portland Gateway. The event is free and open to the public. [Register online](#) by April 1.

Mayewski research cited in articles about ‘worst year to be alive’

29 Mar 2022

[ABC News Australia](#) and [Freethink](#) noted research by Paul Mayewski, director of the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, that found evidence of volcanic eruptions in the year 536 and also in the years that followed through analysis of Swiss ice cores. The article used this and other evidence to proclaim 536 the “worst year to be alive.”

Cruz-Urbe speaks with Associated Press about lithium sources in Maine

29 Mar 2022

Alicia Cruz-Urbe, associate professor of petrology and mineralogy at University of Maine, spoke with the [Associated Press](#) about the possibility of quarrying for lithium at Plumbago Mountain in western Maine. Cruz-Urbe said that the country’s lithium reserves rank among the largest in the world, but “the amount that we produce is peanuts.” The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#), [Fortune](#), [Yahoo News](#), [U.S. News and World Report](#), [ABC News](#), [the Independent](#) and multiple outlets internationally shared the AP report.

UMaine study explores diversity and equity practices in higher education faculty searches

29 Mar 2022

Like many parts of society, higher education has grappled recently with the historic marginalization of and inequities between different groups. One way this has played out is through an increasing focus on diversity and equity in faculty hiring practices. A recent journal article from two University of Maine researchers suggests that despite good intentions, implicit and overt bias, as well as institutional and structural barriers, may still hamper colleges' and universities' efforts to diversify their faculty ranks. The study's authors — associate professor of higher education Leah Hakkola and doctoral student in higher education Sarah Dyer — explored the role of faculty search chairs' status and social identities in search committee dynamics and decisions about hiring diverse candidates. Through in-depth interviews with nearly 20 faculty search committee chairs at one university, Hakkola and Dyer sought to understand how chairs interpret diversity and equity, how they implement equitable hiring practices, and how faculty hierarchy influences search processes. "A disconnect arose between how individuals discussed their understanding of diversity and how it was perceived as an institutional value in the search process," Hakkola and Dyer write. "Specifically, participants' own understanding of diversity imbued how they talked about it in the search process," they say. "Yet, when asked how institutional actors such as administrators, [human resources] and [equal opportunity] talked about diversity related to the search, race, ethnicity and gender were most often cited as important." The search chairs interviewed by Hakkola and Dyer rarely mentioned race when asked to reflect on how their own identities influenced their understanding of diversity. Instead, they were more likely to bring up gender, religion, nationality or field of study. Those who felt it was important to center race came from social backgrounds with a lot of racial diversity. Overall, Hakkola and Dyer say that in interviews "faculty drew from personal narratives and institutional factors to inform the ways in which they conceptualized diversity and equity during their searches." Most participants felt that HR and EO departments were responsible for making sure searches were equitable and inclusive. However, a common theme in interviews was the lack of information and clarity from those departments when it came to the search chair's role. Some chairs said they had no training on how to center diversity and equity, while others received very little. "Ultimately a clear breakdown emerged in communication and expectations between institutional role senders and the search chair role," Hakkola and Dyer say. Despite the lack of guidance, some chairs felt a need to address implicit and overt bias in their searches. However, one significant finding was that faculty rank influenced diversity and equity decisions made by search committees. Hakkola and Dyer say junior faculty members who served as chairs — those who had yet to receive tenure — felt less comfortable exercising agency or discretion than senior faculty members. "Based on these findings, it was clear that faculty status affected equitable hiring practices," they write. "Specifically, if a senior faculty search chair valued diversity as an asset, the search was conducted with equity and diversity in mind. Alternatively, if the senior faculty search chair did not see the value in centering diversity or equity in the search, the likelihood of bias influencing decisions increased." Although the study sheds light on roles, conduct, and responsibilities of faculty search chairs in higher education, Hakkola and Dyer say further research is needed to better understand the issues involved in centering diversity and equity in hiring decisions. That includes examining different types of institutions to see how their particular power dynamics impact search committee decisions. The article, "[Role Conflict: How Search Committee Chairs Negotiate Faculty Status, Diversity, and Equity in Faculty Searches](#)," was published in the Journal of Diversity in Higher Education. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host Sustainability Networking Poster Session April 22

30 Mar 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions is hosting a Sustainability Networking Poster Session on Friday, April 22 from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. in the Memorial Union Bear's Den Upper Level. Lauren Ross, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering, and Sean Smith, associate professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, are organizing the event. The session will bring together students, businesses and communities working on sustainability solutions, including faculty and graduate and undergraduate students, as well as communities and colleagues involved in or interested in sustainability research. Researchers at the event can spark new research ideas, start collaborations in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary related topics, learn about sustainability research topics and activities. Students can hear about careers, research, and opportunities related to sustainability science. Stakeholder partners, businesses and alumni can share their experiences, engage new communities and potential clients, and meet the existing and emerging workforce involved with sustainability research and businesses. Coupons for coffee, cookies and snacks will be available for participants. Students and faculty interested in submitting an abstract or poster for the event should fill out the [Google Form](#) for the event. Deadline for poster submissions is April 11. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Lauren Ross, lauren.ross1@maine.edu, or Sean Smith, sean.m.smith@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host talk on efforts to stop the invasive emerald ash borer, April 11

30 Mar 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk on bringing together diverse interests to slow the spread of the invasive emerald ash borer and protect Maine's ash trees on Monday, April 11, 3–4 p.m. The emerald ash borer poses a potentially devastating threat to all three species of ash tree (brown, green and white) found in Maine. The insect is of particular concern to Maine Indian basket makers who rely on brown ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) to make ash splint and sweetgrass baskets, the oldest documented arts tradition in New England. For the past eight years, John Daigle, professor in the School of Forest Resources at UMaine, and a team of researchers have been working to mobilize diverse interests — Wabanaki people, basket makers, tribes, state and federal foresters, university researchers, landowners and others — to respond to the ash borer threat. In this talk, Daigle will provide an update on the team's work and discuss potential next steps. Daigle is a citizen member of the Penobscot Nation and has worked at UMaine since 1998. He teaches courses with an emphasis on the application of social science concepts and methods to outdoor recreation and natural resource planning and management. Before coming to UMaine, he served with the National Park Service as a park ranger and the U.S. Forest Service as a research forester. All talks in the Mitchell Center's [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Updates for this event will be posted to the [event webpage](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

BDN, Sun Journal feature UMaine Age-Friendly University designation

30 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Sun Journal](#) reported that University of Maine has achieved full, endorsed membership in the Age-Friendly University Global Network. The initiative promotes maximizing the intergenerational appeal of higher education programming through a 10-principle framework, with the goal of expanding inclusiveness and the age-friendly focus within individual academic institutions. UMaine is the first public university in Maine to achieve this status and only the second higher education institution in the state designated as an Age-Friendly University.

Vekasi pens article for East Asia Forum about China's rare earth metal consolidation

30 Mar 2022

Kristin Vekasi, associate professor of political science and School of Policy and International Affairs, wrote an article for [East Asia Forum](#) addressing concerns about Chinese rare earth consolidation in the form of a “megafirm” announced in January 2022 called China Rare Earth Group, control up to 70% of Chinese rare earth production, 30–40 percent of global supply. Vekasi writes, “OECD countries should be diversifying even in the absence of geopolitical competition. Diversification and resilient supply chains are necessary to keep up with the growing green economy and to match the demands of the proposed ‘Green New Deal’ policies. Policymakers should view this merger as a nudge towards meeting the challenge of a green energy future.”

BDN cites UMaine research in article about craft breweries’ recovery

30 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) featured a 2020 report by the Maine Brewers’ Guild and the University of Maine in an article about Maine’s craft breweries recovering from pandemic restrictions. The report said craft brewers are a significant contributor to Maine’s economy, with \$260.7 million in economic impact to the state in 2020 and employing nearly 2,400 people. There are also 165 active licensed brewers in Maine this year, some with multiple licenses or locations, up from 155 in 2020.

McGillicuddy Humanities Center Celebrates a Decade of Supporting Award-Winning Scholarship and Creative Endeavors

30 Mar 2022

It started with a series of discussions. Convened by a group of collegial humanities scholars at the University of Maine, the small community then evolved into an initiative with the support of then Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Jeff Hecker. Becoming a fully realized, university-recognized academic research center required both a specific developmental vision and an opportunity to secure financial resources. And during the 2011–12 academic year, vision met opportunity and a new center was established. April 23, 2012, what today is known as the McGillicuddy Humanities Center was officially launched with the announcement of awardees of a new internal grant competition at UMaine. As part of the Blue Sky Strategic Plan, proposals had been solicited by the President’s Office in a competition called the Presidential Request for Visions of University Excellence (PRE-VUE) Program. “We had been working at the initiative for a year or more, referring to it as the University of Maine Humanities Initiative, when the call for PRE-VUE proposals was released. We realized that this was the perfect vehicle for kick starting the Humanities Center as well as advancing the university toward its goal,” said Hecker. The humanities proposal team leader was Scott See, Libra Professor of History, who worked closely with Hecker and associate dean Amy Fried. [April 23, 2012, the President’s office announced](#) that the proposal, officially titled “University of Maine Humanities Center: Humanities for the 21st Century,” would be awarded a \$300,000 grant to fund the transformation of the humanities initiative into a full-fledged research center. University units represented in the original proposal included the UMaine Humanities Initiative; College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; departments of English, History, Modern Languages and Classics, Philosophy and Art; Maine Folklife Center; National Poetry Foundation; and Canadian American Center. “The PRE-VUE award will be used to establish a University of Maine Humanities Center to promote the integral role of the humanities and the university in the state by developing synergy among scholarship, research and community engagement,” [the announcement stated](#). The following summer, See turned over the new center to Justin Wolff, then associate professor of art, and the impressive record of development and growth that would occur over the next decade began in earnest. Working closely with the Dean’s Office and the University of Maine Foundation, an initial Board of Advisors was assembled, and new opportunities to fund humanities scholarship, events, community outreach, and creative and performing arts endeavors began. The center started collaborating with such community organizations as the Bangor Public Library and Orono Public Schools. Links between statewide organizations like the Maine Historical Society and the Maine Humanities Council were established, with key personnel bridging the UMaine humanities community to others in the state. Sometimes these links included specific people, including Liam Riordan, professor of history, who became the director of the Humanities Center in 2014, and also served on the Board of Directors of the Maine Humanities Council from 2010–17; and Kathryn Olmstead, co-chair of the Board of Advisors of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center from 2019–22, who also served on the Maine Public (Broadcasting) Board of Trustees and Natural Resources Council of Maine Board of Directors. In its first five years, the Humanities Center compiled an impressive record of achievement. It convened community events and supported numerous diverse faculty projects, including the creative fiction and studies of poetry by Carlos Villacorta Gonzales, a faculty member in Spanish; “Art and Science,” an interdisciplinary collaboration between Andy Mauery, associate professor of art, and her colleague in genomics Sally Dixon Molloy; and Michael Socolow’s award-winning history of Olympic broadcasting, “Six Minutes in Berlin.” The center developed an engaging social media presence, worked with the University of Maine Foundation to convene a Patrons Circle of supporters, and began publishing annual reports detailing its activities. The second half of its initial decade saw the center receive a transformative gift from Clement (Class of 1964) and Linda McGillicuddy. The McGillicuddys had supported the center in its initial development, and in early 2017, they discussed new ideas with then-director Jennifer Moxley, professor of English. The idea Moxley proposed involved funding an undergraduate Humanities Fellows program that would offer financial support for select undergraduate students to pursue projects in the areas in which they were passionate. The discussions led to a transformative, naming gift for the center. Sept. 22, 2017, the center celebrated its first five years by announcing the gift and its new name — The Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center — and launching the Fellows Program. The first Fellows were named in 2018, and since then 26 UMaine undergraduates have been selected for a McGillicuddy Humanities Center fellowship. The projects completed, and the professional trajectories launched by the fellowship, have already compiled an impressive record. Fellows have gone on to graduate study at Boston College, Harvard University and Duke University, have published chapbooks of poetry composed during the fellowship, and showcased art exhibitions. One fellow, Sarah Penney (Class of 2021), became the first alumna of the program to join the center’s Advisory Board in 2022. The success of the fellowship program attracted new supporters, and in spring 2021, the first Richard and Karin Anderson Fellow was named: Haley Santerre, an art major from Portland, Maine. In 2022, a gift from alumnus David Wiggin allowed for the support of the first Wiggin Fellow, Tom Pinette of Caribou, Maine. The record of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center in supporting excellence in humanities research has been reflected in additional areas. In 2021, Margo Lukens, professor of English, was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to support development of a centralized digital portal that will improve access to Wabanaki historical and cultural resources and archival collections currently distributed across UMaine and, in the future, to incorporate collections curated by several external institutions. The interdisciplinary Wabanaki Resources Portal project was originally assembled while Lukens led the Humanities Center, with the essential assistance of the center’s then humanities specialist Karen Sieber. The Wabanaki Resources Portal project represented the center’s first successful NEH grant. “The McGillicuddy Humanities Center supports the innovative work of our faculty and students, and shines a light on their accomplishments. It has succeeded beyond the modest ideas that a few of us kicked around well over a decade ago. I couldn’t be more proud of where the center is now and look forward to seeing how it will evolve over the next decade,” said Hecker. “The center’s support has been vital to the health of the humanities at UMaine,” said Emily Haddad, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences since 2014. “Thanks to the vision of Jeff Hecker and his colleagues, and to the generosity of Clem and Linda McGillicuddy, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center is a point of

great pride for our campus.” April 10, 2022, the Center will hold the first of its 10th anniversary celebrations as part of [Maine Impact Week](#). The public reception will feature the artworks of Delaney Burns and Haley Santerre, current MHC Fellows. "I'm enormously grateful to everyone — our Board of Advisors, our Faculty Advisory Group, the wonderful fellows, our former directors, the dean, our donors and supporters, and of course, Clem and Linda McGillicuddy — who played a role in establishing such a remarkable and successful first decade for the McGillicuddy Humanities Center," said Michael Socolow, the center's current director. "And I'm looking forward to thanking everyone and celebrating this collaborative success at our reception on April 10." Contact: Brian Jansen, brian.jansen@maine.edu

Aminata Sissoko: From Mali to the Mall

31 Mar 2022

Aminata Sissoko loves doing paperwork. With her job in the University of Maine President's Office, the global policy graduate student is not only perfecting her English, but she also is learning about the day-to-day work that makes organizations tick — work that she sees as vital to her future career in global organizations. Sissoko was born in Bamako, Mali, and attended college at Penza State University in western Russia, where she studied linguistics. Over the course of her studies, she fell in love with languages. She was the first in the world to translate the Russian novel “Evgenie Onegin” by A.S. Pushkin into the native Bambara language. Once she was already fluent in her native French and Russian, Sissoko decided that English was the next language on her list. To achieve that, Sissoko applied to graduate programs in the United States. She chose the University of Maine for its natural beauty and tranquility. “Nature is exactly what I really need for my own spirituality, to focus on the university and my studies,” Sissoko says. “Maine is very, very peaceful.” When Sissoko arrived on campus, she was pleasantly surprised at how welcoming students were of her and her culture. She participated in UMaine's 2021 Culturefest, where she showed off the traditional clothes of her home country. “I feel like everybody was up for sharing,” Sissoko says. “People have open minds here and they're willing to help you. The University of Maine is such a huge opportunity for international students.” Sissoko is majoring in international relations with a concentration in security and foreign policy. Her graduate research study is in peacebuilding efforts in frozen conflict zones, in regions like Abkhazia,



Cyprus, South Ossetia and Transnistria. [caption id="attachment_89846" align="alignright" width="300"] University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy works with graduate student Aminata Sissoko in her Alumni Hall office.[/caption] Perhaps the highlight of Sissoko's UMaine experience, though, has been her job in the President's Office. She started as a student aide and eventually applied and was awarded a graduate assistantship. “This opened my mind,” Sissoko says. “I'm getting familiar with the administration, with the office, with documents, how to organize meetings. It's really helpful because I know how to do a lot of new things now.” UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy has made opportunities for international students in the President's Office a priority. “Aminata and our many other international students add so much to our university community,” says Ferrini-Mundy. “As we do with all our undergraduate and graduate students, and, particularly, our international students, we appreciate the talents, perspectives and experiences that they share.” Sissoko sees ties between her on-campus job and her graduate studies, too. For example, she has noticed similarities between mediating the relationships between nation states and coordinating partnerships between UMaine and other universities. “This is like the communication between countries on how to create and organize meetings,” Sissoko says. “This is giving me some ideas for my future project.” Sissoko is on track to graduate at the end of next year. She is cognizant of the fact that the world may change drastically between now and then, but for now, she hopes to use what she's learned at UMaine to work for an organization that provides medical supplies to countries in need. She hopes that, someday, she will have an opportunity to become an ambassador. Until then, Sissoko will continue studying, working and developing the skills she needs to make a difference. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Healthy High 5k/10k will take place virtually April 18–22

31 Mar 2022

The UMaine Physical Education Student Organization and the Black Bear Exchange's Healthy High 5k/10k will take place virtually this year. Sign up to run between April 18–22 using predesignated routes or by creating your own. Registration is \$10, plus a registration fee of \$2.50. Proceeds benefit the UMaine Physical Education Student Organization and the Black Bear Exchange. [Register online here](#). For any questions, contact Sofia Hartley, sofia.hartley@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offering 4-H Agriculture Symposium

31 Mar 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering an agricultural symposium for Maine teens April 18–19. The 4-H Agriculture Symposium is an overnight experience for Maine youth ages 14–18. Participants will take part in hands-on learning opportunities, engage with industry professionals on the UMaine and University of Maine at Augusta-Bangor campuses, develop leadership skills and make friendships with teens from throughout the state. Current 4-H membership is not required. Assistance with transportation can be provided upon request. The program is free; registration is required. Register on the [program webpage](#). Current CDC and University of Maine health guidelines will be followed for all in-person events. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Alisha Targonski, 207.622.7546; extension.4hagleadership@maine.edu.

Six honorees to receive Foster Center Innovation Awards

31 Mar 2022

The University of Maine's Foster Center for Innovation has announced the winners of its inaugural Innovation Awards, who will be honored in a ceremony at the center April 14 as part of [Maine Impact Week](#). The Innovation Awards were developed to recognize and celebrate the students, faculty, staff and alumni who are working to commercialize university research innovations. The inaugural group of winners includes individuals working in aquaculture, biomedicine, medical technology and the study of innovation. As the hub of innovation-focused activities at UMaine, the Foster Center is the base for programs and services that support entrepreneurship, business development and commercialization of university research. It is home to UMaine's I-Corps program, in which researchers can explore the commercialization potential of their STEM-based innovations, and the MIRTA accelerator, designed to advance research innovations to market. The center also offers academic courses in innovation open to both undergraduate and graduate students, and is home to a student business incubator. "This year's winners are a cross-section that beautifully illustrates UMaine's research innovation across disciplines," says Renee Kelly, assistant vice president of innovation and economic development. "We are so excited to recognize their accomplishments in commercialization and the work that they have done to realize their ideas, as well as to showcase the expanding culture of innovation on our campus." The 2022 Innovation Award winners are:

Students Standout Startup Award: *Ferda Farms* The Standout Startup Award is presented to a student-led startup at UMaine that has exhibited initiative, resilience and humility in the face of challenges. This year's winner is Ferda Farms, an oyster farm on the New Meadows River in Brunswick, Maine that was co-founded in 2018 by high school friends Max Burtis and Sam Dorval. During their college years, Burtis, a senior mechanical engineering major, and Dorval '21, incubated their business at the Foster Center, working to scale up production and diversify their crop.

Impressive Innovator Award: *Kendra Batchelder* The Impressive Innovator Award is presented to a UMaine student who has developed innovative solutions leading to social, cultural or economic impact on campus or in the wider world. This year's winner is Kendra Batchelder '11, '13G, a UMaine Ph.D. candidate in computational biomedicine and member of the Computational Modeling, Analysis of Imagery and Numerical Experiments (CompuMAINE) lab led by professor of biomedical engineering Andre Khalil. The two are co-inventors of a patented computational approach designed to aid in the early detection of breast cancer and have been working to commercialize this technology.

Faculty/Staff MIRTA Spirit Award: *Team Xylogen* The MIRTA Spirit Award is presented to a MIRTA team that, following completion of the program, continues to demonstrate an entrepreneurial mindset and that has made significant progress in post-MIRTA commercialization efforts. This year's winner is Team Xylogen, which has formed a biomedical startup to commercialize a nanocellulose composite material suitable for a range of biomedical uses. Since completing the MIRTA program in 2019, the team, led by professor of biomedical engineering Michael Mason, has partnered with BESPAL GLOBAL, a consortium of doctors experienced in commercializing technology, to create Xylogen Medical to bring this technology to market. The company has secured its first medical device company partnership, established a research, development and commercialization timeline, and is generating prototypes for customer and market evaluation.

Foster Innovation Award: *Dorothy Klimis-Zacas* The Foster Innovation Award honors a UMaine faculty member who has developed meaningfully unique solutions that have resulted in social, cultural or economic impact in Maine and beyond. This year's winner is professor of clinical nutrition Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, who has developed wound-healing treatments from Maine wild blueberries for the commercial marketplace, leveraging decades of research into one of Maine's signature crops.

Alumni Rising Star Award: *KinoTek* The Rising Star Award honors a recent UMaine graduate who has seen rapid growth and success in an entrepreneurial venture, and inspires other young innovators through their courage and enthusiasm. This year's winner is KinoTek (co-founded by Justin Hafner '18 and David Holomakoff '14, '17G), a Portland-based company that has developed a digital movement analysis platform that delivers whole-body insights into a person's dynamic movement. Incubated at the Foster Center and developed with support from the Virtual Environment and Multimodal Interaction (VEMI) Lab, the company has grown rapidly, with a team that includes several UMaine alumni.

Doug Hall Alumni Award: *Doug Hall* The fundamental UMaine values of innovation, creativity and discovery are naturally reflected in our alumni community and, in its first year, it is only fitting to present this award to its namesake in recognition of his contributions to the university. Doug Hall '81 is the founder of Eureka! Ranch and co-inventor of the Innovation Engineering curriculum that is the foundation of many Foster Center programs. First taught at UMaine, Innovation Engineering has been adopted by educational institutions around the U.S. and the world, and used to train more than 1,000 Maine government officials and business leaders in the principles of innovation. Hall is author of seven books, has co-hosted network television and radio programs, and contributed to new product development for many household brands. For more information on the awards or to request an invitation to the ceremony, please contact Emma Richardson (emmeline.richardson@maine.edu).

'The Maine Question' asks what being an R1 university means for UMaine

31 Mar 2022

In February, the University of Maine received an R1 designation from the prestigious Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. This rank serves as the highest possible tier a doctoral research university can achieve in the Carnegie Classification, and it places UMaine among the top 4% of research universities nationwide. In Episode 7 of Season 6 of "[The Maine Question](#)" podcast, UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy discusses what the R1 designation means for the university and the state, what it could offer students — Maine's future workforce — faculty, staff, and community partners and stakeholders. She also discusses the role of Maine's only public research university in the 21st century. This episode is the first in a two-part series featuring President Ferrini-Mundy. Next week, she will speak about life as a university president. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or "The Maine Question" [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Media highlights UMaine research about the spread of Lyme disease-causing ticks in Maine

31 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Mount Desert Islander](#) reported on a University of Maine and Maine Medical Center study illustrating how Lyme disease-causing ticks have increased in Maine. The researchers suggested that the emergence of blacklegged ticks in the Holt Research Forest could be linked in part to climate change and an increase in the local population of white-tailed deer, the primary blood meal host for adult ticks.

SpudSmart features Hao presentation at International Potato Technology Expo

31 Mar 2022

Potato industry publication [SpudSmart](#) featured a presentation by Jay Hao, associate professor of plant pathology, at the International Potato Technology Expo. Hao presented on the outbreak of potato blackleg and soft rot in the northeastern United States, stating that *Dickeya dianthicola* was the pathogen identified as the source of the 2015 black leg and soft rot outbreak in Maine.

American Shipper notes UMaine smart shipping containers

31 Mar 2022

In an article about China's monopoly over ocean container production and the potential threat it poses to the U.S. economy, [American Shipper](#) highlighted the company Global Secure Shipping, which plans to commercialize a new smart container manufactured using composite shipping materials with technology developed through research by the University of Maine and Georgia Institute of Technology.

Mech speaks to WGME about browntail moth outbreak in Maine

31 Mar 2022

Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology, was interviewed for [WGME Portland](#) about Maine currently suffering through the worst infestation of browntail moths since they were first introduced to the state around the turn of the 20th century, more than 100 years ago. The current outbreak, which started in 2015, festered quietly for several years until a drought-ridden spring in 2020 caused an explosion in moth numbers. Then a warm and dry spring once again in 2021 caused the numbers and range of the moths to expand even further. "The hairs get into the leaves, the grass, the trees, and can persist for over three years," Mech said. [WTVL-AM](#) (Augusta), [WMME-FM](#) (Augusta) and [WEBB-FM](#) (Augusta) shared the WGME report.

Lichtenwalner speaks to BDN about purchasing chicks in the midst of Maine's avian flu outbreak

31 Mar 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Anne Lichtenwalner, director of the veterinary diagnostic laboratory at the University of Maine, about the breeder certification chicken owners should look for when purchasing chicks amid the H5N1 avian flu outbreak. Lichtenwalner told the BDN that people should purchase chicks only from breeders and hatcheries that are certified by the National Poultry Improvement Plan, which means the flock has been tested for, and declared free of, specific diseases. However, the standard testing to receive NPIP certification does not include avian flu. That NPIP certification testing is available upon request. "Ask the source of chicks if the chicks are from an NPIP hatchet, and if it's certified free of salmonella, avian flu and mycoplasma," Lichtenwalner said.

Hakkola's research featured in Inside Higher Ed, Chronicle about diversity in higher education

31 Mar 2022

[Inside Higher Education](#) and the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) featured a [study](#) by Leah Hakkola, associate professor of higher education at the University of Maine, and doctoral student in higher education Sarah Dyer exploring how faculty search chairs' status and social identities impact interpersonal committee dynamics and decisions about hiring diverse candidates. The researchers found that the U.S. professoriate remains largely homogeneous, at 53% white men, 27% white women, 10% men of color combined and 5% women of color. This overrepresentation of white men becomes even more obvious when examining the faculty by rank, with white men being especially concentrated in senior faculty positions. [R1 News](#) shared the Chronicle of Higher Education report.

Golet interviewed by AP about impact of Russian sanctions on fishing industry

31 Mar 2022

[The Associated Press](#) spoke with Walt Golet, research assistant professor at the University of Maine's School of Marine Sciences, about the impact of Russian sanctions on the global seafood industry. Golet said that the lack of Russian cod could mean pivoting to other foreign sources for U.S. producers of seafood staples, such as fish and chips. "We might be able to bring in more from Norway, a little more from Canadian fisheries. It really is driven by the price of those imports," Golet said. [The Independent](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Spectrum News 13](#), [MSN](#), [U.S. News and World Report](#), [ABC News](#), [WTOP \(Washington, D.C.\)](#), and other international sources shared the AP report.

Cuba joins MDOE task force on bilingual education

31 Mar 2022

Visiting assistant professor of special education Melissa Cuba has been invited to participate in a new Maine Department of Education (MDOE) initiative to promote bilingual education in Maine schools. She will be joining MDOE's new Multilingual Education Task Force, co-facilitated with the Multistate Association for Bilingual Education. Cuba also recently reviewed MDOE guidance for school districts on eligibility practices for multilingual learners entitled, "Identifying and Serving Students who are English Learners with Disabilities: Policy and Resource Guide." This guidance will inform practitioners of the legal requirements, intervention procedures, comprehensive evaluation, determination of eligibility for special education and related services, development of Individualized Education Programs and considerations for instruction and communication with families to ensure culturally and linguistically responsive approaches.

Research uncovers groundbreaking method of electron catalysis in noncovalent chemistry

31 Mar 2022

Research has uncovered a groundbreaking method for hastening molecular recognition in supramolecular chemistry. Catalysts are materials that increase the rate of, but are not consumed in chemical reactions. Often, catalysts are complex molecules with shapes finely tuned to match an intermediate structure known as a transition state between the reactant and product of the targeted reaction. However, this requires precise design and synthesis of the catalyst, a difficult and time consuming process. Another approach is the use of simple particles, protons and electrons, as catalysts, relying on the electrostatic interactions to allow reactants to surmount energy barriers more rapidly than otherwise possible. The use of electrons as catalysts of chemical reactions for the formation of covalent bonds is well established, but catalysis of molecular recognition and assembly – interactions that involve noncovalent bonds – is rare. The few existing examples of catalysts for these assembly reactions have relied on sophisticated catalyst design. In a [study](#) published March 10, 2022 in the journal *Nature*, a team of scientists from six institutions around the world, including the University of Maine, described a simple and versatile strategy to facilitate molecular recognition using electrons as catalysts. The researchers found that the formation of a host-guest complex is accelerated 640-fold by introducing a

chemical reducing agent as a source of electrons. The electrons lower the activation barrier for this process by decreasing the Coulombic repulsion between a ring compound and a dumbbell-shaped molecule, both of which are positively charged and hence repel each other. “These results show the possibility of a very flexible approach to speed up assembly of a wide variety of molecular components,” says R. Dean Astumian, professor of physics and astronomy and co-author of the study. Astumian explains that the addition of electrons can also be accomplished electrochemically, where the ability to turn the electricity on and off allows the reaction to be halted where the ratio between assembled and non-assembled molecules can be precisely set anywhere between all reactants and an equilibrium amount of reactants and products. The research is a major breakthrough in both supramolecular chemistry and catalytic science. This approach is not limited to a specific reducing agent, and can instead be carried out with a variety of different reducing agents. Moreover, electrochemical reduction can eliminate the need for reducing agents altogether. This new type of catalysis will inspire chemists and biologists to explore strategies that can be used to fine-tune noncovalent events, control assembly at different length scales and even create new forms of complex matter. “The ability to fine tune the steady state levels of assembled and disassembled components allows a system to be set at its maximum sensitivity to an external change – temperature, pressure, proton concentration and more – opening up the possibility of designing optimally responsive sensors,” says Astumian. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Applications open for Canadian Studies course development grants for UMaine faculty

01 Apr 2022

The Canadian-American Center at the University of Maine invites full-time faculty in all relevant disciplines to submit proposals for Canadian Studies course development grants. To be eligible for funding, the course must contribute to the knowledge of Canada or Canada’s relationship with the United States. Courses with the potential to be consistently offered or become permanent additions to the Canadian Studies minor will be prioritized. Proposals may use funds for one of the following:

- Creating a new course in Canadian Studies (100% Canadian content)
- Incorporating Canadian content in a new or existing course (25% or more)
- Increasing Canadian content in an existing Canadian Studies course (to 50% or higher)
- Reformatting an in-person course with Canadian content to an online version (in cooperation with CITL)
- Developing online courses related to Canada (in cooperation with CITL)

The amount of each grant award, which can be up to \$4,000, will be determined based on the percentage of Canadian content in the course. Time required by faculty to develop or restructure a course will be considered. Please include the following in your application:

- A cover sheet
- A description of how the new course or upgraded course will fit into the home department’s goals for academic focus and its relevance for students studying that discipline, as well as an estimate of the number of students expected to enroll
- A description of the course, to include learning objectives (not to exceed 1,000 words)
- A draft syllabus of the new course, or the current syllabus and the proposed new syllabus if this is a proposal to upgrade an existing course
- A brief description of the amount of work that will be required to develop the course (not to exceed 500 words)
- Optional: Additional funding is available for the purchase of books through the Canadian Studies collection at Fogler Library. You may include a list of top titles useful for research in preparing for the new/upgraded course and/or for students taking the Course Dev. call for proposals (2022) course.

Applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis April 1–June 1, 2022. More information is on the call for proposal [web page](#). Direct questions and submit applications by email to Frédéric Rondeau, director of the Canadian American Center and associate professor of French, frederic.rondeau@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offering farm labor guidelines workshops

01 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host an online discussion on Farm Labor Guidelines on April 19 and 21. The two programs will be led by Brian Cleasby from the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD). The April 19 session will focus on the requirements of the H-2A program. The program will cover key considerations to avoid common wage, disclosure, housing, transportation and recordkeeping-related violations at worksites where H-2A workers are employed. Links to WHD H-2A, Fair Labor Standards Act, Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers Protection Act and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Field Sanitation compliance assistance resources will be shared during the webinar. The April 21 session will cover the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Key topics will include avoiding common overtime, child labor and recordkeeping-related violations in agricultural settings. The presentation will cover basic compliance principles under the act, including coverage, exemptions, minimum wage, overtime, recordkeeping and child labor requirements. A question-and-answer period will follow both presentations. More information, including dates and registration links, is available [online](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jason Lilley, 207.781.6099; Extension.agcumberland@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension soil health webinar April 20

01 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a free webinar for farmers on soil health management, 6–7:30 p.m. April 20. “[Soil Health Management](#)” topics include what soil health is, how it is measured and how to improve total soil health by managing a farm’s cropping system. UMaine Extension assistant professor and University of Maine at Presque Isle assistant professor of sustainable agriculture Bee Chim will focus on improving soil health in the potato industry using a diverse cropping system. The webinar is free; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#). Eligible participants can earn one pesticide recertification credit. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sharon Paradis, 207.834.3905 or 800.287.1421 (in Maine); sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

Sun Journal, Daily Bulldog boost Extension landscape design workshop

01 Apr 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) and [Daily Bulldog](#) shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension webinar for home gardeners about designing welcoming landscapes, noon–1:15 p.m. April 29. Register on the program [web page](#).

BDN advances Mitchell Center workshop about invasive emerald ash borer

01 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about a talk hosted by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions on bringing together diverse interests to slow the spread of the invasive emerald ash borer and protect Maine’s ash trees. The event is April 11 from 3–4 p.m. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#).

WMTW cites UMaine data in article about fentanyl test strips added to Portland’s harm reduction kits

01 Apr 2022

[WMTW \(Portland\)](#) featured [data](#) published by the University of Maine and several state agencies in an article about the Portland Public Health Center adding fentanyl test strips to their harm reduction kits. According to the report, 632 people died of suspected overdoses in 2021. Of those deaths, autopsy results showed 77% were caused by fentanyl.

BDN interviews Norman about barn demolition at the Bangor State Fair grounds

01 Apr 2022

Sheila Norman, University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H professional in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the Bangor State Fair scrapping livestock exhibitions. “It means we will need to find new ways for the kids to show their learning and what they are doing in their projects,” Norman said.

Kopec speaks with BDN about mercury versus PFAS in fish

01 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Diane Kopec, faculty fellow at the George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, about the difference between mercury contamination and PFAS contamination in Maine’s fish. Kopec told the BDN that while mercury tends to collect in fish muscle, PFAS contamination appears to be more widespread throughout the fish, which could be more harmful to animals that eat the fish. “When you’re looking at a food web, animals don’t take out the filet and leave the internal organs behind. An animal that eats the fish eats the whole fish,” Kopec said.

Portland Press Herald, Sun Journal interviews Runge about lobstering rules in light of changes in Gulf of Maine ecosystem

01 Apr 2022

Jeffrey Runge, professor at the School of Marine Sciences, was interviewed by the [Portland Press Herald](#) and [Sun Journal](#) about how changes in copepod populations in the Gulf of Maine have led to a shift in whale populations, which could be of consequence to lobstering rules and regulations. Runge said that lipid-rich copepods were once abundant in the Gulf of Maine, but have dropped by about 70% in the past 20 years with warming temperatures. The abrupt change in the ecosystem coincided with a shift in the distribution of right whales out of the eastern Gulf of Maine and into Canadian waters. “It seemed pretty consistent with the right whales looking for higher concentrations of this prey,” Runge said.

New research shows what it takes to make society change for the better

01 Apr 2022

Many people try to make society change for the better. The real challenge is how to get good solutions to scale up for major change. New research suggests that social change may depend on the relationship between beneficial behaviors and policies. The [research](#), conducted by the University of Maine, University of Maine at Augusta, University of Vermont and Universite Laval in Quebec, Canada, attempted to understand how society can accomplish major, transformative social change, particularly the kind of social change necessary to tackle the growing problem of climate change. The researchers studied a behavior that benefits groups, but does not spread without policy support, such as a costly measure to mitigate the effects of climate change. They created a mathematical model using an innovative combination of epidemiological and evolutionary techniques, which simulates a society where agents live in groups and adopt the beneficial behavior of peers — behavior that, given the right conditions, can spread virally, but not if the institutional costs are too high. The model considers factors like the prevalence of adopters and non-adopters in a group; the diffusion of behaviors, both within the group and globally; the strength of institutions supporting the behavior and facilitating its spread; and the cost of those institutions. “Our model is unique because it combines behavioral change and policy change in a single system, and encourages us to think about social change in a richer way. Large-scale social change is not just policy or behavior, but the emergence of a new self-reinforcing system that combines both. This allows us to ask new questions, such as ‘how would a new pattern of behavior and policy spread?’” says Timothy Waring, associate professor of social-ecological systems modeling at the University of Maine and co-author of the study. The results showed that both behavioral change and policy change are required to achieve large-scale social change — and that they need to happen together. Though neither can get the job done on its own, policy change is especially critical. The researchers found that sometimes the beneficial behavior can spread too far. In some cases, the spread of behavior beyond groups with supporting policy can reduce its perceived success and slow the spread of the policy, thereby limiting beneficial social change overall. The simulation suggests that projects that involve both bottom-up viral spread of behavior and top-down policy change may be the best type of solution for large sustainability issues like climate change because they serve as an example and can spread between groups to influence major change. “For example, let’s say a state wants to spread participation in a new organic composting law which would benefit towns,” Waring says. “To make the system work, the collected waste must be purely organic material. But contributing pure organic waste takes effort for households, so the behavior does not take off on its own. This is a common problem for policy implementation. But if towns experiment with systems to help support and spread the behavior, the successful town programs can spread between towns along with household contributions, resulting in effective, large-scale change.” Laurent Hébert-Dufresne, lead author on the study and associate professor at the University of Vermont, says, “Our model can help figure out

how to balance bottom-up and top-down effects so that new solutions can scale. For example, it can help determine when we should promote a behavior like composting all over the country to normalize it and when we should instead focus on a local well-funded pilot project to show the potential benefits of composting.” Waring said that in future research, the team aims to apply these types of models to all sorts of beneficial social change, particularly the challenge of tackling climate change. The study was published in the Royal Society Open Science on March 23, 2022. The research is part of track 2 of UMaine’s Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) project. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine celebrates research and creativity during Maine Impact Week

04 Apr 2022

Maine Impact Week celebrating University of Maine faculty, students, community and their contributions to the social and economic advancement of the state and beyond is April 10–15. The public is invited to attend the more than 20 virtual and in-person events highlighting the impact of research and creative work produced by Maine’s research university. A full list of events and details such as registration links, can be found on the [Maine Impact Week](#) website. To request a reasonable accommodation or for more information, contact Tilan Copson, 207.581.3038; tilan.copson@maine.edu. Maine Impact Week, sponsored annually by the UMaine Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, reflects the work of the university’s more than 150 research centers, institutes and laboratories. “This year is particularly special for the UMaine community as it continues to celebrate the recent R1 Carnegie Classification. The new classification sets the university further apart as a top-tier research institution, ranked among the top 4% of degree-granting postsecondary universities in the U.S.,” says Kody Varahramyan, the vice president for research and dean of the Graduate School. Among the highlights of Maine Impact Week: The [Maine Center on Aging](#) is hosting the 2022 Older Adult Health and Wellness Fair in the courtyard of Buchanan Alumni House from 1–4 p.m. April 12. This event will bring together a wide array of exhibitors and participants to provide wellness opportunities and health information to older adults and caregivers in our community. The fair will include health screenings, education opportunities and information about local volunteer groups. UMaine’s [WiSe-Net Lab](#) presents an overview of Maine’s first small satellite (MESAT1) at noon April 13 at the Versant Power Astronomy Center. MESAT1 is scheduled to be launched to space onboard Firefly Black rocket in 2022 carrying three payloads designed by students in Falmouth High school, Fryeburg Academy and Saco Middle School. The Advanced Structures and Composites Center will offer a facility tour from 2–3:30 p.m., April 14. [Advance registration](#) is required by April 4. The 2022 [UMaine Student Symposium](#) (UMSS) is 9 a.m.–3 p.m. April 15 at the New Balance Field House and Memorial Gym. Students will present their research and creative works through posters, oral presentations and exhibits. Projects cover a range of topics in the arts, health care, science, engineering and education. “This year, the UMaine Student Symposium is a hybrid event featuring 350 research presentations by graduate and undergraduate students that will be available for viewing on the UMSS website and during the in-person event on April 15, which is open to the public,” says Melissa Maginnis, the associate director of the [Center for Undergraduate Research](#) (CUGR). Sascha Deri, founder of bluShift Aerospace, will give the UMSS keynote address, “Boldly Venturing in Space, the Maine Way” at 1:30 p.m. April 15 in the Field House. [Registration](#) is required. Luke McKinney, a graduate student in the Intermedia Master of Fine Arts program, is presenting recent work at the Student Symposium. “My research covers a broad range of niche topics. I see this as a good opportunity to meet people who can add to my research and who could become possible collaborators,” McKinney says. Also on April 15: Imagine That! Bio-based Factory of the Future, 12:30 p.m. with Portland Gateway director Pips Veazey, who will discuss the planned biobased factory of the future with the Advanced Structures and Composites Center director Habib Dagher on LinkedIn Live; and the Maine Food Waste Solutions Summit 2022, 9 a.m.–noon, a virtual event co-hosted by UMaine Portland Gateway and the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, featuring student projects, panel discussions and a presentation by Congresswoman Chellie Pingree. Contact: Tilan Copson 207.581.3038, tilan.copson@maine.edu

University of Maine announces summer institute for educators

04 Apr 2022

The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, in collaboration with the Maine Department of Education, will host the first University of Maine Educators Institute this summer. “Supporting Emotional and Behavioral Well-Being in School Communities: From Surviving to Thriving” will be a virtual event held June 22–23. This new UMaine Summer University program will feature renowned experts in education and mental health disciplines from Maine and beyond. Participants will engage in interactive workshops as individuals or as part of a school-based team. The program will feature six strands: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice; Positive Behavioral Intervention Support (PBIS); Trauma and Resilience; Social-Emotional Learning (SEL); Student-Centered Learning; and Exploring Wabanaki Studies. “Last fall, we reached out to the state’s teachers and school administrators to ask about their current priorities and needs. Addressing students’ mental, emotional and behavioral health quickly rose to the top,” says Penny Bishop, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. “We’re excited to work with this committed group of educators to tackle these important challenges, to help them plan for the year to come and to collaboratively strengthen our schools and communities.” Participants have the option of earning three graduate credits or attending for professional development CEUs. More information, including registration options, is online: umaine.edu/summeruniversity/educators-institute. The University of Maine Educators Institute is one of three opportunities available to educators as part of Summer University. Also in its first year is the University of Maine Climate Change Workshop: “Climate Change Teaching Tools,” July 12–13. Now in its sixth successful year, The Summer Technology Institute: “Cooperation Across Environments and Boundaries” runs Aug. 2–4. All events are virtual and participants may choose to attend for graduate credit or professional development. Learn more about summer programming for educators at umaine.edu/summeruniversity/summer-workshops.

CCI research associate, alumnus lead development of World Ocean Explorer Deep Sea Exhibit

04 Apr 2022

The [World Ocean Explorer DEEP SEA exhibit](#), a first-of-its-kind immersive virtual aquarium showcasing deep-sea discoveries, has been launched by the [World Ocean Observatory](#) and [Schmidt Ocean Institute](#). The virtual aquarium allows users to explore deep-sea ecosystems that cannot be observed in a traditional aquarium setting, such as hydrothermal vents, whale falls and interactions with 3D models of newly discovered species. The project was envisioned by Peter Neill, director of the World Ocean Observatory and a University of Maine Climate Change Institute research associate, and produced by CCI alumnus Bjorn Grigholm. More information is on the [CCI website](#).

Mount Desert Islander features Wallhead talk

04 Apr 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) highlighted an online talk hosted by the Bar Harbor Garden Club featuring Matthew Wallhead, horticulture specialist with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and environmental horticulture professor at the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture, at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 14. The presentation is called “Mosses for a Residential Landscape,” and Walhead will discuss how to create an eco-friendly landscape with mosses that are low maintenance, forgiving and beneficial to a garden. This presentation is one of the monthly programs offered by the Bar Harbor Garden Club to the public, but non-members are requested to make a reservation by emailing president@barharborgardenclub.org or calling 207.460.8496.

BDN advances Extension gardening Q&A in Caribou

04 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s Q&A session for home gardeners noon–1 p.m. on Saturday, April 16 at the Caribou Public Library, 30 High St. The session is free and open to the public; no registration needed. Free seeds for pollinator-friendly plants, soil test kits and gardening bulletins will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207-942-7396 or katherine.garland@maine.edu.

PenBay Pilot features Sunnarborg talk

04 Apr 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared information about an upcoming presentation by University of Maine Ph.D. student Julia Sunnarborg about the principles of environmental DNA. The online webinar will take place at noon on Tuesday, April 19, and is hosted by Merryspring Nature Center.

Hargest speaks to Sun Journal about gardening for beginners

04 Apr 2022

Pamela Hargest, horticulture professional for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was interviewed by the [Sun Journal](#) about vegetable gardening for beginners. Hargest said that soil tests are very important in Maine. “Our native soils aren’t naturally adapted to grow high-maintenance crops such as vegetables and annual flowers. Gardeners can use a soil test to amend their garden soil to the specific needs of the crops they grow,” Hargest said.

Island Institute highlights Maine Aquaculture Roadmap

04 Apr 2022

The [Island Institute](#) shared information about the [Maine Aquaculture Hub’s 2022-2032 Roadmap](#), which outlines a series of tangible and attainable steps to help meet the rising demand for seafood, particularly seafood that is high in quality and sustainably grown. The report was developed by the Maine Aquaculture Hub, which is a collaboration between Maine Sea Grant, University of Maine’s School of Marine Sciences and UMaine Cooperative Extension, as well as the Maine Aquaculture Association, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, Coastal Enterprises Inc. and the Aquaculture Research Institute.

Media boosts UMaine \$3 million fundraising to upgrade athletic facilities

04 Apr 2022

[Athletic Business](#), the [Portland Press Herald](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) reported that the University of Maine has raised about \$3 million to build new athletic facilities, including new facilities for its women’s soccer, field hockey and softball programs, and a multipurpose arena on campus that would be the home court for the basketball programs, home to the football team and include state-of-the-art training facilities and renovations at Alford Arena.

Klimis-Zacas’ research about healing wounds with phenolic extract featured in media

04 Apr 2022

[Verve Times](#), [R1 News](#), [ZME Science](#), [AZO Life Sciences](#), [New Atlas](#), [International Business Times](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [ScienMag](#), [SciTech Daily](#), [News Medical](#), [Ruetir](#), [Knowridge Science Report](#) and the [American Physiological Society](#) highlighted research conducted by a group led by Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, professor of clinical nutrition at the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture. The researchers found that a gel based on phenolic extract of wild blueberries with an antioxidant action could favor the mechanisms underlying the healing of sores, ulcers and burns, accelerating their closure.

Kryszak's work highlighted in music reviews, Moving Classics TV

04 Apr 2022

Alan Kryszak, a member of the University of Maine at Machias creative arts faculty, has produced his third solo album, "Murmur Rations," reviewed in the Machias Valley News Observer and [Bangor Daily News](#). The European venue Moving Classics TV published [a Q&A with Kryszak](#) about his 35-year career as a composer and guitarist, including a video premiere of a piano work performed by German pianist Anna Heller.

Dominique DiSpirito: UMaine 2022 Valedictorian and Outstanding Graduating Student

04 Apr 2022

Dominique DiSpirito of Woonsocket, Rhode Island is the 2022 University of Maine Valedictorian and the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Honors College. DiSpirito is a political science major, with minors in legal studies, and ecology and environmental sciences, as well as an Honors College student. She is a 2021 Truman Scholar, and her other numerous collegiate honors include the 2021 Heart and Soul Campus Compact Award, and two Servant Heart Scholarships. Since 2019, DiSpirito has worked with professor Kate Ruskin of the School of Biology and Ecology on a research project examining

stakeholder preferences on freshwater resource management in Acadia National Park. DiSpirito's research earned a Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) Fellowship and culminated in a paper currently under review for publication. She also was named a 2020 Maine Policy Scholar for her project focusing on community natural resource management policy. During semester breaks in 2019–20, DiSpirito interned with the Solid Waste Division in her hometown, assisting with inspections and enforcement for the city's curbside recycling program. Last year, she interned with the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions' Food Waste Solutions team, working with municipalities across Maine to set up and maintain community food recycling pilot programs. Research for DiSpirito's Honors thesis, "Envisioning a Bold Food Waste Policy for Maine: A Mixed-Methods Study into the Context of Landfill Diversion of Food Waste," was funded by a CUGR Fellowship and the Rendle A. Jones '65 and Patricia K. Jones '65 Honors Thesis Fellowship. She presented her findings at the 2022 Maine Sustainability and Water Conference and the University of Maine Student Symposium. DiSpirito is president of All Maine Women Honor Society and Wilson Center Interfaith Group that she cofounded. She also has been a student coordinator for the Maine Day Meal Packout and It's Personal Campaign, and a co-organizer of UMaine's International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day programs. This summer, DiSpirito will be working in Washington, D.C., as part of the Truman Scholar Summer Institute. She will return to Maine in August to continue the work she started in her thesis research, focused on food waste and waste management issues in the state. Ultimately, DiSpirito will pursue law school. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** My uncle told me before my freshman year that college would be the place where I find myself, and he was 100% right. While my time here has equipped me with so many experiences and skills that will prepare me for a stellar career in environmental justice advocacy, the most valuable asset UMaine has given me is a strong sense of self and empowerment to step up and into that career. As a first-generation college student, I entered UMaine with a lot of passion and enthusiasm, but also a lot of insecurity and feelings of otherness. The coursework, extracurricular opportunities, service projects and amazing faculty here allowed me to build confidence in myself as a change agent in my communities. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** The work I've done in the Honors College community has drastically changed my perspective of the world and my place in it. The Honors College here is also about so much more than academic excellence. We are "thinking hard about things that matter," and then putting in the work to make a difference. My experiences with the Maine Day Meal Packout, It's Personal Campaign, and Honors College Student Advisory Board gave me perspective and confidence that my curriculum could not. Knowing that I can make a difference because I've handed off boxes of meals I helped fund to food bank operators or leaving Hannaford with four shopping carts of food for the Black Bear Exchange is life-changing. It is why I know that I can take up the issue of food waste or environmental justice or climate justice and make a difference alongside others who are working toward a brighter future. **Why UMaine?** There's such a strong culture at UMaine (and Maine at large) of supporting our communities, whatever they may be. I have found this culture nearly everywhere I turn, whether among the faculty members who go above and beyond for students or students who go out of their way to check in with each other during difficult times. We have a resilient community here, where people can lean on each other, and that helps us go further than what we could accomplish alone. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** UMaine should not be underestimated for its small size. As the R1 distinction highlights, there are so many opportunities for students to pursue their interests and discover new horizons, both academically and personally. The Honors College, in particular, has been an endless well of opportunities and connections for me throughout my time here. Honors has allowed me to find and pursue work that I'm passionate about, often stepping out of the classroom and into the community. From the very beginning, Honors coursework allowed me to explore perspectives and topics and work beyond my discipline and my comfort zone. The interdisciplinary and diverse perspectives reflected in Honors spaces gave me precisely the exposure needed to find the work that my heart and soul is in. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** There are several UMaine community members that have gone above and beyond to support my academic and personal journey here. Dr. Katharine Ruskin and Dr. Melissa Ladenheim have provided unconditional support and encouragement since my very first semester, watching me find my voice and grow into my passions. Dr. Ruskin taught me so much as a student, as a researcher, and as a human throughout the last four years. And Dr. Ladenheim's reliable and no-nonsense advice has been a guiding star through so many difficult times. The practical insights and enthusiasm Dr. Robert Glover brings as my thesis advisor has helped me design and execute a project that is both personally and academically significant. From the very first POS 100 class to the Truman Scholarship and beyond, Dr. Mark Brewer's fierce role as a coach and champion encouraged me to take chances on myself. These faculty members are just a few; there are so many community members that have made a huge difference in my life and I'm so thankful for the person I am today because of their kindness. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** My biggest piece of advice is to bet on yourself. Whether it's a question you're nervous about asking a professor or a scholarship you feel like is out of your league, trust your gut and go for it. When you are willing to take a chance on yourself, you'll find so many fantastic opportunities and connections with amazing people that you would have missed if you hadn't. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Maxwell Burtis: UMaine 2022 salutatorian

04 Apr 2022

Maxwell Burtis of Brunswick, Maine is the 2022 University of Maine Salutatorian. Burtis is a mechanical engineering major with a neuroscience minor, and an Honors College student. His numerous academic honors include the Thomas P. Hosmer Scholarship in Mechanical Engineering and the J&M Gorman Mechanical Engineering Scholarship. Since 2018, Burtis has been the co-founder and chief technology officer of Ferda Farms LLC oyster farm on New Meadows River. He started the company with help from UMaine's Foster Center for Innovation to experiment with the husbandry techniques of emerging viable species, and to create the machinery needed to make the raising of farmed seafood more efficient and accessible. Burtis is responsible for most of the farm's daily operations management and long-term development strategy. At the 2019 Maine Business Challenge, he won the \$10,000 first place and \$5,000 innovation prize for his work in developing this cutting-edge company. On campus, Burtis has been a member of the Maine Bound Adventure Center trip staff and a member of the UMaine chapter of Engineers Without Borders. He is a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and president of the UMaine chapter of Pi Tau Sigma Honor Society, and has had leadership roles on the Class of 2022 Council, Student Alumni Ambassadors and Maine Effective Altruism. In summer 2018, Burtis was a mechanical engineering intern with Starc Systems. As a student researcher, he designed a small-scale solar-powered oyster upweller, and in the Juneau Icefield Research Program, an eight-week Earth science field research expedition into the Alaskan backcountry, he investigated the use of drones for Arctic research and examined bedrock fracture density and orientation using photogrammetry models. His research received multiple funding awards, including two Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) Fellowships, a College of Engineering Research Award and a Thomas E. Lynch Honors Thesis Scholarship. Burtis' Honors thesis is "The Performance Assessment of a Small Lighter-than-Air Vehicle for Earth Science Remote Sensing Missions." In addition to leading Ferda Farms, Burtis plans to pursue graduate school to study data science. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** My time at UMaine has taught me that my dreams can become my reality. UMaine has enabled me to explore the polar regions, start a business, build artificial intelligence, fall in love with the outdoors and hopefully publish my own research. At UMaine, I have cultivated my passions, found inspiration and have been supported by excellent mentors throughout. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** While participating in UMaine's Juneau Icefield Research Program, I was disconnected from the rest of the world for six weeks while I conducted field research deep in the Alaskan backcountry. I was completely removed from my family, friends, way of life and former responsibilities. In this novel environment, and without the familiar context of my life back in Maine, I had the opportunity to clearly evaluate my identity. Despite the beauty of the Alaskan backcountry, I feel like I belong on Maine's coast working to better the community that I grew up in. **Why UMaine?** I have

found that UMaine fosters an environment where people care for their communities, appreciate hard work, value tradition and uphold integrity of character in both students and faculty. UMaine supports world-class research, allowing all students to be on the cutting edge of multiple fields from additive manufacturing to glaciology. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program, or set of resources that helped you succeed?** UMaine has a place for everyone to succeed. Between research opportunities, clubs, organizations, intramural sports and entrepreneurial support, most students can find a role to excel in. The Foster Center for Innovation offered free business coaching to my startup company, which was critical to winning the UMaine Business Challenge in 2019 and the continued growth of the business. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** My honors thesis adviser, professor Wilhelm Friess, has consistently pushed me, allowing me to accomplish more than I ever thought I was capable of. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Talk to all the professors you can about their research and your interests. You never know who may be able to find a perfect role for you to grow academically. Also, find upperclassmen whom you look up to through extracurriculars, and ask them how they made the most out of their time at UMaine. By the time many students reach their junior or senior year, they have found their niche and have found their way at excelling in it, and much can be learned from their successes and failures. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine names 2022 valedictorian and salutatorian

04 Apr 2022

Political science major [Dominique DiSpirito](#) of Woonsocket, Rhode Island is the 2022 University of Maine valedictorian and [Maxwell Burtis](#) of Brunswick, Maine, a mechanical engineering major, is this year's salutatorian. Both are students in the UMaine Honors College. "Dominique and Maxwell are truly outstanding members of our community and their UMaine student experiences are what the state's R1 research university is all about," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "Both took advantage of UMaine's breadth and depth to not only excel academically, but get engaged and make their own contributions. "From her leadership in All Maine Women and her research in Acadia National Park and throughout Maine, to her work this summer in Washington, D.C. as a Truman Scholar, Dominique is making a difference in our university community and in the state. In addition to his numerous leadership roles on campus and research experiences that include the Juneau Icefield, Max tapped the Foster Innovation Center to help launch his oyster farm. We are incredibly proud of



their achievements." [caption id="" align="alignright" width="200"] Dominique DiSpirito[/caption] DiSpirito is a political science major, with minors in legal studies, and ecology and environmental sciences. She is a 2021 Truman Scholar, and her other numerous collegiate honors include the 2021 Heart and Soul Campus Compact Award, and two Servant Heart Scholarships. Since 2019, DiSpirito has worked with professor Kate Ruskin of the School of Biology and Ecology on a research project examining stakeholder preferences on freshwater resource management in Acadia National Park. DiSpirito's research earned a Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) Fellowship and culminated in a paper currently under review for publication. She also was named a 2020 Maine Policy Scholar for her project focusing on community natural resource management policy. During semester breaks in 2019–20, DiSpirito interned with the Solid Waste Division in her hometown, assisting with inspections and enforcement for the city's curbside recycling program. Last year, she interned with the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions' Food Waste Solutions team, working with municipalities across Maine to set up and maintain community food recycling pilot programs. Research for DiSpirito's Honors thesis, "Envisioning a Bold Food Waste Policy for Maine: A Mixed-Methods Study into the Context of Landfill Diversion of Food Waste," was funded by a CUGR Fellowship and the Rendle A. Jones '65 and Patricia K. Jones '65 Honors Thesis Fellowship. She presented her findings at the 2022 Maine Sustainability and Water Conference and the University of Maine Student Symposium. DiSpirito is president of All Maine Women Honor Society and Wilson Center Interfaith Group that she cofounded. She also has been a student coordinator for the Maine Day Meal Packout and It's Personal Campaign, and a co-organizer of UMaine's International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day programs. "My uncle told me before my freshman year that college would be the place where I find myself, and he was 100% right," says DiSpirito, a first-generation college student. "While my time here has equipped me with so many experiences and skills that will prepare me for a stellar career in environmental justice advocacy, the most valuable asset UMaine has given me is a strong sense of self and empowerment to step up and into that career." This summer, DiSpirito will be working in Washington, D.C. as part of the Truman Scholar Summer Institute. She will return to Maine in August to continue the work she started in her thesis research, focused on food waste and waste management issues in the state. Ultimately,



DiSpirito will pursue law school. [caption id="" align="alignright" width="200"] Maxwell Burtis[/caption] Burtis is a mechanical engineering major with a neuroscience minor. His numerous academic honors include the Thomas P. Hosmer Scholarship in Mechanical Engineering and the J&M Gorman Mechanical Engineering Scholarship. Since 2018, Burtis has been the co-founder and chief technology officer of Ferda Farms LLC oyster farm on New Meadows River. He started the company with help from UMaine's Foster Center for Innovation to experiment with the husbandry techniques of emerging viable species, and to create the machinery needed to make the raising of farmed seafood more efficient and accessible. Burtis is responsible for most of the farm's daily operations management and long-term development strategy. At the 2019 Maine Business Challenge, he won the \$10,000 first place and \$5,000 innovation prize for his work in developing this cutting-edge company. On campus, Burtis has been a member of the Maine Bound Adventure Center trip staff and a member of the UMaine chapter of Engineers Without Borders. He is a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, president of the UMaine chapter of Pi Tau Sigma Honor Society, and has had leadership roles on the Class of 2022 Council, Student Alumni Ambassadors and Maine Effective Altruism. In summer 2018, Burtis was a mechanical engineering intern with Starc Systems. As a student researcher, he designed a small-scale solar-powered oyster upweller, and in the Juneau Icefield Research Program, an eight-week Earth science field research expedition into the Alaskan backcountry, he investigated the use of drones for arctic research and examined bedrock fracture density and orientation using photogrammetry models. His research received multiple funding awards, including two Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) Fellowships, a College of Engineering Research Award and a Thomas E. Lynch Honors Thesis Scholarship. Burtis' Honors thesis is "The Performance Assessment of a Small Lighter-than-Air Vehicle for Earth Science Remote Sensing Missions." "My time at UMaine has taught me that my dreams can become my reality," Burtis says. "UMaine has enabled me to explore the polar regions, start a business, build artificial intelligence, fall in love with the outdoors and hopefully publish my own research. At UMaine, I have cultivated my passions, found inspiration, and have been supported by excellent mentors throughout." In addition to leading Ferda Farms, Burtis plans to pursue graduate school to study data science. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Fogler Library offers two new diversity resource pages for April

05 Apr 2022

Fogler Library has created two new diversity resource pages for the month of April:

- LGBTQ+ Resources — The university has historically celebrated Pride Week in April. Fogler has put together a [guide](#) to the many LGBTQ+ resources available through the library.
- Arab American Heritage Month Resources — Fogler is celebrating April as National Arab American Heritage Month with a [guide](#) to the resources available through the library.

Inaugural UMaine Career Ready Games awards ceremony is April 7

05 Apr 2022

The awards ceremony for the inaugural Career Ready Games at the University of Maine will be held at 12:30 p.m. April 7 in the North Pod, Memorial Union. More than 100 students signed up for the Career Ready Games, a virtual competition in which participants demonstrate their career-ready skills through a series of challenges including an elevator pitch, a cover letter, a behavioral interview experience, an ethical case study and trivia questions about careers. The competition and recognition ceremony, open to all UMaine students, is a collaboration between the Maine Business School and the UMaine Career Center. This event was made possible by a generous contribution from Enterprise. "The Career Ready Games were created in response to student requests for opportunities to compete among their classmates. After securing funding from Enterprise, we were able to develop an innovative opportunity for students to practice and enhance their career-ready skills," says Taylor Ashley, Maine Business School internship advisor. During the awards ceremony, students will receive a Career Essential Kit and cash prizes. The three highest-performing teams will designate funds to donate to local nonprofits. "We're thrilled that the Career Ready Games attracted a diverse set of students from across campus," says Jason Harkins, associate dean of the Maine Business School. "Initiatives like this meaningfully impact the career outcomes of students that participate by helping them to develop skills that employers expect."

Phi Beta Kappa welcomes visiting scholar, sociologist Marta Tienda

05 Apr 2022

Delta Maine Chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society at the University of Maine will welcome renowned sociologist Marta Tienda (Princeton University) April 19–20 as its 2022 Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar. As part of her visit, Tienda will visit with students across campus, deliver a public lecture and take part in a roundtable discussion with UMaine faculty members. Tienda will deliver a public lecture titled "Higher Education as Integration Policy," at 4:30 p.m. April 19 at Buchanan Alumni House. Her talk will argue that restoring the nation's unconditional commitment to quality public education is essential not only to revive economic mobility and restore broadly shared prosperity, but also to broaden the national project of integration beyond race and national origins. Using her personal biography as a prologue, Tienda will provide a 50-year retrospective that illustrates how the national

project of integration eroded as the population became more diverse and social mobility stagnated against a backdrop of rising economic inequality. At 4:30 April 20 in Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall, Tienda will be joined by UMaine faculty members Nicholas Micinski, Lisa Neuman, Brian Pitman and Amy Fried for a roundtable discussion titled "Is Demography Destiny? Diversity and its Discontents." The conversation will address the changing ethno-racial composition of the U.S. population and discuss whether and how diversity undermines cohesion on college campuses. Tienda is the Maurice P. During '22 Professor in Demographic Studies and a professor of sociology and public affairs, with joint affiliations in the Office of Population Research and the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs. From 1997–2002, she served as director of the Office of Population Research. Tienda is co-author and co-editor of several books, including "Divided Opportunities" (1988), "The Color of Opportunity" (2001), "Youth in Cities" (2002), "Ethnicity and Causal Mechanisms" (2005), "Multiple Origins, Uncertain Destinies" (2006), "Hispanics and the Future of America" (2006) and "Africa on the Move" (2006). She has published over 200 scholarly papers in academic journals and edited collections, as well as numerous research bulletins and articles for a lay audience. She holds a bachelor's degree in Spanish from Michigan State University and a master's degree and Ph.D., both in sociology, from the University of Texas at Austin. She received honorary doctorates from The Ohio State University (2002), Lehman College (2003) and Bank Street College (2006). Tienda's research interrogates how ascribed attributes acquire their social and economic significance by investigating racial, ethnic and gender variations in social inequality. She is co-author of "The Hispanic Population of the United States" (1987), the first national comparison of the major nationality groups. She also has written extensively about equity and access to higher education and lectured about consequences of underinvestment in public education. Tienda held appointments at the University of Chicago, where she served as chair of the Department of Sociology and editor of the "American Journal of Sociology," and the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She is past president of the Population Association of America and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences and the American Academy of Education. She also serves on several philanthropic organizations. Since 1956, the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Program has been offering undergraduates the opportunity to spend time with some of America's most distinguished scholars. The purpose of the program is to contribute to the intellectual life of the campus by making possible an exchange of ideas between the visiting scholars and the resident faculty and students. Phi Beta Kappa is America's oldest Greek-letter organization and national academic honor society. The Delta of Maine chapter of Phi Beta Kappa received its charter at UMaine in 1922. The purpose of the honorary society is to recognize and encourage scholarship, friendship and cultural interests. For more information, contact Delta of Maine Chapter President Tim Cole at tmcole@maine.edu.

Calderwood webinar featured in Country Folks Grower

05 Apr 2022

[Country Folks Grower](#) featured a webinar presentation led by Lily Calderwood, University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, aimed at demystifying the process of finding farmworkers and applying for H-2A visa farmworkers. Calderwood advised farmers to start early, as the program has strict deadlines. Farmers must submit their applications at least 80 days before the start of work, preferably before May, to avoid visa delays that can hurt their harvest.

Centralmaine.com features Extension farm labor webinar

05 Apr 2022

[Centralmaine.com](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension hosting an online discussion about farm labor guidelines on Tuesday and Thursday, April 19 and 21. These two programs will be led by Brian Cleasby from the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division. The April 19 session will focus on the requirements of the H-2A program. The April 21 session will cover the Fair Labor Standards Act. A question-and-answer period will follow both presentations. More information, including dates and registration links, is available online at extension.umaine.edu.

BDN and WABI report on Cohen Lecture

05 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WABI-5 \(Bangor\)](#) reported on the 2022 Cohen Lecture, where Former Secretaries of Defense Gen. James Mattis and William Cohen referred to Russian president Vladimir Putin as a war criminal. Mattis, who was President Donald Trump's first Secretary of Defense, said he thinks Putin has already lost the war he started. "He's going to lose this gamble, and he's going to lose it big," Mattis said. Meanwhile, Cohen emphasized America's duty to learn from its mistakes for a better future. "The one great thing about democracies is that we're willing to look at our flaws, the mistakes we've made, and say how do we avoid those mistakes? How do we make ourselves better?" Cohen said. Medal of Honor recipient Cpl. Kyle Carpenter also presented at the Cohen Lecture.

AP interviews Gill for article about climate change 'doomers'

05 Apr 2022

The [Associated Press](#) interviewed Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology & plant ecology with the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, for an article about climate "doomism." Gill told the AP that she has noticed fewer people telling her climate change isn't real and more "doomers" who believe nothing can be done. "I refuse to write off or write an obituary for something that's still alive. We are not through a threshold or past the threshold. There's no such thing as pass-fail when it comes to the climate crisis. It's really, really, really hard to walk people back from that ledge," Gill said. [U.S. News and World Report](#), [Yahoo! News](#), [the Independent](#), [ABC News](#), and various outlets internationally cited or shared the AP report.

Lukens to deliver talk for USM 2021-2022 Gloria S. Duclos Convocation

05 Apr 2022

Margo Lukens, a University of Maine professor English, will give an online talk about her book "'Still They Remember Me': Penobscot Transformer Tales, Vol. 1" at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, as part of the University of Southern Maine 2021-2022 Gloria S. Duclos Convocation Committee, "The Rivers We Belong To: Grounding Indigenous Presence and Sovereignty." The talk also will feature volume co-authors Carol Dana, Penobscot language keeper, and Conor Quinn, USM linguist and coordinator of critical and community languages; as well as the illustrator for it, Shannon Sockalexis. The authors will

address topics of language revitalization, the history and culture conveyed by Penobscot traditional stories, and the collaborative work necessary to create this bilingual book.

Maine State Science Olympiad for high school students to take place April 9

06 Apr 2022

The Maine State Science Olympiad will be held at the University of Maine on Saturday, April 9. Science Olympiad is a nationwide STEM competition where teams of high school students compete in science-related events, with the top teams advancing up to national levels. Maine has held a state-level tournament every year since the first national Science Olympiad in the mid-1980s. Over the course of the daylong tournament, nine teams from six Maine high schools will compete in 23 STEM events in various subjects, including ornithology, forensics, astronomy and remote sensing. Participants will also have the opportunity to attend tours of campus facilities; a presentation about UMaine Early College and the College of Engineering; and Planetarium Show at the Versant Power Astronomy Center. Registration and check-in for the event, sponsored by UMaine Early College, begins at 7:30 a.m. in the lobby of Neville Hall, with opening remarks following at 8:15 a.m. in Room 101. The tournament will culminate with an awards ceremony at 4 p.m. in 101 Neville Hall, sponsored by volunteers from Best Buy in Bangor. Opening and closing ceremonies will be open to the public. For more information, visit the [Maine Science Olympiad web page](#) or contact Frank Dudish, frank.dudish@maine.edu.

Kirsten Dennen receives the George C. Marshall Army ROTC Cadet Award

06 Apr 2022

U.S. Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Black Bear Battalion Cadet Kirsten Dennen of Scarborough has been named the George C. Marshall Award winner from the University of Maine. Only the top 275 cadets out of over 6,000 nationwide receive this annual award. The award is named in honor of Army General George C. Marshall, who served as the chief of staff of the Army, and secretary of both state and defense. He was the author of the restorative Marshall Plan and was the only career soldier to be awarded a Nobel Peace Prize. Cadet Dennen was selected for her professional excellence, leadership, personal integrity, and selfless service to the nation. "Cadet Dennen is a superior example of the character, competence, and commitment that Army ROTC inspires and instills in future military officers," says Dallas Meachum, assistant professor of military science, UMaine Army ROTC. Dennen is a 2018 graduate of Scarborough High School and a UMaine chemistry major. She will be commissioned on May 6, 2022, as an armor officer and will be assigned to Fort Benning, Georgia, for training.

Mitchell Center to host talk on art as an agent of environmental and social change, April 18

06 Apr 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk on how art can help solve our most pressing environmental and social problems on Monday, April 18, 3–4 p.m. Countless artists, critics, curators and organizations are exploring new ways of looking at the problems we face, collecting and using data, and communicating with the public. "Creative ecologies" is a new field that has emerged over the past decade at the intersection of culture and environment and includes Eco Art, sustainable design and new media strategies. In this talk, "Art as an Agent of Change: The Emergence of Creative Ecologies," UMaine's Justin Wolff and Susan Smith will present an overview of these developments and share information about current and upcoming programs at UMaine that relate to art's vital contributions to sustainability solutions. Wolff is professor of art history and chair of the Department of Art at UMaine. He teaches courses on American, modern and contemporary art, as well as art theory and criticism. His research focuses on 19th- and 20th-century American art and visual culture and explores the intersections of art and science. Smith is director of the Intermedia Program and interim director of the Lord Hall Gallery at UMaine. She is also an artist whose practice embraces community-based collaboration and site-based performance and installations. Her recent work focuses on the struggle of asylum seekers on the U.S. southern border and the need for an artist to witness and participate within the community. All talks in the Mitchell Center's [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Updates for this event will be posted to the [event webpage](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196 or hallsworth@maine.edu.

Piscataquis Observer boosts Extension soil health webinar

06 Apr 2022

[The Piscataquis Observer](#) shared information about a free webinar for farmers on soil health management offered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension from 6–7:30 p.m. on April 20. Webinar topics include what soil health is, how it is measured and how to improve total soil health by managing a farm's cropping system. The webinar is free; registration is required on the [event webpage](#).

News Center Maine features UMaine cannabis course

06 Apr 2022

[News Center Maine](#) featured the University of Maine's introductory course to cannabis cultivation and science, taught by Cooperative Extension professor John Jemison. "I think there is going to be interest across the country to make this go, particularly as it does get legalized further," Jemison said.

Klimis-Zacas interviewed for MedicalResearch.com

06 Apr 2022

[MedicalResearch.com](#) interviewed Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, professor of clinical nutrition at the School of Food and Agriculture, about her research on the wound-healing power of phenolic extract from wild blueberries. Klimis-Zacas said, "Discovering new therapeutic modalities for wound healing, especially plant extracts will aid millions of people by decreasing chronic wound complications and amputation with subsequent effects on decreasing health care costs in the US and globally. This product will improve the quality of life and decrease hospital stays thus decreasing medical costs in people suffering from diabetic wounds, pressure ulcers, burns, severe trauma, venous leg ulcers, post-surgical wounds, scarring and other chronic health conditions."

Seven Days highlights UMaine surveying degree

06 Apr 2022

The Vermont publication [Seven Days](#) featured the University of Maine's surveying degree program in an article about the decrease in surveying professionals in the state. According to the article, the Vermont Society of Land Surveyors had 157 members 20 years ago. Now, it has just 74. Many are retiring, and few people are moving in to take their places, in part due to the lack of available degree programs aside from UMaine's.

Harpswell Anchor features Extension Tick Lab

06 Apr 2022

[The Harpswell Anchor](#) highlighted the role of the Tick Lab at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension in aiding in the public health battle against Maine's ticks. The column emphasized the importance of reporting tick bites to the lab. It said that if you recover a tick, preserve it with rubbing alcohol and have the doctor examine it or send it to the Tick Lab at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension for testing for \$15.

UMaine archivist creates campus building guide to celebrate Frederick Law Olmsted's 200th birthday

07 Apr 2022

April 26, 2022 marks the bicentennial of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted. His many notable achievements include producing an original design for the University of Maine campus, then known as the College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts of the State of Maine. In recognition of this milestone, University Archivist Matthew Revitt has created a [Guide to Researching UMaine's Campus and Buildings](#). The new guide is part of a nationwide celebration coordinated by the National Association for Olmsted Parks with the theme of "Celebrating Parks for All People." For more information about Olmsted, his projects and ways to join in the celebration, [see the Olmsted 200 webpage](#).

'The Maine Question' asks what it's like being a university president in the 21st century

07 Apr 2022

In 2018, Joan Ferrini-Mundy became the 21st president of the University of Maine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias. In 2021, she was appointed vice chancellor for research and innovation for the University of Maine System. Among her many leadership initiatives: the appointment of the President's Council on Diversity Equity and Inclusion to ensure foundational inclusive excellence, and chairing the UMS Science Advisory Board to stay abreast of fast-breaking scientific and medical developments in areas relevant for universities and the COVID-19 pandemic. In Episode 8 of Season 6 of "[The Maine Question](#)" podcast, Ferrini-Mundy, UMaine's second female president in history, discusses what it's like being a university president in the 21st century. She describes her daily routine, favorite tasks, the challenges she faces and her vision for the future of Maine's only public research university. This episode is the second in a two-part series featuring the president. Last week, she discussed what being an R1 university means for UMaine. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or "The Maine Question" [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

BDN highlights Maine Impact Week

07 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on Maine Impact Week, which will celebrate University of Maine faculty, students, community and their contributions to the social and economic advancement of the state and beyond, April 10–15. The public is invited to attend the more than 20 virtual and in-person events highlighting the impact of research and creative work produced by Maine's research university. A full list of events and details, including registration links, are on the [Maine Impact Week](#) website.

Settele interviewed for WMTW about impact of US sanctions on Russia

07 Apr 2022

Jim Settele, director and graduate coordinator of the School of Policy & International Affairs, was interviewed by [WMTW \(Channel 8, Portland\)](#) about the U.S. sanctions on Russia. Settele said that the sanctions are "the most significant" of their kind in modern history. "They're impactful on people in the country. The ruble has crashed. They can't do certain things in the country they want to. They are having difficulty supporting their military in certain places," Settele said. He expects the fighting to continue for months and for the outcome to have major ramifications for the future of Europe and the globe.

Maginnis speaks to WSJ about COVID BA.2 variant

07 Apr 2022

Melissa Maginnis, associate professor of microbiology, was interviewed by the [Wall Street Journal](#) about the COVID-19 Omicron BA.2 variant in the Northeast. Maginnis told the Wall Street Journal that the winter surge also likely left a large portion of the U.S. with increased resistance, because BA.2 is similar to the coronavirus version that recently infected millions of people. "It does seem that there's generally pretty good protection," Maginnis said.

UMaine research shows animal personalities change what role critters play in building the world around them

07 Apr 2022

Just like people, animals have personalities — and, like people, these individual differences in behavior may determine what role an animal plays in building

the world around it. “Mutualisms” are symbiotic relationships between animals: clownfish keeping stinging sea anemones clean in exchange for protection, or bats providing nutritious guano to pitcher plants as they provide a place to rest. These relationships not only benefit the species involved, but also provide the foundation for developing biodiversity through co-evolution and gene flow within populations. To understand how these relationships shape ecosystems, scientists need to understand what drives them in the first place. Animal personality is often overlooked in studies of ecology, but researchers at the University of Maine decided to see how unique behavioral types affect mutualistic interactions — specifically, between deer mice and the tree seeds that they hoard to eat, and disperse among the forest to germinate along the way. In a [study](#) published in the journal PNAS, UMaine scientists observed the behavior of deer mice at over 200 stations with red oak, white pine and beech seeds. The researchers classified the behavior as either negative or positive, depending on whether it gave the seeds a chance to germinate. For example, consuming the seed at the site was a negative interaction, while removing the seed and moving it intact at another site was considered positive. The mice were then put on a continuum, with more antagonistic individuals at the negative end of the spectrum and mutualistic individuals at the other. The researchers then looked to see whether individuals classified as “antagonistic” had personality traits (such as boldness measured in standard behavioral tests) in common. For example, an individual mouse’s timidity or boldness was measured by the amount of time spent at the end of an emergence tunnel before emerging. The results showed that while deer mice were found to be generally antagonistic toward all the varieties of seeds — that is their food, after all — individual mice were found to have far more mutualistic mannerisms than others depending on some other personality traits that they exhibited. Timid mice tended to be more antagonistic than their bold counterparts when it came to their behavior with large seeds like acorns, opting for the “safer” choice of taking the seed deep underground into a burrow where it can’t germinate or taking it to a secluded location to eat it instead of caching the seed on the surface. Bold mice, on the other hand, were more likely to behave antagonistically toward the smaller white pine and beech seeds, eating the seeds on-site or shortly thereafter rather than caching them for later. The different hoarding techniques of bold and timid mice suggest that their personalities affect their survival strategies — and the trees that grow in their wake. “These results are exciting as they show that each individual plays a slightly different role in an ecosystem, and this role is determined by their unique personality. Every mouse counts and its mind can potentially have cascading effects on ecosystems! This implies that we need to start rethinking the way we conserve and manage ecosystems, we need to start considering the role played by each individual,” says Alessio Mortelliti, an associate professor in the UMaine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology. The significance of animal personalities in these ecosystem-building mutualisms show that removing individuals with certain personality traits can have more of an impact on the dynamics of a habitat than previously thought — even beyond deer mice and their seeds. Previous research has shown that bolder individuals are more likely to be removed from populations via hunting or fishing. Studies have also shown that such personality traits might impact an animal’s ability to cope with changes in habitat like urbanization. “As far as we know, our study is the first to examine how personality traits might impact the strength of mutualisms. One of the reasons why this hasn’t been done before is probably because mutualisms, like most ecological processes, are so complex. I think it will be important to examine the role that personalities might play in other mutualisms, such as pollination. I think there is also a lot of potential for future studies examining the impact of personality traits on the seed dispersal mutualism. Specifically, it would be important to learn more about how personality might play into cache recovery and pilfering behavior,” says Allison Brehm, a UMaine Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology and principal author of the journal article. The study was funded by a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) grant and the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station (MAFES). Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Understanding the American marten could aid conservation, but habitat loss threatens its existence

08 Apr 2022

The American marten is more than just Maine’s cutest carnivore. The marten, which is prevalent throughout the state’s forests, can tell scientists a lot about the population dynamics of a number of other mammals, but forest disruptions and climate change threaten the species’ existence. A group of University of Maine researchers led by Alessio Mortelliti, an associate professor in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology, found that the American marten could serve as an effective “umbrella monitoring species” for 11 other mammal species in Maine. Umbrella monitoring species are those whose monitoring efforts are also found to overlap with a number of other species. As such, they are useful in reducing the effort required for important monitoring programs, which collect repeated observations or measurements of wildlife to ensure environmental management goals are being met. The marten may need more attention now than ever, as the loss of mature forests and habitat fragmentation have led to a decrease in marten populations. Their habitat overlaps with areas of interest for Maine’s forest industry, and climate change continues to transform the forests. In a study published in the journal [Nature Scientific Reports](#), UMaine researchers monitored 197 survey sites across Maine. They used camera traps, which are digital cameras that automatically take a picture when their infrared sensors are triggered by movement, like that of an animal, to take over 800,000 pictures of 27 different mammalian species over a four year period. The results showed that monitoring the American marten has an “umbrella effect” on 11 other mammals when it comes to detecting different magnitudes of population decline. The effectiveness varied depending on the species, with fishers, snowshoe hares, red squirrels and black bears consistently covered under the American marten “umbrella,” while porcupines and bobcats were least covered. Still, the findings show that multispecies monitoring is feasible, especially with an effective umbrella monitoring species like the American marten. “These results are exciting as they show that up to 11 mammalian species can be monitored simultaneously. This is great news for conservation and management agencies as they show that by focusing the efforts on one species, the marten, they will automatically be able to detect declines for many other species. This could lead to huge savings, which is not a small thing in a world where conservation resources are so limited,” says Mortelliti. The American marten monitoring study, which was funded by the Maine Department for Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) and the Cooperative Forestry Research Unit (CFRU), is now in its fifth year, with over a million photographs. The researchers have focused on developing a monitoring protocol specifically for the winter season, when detection of protected species, such as the Canada lynx, is more likely. The American marten monitoring protocol could be applied for monitoring in similar, temperate ecosystems in North America and Europe. That is, of course, if American marten populations can survive the disruption and destruction of their forest habitats. Mortelliti and his team have also studied the way that martens and their close relatives, the fisher, have responded to disturbed forest habitat in Maine. The researchers took their camera trap observations of the two species and looked at the sites where martens and fishers were found. They compared the importance of latitude and snow depth, the intensity of forest disturbance through remotely sensed images, and the reported numbers of marten and fisher by fur trappers on marten and fisher occurrence. The results, recently published in the journal [Ecosphere](#), showed that areas with more recent and more intense timber removal activities negatively affected marten and fisher populations. “We thought perhaps marten would be negatively influenced by the presence of the larger fisher, but our data indicated that’s not really the case here in Maine,” says Bryn Evans, recently graduated Ph.D. student and co-author of the study. “Instead, marten are choosing areas with the least forest disturbance, regardless of fisher presence. Climate change is also likely to impact marten more intensely than fisher. It’s critical to have a watchful eye over the coming years, so declines in the marten population can be identified quickly. That’s why it’s so wonderful that MDIFW will be continuing to monitor these species going forward.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Janelle Goff: MAT student impacts school community with ‘A Closet for Change’

08 Apr 2022

At the University of Maine, student teachers in the College of Education and Human Development are required to do a service project during their field placements. Janelle Goff of Smyrna Mills, Maine, a Master of Arts in Teaching student, created a community closet where students at Hodgdon Middle/High School can go to get donated clothes and personal items. “It was a perfect fit for me,” says Goff, who plans to graduate this May and become a middle or high school science teacher in Aroostook County. Read Goff's story on the [College of Education and Human Development website](#).

Yang receives NSF Early Career Award for nanomaterials research

08 Apr 2022

Yingchao Yang, assistant professor in the University of Maine Department of Mechanical Engineering, received a National Science Foundation (NSF) Early CAREER Award for his research on asymmetrical fracture of high-entropy two-dimensional nanomaterials. Yang is the fourth member of the Department of Mechanical Engineering to receive the prestigious award in 2021–22. Ultrathin two-dimensional (2D) nanomaterials have been extensively researched for use in devices like electronics, photonics, batteries and more. The stability of components made from the materials is critical to their reliability, but toughening the brittle materials — making them more resistant to fractures, for example — often comes at the cost of their mechanical strength. What’s more, 2D high entropy materials (HEMs), nanomaterials that consist of multiple elements, are asymmetrical, and thus harder to fracture. Yang’s research goal is to study the asymmetrical fractures of 2D HEMs. He will use the NSF funding to pursue four research objectives: fabricating stable 2D HEMs; conducting in situ tensile testing in a scanning electron microscope to visualize the deformation and fracture scenarios of 2D HEMs and their ripple effects understand the various impacts on the materials’ mechanical behaviors; developing and applying a multiscale framework to simulate fracture behaviors of 2D HEMs with focus on crack initiation and crack propagation; and visualizing crack evolutions at the atomic level via in situ tensile testing using transmission electron microscopy. Currently, the low fracture resistance of 2D materials makes it almost impossible to experimentally visualize crack propagation at atomic level. Yang’s research strives to reveal more detail about the mechanical behaviors of 2D nanomaterials. “I have been working on fracture of monolayer hexagonal boron nitride (*h*-BN). The fracture resistance of *h*-BN is approximately 10 times higher than that of graphene due to asymmetrical fracture at atomic level. After the finding was published in *Nature* in 2021, I got an idea: why not have more elements in 2D materials to promote the asymmetry? It is the driving force to fabricate 2D HEMs. The new category 2D materials are expected to have the greatest asymmetry, pushing up the potential in toughening 2D materials,” Yang says. Tougher 2D HEMs can potentially replace or be integrated into existing materials to provide additional mechanical strengthening for devices. “2D materials are extremely important for 2D electronics and other applications. In addition to fulfilling functions which regular 2D materials have, 2D HEMs make them the ideal for adding tear resistance to mechanical failure to enhance the devices reliability and service life,” Yang says. Yang also will develop an education module called “Atomic View of Materials” that will be shared with faculty at UMaine and other educators through an open-access website to improve the mechanics and materials education in mechanical engineering and related disciplines. Graduate and undergraduate students — especially underrepresented groups — will be mentored and trained to conduct scientific research throughout the project as well. The prestigious NSF awards support of early-career faculty and include a federal grant for research and education activities for five consecutive years. This year, the NSF also awarded Early CAREER Awards to assistant professors of mechanical engineering [Babak Hejrati](#) and [Qian Xue](#). Hejrati’s award will be used to establish a framework for helping people with mobility issues — such as older adults with mobility decline and those who have had a stroke — to improve their walking ability using wearable robots. Xue’s research focuses on the hydrodynamic sensing model of seal whiskers. Assistant professor of mechanical engineering [Sheila Edalatpour](#) also received an NSF Early CAREER Award in 2021 for research studying how the emission of heat changes when the materials involved are quantum-sized, or when they are separated by a gap of the same size as one or multiple atoms. “Benefiting from the strong support from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, the College of Engineering and the University, we junior faculty are able to establish independent research in our own research fields and secure national funds. With these credits above, it would help us and other junior faculty build up confidence and experience to compete for national funds from not only NSF but also other funding agencies. As UMaine has been designated an R1 university, all funding records, publications, and outreach activities would advance the ranking of UMaine,” Yang says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine SPIA named MITC Service Provider of the Year

08 Apr 2022

The Maine International Trade Center (MITC) named the University of Maine’s School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA) the Service Provider of the Year in its 2022 International Trade & Investment Awards. MITC is a member-based organization whose goal is to assist businesses in the state of Maine with international trade through technical assistance, trade counseling, training, seminars and more. MITC’s International Trade and Investment Awards recognize four organizations that have used creativity, innovation, and new strategies to strengthen their ties to global markets and help the Maine economy. The Service Provider of the Year Award is presented to a service provider that has established an international presence for the export of their service. MITC [highlighted](#) the fact that SPIA’s two-year graduate program that focuses on areas including trade and commerce, security, diplomacy and development, and international environmental and climate change policy has produced over 100 graduates in the last 12 years who have gone on to jobs that impact the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in Maine and beyond. “We invest in human potential, and there is an export here,” says Jim Settele, executive director of SPIA. “The export is well-educated Maine and international students. Our graduates go to difficult places around the world where they make an impact or they stay here in Maine to focus on public service for Maine people and businesses. Our program positions Maine to be more successful and more globally competitive. SPIA contributes to a better world.” Other winners of MITC’s 2022 International Trade & Investment Awards include DeepWater Buoyancy in Biddeford for Exporter of the Year, Puritan Medical Products in Guilford for Innovator of the Year and Adapt Agency in Portland for Foreign Direct Investor of the Year. “SPIA produces leaders with a global perspective, and to be honored with these other amazing organizations by MITC is validating and genuinely appreciated,” Settele says. MITC celebrated the honorees with a video on [LinkedIn](#).

UMaine faculty, students present at 2022 NEERO annual conference

08 Apr 2022

Several University of Maine faculty members and students are participating in this week’s New England Educational Research Organization (NEERO) annual conference, April 6-8 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire and online. It is the 53rd NEERO conference, and this year’s theme is “Expanding Equity in Educational Research.” Presentations featuring UMaine faculty and students include: April 6

- Assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Rebecca Buchanan chairing a virtual roundtable session, “Student Support and Building on Student Strengths.”

April 7

- Buchanan and Margaret Clark of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts presenting their research project, “Creativity, Care, and Community: Broadening Critical Reflection in Teacher Education.”
- George Mayfield, a candidate for Ed.D. in educational leadership, presenting his dissertation, “An Autoethnographic Analysis of Teacher Leadership of Collaborative Efforts in Challenging Times.”
- Dan Chadbourne, a candidate for Ed.D. in educational leadership, presenting his dissertation, “Who Are You? A Study of Authentic Leadership in Action.”
- Ian Mette, associate professor of educational leadership, presenting a mixed-methods study, “Supervision in a Rural State: Position, Spatiality, and Leadership Lessons to Drive Instructional Improvement Efforts.”
- Scott Harrison, an Ed.D. candidate in educational leadership, presenting his dissertation, “Strategic Management of Human Capital as Rural Praxis.”
- Brian Bannen, an Ed.D. candidate in educational leadership, presenting his dissertation, “The Effect of Leadership Change on School Climate.”
- Buchanan presenting research conducted with Tom Adams, secondary education and Honors College graduate (2021), “Citizenship Education in Middle School Classrooms During the COVID-19 Pandemic.”
- Mia Morrison, lecturer in instructional technology and Ed.D. candidate in educational leadership, presenting her dissertation, “The Role of Technology in the Development of PK-12 Teacher Leadership During COVID-19.”
- Nicole LaPlant, UMaine elementary education major, and Karalyn Kutzer, marketing major at the University of Southern Maine, sharing a poster presentation of their project, “Creating a Healthy Rural Ecosystem for Community Vitality: Equity in Educational Research.”

April 8

- Buchanan presenting a mixed-methods study conducted with Danielle McKinney-Harris, UMaine Ph.D. student in Sociology, and colleagues from Mercer University and SUNY Cortland, “Planning for Justice: A Comparative Examination of How Two Different Cohorts of Teacher Candidates Integrate Social Justice Pedagogies Into Their Instructional Planning.”
- Susan Thibedeau, Ed.D. candidate in educational leadership, presenting her dissertation, “The Unique Challenges of Equity Training in White Majority Schools.”

Piscataquis Observer advances UMaine Extension greenhouse plastic recycling program

08 Apr 2022

[The Piscataquis Observer](#) highlighted University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s Greenhouse Plastic Recycling program, which it expects to open April 19. UMaine Extension will offer drop-off sites statewide through Nov. 21.

Ink Link notes UMaine project highlighting state’s Indigenous heritage awarded National Trust for Historic Preservation grant

08 Apr 2022

[Ink Link](#) noted that a University of Maine project highlighting that state’s Indigenous heritage was a recipient of a Telling the Full History Preservation Fund grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Franklin Journal promotes first Educators Institute

08 Apr 2022

[The Franklin Journal](#) promoted the first University of Maine Educators Institute, co-hosted by UMaine’s College of Education and Human Development in collaboration with the Maine Department of Education. “Supporting Emotional and Behavioral Well-Being in School Communities: From Surviving to Thriving” will be a virtual event June 22–23. Register [online](#).

WABI, WMTW report on job fair at Hutchinson Center hosted in response to job loss from Belfast potato plant fire

08 Apr 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) and [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland) reported on an upcoming job fair 10 a.m.–2 p.m. April 12 at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center. The state is hosting the job fair in response to nearly 140 people losing their jobs after a fire destroyed the Penobscot McCrum potato processing facility in Belfast. Anyone is welcome to attend. More information can be found [online](#).

BDN advances UMaine research showing how animal personalities affect mutualistic interactions and the environment

08 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) advanced a new University of Maine study that explored how personalities of individual animals affect mutualistic interactions with other species, which can shape their surrounding environment. “These results are exciting as they show that each individual plays a slightly different role in an ecosystem, and this role is determined by their unique personality,” said Alessio Mortelliti, an associate professor in the UMaine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology.

Press Herald: UMaine basketball coach, former player honored on 50th anniversary of Title IX

08 Apr 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that University of Maine women's basketball coach Amy Vachon and former UMaine basketball player Emily Ellis were among the 10 women honored by the Maine Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association at its annual awards luncheon, held on the 50th anniversary of Title IX.

Times Record highlights UMaine 2022 valedictorian, salutatorian

08 Apr 2022

The [Times Record](#) highlighted 2022 University of Maine valedictorian Dominique DiSpirito, a political science major from Woonsocket, Rhode Island, and salutatorian Maxwell Burtis, a mechanical engineering major from Brunswick, Maine.

UMaine research on Falkland Island warrah translated to kid-friendly format

08 Apr 2022

A University of Maine-led research study about prehistoric human activity in the Falkland Islands [has been adapted into a kid-friendly format](#) for use in classrooms by the organization Science Journal for Kids. Science Journal for Kids is a nonprofit based in Texas whose mission is to improve scientific literacy by adapting research papers for school students, with over 300,000 readers annually. The website has published more than 200 adapted articles since its founding in 2015. Each adapted article comes with a list of recommended resources, such as a [link to the original journal article](#); various school curricula assignments, including for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Next Generation Science Standards; an audio version for visually impaired students and auditory learners, and more. The 2021 UMaine-led [study showed that](#), contrary to previous assumptions, it is very likely that Indigenous people from the Tierra del Fuego visited the islands centuries before the first European explorers arrived. The authors speculate that the visitors may have been ancestors of the Yaghan people, who at the time were nomadic hunter-gatherers and often traveled with domesticated foxes and, thus, probably brought the warrah to the islands centuries ago. "The moment we came across this paper, we knew it was perfect for our audience," says Tanya Dimitrova, managing editor of Science Journal for Kids. "It studies the warrah, a charismatic megafauna species, first noticed by Darwin, now extinct as a result of human activity. The fieldwork took place at an exotic (from a Northern Hemisphere perspective) distant archipelago, and the researchers used interdisciplinary methodology employing tools from paleoecology and archaeology, which is a great showcase for how interrelated different disciplines are in today's scientific research. The kid version of this paper is bound to be a hit with our young readers." [caption id="attachment_90065" align="aligncenter" width="800"]



CC BY 4.0:

creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/ | sciencejournalforkids.org/articles/how-did-the-warrah-cross-the-ocean-to-the-falkland-islands/[caption] The Science Journal for Kids webpage for the study includes links to "Follow a Researcher" videos by Kit Hamley; the Minnesota Science Teachers Education Project activity explaining radioactive dating using M&Ms; and other lesson plans exploring sediment cores, fossilization and garbage's connection to archaeology. Funding for the project came from the David B. Jones Foundation. "I was incredibly pleased to have been contacted by an editor at Science Journal for Kids about producing a kid-friendly version of our recent paper and even more pleased to learn about the incredible organization," says Hamley, first author of the study and National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellow at the UMaine Climate Change Institute. UMaine researchers who participated in the study with Hamley include her adviser, Jacquelyn Gill, an associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology; Daniel Sandweiss, a professor of anthropology; and Brenda Hall, a professor of glacial geology. "As scientists we are trained to disseminate our results to mostly scientific audiences and have to work extra hard to gain skills to talk about our science in an accessible manner," Hamley says. "I feel it is critical on many levels to make sure the science we do is accessible to the general public and specifically to kids, who are the future scientists, innovators and leaders of our world. The Science Journal for Kids article is absolutely one of the most engaging and fun products to come out of this research." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Jared Talbot: Sharing zebrafish of every stripe

11 Apr 2022

Jared Talbot wants to share zebrafish with the scientific community — and now he has an award to prove it. Talbot came to the University of Maine as an assistant professor in 2019 and is now one of five researchers at the university who specializes in using zebrafish as a model organism for scientific studies — a test subject used as a proxy for human beings. He first learned about zebrafish being used in research while he was an undergraduate at Cornell University and was instantly fascinated by the versatile fish. Scientists can genetically modify zebrafish to exhibit diseases and disorders similar to those of humans, then easily observe and experiment on the fast-growing fish throughout each stage of their development. "We can do these cool experiments in a fish that would be impossible in other model organisms," Talbot says. "They can lay an egg in the morning that grows into an embryo with functional muscle and brain by the

next day. For the first few days, they're transparent. You can look at the fish under a microscope and see to the very center of their body. We can watch tissues as they form, develop and degenerate in real time. That's the power of a zebrafish. It gives an extraordinarily clear view of development, while retaining the cellular context that would be lost in cell culture." Talbot went on to the University of Oregon, which he says is the birthplace of zebrafish biology harkening back to the 1970s with pioneering research by George Streisinger. As he completed his research about skeletal development with Charles Kimmel, Talbot found that the zebrafish biology community was inherently collaborative in a way that appealed to him as a scientist. "Everyone shares their tools prolifically," Talbot says. "This is one of the hidden advantages of zebrafish as a model organism — we have each other's backs in this famously collaborative community." The online [database of genetic data of zebrafish called ZFIN, which stands for Zebrafish Information Network](#), lists over 1,500 registered labs that use zebrafish for research. "Just a few years ago that number was below 1,000," Talbot says. "It is a community that keeps growing rapidly." It was that collaborative spirit that motivated Talbot, in part, to create [ZebraShare](#), a venue for scientists to share mutations of zebrafish that have effects that aren't relevant to their research, but other scientists might find useful or interesting. Talbot had already developed a streamlined process of creating zebrafish mutants using gene-cutting enzymes called TALENs, which he updated for use with CRISPR and then openly shared with fellow researchers. However, the process of making a zebrafish mutant that will be an effective test subject for a particular study is tricky. Pinpointing and mutating a gene is relatively easy, but the result of that mutation isn't truly known until the initially mutated fish have had a chance to breed and pass the mutation on to subsequent generations — a process that can take over a year. "Only then do you learn if it's a result that is important to your own project," Talbot says. "It takes enormous time and effort to generate and confirm a mutant; I think the community can become more efficient by quickly sharing information about mutants that have too-subtle effects, or sometimes too-severe ones, so someone else doesn't have to invest all that time independently." In his own research on muscle development, Talbot developed mutants of zebrafish that affected other parts of the body, but he didn't want these "backburner" mutants to go to waste. "I had a choice: I could just move on, start studying effects that are irrelevant to my own focus or I could give away the findings," Talbot says. "So, I decided to share my trove of off-topic mutants and data." Talbot started by offering his mutants to other zebrafish scientists at conferences, many of which were happily adopted for research projects. After one seminar, he hatched a plan with a long-time colleague April DeLaurier to set up a zebrafish sharing system that could be accessed by the whole community. They reached out to ZFIN to create ZebraShare, so zebrafish biologists around the world could swap and share their mutants. The zebrafish biology community took notice. Talbot was awarded the 2022 Chi-Bin Chien award from the International Zebrafish Society. Chi-Bin Chien was a famously generous zebrafish researcher who developed many tools for the zebrafish community that he handed out freely. When he passed away in 2011 the International Zebrafish Society established an award in his name. According to their website, this award "recognizes outstanding graduate students, postdoctoral trainees, or recently appointed faculty members from any country who have made significant contributions to the field of zebrafish research and have exhibited the generosity and openness that characterized and motivated Chi-Bin Chien." "I feel very bashful thinking of myself as generous, because our culture teaches us not to make that claim; however, the zebrafish community values generosity, and this award recognizes generosity, so I think this is the right moment to embrace that trait," Talbot says. Talbot insists, though, that science is never about one individual's work. He credits DeLaurier for co-creating ZebraShare, as well as Douglas Howe and Leyla Ruzicka, who he says "brought the idea to life in ZFIN." He also says there was also extensive student involvement in this project. For instance, Mika Gallati was a UMaine undergraduate when she started working with the mutants they first publicized through ZebraShare. Talbot hopes that winning the award will help spread the word about the ZebraShare system. "I think this can really take off," Talbot says. "When one finds an off-topic effect, it's tempting to just move on because every publication requires immense effort. But that defect, or even a lack of defect, could be interesting to someone else. So, now you can easily let people know what you've learned by making a ZebraShare entry in ZFIN. That way the information is available and someone else could potentially run with your finding. I think this is a way to help optimize the research efforts of a whole community." In the meantime, his lab at UMaine is currently working on "two big projects" with zebrafish, one looking at the cues that control muscle cell migration and growth, and another at muscle differentiation genes in connection with a disease, arthrogryposis. As for his own "backburner" zebrafish mutants, Talbot says, "We found a home for all of them." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Alumnus, graduate percussion ensemble on campus for concert, master class April 19–20

11 Apr 2022

University of Maine alumnus and percussion professor Scott Horey and his graduate percussion ensemble from the University of Science and Arts of Chiapas, Mexico, will be at his alma mater April 19–20 for a live performance, master class and international cultural exchange trip at the School of Performing Arts. April 20 at 7:30 p.m., Horey and his ensemble will perform a free public concert in Minsky Recital Hall featuring a mix of contemporary and pop, traditional Mexican and classical music genres. April 19 at 3 p.m., Horey and his graduate students will lead a master class and conversation about arts, international cultural exchange and musical camaraderie in Class of 1944 Hall, room 102. Horey, who studied under UMaine percussion professor Stuart Marrs and graduated from UMaine in 2007, is a professor of percussion at the Universidad de Ciencias y Artes de Chiapas (UNICACH), and adjunct professor through distance learning at Southwest Minnesota State University. He regularly gives guest educational presentations locally in Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico, as well as nationally and internationally. His strongest passions in music and teaching include classical and contemporary-classical music, progressive rock and jazz fusion, mind/body "holistic" awareness and cross-cultural understanding. Horey typically performs on solo marimba or as a drummer. "The four years I spent at UMaine studying with Stuart Marrs was a big turning point in my life and key to my early development as an artist and teacher," Horey noted, ahead of his 2019 solo concert on campus. "I feel so lucky to have had a very supportive program on an inspiring campus on which to learn, grow, cultivate and blossom." The Graduate Percussion Quartet of UNICACH comes from a long tradition of excellence in one of the most important places in the historical development of the marimba. Largely considered one of the best percussion schools in Mexico, UNICACH has trained countless young marimba players and percussionists in the study of traditional Mexican marimba from Chiapas, classic marimba, contemporary marimba, solo contemporary percussion and orchestral percussion. "The imperative for international cultural understanding and exchange has never been greater than it is today. I am thrilled that we are able to host the University of Chiapas Graduate Percussion ensemble, with its director and UMaine alumnus, Dr. Scotty Horey, for a conversation about the value of international exchange and a powerful concert blending music from both Mexican and American popular cultures," says Stuart Marrs, UMaine professor of percussion. The events are presented with the generous support of the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, the UMaine School of Performing Arts, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center. For more information about Horey, visit his [website](#). For more about the clinic and concert, contact brian.jansen@maine.edu. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Birdie Sawyer, fredrick.sawyer@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension holds gardening Q&A in Caribou April 16

11 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold a question-and-answer session for home gardeners noon–1 p.m. April 16 at the Caribou Public Library, 30 High St., Caribou. UMaine Extension horticulture professional Kate Garland will be available with practical home gardening tips and Extension resources on soil testing, seed starting, gardening for pollinators, fruit tree pruning and growing healthy fruits and vegetables, ornamentals and native plants. The

session is free and open to the public; no registration needed. Free seeds for pollinator-friendly plants, soil test kits and gardening bulletins will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.942.7396 or katherine.garland@maine.edu.

WFXV reports on UMaine Career Ready Games

11 Apr 2022

[WFXV](#) (Fox 22/Channel 7 Bangor) reported on the Career Ready games, a series of challenges that help students develop skills employers expect hosted by UMaine's Career Center and the Maine Business School. More than 100 students in teams of six signed up for the virtual competition with five challenges designed to enhance students' career skills. With the generous donation from Enterprise, the business school and career center held an awards ceremony where students received either a cash prize or a career essentials kit during the event.

UMaine data analyzed in Sun Journal report about drug deaths

11 Apr 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) featured University of Maine data in a sweeping report about opioid drug deaths in Maine. The [Sun Journal](#) analyzed annual confirmed drug death counts, from 1997 through September of 2021, using data from drug death reports from the Rural Drug and Alcohol Research Program at the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and the Office of the Maine Attorney General, as well as data supplied by Marcella Sorg, research professor at the Department of Anthropology, Climate Change Institute and Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. The report found that in 1997, a year after Purdue introduced OxyContin, 16 Mainers died from pharmaceutical opioid-related overdoses, while fewer than 10 people died from opioid-related overdoses every year during the decade prior. Between 1997 and September of last year, 2,359 Mainers have died from a pharmaceutical opioid-related overdose. Last year, an estimated 632 Maine people died from fatal drug overdoses, the deadliest year on record, representing a 23% jump in deaths over 2020. UMaine researchers say there are multiple reasons for the growth in the number of deaths, including the fact that people aren't aware illicit drugs can be laced with the highly lethal synthetic opioid fentanyl and the fact that under pandemic conditions, people are often using drugs while they are alone and no one is around to call for help or administer naloxone. [Centralmaine.com](#) shared the Sun Journal report.

Ferrini-Mundy interviewed by WGAN about Maine Impact Week

11 Apr 2022

University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy was interviewed by [Newsradio WGAN \(AM 560/FM 98.5\)](#) about Maine Impact Week. Maine Impact Week is a week-long experience occurring in April of every year, culminating in the UMaine Student Symposium held on Friday. Events are hosted by groups all over campus and featured on the Maine Impact Week website. Maine Impact Week is intended to provide an opportunity for the public to gain awareness about the latest efforts by Maine's research university in contributing to the social and economic advancement of Maine and beyond.

Daily Bulldog, CentralMaine.com feature Fuller in article about Maine Fiddlehead Festival

11 Apr 2022

David Fuller, a recently retired University of Maine Cooperative Extension agriculture and nontimber forest products professional, was mentioned in the [Daily Bulldog](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) in an article about the upcoming Maine Fiddlehead Festival. Fuller will lead the signature walk and talk on fiddlehead ferns at the festival on April 30 at the University of Maine at Farmington.

UMaine research on animal personalities featured on WFXV

11 Apr 2022

[WFXV](#) (Fox 22/Channel 7 Bangor) featured research conducted at the University of Maine about how animals' personalities impact the way they shape the environment around them. Allison Brehm, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology at the UMaine and principal author of the study, explained that deer mice who are bolder on average are more likely to cache large seeds intact, giving the seed a better chance at germinating. Timid individuals however would take the seeds to underground burrows, effectively eliminating the seed's chance to germinate.

Weiskittel and Lilley featured in Maine Public article about climate change and maple syrup

11 Apr 2022

Aaron Weiskittel, an associate professor of forest biometrics at the University of Maine, and Jason Lilley, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension sustainable agriculture and maple professional, were featured in [Maine Public](#) discussing the impact of climate change on maple production. Weiskittel, who was part of a team of researchers that four years ago analyzed decades of U.S. Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis data, said climate change and extreme weather events are making the region increasingly inhospitable for sensitive sugar maple trees to grow and thrive. Lilley said that sap season is coming earlier and ending sooner, especially in southern New England, where the freeze-thaw cycle that makes for good sap runs is increasingly erratic and forcing producers to make difficult choices. He added that northern Maine looks more insulated from that kind of variability, but there's still concern that extreme weather events like drought can also affect the health of maple trees and the quality of the sap they produce.

Garland and Hargest featured on Maine Public offering advice for gardeners

11 Apr 2022

Katherine Garland and Pamela Hargest, horticultural professionals at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was a panelist on the [Maine Public](#) show "Maine Calling" answering listener questions about gardening. Garland and Hargest addressed questions about seeds, soil, planting, trees, pests and more.

Maine Monitor interviews MacRae about PFAS and composting

11 Apr 2022

Jean MacRae, a professor of civil engineering at the University of Maine, was interviewed by the [Maine Monitor](#) in an article about the importance of quality compost for Maine’s soil health, especially in light of the PFAS crisis. MacRae said that given the difficulty determining which paper and cardboard materials contain PFAS, it’s best to apply the precautionary principle and avoid potential hazards — meaning just compost food scraps. Don’t add paper, cardboard, so-called “compostables” (including “biobags”) or tea bags, and be sure to peel off fruit and vegetable labels.

Reminder: Chancellor's Spring '22 Campus Tour at UMaine April 12

11 Apr 2022

Chancellor Dannel Malloy will visit the University of Maine on April 12 as part of his [Spring '22 Campus Tours](#) of all the University of Maine System (UMS) universities and Maine Law. This semester, the Chancellor’s visits focus on gathering input for the System’s first five-year strategic plan in more than a decade. He is hosting listening sessions about the plan with university presidents, faculty, staff, students, UMS staff who serve on the [System’s Strategic Plan Working Group](#), and members of Huron Consulting Group, the firm retained to help UMS develop the plan. Students, faculty and staff are invited to UMaine’s listening sessions, all in the Bodwell Lounge, Collins Center for the Arts:

- 9:45–10:30 a.m. — Student Engagement
- 10:45–11:30 a.m. — Faculty Engagement
- 11:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. — Staff Engagement

In addition, the Chancellor and President Joan Ferrini-Mundy will lead an in-person Campus Community Town Hall at IMRC, Stewart Commons, from 1:45–2:30 p.m. that day. Two representatives from Huron Consulting Group will lead open sessions in Bodwell Lounge of the Collins Center for the Arts with UMaine students (9:45 a.m.), faculty (10:45 a.m.), and staff (11:45 a.m.) to gather input that will be used to develop the next UMS strategic plan. The information below helps to explain these sessions. Come share your thoughts about UMaine’s important role in the University of Maine System in the years ahead.

Guiding Principles for UMS Strategic Planning Process

The following principles were created by the Board Ad hoc Strategic Planning Committee, the UMS President’s Council and the UMS Strategic Planning Work Group. The statements provide a framework for idea prioritization, decision making, and behavior as part of UMS’ strategic planning process. (© 2020 Huron Consulting Group Inc. and affiliates.)

1. Be **student-centric** and further the System’s missions of teaching, learning, service, and research
2. Express values of **sustainability, quality, affordability, relevancy, and diversity, equity, and inclusion** in all we do
3. Align with the **State of Maine’s needs and priorities** in system opportunity identification, prioritization, and implementation. Base decisions on facts and projections of the higher education and R&D market
4. Be **candid** and willing to make **bold decisions** that are **based in objective data** which **balance the current and future interests** of our students, faculty, and staff in a cost-effective manner
5. Declare a System vision that **heightens each university’s strengths** while maximizing opportunities for **collaboration** toward a cohesive whole
6. Leverage unified accreditation as a **tool** for achieving systemwide benefits and adhere to the UA guiding principles
7. Address **aging facilities and organizational infrastructure** through a lens of **efficiency, accessibility, and modernization** that preserves our history while supporting future strategic initiatives
8. Seek **input from a diverse and broad set** of UMS stakeholders
9. Foster a **culture of innovation and collaboration and communicate transparently** about the strategic planning process

Strategic Planning Process

Strategic Planning Background

The UMS Board Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning Committee, UMS President’s Council and a UMS Strategic Planning Working Group are charged with leading the development of a new System strategic plan, in consultation with the entire System community and other stakeholders. The resulting plan will serve as a blueprint for UMS’s future, align our current strengths to a new vision and goals, and overcome the challenges the System and its universities are expected to face over the next five years. The plan will be developed in close alignment with the UMS Unified Accreditation Self-Study and Evaluation process already underway. The strategic planning process will fundamentally address where we are, our vision for the future, a plan to achieve this vision, a process for monitoring our success, and the resources we will acquire and apply in the execution of the plan.

Your Role in the Planning Process

We have asked our Huron partners to speak with you because you are a key stakeholder in the process. Simply put, this plan is about your future, too. By sharing your perspective, the plan will benefit from the collective expertise and breadth of vision from diverse viewpoints. The following questions are *illustrative* of the types of questions that Huron will ask you:

Current state

- What are the **strengths** of UMS? What sets UMS apart in the current state?
- What **assets** across the System could the System better leverage?

- What are the **challenges** and **threats** facing the System that are either internal or external?

Future state

- What are three areas where UMS is poised for **growth**
- What should the **top priorities** be for the system's continued development?
- Where do opportunities exist for increased **collaboration** between universities within the System? What makes these opportunities optimal for collaboration (e.g., culture, structure, resources)?

System Collaborations

- What kinds of enhanced educational experiences can be delivered through collaboration and **alignment** with other System Universities?
- What kinds of enhanced **research** activity can be achieved through collaboration and alignment with other System Universities?
- What role can the **Chancellor** and **System Office** play as an enabler to that collaboration?

We thank you in advance for your willingness to participate in these important discussions. Do not hesitate to reach out to Brenna Casey, Huron Project Manager, at bcasey@hcg.com if you have any questions or visit the [Strategic Plan website](#). There you can find a timeline of the full activities, the Guiding Principles, and a comment box where you can share your perspective through the full process.

Yestramski receives EACUBO Distinguished Service Award

11 Apr 2022

Joanne Yestramski, University of Maine vice president and chief business officer, received the KPMG Distinguished Service Award of the Eastern Association of College and University Business Officers (EACUBO) at its 2022 Spring Gathering, March 27–29 in Philadelphia. The KPMG Distinguished Service Award is presented annually to a higher education business officer, active or retired, who has cultivated and embodied a strategic leadership mindset and reflected EACUBO's core values in fostering a sense of community and collegiality. Yestramski has more than 25 years of experience in higher education, first at Bentley College as vice president of finance and treasurer beginning in 1996, and as chief financial officer and treasurer for the University of Maine System from 2001–08. She joined University of Massachusetts Lowell in 2008 and retired in 2020 as senior vice chancellor of finance, operations and strategic planning. She has been a member of the UMaine community since 2020.

UMaine Extension cooks up barbeque for April 19 workshop

12 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a workshop for the home barbeque and smoker cook 4:30–6:30 p.m. April 19 at Southpaw Meat Market, 1233 Roosevelt Trail #12, Raymond. “[Demystifying Barbeque: Learning the Secrets to Smoking Success!](#)” includes meat selection and preparing the meat for proper cooking, seasonings and dry rubs, setting up a smoker, and barbequing using a variety of fuels and devices. Participants will be able to sample barbeque off the grill. Colt Knight, UMaine Extension associate professor and state livestock specialist, will lead the workshop with demonstrations. The workshop is free; a sliding scale fee is optional. Required registration is limited to 15 participants. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Melissa Babcock, 207.581.2788 or 800.287.7170 (in Maine); melissa.libby1@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension greenhouse plastic recycling program opens April 19

12 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension expects to open its Greenhouse Plastic Recycling (GPR) program April 19 with drop-off sites available statewide through Nov. 21. Plastic eligible for recycling is clear, low-density polyethylene #4 (LDPE #4) used to cover greenhouses, high tunnels, hoop houses and other agricultural structures. The program will also accept white overwintering plastic bundled separately from clear plastic. UMaine Extension's [GPR program video](#) explains the process in full. This will be the third year for the recycling program, begun in 2020 with a one-year Maine Department of Environmental Protection Waste Diversion grant. The program's goal is to collect at least one-third of Maine's annual waste greenhouse plastic, diverting it for use in new plastic products. To date, the program has collected almost 2,600 pounds of this plastic waste. There is no program fee; registration is required. Register and find more information on the [GPR program website](#). More information also is available by contacting Matt Wallhead, 207.581.2949; agplasticrecycling@maine.edu.

Media features Extension BBQ workshop

12 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Daily Bulldog](#) and [Boothbay Register](#) shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension workshop for the home barbeque and smoker cook 4:30–6:30 p.m. on April 19 at Southpaw Meat Market, 1233 Roosevelt Trail #12, Raymond. Colt Knight, UMaine Extension associate professor and state livestock specialist, will lead the workshop with demonstrations. The workshop is free; a sliding scale fee is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#).

Courier-Gazette shares Extension family gardening program

12 Apr 2022

The [Courier-Gazette](#) featured a six-month program hosted by Maine Coast Heritage Trust in collaboration with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension called Kids Can Grow, which will introduce families with children ages 7–12 to growing vegetables for healthy eating. The program starts May 11.

UMaine Digital Commons featured in Z107.3 article about town names

12 Apr 2022

[Z107.3](#) featured information from the [University of Maine Digital Commons](#) in a story about the origin of Penobscot County town names. Digital Commons contains a research paper written by William F. Fox in 1956 called “An Investigation of the Origin of Place Names of Towns in Penobscot County, Maine.” It's a 162-page document that is full of great history and accounts that give people a big picture look at the past, particularly the origins of the settlers that came to live in the Bangor area.

Donovan research featured in CBC article about the role of dogs in literature

12 Apr 2022

Josephine Donovan, professor emerita in the Department of English at the University of Maine, was featured in a [CBC](#) article about the treatment of dogs in American literature. Donovan is one of the founding figures in animal standpoint theory, which aspires to analyze literature from the animals' perspective. "Animals should not just be used as literary devices," said Donovan. "So often, they're just used as symbols or metaphors, or in some way to comment on the state of mind of the human character, and the animal herself is discarded and then basically ignored." Donovan is the author of “The Aesthetics of Care: On the Literary Treatment of Animals” and the forthcoming book “Animals, Mind and Matter.”

WABI features UMaine role in biotechnology research project

12 Apr 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) highlighted the inclusion of the University of Maine and University of New England in a \$6 million project to advance research in quality control of biomanufacturing and biotechnology. The initiative is supported by a Department of Energy EPSCoR grant. Andrew Crawley in the UMaine School of Economics is leading the UMaine research.

Boss and Karp-Boss interviewed for Hakai Magazine about phytoplankton survey

12 Apr 2022

Emmanuel Boss and Lee Karp-Boss, professors at the School of Marine Sciences, were interviewed for [Hakai Magazine](#) about their role collecting data about ocean microbes on the Tara expedition. From 2009–13, the Tara traversed the globe as scientists aboard sampled the ocean's microbes and studied how fast those microbes sank. Boss and Karp-Boss have both served as research coordinators for Tara projects. “The uniqueness of Tara, first, is the scale at which the studies were done,” Karp-Boss said. The data showed that viruses were the best predictors in this statistical model for carbon flux. [Canada's National Observer](#) shared the Hakai Magazine article.

Evans and Mortelliti's small mammal research featured in the BDN, Daily Bulldog

12 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Daily Bulldog](#) wrote about research at the University of Maine led by Alessio Mortelliti, associate professor in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology, found that studying marten can tell scientists about 11 other mammals living in the state. “This is great news for conservation and management agencies as they show that by focusing the efforts on one species, the marten, they will automatically be able to detect declines for many other species,” Mortelliti said. However, the marten may require more detailed study as disruptions to forests and climate change threaten their existence. “It's critical to have a watchful eye over the coming years, so declines in the marten population can be identified quickly.” said Bryn Evans, recently graduated Ph.D. student and co-author of the study.

Nancy DesJardin: Outstanding Graduating Student

13 Apr 2022

Nancy DesJardin of Winterport, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Division of Lifelong Learning. DesJardin is a university studies major, with minors in anthropology, and peace and reconciliation. Her academic honors include an Adult Degree Completion Scholarship and two American Association of University Women (AAUW) Non-Traditional Women Scholarships. She is a member of Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society. For her senior project, DesJardin researched food insecurity in the United States. DesJardin, a U.S. Army veteran who served in Desert Storm, is a licensed cosmetologist and owns and operates a hair studio. She also is a substitute teacher at Hampden Academy. Following graduation, DesJardin plans to pursue a career as a secondary school teacher in history or the social sciences. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** The University of Maine has been accommodating on so many levels from the very beginning, when I was searching for a school that fit my needs in completing my higher education. The staff in the Division of Lifelong Learning answered all my questions and concerns, and my adviser Barbara Howard has been immensely supportive and willing to give me a boost and a nudge when I felt intimidated by certain courses. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** My anthropology courses have been enlightening, allowing me to gain new perspective and understanding on cultural diversity. My peace studies courses have trained me to be a better listener and have sharpened my mediation skills. Together, my concentrations have provided me with the valuable tools necessary for working with people from all cultures. I have had some wonderful and dedicated professors who have encouraged and guided me along my journey, and I am excited for what the future holds. **Why UMaine?** After my son graduated from high school and went into the Marine Corps, I decided it was time to finish my college education. I shopped around for colleges that would suit my needs and after interviewing a few college representatives, I realized that the University of Maine was the choice that made sense for me. I live locally, could complete most of my college work online, and could still work at my job. As a nontraditional student in my 50s, UMaine was very accommodating and everything seemed to fall into place with ease. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** The University of Maine is set up for the student to succeed! Initially, it was recommended for me to apply for the Adult Degree Completion Scholarship and when I won the award, I realized there was no reason not to move forward with my college plans. The scholarship gave me a much-needed kick-start as my first semester's tuition was covered by it. Then, I was having a particularly challenging day in one of my

classes and I was questioning my decision to go back to school, like, “what am I doing?” and I realized I could not quit, that the semester was practically free for me so there was no turning back, in my opinion. I ended that first semester on the Dean’s List and have remained there throughout the rest of my college journey. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** My adviser Barbara Howard has been my mentor and cheerleader throughout my UMaine experience. She pushed me when I felt like quitting and encouraged me when I felt like I couldn’t do the work. I have had some great professors, but I would not be graduating today if Barbara had not been in my corner. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** There aren’t many opportunities to change one’s own life and if higher education is a dream of yours, I suggest pursuing it. Push the fear aside, be courageous and have faith in yourself. If I can do this, then I believe anybody has it in them to succeed and achieve a college degree. It is so worth the sacrifice and the time and the effort involved. It is a great feeling of accomplishment. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Grace Graham: Outstanding Graduating Student

13 Apr 2022

Grace Graham of Cary, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Maine Business School. She is majoring in accounting, finance and financial economics. Her numerous awards include a Presidential Scholarship, Maine Society of CPAs Scholarships and the 2021 Maine Business School Faculty Award in Finance. For a year, she was involved in the MBS initiative Undiscovered Maine, a student research project with the goal of increasing tourism and economic development within underrepresented areas of Maine. As a senior, Graham had two audit internships at Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker LLC. Throughout her college years, Graham held three weekend jobs in Houlton and in Old Town. Following graduation, Graham will be a member of the Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker audit staff while pursuing a MaineMBA in accounting in the Graduate School of Business and sitting for the CPA exam. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has provided me with the tools necessary to reach my academic and career goals. As with anything else, the tools are useless if left unutilized. Ultimately, whether my goals were reached was up to me as I had to make the choice whether I would utilize the resources given me. In many ways, I have learned that my goals were not everything. I do believe that it is good to set goals, but be careful of the motives behind which you set them. I have learned that many of my own goals were very self-motivated to further benefit me. Set goals that are about more than yourself. UMaine has also made a difference in my life in that through UMaine, God brought me my best friend. Without UMaine, I never would have had a roommate and, thus, would have missed out on the countless memories that came with it. I am forever grateful to have a best friend like Addie. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** Upon arriving at UMaine, I honestly experienced severe culture shock. Coming from a high school graduating class of nine students, UMaine was a very difficult transition. UMaine provided me with a greater view of the world and the people that compose it. I have observed and worked in collaboration with people from different towns, countries, cultures and walks of life. I have been able to experience diversity, to see the attitude with which varying people approach life, such as what is most important to them and what they choose to pursue. I have seen and personally experienced the pursuit of money, power, health, pleasure, popularity and even good grades. I have seen people succeed in their pursuits and I have seen people fail. But is a person’s life measured in materials? In this way, UMaine has reminded me what is important in life. We are often preached to pursue ourselves, our desires, our goals, but life is a lot more than what you can do for yourself. I am not alive to see how much I can do for myself, but rather to pursue the purpose that was given to me before I was even born. It’s not about how many good things you can do; it’s doing that one thing for the One higher than yourself. **Why UMaine?** I chose UMaine because I believed that I could receive a quality education while staying close to home. UMaine can provide anyone with countless opportunities from numerous clubs, to sports, events, academics and more. Time is limited, however, and thus, you must carefully choose the way in which you want to spend it. For me, UMaine was about academics and family, but as with most things in life, it is not always about what you are given, but what you choose to do with it. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** Opportunities for success at UMaine are present through the Career Center, mentors and professors, coursework and events. The Career Center has been of immense help to me in terms of resume review and mock interviews to prepare me for the job search. Professors have provided me with knowledge, insights and resources to benefit me in many facets of my life and career. The Maine Business School constantly puts on events to help students network with professionals and pursue personal career development. These are just a few of the many opportunities, programs and resources that UMaine provides to students. These resources, however, will do no good for those who do not take advantage of them. Opportunities are everywhere — seize them! **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** During my time at UMaine, I have had numerous professors who have made my experience better. Professor Henri Akono was one of these teachers. Dr. Akono was my first accounting professor at UMaine, and I was fortunate enough to have him as a professor for four different courses all the way to my senior year. Dr. Akono’s concern for student learning is very evident as he strives to make information understandable yet challenging. Dr. Akono was always available for homework questions, but was never satisfied with just your right answer, as he was always asking and verifying that you knew how you got there. Another professor who made my UMaine experience better was professor Stephen Jurich. Dr. Jurich motivated students like me to understand more than the surface level of finance. Not rewarding minimal effort, Dr. Jurich pushed students to work hard to obtain results. I always felt that he believed we were always capable of more, motivating me to work harder and understand more deeply. Professor Nory Jones is another UMaine professor that made my experience better. I had Dr. Jones as a professor and as the faculty adviser when I had the opportunity to work on the Undiscovered Maine research project. Although concerned about student learning, Dr. Jones cares deeply for students as individuals, always supporting, encouraging and checking up on them to make sure they are doing OK. Dr. Jones was a great help to me many times when I took on a workload that was a little bigger than I could manage as she was always understanding and willing to help in any way she could. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** To get off to the best start academically, I would encourage freshmen to make use of the resources that are available to them. Students are provided not only with the opportunity to learn in class but with resources and events outside of the classroom to further support their personal development. Students who want to get off to a good start academically will take advantage of these resources by attending networking events, working with the internship coordinator to secure a job, etc. I would also encourage students to attend their professors’ office hours. All the professors are there to help you learn, but if you are struggling, they will not be able to help you if you do not reach out. It may feel uncomfortable at first (it did for me) but getting to know your professors right from the start is incredibly beneficial when you have questions or need further guidance later on. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Anna Lane: Outstanding Graduating Student

13 Apr 2022

Anna Lane of York, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. She is a double-major in microbiology and biochemistry, and a UMaine Presidential Scholar and UMaine Flagship Award recipient. Her numerous scholarships include the 2021 Liuba De Siervo Merit Scholarship. This past year, Lane received a Frederick Radke Undergraduate Research Fellowship in support of her capstone research. That research, in collaboration with professor Melody Neely, investigated the effects of antifungals on *Candida albicans* in the presence of Group B

Streptococcus, and the symbiotic relationship of the two organisms. In summer 2020, Lane interned with Lonza Biologics. On campus, she has been a peer tutor, teaching assistant and Maine Learning Assistant, and a member of University Singers and Renaissance. After graduation, Lane plans to pursue a career in the biochemistry field. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** I came to UMaine as a nursing student but found my passion in microbiology. I am grateful that I chose UMaine because the university's diversity of academic programs allowed me to explore other fields and find what I really enjoy. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** Performing with University Singers and Renaissance on campus, in the community and on tours of New England really showed me the full power of music and community. In Renaissance, we regularly performed on campus for annual events like All Maine Women's Take Back the Night and Delta Phi Epsilon's ANAD vigil. I had so many amazing experiences seeing how music can be such a unifying force, especially after the isolation and lack of performing arts during the pandemic. **Why UMaine?** UMaine has the opportunities and academic diversity of a large university but the atmosphere of a small university. Every professor I have had in my department is committed to student learning. UMaine also has a great music program and ensembles that students from any major can participate in. As someone who participated in the music program at my high school, it was really important to me that I could continue that into college. The beautiful campus is also a big plus! **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** UMaine has many opportunities for student success. I personally took advantage of the free tutoring offered by the Tutoring Center on campus, and I worked as a tutor for TRIO Student Support Services. I also worked as a Maine Learning Assistant and an undergraduate teaching assistant, both of which are amazing programs that allowed me to gain teaching experience as well as communication skills that will carry into my professional life. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** Jennifer Newell and Melody Neely were wonderful professors and mentors for me within my department. Francis Vogt was an incredible director and mentor in the four years I spent in University Singers. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** It was really important for me to join clubs and activities that were separate from my academic work as it helped me to make friends and to have an outlet to decompress from the stress of classes. I don't think that I would have been as successful at UMaine if I didn't have extracurriculars that were important to me. Also, there are so many people on campus that want you to be successful — don't hesitate to ask for help if you're struggling. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Hua Lin: Outstanding Graduating Student

13 Apr 2022

Hua Lin of Portland, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Engineering. He has earned dual degrees in mathematics and in engineering physics, with a concentration in mechanical engineering. In 2019, Lin received a Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) Fellowship and a National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Fellowship in sensor science and engineering. In NSF REU Sensors initiative, he collaborated with professor Sheila Edalatpour on the project "Silicon Carbide Nanowires and Thin Films for Sensing Strain and Pressure in Harsh Environments." Lin's honors thesis is "Near-Field Thermal Radiation in Graphene-Based Systems." He has begun his master's work in mechanical engineering and will have his graduate degree in 2023. Lin plans to have a career in engineering research. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has been great at providing the diverse selection of courses and programs that give the physics and mathematics foundations required for my pursuit of engineering research. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** My experience in the Honors program has had a profound impact in the way I read and analyze text. It gave me a more well-rounded view of the world, with class discussions ranging from classical literature to religion to science. **Why UMaine?** I have found that the curriculum at UMaine has been instrumental in giving me the skills to interpret and analyze the world around me. The programs have great synergy in both the foundational rigor and the practical applications of theory. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** I would say that programs such as CUGR are great at providing experience for students interested in research. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I have worked closely with my thesis adviser, professor Sheila Edalatpour, on a couple projects. Additionally, I have taken courses with and received great guidance from professors John Thompson and Nigel Pitt. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** I would suggest that new students find a research or academic interest and start working with a professor in the field. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Ethan Mathieu: Outstanding Graduating Student

13 Apr 2022

Ethan Mathieu of Sanford, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Education and Human Development. He is a secondary education major with a concentration in physical science. Mathieu is the recipient of the Edward and Barbara McManus Scholarship and the Hervey A. Hanscom Scholarship, and served as treasurer of the Student Maine Educators Association. His Honors thesis is "The Effects of a course in Multicultural Education on the Development of a Socio-Cultural Consciousness of Pre-Service Teachers." Mathieu did his student teaching at Orono High School, and had field placements at John Baptist High School and Kennebunk High School. On campus, he was a tutor with TRIO Student Support Services and a student instructor's aide in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Mathieu plans to be a physics teacher in Maine and pursue a master's degree in teaching science. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine provided a space where I was given the support needed to explore what I really wanted to do with my career. I started as an electrical engineering major but swapped over to secondary education my sophomore year. The faculty in both the College of Engineering and College of Education and Human Development department helped me to make the transition smoothly and ensure I had all the classes and credits needed to stay on track. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** The opportunity to attend the Camden International Film Festival through the Honors College was one of my most memorable and culturally enriching experiences at the university. The festival opened my eyes to how big the world truly is and gave me a deeper respect and understanding of people halfway across the world. **Why UMaine?** I originally chose UMaine for the exceptional engineering program, the affordability and being just the right distance from home. I came to love and stay at UMaine for the close-knit community, the exceptional staff and faculty, and great friends I've made in my time here. The campus also has a charm that continues to grow on you the longer you stay. Nothing quite beats playing frisbee on the Mall in the fall, enjoying a coffee in the Oakes Room before class in the winter or taking a walk in Littlefield Garden in the spring. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** I think that UMaine is full of opportunities for students who are willing to look for them. The campus is full of friendly professors and clubs that offer a plethora of opportunities for research, work, travel and volunteering. I am specifically grateful to the Advising Center in the College of Education and Human Development. The Advising Center crew was warm, friendly and extremely helpful in helping me decide on my concentration and ensuring I was on track to succeed in the program. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I worked very closely with professor Tammy Mills while writing my undergraduate thesis. Dr. Mills is an exceptional mentor who guided me through the research and academic writing process. The experience took me out of my comfort zone and honed my skills in academic writing, critical thinking/analysis and searching for/evaluating

sources. My thesis simply would not have been possible without the guidance of Dr. Mills, I could not have asked for a better mentor and she has my deepest respect and admiration. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Get to know your peers! College is a challenge, but there's no reason you have to do it alone. Introducing yourself to people you share classes with leads to potential study groups and friends you can lean on when you're struggling. Having a strong network of friends in class makes the work easier and more enjoyable, and you might even make some lifelong friends. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Aubree Nygaard: Outstanding Graduating Student

13 Apr 2022

Aubree Nygaard of Brunswick, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Nygaard is a double-major in computer science and philosophy whose numerous academic awards include the Non-Traditional Student Scholarship and the Roger B. Hill Humanities Scholarship. Since 2019, she has been a developer and student representative in the Virtual Environment and Multimodal Interaction Lab (VEMI Lab), where she has collaborated on research focused on an iOS autonomous vehicle ride-sharing app and other projects involving human computer interaction, virtual reality and information access, specifically for blind or visually impaired people. She has co-authored two peer-reviewed papers in the field of privacy research. Nygaard has been a Maine Learning Assistant, and a research assistant in the Privacy Engineering — Regulatory Compliance Lab (PERC_Lab), and for professor Hao Hong in the Philosophy Department. From 2019–21, she served as vice president for the UMaine chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery's Council on Women in Computing. Following graduation, Nygaard will pursue a career in software development. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** Through working with the VEMI Lab and PERC_Lab at UMaine, I've gained hands-on experience in the fields of human computer interaction, accessibility and privacy research. The computer science department has pushed me to develop a solid technical foundation. At the same time, I've been able to pursue my other passion of philosophy. I hope to incorporate the skills and knowledge I've gained from these areas into my future career. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** I've walked away from every class I've taken in the Philosophy Department with a more nuanced understanding of the world, as well as a better grasp of how to apply a critical and systematic approach to analyzing ideas. Working at the VEMI Lab has given me a new understanding of how people interact with technology and the importance of creating accessible technology. **Why UMaine?** UMaine offers exposure to a number of disciplines, as well as the opportunity to collaborate with others through interdisciplinary work. It's a place where you can talk to passionate people doing work in areas you didn't even know existed. On top of this, UMaine is in a beautiful area where you can always find something fun to do. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** I think there are many great opportunities for students at UMaine. It's easy to get involved with research by talking with professors. There are always workshops or talks to attend where you can dig deeper into a topic or get exposure to a new topic. At UMaine, there are ample opportunities to pursue your passions or discover new ones and many supportive people to help you succeed along a path that is meaningful to you. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I've been very lucky to be surrounded by many wonderful people at UMaine. Rick Corey at the VEMI Lab has been a mentor throughout my time here, and has always provided support and help when I needed it. I'm eternally grateful to have received support from lots of amazing professors and mentors, including Sepideh Ghanavati, Nick Giudice, Penny Rheingans, Kirsten Jacobson, Hao Hong and Mike Howard. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** I think one of the best things an incoming student could do is set a schedule for themselves and set boundaries between time spent working and not. Balance is important. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Chisom Orakwue: Outstanding Graduating international student

13 Apr 2022

Chisom Orakwue of Lagos, Nigeria is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Engineering. Orakwue, a biomedical engineering major, received the International Presidential Scholarship and the Richard E. Durst Scholarship. This academic year, she has been involved in research in professor Karissa Tilbury's laboratory, focused on the use of spatial frequency domain imaging (SFDI) for detecting biomarkers of diabetic neuropathy and sepsis. For her capstone project, she designed a wheelchair cushion to help reduce pressure sores. Beyond the lab and classroom, Orakwue has been a Black Bear Mentor, a resident assistant and a peer tutor. Last year, she was vice president of the International Student Association. Orakwue plans to pursue graduate school. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has helped me fulfill my dream of becoming a biomedical engineer. The amazing professors in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, and the staff in the Office of International Programs have supported me every step of the way and helped me become more passionate to make a positive difference in the world. In addition, I have formed lasting connections with faculty and students. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** The International Students Association and the Office of International Programs collaborate to organize annual cultural and festive events such as the International Dance Festival and Culturefest. I performed in two International Dance Festival events and had the best experiences, more so because I love to dance and connect with students from different parts of the world. **Why UMaine?** I chose UMaine for its incredible engineering program and welcoming atmosphere. UMaine felt like the best place to find my path and grow into a well-rounded individual. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** There are a lot of student organizations that provide leadership skills and opportunities to contribute to the campus community. The Tutor Program, Counseling Center, Residence Life and Student Wellness Center provide a wealth of support and guidance to students. UMaine is very student-centered and cares about the overall well-being of every student. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** My academic advisers, professor David Neivandt and Doc Robert Bowie, have been a constant source of support, motivation and encouragement since the beginning of my studies at UMaine. Professor Karissa Tilbury fueled my interest in research and accepted me into her lab to gain top-class research experiences. Professor Lisa Weeks inspired me to become a more creative and intellectual biomedical engineer. The professors in biomedical engineering are passionate and dedicated to helping students succeed. I am glad to have met such amazing professors. Orlina Boteva, Sarah Joughin, Mireille Le Gal and the staff members in the Office of International Programs helped me adjust smoothly to the American culture. They have made my experience at UMaine fun and enjoyable. I am also glad to have met such incredible and supportive people. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Know that UMaine is committed to helping you succeed and achieve your goals. Acquaint yourselves with the abundant academic and social resources that the school provides. The professors truly care about their students and are always available, so do not be afraid to reach out to them. I hope you realize soon enough that UMaine is the best place to be! Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Jakub Sirota: Outstanding Graduating International Student

13 Apr 2022

Jakub Sirota of Kromeríž, Czech Republic is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the Maine Business School. Sirota is a double-major in marketing and management and a member of the men's ice hockey team. He is a two-time member of the Hockey East All-Academic Team and has been a three-time University of Maine Scholar-Athlete. He also was named to Athletics' 13th annual Team Maine. Sirota plans to pursue a hockey career, followed by an entrepreneurial path in business. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** I learned discipline and the importance of the process at UMaine through coaches and professors. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** Certainly, the passing away of our coach Red Gendron a year ago made an impact on me. It showed me how quickly things can change and how much we need to value the time we have. **Why UMaine?** Great ice hockey program, exceptional business school and inviting people. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** The amount of resources available to students is countless. Many advisors from various faculties help students in chasing their dreams. Entrepreneurial opportunities, Zooms with now very successful alumni, internship and career-building programs, and many other benefits offered by the school were all helpful to me. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** Many professors made an impact on me. Two professors in particular deserve my thanks. First is professor Muralee Das, whose classes were enjoyable and whose communication with me was so friendly that we still stay in contact. The second professor who helped me see into the academic field a little better is professor Erin Percival Carter, who has an amazing gift for sharing knowledge that made learning so much easier. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Listen to your professors and try to understand them. All of them want students to succeed on their journeys and all they want in return is just attention in classes. Be involved, contribute to discussions and enjoy the process of learning. Certainly, many things you will forget, but there is a great value to be gained in the undergraduate school, so don't let that go to waste. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Amanda Sandberg: Outstanding Graduating International Student

13 Apr 2022

Amanda Sandberg of Skurup, Sweden is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. She is a biochemistry major with a pre-med concentration, and a minor in molecular and cellular biology. Sandberg is a member of the women's soccer team and a scholar-athlete. Her numerous honors include 2020 and 2022 Team Maine Scholar Athlete Awards, UMaine Presidential Scholar Awards and the Professor Frederick H. Radke Award. In collaboration with professor Melissa Maginnis, Sandberg has been studying calcium signaling in *JC Polyomavirus* infection. In 2021, Sandberg participated in a summer scholar research internship at Stowers Institute for Medical Research, studying downstream open reading frames and post transcriptional regulation. On campus, she has been a peer tutor, teaching assistant and Maine Learning Assistant. Sandberg will pursue a master's degree in microbiology at UMaine while playing her final season of eligibility. Following graduation, she plans to go to medical school or earn a Ph.D. in a biomedical field. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** Coming here allowed me to continue playing soccer at a high level while getting a great academic degree, something that would not have been possible back home. UMaine has given me the opportunity to move across the world, grow as a person and gain unforgettable experiences. I have met so many new people that I now call family and my life would definitely not have been the same had I not moved here four years ago. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** I would not say one specific moment, but that my whole experience as a UMaine student has changed the way I see the world now compared to before. Since moving from Sweden, I have gained more perspectives on the differences and similarities of different cultures and populations around the world. I still learn new things everyday from people of all walks of life and volunteering and connecting with the community has been especially eye-opening. **Why UMaine?** I chose UMaine for the great science education and hands-on research opportunities, as well as the incredible support from faculty and athletics personnel. With the inclusive atmosphere and familial feel between students, I am happy to call UMaine my home away from home. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** The opportunities for student success at UMaine are incredible. Faculty are knowledgeable, and all of the staff members are always helpful and want you to succeed. Additional labs and help hours are offered for challenging courses and other non-class resources are available. I have used the Academic Center, Career Center and the Office of International Programs many times and always received great help and support when I needed it. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** During my time at UMaine, I have been lucky to meet a lot of impactful people, both in Athletics and in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences. My research mentor, Melissa Maginnis, is definitely one of those people. Ever since she gave me the opportunity to join her lab, she has helped and challenged me to be the best version of myself that I can possibly be every single day. She never doubted my abilities and showed me that with hard work and resilience, anything is possible. All of the staff in the Athletics Department, along with my coaches and especially my teammates, have also played a huge impact on my time at UMaine. Without their endless support and encouragement, I would have never been the person I am today. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** My best advice is to never be afraid to ask for help or go to office hours when you need to. All professors are here to help, so let them! Another piece of advice is to not be too hard on yourself — instead, enjoy the journey and take advantage of every opportunity you get. One opportunity always leads to another. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Meet the 2022 Outstanding Graduating Students

13 Apr 2022

Twelve undergraduates have been named 2022 Outstanding Graduating Students at the University of Maine. Among them is Dominique DiSpirito, the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Honors College, and the 2022 valedictorian. [Her profile story is](#) online. Short biographies of the other UMaine



Outstanding Graduating Students follow: [caption id="attachment_90112" align="alignright" width="186"] Tiana Bucknor[/caption]

Tiana Bucknor

Tiana Bucknor of Milton, Ontario, Canada is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Education and Human Development. She is a kinesiology and physical education major, with a concentration in exercise science. Bucknor, a Presidential Scholar, is the senior captain of the women’s soccer team and a member of the America East Student Athlete of Color Leadership Group. On campus, she serves as a chair on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and is a student-athlete mentor/tutor and a peer tutor in the College Success program. Bucknor also is a teaching assistant in the School of Kinesiology and Physical Education. In the fall, she will pursue a master’s degree in kinesiology and physical education. After her graduate school work, Bucknor plans to play professional soccer, followed by a career in exercise physiology. A full Q&A with Bucknor is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90114" align="alignright" width="186"] Nancy DesJardin[/caption]

Nancy DesJardin

Nancy DesJardin of Winterport, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Division of Lifelong Learning. DesJardin is a university studies major, with minors in anthropology, and peace and reconciliation. Her academic honors include an Adult Degree Completion Scholarship and two American Association of University Women (AAUW) Non-Traditional Women Scholarships. She is a member of Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society. For her senior project, DesJardin researched food insecurity in the United States. DesJardin, a U.S. Army veteran who served in Desert Storm, is a licensed cosmetologist and owns and operates a hair studio. She also is a substitute teacher at Hampden Academy. Following graduation, DesJardin plans to pursue a career as a secondary school teacher in history or the social sciences. A full Q&A with DesJardin is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90116" align="alignright" width="186"] Grace Graham[/caption]

Grace Graham

Grace Graham of Cary, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Maine Business School. She is majoring in accounting, finance and financial economics. Her numerous awards include a Presidential Scholarship, Maine Society of CPAs Scholarships and the 2021 Maine Business School Faculty

Award in Finance. For a year, she was involved in the MBS initiative Undiscovered Maine, a student research project with the goal of increasing tourism and economic development within underrepresented areas of Maine. As a senior, Graham had two audit internships at Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker LLC. Throughout her college years, Graham held three weekend jobs in Houlton and in Old Town. Following graduation, Graham will be a member of the Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker audit staff while pursuing a MaineMBS in accounting in the Graduate School of Business and sit for the CPA exam. A full Q&A with Graham is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90117" align="alignright" width="186"] Anna Lane[/caption]

Anna Lane

Anna Lane of York, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. She is a double-major in microbiology and biochemistry, and a UMaine Presidential Scholar and UMaine Flagship Award recipient. Her numerous scholarships include the 2021 Liuba De Siervo Merit Scholarship. This past year, Lane received a Frederick Radke Undergraduate Research Fellowship in support of her capstone research. That research, in collaboration with professor Melody Neely, investigated the effects of antifungals on *Candida albicans* in the presence of Group B Streptococcus, and the symbiotic relationship of the two organisms. In summer 2020, Lane interned with Lonza Biologics. On campus, she has been a peer tutor, teaching assistant and Maine Learning Assistant, and a member of University Singers and Renaissance. After graduation, Lane plans to pursue a career in the biochemistry field. A full Q&A with Lane is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90118" align="alignright" width="186"] Hua Lin[/caption]

Hua Lin

Hua Lin of Portland, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Engineering. He has earned dual degrees in mathematics and in engineering physics, with a concentration in mechanical engineering. In 2019, Lin received a Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) Fellowship and a National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Fellowship in sensor science and engineering. In NSF REU Sensors initiative, he collaborated with professor Sheila Edalatpour on the project “Silicon Carbide Nanowires and Thin Films for Sensing Strain and Pressure in Harsh Environments.” Lin’s honors thesis is "Near-Field Thermal Radiation in Graphene-Based Systems." He has begun his master’s work in mechanical engineering and will have his graduate degree in 2023. Lin plans to have a career in engineering research. A full Q&A with Lin is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90119" align="alignright" width="186"]

Ethan Mathieu[/caption]

Ethan Mathieu

Ethan Mathieu of Sanford, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Education and Human Development. He is a secondary education major with a concentration in physical science. Mathieu is the recipient of the Edward and Barbara McManus Scholarship and the Hervey A. Hanscom Scholarship, and served as treasurer of the Student Maine Educators Association. His Honors thesis is “The Effects of a course in Multicultural Education on the Development of a Socio-Cultural Consciousness of Pre-Service Teachers.” Mathieu did his student teaching at Orono High School, and had field placements at John Bapst High School and Kennebunk High School. On campus, he was a tutor with TRIO Student Support Services and a student instructor’s aide in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Mathieu plans to be a physics teacher in Maine and pursue a master’s degree in teaching science. A full Q&A with Mathieu is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90121" align="alignright" width="186"]

Aubree Nygaard[/caption]

Aubree Nygaard

Aubree Nygaard of Brunswick, Maine is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Nygaard is a double-major in computer science and philosophy whose numerous academic awards include the Non-Traditional Student Scholarship and the Roger B. Hill Humanities Scholarship. Since 2019, she has been a developer and student representative in the Virtual Environment and Multimodal Interaction Lab (VEMI Lab), where she has collaborated on research focused on an iOS autonomous vehicle ride-sharing app and other projects involving human computer interaction, virtual reality and information access, specifically for blind or visually impaired people. She has co-authored two peer-reviewed papers in the field of privacy research. Nygaard has been a Maine Learning Assistant, and a research assistant in the Privacy Engineering — Regulatory Compliance Lab (PERC_Lab), and for professor Hao Hong in the Philosophy Department. From 2019–21, she served as vice president for the UMaine chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery’s Council on Women in Computing. Following graduation, Nygaard will pursue a career in software development. A full Q&A with Nygaard is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90143" align="alignright" width="186"]

Chisom Orakwue[/caption]

Chisom Orakwue

Chisom Orakwue of Lagos, Nigeria is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Engineering. Orakwue, a biomedical engineering major, received the International Presidential Scholarship and the Richard E. Durst Scholarship. This academic year, she has been involved in research in professor Karissa Tilbury’s laboratory, focused on the use of spatial frequency domain imaging (SFDI) for detecting biomarkers of diabetic neuropathy and sepsis. For her capstone project, she designed a wheelchair cushion to help reduce pressure sores. Beyond the lab and classroom, Orakwue has been a Black Bear Mentor, a resident assistant and a peer tutor. Last year, she was vice president of the International Student Association. Orakwue plans to pursue graduate school. A full Q&A with Orakwue is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90146" align="alignright" width="186"] Jinyoung Park[/caption]

Jinyoung Park

Jinyoung Park of Seongnam-si, South Korea is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Park, a chemistry major, has received International Presidential Scholarships and the Charles A. Brautlecht Scholarship, and a Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship. For the past three semesters, Park has been collaborating with professor Matthew Brichacek on research to isolate and analyze large carbohydrate molecules called glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) using TEAB auxiliary. She is president of the International Student Association and a leader in Operation H.E.A.R.T.S., and has served as a Maine learning assistant in three chemistry courses. Park will attend Dalhousie University Dental School. A full Q&A with Park is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90147" align="alignright" width="186"] Amanda Sandberg[/caption]

Amanda Sandberg

Amanda Sandberg of Skurup, Sweden is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. She is a biochemistry major with a pre-med concentration, and a minor in molecular and cellular biology. Sandberg is a member of the women’s soccer team and a scholar-athlete. Her numerous honors include 2020 and 2022 Team Maine Scholar Athlete Awards, UMaine Presidential Scholar Awards and the Professor Frederick H. Radke Award. In collaboration with professor Melissa Maginnis, Sandberg has been studying calcium signaling in *JC Polyomavirus* infection. In 2021, Sandberg participated in a summer scholar research internship at Stowers Institute for Medical Research, studying downstream open reading frames and post transcriptional regulation. On campus, she has been a peer tutor, teaching assistant and Maine Learning Assistant. Sandberg will pursue a master’s degree in microbiology at UMaine while playing her final season of eligibility. Following graduation, she plans to go to medical school or earn a Ph.D. in a biomedical field. A full Q&A with Sandberg is [online](#).



[caption id="attachment_90148" align="alignright" width="186"] Jakub Sirota[/caption]

Jakub Sirota

Jakub Sirota of Kromeríž, Czech Republic is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the Maine Business School. Sirota is a double-major in

marketing and management and a member of the men's ice hockey team. He is a two-time member of the Hockey East All-Academic Team and has been a three-time University of Maine Scholar-Athlete. He also was named to Athletics' 13th annual Team Maine. Sirota plans to pursue a hockey career, followed by an entrepreneurial path in business. A full Q&A with Sirota is [online](#). Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Tiana Bucknor: Outstanding Graduating International Student

13 Apr 2022

Tiana Bucknor of Milton, Ontario, Canada is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Education and Human Development. She is a kinesiology and physical education major, with a concentration in exercise science. Bucknor, a Presidential Scholar, is the senior captain of the women's soccer team and a member of the America East Student Athlete of Color Leadership Group. On campus, she serves as a chair on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and is a student-athlete mentor/tutor and a peer tutor in the College Success program. Bucknor also is a teaching assistant in the School of Kinesiology and Physical Education. In the fall, she will pursue a master's degree in kinesiology and physical education. After her graduate school work, Bucknor plans to play professional soccer, followed by a career in exercise physiology. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** I cannot begin to express what UMaine has done for me as a student, an athlete and an overall person. When I transferred to the University of Maine, I had come from a place where I was very unhappy, was very lost in terms of what I wanted to pursue during my time as undergraduate and was not enjoying my time as an athlete. My confidence was very low, and I felt extremely alone on my overall path. The true interest and care that the coaches (Scott Atherley, Liis Abbott and Pete McDonnell) showed in my true well-being and growth as an athlete is something that makes me truly emotional. They helped me get back to my full form, and were patient with my setbacks and lack of confidence along the way. They were reassuring and took time out of their lives to stay with me after training sessions, in the office watching extra film, and help me work through my mistakes as opposed to leaving me to figure it out on my own. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** There has not been one particular experience that I have had at UMaine that changed the way I see the world. Rather, the collection of experiences that I have had here in only two years have changed my perception on life and what it means to be truly happy. Coming to UMaine truly made me realize a very important life lesson — the environment you are in plays a crucial role in your overall happiness. It has given me a whole new sense of perspective on what it means to be truly happy and appreciated as an individual. I will carry this lesson with me for the rest of my life, and it will play a key role in determining what environments I choose to be in and those I choose to surround myself with as I progress through life. **Why UMaine?** I only needed one visit to be sure of my decision. Immediately upon arrival on campus and speaking with the kinesiology and physical education/athletic training staff, I knew that each of these individuals would be truly invested in my well-being and success as a student. Their words were genuine and their interest in my success as not only a student-athlete, but as an overall person was amazing. I knew that they would do everything possible to ensure that I reached my goals. This was the same with the coaching staff, who I knew would put in countless hours to ensure my success on the field. They believed in my leadership and drive to be the best athlete I could be. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** The opportunities for success at UMaine are truly countless. I have not even begun to scratch the surface of the opportunities presented to me, yet the few that I have had helped me so much. The Academic Center for student athletes has provided me with work and guidance, and I am truly grateful for that. The Kinesiology, Physical Education and Athletic Training Department has provided me with an internship as well as great courses that will help me reach my goals. Career Services has helped me plan out my future on countless occasions as I struggled after transferring to figure out my path. The Center for Student Involvement has provided me with the opportunity to speak at the Dirigo Leadership Conference. The Athletics Department has helped me succeed on the field. The Health Center has treated me on countless occasions when ill. The opportunities for guidance and success are truly endless. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** There are so many people who have touched my life at the university. To name a few and give insight on what they have done: Jennifer McNulty and Robert Lehnhard have been true mentors to me on my path through the School of Kinesiology. Without them and their guidance, I would be unaware of all the opportunities I have. They do everything possible to ensure my academic success. Jesse Kaye-Schiess, my adviser, works constantly to ensure I am in the right classes and am on the right path. Jesse and Dr. Lehnhard have always said, "You cannot move through life unless your mind, body and spirit are intact." Their view of individuals as holistic beings has changed my outlook on life entirely. My coaching staff — Scott Atherley, Liis Abbott and Pete McDonnell — believed in me when I had almost no athletic confidence left and nursed this confidence back to health. They created an environment where it's okay to make mistakes and to just play freely while trusting in your qualities. I am forever grateful for all of these individuals and the others who have helped my growth since arriving on campus. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Reach out to your professors personally, right away. The relationships I have built with both Jen McNulty and Dr. Lehnhard have both been made possible by me reaching out to them and taking a deep interest in my learning. Be an active learner; do not just let college pass you by without taking an active role in your learning. Ask questions, be curious, challenge yourself to learn more in the environment you are in. Utilize your mentors whenever possible; they are there to help your learning. Get involved in things that inspire you on campus and things you are passionate about. It will truly make your college experience so meaningful. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Jinyoung Park: Outstanding Graduating International Student

13 Apr 2022

Jinyoung Park of Seongnam-si, South Korea is the Outstanding Graduating International Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Park, a chemistry major, has received International Presidential Scholarships and the Charles A. Brautlecht Scholarship, and a Center for Undergraduate Research Fellowship. For the past three semesters, Park has been collaborating with professor Matthew Brichacek on research to isolate and analyze large carbohydrate molecules called glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) using TEAB auxiliary. She is president of the International Student Association and a leader in Operation H.E.A.R.T.S., and has served as a Maine learning assistant in three chemistry courses. Park will attend Dalhousie University Dental School. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** UMaine has allowed me to network and build valuable relationships with various individuals — from professors and upperclassmen mentors to friends. The various resources provided by the university have given me opportunities to strengthen my academic and life experiences as an undergraduate student. For example, during my sophomore year, the Career Center hosted an event where they invited speakers from Dalhousie University Dental School to come and talk about their dentistry program. If it weren't for that event, I would have not known about Dalhousie University and I may have not been able to pursue dentistry after graduation. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** When I first moved to Maine and started attending UMaine, I was surprised by the lack of diversity on campus. I was often the one of the few or only Asian student in my classes. At first, I became very self-conscious and felt isolated. However, through my involvement with various programs on campus (MLA, ISA and Student Government), I realized that I can be the one to set the example and be the representation of my culture and race. I realized how valuable and fulfilling it was for me to be able to educate my peers and share my culture, and identity with other students and different groups on campus. Through this experience, I was able to be more confident of my cultural background and of myself, which ultimately changed the way I saw the world around me. **Why UMaine?** I believe that one of the most valuable aspects of UMaine is the small faculty-to-

student ratio. I think this gives students more opportunity to network and build connections with faculty on campus. Another great aspect of UMaine is the various resources available for students. Some of the most valuable resources available are the MLA program, career center, writing center, counseling center, and many more that can assist in improving the students' academic success and general well-being. There are also a huge variety of student organizations where students can meet other students with similar interests and values increasing their sense of belonging on campus. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** I think that UMaine has a number of resources to help students out, whether it be academically or personally. One of the most helpful resources I have utilized was the Maine Learning Assistant (MLA) program and the Career Center. I have had several MLAs in my STEM classes that helped me succeed in class. I think having other undergraduates to help out in class makes it less intimidating to ask questions and receive help. My positive interactions with MLAs have also inspired me to work as general chemistry/organic chemistry MLAs for the past few semesters. Like mentioned earlier, the Career Center has helped broaden my chances of success by introducing me to a dental program that I was not familiar with. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I have worked closely with professor Matthew Brichacek for my research. On top of being my research advisor, professor Brichacek has given valuable advice regarding classes, graduate school application, and other advice to help me succeed. Another valuable mentor I worked with is Sarah Joughin at the Office of International Programs. I worked closely with Sarah for the past two years for ISA. Sarah has also given me valuable advice and resources helpful for international students studying at UMaine. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** My advice for the upcoming students would be to get involved in extracurricular activities where they can meet like-minded students. When I joined Operation H.E.A.R.T.S. my sophomore year, I was able to meet various upperclassmen students who gave me valuable advice on which professors to take classes with, when it is helpful to take certain prerequisite classes and tips to be successful in those prerequisite classes. It was extremely helpful to meet other pre-med students through this organization, and I believe it played a crucial role in the success during my time at UMaine. My other advice would be to get to know professors well. Having one or two professors that you are very close with is important for academic success. Oftentimes, professors have experience with former students who may have gone through a similar academic path as you, and they will be able to give you guidance. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Maine-focused resources available at Fogler Library

13 Apr 2022

As the state designated research library for business, science and technology, the librarians at Fogler Library have compiled a series of resources to support the people of Maine. These resources, curated into a variety of subject areas, may be found from this site: libguides.library.umaine.edu/mbstl

New UMaine Extension bulletin on growing wild blueberries in the home garden

13 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension has a new resource for home gardeners who want to establish or maintain wild blueberries on their property. [“Growing Wild Blueberries in the Home Garden”](#) includes considerations for soil type, how to transplant blueberry sod, mulching and water needs, encouraging pollinators, mowing and weed management. Additional topics include general best practices and troubleshooting. This publication and more are available for free download on the [UMaine Extension publications website](#) or by contacting 207.581.3792; extension.orders@maine.edu.

Media highlight Extension’s Greenhouse Plastic Recycling program

13 Apr 2022

[News Center Maine](#), Centralmaine.com and [The Irregular](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Greenhouse Plastic Recycling program, which will start April 19, with drop-off sites available statewide through Nov. 21. Plastic eligible for recycling is clear, low-density polyethylene No. 4 (LDPE No. 4) used to cover greenhouses, high tunnels, hoop houses and other agricultural structures. The program will also accept white overwintering plastic bundled separately from clear plastic.

Dill speaks with New Hampshire Magazine about browntail moth caterpillars

13 Apr 2022

Jim Dill, University of Maine Cooperative Extension pest management specialist, was quoted in [New Hampshire Magazine](#) in an article about pests like the browntail moth caterpillars. “Climate change in the winters can be a dramatic force in the population dynamics,” Dill said.

UMaine data featured in WMTW report about opioid overdoses in rural communities

13 Apr 2022

[WMTW \(Channel 8 in Auburn\)](#) highlighted data from state agencies and the University of Maine showing fentanyl, a highly potent synthetic opioid, is fueling the surge in deadly overdoses. In 2021, 77% of all fatal overdoses in Maine were attributed to fentanyl, which is up to 50-times stronger than heroin. UMaine data also show that one-fifth of all fatal overdose victims tested positive for both fentanyl and cocaine, and 21% tested positive for fentanyl and methamphetamine last year.

Spectrum News highlights UMaine research in article about Gulf of Maine offshore wind task force

13 Apr 2022

In an article about federal officials setting a date for the second meeting of a key intergovernmental task force planning offshore wind development in the Gulf of Maine, [Spectrum News](#) cited the fact that University of Maine has been pioneering this technology in the U.S., with active plans for research projects, including in federal territory. That virtual meeting on May 19 will be hosted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

BDN features Maine Day concert headliner Jack Harlow

13 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported the University of Maine’s Maine Day concert on April 26 will feature rapper Jack Harlow, who has been climbing music charts since his breakthrough 2020 hit “WHATS POPPIN.” The concert occurs the night before Maine Day, the annual event set aside for spring cleanup that also includes a parade, service projects and a barbecue.

UMaine scientists co-author article about Zealandia Switch for [The Conversation](#)

13 Apr 2022

Aaron Putnam, associate professor, and George Denton, professor, both in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, and the Climate Change Institute, collaborated with international scientists to write an article about the Zealandia Switch for [The Conversation](#). Putnam, Denton and their collaborators are researching New Zealand’s climate history, and have postulated a new mechanism that explains a rapid shift at the end of the last ice age called the Zealandia Switch, which challenges a long-held view about why glaciers changed in the recent and distant past. The Zealandia Switch focuses on global ice retreat for prehistoric times, but it may also explain why glaciers are shrinking and retreating today.

Shaler interviewed by Wall Street Journal

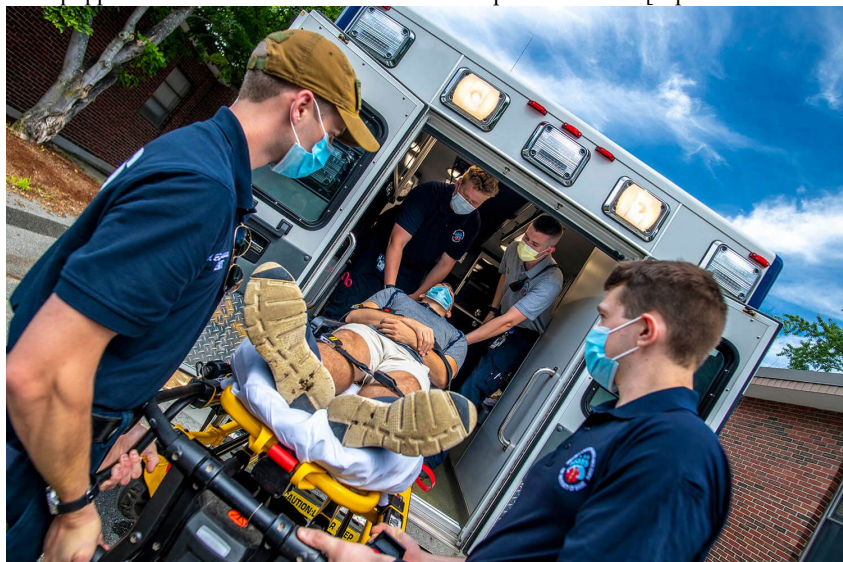
13 Apr 2022

[The Wall Street Journal](#) interviewed Stephen Shaler, professor of sustainable materials and technology in the School of Forest Resources, in an article about the rising popularity of wooden skyscrapers. “If you look at the carbon impact of harvesting trees and turning them into buildings, it gives you a much better number than you get from concrete or steel. As long as you have sustainably managed forests — and we have that capacity — it is a clear winner on the carbon footprint,” Shaler said.

UVAC celebrates 50th anniversary of service

13 Apr 2022

The University Volunteer Ambulance Corps — an all-volunteer organization of University of Maine students, staff and community members who provide emergency medical services to the campus and surrounding communities — is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. UVAC, a division of Auxiliary Services, will commemorate the milestone during its annual member banquet on April 22, which will feature keynote speaker Dr. David Saquet, doctor of emergency medicine at Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center. The organization responds to about 500 calls and provides nearly 30,000 hours of service each year. This includes working at athletic and other campus events, and providing mutual aid to the communities of Orono, Veazie, Old Town, Milford and Bradley. Other services from UVAC include offering first aid, CPR and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) training; overseeing the university’s HeartSafe Community program; and participating in community outreach and education. “UVAC has never wavered from its beginnings 50 years ago as a student-operated volunteer ambulance service,” said Auxiliary Enterprises Executive Director Richard Young. “Today, UVAC continues to provide a unique volunteer leadership experience for all students, regardless of their academic pursuits. Those with aspirations can apply for the opportunity to oversee and operate a 24-7 state-licensed ambulance service for the campus, as well as serve as backup ambulance for the local communities.” Formed in 1972, UVAC’s inclusive nature and focus on patient care garnered several volunteers with a passion for emergency medicine. At that time, students trained as attendants through the American Red Cross to provide medical care, and UMaine Police Department owned and operated the ambulance. Organization membership and resources have grown significantly over the years, with it now having 70 volunteers, two ambulances equipped up to paramedic level, one fly car equipped for incident command and a first response vehicle. [caption id="attachment_90228" align="alignright" width="550"]



UVAC members participate in an emergency simulation.[/caption]

Luke McCarthy, EMT and UVAC student chief, said the organization is now an integrated part of multiple towns’ medical services teams. UVAC leaders also advocate and offer guidance when it comes to safety for campus events. “We’ve made it a professional service,” McCarthy said. “We’re there when they need us. We’re an asset they can use.” UVAC has a distinguished legacy of service, which includes the 2013 Steve Gould Award, presented to a person or group that has “demonstrated superior qualities of unselfishness and compassion in the course of service to the University of Maine and its ideals.” Rick Petrie, alumnus and chief operations officer for North East Mobile Health, said his decision to pursue a career in medical services was influenced by his participation in UVAC from 1980–83. “The people I met there influenced me and set my foundation in emergency medical services,” he said. “There are also some tremendously amazing people who went on to be doctors, nurses and leaders in Maine and the country who were part of UVAC. “I can’t stress enough

how important UVAC has been in my career and in the careers of others I know. We have all used our time at the university to build those strengths. It is a great operation.” UMaine Police Department Lt. Robert Norman said UVAC provides crucial services to the campus and synergizes well with its community. “COVID taught us very quickly that we can’t do it alone,” he said. “I absolutely knew [all those years ago] that the need and desire is there. When we match the need to the desire, it’s the best of both worlds. “Imagine how much impact it has — someone took the time to learn first aid and donate their time, so that they can do it when they’re called on. Our graduates will go on to have impacts we’ll never know.” UVAC Assistant Chief of Relations Daisy Drinkert, an EMT and UMaine biochemistry major, says her leadership skills improved during her time with the organization, and she has been able to apply what she has learned to other roles. “It’s great to be a resource for other EMS units in the state,” she says. Joining UVAC requires no licenses or certifications except to provide highly skilled medical care. For more information or to apply, visit umaine.edu/uvac or email um.uvacrelations@maine.edu. Contact: Deb Bell, debra.bell@maine.edu

Abedi attends international IEEE conference

13 Apr 2022

Ali Abedi, associate vice president for research and professor of electrical and computer engineering, attended IEEE International Wireless Communication and Networking Conference in Austin, Texas, where academic and industry leaders discussed new technologies to move us forward to the next generation, 6G wireless era. The mayor of Austin declared this week as IEEE week. Participants from various countries around the world participated in this premier event. Abedi was part of the organizing committee as Publications Chair overseeing the 400+ technical and workshop paper publications.

Extension’s Brzozowski receives national achievement award

13 Apr 2022

Richard Brzozowski, University of Maine Cooperative Extension food system program administrator and Maine AgrAbility project director, was recognized at the National AgrAbility Project training workshop and conference held March 14–17 in Madison, Wisconsin. Brzozowski was awarded the Purdue Breaking New Ground Achievement Award for his 11-year leadership of Maine AgrAbility and the significant contributions he has made to the lives of Maine’s farm families impacted by disabilities. National AgrAbility Project project manager Paul Jones wrote: “Richard Brzozowski has provided outstanding leadership to Maine AgrAbility and exceptional support to the National AgrAbility Project. In addition to the direct services he and his team provide to Maine’s farmers, loggers, and fishers, they consistently produce high-quality publications and videos, as well as innovative outreach initiatives, such as Boots-2-Bushels and their efforts to include youth with disabilities in agriculture. Richard is a long-term member of the National AgrAbility Project’s advisory team and is currently leading a national working group to help develop AgrAbility fact sheets and to provide an efficient way of making such publications widely available to producers and other professionals. He consistently displays a helpful attitude and a humble spirit.” For more information about UMaine Extension Maine AgrAbility, contact Leilani Carlson, 207.944.1533; maine.agrability@maine.edu. More information also is available on the [Maine AgrAbility website](#).

Anne of Green Gables — The Ballet at CCA April 16

14 Apr 2022

Canada’s Ballet Jörgen’s Anne of Green Gables — The Ballet® will be performed at 7 p.m. April 16 at the Collins Center for the Arts. The show features the touring professional dancers, as well as a small group of young local dancers who were recommended by their teachers and accepted into the Anne of Green Gables — The Ballet® Local Participant Program. [Tickets are available online](#). Anne of Green Gables is a 1908 novel by Canadian author Lucy Maud Montgomery. Written for all ages, it has been considered a children’s novel since the mid-20th century. It recounts the adventures of Anne Shirley, an 11-year-old orphan who is mistakenly sent to Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert, a middle-aged brother and sister who had intended to adopt a boy to help them on their farm in the fictional town of Avonlea on Prince Edward Island. The novel recounts how Anne makes her way with the Cuthberts, and in school, and in the close-knit farming village. The performance is made possible through the assistance of the heirs of Lucy Maud Montgomery. A full-sized symphonic ballet score has been created as an extended orchestration of the Anne of Green Gables — The Musical,™ made possible through a partnership with Avonlea Productions Ltd. and Erinsharn Productions Ltd.

Media shares new Extension wild blueberry bulletin

14 Apr 2022

[Centralmaine.com](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#) and the [Daily Bulldog](#) shared a new resource from University of Maine Cooperative Extension for home gardeners who want to establish or maintain wild blueberries on their property. “[Growing Wild Blueberries in the Home Garden](#)” includes considerations for soil type, how to transplant blueberry sod, mulching and water needs, encouraging pollinators, mowing and weed management.

UMaine research featured in Mashed guide to cooking spinach

14 Apr 2022

Food publication [Mashed](#) highlighted research conducted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension in an article about common mistakes made when cooking spinach. The research shows that soaking produce for a minute or two in distilled water works just as well as soaking it in the produce wash, and better than washing it with an ozone wash.

UMaine research featured in media about New Zealand glaciers

14 Apr 2022

[Phys.org](#), [The Scoop](#) and [Meteorological Technology International](#) highlighted research conducted in part by the University of Maine, in collaboration with New Zealand’s National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research, Victoria University of Wellington, Lincoln University and GNS Science, about moraines in New Zealand. Moraines are the sediment and boulders dropped by retreating glaciers as the ice melts. The piles of debris can give critical insights

into Aotearoa New Zealand's climate history. The researchers are trying to work out why and when the glaciers disappeared using a combination of mapping with drones and LIDAR linked with cosmogenic isotope dating of boulders to build a picture of landscape evolution and show when the glaciers were present and how they retreated over millennia.

Hakkola, Dyer research about building diverse faculty cited in Open Campus

14 Apr 2022

[Open Campus](#) featured research by Leah Hakkola, assistant professor of higher education at the University of Maine, and Sarah Dyer, a doctoral student of higher education at UMaine and a diversity, equity and inclusion officer at Husson University, about implicit bias and hiring in higher education. Hakkola and Dyer found that faculty who chaired the committees often held implicit biases and, as a result, the types of candidates in the hiring process were limited.

News Center Maine reports on UMaine early education alumna named Milken Educator

14 Apr 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that Hillary Hoyt, third grade teacher at Leroy H. Smith in Winterport who holds a bachelor's in elementary education from the University of Maine, has been named a 2022 Milken Educator. The honor carries a \$25,000 prize and recognizes Hoyt's innovation, creativity and inspirational leadership in education.

Calderwood and Scallon write wild blueberry growing how-to for BDN

14 Apr 2022

Lily Calderwood, Extension Wild Blueberry Specialist, and Mara Scallon, research assistant at the UMaine Lowbush Blueberry Research and Extension Program, wrote an article for the [Bangor Daily News](#) instructing home gardeners on how to grow wild blueberries. Calderwood reviewed how to establish a wild blueberry patch, encourage an existing wild blueberry patch, general best practices and troubleshooting for home gardeners.

Adekeye selected for BioME Student Showcase Fast Pitch competition

14 Apr 2022

Esther Adekeye, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Engineering doctoral student in the lab of Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, professor of clinical nutrition, has been selected by the [BioME Student Showcase](#) judges to compete in the 2022 BioME Student Showcase Fast Pitch competition on April 27 in Portland.

'The Maine Question' asks what Maine needs to expand electric vehicle use

14 Apr 2022

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Maine will require a broader adoption of electric vehicles, according to University of Maine economist Jonathan Rubin. State officials, particularly those from the Department of Transportation, have a role to play in fueling the transition away from gas-powered cars and trucks. To guide them, Rubin, professor of economics and director of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, and his colleagues from the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) released a report that outlines strategies for reducing emissions from the transportation sector. On Episode 9 of Season 6 of "[The Maine Question](#)," Rubin discusses the report and what is needed to usher in a greener transportation future for the Pine Tree State. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or "The Maine Question" [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

UMaine names 2022 Presidential Award winners

14 Apr 2022

This year's University of Maine Presidential Awards recognize outstanding achievement in teaching in Earth and climate sciences, research in the biophysics of flow-related biological and physiological functions in humans and animals, and impactful community engagement in nursing, particularly during the past



two years of the pandemic. [caption id="attachment_90268" align="alignright" width="223"] Karl Kreutz Karl Kreutz, director and professor of the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, received the Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award; Xudong Zheng, associate

professor of mechanical engineering, received the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award; and Kelley Strout, associate professor and director of the School of Nursing, and interim associate dean of health science in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, received the Presidential Public Engagement Achievement Award. “Karl is an innovative teacher and dedicated mentor who encourages experiential learning that make his courses memorable and empowering,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “Xudong, one of our National Science Foundation Early CAREER Award recipients, leads through his research in the mechanics of fluid dynamics that has multifaceted implications. Kelley’s community engagement has truly shaped the present and future of the School of Nursing, and touched the lives of countless Mainers. “All three of this year’s Presidential Award recipients have such an impact on student success at UMaine, and their multifaceted contributions are integral to our R1 research university.” Kreutz is a UMaine alumnus who joined the faculty in 2000 and was named director of the School of Earth and Climate Sciences in 2021. He teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses, including a first-year Research Learning Experience course focused on geoscience from the Maine coast to Mount Katahdin. Kreutz is an internationally recognized researcher in the Climate Change Institute and was recently named University of the Arctic Chair in Arctic Ice, Climate and Environmental History. His research focuses on paleoclimate, glaciology and abrupt climate change. Current projects include high-resolution climate reconstructions in the Arctic, Antarctic and North Atlantic — global research that informs his teaching. In the classroom, in the laboratory and in the field, Kreutz’s objective is to empower students to be lifelong learners, understanding and appreciating scientific habits — from systems thinking and scientific argumentation to open, interdisciplinary collaboration and experiential learning — that they can then put into practice and use beyond the classroom. Students recognize Kreutz’s depth of research experience that informs his teaching, and they appreciate his approach to instructor-facilitated, in-class problem-solving and peer dialogue. The methodology helps students, including those involved in research throughout the world, develop the problem-solving and critical thinking skills essential in making their own contributions to today’s profound climate and environmental challenges. Throughout his 20-year teaching career, Kreutz has championed experiential learning and best practices into all levels of teaching, preK to graduate level. That level of dedication ranges from collaborating on a Boston Museum of Science immersive exhibition, “Arctic Adventure: Exploring with Technology,” and teaching an online class, ERS107: Energy, Environment and Climate, serving a wide range of students, including Early College students and those fulfilling GenEd requirements, to establishing a statewide partnership with high school Earth science programs to leading this semester’s new 400-level course, Sea-to-Sky Experience, that will take students to Southeast Alaska



and the Canadian Yukon in May. [caption id="attachment_90269" align="alignright" width="223"] Xudong Zheng[/caption] Zheng, who joined the UMaine community in 2012, conducts internationally recognized research in biofluid mechanics and computational fluid dynamics with the potential to inform a range of biological and medical applications. Zheng has developed and utilized advanced computer modeling techniques to improve understanding of the biophysics of various flow-related functions in humans and animals, including the mechanics of speech production. His pioneering research in the past decade has led to the development of the first-of-its-kind high-fidelity multi-physics voice production model — computer modeling of phonation to better understand the mechanics of speech production. The biomechanical speech production simulations of flow-related phenomena to understand the underlying physics have long-term implications for the way physicians diagnose and treat speech disorders. Zheng’s research also contributes to fundamental understanding of the relationship between vocal fold biomechanics and voice outcomes, informing voice disorder diagnosis and treatment. His long-term goal is to understand the mechanism that is responsible for the range, complexity and uniqueness of the human voice in order to provide personalized voice care. Zheng’s biophysics research to improve human voice health and to develop innovative simulation-assisted voice care treatment technologies has received funding from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation and the Novo Nordisk Foundation. His computational modeling and analysis of flow structure-acoustics interactions can have multiple applications beyond voice production, such as the detection of heart murmurs generated by the flow-induced motion of heart valves, and the reduction of noise due to the blade-vortex interactions in wind turbines. He has developed innovative computer modeling techniques to study the flow structure-acoustics interaction in the biolocomotion of fish and flying insects that could lead to development of swimming and flying robots, and in collaboration with UMaine researcher Qian Xue, Zheng is investigating the hydrodynamic sensing



mechanism associated with seal whisker geometry. [caption id="attachment_90270" align="alignright" width="223"] Kelley Strout[/caption] Community and statewide COVID-19 response, leadership in diversity, equity and inclusion, and addressing burnout and resilience in nursing are the hallmarks of Strout’s public engagement. Strout, an alumna and member of the UMaine School of Nursing faculty since 2015, leads a

dedicated group of students, faculty and staff who have been among the frontline first responders during the pandemic, deployed on campus, in communities and statewide to help meet COVID-19 testing, vaccination and emergency hospital staffing shortage needs. As director of the School of Nursing, she has closely collaborated with Maine's hospital and health care partners to meet the new and ongoing challenges associated with the pandemic. In addition to the expertise and leadership she provided to UMaine and University of Maine System pandemic response teams, Strout has served on the Northern Light Community Mass Vaccination Committee, the Bangor Area Surge Staffing Planning Committee and the Maine School Health Advisory Committee. She also serves on the board of directors at Penobscot Community Health Center. When the pandemic paused in-person classes for UMaine students, Strout worked with the faculty and school's partners at Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center to get undergraduates their required clinical hours and allow 60 to graduate ahead of schedule to help address the shortage of nurses in COVID-19 health care settings in Maine and nationally. In addition, early training in intramuscular injections was provided for all students in the nursing program so they could be deployed to maximize community vaccination efforts, including initiatives in schools and rural areas. Strout's leadership also has led to the funding of two major initiatives by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration that will shape the future of nursing education and the profession in Maine and beyond. A more than \$1.7 million HRSA grant to the School of Nursing, in partnership with Northern Light Health and Morgan State University will focus on increasing the diversity of Maine's workforce in nursing. A \$1.5 million HRSA award will fund WellNurse, a research and interprofessional program in partnership with Department of Psychology, School of Food and Agriculture, New Balance Recreation Center, and University of San Diego School of Medicine Center on Mindfulness to increase resilience and reduce burnout among School of Nursing students, faculty and staff. It ultimately will be a model for health professional programs throughout the University of Maine System and beyond. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Stanley wins President's Award at 60th annual Northeast Algal Society meeting

15 Apr 2022

Alexis Stanley, undergraduate laboratory assistant at the University of Maine from Plattsmouth, Nebraska, was awarded the President's Award at the 60th annual Northeast Algal Society (NEAS) meeting in Burlington, Vermont. NEAS is a regional phycolological society dedicated to furthering algal research and education in the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada. The President's Award is presented for the poster or talk judged to be the best presentation by an undergraduate student at the annual Northeast Algal Symposium. Emphasis is placed on the clarity of the presentation, the student's participation in the research and their ability to speak about the work during the poster session. Stanley is an assistant in School of Marine Sciences professor [Susan Brawley](#)'s lab researching *Porphyra umbilicalis* and its ability to be a model system for the lab and aquaculture applications. Stanley's winning poster presentation was titled "Developing *Porphyra umbilicalis* as an Easy-to-Use Model System" and detailed her work mimicking the environmental and tidal conditions of the northwest Atlantic Ocean coast in order to see if the neutral spores of *Porphyra umbilicalis* could be produced at a high enough abundance to support the species as a model system, which would make it more accessible for research. The research was supported by a National Science Foundation-funded subcontract to Brawley and Joshua Kelley, assistant professor of biochemistry in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences. "It was an honor to receive this award, and a joyous experience to be able to share my work and be met with such enthusiasm. I'm very thankful for all the people who helped me with my research and continue to do so," Stanley says. Stanley will graduate from the University of Maine in May 2022 with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Sciences.

LeClair wins 2022 Brookie Award from the Natural Resources Council of Maine

15 Apr 2022

The Natural Resources Council of Maine awarded University of Maine Ph.D. student Greg LeClair with a 2022 Brookie Award for his environmental leadership. The Brookie Awards honors Maine's young environmental changemakers for their leadership, creativity and positive impact for Maine's environment. LeClair is the founder and lead organizer of Maine Big Night (MBN), a citizen science project focused on collecting data on road-crossing amphibians in Maine. LeClair recruits and trains volunteers of all ages and backgrounds statewide to participate in data collection and assisting amphibians across roadways, especially during spring migration season. Over the years, he has recruited more than 400 volunteers and monitored 200 survey sites statewide to help move and save thousands of amphibians across roadways annually. LeClair's findings and research derived from Maine Big Night have been published and the project is helping to identify amphibian road mortality hot spots and prioritizing infrastructure solutions. When the Covid pandemic hit just weeks before the big spring migration, LeClair's quick problem-solving ensured volunteers could participate safely. He is assisting similar efforts in New Jersey and New Hampshire and is collaborating with the Maine Department of Transportation to secure funding for wildlife crossings from the federal infrastructure bill. LeClair is putting his passion for science and conservation into practice by mobilizing Mainers to protect Maine wildlife.

UMaine Earth Week 2022 scheduled for April 18–22

15 Apr 2022

The University of Maine will celebrate Earth Week 2022 from April 18–22 with a slate of events. Every day of Earth Week, UMaine's Green Campus Initiative (GCI) will host a [scavenger hunt](#) for prizes hidden on campus, with clues posted on [GCI's Instagram, @umainegci](#), each morning. GCI also will host its annual Earth Week [nature photo contest](#), where participants simply go out and take pictures of nature and either tag GCI on social media or email the group at um.gci@maine.edu. Grand prize, second and third place winners will be chosen randomly. The group also encourages participants to view a film series about the Human Dimensions of Climate Change, sponsored by Fogler Library, [online](#). UMaine Earth Week will also coincide with this year's Virtual Healthy High 5K and 10K Race, a collaboration with the Division of Student Life and Title IX Student Services. This year's race focuses on promoting healthy relationships, ending sexual violence, and raising awareness of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Proceeds go to the Physical Education Student Organization, Black Bear Exchange, and the Division of Student Life and Title IX Services. [Register online](#) for instructions on completing the race and options to submit results. The schedule of daily Earth Week events: Monday, April 18

- noon–2 p.m., Plant and Craft Swap sponsored by UMaine Green Team, Memorial Union Totman Lounge The Green Team will host a swap for plants and crafting supplies at the Memorial Union Totman Lounge to help the community reduce waste and consumption. Participants can bring extra plants or crafting supplies by the swap or come to pick up new ones.

Tuesday, April 19

- 2–4 p.m., Microgreens Planting sponsored by UMaine GCI, on the Mall (rain location: Memorial Union) Microgreens are easy to take care of, only take

about two weeks to grow, and are filled with essential nutrients. Participants can join GCI to [plant their own microgreen seeds](#). All materials provided.

Wednesday, April 20

- 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Fresh Check, sponsored by UMaine Student Wellness Resource Center, the Mall (rain location: Memorial Union) College Check-In Day or Fresh-Check Day is an event that aims to increase awareness and education regarding mental health and suicide prevention for college students. Participants can join the Student Wellness Resource Center to play games, win prizes and learn how to help a friend in need.
- 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Pop-up Shop sponsored by UMaine Green Team and the Black Bear Exchange, Memorial Union Totman Lounge Participants can bring their unwanted clothes and swap for new ones. All items are free and no clothing donation is required.
- 5–7 p.m., Earth Crafts sponsored by UMaine GCI, on the Mall (rain location: Memorial Union) Participants can grab a plastic water bottle and join UMaine GCI on the Mall to [create a water bottle fish](#) with paint, trash and other supplies. The fish can be kept or added to the UMaine Green Team Garbage Gallery later in the week.

Thursday, April 21

- 4–6 p.m., Redemption Center Bottle Toss sponsored by UMaine GCI, on the Mall (rain location: Memorial Union) Test your knowledge of Maine’s Bottle Bill rules, Maine recycling trivia, and your aim. Representatives will ask participants questions and give chances to toss bottles into their respective bins.
- 5–6 p.m., Sustainable Menstrual Products sponsored by UMaine Feminist Collective, Intersection Feminist Resource Center in the Memorial Union Learn about sustainable options for menstrual products with the UMaine Feminist Collective. The first 20 attendees will receive a free June Cup.
- 8–10 p.m., Sustainable Crafts sponsored by UMaine Campus Activities Board, Memorial Union North Pod Join the Campus Activities Board to make sustainable crafts.

Friday, April 22

- Spire Issue No. 6 Launch, online The Maine Journal of Conservation and Sustainability is publishing its sixth issue of Spire on Earth Day. Issue No. 6 contains a variety of submissions, including art, poetry, photography, research and personal stories. Access the latest and back issues by [clicking here](#).
- 11 a.m.–1 p.m., Earth Day at the Den sponsored by UMaine Dining and GCI, Memorial Union UMaine Dining will debut a new reusable container program. Attendees can learn more about sustainability efforts and how UMaine Dining is working with local food producers. GCI will support and showcase all the things that Auxiliary Services does to help put the Earth first. Buy into the program and enter to win some great prizes.
- 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Sustainability Networking Poster Session, Memorial Union Bear’s Den Upper Level [The poster session](#) will bring together students, businesses and communities working on sustainability solutions, including faculty and graduate and undergraduate students, as well as communities and colleagues involved in or interested in sustainability research. Researchers at the event can spark new research ideas, start collaborations in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary related topics, learn about sustainability research topics and activities. Students can hear about careers, research, and opportunities related to sustainability science. Stakeholder partners, businesses and alumni can share their experiences, engage new communities and potential clients, and meet the existing and emerging workforce involved with sustainability research and businesses. Coupons for coffee, cookies and snacks will be available for participants.
- noon–2 p.m., Campus Clean Up sponsored by SEAD, New Balance Student Recreation Center Help make campus more beautiful by cleaning up litter in the Rec Center area and Hilltop Lot on Earth Day. Trash bags and gloves will be provided.
- 3–4 p.m., Garbage Gallery sponsored by UMaine Green Team, Memorial Union Totman Lounge UMaine Green Team will host a gallery of creative trash art, or “trart.” Bring trart to display, get a social media shout-out and gain recognition for your work.

The full schedule of events can be found on the [UMaine Earth Week 2022 webpage](#) and will be updated as events are finalized.

Study finds trees vary in their recovery from drought stress, with implications for future forests

15 Apr 2022

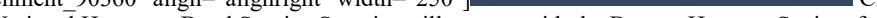
With over 4 feet of annual precipitation in the Northeast United States, drought is not often considered a major factor affecting the region’s forests. But warming temperatures cause forests to dry out quicker between rains. Seedlings are especially vulnerable because their nascent root systems can’t access moisture deeper in the soil, according to a University of Maine-led study. The timing of drought also affects which tree species are more vulnerable, according to the findings of the study, published in the journal [Annals of Botany](#). UMaine and Schoodic Institute scientists assessed the sensitivity of six tree species — red maple, paper birch, black cherry, eastern red cedar, eastern white pine, and northern white cedar — to drought occurring at different times during the growing season. A subset of the seedlings received either a spring, summer or early fall “drought” of six weeks, during which those particular plants did not get watered. The experiment was conducted in a greenhouse to simulate future temperatures and control the amount of water each tree seedling received. The study lead, UMaine graduate student Ruth van Kampen, tracked the height and diameter of each of the 288 seedlings throughout the growing season. “Thanks to the thousands of measurements on the tree seedlings by Ruth, we’re able to look at how tree growth recovers from drought within the same year,” says Jay Wason, UMaine assistant professor of forest ecosystem physiology and journal article co-author. The research showed that some growth strategies, such as concentrated growth in the spring months for eastern white pine and paper birch, make these trees very sensitive to early drought. Other species, like northern white cedar, showed resilience to drought through increased growth later in the season. “Species respond individually to climate change stress, such as drought,” says study co-author Nicholas Fisichelli of Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park. “This research helps us understand which species will be impacted depending on when droughts occur.” Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

College of Education and Human Development announces 2021–22 faculty, staff awards

- Teaching Excellence Award (full-time faculty): Ian Cameron, lecturer of human development and family studies
- Teaching Excellence Award (part-time faculty): Arianna Anagnostis, instructor and clinical preceptor in athletic training
- Faculty Service Award: Ian Mette, associate professor of educational leadership
- Staff Service Award: Casey Kelly, communications coordinator
- Research and Creative Achievement Award: Craig Mason, professor of education and applied quantitative methods

Mutts and Music event scheduled for April 23

19 Apr 2022

 Click to enlarge[caption] The University of Maine Tau Beta Sigma National Honorary Band Service Sorority will partner with the Bangor Humane Society for a Mutts and Music event and fundraiser from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. April 23. Mutts and Music will feature live music by local musicians, concessions, a silent auction, and a pet parade and costume contest. Animals from the Bangor Humane Society will also be available for adoption as long as they are available. The event will take place on the University of Maine Mall, in the section closest to the Fogler Library, and Room 100 of the Class of 1944 Hall. For more information, contact Lizzie Blanchard, elizabeth.blanchard@maine.edu.

Franco-American Centre to host hybrid 2022 Rassemblement April 22–24

19 Apr 2022

- A virtual screening of this short-format documentary. Set in Lewiston, the film explores the blossoming relationship between descendants of French-Canadian immigrants and more recent arrivals from francophone Africa, and discovers the unexpected ways in which their experiences intersect. [Learn more about the film and see the trailer here](#). Participants must register, and the link will be sent to registrants a week prior to the Rassemblement and can be watched at any time prior to the hybrid discussion Saturday, April 23.

Friday, April 22 Hybrid talk, reading and Q&A with Author Tyler Leblanc, 7–9 p.m.

- Tyler Leblanc, author of “Acadian Driftwood: One Family and the Great Expulsion,” will be speaking in-person. Growing up on the south shore of Nova Scotia, LeBlanc wasn't fully aware of his family's Acadian roots until a chance encounter with an Acadian historian prompted him to delve into his family history. LeBlanc's discovery that he could trace his family all the way to the time of the Acadian Expulsion and beyond forms the basis of this compelling account of Le Grand Dérangement. The in-person talk and discussion will take place at the Franco-American Centre, 110 Crossland Hall, and will be simultaneously broadcast over Zoom. [Register here](#) to join the event virtually.

Saturday, April 23 In-person informal gathering, 10 a.m.–noon

- Join other Rassemblement participants for an informal gathering at the Franco-American Centre.
- Participants who can't attend the Rassemblement in person can [register](#) for this virtual Saturday morning Rassemblment, which will resemble last year's virtual event. Virtual presentations and discussions will be facilitated by Patrick Lacroix, director of Acadian Archives at the University of Maine.

at Fort Kent.

Hybrid afternoon discussion facilitated by Jacob Albert, project manager for the Franco American Portal, 2–3 p.m.

- Join the directors of "Le Carrefour" virtually for a discussion of its making. Those in Orono will gather at the Franco-American Centre to join the Zoom-based discussion. [Registration](#) is required.

In-person closing event, 7–9 p.m.

- Bring your instruments for a jam at the Franco-American Centre. [Gus La Casse](#), Ellsworth-based fiddler, will perform.

Sunday, April 24 In-person morning debrief and coffee hour, 10 a.m.–noon

- Optional informal discussion to wrap-up the weekend, provide feedback and say good-byes in at the Franco-American Centre, 110 Crossland Hall in Orono.

A block of rooms has been reserved at Black Bear Inn in Orono under "Franco-American Programs" for in-person attendees who would like to stay Friday and/or Saturday. For groups of participants outside of Orono, the Franco-American Centre will help organize in-person satellite Rassemblements, as well as a Zoom channel for those who wish to gather virtually.

WABI and WFVX feature UMaine Earth Week

19 Apr 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) and [WFVX](#) (Fox 22/Channel 7 in Bangor) shared information about University of Maine Earth Week, which began Monday, April 18, and will continue to host events through Earth Day, April 22. A full schedule of events for Earth Week can be found on the [event webpage](#).

BDN shares Brzozowski's national achievement award

19 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Richard Brzozowski, University of Maine Cooperative Extension food system program administrator and Maine AgrAbility project director, was recognized at the National AgrAbility Project training workshop and conference held March 14–17 in Madison, Wisconsin. Brzozowski was awarded the Purdue Breaking New Ground Achievement Award for his 11-year leadership of Maine AgrAbility and the significant contributions he has made to the lives of Maine's farm families impacted by disabilities.

BDN shares Talbot's award from the International Zebrafish Society

19 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Jared Talbot, assistant professor at the School of Biology and Ecology, was awarded the 2022 Chi-Bin Chien award from the International Zebrafish Society. The award recognizes outstanding graduate students, postdoctoral trainees, or recently appointed faculty members from any country who have made significant contributions to the field of zebrafish research.

PenBay Pilot shares Early College program for high school students

19 Apr 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared information about a four-week summer college STEM research course for qualified high school students offered by the University of Maine at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. The course is designed to introduce high school students to higher education and careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The course includes lecture and laboratory instruction in data collection and analysis, experimental design, measuring and graphic techniques, scientific writing and evidence-based thinking. Register [online](#).

CruiseRadio.net features UMaine study in article about cruise ships returning to Bar Harbor

19 Apr 2022

[CruiseRadio.net](#) cited a [2017 Economic Impact Study](#) conducted by the University of Maine in an article about cruise ships returning to Bar Harbor after a two and a half year hiatus due to COVID-19. The study showed that cruise ship passengers contributed approximately \$20 million of annual revenue to local businesses.

Carter pens op-ed for BDN about volunteering

19 Apr 2022

Hannah Carter, dean of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, wrote an opinion column for the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the value of volunteering. "April is also National Volunteer Month, a time for us to celebrate the thousands of people across the state who give selflessly of their time and talent. Volunteers are the heart of our organization. Without them, UMaine Extension could not fulfill its mission to bring practical, research-based information from the state's research university to the people of Maine — work that enriches lives and strengthens communities," Carter wrote.

Media boosts study about trees varying in drought recovery

19 Apr 2022

[Phys.org](#), [Verve Times](#) and the [Daily Check](#) reported on a University of Maine and Schoodic Institute study that found seedlings are especially vulnerable to drought because their nascent root systems can't access moisture deeper in the soil, but timing of drought also affects which tree species are more vulnerable. The research showed that some growth strategies, such as concentrated growth in the spring months for eastern white pine and paper birch, make these trees very sensitive to early drought. Other species, like northern white cedar, showed resilience to drought through increased growth later in the season.

BDN reports on UMaine students winning pitch competition

19 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on University of Maine students Tyler Delargy and Anthony Caccese, final round of the 2021–22 Big Gig season, a competition in which Maine entrepreneurs pitch their early-stage business or product ideas to a panel of judges and an audience of business professionals and innovators. The two founded Real Time Reality, an online service that gives users a secure and private identity management tool. Delargy said he and Caccese will use the \$5,000 Big Gig prize to pay a summer intern and purchase necessary equipment to grow their business.

WABI highlights UMaine Student Symposium

19 Apr 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on the University of Maine's annual Student Symposium, which provided an opportunity for students from a diverse field of disciplines to share their research with the public. "I'm so proud to be among so many great student researchers right here. There are such amazing things going on at the university. And I wish I could spend time with each one of these presenters and hear all about their research," 2022 University of Maine salutatorian Maxwell Burtis told WABI.

Berry and Isenhour write for BDN about the sustainability of thrifting

19 Apr 2022

Brie Berry, postdoctoral research associate in the Department of Anthropology, and Cindy Isenhour, associate professor of anthropology and climate change at the University of Maine, wrote an opinion column for the Bangor Daily News about how second-hand shopping could help mitigate climate change. "For example, through a [five-year research project on reuse economies](#) in Maine, we've learned that second-hand economies not only have environmental and economic benefits, but they also contribute to social capital — the ability for communities to work together to achieve common goals," the two wrote.

O'Reilly co-authors article about Russian sports for Sports Business Journal

19 Apr 2022

Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine's Graduate School of Business, co-authored a column for the [Sports Business Journal](#) about the effect of the war in Ukraine on Russian sports with Rick Burton, professor of Sport Management at Syracuse University. O'Reilly wrote that international federations and major sport properties know they will face too much heat if they offered to place events in Russia. "We can sympathize with the young Russian athletes who will find it difficult going forward. ... But for quite some time, they will face decision-making from entities that want all things Russia to disappear. That could mean athletes from Russia or Belarus are unable to compete or, for those that are allowed entry, they'll be kept from doing so under the Russian or Belarusian flags. This is a third major hit to Putin and his use of sport as an international poker chip," the article read.

Jurich writes for Wallethub about umbrella insurance

19 Apr 2022

Stephen Jurich, assistant professor of finance at the Maine Business School, penned an article for [Wallethub](#) about umbrella insurance. Jurich explained the umbrella insurance is coverage that extends the liability insurance from auto or homeowner's insurance policies to cover situations with higher limits, like insurance policies for motorcycles, boats and other recreational vehicles, as well as libel and slander. "You should consider getting umbrella insurance if your liability limits are less than the total value of your assets," Jurich wrote.

Forstadt and Noblet speak to BDN about anxiety around the PFAS crisis

19 Apr 2022

Leslie Forstadt, human development specialist with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and Caroline Noblet, associate professor of economics at the University of Maine and a team member of the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions PFAS Research Initiative, were interviewed for the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the anxiety surrounding Maine's PFAS crisis. "It's understandable to feel anxiety around all of the PFAS news mainly because there is still so much we don't know and this uncertainty can feel scary or frustrating or might make you feel angry. It's important to acknowledge how you feel about all of the news around PFAS," Forstadt said. "I know what we all want is to have information. But the science around PFAS is still evolving and sometimes sharing emerging information is more harmful than not," Noblet said.

Maine Public interviews Mallory about the grain economy in Maine

19 Apr 2022

Ellen Mallory, University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor and a professor in the School of Food and Agriculture, was interviewed by [Maine Public](#) for a story about Maine's growing grain economy. "People really like the idea of eating local. If you develop a local grain economy, with relationships between farmers and processors, then you can stabilize prices and provide some predictability for farmers in terms of a price and in terms of volume [that they can sell]," said Mallory, who is on the board of Maine Grain Alliance and works with farmers to help them meet the new economic opportunities with grain

production.

Boston Globe interviews Evans for article about “golden age” of wildlife

19 Apr 2022

Bryn Evans, postdoctoral student at the University of Maine, spoke to the Boston Globe about her research about wildlife in Maine. As part of her Ph.D. research, Evans placed 600 motion-activated cameras all over the state and monitored them for four years, taking more than a million photos of wildlife. “Every time I pulled out a memory card and looked at it, it was like Christmas morning. I was expecting to find dead zones, but there were animals everywhere — martens, fishers, red fox, bobcats, bears, lynx, weasels, you name it. I had 16 different terrestrial animals walk by a single camera in a two-week period. They were here before we built our lawns, and now they’re coming back,” Evans said.

UMaine announces commencement speakers for May 6–8 ceremonies

19 Apr 2022

Two nationally recognized University of Maine alumnae, the scientific director of The Jackson Laboratory and a land protection project manager for Maine Coast Heritage Trust will be the UMaine and University of Maine at Machias commencement speakers for ceremonies for 2022 graduates and 2020–21 alumni, May 6–8. Jacob van de Sande, a land protection project manager for Maine Coast Heritage Trust, will address the UMaine Machias commencement ceremony that begins at 11 a.m. May 6 in the Performing Arts Center. Alumna Shontay Delalue, senior vice president and senior diversity officer at Dartmouth College, will address UMaine’s Graduate School commencement that begins at 4 p.m. May 6. Nadia Rosenthal, scientific director and professor, The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, will give addresses at the 220th commencement ceremonies for 2022 undergraduates. Those ceremonies begin at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. May 7. Alumna Ukeme Awakessien Jeter, a partner at Taft, a national law firm, will address the commencement celebration May 8 for alumni of the Classes of 2020 and 2021. All UMaine ceremonies are in Harold Alfond Sports Arena. [caption id="attachment_90342" align="alignright"



width="140"] Jacob van de Sande[/caption] Since 2014, van de Sande of East Machias has been a Maine Coast Heritage Trust land protection project manager. Prior to joining Maine Coast Heritage Trust, he worked for the Downeast Salmon Federation for 14 years as hatchery manager, and outreach and education coordinator, focused on salmon and sea-run fish conservation and restoration in Washington County. Van de Sande has a master’s degree in fisheries from the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. He is completing his second term on the UMaine Machias Board of



Visitors, including two years as chair from 2019–21. [caption id="attachment_90343" align="alignright" width="140"] Shontay Delalu[/caption] Delalue was named the inaugural senior vice president and senior diversity officer at Dartmouth College in 2021. She is a thought partner and subject matter expert responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating Dartmouth’s diversity, equity and inclusion efforts, as well as overseeing compliance programming related to civil rights. She holds an adjunct assistant professorship in African and African American Studies. Prior to moving to her appointment at Dartmouth, Delalue served as vice president for institutional equity and diversity at Brown University. In her career, she has worked in admissions, advising and counseling, as well as international and multicultural affairs. She also managed the recruitment of students from historically underrepresented groups at UMaine. At the University of Alaska Southeast, she directed admissions of the three southeast campuses and ran the dual enrollment program. She later served as director of the Intercultural Center at Bryant University. Delalue is from New Jersey and is a proud first-generation college graduate. She holds a bachelor’s degree in communication and a Master of Education, both from the University of Maine. She earned a Ph.D. in education through a joint program of the University of Rhode Island and Rhode Island College. Delalue is a member of the University of Maine Board of



Visitors. [caption id="attachment_90344" align="alignright" width="140"] Nadia Rosenthal[/caption] Rosenthal obtained her Ph.D. from Harvard Medical School, where she later directed a biomedical research laboratory, then headed the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) campus in Rome. She founded EMBL Australia as its scientific head and was founding director of the Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute in Melbourne. She is an EMBO member, a fellow of the U.K. Academy of Medical Sciences and of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Science. She

also holds a chair in Cardiovascular Science at Imperial College London. At The Jackson Laboratory, Rosenthal's research team focuses on the role of growth factors, stromal cells and the immune system in the resolution of tissue injury for applications in regenerative medicine. They have recently shown how modifying the profile of immune cell infiltration can facilitate or prevent tissue repair and have demonstrated the power of harnessing mouse genetic diversity to identify new genetic pathways in the varied response to cardiovascular disease. Since 2019, they have turned their expertise in mouse genetics toward



creating more precise mouse models for SARS-CoV-2. [caption id="attachment_90345" align="alignright" width="140"] Ukeme Awakessien Jeter[/caption] Awakessien Jeter is a partner at Taft, a law firm with approximately 625 attorneys, where her practice focuses on helping clients drive innovation. She enjoys collaboratively working with brilliant minds on developing solutions to the emerging and complex challenges encountered when bringing innovative and revolutionary products and services to market. Awakessien Jeter is an active member of her community in Ohio. In 2021, she was elected to Upper Arlington City Council, making history as the first person of color elected to council in the city's 103-year history. Awakessien Jeter also is a tireless advocate for causes of access, equity and inclusion. She serves on the board of directors for Ohio Legal Help, a startup nonprofit that leverages technology and innovation to improve justice and fairness for all Ohioans. She also serves on the United Way of Central Ohio's Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Council. Awakessien Jeter received a J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law, an MBA from University of Massachusetts Lowell and a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from UMaine, where she currently serves on the UMaine Alumni Association Board of Directors. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Spire to release sixth issue April 22

20 Apr 2022

Spire: The Maine Journal of Conservation and Sustainability will release its sixth issue [online](#) this Earth Day, April 22. Spire is a student-run, interdisciplinary online journal based at the University of Maine. The publication seeks to unite communities across the Northeast by promoting impactful dialogue to effect profound environmental change. The sixth issue features photography from UMaine alumni and students, nature-themed poetry, stories of resilience, a discussion on capitalism's role in climate change and a review of the impacts of pipelines. Artwork on the cover is by Rachael Murphy, whose woodcut prints display personal interactions with the Maine landscape. Spire editor-in-chief Rebecca Champagne is a Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences who is graduating this semester. Dominic Piacentini, a Ph.D. candidate in anthropology and environmental policy, will be the next editor. The submission deadline for Spire's seventh issue and cover art contest is Feb. 1, 2023. Submissions to the journal are accepted on an ongoing basis. More information on how to submit to Spire can be found [here](#). For questions about the journal or joining the Spire team, email spire@maine.edu.

UMaine Athletics' Black Bear Bash will take place April 23

20 Apr 2022

University of Maine Athletics will host the Black Bear Bash on Saturday, April 23, starting at 11:30 a.m. Admission is free and open to the public. Black Bear Bash features three major athletic events: the Jeff Cole Memorial Spring Football game at Alford Stadium, a softball doubleheader against Binghamton University at Kessock Field and a baseball game against UMass Lowell at Mahaney Diamond. The event includes food trucks, autograph sessions following the games, a bounce house for the kids and numerous giveaways for students. Refreshments from Chick-fil-A and Wild Cow Creamery will be available for purchase. For more information, visit the [UMaine Athletics website](#).

2022 Survivor/Castaway-themed Maine Day is April 27

20 Apr 2022

The University of Maine's 2022 Maine Day will take place on April 27 featuring events and contests related to the theme Survivor/Castaway. Maine Day was inaugurated in 1935, when then-President Arthur Hauck set the day aside for "spring clean-up" of campus, with the entire campus UMaine community — students, faculty, staff and alumni — pitching in. Historically, Maine Day is set on Wednesday of the last week of classes of the spring semester. Coinciding with Maine Day is [Maine Day of Giving](#), an annual 24-hour fundraising event coordinated for the past seven years by the University of Maine Foundation. UMaine's Employee Giving Campaign, which is highlighted throughout April, is also a part of the giving day event. This year, the newly launched Higher Education Relief Fund, providing financial support to students and faculty impacted by environmental, political, or global crises as they pursue or hope to pursue scholarship at UMaine, is featured as well. The 2022 Maine Day schedule for April 27: **8:15 a.m. – Parade** Campus offices and organizations will parade around campus on a historic route and that will drop participants off in time for service projects. Groups are encouraged to dress up and design a float — whether on a trailer, in the back of a truck or just walking — to fit in with the theme of Survivor/Castaway. There will be trophy prizes for the best organization and the best office. Sign up [here](#). **9 a.m. – Service Projects** Service Projects will start immediately after the parade. A list of service projects with openings is available [online](#). If you have questions, email the Bodwell Center at um.bodwellcenter@maine.edu. If you already have a project planned or need volunteers to help get something done, submit a request for a project with the Bodwell Center [online](#). **11 a.m.–2 p.m. – BBQ and Fair** All campus dining locations shut down for the traditional BBQ in the Steam Plant parking lot. Student organizations will be hosting fundraisers and activities. Student organizations can sign up for the fair [online](#). **1–4 p.m. – Lawn Games** Head to the Mall for lawn games, music and snacks. **6–9 p.m. – Black Bear Bash** To celebrate a day of service, University of Maine Student Government will host the Black Bear Bash with food trucks, inflatables, a Battle of the Bands and more. Bring your MaineCard to our check-in tent near Fogler Library to sign in and get your meal tickets. A map will be provided with the various games, activities and food trucks on campus. Details and a full schedule of events are on the Maine Day [webpage](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, email um.getinvolved@maine.edu

UMaine students compete in 2022 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge

20 Apr 2022

A team of four animal and veterinary sciences students from the University of Maine ranked third among six teams at the 2022 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge this month. Elaina Cobb from Billerica, Mass., Rebecca French from Topsham, Zoe McNally from Bowdoin and Kaity Walorz from Lakeville, Mass., competed against 94 students from 22 universities across the U.S. and Canada. This was the first time in two years that dairy students were able to compete in the national Dairy Challenge, held this year in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Dairy Challenge was established in 2002 to develop tomorrow's dairy leaders and enhance progress of the dairy industry by providing education, communication and networking among students, producers, and agribusiness and university personnel. The Dairy Challenge contest is a three-day event when dairy students tour and evaluate a dairy farm based on production, health, breeding, financial data and the business' short- and long-term goals. Six teams are assigned to a given dairy, where each assesses the operation to identify strength and opportunities for improvement, and then presents their findings in a 20-minute presentation to a panel of judges. The judges evaluate the presentation's organization, visual aids, content and how students respond to questions. The assessment of the farm and recommendations are heavily weighted. The four UMaine students drew from their coursework, what they had learned from their peers and Maine's dairy farmers, and hands-on experience at the J.F. Witter Teaching and Research Center during the competition. The UMaine students were coached by David Marcinkowski, associate professor of animal and veterinary sciences at UMaine's School of Food and Agriculture and Extension dairy specialist, and Glenda Pereira, assistant Extension professor and dairy specialist.

Townsend interviewed by Scientific American about fish farms in Maine

20 Apr 2022

David Townsend, director of the School of Marine Sciences at the University of Maine, was interviewed for [Scientific American](#) about innovative fish farms in Maine. Townsend said that Maine has two important attributes for fish cultivation: cold, nutrient-rich water and extremely vigorous tides that distribute those nutrients throughout the water column. According to Townsend, mussels are especially viable for farming. "Mussels bring less money per pound, but once you've got the infrastructure in place, they are a lot cheaper to grow because, unlike oysters, the seed is wild and free. Mussels grow at very high density, they contain a lot of protein, and they are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids and other nutrients. If we could get the whole world to eat more mussels, we'd be in much better shape," Townsend said.

Abedi testimony in support of Maine Space Corporation featured in News Center Maine

20 Apr 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that Ali Abedi, University of Maine professor of electrical and computer engineering, provided testimony in support of the bill LD 1923, An Act to Establish the Maine Space Corporation. "While it may sound far off, the space and aerospace economy presents a tremendous opportunity for Maine's citizens, companies, and communities," Abedi said.

Calderwood speaks to WFXV about planting wild blueberries

20 Apr 2022

[WFXV \(Fox 22/Channel 7 in Bangor\)](#) interviewed Lily Calderwood, University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, about planting wild blueberries in home gardens. Calderwood detailed the importance of testing the soil, picking the right location and properly mulching the spot. "Once you do have your established patch, you'll want to think about whether you want to have blueberries every year or not because if you don't mow them to the ground every other year you won't have as many berries," said Calderwood. Calderwood also said to "just be patient because once you do end up with some blueberries, just a few of them it will be so worthwhile."

Jonathan Rubin on what's next for Maine's greener transportation future

20 Apr 2022

States have an important role to play in the transition to a greener transportation future. Every state is at a different place in its clean energy journey, though. A new report helps states figure out what's next for each one — Maine included. The National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) recently released a report, "[Methods for State DOTs to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Transportation Sector.](#)" The nearly two-year-long research effort culminated in a guide (and an accompanying [easy-to-use web resource](#)) for states on how to best reduce their transportation sectors' greenhouse gas emissions based on the individual challenges each faces in the current moment. Jonathan Rubin, UMaine professor of economics and director of the Margaret Chase Policy Center, is a member of the NCHRP advisory panel and a co-author of the report. In the past, Rubin's research has been supported by the U.S. State Department, the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy. He is also a member of the Maine Climate Council's Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Transportation Working Group. Rubin said that this NCHRP report is important because it not only addresses the special role that state decision makers have to play in greening the transportation sector compared to their local and federal counterparts, but it also addresses states where they are. "States are all over the map," Rubin said. "Some states are way ahead and some are way behind. There are some states for largely political reasons that aren't making the same level of effort. With this guidebook we're trying to say that the first thing to do is that states have to take an honest appraisal of where they are. We're trying to meet them where they are." Though Maine isn't as far along as, say, California — which Rubin said is far and away the leader in the green transportation sector — the state is rapidly catching up, with a relatively clean electric grid, financial incentives for electric cars. One of the state's biggest challenges, though, is the fact that Maine is largely rural. "In a rural state like Maine it's very challenging. We don't have a public transit system that can serve everyone's needs," Rubin said. "We have transit, but we're not talking about subway systems or the infrastructure that exists in bigger urban areas." Because of that, moving to electric vehicles is an essential step for Maine's greener transportation future. Rubin said that access to charging is "probably the thing that most electric vehicle owners are going to be concerned about" in Maine, as most public charging infrastructure currently is available in urban areas. "Most people charge at home, so in that sense being rural isn't necessarily a handicap, but then you have to say how far do I have to drive on any given trip. I don't think it's something that can't be solved with conscientious planning, but it is a challenge," Rubin said. Realistically, Rubin said that Mainers can expect the cost of electric vehicles to decrease in the coming years and the

technology to improve, though supply chain issues have caused some backlog. The current volatility of oil prices also makes a strong case for consumers to go electric. However, Rubin said that the most important part about making the transition to green transportation — in Maine and beyond — is that everybody benefits from it, particularly low-income individuals who might not have the financial resources to, say, purchase an electric car. “This is a transformation we need to make and we need everybody to benefit. We can make the progress we want to make, but it’s not a foregone conclusion. I’m optimistic, but I’m also realistic,” Rubin said. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Maine Oyster Trail receives Growth and Leadership Award at 2022 Governor’s Conference on Tourism

21 Apr 2022

The Maine Oyster Trail received a Growth and Leadership Award at the 2022 Governor's Conference on Tourism. First launched in 2017 to educate consumers about oyster farming in Maine, the Maine Oyster Trail was reimagined in 2020 by Maine Sea Grant and the Maine Aquaculture Association in response to market changes during the coronavirus pandemic. The new trail features interactive virtual tools, including a customizable trip planner and mobile passport, to connect visitors to farm tours, shucking events and direct-from-the-farm purchasing opportunities. The Office of Tourism [created a video](#) about the trail, and [News Center Maine](#) talked to Marine Extension Associate Jaclyn Robidoux, one of the architects of the new trail.

Maine Greek life raises over \$20,000 for charity in April

21 Apr 2022

UMaine fraternities and sororities held four events in April that raised over \$20,000 for charities in Maine and beyond. Beta Theta Pi hosted its 29th annual Sleep Out on April 8 to support UMaine Rape Response Services. The fraternity raised over \$5,000 with more than 300 attendees. Sorority Alpha Phi hosted a Red Dress Gala on April 9, an annual event to support Heart Health through the Alpha Phi Foundation. The event raised just over \$4,000. Sorority Alpha Omicron Pi held the 17th annual Mr. Fraternity pageant on April 13. The events brought together the entire Greek community for a talent show. All funds support the Arthritis Foundation, as well as the philanthropy of winning chapters. They raised \$10,000 and had over 700 in attendance. Fraternity Phi Gamma Delta held its Pie a FIJI event on April 14. Around 150 people attended and raised \$1,000 for the Autism Society of Maine. “I’m so thankful for the leadership within our Greek community, as demonstrated in particular within this last month of philanthropic events. Our fraternities and sororities enrich the lives of not only their members, but the greater community through meaningful involvement in service,” said Jennifer Desmond, assistant director for community life at the Center for Student Involvement.

UMaine Extension landscape design webinar April 29

21 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners about designing welcoming landscapes, noon–1:15 p.m. April 29. “[Designing Welcoming Landscapes](#)” will provide an overview of questions and considerations when evaluating a garden space, with specific examples of ways to make landscapes more fun, comfortable and safe for all ages. Clair Ackroyd, garden designer and author, leads the workshop. Registration is required; a sliding scale fee is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#) to attend live or receive the recording link. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, 207.781.6099; extension.gardening@maine.edu.

STEM college research and career exploration course offered to high school students at UMaine Hutchinson Center tuition free

21 Apr 2022

Registration is open for an innovative four-week college STEM research course for qualified high school students (rising 11th–12th grade), offered by the University of Maine, July 18–Aug. 11, at the UMaine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. Introduction to Integrated Science and Career Exploration (INT 188) will meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. High school students will earn three college credits upon completion of the course. Sections of this course, on the same dates, are offered on the Orono and Machias campuses. Early College classes are offered tuition-free for qualified high school students. Students who pay to attend high school in Maine, including out-of-state and international students, will be charged a reduced Early College rate. INT 188 is designed to introduce high school students to higher education and careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The course includes lecture and laboratory instruction in data collection and analysis, experimental design, measuring and graphic techniques, scientific writing and evidence-based thinking. Students will participate in group work, a research project in environmental chemistry or environmental biology, a career-planning assignment focusing on STEM fields, career exploration experiences and a final research symposium on Aug. 11. Course instructors Susan Therio and Dave Thomas are UMaine adjunct faculty members teaching chemistry and oceanography courses, respectively. Prior to coming to UMaine, Therio was an industry chemist in environmental and hydrocolloid fields. Thomas, a high school science teacher for over 18 years, spent four years as a research technician in northern Wisconsin and Michigan studying ecological changes. [Registration is online](#). For more information about the course content, contact Chris Tremblay, 338.8038; christopher.james.tremblay@maine.edu.

Media highlights Extension tractor safety class

21 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension tractor safety and maintenance class for new and beginning farmers, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. on May 3 at Kennebec Valley Community College. The “[Tractor Safety Farm Visit](#)” is designed for farmers with fewer than 10 years of experience to learn about tractor safety and maintenance with other new farmers. Register on the [event webpage](#).

PPH features Extension digital resources for gardeners

21 Apr 2022

The [Portland Press Herald/Times Record](#) highlighted the digital resources provided by University of Maine Cooperative Extension for Maine gardeners. The

article emphasized that UMaine Extension has both virtual and in-person resources ranging from programs, publications, workshops, classes, blogs and videos, many for free.

BDN notes history of Earth Day naked bike ride at UMaine

21 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) spoke to University of Maine alumni and community members about UMaine's longstanding tradition of a naked bike ride on campus to commemorate Earth Day. The story notes: "Nobody seems to know exactly when UMaine's naked bike ride tradition started or if people have always painted their bodies green and other spring-y colors, though it appears to have begun right around the time that the first Earth Day was held in 1970. It's happened nearly every year since, though not in 2020, when students had left campus due to the pandemic." The Penobscot Times shared the BDN article.

DairyProducer.com reports on UMaine team ranking third in 2022 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge

21 Apr 2022

[DairyProducer.com](#) reported that a team of four animal and veterinary sciences students from the University of Maine ranked third among six teams at the 2022 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge this month. The Dairy Challenge contest is a three-day event when dairy students tour and evaluate a dairy farm based on production, health, breeding, financial data and the business' short- and long-term goals. This was the first time in two years that dairy students were able to compete in the national Dairy Challenge, held this year in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Ellsworth American highlights Manning performance

21 Apr 2022

[The Ellsworth American](#) shared information about a performance by pianist Deiran Manning, faculty at the University of Maine School for Performing Arts, at 7 p.m. Friday, May 6, at Hammond Hall. Manning will perform with soprano Celine Mogielnick for a recital called "Sirens and Sailors — Songs of Love and the Sea," featuring a range of songs, from Mozart, Strauss and Rachmaninov to traditional folk, sea shanties and siren songs. The concert will explore the many reasons why composers and singers from all over the world have been captivated by the people, stories and mysteries of the sea.

Maine PE News Flash cites Humphrey's years of service

21 Apr 2022

[Maine PE News Flash](#), the newsletter of the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers, thanked Dana Humphrey, dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Maine, for his years of leadership and service. It noted: "When Dean Dana Humphrey, Ph.D., P.E. retires later this summer, after serving for 16 years as the Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Maine, we will miss his dynamic presence as a strong and vocal champion of the engineering profession. We cannot think of anyone else who has so graciously devoted so much of their time to educating students and the public about the benefits that engineers bring to society. Dean Humphrey's energy is infectious when he talks about the exciting developments at the University of Maine, the significant impact of engineering on diverse aspects of everyday life, or about how engineering is one of the most powerful drivers of economic progress in Maine. Saying Dana is tireless in his promotion of the engineering profession seriously understates his effort. All of us at the P.E. Board have had the opportunity to get to know Dana, and our ongoing tribute to him will be to attempt to carry on his practice of inspiring young minds and educating the public on the wonder, value, and benefits of being an engineer. We wish Dana the very best in his retirement and congratulations on a job well done!"

Isenhour interviewed for Waste Dive about reusable takeout containers

21 Apr 2022

Cindy Isenhour, associate professor of anthropology and climate change, spoke with [Waste Dive](#) about her research about reusable takeout containers. Isenhour worked with a graduate student to present a few possible models for reusable takeout containers to a group of 35 Maine hospitality, waste and environmental management stakeholders in fall 2021 as part of a [larger project](#) examining potential for reusable in the state. Isenhour noted that the majority said they would prefer a third-party service that regularly dropped off clean containers. The cost of devoting permanent storage space and sourcing workers to clean the packaging seemed unmanageable when businesses are already struggling to retain and train staff.

Dill speaks to WMTW about rare tick-borne illness

21 Apr 2022

[WMTW \(Channel 8 in Portland\)](#) interviewed Griffin Dill, University of Maine Tick Lab coordinator, after the Maine CDC confirmed a Waldo County resident died after contracting Powassan virus. "It is an exceptionally serious tick-borne illness. Fortunately, it's also an exceptionally rare illness. Historically, studies in Maine show that (there are) fairly low levels of this virus in our tick population. Somewhere around maybe 1% of ticks that are sampled test positive."

Walker Caron authors sixth cookbook

21 Apr 2022

Sarah Walker Caron, part-time faculty in the Department of Communication and Journalism, and a Department of English graduate student, authored a new cookbook, "The Disney Princess Tea Parties Cookbook," which was released by Insight on April 19, 2022. The cookbook features over 50 kid-friendly and easy-to-follow recipes inspired by the Disney Princesses. This is Caron's eighth book and sixth cookbook.

‘The Maine Question’ features prominent alumni Allen and Sally Fernald

21 Apr 2022

Allen and Sally Fernald of Camden, Maine have long been advocates for the University of Maine. Since graduating in 1954 and 1955, the owners and publishers of Down East Magazine have donated to various capital campaigns, sponsored art galleries and poetry readings, and led alumni groups and fundraising drives. In Episode 10 of Season 6 of “[The Maine Question](#),” the Fernalds discuss their lifelong relationship with their alma mater, and how the state and UMaine have evolved overtime, including the university’s development into a top-tier, nationally recognized research institution. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

UMaine’s first equal opportunity director to receive honorary degree

21 Apr 2022



[caption id="attachment_90427" align="alignright" width="223"] JoAnn Fritsche[/caption] The University of Maine will award an honorary doctorate to JoAnn Fritsche, UMaine’s first director of equal opportunity and also director of the Women’s Development Program, whose vision and leadership transformed the university’s curricula to be more inclusive, and led to the creation of a women’s studies program. Fritsche, of University Place, Washington, a longtime educator and advocate for persons with disabilities and their families, will receive the honorary degree during the afternoon ceremony of UMaine’s 220th commencement on May 7. Fritsche understood that advancing equity and diversity required important changes in practice, such as equal salary, more diverse job candidates, accessible buildings and classrooms, and equitable treatment of and facilities for women student-athletes, as well as a change in culture. Her initiatives were catalysts for cultural changes that still benefit UMaine, including a curriculum that incorporates the knowledge and experience of underrepresented people into courses and in all fields, noted the inaugural Nine Pillars of Diversity Lectures Series on “A Legacy of Advocacy: A Reflection on the History of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the University of Maine.” The 2021 lecture, which focused on Fritsche’s advocacy and paralegal work at the university, was sponsored by the President’s Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. “JoAnn Fritsche envisioned a curriculum that would, as she noted, help prepare all students for a world in which ‘the needs, contributions and ethical claims of women, people of color and developing nations must be acknowledged, not merely to ensure equity, but also to ensure peace and human survival,’ Her leadership and vision are as important today as they were decades ago,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. Fritsche began her professional career in December 1972 at UMaine, where she was named the first equal opportunity director, to advise the university’s administrators and faculty about how to comply with Titles VI and Titles VII of the Civil Rights Act, as well as of Title IX of the Education Amendments, passed by Congress in 1972. After the Rehabilitation Act was amended in 1973, she also assumed responsibilities for helping to ensure that the university would become compliant with Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended, to support employees and students with disabilities. She was a cooperating associate professor of English. As an administrator with interest and experience in ways to facilitate institutional change, Fritsche focused on curriculum development, advancing an Interdisciplinary approach to studying women and the social construction of gender, and developing strategies for the inclusion of women’s experiences and perspectives in the educational process. With financial support from then President Paul Silverman, Fritsche led an initiative to achieve a more gender- and racially balanced curricula at UMaine. The goal was curricula transformation in light of scholarship and perspectives of women, as well as men, of diverse racial, ethnic, national and class backgrounds. This work led to the introduction of new scholarship by and about women, and, ultimately, to the founding of the Women in the Curriculum (WIC) program in 1982. WIC established a planning committee for a women’s studies program at UMaine, now the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. In addition, with a grant from the United States Department of Education, Fritsche launched a Leadership in Educational Equity Project to provide faculty at UMaine and seven other cooperating institutions in northern New England with the technical and financial resources to incorporate the contributions and perspectives of women in academic courses and research. The work of the project is reflected in Fritsche’s 1985 book, “Toward Excellence & Equity: The Scholarship on Women as a Catalyst for Change in the University.” Fritsche also established the Women’s Development Project to reflect the “university’s recognition and support of women’s efforts in economic and human development.” In its first year the Development Project sponsored a “series of seminars for women in transition,” conducted a study of women in the curriculum, and started planning a speakers bureau. The following year, Fritsche focused on women beyond the university, creating two women’s development directories — one for greater Bangor and the other statewide. The directories included businesses and services run by women, agencies that addressed women’s special needs, and individuals who had skills to share. From UMaine, Fritsche moved to the West Coast in 1986 to begin a career in fundraising and volunteer consulting for nonprofits. Her interests focus on “helping individuals living with neurological, sensory, physical, cognitive and mental disabilities, plus assisting their loved ones who want to learn how to support the individual and her or his aspirations while also creating time and social support for themselves.” Since 2020, Fritsche has served on the board of directors of the Center for Independence, which promotes service, advocacy and community by people with disabilities, for people with disabilities. For nine years with the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities, she held multiple leadership roles as a board member and volunteer. From 1999–2002, Fritsche was executive director of the Washington Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities, serving the Greater Seattle area. Fritsche received a 1988 Maryann Hartman Award. She holds a Ph.D. in English language and literature/letters from Case Western Reserve University. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Machias' Kinap mentorship program empowers Native students to be community leaders

22 Apr 2022

To make campus a better place for Native students, the best thing to do is to get those students involved. The Kinap Mentorship program at the University of Maine Machias empowers Native students to engage with their culture on campus and take what they have learned to empower the local tribal community. Since about 2013, UMaine Machias has experienced a slight decrease in the number of Native students enrolled, said Darren Ranco, chair of Native American Programs, associate professor of anthropology and coordinator of Native American research at the University of Maine. While UMaine's Orono campus has facilities like the Wabanaki Center and programs like the Wabanaki Youth in Science (WaYS) program, which incorporates indigenous science and learning methods into classes like forestry and engineering, Ranco realized there wasn't much indigenous presence on campus at UMaine Machias, despite its close proximity to tribal communities in Washington County. "We started brainstorming ways that we could address both of those situations — more student recruitment and retention programs, and looking at ways to support Native students at UMaine Machias," Ranco said. With this in mind, Ranco and his colleagues at the University of Maine Wabanaki Center and the WaYS program developed the Kinap Mentorship Program for Wabanaki students at the University of Maine at Machias. Kinap (pronounced gee-nap) loosely translates to "future leaders." The mentors, a group known as the Kinapiyik (plural for Kinap, pronounced gee-nah-pee-yig), are responsible for participating in both on- and off-campus programs aimed at bringing together Wabanaki cultural values and Indigenous ways of knowing with Western education. "The design is based on what we've learned through the WaYS program, with a little bit of a wrinkle," Ranco said. "It employs the notion of two-eyed seeing, Indigenous science and Western science coming together in pedagogical spaces." In spring 2021, UMaine hired Jennifer Isherwood as the assistant coordinator of Native American student outreach and development at UMaine Machias to kick the program off and establish a point person for Native students on campus. "I think it's innovative in a place where there are not a lot of programs targeted specifically for the benefit of Indigenous students," Isherwood said. "There is no full-time Indigenous faculty at UMaine Machias, so having a representative there that's dedicated to solely supporting Indigenous students is brand new." In addition to supporting Native students to connect with resources, including tuition waivers, Isherwood recruited students for the Kinap Mentorship Program, which launched in fall 2021. She said the recruitment process was more challenging than it might seem. Not all Native students self-identify when they apply to UMaine, so Isherwood worked with tribal community members to connect with students, in addition to posting flyers and getting the word out in more traditional ways. "Gaining that trust and relationship takes time; you can't expect that to happen overnight," Isherwood said. The first cohort of the Kinap Mentorship Program had four students, which Ranco said is impressive given the size of UMaine Machias and the winnowing population of Native students on campus. One of the flagship members, Xander LaComb, a first-year visual arts major from Norway, Maine, said the idea of promoting Native culture on campus attracted him to the program. "I didn't grow up in an area with a lot of Native culture," LaComb said. "The idea of being able to establish that here really appealed to me." Even in its first year with its small-but-mighty cohort, the Kinap mentors accomplished a lot. Isherwood organized a variety of activities, including social gatherings, lectures from Indigenous leaders, and roundtables with students and faculty involved in projects that are positively impacting tribal communities across the state. This past semester, Isherwood organized a field trip to local petroglyphs where the Kinapiyak were encouraged to invite Native high schoolers from the community. She also started a lecture series called Wabanaki Voices, which offers members and allies of the Wabanaki community the chance to speak and engage with the UMaine Machias community. As part of the series, she hosted a talk with Jennifer Pictou, founder and head instructor of Dawnland Martial Arts, who discussed how the problem of missing and murdered Indigenous women gave rise to its creation of a self-defense program called Kinapiskw'k within international Wabanaki communities. "She was really incredible," LaComb said. "She was willing to be vulnerable about her experiences as a Native woman. It was just a really powerful thing to experience." The Kinapiyak also established a Native American student lounge, where they had the opportunity to design the space and pick the decorations. LaComb said that he was even able to put his visual arts skills to work in making signs for the space. Though the space is open to everyone on campus who is willing to be respectful of its meaning, many of the Kinap Mentorship Program events are held at the new lounge. For example, the program hosted a "lunch and learn" in the student lounge with suicide prevention representatives from Wabanaki Health and Wellness about what it means to be a *Kcihpahsuwet*, a guiding light, in tribal communities. With the hosts, the students braided sweetgrass, talked about issues of social and emotional support, and discussed what other programs they would like. Supporting students in this way is an important element of the program in general. Kinapiyik are required to meet with a representative of the Wabanaki Center for life-coaching sessions every other week. The Kinap Mentorship Program also comes with a financial incentive, too. In exchange for their participation in the programs, the students receive a stipend of \$1,500 per year. "I think there's so many things competing for students' time," Ranco said. "Some of them have very complicated roles within their families and things where they're spending time and maybe not bringing in some money that's going to be given a lower priority." The long-term goal of the Kinap Mentorship Program is to create a group of Native American peer mentors for younger Native students throughout the academic year. Ranco said that they hope to expand the program to the Orono campus this fall. "I'm so happy with the way it's progressed so far," Ranco said. "Even one or two students from these communities having an impact is important, for sure." Isherwood said that next year, she hopes to recruit students into the program earlier in the year and get more involved with younger students in the community. LaComb also hopes to spend more time in the Native community beyond campus. "There hasn't been much of an opportunity yet because of COVID, which is understandable, but I'm hoping once we move away from those we get to go into after-school programs and such," LaComb said. Still, LaComb said that he will "100%" be participating in the Kinap Mentorship Program in the years to come. "The program has helped me a lot as a freshman finding my place on campus and it's also helped me a lot to connect to my culture as a Native student," LaComb said. "I think going on I think it's going to do that for a lot of other people too." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Hamley and Gill recognized by ESA for Falkland Islands Research

22 Apr 2022

Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor in the School of Biology and Ecology and the Climate Change Institute, and Kit Hamley, Ph.D. candidate in the Climate Change Institute, are co-authors on a research paper that was recently selected as the winner of the Ecological Society of America's W.S. Cooper Award for a study of [seabirds in the Falkland Islands](#). Gill and Hamley will be recognized along with principal author Dulcinea Groff, who conducted the research as part of her Ph.D. at UMaine, as well as Gill's former UMaine undergraduate research assistants Trevor Lessard and Kayla Greenawalt. The Ecological Society of America (ESA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of professional ecologists, and its awards program recognizes ESA members who make outstanding contributions to ecology in new discoveries, teaching, sustainability, diversity and lifelong commitment to the profession. The Cooper Award honors the authors of an outstanding publication in the field of geobotany, physiographic ecology, plant succession, or the distribution of plants along environmental gradients. William S. Cooper was a pioneer of physiographic ecology and geobotany, with a particular interest in the influence of historical factors on the pattern of contemporary plant communities. The winning study, entitled "[Seabird establishment during regional cooling drove a terrestrial ecosystem shift 5000 years ago](#)," was published in Science Advances in October 2020. According to the [ESA press release](#), the researchers presented "a novel millennia-long perspective on the emergence of the distinctive coastal tussac grasslands of the Falkland Islands, following the Cooper tradition of understanding macro-scale vegetation patterns and dynamics related to environmental changes across space and time." By arguing that seabirds could be underappreciated drivers of ecosystem change on small nutrient-limited islands, the authors sparked "a different way of thinking about the study of ecosystems and their governing

factors,” which elevates the legacy of Cooper’s efforts to consider how ecosystems are transformed by interactions among species and abiotic factors, from nutrients to climate. ESA will present the 2022 awards during a ceremony at the society’s upcoming annual meeting in Montréal, Québec, Aug. 14–19. The UMaine researchers will be recognized alongside their collaborators Moriaki Yasuhara from the University of Hong Kong and Paul Brickle at the South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute.

UMaine Early College offers new Climate Change Pathway to high school students

22 Apr 2022

University of Maine Early College has partnered with the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture to develop a Climate Change Online Career Pathway. The 15-credit Pathway consists of a set of core courses (nine credits) in geology, economics and English, and six credits of recommended electives. Climate Change joins a portfolio of 30 pathways offered through UMaine and UMaine Machias Early College. Designed to introduce high school students to higher education and careers of interest, Early College Pathways allow students to make progress toward a UMaine degree through a chosen selection of courses. Through a partnership with the University of Maine System and the Maine Department of Education, with support from the Maine State Legislature, Early College courses are tuition-free for Maine public high school students. Students and parents interested in UMaine’s Early College Climate Change Pathway should contact Kari Suderley, 581.8024, um.earlycollege@maine.edu or visit umaine.edu/earlycollege/pathways for more information.

2022 Black BearTHON scheduled for April 29

22 Apr 2022

The 2022 Black BearTHON, the University of Maine’s annual charity dance-a-thon, will take place April 29 from 8 p.m.–midnight in the New Balance Student Recreation Center. Black BearTHON is a student-led organization that raises funds and awareness throughout the year for sick and injured kids treated at Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center, a member of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Students and organizations join the campuswide movement by registering and creating fundraising pages, participating in events on campus, and asking friends and family members for donations. Each year, the organization’s activities culminate with the annual dance-a-thon, an event where students will dance, connect with and honor patient families, play games, enjoy entertainment and fundraise. This year, Black BearTHON will partner with the Campus Activities Board for a prom-themed dance-a-thon. Black BearTHON will also reveal the annual fundraising total, all in support of kids at the local children's hospital. Black BearTHON started on campus in 2012. Since then, students have raised more than \$300,000 for Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center. These funds help to buy the life-saving therapies and specialized medical equipment needed to care for kids, as well as to fund advanced training for staff, research, and patient assistance — all critically important to the Medical Center’s mission to care for patients, families, the community and one another. Student teams can register [online](https://www.blackbearthon.org/). For more information, contact Alexa Jarvis at alexa.jarvis@maine.edu.

Village Soup features Hutchinson Center historical photography exhibit

22 Apr 2022

[The Village Soup](https://www.villagesoup.org/) shared information about two Penobscot Marine Museum photography exhibits — “Lincoln County Through the Eastern Eye” and “Animal Tales” — on display at the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast through June 30. The show is free and open to the public, Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Windham Eagle highlights Extension resources for making a more environmentally friendly home

22 Apr 2022

[The Windham Eagle](https://www.windhameagle.com/) shared information about University of Maine Cooperative Extension resources in an article about making homes greener. The column featured resources for composting and yard care, highlighting the free services, publications and professionals at UMaine Extension that can help homeowners create a more sustainable home inside and out.

Plattsmouth Journal features UMaine student winning prestigious science award

22 Apr 2022

[The Plattsmouth Journal \(Plattsmouth, ND\)](https://www.plattsmouthjournal.com/) featured Alexis Stanley, undergraduate laboratory assistant at the University of Maine, winning the President’s Award at the 60th annual Northeast Algal Society (NEAS) meeting this month for her research on the algal species *Porphyra umbilicalis*. Stanley, a native of Plattsmouth, said, “It was an honor to receive this award, and a joyous experience to be able to share my work and be met with such enthusiasm. I’m very thankful for all the people who helped me with my research and continue to do so.”

Wertheim interviewed by Maine Monitor about increased interest in gardening

22 Apr 2022

Frank Wertheim, associate Extension professor of agriculture/horticulture with University of Maine Cooperative Extension in York County, was quoted in the [Maine Monitor](https://www.maine-monitor.com/) about the increased interest in gardening for community resilience. Wertheim said that demand for gardening support and resources “has been off the charts,” but tracking the growth in local food production is hard, though, since there is no statewide data repository or association of all the local gardening initiatives.

News Center Maine interviews Wheeler about COVID-19 in Bangor’s wastewater

22 Apr 2022

Robert Wheeler, associate professor of microbiology at the Department of Molecular and Biological Sciences, spoke with [News Center Maine](https://www.newscentermaine.com/) about the

significance of the presence of COVID-19 in Bangor's wastewater. Wheeler, who studies UMaine campus wastewater for COVID, said Bangor's data are predicting an increase in cases. "I would say that it certainly indicates that we're going to have more virus here in the Bangor area. We're going to probably see more cases. We may see more strain on the hospital system in the coming weeks," Wheeler said.

UMaine releases assessment on the practices, impacts and safety of winter road salt

25 Apr 2022

The University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering recently released a report in collaboration with the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) examining the practice of using road salt for winter travel safety in Maine, as well as its cost and environmental impacts. The report makes recommendations for the state based on its findings, including increased public outreach, road salt reduction plans in environmentally-sensitive areas and increased monitoring of chlorides in water bodies. Rock salt, or sodium chloride, is the most widely used material on winter roads in Maine due to its relative cost-effectiveness and ease of handling. However, winter road salt is a significant source of chloride loading to fresh waters, which impacts ecosystems and affects the quality of drinking water while taking decades to fully recover. According to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), 20 streams in Maine are now noted on the list of chloride impaired urban stream watersheds. The report, entitled "Road Salt in Maine: An Assessment of Practices, Impacts and Safety," estimates that Maine used approximately 493,000 tons of road salt in 2019–20, equal to roughly 787 pounds of salt for every Maine resident, or 11 tons per lane mile per year. The report evaluated the environmental impact of road salt using geospatially distributed records from well testing to assess the prevalence of chloride contamination in groundwater wells. During 2011–20, 15 towns had at least one well with a chloride concentration above the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level, with South Thomaston in Knox county showing the highest number of contaminated wells. However, local biophysical factors play a role in the transport of road salt to groundwater, meaning that the prevalence of chloride contamination in wells across Maine cannot be directly inferred from spatial patterns of road salt application. Though towns vary substantially in their winter maintenance costs, clearing winter roads statewide costs Maine \$155 million, or \$114 per resident — and that doesn't include the costs of environmental impacts or corrosion of infrastructure and vehicles, nor does it include remediation costs of wells contaminated from road salts. Under state law, MaineDOT is obligated to resolve well claims for private water supplies that are rendered unfit for human consumption, by constructing or maintaining a highway, including the use of salts for winter road maintenance. MaineDOT has spent approximately \$5.3 million since 2006 to resolve well claims. The researchers looked at how warming winter weather over the past few decades has impacted — and will continue to impact — the use of road salt in Maine. The amount and timing of salt application on roads is closely linked to winter weather severity, but the changing climate has led to an increased variability in winter weather events, with both record low and record high snow falls occurring between 2010–19, making it more difficult to apply the necessary amount of road salt at the right time for the benefit of public safety. Salt is an important tool for winter mobility, and winter is a dangerous time to drive in Maine. The researchers examined data from all police reported crashes from 2015–19 in Maine and matched them with daily weather data from weather stations throughout the state and found that approximately 67% of all lane departure crashes from 2010–19 occurred during the winter period. To balance cost, environmental impact and safety, the researchers conclude that communication is key — the public needs to better understand the fiscal and environmental costs of winter maintenance, with all levels of government communicating them. That way, communities can make choices reflecting their own set of values and needs, as they do with school and police budgets. The report recommends that Maine develop a statewide chloride reduction plan that identifies and prioritizes salt reduction in regions with environmentally sensitive areas, as well as increasing their monitoring of chlorides in water bodies and make this information easily accessible to the public via a data dashboard. More public safety and awareness campaigns around the dangers of driving in winter weather, additional signage and news reporting were also recommended. Given the changing climate, the report also recommends that the state provide a detailed assessment of hazardous weather conditions based on hourly weather data to determine how storms mix snow, rain, freezing rain and sleet, and frost conditions throughout the state. Wintertime weather indices can offer useful guidance regarding frequency, intensity and duration of storm conditions to allow planning and decision-making regarding the use of road salt. Collaboration at all levels of government is key. The report says that Maine could benefit from stronger connections between university research, environmental monitoring and road practitioners. A statewide organization such as the Maine Municipal Association could strengthen communication among municipalities statewide, including providing training for town managers on the impacts and tradeoffs of salt application and recent developments in the field. The researchers outline how the experience of other states may offer lessons for Maine, such as New Hampshire providing training and liability protection to winter contractors in response to an increasing number of chloride-impaired streams, or Minnesota developing a network of Road Weather Information Systems and Automatic Vehicle Location Maintenance Decision Support System to support its DOT's liquid anti-icing program. The report also highlighted Maine's Long Creek Watershed Management District (LCWMD) implementing a pilot program that focuses on the cooperation of multiple stakeholders, applicator training, full cost accounting and salt reduction. When it comes to municipalities, though, there is no one-size-fits-all approach to balancing the impacts of road salt use with the safety benefits. Maine municipalities should scrutinize their spending on winter road maintenance and look at the local environmental impacts in order to determine the next best steps for their area. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Four UMaine, UMaine Machias students winners in DEI survey drawing

25 Apr 2022

Two University of Maine and two University of Maine at Machias students will receive \$200 bookstore vouchers for participating in this spring's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Climate Survey, sponsored by the campus DEI Councils and the University of Maine System DEI Steering Committee. The four bookstore voucher winners, selected randomly from among all students who completed the survey: Sydney Lounsbury and Caitlin Wiafe-Kwakey from UMaine, and Keely Tibbets and Firaol Bushera from UMaine Machias. The survey, focused on the experiences of UMS community members with diversity, equity and inclusion, was developed by the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS), a national partnership of colleges and universities committed to using data in the service of inclusive excellence. The aggregated survey results, expected to be available in May, will help inform and advance UMS DEI goals.

UMaine Alumni Association announces 2022 Alumni Achievement Award Winners

25 Apr 2022

The University of Maine Alumni Association has announced its 2022 Alumni Achievement Award winners. Award recipients include a medical products engineer who ramped up production during the pandemic and a former Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. The full list of honorees is on the Alumni Association [website](#). Award recipients will be recognized in an online ceremony on May 12. The event will be prerecorded and a video will be available online at 6 p.m. on May 12 at umainealumni.com/awards22.

Penobscot Marine Museum exhibits two shows this spring at the UMaine Hutchinson Center

25 Apr 2022

Two Penobscot Marine Museum photography exhibits — “Lincoln County Through the Eastern Eye” and “Animal Tales” — are on display at the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast through June 30. The show is free and open to the public, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. “Animal Tales” uses photographs from the Penobscot Marine Museum’s extensive photography archives and the intriguing stories behind the images to explore the fascination people have with animals. The exhibit features a range of photographs, from casual snapshots by amateur photographers to carefully conceived photos by professional photographers like Kosti Ruohomaa. “Animal Tales” is sponsored by Sally Savage. “Lincoln County Through the Eastern Eye” features photographs from towns, tiny communities and summer colonies. The majority of photos in this exhibit were taken between about 1910 and the 1920s. The images are a small sample of Eastern Illustrating and Publishing Company photographs that collectively tell a big story about life in Lincoln County a century ago. Outreach to local residents and community historians has yielded personal recollections, family connections and disappearing history, which have enriched the photo captions. The exhibit was researched and curated by Liz Fitzsimmons. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Abby Spooner, hutchinsoncenter@maine.edu. More information about the Hutchinson Center’s Fernald Art Gallery is [online](#).

WFXV, WABI boost Mutts and Music event

25 Apr 2022

[WFXV](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) covered the Tau Beta Sigma-Delta Nu National Honorary Band Service Sorority’s Mutts and Music event on campus Saturday with the Bangor Humane Society. Animals from the Bangor Humane Society were also up for adoption at the event.

Media highlights UMaine road salt study

25 Apr 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#), [Maine Public](#), WGME (Channel 13 in Portland), [Spectrum News](#) and [News Center Maine](#) featured a report from the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering that said the state needs to make salt reduction a priority in parts of the state that are environmentally sensitive. The study, done in collaboration with the Maine Department of Transportation, also said officials should increase the monitoring of chlorides in water bodies and set up a dashboard to inform the public about its findings. The [Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [New Hampshire Union Leader](#) shared the Portland Press Herald report. The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared the Maine Public report. [Q106.5](#) and [Z107.3](#) shared the WGME report.

Z107.3 features UMaine research about browntail moths and pheromone control methods

25 Apr 2022

[Z107.3](#) reported on a pilot study determining if pheromones could be the key to disrupting the browntail moth population and help reduce the infestation across Maine. Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology, and graduate student Sadia Crosby are performing the study in several areas.

MercoPress reports on Hamley and Gill ESA award

25 Apr 2022

[MercoPress](#), an independent news agency based in Uruguay, reported that Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor in the School of Biology and Ecology and the Climate Change Institute, and Kit Hamley, Ph.D. candidate in the Climate Change Institute, were recently selected as the winner of the Ecological Society of America’s W.S. Cooper Award for a study on seabirds in the Falkland Islands. Gill and Hamley will be recognized along with principal author Dulcinea Groff, who conducted the research as part of her Ph.D. at University of Maine, as well as Gill’s former UMaine undergraduate research assistants Trevor Lessard and Kayla Greenawalt.

BDN interviews Rubin about electric vehicles

25 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) spoke with Jonathan Rubin, director of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and professor of economics, about electric vehicles and Maine’s climate policy goals. Rubin said that Maine generally has an old housing stock, with many homes not equipped for rapid charging. He added that improving access to electric vehicles for Mainers in other parts of the state would also help with the state’s climate goals, because rural residents are even less likely to have access to public transportation. “We’re making good progress but to get 200,000 vehicles in eight years is a big challenge,” Rubin said. [WGME \(Channel 13 in Portland\)](#), [Business Telegraph](#), [Techregister](#), [Phoneweeek](#), [Wired Focus](#) and [Business Mayor](#) shared the Bangor Daily News report.

Porter, Schattman interviewed for BDN and Climate Central about warming weather and Maine’s potato boom

25 Apr 2022

Gregory Porter, professor of crop ecology and management, and Rachel Schattman, a professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine, were interviewed by the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Climate Central](#) for an article about warming temperatures driving Maine’s “potato boom,” but also leading to a variety of factors like increased pest pressure or variable rainfall. “How much of the potato production is impacted depends on the magnitude of these changes and on how variable and inconsistent they are,” Porter said. “We’re seeing this need for farmers to be able to be really nimble,” Schattman said.

Sun Journal features UMaine research about PFAS in animals

25 Apr 2022

[The Sun Journal](#) reported on a University of Maine research study that shows animals and plants get rid of PFAS at different rates. The research showed that, once ingested, PFAS cycles out of dairy cows faster than humans, and even quicker in chickens. Corn and oats planted in contaminated soil will take up very little PFAS compared to straw, which takes up a significant amount. The type of soil also impacts how plants take up PFAS. Richard Kersbergen, professor of sustainable dairy and forage systems at UMaine, said, "One of our recommendations to farms that have slight contamination (in their soil) is don't grow grass on there, grow corn silage you need to feed the cows. What's even more interesting is that we find very little or none in the corn kernels itself, so it doesn't go into the grain." [Yahoo News](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the Sun Journal article.

Nganzobo and Sanborn named UMaine Machias Valedictorian and Salutatorian

26 Apr 2022

Yani Nganzobo and Nicholas Sanborn have been named the 2022 University of Maine Machias valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively. [caption



id="attachment_90487" align="alignright" width="170"] Yani Nganzobo[/caption] Nganzobo will graduate with a degree in business with a concentration in entrepreneurship with a certificate in HR management. She was born in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and grew up in Johannesburg, South Africa. Nganzobo volunteers for groups like Maine Environment Education Association and Gateway Community Services Maine. She also sings in the church choir at Machias Fellowship. Last summer, she interned at Avesta Housing in Portland, and, based on that experience, she hopes to someday start her own business to invest in properties. She plans to continue her studies after graduation and pursue a MaineMBA at the University



of Maine. [caption id="attachment_90488" align="alignright" width="186"] Nicholas Sanborn[/caption] Sanborn, a native of Standish, is graduating with a degree in recreation and tourism management, with a focus on conservation law enforcement and natural resources. Sanborn is both the Outing Club president and a member of the Student Security Team. He also served on the Student Senate, and held positions as a resident assistant and a campus lifeguard. Since 2020, Sanborn has been involved with the work to improve the Outback Trail on campus. He has been awarded the Penobscot County Conservation Association Award, the Nathan C. & Dorothy W. Burbank Scholarship and the Edna Higgins Scholarship, and was certified as a Wilderness First Responder in January 2021. In the summer of his junior year, Sanborn interned with Windham Parks and Recreation at Dundee Park with a focus on facilities management of a park beach, as well as park administration, maintenance and improvement projects. After graduation, he will spend the summer working at the Mount Desert Land & Garden Preserve in Seal Harbor as a member of the trail crew. In the late fall and early winter, he will begin working toward his goal of becoming a Maine game warden. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Maine Day of Giving celebrates philanthropy as service on April 27

26 Apr 2022

Maine Day of Giving on April 27, the time when University of Maine alumni and friends near and far unite in support of the College of Our Hearts Always as a way to participate in the traditional annual Maine Day of service, is setting fundraising records. More than \$2.5 million in donations lead off this year's Maine Day of Giving, which includes multiple matching gift opportunities and new crowdfunding initiatives. Maine Day of Giving, established in 2016, also highlights UMaine's Employee Giving Campaign, which is spotlighted annually in April. In addition, the annual Senior Class Giving campaign concludes for the Class of 2022 on Maine Day of Giving. Seniors who make gifts of \$20.22 or more receive philanthropy cords and pins to wear at graduation, and become members of UMaine's Loyal M giving society. This year's effort, led by UMaine Class of 2022 Valedictorian Dominique DiSpirito has already exceeded 2019 Senior Class Giving. UMaine's crowdfunding website, Fill the Steins, will include a dozen featured funds and projects for donors to select from beyond the hundreds of other regular giving options available. Among those featured this year is the newly established Higher Education Relief Fund. Inspired by the recent crisis in Ukraine, the Higher Education Relief Fund will be used to provide financial support for students and faculty who are impacted by environmental, political, or global crises as they are pursuing or hope to pursue scholarship at the University of Maine. Two of the featured projects include matching gift opportunities. The faculty and staff of the College of Education and Human Development will match gifts 1:1 up to \$5,000. Gifts to support the

Witter Farm Teaching and Research Fund will be matched 1:1 up to \$2,000 by two anonymous donors in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. Three supporters of UMaine's Cooperative Extension have agreed to make a gift of \$1,100 if the Master Gardner fund receives 100 gifts. Sports Band alumni Scott Lerman '02 and Roger Grout '76 are offering \$1,000 if 50 individuals make gifts to support the crowd funding campaign to raise \$3,000 to replace two much-needed tenor saxophones. UMaine Athletics will launch its first text-to-donate campaign for each sport. All donations to teams are also matched 1:1 with gifts to the Alfond Fund by the Harold Alfond Foundation. Coach Amy Vachon challenges team alumnae and fans to make gifts of any amount to support the women's basketball team, and she will personally match donations up to \$10,000. University of Maine Foundation President Jeffery Mills also announced the receipt of several lead gifts to support Maine Day of Giving. A \$1.2 million gift from alumnus Norman Stetson '62 of Lexington, Massachusetts will benefit the University of Maine through the Carleton M. Brown Scholarship, the Norman B. Stetson '62 Professorship in Electrical and Computer Engineering, the Norman B. Stetson '62 Uplift Maine Fund, the Norman B. Stetson Scholarship Fund, and the newly established fund to support the Stetson Electric Drives Lab. A \$1 million bequest expectancy from alumni Neil '77 and De '77 DeStefano of New Jersey will provide \$500,000 to support the Athletics Master Facilities Plan which is part of the UMS TRANSFORMS initiative, funded through the Harold Alfond Foundation, and \$500,000 to support soil sciences and agriculture in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. A \$300,000 gift from Dr. Carole Goldberg '66 of Connecticut will endow a scholarship to support students with financial need from the College of Education and Human Development. A \$45,000 pledge from Versant Power will support Electrical and Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering Technology programs and enable UMaine to hire a new Robert N. Haskell Professor of Power Engineering. A \$40,000 gift from Clifford Rosen '71 will support the Dr. Clifford J. Rosen '71 Scholarship, which will be used to provide financial assistance to University of Maine students who have demonstrated financial need with a preference for students who are enrolled in the Honors College and who plan to attend medical school. "We are grateful to all our community members, alumni and friends who share the UMaine vision and generously donate to advance student success and the university's mission in Maine and beyond," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "The Maine Day of Giving has grown since its inception into a special opportunity to connect to the state's R1 research university. Donors tell us they give as a way to pay it forward for the difference UMaine made in their lives." "Maine Day of Giving celebrates philanthropy as an extension of service for UMaine," says Mills. "The Maine Day tradition is still very much alive with our alumni and friends and they welcome the opportunity to participate in this fun event. Every gift that comes in supports the common goal of excellence at the University of Maine." Many Maine Day of Giving gifts align with the philanthropic matching challenge for the UMS TRANSFORMS program, begun in 2020 by the University of Maine System in response to the Harold Alfond Foundation's historic \$240 million grant. The program has four focus areas: upgrade facilities for UMaine Athletics, improve student success and retention, for the statewide Maine College of Engineering, Computing and Information Science (MCECIS) and expand the Maine Graduate and Professional Center. The annual Maine Day tradition was established in 1935 by UMaine President Arthur Hauck. He stated that the day would help the campus, through work projects, become a more attractive place, foster the spirit of friendliness and cooperation, identified as the Maine spirit and strengthen loyalty among people and to the university. The University of Maine Foundation was established in 1934 and exists to encourage gifts and bequests to promote academic achievement, foster research and elevate intellectual pursuits at the University of Maine in Orono. Contact: Monique Hashey, monique@maine.edu

2022 Maine Day schedule updated

26 Apr 2022

The schedule for tomorrow's Maine Day has been updated: **8:15 a.m. – Parade** The parade will be happening rain or shine. Groups are encouraged to dress up/design a float (on a trailer, in the back of a truck, just walking, etc) to fit in with the theme of Survivor/Castaway. There will be trophy prizes for the best Organization and the best office. We parade around campus, starting at the Versant Power Astronomy Center, on a historic route, and drop you off in time for service. **9 a.m. – Service Projects** Service Projects will start immediately after the parade. Check in for your project at the Mall in front of Fogler Library at 9 a.m. If you have questions, email the Bodwell Center at um.bodwellcenter@maine.edu. **11 a.m.–2 p.m. – Spring Fair** Visit the Memorial Union, where student organizations will be hosting fundraisers and different activities. There will be pieing, head-shaving, snow cones, games and more. **Noon–1:30 p.m. – Maine Day BBQ** The traditional BBQ is back! Due to the rain, the BBQ will be moved inside to Wells, York and Hilltop. Hop in line and get your tasty treats starting at noon. **1–4 p.m. – Lawn Games** Join us in the Atrium of the Memorial Union for lawn games, music and grab-and-go snacks. **6–9 p.m. – Black Bear Bash** To celebrate a day of service, the University of Maine Student Government will host the Black Bear Bash with food trucks, inflatables and more. Due to the rain, the Black Bear Bash will be taking place in the New Balance Recreation Center. Dinner will be provided by the UMaine Student Government. Details and a full schedule of events are on the Maine Day webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, email um.getinvolved@maine.edu.

CUGR announces 2022 UMaine Student Symposium award winners

26 Apr 2022

The University of Maine Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) has announced the 2022 UMaine Student Symposium (UMSS22) award winners. The symposium, held April 15 at the New Balance Field House and Memorial Gym, provides an opportunity for the public to view numerous posters and exhibits of undergraduate and graduate research and scholarly work. More than 1,000 student researchers, co-authors, faculty, staff, sponsors and community members attended the event, which was held in hybrid format this year. Over 350 projects were submitted for the symposium, now in its seventh year. Students submitted virtual presentations to be reviewed by judges and participants, and they had the option to present at the in-person event. In addition to awards for virtual presentations, the symposium featured special awards sponsored by UMaine research centers and People's Choice Awards for in-person presentations. This year's award recipients are: **Special Awards**

- Zachary Doherty, who won the Susan J. Hunter Undergraduate Award for the project "Taste and Odor Degradation in Water by Nanobubble-facilitated Ultrasonication," advised by Onur Apul.
- Sean Sibley, who won the Susan J. Hunter Graduate Award for the project "Family Nurse Practitioner Student Perceptions of Simulation Based Education," advised by Kelley Strout.
- Caitlin Wiafe-Kwakye, who won the Dean of Graduate School Undergraduate Mentoring Award.
- Martha P. Gladstone, who won the Provost's Innovative and Creative Teaching Award.
- Jacob Snow, Md Ikramul Hasan and Richa Arya, who won the Student Innovation Commercialization Awards.

UMSS22 Virtual Presentation Undergraduate Category Awards

- Meg Lander, who won the award for Allied Health category for the project "Efficacy of the FIFA 11+ Injury Prevention Program in Maine High School Soccer," advised by Christopher Nightingale.

- Kimberly Hunt, who won the award for the Arts category for the project “Sergei Rachmaninoff’s Interpretive Architecture,” advised by Phillip Silver.
- Katie Southworth, who won the award for the Biomedical Sciences category for the project “DMC9 Prophage Characterization and Impact on Group B *Streptococcus* Virulence,” advised by Melody Neely.
- Nicholas Johnson, who won the award for the Business category for the project “Measuring China’s Footprint in the United States,” advised by Stefano Tijerina.
- Nicole LaPlant, who won the award for the Education category for the project “Creating a Healthy Rural Ecosystem for Community Vitality: Developing Rural Business Research,” advised by Catherine Biddle.
- Mackenzie Ladd, who won the award for the Engineering and Information Sciences category for the project “Effect of Interface Contact Conditions on the Electrical Resistance of 3D-Printed Conductive Filaments,” advised by Brett Ellis.
- Ainslie Allen, who won the award for the Interdisciplinary Research category for the project “Detecting Shared Touch Surface Contamination with a Deep Learning-Enhanced Smartphone and Nanopatterned Material System,” advised by Caitlin Howell.
- Emily Holt, who won the award for the Natural Sciences category for the project “Measuring Firn Thickness and Volume Change Using GPR Profiles Across the Juneau Icefield,” advised by Seth Campbell.
- Jinyoung Park, who won the award for the Physical and Mathematical Sciences category for the project “Isolation and Analysis of Glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) Using TEAB Auxiliary,” advised by Matthew Brichacek.
- Leah Savage, who won the award for the Social Sciences and Humanities category for the project “Objectifying the Classroom: An examination of self-objectification, appearance comparisons, and their effects on cognitive resources within video-class environments,” advised by Amelia Couture-Bue.

UMSS22 Virtual Presentation Graduate Category Awards

- Lauren Jellison, who won the award for the Allied Health category for the project “Firefighter Cancer Risk: A Qualitative Study of the Current Perceptions and Practices Surrounding Cancer Prevention in the Fire Service in Maine,” advised by Patricia Poirier.
- Stephanie Winslow, who won the award for the Arts category for the project “Andante et Scherzo,” advised by Elizabeth Downing.
- Caitlin Wiafe-Kwakye, who won the award for the Biomedical Sciences category for the project “Investigating the Impact of Prophages on Bacterial Fitness of *Streptococcus agalactiae*,” advised by Melody Neely.
- Thomas Erick, who won the award for the Business category for the project “NIL Legislation and Sponsorship of D1 NCAA Athletes,” advised by Norm O’Reilly.
- Anne Fensie, who won the award for the Education category for the project “The Study of Adult Learners in Distance Education: A Scoping Review of the Literature,” advised by Elizabeth Allan.
- Nicholas Soucy, who won the award for the Engineering and Information Sciences category for the project “CEU-Net: Ensemble Semantic Segmentation of Hyperspectral Images Using Clustering,” advised by Salimeh Yasaei Sekeh.
- Rachel Church, who won the award for the Interdisciplinary Research category for the project “Understanding Sense of Place in Maine Through Community Cookbooks,” advised by Susan Smith.
- Avery Lamb, who won the award for the Natural Sciences category for the project “Using Paleolimnological Tools to Evaluate the Links Between Climate Change and CyanoHABs in Maine Lakes,” advised by Jasmine Saros.
- Amy Halpin, who won the award for the Social Sciences and Humanities category for the project “Now or Later? Decision-Making Preferences in Community-Dwelling Older Adults,” advised by Rebecca MacAulay.

UMSS22 People’s Choice Awards

- Amanda Sandberg, who won for the project “Evaluating Ca2+ Related Drugs for Inhibition of JC Polyomavirus Infection,” advised by Melissa Maginnis.
- Jordan Miner, who won for the project “Role of the HU177 Cryptic Collagen Epitope in Differentially Controlling Breast Tumor Cell Behavior,” advised by Peter Brooks.
- Sarah Hanscome, who won for the project “Simulation-Based Learning in Nursing Education,” advised by Deborah Eremita.

The free public event was organized and co-hosted by CUGR, Student Government and the Graduate Student Government as part of Maine Impact Week. Additional sponsorships were received from Maine Technology Institute (MTI), Texas Instruments, John Turner Consulting, Power Engineers, Machias Savings Bank, IEEE Maine Chapter, Hannaford Supermarkets, UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and Rick Mundy, HomeLight, The Jackson Laboratory, SMRT, St. Joseph Healthcare, University Credit Union and UpStart.

2022 Summer MSGC Graduate Fellowship Winners Announced

26 Apr 2022

The University of Maine’s Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) and the Maine Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) have announced the 2022 Summer MSGC Graduate Research Fellowship Award recipients. The purpose of the MSGC fellowship and scholarship programs at UMaine is to provide research opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students in aerospace technology, space science, Earth science, human exploration/space development, and other science- or engineering-related fields. The focus of proposed graduate projects must be aligned with the research priorities of NASA’s Earth and space science strategic enterprises. Selected projects will be awarded \$6,000 each. This year’s recipients are:

- Hanna Brooks, Earth and Climate Sciences, “Determining Pb Emission Trends from 1000 BP to 2019 CE Recorded in the North Pacific,” advised by Karl Kreutz.
- Peter Manzella, Physics, “Rotational Effects on Supernovae,” advised by David Batuski.
- Michelle Stage, Psychology, “Going Where No Person Has Gone Before: Supporting Diverse Identities and Perspectives in Aspiring NASA Students,” advised by Mollie Ruben.
- Emma Erwin, Earth and Climate Sciences, “Constraining the Effects of Ice Deformation on the Mt. Hunter Ice Core Record,” advised by Seth Campbell.
- Jonathan Maurer, Earth and Climate Sciences, “Old Glaciers and New Methods: Applications of Deep Learning to spatially quantify firn thickness,” advised by Seth Campbell.
- Mikaila Mannello, Climate Change Institute, “Characterizing the Near-surface Properties of and Improving Snow Water Equivalent Estimates on the

- Bering Glacier System, Alaska and Canada,” advised by Seth Campbell.
- Luke McKinney, Intermedia, “Deep Mapping Wrangell-St. Elias National Park,” advised by Susan Smith.
- Thomas Cox, Mechanical Engineering, “Investigation into Sintered Lunar Brick Production Methods and Improved Brick Usability,” advised by Justin Lapp.
- Scott Braddock, Earth and Climate Sciences, “Quantifying the Spatial Distribution of Firn and Snow Properties Along an Elevational Transect of the Kahiltna Glacier, Alaska,” advised by Seth Campbell.
- Maxwell Prybylo, Computer Science, “PriCon: A Privacy Conscious System,” advised by Sepideh Ghanavati.

CUGR, MSGC announce 2022 summer fellowship recipients

26 Apr 2022

The University of Maine’s Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) has announced the 2022 CUGR and Maine Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) summer fellowship winners. The CUGR 2022 Summer Research and Creative Activities fellowships were developed to enhance and increase undergraduate student involvement in faculty-supervised research and are supported through the Office of the Vice President for Research. Each fellowship provides up to \$3,000 per student for costs associated with the project. The 2022 Summer MSGC Undergraduate Research Fellowship awards help provide research opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students in aerospace technology, space science, human exploration and space development, Earth science and other science- or engineering-related fields. The focus of proposed projects funded by the fellowships must be aligned with the research priorities of NASA’s Earth and space science strategic enterprises. Selected projects will be awarded up to \$3,000 each. This year’s recipients are: **2022 Summer Research and Creative Activities Fellowship**

- Hanna Friedman, Animal and Veterinary Sciences, “Analyzing the Effects of the First Year of the Maine Adaptive Management Moose Hunt on Parasite Prevalence in Moose,” advised by Pauline Kamath.
- Deirdre McGrath, Anthropology, “Stylistic Analysis of the Passamaquoddy Petroglyphs of the Downeast Maine Coast,” advised by Bonnie Newsom.
- Elizabeth Bein, Biology, “Response of Photosynthesis and Tree Growth to Extreme Heat,” advised by Jay Wason III.
- Meaghan Caron, Microbiology, “Mediating Virulence of *Candida albicans* Through an Administration of RBT1 Peptide,” advised by Robert Wheeler.
- Colman Alexander, Psychology, “The Effect of Climate Warming on the Nutritional Properties of Maine’s Wild Blueberries,” advised by Yongjiang Zhang.
- Simon Brooks, Mechanical Engineering, “Advanced Design of 3D Printing Head for Aligning Carbon Microfibers,” advised by Yingchao Yang.
- Giacomo Pellizzari, Mechanical Engineering, “Studying the Mechanical and Rheological Behaviors of Tough Multiple-Network Hydrogels to Use Them for Impact Resistant Applications,” advised by Siamak Shams Es-haghi.
- Syerra-Marie Carmone, Psychology, “Project CORE (CNA’s Overcoming and Regulating Emotional Burnout),” advised by Rebecca Schwartz-Mette.
- Evan Warburton, Biochemistry, “Comparing the Mycorrhizal Connections of Mature Trees and Seedlings Between Coastal Maine Islands Varying in Size and Distance From the Mainland,” advised by Peter Avis.

2022 MSGC Summer Undergraduate Award Recipients

- Nicholas Tiner, Civil and Environmental Engineering, “Can Coastline Configuration Create Accumulation Points for Harmful Algal Blooms and Microplastics Pollution?” advised by Lauren Ross.
- Hayden Libby, Civil Engineering, “Measuring the “Uncharted” Water that is Penobscot River Outflow to the Tidal Bay,” advised by Sean Smith.
- Jacob Goldberg, Engineering Physics, “Memristors: A Future in Computing,” advised by Rosemary Smith.
- Stephen Kaplan, Computer Science, “Predicting Differences in Perception of Privacy Risk in Social Network Contexts,” advised by Sepideh Ghanavati.

BDN shares UMaine Black BearTHON

26 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) boosted the 2022 Black BearTHON, the University of Maine’s annual charity dance-a-thon, which will take place April 29 from 8 p.m.–midnight in the New Balance Student Recreation Center. Black BearTHON is a student-led organization that raises funds and awareness throughout the year for sick and injured kids treated at Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center, a member of Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. Black BearTHON is a fun tradition that started on campus in 2012. This year, Black BearTHON will partner with the Campus Activities Board for a prom-themed dance-a-thon.

Spectrum News speaks to Dill about the lengthening tick season

26 Apr 2022

Griffin Dill, integrated pest management professional and manager of the UMaine Tick Lab, spoke to [Spectrum News](#) about the trends helping lengthen the tick season on both ends of winter. This past winter didn’t have enough deep cold to really put a damper on overwintering ticks, while the extended snow cover in much of the state helped insulate them in the ground. The warmer winter causes ticks to remain active into December and reemerge earlier in April as winter condenses. “It really benefits the ticks overall, having that kind of shortened warmer winter. They’re able to survive the winter easier, and they’re now afforded a much greater length of time in order to find a host,” Dill says.

WABI covers Maine Sea Grant Research Symposium

26 Apr 2022

[WABI \(Channel 5 in Bangor\)](#) reported on the Maine Sea Grant Research Symposium. The event is held every two years, but was canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic. Professional researchers spoke on how they engage with both stakeholders and students to design and conduct projects that impact Mainers.

Gill speaks to Axios about Musk's acquisition of Twitter

26 Apr 2022

In an article about Elon Musk purchasing Twitter, Jacquelyn Gill, professor of paleoecology and plant ecology at the School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, told [Axios](#) in an interview that she found connections on the platform that she wouldn't have another way, and fears that might be lost if changes are made. "We started the 'March for Science' on Twitter. You can't say it's not powerful," Gill said. [Red, Green and Blue](#) shared the Axios report.

Biddle co-writes article for EdWeek about trauma-responsive care for students

26 Apr 2022

Catharine Biddle, associate professor of educational leadership, co-wrote an article for [EdWeek](#) with Mark Tappan and Lyn Mikel Brown, professors of education at Colby College, about trauma-responsive care for students. "To heal, however, we need educators and young people to feel empowered. The connection between agency, empowerment, and mental health is well documented. In health-service settings, trauma-responsive care requires listening to patients carefully, empowering them to make decisions about their care, and supporting them in taking charge of their own healing," the article read. Biddle, Tappan and Brown are the co-authors of the forthcoming book "Trauma-Responsive Schooling: Centering Student Voice and Healing."

Moran interviewed by News Center Maine about peaches

26 Apr 2022

Renee Moran, professor of pomology at the School of Food and Agriculture, spoke to [News Center Maine](#) about the potential to grow peaches in Maine. "Even though they don't yield very well, the price makes it worthwhile, and the way peaches can draw in customers makes it worth having them," Moran said.

Senator, Extension pest specialist Dill writes about UMaine R1 designation for Penobscot Times

26 Apr 2022

Jim Dill, pest management specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, penned an article for the Penobscot Times about UMaine achieving R1 designation from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. "As a state senator, Old Town resident and faculty member, I'm extraordinarily proud to see this occasion arrive for the University. It's exciting to know that in the years to come we won't be relying on folks outside of Maine for new research and innovations, but rather that our very own flagship university, right in our own backyard, will be leading the way and moving our state forward," Dill wrote.

UMaine study shows alfalfa and other legumes may be less responsive to preservatives than grass hay

27 Apr 2022

Properly storing hay is a logistical challenge for farmers. Hay that is baled and stored too moist — at moisture levels above 15–20% — can lead to the growth of molds that reduce bale weight and nutritive value, and impact animal health. Improper hay storage can even cause so much microbial activity that the bales will heat up and combust. New research shows that certain preservatives are more helpful than others to keep high-moisture hay mold-free — and that grass hays are more responsive to these treatments, compared to alfalfa. A [study](#) conducted by the University of Maine and Virginia Tech looked at the effects of various chemical and microbial additives on hay preservation during storage. Hay preservatives such as propionic acid, buffered organic acids, other organic acids, urea, anhydrous ammonia and microbial inoculants are commonly applied to high moisture hay to reduce microbial growth. "The hay industry is the third most important crop commodity in the U.S. and Maine in terms of value of production. Last year's harvest was estimated to be worth \$19 billion and \$36 million, respectively. In areas with frequent rainfalls during the growing season, like New England, it is quite difficult to produce properly wilted hay. That is one of the reasons we have among the highest hay prices in the U.S.," says Juan Romero, UMaine associate professor of animal nutrition and corresponding author of the study. The researchers compiled and analyzed the results of 62 published articles on hay preservatives to determine the effects of preservative type, application rate, forage type, bale moisture and their interaction on dry matter losses, moldiness, bale heating, nutritional composition and dry matter digestibility, among other response variables. The results showed that organic acid-based preservatives like propionic acid, buffered organic acids and other organic acids were effective at reducing dry matter loss (also known as "bale shrink"), moldiness, bale heating and indigestible protein. They were also, to different extents, effective at preserving hay sugars and dry matter digestibility. Meanwhile, microbial inoculants had only small effects on the prevention of hay spoilage, and were negatively affected by the increase of hay moisture. "The lack of responses for hay microbial inoculants evaluated so far is concerning since this is one of the few options organic hay producers have to deal with situations where bales have to be baled wet due to unexpected weather. Future research may generate novel inoculants and other preservatives that can be used in organic agriculture. Baleages are an excellent option for meeting internal forage needs, but they are quite difficult to move around since they need to be kept sealed, so they cannot match the marketability of hay," says Romero. Perhaps most significantly, the researchers found that legume hay, including alfalfa, was less responsive to the effects of preservatives than grass hay during storage. Legume hay typically has a higher nutritive value than grasses due to their higher protein and pectin concentrations and higher rate of fiber digestion. Alfalfa alone represents half of the hay production in the United States. The current guidelines for preservative application are the same for both alfalfa and grasses, but this will likely change thanks to the study's findings. "Legume hay is not only more susceptible to spoilage than grasses, but also less responsive to current preservatives due to their high levels of protein and pectin, which are precisely the components that increase their nutritive value. You could say it is the price to pay for having better hay quality; unfortunately, molds prefer these high-quality nutrients, too. We speculate that the high buffering capacity of protein and pectin reduces the antifungal activity of organic acid-based preservatives," Romero says. Romero says more studies are planned to determine a new set of recommendations for high-moisture legume, grass and mixed hay preservative application. "We expect a higher application rate as the legume component increases in the bale. Legumes are essential in herbivore nutrition, we just have to improve our ability to better preserve their higher quality," says Romero. The study was published March 1, 2022, in the Journal of Animal Science. Romero said that the research would not have been possible without first-author Marjorie Killerby and Diana Reyes, both graduates of the UMaine animal and veterinary sciences graduate program, as well as Robin White, associate professor at Virginia Tech. "Much like Maine, hay production is one of the top 10 agricultural commodities within Virginia, and as

the climate changes and weather becomes more variable, hay producers require more flexible strategies to ensure the value of their harvest. The results of this study highlight some of the tools which may be effective in maintaining hay quality in the face of climate uncertainty and illustrate where we need more data exploring the efficacy of these approaches. Particularly with the microbial dataset, our analysis opportunities were limited due to a small data set. More research on these products may help to better illustrate under what conditions microbial inoculants are effective,” White says. The study was partially funded by National Institute of Agriculture, Hatch U.S. Department of Agriculture funds from the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station and Badische Anilin und Soda Fabrik (BASF). Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Newsom awarded \$50,000 grant from Telling the Full History Preservation Fund

27 Apr 2022

Bonnie Newsom, assistant professor of anthropology, was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Telling the Full History Preservation Fund through the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Endowment for the Humanities for a project researching the history of marginalized peoples in Acadia National Park. Telling the Full History grant program funds projects that interpret and preserve historic places of importance to underrepresented communities across states and territories of the United States using funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan of 2021. The program awarded \$2.5 million in grants awarded across 39 states to 80 organizations. The full list of grantees can be found on the National Trust for Historic Preservation [website](#). Newsom was awarded \$50,000 for a project entitled “A Million Sunrises at Schoodic: Training and Research on the Muted Histories at Frazer Point, ME.” The project includes an analysis of Native American archaeological materials from Frazer Point using Indigenous archaeologists and fluent speakers, and will integrate research on Thomas Frazer, an African American freed slave who lived at Frazer Point with his family. The research will help reframe the science narrative surrounding the archaeology and history of Acadia National Park, and will be shared through multiple community engagement and outreach activities, which include a four-day workshop giving Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and Indigenous speakers an overview of Frazer Point. “I am thrilled to have this support to explore and reveal the histories of Indigenous and African American peoples living at Acadia National Park. These funds help peoples of diverse backgrounds see themselves as part of the park’s history and allow us to showcase multiculturalism at Acadia National Park,” Newsom says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

President Ferrini-Mundy to be featured on Maine State Chamber of Commerce podcast

27 Apr 2022

This week on [The Bottom Line](#) podcast, co-hosts Dana Connors of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce and John Williams of Williams Broadcasting are joined by President Joan Ferrini-Mundy to discuss the university’s [recent R1 designation](#) and what it means for Maine. The episode will air Thursday, April 28 at 10 a.m.

Adekeye recognized as a finalist for the American Society for Nutrition’s Young Minority Investigator Oral Competition

27 Apr 2022

Tolu Adekeye, a Ph.D. student in the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering, has been named a finalist in the American Society for Nutrition’s (ASN) Young Minority Investigator Oral Competition, an educational activity that recognizes young investigators from underrepresented communities within the biomedical and life sciences presenting outstanding research. The five finalists will be recognized during NUTRITION 2022 LIVE ONLINE, ASN’s annual scientific meeting that will be held virtually June 14–16. Adekeye’s abstract for NUTRITION 2022 LIVE ONLINE is titled “Phenolic Extract(s) Promote(s) Wound Remodeling.” The Young Minority Investigator Oral Competition is supported by DSM Nutritional Products.

UMaine Extension 4-H camps seek summer counselors

27 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is hiring summer camp counselors for its four 4-H Camps and Learning Centers — [Bryant Pond](#), [Greenland Point](#) and [Tanglewood and Blueberry Cove](#). UMaine’s 4-H summer camp programs introduce children to a unique blend of outdoor fun, environmental education and practical skills. For over 50 years, the camps have combined inspired fun and experiential education with the development of practical outdoor skills and respectful stewardship of natural ecosystems. Summer camp counselors teach kids to care for our natural world and inspire their passion for the outdoors. Positions are paid or can be used for internship credit. For more information and to apply, visit the 4-H camps [website](#).

College of Education and Human Development to host career fair April 28

27 Apr 2022

After a two-year absence due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development is hosting an Education Career Fair to connect preservice teachers with Maine schools and school districts. The event, scheduled for 1–3 p.m. April 28 at Wells Conference Center, will feature school officials from more than 20 communities, mostly in central and eastern Maine. They’ll have the opportunity to meet current UMaine students majoring in elementary education, secondary education, early childhood education, physical education, music education and art education, as well as graduate students in UMaine’s Master of Arts in Teaching program. Education students from Eastern Maine Community College and Husson University have also been invited to participate in the fair. “Several schools and districts are hiring teachers right now, and there was a great deal of interest in reviving our career fair to bring future educators and employers together,” says Penny Bishop, dean of UMaine’s College of Education and Human Development. “By the time they graduate, our preservice teachers will have more than 800 hours of hands-on experience in classrooms through their student teaching and other field placements,” Bishop adds. “They are well-prepared to meet the needs of children, families and communities throughout Maine.” The Education Career Fair was last held in 2019. The event was canceled in 2020 and not held at all in 2021 due to the pandemic. The UMaine College of Education and Human Development is the state’s largest teacher preparation program, with more than 700 students currently in programs that lead to teacher licensure in Maine.

Ellsworth American highlights Extension Pollinator Friendly Garden Certification

27 Apr 2022

[The Ellsworth American](#) shared information about University of Maine Cooperative Extension [Pollinator Friendly Garden Certification](#) in an article about the Lamoine Conservation Commission inviting citizens of Lamoine and other Maine communities to participate in its inaugural No Mow May to support struggling populations of bees and other pollinators. The article suggests that if you can't forego mowing for the whole month, gardeners interested in "upping their game" in support of butterflies, moths, bees and other insects can take the Pollinator Friendly Garden Certification course.

Republican Journal shares info on nonviolent communication workshop at UMaine Hutchinson Center

27 Apr 2022

[The Republican Journal](#) shared information about an online professional development program, "Helping to Calm Strong Emotions with Nonviolent Communication." This four-day online workshop, part of the University of Maine Hutchinson Center's professional development program, will be held on May 3, 10, 24 and 31 from 4–5:30 p.m. via Zoom. The cost is \$125 per person. More information is available on the [Hutchinson Center website](#).

BDN highlights Maine Day of Giving

27 Apr 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about Maine Day of Giving, the time when University of Maine alumni and friends near and far unite in support of the College of Our Hearts Always as a way to participate in the traditional annual Maine Day of service. This year's Maine Day of Giving is setting fundraising records, with more than \$2.5 million in donations leading off fundraising efforts, which includes multiple matching gift opportunities and new crowdfunding initiatives.

Media boosts Extension farm-to-table workshop

27 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), the [Irregular](#), the Portland Press Herald and the Morning Sentinel shared information about a farm-to-table summer camp Aug. 1–5, 7:45 a.m.–noon, at Rogers Farm, 914 Bennoch Road, Old Town, hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension master gardener volunteers, UMaine Extension 4-H staff and Rob Dumas, UMaine food science innovation coordinator and chef. "[Farm-to-Table Camp at Rogers Farm](#)" is for youth ages 9–12 interested in growing, harvesting and preparing food and flowers. Participants will sow seeds, care for crops, harvest cut flowers and produce, save seeds and learn how to manage pests and diseases in the garden. Registration is required by May 20.

Great Lakes Echo cites UMaine research about blueberries and climate change

27 Apr 2022

In an article about the impact of climate change on blueberries, the [Great Lakes Echo](#) cited a study in which University of Maine researchers heated chambers to simulate a warming climate. The article noted that when researchers tested a temperature increase of 3–5 degrees Celsius, they found that wild blueberry plants would photosynthesize less and grow small, thinner leaves.

Media features UMaine research about preservatives and grass hay

27 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [Seed Today](#) reported on a University of Maine study that shows certain preservatives are more helpful than others in keeping high-moisture hay mold-free — and that grass hays are more responsive to these treatments, compared to alfalfa. "We expect a higher application rate as the legume component increases in the bale. Legumes are essential in herbivore nutrition, we just have to improve our ability to better preserve their higher quality," said Juan Romero, UMaine associate professor of animal nutrition and an author of the study.

BDN highlights UMaine commencement speakers

27 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on the speakers announced for the UMaine and University of Maine at Machias commencement ceremonies for 2022 graduates and 2020–21 alumni, May 6–8. Jacob van de Sande, a land protection project manager for Maine Coast Heritage Trust, will address the UMaine Machias commencement ceremony that begins at 11 a.m. May 6 in the Performing Arts Center. Alumna Shontay Delaloe, senior vice president and senior diversity officer at Dartmouth College, will address UMaine's Graduate School Commencement that begins at 4 p.m. May 6. Nadia Rosenthal, scientific director and professor, The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, will give addresses at the 220th Commencement ceremonies for 2022 undergraduates. Those ceremonies begin at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. May 7. Alumna Ukeme Awakessien Jeter, a partner at Taft, a national law firm, will address the commencement celebration May 8 for alumni of the Classes of 2020 and 2021. All UMaine ceremonies are in Harold Alfond Sports Arena.

The Tasting Table cites UMaine Extension resources about ethylene in article about broccoli

27 Apr 2022

[The Tasting Table](#) cited the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's information about ethylene in an article about the best way to keep broccoli fresh. For the best flavor and crispness in storage, the article says that broccoli should be kept away from fruits that produce ethylene. According to UMaine Extension, ethylene gas is a compound that jumpstarts the ripening process in fruit. As fruit comes closer to ripening, they increase the output which speeds the process up further. The amount being produced differs by variety. Fruits like McIntosh apples and bananas tend to produce far more ethylene gas which means that they can be difficult to store once they've ripened.

Z107.3, Q106.5 boosts UMaine's 'Clean Sweep Sale'

27 Apr 2022

[Z107.3](#) and [Q106.5](#) reported that The University of Maine's "Clean Sweep Sale" will take place on May 20 from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. and again Saturday, May 21 from 8 a.m.–1 p.m. at the Alford Arena. All the home furnishings that students leave behind after moving out, from furniture to decorations to appliances, are all gathered from the dorms and residence halls and sold.

UMaine researchers to present at 2022 AERA annual meeting

27 Apr 2022

University of Maine faculty members and graduate students presented or participated in more than 20 different events at the 2022 American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual meeting in San Diego, the world's largest annual gathering of education scholars and practitioners. Here's a look at some of the presentations, panels, and other events featuring UMaine researchers: **Thursday April 21**

- Assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Rebecca Buchanan, assistant professor of communication and journalism Liliana Herakova, assistant professor of higher education Leah Hakkola and assistant professor of psychology Mollie Ruben participated in a paper session on "Faculty Development and Learning." They shared their research, "Expansion and Contraction: Structuring Conversational Sense-Making Around Equity in Higher Education Teaching."
- Associate professor of educational leadership Catharine Biddle took part in a roundtable discussion on the "National Rural Education Association Research Agenda, 2022–2027," as part of a workshop sponsored by the Rural Education Special Interest Group.
- Buchanan and literacy education Ph.D. student Danielle Gabrielli are co-authors with colleagues from Mercer University and SUNY Cortland of "Lessons Learned from Social Justice Assignments in Elementary Teacher Preparation: Where Do We Go Now?" presented at a virtual paper session on "Teacher Education for Cultural Diversity and Social Justice: Insights from Multiple Methods."

Friday April 22

- College of Education and Human Development Dean Penny Bishop and Emily Jane Nelson from the Eastern Institute of Technology Hawke's Bay, New Zealand, presented their research, "Intersections Between Young Adolescent Well-Being and Schooling" as part of a symposium on "Building Shared Knowledge: Research on the Health and Well-Being of Middle-Grades Youth."
- Associate professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Asli Sezen-Barrie, UMaine Career Center counselor and higher education Ph.D. student Lisa Carter, associate professor of watershed modeling Sean Smith, associate professor of nursing Deborah Saber, and professor of marine sciences Mark Wells presented their research, "Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Faculty and Postdoctoral and Graduate Student Research and Scholarship Activity," as part of a virtual paper session on "Research on Faculty Teaching, Evaluation, and Development."

Saturday April 23

- Associate professor of educational leadership Ian Mette is co-author with colleagues from Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Texas-Tyler of "A Call to Action: (Re)Imagining the Field of Educational Supervision," presented at a paper session on "Reconceptualizing Equity, Voice, and Input in Complex Supervision Contexts."
- Assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction Tammy Mills and Buchanan presented their research, "Teacher Leadership Development: The Value of Boundary-Crossing Spaces," at a roundtable session on "The Context of Teachers' Work."
- Biddle, lecturer in educational leadership Maria Frankland, and graduate students in educational leadership Ryan Crane and Katharine Truesdale presented their research, "Contextually Responsive Leadership in Crisis During COVID-19: A Mixed-Methods Study of Superintendent Decision Making in Two States," at a roundtable session on "Using Culturally Responsive School Leadership to Center Stakeholders and Empower Student Voice."
- Mette chaired a business meeting of the Supervision and Instructional Leadership Special Interest Group.
- Mills participated in a business meeting of the Fabulous Famous Self-Study of Teacher Education Practices Special Interest Group.

Sunday April 24

- Professor of higher education Elizabeth Allan and graduate student in higher education Jessica Chubbuck are co-authors with colleagues from Manhattanville College and Husson University of "Walking a Tightrope: Discursive Construction of Leadership During Turbulent Times," presented at a paper session on "Equitable Education Systems and Organizational Leadership."
- Biddle and Dana L. Mitra of Pennsylvania State University presented their project, "Community Activism and Advocacy," at a symposium on "Maximizing the Policy Relevance of Research for School Improvement."
- Assistant Extension professor Andrew Hudacs chaired a NAEP Studies Special Interest Group business meeting.

Monday April 25

- Doctoral student in higher education Sarah Dyer presented her research, "Connecting the Dots: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Discourses from Political Student Organizations' Tweets," part of a roundtable session on "Examining Discourses and Responses to Critical Issues."
- Biddle was a panelist at an invited speaker session on "K–12 Education Decision Making in the Context of COVID-19," one of the AERA Presidential Sessions.
- Executive vice president for academic affairs and provost John Volin is co-author with colleagues from the University of Connecticut of "Learning Environmental Sustainability in Community Spaces Through E-Corps: The Establishment of an Epistemic Community," presented at a poster session on "Broadening Knowledge and Ways of Knowing Through Community Engagement."
- Volin is also co-author with colleagues from the University of Connecticut of a paper, "Strengthening Community-Based Learning in Higher Education: Developing High-Leverage Practices in Environmental Service-Learning Courses," presented at a virtual roundtable session on "Locally and Culturally Relevant Resources for Promoting Environmental Education."
- Frankland and Biddle presented their research, "Leading Through Crisis: District-Level Communication Around Mental Health and Social-Emotional

Learning,” as part of a roundtable session on “Leading for Student Health and Well-Being.”

- Hudacs presented his research, “Symbols for Schools: Types of School Nicknames and How They Are Formed,” at a virtual paper session on “School Community, Climate, and Culture: Pathways to Belonging.”
- Assistant professor of higher education Kathleen Gillon and Ashley Stone of Southern Methodist University presented their research, “Fully Engaged: Examples of Strong Relationships Between Place and Research,” part of a roundtable session on “Reflecting on Methodologies, Ontologies, and Perspectives Toward Equity.”

Tuesday April 26

- Buchanan is co-author with colleagues from the Brookings Institution and University of California Santa Cruz of “A Global Review of Current Trends in Teacher Identity Research and Practice,” presented at a virtual symposium on “Teacher Identity and the Contemporary Development of Teachers in Educational Systems Globally.”
- Allan chaired a paper session on “College Student Success.”

Fogler Library circulation staff receive 2022 Black Bear Award for Extraordinary Impact

28 Apr 2022

The 12-member circulation staff of Fogler Library at the University of Maine are the recipients of the 2022 Black Bear Award for Extraordinary Impact. UMaine established the Black Bear Award for Extraordinary Impact in 2021 to recognize the performance excellence of an individual or group. Such positive impact is “deep, significant and lasting,” and is reflected campuswide and beyond in the quality of the student and employee experience. The Fogler team, led by circulation manager Jerry Lund, honored for their service: Amanda Black, Michael Dunn, Bradley Finch, Kathryn Gottlieb, Peter Lawrence, Owen Robertson, Harley Rogers, Jeff Roggenbuck, Greta Schroeder, Jonathan Smith and Troy Turner. “The circulation staff of Maine’s largest library, based at the state’s R1 research university, has long been second to none in its effectiveness and commitment to keeping learning going,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “During the COVID-19 pandemic, their leadership was essential in helping people connect to resources and, for many patrons, keeping spirits high and hope alive. The challenges of the pandemic did not deter them from their mission, and their efforts made a difference for so many.” Fogler Library serves as the “third place” for the community — a space beyond home or work where people can learn, study and collaborate. In most years, more than 500,000 people come through the library. The building stays open seven days a week — more than 101 hours weekly — during the academic year. When classes are canceled due to inclement weather, the library remains open so students have a place to study. As finals approach, the library extends its closing time to 2:30 a.m. to accommodate work on final papers and projects. The Circulation Department makes all of this possible. When the pandemic caused Fogler Library to close to the public, the circulation staff quickly found new ways to serve the community. Team members continued working in the library, arranging extended loans for books, instituting a mail-to-home procedure to get materials to users, and lending laptops so that students and others had the technology needed to complete their classes or work. In addition to regular patron service, they answered many pandemic-related inquiries. The circulation staff provided a continuity of service that supported whoever needed assistance. In short, they helped ensure that the university’s people had access to their library — even if they couldn’t come to campus. As one patron noted: “Books and libraries are the lifeblood of Institutions of higher education. ... the circulation staff of Fogler deserves to be recognized for service above and beyond the call of duty.” The inaugural recipient of the Black Bear Award for Extraordinary Impact was the UMaine Emergency Operations Center, which beginning in February 2020 provided and coordinated COVID-19 response for the UMaine and UMaine Machias communities. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

‘The Maine Question’ asks how teaching innovation fuels Maine’s economy

28 Apr 2022

Innovation fuels entrepreneurship in Maine. In recent years, several small business startups with novel ideas for products have created and sold them at a global scale. For more than a decade, the University of Maine Foster Center for Innovation has collaborated with students, faculty, staff, startups and established organizations, and offered courses and other resources on how to innovate. It also serves as a hub for commercializing and developing businesses from university research. In Episode 11 of Season 6 of “[The Maine Question](#),” the final episode of the season, Renee Kelly, assistant vice president of innovation and economic development at UMaine, discusses how innovation occurs, what makes an entrepreneur, and how fostering both can help Maine grow its economy and retain talented individuals. Two UMaine alumni and startup founders — Amber Boutiette, co-founder of Marin Skincare, and Tyler Delargy, CEO of Real Time Reality — also join the podcast to share what they learned along their journeys to create new goods and enterprises. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

College of Education and Human Development announces outstanding student awards

28 Apr 2022

Ethan Mathieu of Sanford, Maine and Tiana Bucknor of Milton, Ontario, Canada are the outstanding graduating student and outstanding graduating international student from the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development for the 2021–22 academic year. [Mathieu](#) is a secondary education major with a concentration in physical science. His Honors thesis is “The Effects of a Course in Multicultural Education on the Development of a Socio-Cultural Consciousness of Pre-Service Teachers.” He did his student teaching at Orono High School and had field placements at John Bapst High School and Kennebunk High School. [Bucknor](#) is a kinesiology and physical education major, with a concentration in exercise science. She is a Presidential Scholar and the senior captain of the UMaine women’s soccer team. She’s also a teaching assistant in the School of Kinesiology, Physical Education and Athletic Training. In the fall, she will pursue a master’s degree in kinesiology and physical education. The College of Education and Human Development also announced its annual outstanding students for each undergraduate major/concentration, as well as several graduate student awards. A page recognizing the awardees is on the [college’s website](#). Outstanding Undergraduate Students

- Meg Lander, Outstanding Student in Athletic Training
- Madeline Hanlon, Outstanding Student in Early Childhood Education

Katherine Kohler, Outstanding Student in Individual and Family Studies

- Mikayla Palmer, Outstanding Student in Elementary Education
- Morgan Johnson, Outstanding Student in Secondary Education
- Alexandra Lessard, Outstanding Student in Exercise Science
- Patrick Downing, Outstanding Student in Outdoor Leadership
- Rebecca Batron, Outstanding Student in Teaching and Coaching

Outstanding Graduate Students

- Julia Van Steenberghe, Outstanding Student in Human Development
- Isabelle Rios Hernández-Colón, Social Justice in Higher Education Award
- Caitlin Galvin, Student Development in Higher Education Excellence Award
- David W. Davis, Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology
- Mitchell Daigle, Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology
- Day'Quan Wallace, Outstanding Graduate Student in Kinesiology and Physical Education
- Michael Laverriere, Outstanding Graduate Assistant in Kinesiology and Physical Education
- Cristina Perez, Krissy Miner Memorial Award for Outstanding M.Ed./Ed.S. Student in Educational Leadership
- Susan Thibedeau, Outstanding Scholarly Practitioner in Educational Leadership Ed.D. Student Award
- Bill Tracy, Outstanding Scholarly-Practitioner in Educational Leadership Ed.D. Student Award

UMaine Extension new farmer tractor safety, maintenance class May 3

28 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a tractor safety and maintenance class for new and beginning farmers, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. on May 3 at Kennebec Valley Community College, 17 Stanley Road, Hinckley. The “[Tractor Safety Farm Visit](#)” is designed for farmers with fewer than 10 years of experience to learn about tractor safety and maintenance with other new farmers. Jason Lilley, UMaine Extension sustainable agriculture and maple professional, leads the class. The class is \$10; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Chris Howard, 207.944.6391; christina.howard@maine.edu.

New round of RRF grants support collaborations and student research learning across the state

28 Apr 2022

Ten new projects have been competitively selected in the 2022 funding round of University of Maine System Research Reinvestment Fund (RRF). Each project includes multicampus collaborations, with student research learning experiences serving as a central component to the collaborative research being conducted statewide. These one-year projects will foster research and development activities in three important areas: Economic Recovery Response Grants; Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Collaboratives (IURCs); and UMS Research Collaboration Networks. Applicants were required to establish collaborations between two or more UMS campuses and to facilitate full research participation of undergraduate and/or graduate students. The RRF program aligns with the [UMS Research and Development Plan FY 20–24](#), and continues work initiated by the [2019 Rural Health and Wellbeing Grand Challenge Initiative](#). The list of funded project titles and research teams follows.

Economic Recovery Response Grants

- “Forest resources for carbon-neutral fuel production from CO² to ethylene: Advanced Hybrid Nanocatalysts for Carbon Dioxide Hydrogenation to Ethylene.” Project Team: Yingchao Yang, UMaine; Scott Eaton, University of Southern Maine (USM); Ling Li, UMaine; Yixiao Wang, Idaho National Laboratory.
- “School-based mental health via telehealth: Addressing current mental health needs in children with MTSS behavioral health strategies delivered via telehealth.” Project Team: Mary Anderson, USM; Jamie Pratt, USM; and Wendy St. Pierre, University of Maine at Augusta (UMA).
- “Homegrown teachers in rural Maine: Strengthening the teacher workforce in rural, low-income communities.” Project Team: Patricia H. Williams, University of Maine at Farmington (UMF); Julie Herron, University of Maine at Machias; Katherine Yardley, UMF; Julia Jeremias, UMF; Valerie Smith, UMaine; Nancy Allen, Franklin County Adult Education; Sarah Carlson, Pathways to Teaching for Adult Learners and Retired RSU 9 Teacher; Christian Elkington, Superintendent of Schools, RSU 9; Monica Henson, Superintendent of Schools, Oxford Hills Public Schools; and Ronald Ramsey, Superintendent of Schools, RSU 37.
- “Innovations in health systems for rural health access and sustainability.” Project Team: Tora Johnson, UMaine Machias; Lois-Ann Kuntz, UMaine Machias; Katherine Darling, UMA; Mario Teisl, UMaine; Linda Silka, UMaine; Tara Casimir, USM; in collaboration with Downeast Community Hospital, Calais Community Hospital, Community Caring Collaborative, The Schmidt Institute, and Sunrise County Economic Council.

Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Collaboratives

- “Repurposing existing drugs to fight COVID-19 and influenza.” Project Team: Julie Gosse, UMaine; Juyoung Shim, UMA; Samuel Hess, UMaine; Joshua Zimmerberg, National Institutes of Health; and Alexander J. Sodt, National Institutes of Health.
- “Comparing low-cost and high-end instruments for measuring water in trees and crops: Comparative study of two NIRS instruments for quantifying water status in trees and crops.” Project Team: Ling Li, UMaine; Yongjiang Zhang, UMaine; Kennedy Rubert-Nason, University of Maine at Fort Kent (UMFK); José Eduardo Meireles, UMaine; and Jinwu Wang, USDA Forest Products Laboratory.

University of Maine System Research Collaboration Networks

- “UMS student research symposium network.” Project Team: Kaisa Holloway Cripps, UMFK; Michael Curran, UMFK; Leo Trudel, UMFK; Lorien Lake-Corral, UMA; Sarah Hentges, UMA; Robert Kellerman, UMA; Misty Krueger, UMF; Jennifer Pratt, USM; Tina Aubet, USM; Lori Schnieders, UMaine Machias; Uriah Anderson, UMaine Machias; Jacqui Lowman, University of Maine at Presque Isle (UMPI); and Ali Abedi, UMaine.
- “Geospatial climate competency for Maine’s Climate Action Plan.” Project Team: Tony Guay, UMaine; Matthew McCourt, UMF; Tora Johnson, UMaine Machias; Peter Schilling, UMaine; Kristin Schild, UMaine; and Eileen Moran, Maine Geospatial Institute.
- “A Research collaboration network for community health worker implementation, sustainability and workforce development.” Project Team: Katherine Weatherford Darling, UMA; Lois Ann Kuntz, UMaine Machias; Tora Johnson, UMaine Machias; Kimberly Fox, USM; Linda Silka, UMaine; Tara Casamir, USM; Mollie Ruben, UMaine; Jennifer Crittenden, UMaine; and Valerie Rubinsky, UMA.
- “UMS Substance use disorder collaborative.” Project Team: Mary Lindsey Smith, USM; Marcella Sorg, UMaine; Rachel Gallo, USM; Dan Soucier, UMaine; Jamie Wren, UMaine; Kathryn Ballingal, UMaine; Katie Rosingana, USM; Karen Pearson, USM; Mark Richards, USM; Tyler Egeland, USM; Katharine Knight, USM; Isaac Vallejos, UMaine; Alexander Rezk, UMaine; and Evelyn Ali, USM.

Grantees will have the opportunity to learn from each other and from previously funded RRF grant projects in a series of meetings and events offered throughout the next year. For more information about the program contact Executive Director of Research Development Jason Charland, jason.charland@maine.edu.

BDN covers Fritsche honorary degree

28 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine will award an honorary doctorate to JoAnn Fritsche, UMaine’s first director of equal opportunity and also director of the Women’s Development Program, whose vision and leadership transformed the university’s curricula to be more inclusive, and led to the creation of a women’s studies program.

Media shares UMaine Extension resources about May produce

28 Apr 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), the [Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and the [Piscataquis Observer](#) shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension has information and workshops to help consumers find, grow, use, preserve and store in-season fruits and vegetables in Maine, including fiddleheads and rhubarb.

BDN cites UMaine Extension information about pollinators

28 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) cited University of Maine Cooperative Extension information about Maine’s pollinators in an article about spring lawn care. According to UMaine Extension, Maine’s key pollinators are bees, butterflies, moths, flies, beetles and hummingbirds. Though a handful of municipalities are encouraging Mainers to abstain from mowing their lawns next month to help support native pollinators, planting a diverse array of native flowers and other plants can also help support a wide variety of pollinators.

News Center Maine, WABI feature Maine Day

28 Apr 2022

[News Center Maine](#) and [WABI \(Channel 5 in Bangor\)](#) covered Maine Day, which was back in-person on campus for the first time since 2019. Along with a parade, clean-up projects, lawn games and a barbecue, students, faculty, staff and coaches volunteered in the Memorial Gym to help pack more than 50,000 meals to be donated to food banks across Maine. Maine Day also coincides with Maine Day of Giving. The university raised more than \$2.5 million in the days leading up to the event.

Tips for attending UMaine, UMaine Machias commencement ceremonies

28 Apr 2022

The University of Maine’s 2022 commencement ceremonies and celebration are May 6–8 in Alfond Sports Arena. The University of Maine at Machias commencement is 11 a.m. May 6 in the Performing Arts Center, with a parade to follow down Main Street. At UMaine, the Graduate School commencement for the classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022 begins at 4 p.m. May 6. Commencement ceremonies for 2022 bachelor’s degree students are at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. May 7. The Saturday ceremonies are ticketed events. A commencement celebration for alumni in the classes of 2020 and 2021 is at 9:30 a.m. May 8. Motorists in the Orono area will encounter heavier traffic than usual Friday afternoon, throughout Saturday and Sunday morning. Those attending any of the ceremonies should plan to arrive early. For the Graduate School commencement, doors open at 3 p.m. On Saturday, Alfond Arena doors open at 8 a.m. for the morning ceremony; 1 p.m. for the afternoon ceremony. Sunday, doors open at 8 a.m. The University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias follow civil and University of Maine System COVID-19 health and safety guidance. All those attending UMaine and UMaine Machias commencement ceremonies in May, including graduates, will be asked to show evidence of vaccination, or documentation of a negative COVID-19 PCR or antigen test within 72 hours of arrival, or documentation of a positive COVID test within 90 days of arrival, including the required five-day isolation. Face coverings are recommended, but are optional. Guests and graduates who are COVID-19 positive on the day of the ceremonies are asked not to come to campus. Anyone who is positive on-site will be asked to leave campus for the health and safety of the UMaine community. On Saturday, people attending commencement ceremonies are urged to park in the Collins Center Lot on campus, where three shuttle buses will transport them to the arena. The Collins Center Lot is easily reached by traveling on Rangeley Road and following signs. Shuttle buses also will provide transportation to Alfond Arena from the following parking lots: the Steam Plant Lot on College Avenue, Belgrade Lot on Belgrade Road, Hilltop Lot on Rangeley Road and Buchanan Alumni House at College Avenue and Munson Road. Backpacks and large bags of any type cannot be brought to Alfond Arena during commencement ceremonies. People are strongly encouraged to leave large bags and any unnecessary items in their vehicles; all bags will be searched. Strollers may not be set up in the aisles of Alfond Arena. Alfond Arena is a no-reentry venue; guests who leave the facility during the ceremonies will not be allowed to reenter. UMaine and UMaine Machias are tobacco-free campuses.

Only professional photographers hired by the university with proper credentials are permitted to photograph the ceremonies from the Alfond Arena floor. Students and guests are asked to remain seated for the duration of the ceremony. Vehicles with accessible plates or placards can be parked in the Satellite Lot behind Alfond Stadium. There will be an accessible drop-off area on the south side of Alfond Arena. The entry point will be plainly marked from College Avenue at Tunk Road, on the north side Alfond Stadium. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Nicholas Sanborn: UMaine Machias 2022 Salutatorian

29 Apr 2022

Nicholas Sanborn of Standish, Maine is the 2022 University of Maine Machias Salutatorian. Sanborn is graduating with a degree in recreation and tourism management, with a focus on conservation law enforcement and natural resources. Sanborn had not even considered applying to UMaine Machias until his senior year of high school, when an admissions counselor at a college fair pitched the conservation law program to the nature-loving teen. He set up a tour, and fell in love with the small campus — his tour guide seemed to know everyone on campus — and the fact that he was able to have lunch with the then dean of students Dan Gardner. “It was the small campus feel and the efforts of those on campus to make me feel welcome that made me decide to go to UMM,” Sanborn said. At UMaine Machias, Sanborn pursued his passion for law enforcement and the outdoors, serving as both the Outing Club president and a member of the Student Security Team. He also served on the Student Senate, and held positions as a Resident Assistant and a campus lifeguard. During his time at UMaine Machias, Sanborn was awarded the Penobscot County Conservation Association Award, the Nathan C. & Dorothy W. Burbank Scholarship and the Edna Higgins Scholarship. He was also certified as a Wilderness First Responder in January 2021. Sanborn said that almost every professor and instructor he crossed paths with at UMaine Machias worked hard to set students up for success. The professor that influenced him the most, though, was Karen Beefink, coordinator of the Recreation and Tourism Management Program and the chair of the Professional Studies Division. “Karen [Beefink] has always pushed me to do my best and to always explore the options presented to me,” Sanborn said. “She has given me many opportunities to lead and excel in the program. She has had me assist her in lab classes for many lower level classes that I have previously taken and I also assisted her as a peer mentor for the [First Year Seminar/Research Learning Experiences] class last fall. I would not be where I am today without her.” The class that influenced Sanborn most was Inclusive Recreation. “Before taking this class, I did not see the reason to adapt the management of parks and spaces for the benefit of multiple groups of people,” Sanborn said. “This class helped me see the benefit of adapting parks and spaces for all groups and individuals. Many groups of people use parks differently than traditional users. Parks can be adapted to fit the needs of multiple groups without sacrificing the use by traditional users.” Sanborn has already been using his UMaine Machias education to make the outdoors a more enjoyable and safer place for all. In the summer of Sanborn’s junior year, he interned with Windham Parks and Recreation at Dundee Park with a focus on facilities management of a park beach as well as park administration, maintenance and improvement projects. Sanborn said that this internship “was one of the greatest experiences throughout [his] college career.” Since 2020, Sanborn has also been involved with the work to improve the Outback Trail on campus, when he started developing the new trail with an Outdoor Leadership class. Last spring, he helped develop the Interpretive Master Plan for the property, which included designs for waysides, trail signs and a kiosk to head the trail. Last fall, he worked with students to develop a trail monitoring program as part of a First Year Seminar/Research Learning Experience. Finally, as his senior project this spring, he has drafted a Trail Stewardship Plan to help guide future maintenance decisions on the property. Sanborn currently lives in Tremont and after graduation, he will work at the Mount Desert Land & Garden Preserve in Seal Harbor as a member of the trail crew for the summer. In the late fall and early winter, though, he will begin working toward his goal of becoming a Maine Game Warden. “I will spend much of my time this summer preparing for the application process for the Maine Warden Service,” Sanborn said. “This includes the physical fitness test, general knowledge test and the oral board.” Sanborn says that current and incoming UMaine Machias students looking to succeed should always attend class, take good notes and complete the reading that professors assign. “You never know when there may be a pop quiz, and the professors know when you’re not doing the reading, even if you think they don’t,” Sanborn said. The most important advice he can give, though, is to take “every opportunity that you can” — on campus and in the community beyond it. “Take the classes that you want to take when they are available — you never know if they will be available again,” Sanborn said. “Take time to get out and explore the greater Machias area, get out with friends and get out of your comfort zone. Meet new people and engage with the community. You would be surprised at the amount of resources there are within Machias.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Yani Nganzobo: UMaine Machias 2022 Valedictorian, says to ‘trust the process’

29 Apr 2022

Before she arrived at the University of Maine Machias, Yani Nganzobo said that she wasn’t an exceptional student. “I was never an A student. There were moments I cried because things weren’t going well,” Nganzobo says. “My perspective of life completely changed in the year 2019 when I arrived in Maine.” But when Nganzobo arrived at UMaine Machias, she saw how many opportunities had opened up to her — and it motivated her. Now, not only has Nganzobo made it on the Dean’s List every semester she’s been at UMaine and earned numerous honors and scholarships for her studies, but she will also walk across the graduation stage this spring as her class’ 2022 Valedictorian. Nganzobo was born in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, but grew up in Johannesburg, South Africa. She wanted to study in the United States, and applied to the University of Maine after hearing about it from a friend of her sister, Jeni (who also attends UMaine Machias). She eventually chose to go to UMaine Machias because of the generous scholarships that made her education affordable. “The school helped me with paying my tuition fees, I had friends who would help me in every way possible, and the community was very helpful,” Nganzobo says. “I wouldn’t get this far if my fees were not paid.” None of her success would have been possible, she said, without the help of BJ Marshall, assistant registrar at UMaine Machias who was Nganzobo’s soccer coach at UMaine Machias before the pandemic shut down sports. “BJ [Marshall] was the one who walked me through the application process. She was basically like a mentor. me. She was there through thick and thin. She would take us international students out and if we needed something, she would buy it for us, like clothes. I didn’t know about snow boots. She’s one person who pushed me to where I am today.” Nganzobo will graduate with a degree in business with a concentration in entrepreneurship with a certificate in HR management, which she started at the University of Johannesburg before she made her way to UMaine Machias. She plans to continue her studies after graduation and pursue an MBA at Maine Business School. “I know that there are so many opportunities,” Nganzobo said. “UMaine is like a community that helps people achieve their goals, making sure that students get as much help as possible.” From there, the sky’s the limit. Last summer, she interned at Avesta Housing in Portland, and, based on that experience, she hopes to someday start her own business to invest in properties. Nganzobo is ambitious and entrepreneurial, but her community work matters to her as much as school, volunteering for groups like Maine Environment Education Association and Gateway Community Services Maine. She also sings in the church choir at Machias Fellowship, where she attends service every Sunday. “Community work has made me a different person,” Nganzobo says. “It has made me an independent young lady.” Nganzobo says that though “success is not for the weak,” part of what has made her successful during her time in Maine is the ability to get up and try even when the going gets tough. “Just because you are strong doesn’t mean you won’t fail, be in pain or be stressed,” Nganzobo says. “Don’t give up and keep pushing. Always trust the process and trust in God.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine PD to host retirement ceremony for Norman and Ash on May 11

29 Apr 2022

The University of Maine Police Department will host a retirement gathering honoring Lt. Robert Norman and Officer George Ash, each with 40 years of service to the UMaine community. The ceremony will take place on May 11 from 2:30–5 p.m. at the Wells Conference Center. Light snacks will be available.

Fogler Library creates guide for Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

29 Apr 2022

The Fogler Library Reference and Information Literacy Department has created [a new resource guide for the Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month celebration in May](#). The guide highlights Fogler Library resources available to the university community.

UMaine Extension offers facts on Maine foods for May — fiddleheads, rhubarb

29 Apr 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension offers information and workshops to help consumers find, grow, use, preserve, and store in-season fruits and vegetables in Maine. Seasonal favorites for May include:

- [Facts on Fiddleheads](#)
- [Facts on Edible Wild Greens in Maine](#)
- [Fruits for Health: Rhubarb](#)
- [Spring Refrigerator Pickles](#)

UMaine Extension educator Kathy Savoie demonstrates new techniques for cooking, freezing and pickling fiddleheads in an [easy-to-follow video](#). Fiddleheads in particular require exact cooking methods — boiling for at least 15 minutes or steaming for 10–12 minutes to reduce risk for foodborne illness associated with raw and undercooked fiddleheads. Get ready for the arrival of Maine’s seasonal foods by attending an [upcoming food preservation workshop](#) or sign up for the [Spoonful Blog](#) to receive bite-sized food and nutrition information. Bulletins are available for download or to order on the [Extension publications website](#). More information also is available by contacting 207.581.3188, 800.287.0274 (in Maine); extension@maine.edu.

Michaud receives 2022 NEOA Rising Star Award from MEOC

29 Apr 2022

The Maine Educational Opportunity Center (MEOC) announced that Kate Michaud is the recipient of the 2022 New England Educational Opportunity Association (NEOA) Rising Star Award. The NEOA Rising Star Award honors emerging leaders who strive toward the highest levels of personal and professional accomplishment, who excel in their chosen fields, devote time and energy to their communities in meaningful ways and serve as role models for other economically disadvantaged, first-generation college bound students. Michaud enrolled in Northern Maine Community College’s Associate Degree in Nursing program in 2012 and graduated in 2015 with honors. Michaud credits MEOC as being the supportive force that helped her take those important first steps to help make college her reality. “MEOC helped show me how to apply to the nursing program and answered a thousand questions. The support I received was pivotal for me to be able to feel empowered and brave enough to try to go to college as an adult,” Michaud says. Michaud, a MEOC alumna from Brewer, Maine was recognized at the NEOA’s Annual Conference in Portsmouth, New Hampshire on April 13, 2022. She is currently employed as a care manager at St. Joseph Hospital in Bangor and will pursue a master’s degree in nursing leadership at Franklin Pierce University.

BDN and Penobscot Times highlights Yang Early CAREER Award

29 Apr 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and the Penobscot Times shared that Yingchao Yang, assistant professor in the University of Maine Department of Mechanical Engineering, received a National Science Foundation Early CAREER Award for his research on asymmetrical fracture of high-entropy two-dimensional nanomaterials. Yang is the fourth member of the Department of Mechanical Engineering to receive the prestigious award in 2021–22.

Sun Journal, Morning Ag Clips share UMaine Extension soil workshop

29 Apr 2022

[The Sun Journal](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) boosted an in-person, hands-on workshop hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Oxford County Soil & Water District about soil health on Wednesday, May 18, 2–4 p.m. Participants will join Rebecca Long, sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional, to learn how to assess their own soil and make any necessary improvements to maximize soil health and plant productivity. Registration and payment information is available on the [event webpage](#).

PPH, CentralMaine.com cite UMaine Extension pollinator information

29 Apr 2022

In an editorial about No Mow May, the [Portland Press Herald](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension, explaining that gardeners can take steps to help pollinators by avoiding pesticides, using brush or nest boxes to create habitat or planting native plant species.

BDN interviews Glover for article about gun violence in Bangor

29 Apr 2022

Robert Glover, an associate professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) for an article about what Bangor can do to prevent gun violence at the city's nightclubs. Glover, whose research focuses on democratic theory and political engagement, said, "It seems like the ball is in Bangor's court now. If you have those businesses resulting in a pattern of violent behavior, is that what you want for your community? ... If you suspend Half Acre's or Diamonds' liquor license, there's no other revenue stream for them." The state's liquor licensing division has launched an investigation following a shooting outside the two Bangor nightclubs last weekend, the latest in a series of violent episodes that have happened at the Harlow Street property the clubs share in recent years.

WABI reports on College of Education and Human Development career fair

29 Apr 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on the Education Career Fair, hosted by the University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development. The fair featured school officials from more than 20 communities, mostly in central and eastern Maine. UMaine students majoring in elementary, secondary, early childhood and physical education as well as graduate students in UMaine's Master of Arts Teaching program and local schools had an opportunity to connect at the event.

UMaine commencement ceremonies and celebration May 6–8

02 May 2022

The University of Maine 2022 commencement ceremonies and celebrations for this year's graduates and members of the classes of 2020 and 2021 will be held May 6–8 in Alford Sports Arena. The Graduate School commencement will recognize a record number of candidates for advanced degrees on May 6. Sixty doctoral candidates will be hooded, including 24 from the classes of 2020 and 2021. From the last two graduating classes, 96 alumni are returning to participate in the Graduate School commencement, bringing the total number to 417 for the 4 p.m. event on Friday. May 7, upward of 1,680 undergraduates in the class of 2022 are expected to participate in the 220th commencement ceremonies at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., with a total of nearly 10,000 expected to attend. The Saturday ceremonies are ticketed events. The morning ceremony on Saturday is for students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, College of Education and Human Development, Maine Business School and the Division of Lifelong Learning. The afternoon ceremony is for students in the College of Engineering and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. An estimated 240 alumni from the classes of 2020 and 2021 will attend a commencement celebration at 9:30 a.m. on May 8. All the events will be livestreamed and available on the [commencement website](#). [Tips for attending are online](#). The commencement speakers are: alumna Shontay Delaloe, senior vice president and senior diversity officer at Dartmouth College, May 6; Nadia Rosenthal, scientific director and professor, The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, May 7; and alumna Ukeme Awakessien Jeter, a partner at Taft, a national law firm, May 8. A news release about them is [online](#). Saturday, UMaine will award an [honorary degree](#) to JoAnn Fritsche, UMaine's first director of equal opportunity and also director of the Women's Development Program, whose vision and leadership transformed the university's curricula to be more inclusive, and led to the creation of a women's studies program. Fritsche, who lives in University Place, Washington, is a longtime educator and advocate for persons with disabilities and their families. Political science major [Dominique DiSpirito](#) of Woonsocket, Rhode Island is the 2022 University of Maine valedictorian and the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Honors College, and [Maxwell Burtis](#) of Brunswick, Maine, a mechanical engineering major and an Honors College student, is this year's salutatorian. This year's other [Outstanding Graduating Students](#) also are expected to attend their respective ceremonies. The [2022 Distinguished Maine Professor](#) is Daniel Sandweiss, a professor in the Anthropology Department and the Climate Change Institute. He also is a cooperating professor in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, and the School of Policy and International Affairs. UMaine's [2022 Presidential Award winners](#) are Karl Kreutz, director and professor of the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, received the Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award; Xudong Zheng, associate professor of mechanical engineering, received the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award; and Kelley Strout, associate professor and director of the School of Nursing, and interim associate dean of health science in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, received the Presidential Public Engagement Achievement Award. The Pinning Ceremony for 55 students in the School of Nursing begins at 6 p.m. May 5 in the Collins Center for the Arts. May 6, 16 cadets will be commissioned in an Army ROTC Department at 11:30 a.m. in Devino Auditorium, Donald P. Corbett Business Building. Two Naval ROTC midshipmen will be commissioned at 6 p.m., May 7 at Buchanan Alumni House. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Machias to hold its 111th commencement May 6

02 May 2022

Students, family, faculty and staff will gather in the Performing Arts Center at the University of Maine at Machias on May 6 at 11 a.m. to celebrate the 111th commencement. Upward of 100 graduates from August and December 2021, as well as May 2022 will take part in this year's ceremony. [Yani Nganzobo](#) and [Nicholas Sanborn](#) are the 2022 [University of Maine Machias valedictorian and salutatorian](#), respectively. Nganzobo will graduate with a degree in business with a concentration in entrepreneurship with a certificate in HR management. She was born in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and grew up in Johannesburg, South Africa. Sanborn, a native of Standish, is graduating with a degree in recreation and tourism management, with a focus on conservation law enforcement and natural resources. Three other outstanding graduates will be recognized during commencement. Lindsay Berube of Brookline, New Hampshire and Trevor Riggins of Milbridge, Maine will receive this year's Senior Watch Awards. Grace Turse from Haddon Township, New Jersey and will be awarded Ivy Oration. Jacob van de Sande, a land protection project manager for Maine Coast Heritage Trust, will deliver the commencement address. Since 2014, van de Sande of East Machias has been a Maine Coast Heritage Trust land protection project manager. Prior to joining Maine Coast Heritage Trust, he worked for the Downeast Salmon Federation for 14 years as hatchery manager, and outreach and education coordinator, focused on salmon and sea-run fish conservation and restoration in Washington County. Van de Sande has a master's degree in fisheries from the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. He is completing his second term on the UMaine Machias Board of Visitors, including two years as chair from 2019–21. Music will include a student performance by Nganzobo and Jemima Lelu, and professor Gene Nichols will lead the university's traditional rendition of "Happy Trails." A parade of graduates down Main Street will follow. The parade route will begin at the Crandlemire Support Building on campus and end in the parking lot across from Pat's Pizza. Contact: Jacqueline Leonard, jacqueline.leonard@maine.edu

UMaine Graduate School of Business Ranked No. 35 by Fortune Magazine

02 May 2022

Fortune Magazine's recent rankings place the University of Maine's online MBA program at No. 35. UMaine's Graduate School of Business is one of four programs in New England to be ranked and the only program in Maine. "Fortune magazine has a long-standing and valued reputation in the business world," says Norm O'Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business. "Its rankings are also considered to be objective and unbiased, therefore making our 19-spot jump in the rankings to No. 35 from No. 54 one of the best pieces of news we have received this year. "Given the considerably increased competition in online and hybrid business education, our faculty, students, and alumni should all be very proud of this result. Kudos to all who work so very hard to make the MaineMBA special," O'Reilly says. UMaine's high-quality, accredited online MBA program includes a skill-building core plus in-demand concentrations, like business analytics, finance, sustainability, and outdoor industry management, to prepare learners for whatever comes next in their careers. Our engaged faculty and supportive environment encourage individualism and exploration. Learn more at umaine.edu/mba. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hosts farm-to-table camp at Rogers Farm**02 May 2022**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension master gardener volunteers, UMaine Extension 4-H staff and Rob Dumas, UMaine food science innovation coordinator and chef, are hosting a farm-to-table summer camp Aug. 1–5, 7:45 a.m.–noon, at Rogers Farm, 914 Bennoch Road, Old Town. Registration is required by May 20. "[Farm-to-Table Camp at Rogers Farm](#)" is for youth ages 9–12 interested in growing, harvesting and preparing food and flowers. Participants will sow seeds, care for crops, harvest cut flowers and produce, save seeds, and learn how to manage pests and diseases in the garden. Activities also include helping create a collaborative art installation at the farm. The week culminates on the UMaine campus, where chef Dumas will focus on developing culinary skills, such as basic food preparation, an understanding of food safety and creating healthy meals with fresh, whole foods. The \$50 fee includes all materials and snacks. [Register on the camp webpage](#) by May 20. Limited financial assistance is available on request. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.942.7396; katherine.garland@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension wild blueberry field days start May 20**02 May 2022**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry field days begin May 20, 10 a.m.–noon, at Blue Hill Berry Company, 365 Route 172, Surry. Organic management of spring pests and recent research results on crop management practices will be the primary meeting topics. UMaine Extension wild blueberry specialist and University of Maine assistant professor of horticulture Lily Calderwood will be joined in the field by UMaine assistant professor of agricultural entomology Phil Fanning and UMaine associate professor of mycology Seanna Annis. The field days are free; registration is requested. One pesticide credit is approved. Register and find more information on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Mary Michaud, 207.581.3175; mary.j.michaud@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension tractor safety workshop May 25**02 May 2022**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a tractor safety workshop, 2–6 p.m. May 25 at Beech Hill Farm, College of the Atlantic, 171 Beech Hill Road, Mount Desert. Participants in the [2022 Tractor Safety Workshop](#) will learn how to identify common farm and tractor hazards; minimize the chance of accidents; better understand farm equipment and its safe operation; and apply best practices for hooking up and using attachments. UMaine Extension sustainable agriculture and maple professional Jason Lilley leads the workshop. The fee is sliding scale \$0–\$20; registration is required on the [event webpage](#). The workshop is open to both adults and youth. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jason Lilley, extension.tractorsafety@maine.edu; 207.781.6099.

University of Maine announces climate change workshop for educators**02 May 2022**

The University of Maine Climate Change Institute and Summer University will host the first Climate Change Workshop for pre-K–12 educators this summer. "Climate Change Teaching Tools" is designed for educators to learn more about climate change and, in particular, how to bring this important subject area into the classroom in meaningful ways for students. Participants may choose to attend for graduate credit or professional development CEUs. The two-day online workshop will be held July 12–13. The graduate credit option includes a three-week online course, July 5–22, in addition to workshop attendance. The event will feature renowned experts in climate change from the UMaine Climate Change Institute, the Gulf of Maine Research Center, the Maine Department of Education and panelists from the Maine Changemakers Network. Keynote speakers will discuss the impacts of climate change to the ocean, land and ice across the globe and here in Maine. "The age of climate change decision is here, and our actions will define the course of civilization and the health of our planet," says Paul Mayewski, director and professor of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute. For more information about the Climate Change Workshop, including registration options, email um.summerprograms@maine.edu or visit the [Summer University website](#).

BDN features climate change workshop for educators**02 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about the University of Maine Climate Change Institute and Summer University's first Climate Change Workshop for pre-K–12 educators this summer. "Climate Change Teaching Tools" is designed for educators to learn more about climate change and, in particular, how to bring this important subject area into the classroom in meaningful ways for students. [Reporter Green](#) shared the BDN report. For more information and to register, visit the program [webpage](#).

The Climate Daily podcast features UMaine research about potatoes

02 May 2022

[The Climate Daily](#) podcast cited research from the University of Maine focused on producing a potato that could better handle warming temperatures from climate change. The UMaine project received a \$500,000 grant from USDA to advance this research.

Morning Ag Clips, BDN highlight tractor safety workshop hosted by Extension**02 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension tractor safety workshop, 2–6 p.m. May 25 at Beech Hill Farm, College of the Atlantic, 171 Beech Hill Road, Mount Desert. Participants in the 2022 Tractor Safety Workshop will learn how to identify common farm and tractor hazards; minimize the chance of accidents; better understand farm equipment and its safe operation; and apply best practices for hooking up and using attachments. Register on the [event webpage](#).

WMTW cites UMaine study about state bee populations**02 May 2022**

In an article about Maine beekeepers helping newcomers start hives, [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland) cited a [study](#) from the University of Maine that the state's bee population has decreased by more than 40% since the 1980s. [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) shared the WMTW report.

Beaupre interviewed by BDN about companies repurposing Maine paper mills**02 May 2022**

James Beaupre, the director of industrial cooperation at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) for an article about companies proposing to repurpose former Maine paper mills into refineries that create environmentally friendly fuels and fertilizer from wood. Beaupre told the BDN that Maine still has a “vibrant timber and lumber industry,” and that biorefineries could allow Maine to diversify its forest economy and guarantee more uses for waste wood.

WFXV and WABI report on culinary arts cookoff**02 May 2022**

[WFXV](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on a competition where high school students attending nine Career and Technical Education culinary arts programs from across the state competed in a fast-paced cooking challenge at the University of Maine. As part of the USDA’s Professional Development Literacy Grant, 14 student chefs were challenged to prepare three-course meals to be later presented to a judge. Rob Dumas, food and science innovation coordinator at UMaine, hosted the event.

Annis interviewed by BDN about infection-causing fungus**02 May 2022**

Seanna Annis, associate professor of mycology at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about genus aspergillus after a recent [study](#) out of the United Kingdom that shows humans can catch drug-resistant lung infections from the common fungus. “It really is everywhere. We are breathing in [aspergillus] spores right now,” Annis said.

BDN reports on UMaine alumni playing in Stanley Cup playoffs**02 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that three former University of Maine hockey players will be involved in the National Hockey League’s Stanley Cup playoff. On Monday, goalie Jeremy Swayman’s Boston Bruins open the playoffs at Carolina and center Devin Shore’s Edmonton Oilers will be hosting the Los Angeles Kings. On Tuesday, left winger Ryan Lomberg’s Florida Panthers will entertain the Washington Capitals.

BDN boosts UMaine 2022 Commencement ceremonies**02 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about University of Maine 2022 Commencement ceremonies and celebrations for 2022 graduates and members of the Classes of 2020 and 2021 that will be held May 6–8 in Alford Sports Arena. All the events will be livestreamed and available on the [Commencement website](#). [Tips for attending are online](#).

BDN features Fogler Library staff receiving 2022 Black Bear Award**02 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the 12-member circulation staff of Fogler Library at the University of Maine are the recipients of the 2022 Black Bear Award for Extraordinary Impact. UMaine established the Black Bear Award for Extraordinary Impact in 2021 to recognize the performance excellence of an individual or group.

Castine Patriot cites UMaine offshore wind efforts

02 May 2022

The [Castine Patriot](#) cited a pilot project for a single floating offshore turbine south of Monhegan Island led by the University of Maine's research program and New England Aqua Ventus. The project is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and may be the first floating offshore wind turbine in the United State. It is on track for placement in 2024. The [Penobscot Bay Press](#) and the [Weekly Packet](#) shared the Castine Patriot article.

Fuller bulletin about fiddleheads shared by the BDN**02 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared a Cooperative Extension bulletin by David Fuller, retired University of Maine Cooperative Extension agriculture and non-timber forest products professional, about identifying and harvesting fiddleheads. The bulletin can be found [online](#).

Leslie profiled for Lincoln County News**02 May 2022**

Heather Leslie was interviewed by the [Lincoln County News](#) about her role as director of the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center in Walpole. "I like to call this the Woods Hole of the North. ... you have hundreds of people, trained scientists and other professionals, working on marine science and education issues. We're spread out. But there's a lot of collaboration among our groups, in terms of research and engagement with communities," Leslie said.

Ranco interviewed for PPH about implementing Wabanaki studies class**02 May 2022**

Darren Ranco, associate professor of anthropology and the coordinator of Native American research at the University of Maine, was quoted by the [Portland Press Herald](#) in an article about the slow implementation of a 2001 law requiring schools to teach the history, government and culture of the state's Indigenous people. The law was passed without money or enforcement. "A lot of us that have been involved have been frustrated by the pace of implementation. Many of us had great hope for this law in the broad educational context in the state of Maine, but it has been frustrating to see it stall until the last couple of years when Portland Public Schools' work started," said Ranco, who is also a citizen of the Penobscot Nation and has worked on the Portland curriculum. [The Sun Journal](#) shared the PPH report.

Maine Business School announces spring 2022 honors and awards recipients**03 May 2022**

Maine Business School and the Graduate School of Business announced the annual spring 2022 honors and awards recipients for students and faculty. Each honoree receives a certificate, blue cords to wear at graduation and a locally crafted paddle. A full list of honorees is on the Maine Business School [website](#).

Hargest speaks to News Center Maine about starting seedlings**03 May 2022**

Pamela Hargest, horticultural professional at the Cumberland County Extension, was featured on [News Center Maine](#)'s Gardening with Gunter segment. Hargest explained to chief meteorologist Todd Gutner the best practices for starting seedlings indoors.

Dill interviewed for BDN about tick boom in article about extreme tick control methods**03 May 2022**

Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension tick lab, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the recent boom in tick populations for an article about a Maine farmer who plans to rid her property of ticks through controlled burns. "In 2021 we had an absolute explosion of dog tick numbers and activity. At this time last year we had already gotten 300 reports and we generally get 500 to 600 over an entire year. ... The explosion in numbers people are seeing now is because we are getting into the time of year where multiple tick species are active. Early on it was the deer ticks and now we are seeing dog ticks, so you have this combination of both," Dill said. [WGME \(Channel 13 in Portland\)](#) shared the Bangor Daily news report.

CCIDS celebrates 22 Interdisciplinary Disability Studies graduates**04 May 2022**

Twenty-two University of Maine students were honored during the 2022 Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Celebration of Achievement on April 26. Three students were recognized for completing the [Graduate Certificate in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies](#). Nineteen undergraduates — three of whom were 2021 honorees — were recognized for completing the [minor in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies](#). Students completing the minor represented seven academic disciplines: biomedical engineering; child development and family relations; communication sciences and disorders; kinesiology and physical education; marine science; psychology; and social work. Read more about the event on the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) [website](#).

Dill speaks to BDN about keeping ticks at bay**04 May 2022**

Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, was interviewed for the [Bangor Daily News](#) for an article about keeping

ticks out of Maine yards. “Part of what you do depends on the property. It can be a bit more of a challenge if you are talking about a rural property of 15 acres or more and not a smaller yard. ... There is no single, silver bullet that is going to control ticks. An integrated approach combining multiple strategies is important,” Dill said.

Portland Phoenix cites UMaine research about the economic impact of cruise ships

04 May 2022

In an article about cruise ships returning to Portland this year, the [Portland Phoenix](#) cited a University of Maine study of the economic impact of Bar Harbor cruise visitors in 2016. The study showed the average respondent spent about \$108 during their visit.

Brewer interviewed for WABI about Supreme Court draft opinion leak

04 May 2022

Mark Brewer, professor and chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of Maine, spoke to [WABI \(Channel 5 in Bangor\)](#) about the leak of the Supreme Court’s draft opinion overturning Roe v. Wade. Brewer says that the leak is unprecedented, and in his 35 years following American politics, he never dealt with an instance like this. “For example, presidential administrations. That’s one big leak after another, but the Supreme Court has long been the exception to that rule. It’s incredibly secretive. Very little comes out until they’re ready for it to come out. Access is tightly controlled to a really small inner circle, so for something like this to happen, is incredibly shocking,” Brewer said.

Indigenous oyster consumption research featured in CNN and other international outlets

04 May 2022

[CNN](#), [CBC Science Daily](#), [The Independent](#), [Phys.org](#), [Gizmodo](#), [Tasting Table](#) and other international outlets reported on new research based on an analysis of dozens of archaeological sites in the United States and Australia that shows oysters were sustainably farmed on a massive scale by Indigenous groups. Bonnie Newsom, assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Maine and citizen of the Penobscot Indian Nation, was a co-author of the study. “Oyster harvesting didn't start 500 years ago with the arrival of Europeans. Indigenous peoples had a relationship with and understood this species well enough to use it as part of their subsistence and cultural practices. Indigenous peoples have a lot to offer in terms of how to engage with this natural resource in ways that are sustainable,” Newsom said.

IEI hosted virtual English program for students at Hirosaki University in Japan

04 May 2022

Feb. 27–March 10, the University of Maine Intensive English Institute (IEI) held a virtual English program for students from Hirosaki University in the Aomori district of Japan. The annual program started in 2001 and has been conducted continuously for 22 years, with nearly 400 student participants. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event has been conducted remotely the past two years. Despite the distance learning, the Hirosaki students are still able to connect with each other, their host families and IEI instructors. During the program this year, Hirosaki University students participated in daily English language lessons with instructors Cheryl Robertson, Shania Soler and Orlina Boteva. Twice a week, students participated in conversation activities with UMaine students, many of whom were part of the Japanese language classes taught on campus. Hirosaki University students also took a virtual tour of the Page Farm and Home Museum, and learned about the Wabanaki tribes. In past years when the program was held in-person, students would stay with families and learn more about the culture and the language. For this year’s virtual program, Hirosaki University students were connected with families in the community via email, messaging and video calls. Host families and students even took part in a virtual scavenger hunt for household items. “Working with Hirosaki University students and this program through IEI is always an honor. At the beginning of the program, my students share with me their trepidation at speaking English out loud. By the end of the two weeks (that's all!) they have had a myriad of experiences with me, their host families and conversation partners, and that initial fear is gone,” said Cheryl Robertson, IEI teacher.

UMaine research defines lobster line requirements for whale entanglement risk reduction

04 May 2022

Efforts to reduce the risk of entanglement in lobster trap lines for the endangered North Atlantic right whale may need to consider more factors than just line strength if they want to be safe, effective and economical, according to new research led by the University of Maine and the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR). North Atlantic right whales have the potential to get caught in the vertical line that runs from gear set on the bottom to the surface marker buoy in fixed-gear fisheries, like that of the American lobster fishery in Maine. Often whales can break free of the gear and are simply left with scars, but the risk of death increases as the lines are stronger and more densely distributed throughout the water. To mitigate right whale injury and deaths, U.S. federal management agencies like the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have mandated weak points or weak ropes be inserted into vertical lines to limit strength and provide points at which right whales can break the ropes if they become entangled. New regulations on minimum trawl lengths — or the number of traps fished per vertical line — took effect on May 1, 2022, and caused increases in lobster fishery vertical line loads across all fishing grounds, considerably increasing with depth and distance from shore. However, limiting the strength of vertical lines for lobster traps could negatively impact the economic resilience of New England fishing communities if it forces the purchase of new equipment or increases the incidence of break-offs and lost gear. Increasing trawl lengths is also a safety concern to the fishery – the more traps in a trawl, the heavier it is, and the greater the risk the trawl will get snagged on rocky outcrops on the sea bed. Finding a balance between the environment, the economy and safety is key. [In a study](#) published April 2022 in the journal Marine and Coastal Fisheries, researchers from UMaine and Maine DMR looked at the vertical line strength requirements for Maine’s American lobster trap fishery under the new regulations. Using 1,700-foot-pounds as a low whale mortality threshold for vertical line strength, they compared that value to the hauling load requirements of the fishery, which the researchers modeled using measurements of strain put on vertical lines used in typical lobster trap operations to determine the minimum strength necessary to fish safely and avoid dangerous line breaks. The models indicated that inshore areas can be safely and effectively fished within the existing federal whale-safe breaking strength limits, both historically and under the new regulations. However, the offshore lobster fishery, which will see the largest increases in line load under the new rule, has loads that often exceed the 1,700 ft-lbs threshold, and will need a

variety of gear modification options or additional measures beyond line strength reductions to reduce entanglement risk and mortality of right whales while preventing dangerous line breaks. The authors recommend that management should consider the efficacy of weakening vertical lines for offshore areas or during extreme weather for the safety of the fishermen when implementing trawl length minima so fishermen can target the most efficient areas without losing gear. “This work is critical to test a lot of assumptions about gear dynamics that go into the new risk reduction rules, and look at how things will work for fishers on the water. We are finding weak rope has the potential to reduce entanglement mortality risk for inshore areas, but it will not be a perfect fit across the entire fishery,” says Nathaniel Willse, Ph.D. student at the School of Marine Sciences and principal author of the study. Willse’s research was supported by a Maine Sea Grant-Lobster Institute Fellowship. Using the results, the researchers aim to provide guidelines for the minimum line strength necessary for fishery operations, which can be used to inform management goals that balance the need for a sustainable lobster fishery and the conservation of right whales. “As we build off of this work, we hope to set an example for ways in which to use science to understand the needs of the fishing industry that is being regulated and incorporate that knowledge into the measures that are proposed for the conservation of endangered species,” says Erin Summers, co-author of the study and director of the Division of Ecology and the Environment at the Maine DMR. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

English Internships supported by Caroline Bicks, Stephen E. King Chair fellowships

05 May 2022

Caroline Bicks, Stephen E. King Chair in Literature, and Kathryn Swacha, assistant professor of English, started a new internship fellowship program designed to offer students funding to pursue unpaid internships. Five students are currently recipients of the donor-funded Stephen E. King Chair Internship Fellowship, which pays students between \$1,500 and \$2,500 depending on weekly hourly commitments for intern positions that would otherwise be unpaid. The King Chair Internship Fellowship addresses inequities in unpaid internships, which can reinforce social disparities by financially marginalizing students from participating. The program gives student interns the chance to gain work experience in their prospective professions and give back to organizations doing important social justice and community work. Concurrently with their internship, fellowship recipients take an English course with Swacha, Field Experience in Professional Writing, which introduces students to effective professional writing strategies. It provides students opportunities to workshop their internship writing with their peers, helping them make connections between their internship work and their larger studies, and mentoring them about how to leverage their internship toward future employment or graduate school. Alex Fountain, a secondary education and English double major from Liberty, Maine, is spending her semester interning at the Bangor Humane Society, where she does a variety of tasks, from administrative work, to working directly with animals and writing animal personality bios for adoption, as well as sharing pet adoption success stories. “Without the help of the fellowship, I don’t think I would have known what vast opportunities there are available to me, especially in the world of writing. Being able to work with such an amazing organization, and being able to enhance my writing skills, while also being supported by the fellowship, is an amazing opportunity,” Fountain says. Chloe Shields, an elementary education major, is working with Welcome To Housing Home Goods Bank, a nonprofit furniture bank that aims to “help people in need succeed,” by providing household essentials to individuals who are transitioning into permanent housing. As a professional writing intern with Welcome to Housing, Shields is editing a proposal for the Maine Association of Realtors to expand the mission of furniture banks across the state, particularly into currently underserved, rural areas. “The opportunity presented through the Stephen E. King Chair Internship Fellowship to contribute to such a worthwhile mission, while also enhancing my own professional skills, has been profound,” Shields says. “The impact that doing an internship can have on students’ future success really cannot be overstated. For many of these students, completing an internship, receiving the King Fellowship, and taking Field Experiences in Professional Writing becomes a turning point for their next steps post-graduation. I have had many students land well-paying jobs in sectors directly related to their internships, or tell me that their internship experience is what helped them to figure out what type of career path they wanted to pursue,” Swacha says. “Many of these students have excelled academically, but have not had many opportunities to apply their studies to work beyond the university,” Swacha adds. “The value of opening up such opportunities for students who might not otherwise be able to pursue an internship is just incredible, and truly sets us apart from other peer institutions.” Stephen E. King Chair Internship Fellowships are supported through the Stephen E. King Chair in Literature, established in the University of Maine Foundation with a gift from the Harold Alfond Foundation in honor of the UMaine alumnus’ substantial body of work and his creative impact. Its goal is to advance excellence in the creation, study and appreciation of literature and the humanities. In addition to recruiting and retaining a top scholar, the endowed fund supports the creation of innovative learning opportunities for students and activities that advance creative writing, literature and the humanities on campus and in the community. [Shakespeare scholar Caroline Bicks](#) was named to the inaugural King Chair in 2017.

UMaine awarded observer status at UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

05 May 2022

The University of Maine was recently awarded observer status by parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The status allows the university to send a delegation of students and faculty to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) Nov. 7–18 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. UNFCCC was established in 1992 to stabilize greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere. Each year the parties to the convention attend a Conference of the Parties (COP), where collective action for climate mitigation and adaptation is negotiated. UMaine’s status was confirmed at COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland; members of the UMaine community now have the chance to join a delegation to COP27 that will observe negotiating sessions, meet delegates from around the world, participate in writing statements to present to country negotiators and explore how different areas of research at UMaine — including that emerging from the School of Policy and International Affairs and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’s Anthropology and Human Dimensions of Climate Change programs — can contribute to the international policy process. UMaine’s application for observer status came after several UMaine faculty and students were given the opportunity to attend the United Nations Climate Negotiations in 2017 and 2018, made possible with assistance from UMaine supporters Dan and Betty Churchill. UNFCCC grants observer status to nine different nonparty constituencies. As a research and nongovernmental organization, UMaine will join the meetings as a member of the Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organizations (RINGO) constituency, who are not present to negotiate or advocate a specific political position, but rather as researchers, there to provide scientific information or to study the negotiation process. UMaine joins a list of RINGO organizations that include top-ranked universities and nonprofits from across the U.S. and around the world. “Securing observer status not only supports our signature programs and emerging areas of research excellence; it also provides significant pedagogical, research and outreach opportunities to faculty and students across campus and in our broader community,” says Cindy Isenhour, associate professor in the Department of Anthropology and UMaine Climate Change Institute. “The delegation to COP27 will give UMaine students — like those in my course on Global Governance of Climate Change — a chance to participate and see up close what they are studying as part of their UMaine experience,” says Nicholas Micinski, assistant professor in the Department of Political Science and the School of Policy and International Studies. Contact: Brian Jansen, brian.jansen@maine.edu

2022 Maine Campus Compact Awards honors UMaine department, community partner and students

05 May 2022

The University of Maine Department of Art; the Old Town Hannaford; two UMaine students, [Gabriella Peluso](#) and [Elaine Thomas](#); Lori Schnieders, associate professor of psychology at the University of Maine at Machias and were honored at this year's 2022 Maine Campus Compact Awards Ceremony. Maine Campus Compact is a coalition of 17 member campuses throughout the state whose purpose is to catalyze and lead a movement to reinvigorate the public purposes and civic mission of higher education. Each year, the Maine Campus Compact honors those who have made outstanding contributions to Maine campuses and communities through civic engagement, activism, service and community involvement. The UMaine Department of Art received a President's Campus Leadership Award. The award recognizes a student organization or campus department at each Maine Campus Compact member institution for its contributions to community service-learning and civic engagement efforts on their campus. The organization cited a project by art education students of associate professor Constant Albertson to make signage, lesson plans, illustrations and a video unit of interdisciplinary, intercultural art lessons focused on Native American principles of sustainability for the Bangor Land Trust's Edible Landscape project, which also partners with the Penobscot Nation. The Old Town Hannaford received a Corporate Partner of the Year Award, which recognizes an outstanding corporate partner and its staff for their contributions and commitment to strengthening campuses and communities in Maine. The Old Town Hannaford has long been an important UMaine partner. Store manager Jon Ivey has offered students numerous opportunities for collaboration and the store supports the Black Bear Exchange, the campus food pantry. Peluso and Thomas received PILLARS (Philanthropy, Innovative, Learning, Leadership, Action, Responsibility and Service) Honorable Mention Student Awards, which recognize students who are actively engaged on their campus and in their communities. Video of the 2022 ceremony is [online](#). Peluso, a marine science major with a concentration in marine biology and minor in chemistry in the Honors College, and Thomas, a piano performance and business management double major in the Honors College, received PILLARS (Philanthropy, Innovative, Learning, Leadership, Action, Responsibility and Service) Honorable Mention Student Awards, which recognize students who are actively engaged on their campus and in their communities. Schnieders was awarded the Faculty Impact Service Award, which recognizes a Maine faculty member who has made exceptional contributions to student success and well-being, as well as to fostering student engagement on campus and in the community. Schnieders is known for integrating experiential learning opportunities for her students from their first year to their Senior Projects. Schnieders initiated the Senior Project Showcase and Community Partner Appreciation events in 2016. In 2017, she began serving as an advisor with the University of Maine Machias Food Club; since then, a campus food pantry has been opened, and Schnieders and the Food Club have also traveled to conferences focused on addressing food insecurity on campus.

Media shares Extension 4-H 'adulting' workshop**05 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Irregular](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about a University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H workshop to introduce basic adult life skills by exploring weekly topics, such as life/work balance and stress management; saving, spending and credit; nutrition on a budget; resumes and interviews; rent and roommates. The short-term online club for youth ages 13–18 will take place Wednesdays, June 22–July 27, from 4–5:30 p.m. The club is free; limited to 20 participants. Register by June 6 on the [event webpage](#) to receive the link and at-home materials.

WABI reports on UMaine alumnus who volunteered in Ukraine**05 May 2022**

[WABI \(Channel 5 in Bangor\)](#) interviewed Ryan Warner, a 2011 graduate of the University of Maine and 2016 graduate of UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA), about his experience providing volunteer medical aid in Ukraine. "Inside of Ukraine right now, it feels a little bit like World War III. ... I mean, we were running into, you know, entire families essentially, like groups of women whose husbands were fighting, and they had had set up what was acting as de facto NGOs transporting everything from military, relatively minor military equipment, like body armor to medications for the front lines for the soldiers. It was an inspiring effort," Warner said.

BDN interviews Dill about 'No Mow May' and ticks**05 May 2022**

Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine's Tick Lab, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about how measures like "No Mow May" can impact tick populations. "It's hard to reconcile all these tick control measures with the desire to have a more natural landscape overall. People are becoming more cognizant of protecting pollinator habitat and unfortunately the two don't mesh well together at the moment," Dill said.

Brewer speaks to AP about donations to Maine governor race**05 May 2022**

Mark Brewer, political science professor at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about the Democratic Governors Association reserving \$5 million in television advertising for Gov. Janet Mills' reelection campaign. The Maine Republican Party previously announced nearly \$4 million in TV ad bookings for former Republican Gov. Paul LePage's campaign in the race. "They'll have money to do whatever they want to do. Neither side is going to run short of funds," Brewer said. [U.S. News and World Report](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [Richmond Times-Dispatch](#) (Richmond, VA), [Albany Democrat-Herald](#) (Albany, NY) and other national outlets shared the AP report.

UMaine researchers co-author Smithsonian study about Indigenous oyster consumption**05 May 2022**

Bonnie Newsom, assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Maine and member of the Penobscot Indian Nation, and Alice Kelley, research associate professor at the Climate Change Institute, co-authored a study showing that oyster fisheries were intensively yet sustainably harvested by Indigenous peoples long before European settlers arrived. The study, co-led by [Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History](#) anthropologist Torben Rick, and Temple University anthropologist and former Smithsonian postdoctoral fellow Leslie Reeder-Myers, analyzed the archaeological records at sites across North America and Australia, specifically looking at the accumulations of oyster shells that are also known as middens or mounds. The researchers found that some

of the oldest oyster middens in California and Massachusetts date back more than 6,000 years. The researchers found that the Indigenous groups in these locations harvested and ate immense quantities of oysters in a manner that did not cause the bivalves’ populations to suffer and crash. If the fishery is overextended, the shells tend to get smaller, but the studies of Indigenous oyster fisheries have not found widespread evidence of this shrinking shell pattern, suggesting the shellfish populations were generally healthy. “This paper shows that shell heaps, once thought of simply as trash heaps, are actually rich archives of cultural and paleoenvironmental information, and likely were an important part of Indigenous life at the time of formation,” Kelley says. The paper expands on a 2004 paper documenting the collapses of 28 oyster fisheries located along the east and west coasts of North America and Australia’s east coast. The previous research’s timeline in each location begins with European colonists’ creation of commercial oyster fisheries. This study deepens the historical context of those modern declines by documenting Indigenous oyster fisheries that existed prior to European colonization. The findings suggest that studying these ancient, sustainable fisheries offers insights that could help to restore and manage estuaries today. Furthermore, the authors of the study assert that Indigenous peoples in these locations had deep connections to oysters and that their living descendants are long overdue to be involved in decisions about how to manage what is left of this coastal resource. “This study showcases the value of Indigenous shell heap sites in Maine as important repositories of information on past lifeways and how that information may be relevant to our contemporary shellfish harvesting practices,” Newsom says. Arthur Spiess, senior archaeologist at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, was also among the study’s co-authors who made contributions to the research in Maine. The study was published May 3 in [Nature Communications](#). Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension 4-H introduces teens to adulting concepts in June

06 May 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a short-term online 4-H club for youth ages 13–18 about basic adult life skills 4–5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, June 22–July 27. Required registration closes June 6. The “[4-H Adulting 101 Series](#)” will introduce basic adult life skills by exploring a different topic each week, including life/work balance and stress management; saving, spending and credit; nutrition on a budget; resumes and interviews; rent and roommates; and a topic chosen by the participants. UMaine Extension 4-H staff will lead the discussions. The club is free; limited to 20 participants. Register by June 6 on the [event webpage](#) to receive the link and at-home materials. This series is supported in part by the Maine 4-H Foundation. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.324.2814; erin.mcdonald1@maine.edu. Additional information also is available on the [Extension 4-H Virtual Learning webpage](#).

BDN features UMaine wild blueberry field days

06 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry field days begin May 20, 10 a.m.–noon at Blue Hill Berry Company, 365 Route 172 in Surry. The field days are free; registration is requested. One pesticide credit is approved. Register and find more information on the [event webpage](#).

BDN reports on UMaine’s 2022 Maine Campus Compact Awards

06 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine Department of Art, the Old Town Hannaford and two UMaine students, [Gabriella Peluso](#) and [Elaine Thomas](#), were honored at this year’s 2022 Maine Campus Compact Awards Ceremony.

The Record Online and Observer-Dispatch cite UMaine Extension lilac video

06 May 2022

[The Record Online](#) (Clinton County, Pennsylvania) and [Observer-Dispatch](#) (Utica, New York) cited a University of Maine Cooperative Extension video about pruning lilacs in a column about growing lilacs in a home garden. The video is on [YouTube](#).

WBZN-FM shares commencement livestream

06 May 2022

[WBZN-FM \(Z107.3 in Brewer\)](#) reported that the University of Maine commencement will be livestreamed. Links are on the commencement [website](#).

On-Campus COVID-19 testing schedule beginning May 9

06 May 2022

UMaine COVID-19 symptomatic and asymptomatic self-administered tests are available 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., Tuesday–Wednesday in the Lown Room, Memorial Union. **There is no appointment necessary during these walk-in hours.**

Please wear a mask when you pick up a test kit, especially if you are symptomatic.

The self-administered test kits can be dropped off Tuesday–Thursday in a clearly marked red cooler at the Memorial Union Information Desk. Test samples are collected at 5 p.m. every drop-off day. Any test kits dropped off after Thursday at 5 p.m. will likely be destroyed; in this case, you will not receive results.

You will continue to use [PointnClick](#) to self-register test kits and to see results; bring a smartphone, tablet or laptop, or take the test kit home to use a computer. Physical directions for kit registration online will also be stapled to each test kit.

[More information is online.](#)

UMaine Early College expands offerings for high school students

09 May 2022

The University of Maine's Early College program for high school students has expanded its offerings for summer 2022. Introduction to Integrated Science and Career Exploration (INT 188), a three-credit course that involves field- and laboratory-based data collection, data analysis and lectures in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines, will expand to include sections in Orono and Machias in addition to the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. The Cohen Institute High School Leadership Program will expand its capacity from 25 students to 75 students. The program immerses rising high school seniors from Maine in both the theory and practice of leadership. New this summer is a 10-day Outdoor Leadership Intensive held at the 4-H site in Bryant Pond, Maine. Students will have the opportunity to earn four college credits that can apply to the UMaine Early College Outdoor Leadership Pathway. For dates, program information and costs, visit the Early College [webpage](#), email um.earlycollege@maine.edu or call 207.581.8024

UMaine Extension offers on-farm visit for new farmers May 19

09 May 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Maine New Farmers Project is offering a farm visit for new farmers on harvest and storage techniques, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. May 19 at King Hill Farm, 29 Faerie Kingdom Road, Penobscot. The [Harvest and Storage Farm Visit](#) is an opportunity for new farmers with fewer than 10 years of experience to learn about good harvest and storage practices while networking with other farmers. Paul Schultz, co-owner and co-operator of King Hill Farm, leads the farm visit. The fee is \$10; registration is required and limited to 25. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Chris Howard, 207.944.6391; christina.howard@maine.edu. More information also is available on the UMaine Extension [Maine New Farmers Project website](#), supported by the Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Retirement celebration for Linda Reid, Peter Reid set for May 25

09 May 2022

The Office of Student Records and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture will host a retirement celebration in honor of Linda Reid and Peter Reid on May 25 from 2–4 p.m. at the University of Maine Career Center in the Memorial Union. Linda Reid, associate registrar at the Office of Student Records, and Peter Reid, assistant dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, have been members of the UMaine community for 35 and 27 years, respectively. Refreshments will be available. To contribute to a gift, contact Trish Costello at the Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture Academic Support Center, 115 Deering Hall; Teresa.costello@maine.edu; 207.581.3206.

Media shares UMaine Extension farm visit

09 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [Sun Journal](#) shared information about a farm visit for new farmers on harvest and storage techniques at King Hill Farm organized by University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Maine New Farmers Project. The farm visit will take place from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. May 19 at King Hill Farm, 29 Faerie Kingdom Road, Penobscot. The fee is \$10; registration is required and limited to 25. Register on the [event webpage](#).

Media covers UMaine Commencement

09 May 2022

[The Associated Press](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) [WFVX](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) and [Higher Ed Dive](#) reported on the University of Maine Commencement ceremonies. The event marked the first time in two years that graduation ceremonies at UMaine were held in person rather than in an online or hybrid format. [U.S. News and World Report](#) and other national outlets shared the AP article.

BDN features UMaine Aroostook Farm potato research

09 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) featured the Aroostook Farm research facility in Presque Isle, where the University of Maine's potato breeding program develops new varieties of potatoes that are more resistant to disease, climate change and other stressors. Gregory Porter, UMaine professor of crop ecology and management and the leader of the potato breeding program, said that growers are already adapting to changing conditions in ways that will enable Maine's potato industry to remain competitive. Paul Ocaya, research assistant, and Beth Plummer, crop technician, both with the School of Food and Agriculture, were also cited in the article for their work at Aroostook Farm.

Townsend speaks to Scientific American about fish farms

09 May 2022

David Townsend, professor of oceanography at the School of Marine Sciences at the University of Maine, was interviewed by [Scientific American](#) about fish farming in Maine. Townsend said that the state has two important attributes for fish cultivation: cold, nutrient-rich water and extremely vigorous tides that distribute those nutrients throughout the water column. "Our coastal waters are very productive," he said. [News AKMI](#) and other outlets shared the Scientific American article.

Maine Monitor shares UMaine work with Our Climate Common

09 May 2022

[The Maine Monitor](#) highlighted the University of Maine's work with the group Our Climate Common in an article about carbon offset programs in Maine. UMaine works with Our Climate Common to figure out how to get commercial landowners, who account for most of Maine's timberland owners, to participate in carbon offset programs. [The Sun Journal](#) shared the Maine Monitor report. The [Portland Press Herald](#) shared The Maine Monitor report.

Maine Monitor highlights UMaine browntail moth research

09 May 2022

[The Maine Monitor](#) featured research conducted by the University of Maine in an article about scientists managing browntail moth populations. Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology at the University of Maine, told the Maine Monitor that researchers are studying other ways to control the pest, including testing a variety of targeted biopesticides that could have fewer harmful impacts on other species. Her students also are helping her test which types of lightbulbs are least attractive to browntail moths. Last summer, Mech and her colleagues tested different types of traps using pheromones, chemicals that alter sexual and other behaviors, to monitor population density and predict outbreaks. [Centralmaine.com](#) and the [Sun Journal](#) shared the Maine Monitor report.

Gill interviewed by AP about maintaining optimism in light of the climate crisis

09 May 2022

[The Associated Press](#) interviewed University of Maine climate scientist Jacquelyn Gill about how she maintains hope and optimism in light of the worsening climate crisis. Gill said she has accepted the idea that she is "everybody's climate midwife" and coaches them to hope through action. Gill said what's key in fighting eco-anxiety is that "regular depression and regular anxiety tools work just as well. And so that's why I tell people: 'Be a doer. Get [out] there. Don't just doomscroll.' There are entry level ways that anyone, literally anyone, can help out. And the more we do that, 'Oh, it actually works,' it turns out." [Boston.com](#), [Oregon Public Broadcasting](#), and other national outlets shared the AP report. [Boston.com](#), [Oregon Public Broadcasting](#), the [Herald Standard](#) and other outlets shared the AP report.

Media shares news of Scocchi's national award

10 May 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and the [Ellsworth American](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H youth development professional Carla Scocchi received the 2021 Denise Miller National 4-H Innovator Award, presented by the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals. Scocchi, along with award team members Melissa Malmstedt, education and outreach coordinator at the Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research, and Scarlett Tudor, education and outreach coordinator at the Aquaculture Research Institute, developed and delivered an at-home aquaponics program to reach youth with interests in fish, home aquaria or modern agricultural technology who were isolated at home during the pandemic. More information is available on the [UMaine Extension 4-H Aquaponics Project website](#).

News Center Maine cites UMaine Extension information on tomatoes, eggplants, peppers

10 May 2022

For the segment Gardening with Gutner, hosted by chief meteorologist Todd Gutner, [News Center Maine](#) highlighted information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension that says plants like tomato, eggplant, and peppers cannot go outdoors until the last frost. More information about the estimated last day of frost and the recommended dates to plant your garden can be found on the [UMaine Cooperative Extension website](#).

Yarborough speaks to PPH about wild blueberry crop rebounding

10 May 2022

David Yarborough, a University of Maine professor emeritus, spoke to the [Portland Press Herald](#) about Maine's wild blueberry crop rebounding from a couple of devastating years to produce a banner yield last season. "The magic last year was June. It rained a lot, and it rained at the perfect time. That was good for that year's crop and also good for this year's crop," Yarborough said. The [Ellsworth American](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) shared the PPH report.

UMaine Extension 4-H, UMaine aquaculture research staff win national award

10 May 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H youth development professional Carla Scocchi is the recipient of the 2021 Denise Miller National 4-H Innovator Award, presented by the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals. The award "recognizes an individual or team who exemplifies innovation, accomplishment, and commitment in the design and delivery of a unique 4-H program," according to the [NAE4-HYDP website](#). Scocchi, along with award team members Melissa Malmstedt, education and outreach coordinator at the UMaine Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research, and Scarlett Tudor, education and outreach coordinator at the UMaine Aquaculture Research Institute, developed and delivered an at-home aquaponics program to reach youth with interests in fish, home aquaria or modern agricultural technology who were isolated at home during the pandemic. A recent UMaine Today magazine story, "[Hooked on Aquaponics](#)," describes the journey of one young student who loves fish, aquaponics and learning. "This project illustrates a successful virtual program that sustained a hands-on component on the ground. What defines the 4-H Aquaponics Project as innovative is not only that the experience could be replicated by other 4-H programs, but that it serves as a model for how 4-H can preserve its learn-by-doing approach in the post-pandemic world," Scocchi said. Tudor added, "Many of the skills that kids learn in this program are highly transferable to careers within and outside

of aquaculture, all of which are extremely important to our workforce in Maine.” More information is available on the [UMaine Extension 4-H Aquaponics Project website](#). More information about the 4-H program is available on the [UMaine Extension 4-H website](#), or by contacting 207.581.3877; jessica.brainerd@maine.edu.

UMaine research shows adverse childhood experiences associated with worse cognitive function in community-dwelling older adults

10 May 2022

Childhood trauma can impact a person’s life into adulthood. According to University of Maine research, adverse childhood experiences may even have a negative impact on cognitive function as people age. UMaine researchers assessed the intellectual abilities, verbal memory, visual memory and executive attention of participants ages 55 to 90 years old recruited as part of the Maine-Aging Behavior Learning Enrichment (M-ABLE) Study at UMaine. Self-report measures were also used to examine levels of depressive symptoms, self-efficacy and cognitive concerns. Finally, a questionnaire measured childhood experiences of abuse, neglect and household dysfunction. Over 56% of participants reported experiencing early life abuse or neglect. The results show that adverse childhood experiences were negatively associated with annual income level and years of education, but positively associated with depressive symptoms and self-reported cognitive concerns. Adverse childhood experiences were also a significant predictor of lower performance on measures of intellectual function and executive attention; however, these relationships were no longer significant after adjusting for years of education. “In other words, the number of years of education accounted for the significant relationship between early life adversity and worse cognitive function,” says Amy Halpin, first author of the study and a UMaine doctoral student in clinical psychology. “This means that more years of education may help mitigate the harmful impact of adverse childhood experiences. It is still unclear if there is a critical window in which this education should be completed, or if education at any point in life can promote better brain functioning in older adults.” Overall, the researchers suggested that a greater degree of childhood adversity may increase vulnerability for cognitive problems in late life by way of fewer years of early education, lower socioeconomic status and greater risk for mental health concerns. “Although we cannot change the past, we can identify activities and behaviors that may help lessen the negative downstream effects of childhood adversity. Studying things that increase resiliency may help us to identify targets for interventions and encourage meaningful lifestyle changes for older adults at risk,” Halpin says. In particular, learning more about coping styles and personality traits may shed light on how individuals overcome early life adversity and identify psychosocial treatments that may reduce risk and help prevent cognitive decline in later life. [The study](#) was published in the Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society. To the researchers’ knowledge, the study is the first to comprehensively examine the effect of adverse childhood experiences on cognitive functions and risk of cognitive decline in independent community-dwelling older adults. “Notably, mediation analyses suggested that the relationship between childhood adversity and lower cognitive performance was a result of less education. These findings have important implications for public health and programs that support continued education in those with adverse childhood backgrounds. Further, building self-efficacy may help to increase resilience and support learning in this population,” says Rebecca MacAulay, co-author and principal investigator of the study, and assistant professor of psychology at UMaine. MacAulay says longitudinal research is needed to better understand how these relationships change over time, and to be able to determine cause-and-effect relationships. It also will be important in developing interventions for older adults that support autonomy and learning, such as the Maine Understanding Sensory Integration and Cognition (MUSIC) Project that teaches music to older adults. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

2021 Maine Forest Tick Survey results released

10 May 2022

Nine southern and coastal Maine counties had a three-fold increase in the ticks in 2021 compared to the same time the year before, according to the latest results of the Maine Forest Tick Survey at the University of Maine. The 2021 survey marked the second year of a multiyear, multidisciplinary study examining the link between forest land management and ticks. The survey results are [online](#). In both the 2020 and 2021 surveys, the ticks were collected in July, which marks the peak population size of blacklegged tick nymphs in Maine. The nymph stage is considered most hazardous to human health because the nymphs are small and may be difficult to notice, and have already had one blood meal where they may have acquired a pathogen from a vertebrate host. For the 2021 survey, 150 volunteers across nine southern and coastal Maine counties collected 5,238 ticks — 2,341 blacklegged ticks, 2,872 dog ticks and 70 rabbit ticks. Volunteers for the 2021 survey collected an average of 14.2 blacklegged tick nymphs per property, up from the 2020 survey where participants collected 3.7 blacklegged tick nymphs per property. Summer 2021 was much wetter and cooler compared to 2020, which researchers say may be why more ticks were collected in the second year. “Last summer our volunteers collected over 5,000 ticks across a large area in southern and coastal Maine. Tick densities can naturally fluctuate from year to year, and so it’s important to collect data across multiple years. Collecting ticks over two summers gave us a clear picture of how certain forest management practices influence tick populations,” says Elissa Ballman, senior research associate at UMaine and citizen science coordinator for the survey. The survey also revealed patterns in the distribution of ticks in the forest landscape. Properties that had timber harvests in the past 15 years had significantly fewer blacklegged tick nymphs than those that have not been harvested in 20 or more years. Properties that had invasive plants had significantly more blacklegged tick nymphs than properties without, particularly those with barberry and honeysuckle. The researchers tested 2,107 blacklegged tick nymphs for pathogens. Of the tested nymphs, 24.3% were carrying *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the bacterium responsible for Lyme disease in humans; 5.8% were carrying *Anaplasma phagocytophilum*, the bacterium responsible for human granulocytic anaplasmosis; and 5.8% carried *Babesia microti*, the organism responsible for human babesiosis. All three pathogens were found in all nine counties surveyed, but the highest concentration of *B. burgdorferi* infected ticks were in Knox, Lincoln and York County. Meanwhile, *A. phagocytophilum* was most prevalent in Cumberland and Lincoln County, and *B. microti* in Lincoln County. “These findings complement a growing body of literature that suggests that land management history can dramatically alter the distribution and infection prevalence of disease vector tick species,” says Allison Gardner, assistant professor of arthropod vector biology and principal investigator of the study. The survey volunteers also collected 455 non-tick arthropods. The researchers published the data from these results so that researchers can also know which insects are commonly mistaken for ticks, like spiders, mites, aphids and immature stink bugs. The study will not be repeated in 2022, but may be replicated in the future, according to the researchers. “The efforts of our community science volunteers enable data collection under a variety of forest conditions at unprecedented spatial scales,” Gardner says. “As the blacklegged tick and the pathogens it transmits continue to spread throughout the state, we hope to leverage these findings to develop practical recommendations for area-wide reduction of tick densities.” Contact: Elissa Ballman, elissa.ballman@maine.edu

Innovative Hudson Museum initiative prototypes 19th-century artifact using 3D printing, intermedia techniques to create replica

11 May 2022

A 19th-century clan helmet of carved yellow cedar in the Northwest Coast collection of the Hudson Museum at the University of Maine has been introduced

to 21st-century 3D printing technology in an attempt to replicate the artifact for future repatriation and educational purposes. The museum, in collaboration with UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center and Intermedia Program, received a \$14,600 seed grant from the [UMaine Arts Initiative](#) for the project, "Technology and Tradition: Shaping Indigenous Collections for the Future." The funding supports the creation of a 3D printed prototype replica, and the work of UMaine student intermedia artists to do final surface finishing and treatment, and painting to match the original artifact. The object, a Frog Clan Helmet painted in green and red pigments and inlaid with abalone shell discs that were originally attached to a textile, is requested for repatriation by the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. Harold Jacobs, cultural resources specialist for the Central Council, granted permission to do the prototype project, which has the potential to facilitate the return of the artifact to the Indigenous community and allow the Hudson Museum to retain the culturally important replica for educational purposes. The project also allows the Hudson Museum to develop a proof of concept for collection replication projects, helping to create protocols for replication projects with Indigenous communities and to provide other collecting institutions with technical information on 3D scanning, printing and techniques for creating surfaces that resemble the original artifact or object, says director Gretchen Faulkner. The project draws on UMaine's world-class expertise in 3D printing at the Composites Center and engages UMaine Intermedia Program students' skills in a museum setting. Composites Center research engineers Jonathan Roy and Alexander Cole led the scanning, digitizing and 3D printing of the prototype, created out of a durable thermoplastic that can be sanded to a smooth finish. Intermedia graduate students Luke McKinney, Reed Hayden and Anna Martin are collaborating on the model finishing, painting and surface treatment to replicate the appearance of the original carving. The creation of the Frog Clan Helmet replica, including photos and time lapse video of its scanning and printing, will be the focus of a Hudson Museum exhibit in late July. The Tlingit Frog Clan Helmet is subject to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and repatriation of the object has been requested by the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. The Hudson Museum has repatriated unassociated funerary remains and this piece is part of an ongoing request from the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. The Frog Clan Helmet was part of a 1982 bequest to UMaine from the estate of William P. Palmer III, which included an extraordinary gift of Precolumbian objects that ranged from Olmec to Aztec, and an assemblage of Northwest Coast masks, potlatch bowls, Chilkat textiles and items made for sale outside the community. The Hudson's Northwest Coast Collections include deaccessioned museum holdings and objects acquired from Native American art dealers. Collection documentation indicates that Palmer acquired the Frog Helmet from a California collector. Tlingit clan hats and helmets were crest objects, referred to as at.oow, displaying either clan symbols or crest animals. Among the Tlingit, such helmets are communally owned and kept in the possession of the head of the clan, and the tribe has actively worked with museums throughout the United States for their return. Objects of cultural patrimony returned through Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act have been reintegrated into federally recognized Native American tribes and Native Alaskan and Hawaiian villages and organizations' ceremonial and religious practices. Hats are worn and danced by clan leaders on important ceremonial occasions, the death of clan leaders and potlatches. In the late 19th and early 20th century with efforts to eradicate Indigenous languages, traditions, and ceremonial and religious practices, many were collected by museums or sold to collectors, according to Faulkner. Today, the return of these objects has brought healing to Tlingit communities and reconnected them to their cultural traditions of their ancestors. "Technology and Tradition: Shaping Indigenous Collections for the Future" was [one of five funded projects](#) to receive seed grants as part of the new Arts Initiative launched in 2021 by the UMaine Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School to increase resources and support for the arts, reinforcing their significance and enhancing their visibility on campus and beyond. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Postponed: UMaine PD to host retirement ceremony for Norman and Ash on May 11

11 May 2022

The retirement gathering honoring Lt. Robert Norman and Officer George Ash, each with 40 years of service to the University of Maine community, has been postponed. The UMaine Police Department will reschedule the event and announce the new date and time.

President Ferrini-Mundy to discuss innovations in higher education on 'Maine Calling' May 11

11 May 2022

University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy will join Unity College President Melik Peter Khoury and Maine Community College System Vice President and Chief Academic Officer Janet Sortor for a Maine Public Radio "Maine Calling" segment, "[Innovations in Higher Education](#)." The program, focused on the new, creative approaches to education by Maine colleges and universities, airs at 11 a.m. and is rebroadcast at 7 p.m., May 11.

Online undergraduate RCR training available this summer

11 May 2022

The Office of Research Compliance will administer online Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training for undergraduates from May 16–July 15. Undergraduate students participating in research sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institutes of Health (NIH) or the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA) are required to be trained in the Responsible Conduct of Research. The training is valid for four years. Students completing the training will receive a completion certificate they should provide to their supervisor. The training will be offered via Brightspace. More information and a link to registration is available at the [Undergraduate RCR Training website](#).

Sezen-Barrie participates in 2022 STEM for All Video Showcase

11 May 2022

Asli Sezen-Barrie, associate professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction in the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, is participating in the 2022 STEM for All Video Showcase virtual event, May 10–17. Sezen-Barrie is former co-principal investigator of a National Science Foundation-funded project with colleagues from the Education Development Center (EDC) in Waltham, Massachusetts; Mount Washington Observatory (MWO) in North Conway, New Hampshire; and the University of Washington, titled "WeatherX: Building Data Literacy Among Rural Youth." She had to step down as co-PI last year, when she accepted a two-year position as [program director](#) of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Division for Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings. She still designs and leads research efforts during her approved independent research time. The [WeatherX project](#) works with middle school science teachers in New Hampshire and Maine to promote interest in data science careers among students from low-income rural communities. The research team developed and has been testing two, three-week prototype curriculum units in which students investigate local weather patterns using large-scale data collected from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and extreme storm data from MWO, a site that has been

called the "Home of the World's Worst Weather." "Our project team has designed equitable and locally relevant units to engage middle school students in analyzing data on extreme weather, one of the grand challenges of our time," says Sezen-Barrie, who participated in the STEM for All Video Showcase [in 2017](#). "Students have opportunities to work with the scientists at the summit of Mount Washington and community members in their local neighborhoods. We are participating in the STEM for All Video Showcase because it gives us [the] opportunity to share our work with [a] wider audience and connect with similar projects nationwide." The WeatherX team's showcase presentation can be viewed on the STEM for All [website](#). Now in its eighth year, the annual showcase will feature over 250 projects aimed at improving science, technology, math, engineering and computer science education that have been funded by NSF and other federal agencies. During the eight-day event, researchers, practitioners, policy makers and members of the public are invited to view short videos, discuss them with the presenters online and vote for their favorites. The theme for this year's event is "Access, Inclusion, and Equity." The presentations cover a broad range of topics including science, mathematics, computer science, engineering, cyberlearning, citizen science, maker spaces, broadening participation, research experiences, mentoring, professional development, Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the Common Core. Last year's [STEM for All Video Showcase](#) is still being accessed, and to date has had over 103,000 unique visitors from 178 countries. The showcase is hosted by the nonprofit [TERC](#), in partnership with: [STEMTLnet](#), [CADRE](#), [CAISE](#), [CIRCLS](#), [STELAR](#), [CS for All Teachers](#), [NARST](#), [NCTM](#), [NSTA](#), [NSF INCLUDES](#) and [QEM](#). The showcase is funded by a grant from the NSF.

BDN reports that UMaine Graduate School of Business ranked No. 35 online program by Fortune Magazine

11 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that [Fortune Magazine ranked](#) the University of Maine's online MBA program at No. 35 in the nation. "Fortune magazine has a long-standing and valued reputation in the business world. Its rankings are also considered to be objective and unbiased, therefore making our 19-spot jump in the rankings to No. 35 from No. 54 one of the best pieces of news we have received this year," said Norm O'Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business.

UMaine co-authored research on Thera volcano featured in Futurity

11 May 2022

[Futurity](#) reported on a new study that combines different techniques to confirm the source of a volcanic eruption in 1628 BCE. While the eruption was previously thought to be Thera on the Greek island of Santorini, the researchers found instead that it was Alaskan volcano Aniakchak II. The article cited that co-authors include researchers at the University of Maine.

News Center Maine features UMaine research on the American marten

11 May 2022

[News Center Maine](#) featured University of Maine research that shows studying the marten habitat automatically monitors other vital Maine species with less time and money. Alessio Mortelliti, UMaine associate professor and principal investigator of the study, spoke to News Center Maine about the research and its implications. "If you put in the effort and resources to monitor the trends of the species over time, those efforts you're putting in will automatically allow you to monitor many other species, and we found up to 11 other species," Mortelliti said. Aaron Weiskittel, director of the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests, also spoke to News Center Maine about the American marten. "As we train the foresters today, they're thinking about much broader things than just the typical tree diameter [and] tree height. It's about wildlife habitat. It's about conservation value," Weiskittel said.

Media report on Hudson Museum 3D printing project

11 May 2022

[News Center Maine](#), [3D Printing Industry](#), [NewsBreak](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that a UMaine team is 3D printing a replica of one of the items, the Tlingit Frog Clan Helmet, which will be displayed at the Hudson Museum while the original is sent back to the Tlingit tribe in southern Alaska. UMaine engineers are scanning the original helmet and 3D printing a copy which will then be finished to resemble an exact replica. The project was initiated after the Tlingit tribe's central council filed a request for repatriation of the helmet and seven other artifacts in the Hudson Museum's collection. As a result, Hudson Museum Director Gretchen Faulkner worked with the clan to get approval to attempt to fabricate a 3D printed replica of the helmet so the museum could return the original while keeping a version for its display.

Hart gives keynote address at HRA annual meeting

11 May 2022

David Hart, director of the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine gave the keynote address at the annual meeting of the Highly Integrative Basic and Responsive (HIBAR) Research Alliance on May 3, 2022. The HIBAR Research Alliance (HRA) is an international network of research universities focused on using stakeholder-engaged, interdisciplinary research to solve society's biggest problems. Hart's address was entitled "Building strong research partnerships between universities and diverse stakeholders." Hart was also invited to speak earlier this year in a scientific session, "Evidence from Implementing Strategies for Aligning Research with Societal Needs," organized by HRA leaders at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). The AAAS session was inspired by a 2020 paper "Rebuilding the Ivory Tower: Aligning Research with Societal Needs" published in the journal *Issues in Science and Technology* by Hart and Linda Silka, senior fellow at the Mitchell Center.

UMaine workshop highlights cultural importance of brown ash to Wabanaki tribes, management strategies for emerald ash borer

12 May 2022

A devastating threat is bearing down on New England's oldest documented artistic tradition. Emerald ash borer, an insect native to Asia, has barreled through ash stands in at least 35 states and three Canadian provinces since it was first documented in Michigan and Ontario in 2002. Brown ash (*Fraxinus nigra*), the

species Wabanaki basket-tree harvesters target, is especially susceptible to the invasive insect that has already decimated millions of North American ash trees, and recently arrived in Maine. In response, staff at the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands reached out to the University of Maine for guidance. John Daigle, a citizen member of the Penobscot Nation and professor in the School of Forest Resources at UMaine, and a team of graduate students hosted a workshop for more than 35 agency staff on May 4. The workshop featured work UMaine researchers have conducted over the past decade with Tribal Nations in Maine, New York and Michigan, and agencies including the U.S. Forest Service, Animal, Plant, Health, Inspection Service (APHIS), and Maine Forest Service. Daigle and Ph.D. students Emily Francis and Tyler Everett, who is a citizen member of the Mi'kmaq Nation, shared ongoing research and strategies that may enable Maine's three native ash species — white, green and black/brown — to co-exist with the emerald ash borer in Maine's forest landscape. Francis talked about future seed collection efforts and her survey work with Maine forest landowners about awareness and management of emerald ash borer. Everett discussed his work surveying foresters and loggers and his efforts to create a detailed ash tree inventory system to help implement timely management strategies for the pest. Maine Forest Service staff demonstrated inventory methods of ash trees that are critical for monitoring emerald ash borer's spread, and management strategies for the invasive insect. Members of the Wabanaki Youth in Science program, as well as Passamaquoddy and Mi'kmaq forestry staff, basket tree harvesters, and basket makers shared the ecological and continued cultural significance of brown ash to Wabanaki tribes in Maine and other tribes in the Northeast. Richard Silliboy, a master basket maker and current vice chief of Mi'kmaq Nation, explained the strong cultural ties to this species for the Wabanaki, including the creation story for the confederacy which revolves around the basket, or brown ash tree. "It was so valuable and such an honor to learn firsthand from basket maker Richard Silliboy, basket-tree harvester Tom Newell, and UMaine graduate students Tyler Everett and Emily Francis through both the presentations and in-field sessions," says Jocelyn Hubbell, an interpretive specialist at Maine's Bureau of Parks and Lands. "The gathering fostered a sharing of knowledge and ideas, relationship building, and development of actionable priorities. We will build on this as we move forward together." The bureau manages more than 635,000 acres of public lands in Maine which, according to a recent [UMaine-led study](#), will be vulnerable to the spread of invasive forest pests. "The staff at the bureau are eager to develop more collaborations to respond to emerald ash borer with the University of Maine, the Maine Forest Service and tribal communities," says Bill Patterson, deputy director at Maine's Bureau of Parks and Lands. Contact: John Daigle, 207.581.2850; jdaigle@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hosts interactive Maine plant sales map

12 May 2022

May and early June mark the planting season in Maine gardens, and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteers program is again hosting an interactive plant sales map. The [2022 Spring Plant Sale Fundraisers in Maine](#) map listings are alphabetical by date. Find more information about the map and how to add a group's sale to it on the [map webpage](#). Another timely resource is the UMaine Extension publication "[Best Practices for Plant Sale Donors and Buyers in Maine](#)," available for free download. Being an informed plant sale donor or buyer helps raise funds for organizations, and it means getting the right plant for the right spot in a garden and avoiding future problems. More information is available on the [UMaine Extension Garden and Yard website](#), or by contacting 207.581.8211 or lynne.holland@maine.edu.

Maine DOE boosts UMaine Educators Institute

12 May 2022

The Maine Department of Education (DOE) shared a University of Maine [news release](#) about the first annual UMaine Educators Institute, June 22–23. The announcement will be featured in the department's weekly email newsletter, Maine DOE Update, which reaches educators across the state. The UMaine Educators Institute will include renowned experts in education and mental health from Maine and beyond. Participants will engage in interactive workshops as individuals or as part of school-based teams. The event will feature six strands: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice; Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS); Trauma and Resilience; Social-Emotional Learning (SEL); Student-Centered Learning; and Exploring Wabanaki Studies. More information is available on the Educators Institute [website](#).

Additive Manufacturing cites UMaine 3D printing wind turbines

12 May 2022

In an article about the impact of large additive manufacturing on the aerospace and energy industries, [Additive Manufacturing](#) noted that the University of Maine is developing a 3D printing solution to make segmented wind turbine blades with funding from the US. Department of Energy.

President Ferrini-Mundy speaks to Maine Public about innovation in higher education

12 May 2022

University of Maine System President Joan Ferrini-Mundy served as a panelist on the [Maine Public](#) show "Maine Calling" for an episode about how colleges and universities find innovative approaches to higher education.

Mech interviewed by BDN about impending browntail moth season

12 May 2022

Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the fact that this year's browntail moth conditions will be as bad as last year - the worst Maine has ever experienced - unless more rain falls in the next month and a half to help bolster the spread of diseases that kill the caterpillars. "In order for the fungus to kind of have the right conditions for it to impact the browntail moth, it needs to be a little cool and wet. That's what we haven't had in some of these previous springs. So every time you see rain in the forecast here this month, be a little excited about the chance," Mech said.

Hail Champagne receives Peace Scholarship to study at University College Cork

12 May 2022

Hail Champagne, a University of Maine rising senior from Lewiston, has been awarded the 2022–23 George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship to study abroad at University College Cork (UCC) in Ireland. UMaine partnered with UCC to create the scholarship that honors the 1998 Northern Ireland peace accord brokered by then-Senator George Mitchell between Ireland and the United Kingdom. The merit-based scholarship allows recipients to participate in semester-long student exchanges at UCC, with funds for 12–15 credits of study, housing, and meal and airfare stipends. The award is granted annually to a UMaine student with high academic achievement, leadership skills, commitment to community service, and the ability to promote the scholarship to the academic and wider community. Champagne, who uses she/they pronouns, is double majoring in political science and sociology with minors in legal studies, and women, gender and sexuality studies. Previously, she was named a John Nickerson Scholar from 2021–23 and a 2019 high school Mitchell Scholar. Champagne’s application was supported by the Office of International Programs, the Office of Major Scholarships, professor Karyn Sporer in sociology, professor Robert Glover in political science, and the selection committee. In light of her recent accomplishment, Champagne reflects on how she came to UMaine, the professors who helped guide her and what it means to study abroad as a first-generation college student. **Why motivated you to study abroad?** Coming from a low-income, first-generation background, I felt compelled to apply for an opportunity that could broaden my experience and excel my academic career. I felt as if I had to be uncomfortable and in a new environment in order to grow, and I found the George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship to be a perfect opportunity to do so. I have never traveled outside of the country, so I thought this would be great to strengthen my social and independent life skills. Wherever I go, I always find joy in meeting new people and experiencing their perspectives. I think the idea of studying abroad is the epitome of experiencing new life and culture, and hopefully I will be able to bring some of that back to Maine and my community. **How do you feel about earning the Peace Scholarship?** I feel ecstatic and anxious for the future. The Peace Scholarship has truly opened my eyes to how hard I work in and out of school, and what I can really contribute to my community. I think this will be a great opportunity to make new friends and explore the Earth. **Why did you choose to come to UMaine?** I transferred from USM to UMaine in 2020 in hopes that I could pursue my goal of law school and meet new people. **Describe any research, internships or scholarly pursuits in which you have participated.** I just completed a year-long political science practicum doing research on public policy surrounding food insecurity with three of my peers and Professor Glover. In the spring semester, I interned with Planned Parenthood Maine Action Fund to learn about public advocacy, and women’s and LGBTQ+ reproductive rights. This summer, I will be participating in the Maine Government Summer Internship Program, where I will be working with the state’s department for Vocational Rehabilitation. Here, I will be taking part in the Step-Up Program at UMaine that guides high school students with autism along the pathway to college. I am very eager to learn about what Maine’s departmental services can do for students and how valuable this experience will be for my career in law. **Have you worked closely with a mentor, professor or role model who made your time at UMaine better?** I would like to thank Dr. Sporer and Dr. Glover for encouraging me to apply for opportunities that I would not have thought were applicable to me. Their availability and openness to help students are something that I will continuously look for in law school and in my career. The Office for Major Scholarships has also done a phenomenal job helping me access resources in order to succeed through this opportunity. Finally, I’d like to thank my mom, meme, and Abby for always pushing me to do my best and truly reach for the stars. **Describe UMaine in one word.** Insightful. **Explain.** I have learned quite a bit about myself by transferring to this school and I am grateful that UMaine could be my stepping-stone into higher education. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Mitchell Center collaborates with Maine DEP to host Food Scrap Diversion Workshops

13 May 2022

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is hosting a series of Food Scrap Diversion Workshops in collaboration with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry and the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainable Solutions. The free half-day public workshops, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., offer a chance to learn about the most up-to-date information on local food waste recycling initiatives, and will introduce participants to the concept of local consolidated food scrap collection and management as an alternative to disposal in landfills. The workshop towns and dates:

- [Kennebunk – May 25](#)
- [Cumberland – May 27](#)
- [Caribou – June 3](#)
- [Auburn – June 21](#)

Discussions will focus on developing tools to help communities promote “higher and better uses” for collected organics, along with providing a pathway for successful initiation of food scrap recovery programs. Strategies learned will allow communities to reduce overall disposal costs, decrease reliance on disposal in landfills, improve community health, and enhance local soil health and vitality. The workshops are free and open to the public. Register and more information are [online](#).

Calais Advertiser, Machias Valley News Observer cite UMaine Extension information about fiddleheads

13 May 2022

[The Calais Advertiser](#) and [Machias Valley News Observer](#) cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension in an article about harvesting fiddleheads. UMaine Extension says that because fiddleheads are perennial, they come back year after year, and though nearly all ferns have fiddleheads, not all fiddleheads are edible.

PenBay Pilot, Courier-Gazette boost UMaine Extension 4-H search for volunteers at Union Fair

13 May 2022

[The Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) and [Courier-Gazette](#) shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is seeking volunteers to help fairgoers learn more about the importance of farming with the 4-H Farm-to-Fair interactive exhibit, July 27–31, from 10 a.m.–noon or 1–3 p.m. at the Union Fair. For more information, to volunteer or request a reasonable accommodation, contact Cindy Rogers, 207.832.0343; cynthia.rogers@maine.edu.

Times Record cites UMaine research in article about harm reduction for substance abuse

13 May 2022

[The Times Record](#) cited University of Maine research in an article about efforts to reduce the stigma associated with substance abuse treatment and harm reduction. According to UMaine research, an estimated 636 Mainers died of drug overdoses in 2021, an increase of more than 20% over the previous state record set in 2020. A report from UMaine’s Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center found that the emergence of fentanyl, a potent synthetic opioid that is now commonly mixed with other illicit drugs, is partly responsible for the increase in overdoses. The report, which included January–September 2021 data, attributed 76% of overdoses to fentanyl.

Medical Xpress reports on UMaine study about adverse childhood experiences impacting cognitive function

13 May 2022

[Medical Xpress](#) shared a University of Maine study that shows adverse childhood experiences may have a negative impact on cognitive function as people age. “Although we cannot change the past, we can identify activities and behaviors that may help lessen the negative downstream effects of childhood adversity. Studying things that increase resiliency may help us to identify targets for interventions and encourage meaningful lifestyle changes for older adults at risk,” said Amy Halpin, first author of the study and a UMaine doctoral student in clinical psychology.

Morning Ag Clips highlights UMaine Extension natural landscaping and yoga workshops

16 May 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) highlighted two upcoming natural landscaping and yoga workshops for gardeners offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District. The June 3 landscaping workshop will be led by Rebecca Long, a UMaine Extension professional, and Chantelle Hay from the Oxford County Conservation District. The June 16 yoga workshop will be led by Sara King, a 4-H professional with UMaine Extension.

BDN advances orchid workshop hosted at UMaine greenhouse

16 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) advanced a workshop hosted by the Eastern Maine Orchid Society at the Roger Clapp Greenhouses at the University of Maine. “Native Hardy Orchids In Maine and How They Grow” will be held 11 a.m.–2 p.m. May 21.

Media highlights UMaine Extension interactive plant sales map

16 May 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#), [Centralmaine.com](#) and [Sun Journal](#) highlighted the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteers’ interactive plant sales map. The 2022 Spring Plant Sale Fundraiser in Maine map listing is on the [UMaine Extension website](#).

Laatsch speaks with WABI about lunar eclipse viewing

16 May 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5) interviewed Shawn Laatsch, executive director of the Versant Power Astronomy Center, about a lunar eclipse viewing held at the center. “It won’t get completely dark or be blackened out because there’s still a little bit of sunlight that passes through our atmosphere, Earth’s atmosphere, and is bent or refracted onto the surface of the moon and that will give it sort of that reddish brown or copper color, again, depending on how much dust or particulates are in the air,” he said.

BDN, WABI report on Windstorm Challenge at UMaine

16 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5) reported on the Windstorm Challenge, an annual competition hosted by the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center in which teams of middle and high school students create floating platforms for wind turbines that can best withstand wind and waves. Students’ platforms were tested in the wind-wave basin at the center. Forty-five student teams from Old Orchard Beach to Caribou competed this year.

BDN highlights Beal’s research on clam reproduction

16 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) highlighted research done by Brian Beal, a marine ecology professor at the University of Maine at Machias. Beal’s research focuses on determining if large soft-shell clams produce more eggs than smaller soft-shell clams. Beal’s findings will provide data to make decisions for the future of the clam fishery.

Maritime Professional, MarineLink highlight Dagher serving as keynote speaker for Worldwide Ferry Safety Association presentation

16 May 2022

[Maritime Professional](#) and [MarineLink](#) highlighted an upcoming virtual presentation on May 18 at the Worldwide Ferry Safety Association event, where the keynote speaker will be Habib Dagher. Dagher, founding director of UMaine’s Advanced Structures and Composites Sector, will be talking about the Composite Center’s design and construction of the world’s largest 3D-printed vessels.

Sonora Ortiz: Using physics to pull weeds

16 May 2022

3D printing, nanotechnology and weeds might not seem like a natural combination. For Sonora Ortiz, though, solving practical farm tasks with advanced technology might just be the key to making agriculture more sustainable. Ortiz is an undergraduate at the University of Maine whose research focuses on developing artificial weeds using 3D printing and nanocoating technology with the goal of improving physical weed removal and reducing the need for pesticides. They were recently awarded the 2022 John Jachetta Undergraduate Research Award from the Weed Science Society of America for their research. Before coming to the University of Maine, Ortiz worked on farms throughout Europe and their native southern California. Through their experience, they developed a passion for sustainable agriculture and soil remediation, which attracted them to the undergraduate programs at the University of Maine. Once Ortiz arrived in Orono, they decided to study physics, but their passion for agriculture remained. They took a weed science class with Eric Gallandt, professor of weed ecology at the School of Food and Agriculture. When Gallandt asked if Ortiz would like to work with him on his research about physical weed control — pulling weeds rather than killing them with herbicides, say — they jumped at the opportunity. “If we figure out ways of doing that people won’t have to use chemicals and things that are terrible for the environment,” Ortiz said. “I see it as an opportunity to improve sustainable agriculture.” 3D printing is a useful tool for studying weeds because in nature, individual plants are so variable that it is hard to test them in a controlled way, which makes it difficult to draw conclusions about the effectiveness of physical weed removal methods. “If we’re doing testing to standardize these types of things, we have to have a model that has less variability so there’s less noise in the data,” Ortiz said. The models have other advantages over their natural counterparts. They are not only less variable and provide more control in the studies, but they are reusable and do not require the time and labor to grow the weeds in the soil bins at the testing facilities only to pull them out and have to start the process of growing them again. Past studies have used golf tees or wooden dowels to try and model physical weed control, but Ortiz said those are “just not a good enough model.” “Basically, they don’t resemble weeds very well,” Ortiz said. “They’re in the ground but that’s about it. The uniqueness of 3D printing is that we can do so much more modeling with it to make it resemble that root structure.” Gallandt’s lab tested some of the most common weeds in Maine to gauge the force it usually takes to pull the plant out of the ground with all its branching roots clinging to the soil. Then, they looked at the “force curves” and designed 3D printed “roots” that behave similarly when pulled out of the ground (though they admitted that the artificial curves are often smoother than their natural counterparts). With their recently awarded grant, Ortiz will also be able to deepen their research, working with Bashir Khoda, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, to develop nanocoatings that control the orientation of molecules on the surface of the 3D printed roots in such a way that it mimics the force of tiny root hairs. “It’s very exciting and super easy to apply,” Ortiz said. “You just dip roots into liquid mixture to apply it and that’s it. It feels very magical because it’s on this nanoscale.” Ortiz will also use the grant award to attend the Weed Society of America annual conference and present their findings. Ortiz will complete their undergraduate degree in December 2022, though they hope to continue their research at the University of Maine and pursue a graduate degree focusing on soil science. Ortiz said that the long-term goal of their research is to develop a similar 3D printing process for various crops, so methods of physical weed control can be tested so that they do not damage crops while pulling up weeds. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Darling Marine Center ready for a busy summer

16 May 2022

Scientists, students and staff at the University of Maine Darling Marine Center are gearing up for a busy summer season. More than 20 undergraduate and high school student interns will participate in research projects this summer at the DMC’s Walpole campus and nearby field sites on topics ranging from the biology of oysters and lobsters to the physics and chemistry of the ocean environment. Researchers based at the DMC year-round will be joined by visiting scientists from a variety of institutions, including Brown University, Dartmouth College, Franklin & Marshall College and the University of North Carolina. Visiting college groups from as far away as Utah also will join the DMC community this summer to investigate the ecology of the estuary and nearby ocean ecosystems. “We are looking forward to welcoming visiting scientists and college groups back to campus this summer,” said DMC Director Heather Leslie. “While our core group of faculty, graduate students and staff have been working on campus throughout the pandemic, this summer will be the first since 2019 that we are able to host students and visiting groups at the same level as earlier years.” Summer science seminars will be hosted by the DMC in July, as well as campus tours. These events will be ticketed and advertised through the lab’s social media channels and website beginning in June.

NSRC announces the 2022 Indigenous Forest Knowledge Fund request for proposals

17 May 2022

The Northeastern States Research Cooperative (NSRC) recognizes and respects the deep, primary knowledge of Tribal Nations in the Northern Forest. In support of this knowledge, NSRC announces the [2022 request for proposals for the Indigenous Forest Knowledge Fund](#). Proposals are welcome for:

- education, mentorship, and training of Indigenous youth in applied forest research and/or Traditional Ecological Knowledge about forest systems
- applied forest research that advances Tribal Priorities
- synthesis and translation of forest research and/or Traditional Ecological Knowledge to advance communications, outreach, and economic programs for Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities.

UMaine's Center for Research on Sustainable Forests is the state institutional partner for NSRC.

Special MPR issue on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic now available

17 May 2022

Maine Policy Review's special issue examining the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Maine is now available in both print and on [MPR's Digital Commons](#) site. A brief look at this issue is available on MPR's [website](#). The articles in MPR, Vol. 30, No. 2, fall into three broad categories. Several articles examine the measurable economic impacts of the pandemic. These pieces are followed by a series that looks at responses to the pandemic by state, federal and municipal governments, and educational and nonprofit institutions. The final collection of articles explore opportunities arising from the pandemic. MPR's special issue on the COVID-19 pandemic covers a wide range of topics and captures a snapshot of the impacts, responses and opportunities in the early stages of the pandemic. This issue will serve as a record of how the state responded and offers insights to help prepare for future crises. A limited number of print copies are available for purchase for \$15 by emailing mpr@maine.edu.

UMaine Men's Rugby competes in national championship May 28–30**17 May 2022**

The University of Maine Men's Rugby Team will compete in the [2022 Collegiate Rugby Championship](#) May 28–30 in New Orleans. Black Bears will participate in the [small college division](#) of the competition, which consists of 28 teams. Of the 25 UMaine team members, 16 will travel to New Orleans for the championship, also known as May Madness 7s. Eight are returning players for the UMaine team, led by team captain Shawn Nitsche of Shelton, Connecticut. Dale Russell, assistant director of sports clubs and youth programs, says the team qualified with an at-large bid based on its overall spring season performance. Black Bears have a 15–2 record this season, and recently defeated teams from Colby College; Bentley University in Waltham, Massachusetts; Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island; Holy Cross University in Worcester, Massachusetts; and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. The competition will be the first 7s national championship, meaning seven players per team competing in a game, for which the UMaine team has qualified. The last national championship the team participated in was a 15s championship in 2016, during which it finished in sixth place. "This is an exciting moment for rugby at UMaine," Russell says. "Most of the players on the team missed out on a shot at a national championship run in both 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19, but the team wasn't discouraged. Our athletes worked hard to represent their team and school on a national stage." May Madness 7s can be watched on the CBS Sports Network and the Rugby Network. Visit the competition [website](#) for more information.

'Sounds from Silence' available online**17 May 2022**

"Sounds from Silence: Rescuing Music Suppressed by the Nazis," the performance by the Silver Duo in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah), is [available online](#). In the performance, University of Maine School of Performing Arts professor and pianist Phillip Silver presented his research on rescuing music suppressed by the Nazis. He was joined in the live concert in Minsky Recital Hall, which also was livestreamed, by cellist Noreen Silver. The event was co-sponsored by: UMaine Judaic Studies, UMaine Religious Studies, UMaine History Department, UMaine Philosophy Department, UMaine School of Performing Arts, Clement & Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, UMaine Hillel, Congregation Beth El (Bangor), Congregation Beth Israel (Bangor), Bangor Public Library, the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine, and the Jewish Community Endowment Association.

BDN shares 'Sound of Silence' performance available online**17 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that "Sounds from Silence: Rescuing Music Suppressed by the Nazis," the performance by the Silver Duo in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah), is [available online](#). In the performance, University of Maine School of Performing Arts professor and pianist Phillip Silver presented his research on rescuing music suppressed by the Nazis. He was joined in the live concert in Minsky Recital Hall, which also was livestreamed, by cellist Noreen Silver.

PenBay Pilot boosts Socolow lecture at Rockland Public Library**17 May 2022**

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared information about a presentation by Michael Socolow, associate professor at UMaine and media historian, at the Rockland Public Library on May 26 at 6:30 p.m., both in-person at the library and via Zoom. Socolow's talk, "The Pine Tree State on the American Airwaves: The Interplay of Local, Regional, and National Network Radio in Maine," examines the outsized role that Maine played in early national radio in the United States. The public event is free.

Daily Bulldog advances UMaine Extension Cumberland County plant sale**17 May 2022**

The [Daily Bulldog](#) shared information about the 27th annual plant sale held by University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteers in Cumberland County on May 28 at the UMaine Extension Gardens at Tidewater Farm, Farm Gate Road, Falmouth. UMaine Extension Master Gardener Volunteers will be on hand to help with plant selection and answer questions. Proceeds support the UMaine Extension Master Garden Volunteers Seed Grant program for community projects in Cumberland County.

PenBay Pilot highlights UMaine summer courses at Hutchinson Center**17 May 2022**

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) reported that registration has opened for two STEM-related summer courses at the UMaine Hutchinson Center. High school students may register for either course on the [Early College website](#). All other applicants should visit the [Hutchinson Center website](#).

Dagher keynote address to Worldwide Ferry Safety Association featured by Maritime Executive, Marine Link**17 May 2022**

[The Maritime Executive](#) and [Marine Link](#) reported that Habib Dagher, executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, will present the keynote address at the Worldwide Ferry Safety Association (WFSA) virtual gathering, Innovations in Ferry Design and Vessel Construction, which will be held in conjunction with the presentation of awards in WFSA's Annual Student Design Competition on May 18. Dagher will address the Center's design and construction of the world's largest 3D printed vessels.

MEPRI releases two reports on supports for students and teachers during COVID-19 pandemic

17 May 2022

The Maine Educational Policy Research Institute (MEPRI) has published two new reports based on a study of the strategies and challenges involved in supporting preK–12 students and teachers during the COVID-19 pandemic. One report focuses on strategies for supporting the instructional and mental health needs of teachers, while the other examines supports for student learning, health and mental health. The Maine Legislature commissioned both reports to better understand how schools in the state and nationwide are supporting students and teachers during this challenging time when normal teaching and learning practices have been disrupted. The reports are based on a fall 2021 survey of Maine school district curriculum directors, as well as a review of academic literature on national educational practices during the pandemic and American Rescue Plan Act applications that all states submitted to the federal government describing how they would use relief money to support elementary and secondary schools. Both reports note that “Maine was better positioned than many states because of the Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI) supporting 1:1 laptop or iPad access statewide for all middle school students and teachers and some secondary students and teachers over the past 20 years.” Still, teachers had to adapt curriculum, and both students and teachers had to learn new instructional technologies and platforms in a short period of time, especially early in the pandemic. One finding that emerged from the survey of Maine curriculum directors was that 51 school districts, out of 66 that completed the survey, reported adopting at least one new online learning opportunity for students during the pandemic. The same number adopted some practices to support students such as tutoring, mentoring, home visits, counseling and other outreach to families. Just under half of the responding districts (29) adopted a four-day in-person and one-day asynchronous school schedule during the pandemic. The reports are available on the [MEPRI website](#). MEPRI is a partnership between the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development and the University of Southern Maine established by the Maine Legislature in 1995 to provide policymakers, including the legislature’s Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Maine Department of Education, with objective data, policy research and evaluation of educational needs, services and impacts in Maine’s preK–12 schools. MEPRI researchers will brief members of the legislature on the reports’ findings later this year. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Yujin Lee: The international transfer student experience

17 May 2022

Yujin Lee from South Korea is an electrical engineering technology (EET) major. Over the course of Lee’s time at UMaine, she has earned the International Presidential Scholarship, Central Maine Power EET Scholarship and the Crowley Family Research & Development Scholarship. She has held internships at global consulting, engineering and construction management firm TRC and at RLC Engineering, where she has worked part-time throughout this past semester and will continue to work full-time in the transmission planning group in June. She is a member of UMaine’s IEEE student branch and Phi Kappa Phi. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and in helping you reach your goals?** I was planning to go back to South Korea after graduating Eastern Maine Community College, but I heard that there was a good program at UMaine for transferring juniors and there would be more job options after UMaine graduation. The EET faculty has helped me have various experiences and find out which jobs were fitted to me. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** At the UMaine Career Fair, I did not know that there were a lot of companies related to my major out there and it was a good experience to talk with various people and hear their stories. **Why UMaine?** UMaine helps students a lot and has good opportunities to learn skills that will be useful in the future. **How would you define the opportunities for student success at UMaine? Is there any particular initiative, program or set of resources that helped you succeed?** As stated above, the Career Fair showed me different job opportunities and the EET professors helped and supported me and other students to succeed. **Have you worked closely with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** Professors kept asking about my feelings and whether I had any stress during the semester. Moreover, whenever I faced academic problems, they helped me to figure out what ways I could best solve them. **What advice do you have for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** If you join in events like information sessions where companies come to campus and explain about their work or go to career fairs, it will expose you to job options and you can try to take courses that are related to the companies you prefer. Then you will be interested in your studies. It could be your best semester. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Mayewski ranked among top Earth scientists by Research.com

18 May 2022

Paul Andrew Mayewski, professor and director of the University of Maine’s Climate Change Institute, was [ranked No. 125 in the world and No. 66 in the United States](#) in the first edition of the ranking of top Earth scientists produced by Research.com, the number one online research portal for scientists. The website determined the rankings from a field of more than 6,700 scientists’ profiles on Google Scholar and Microsoft Academic Graph. The ranking is determined by the proportion of the contributions made within the given discipline in addition to the awards and achievements of the scientists. Mayewski has more than 475 scientific publications and has written two popular books “The Ice Chronicles” and “Journey Into Climate.” In addition to his role at the Climate Change Institute, Mayewski is a distinguished professor in the Schools of Earth and Climate Sciences, Marine Sciences, Policy and International Affairs, the Business School and Law School. He has led over 60 expeditions to some of the remotest reaches of the planet including traverses over Greenland; travels throughout the high-altitude Himalayas, Tibetan Plateau and Andes Mountains; and many field seasons traveling across Antarctica with more than 100 first ascents of mountains on the continent. Most recently, Mayewski led the 2019 National Geographic and Rolex Perpetual Planet Everest Expedition. The expedition’s scientists, including six from UMaine’s Climate Change Institute, studied environmental changes to understand future impacts for life on Earth as global temperatures rise. [UMaine research using data from the expedition](#) showed that melting and sublimation on Mount Everest’s highest glacier due to human-induced climate change have reached the point that several decades of accumulation are being lost annually now that ice has been exposed. Mayewski has received numerous national and international honors, including the first-ever internationally awarded Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research awarded by the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, the Explorers Club Lowell Thomas Medal, the Oeschger Medal from the European Geophysical Union and the Seligman Medal from the International Glaciological Society. He is frequently featured in prominent media, such as the New York and LA Times, NOVA, NPR, BBC, CBS “60 Minutes” and the Emmy Award-winning Showtime series “Years of Living Dangerously.” Contact: Betty Lee, bliqs@maine.edu

UMaine grads among 2022 Maine County Teachers of the Year

18 May 2022

The Maine Department of Education and Educate Maine announced the 2022 Maine County Teachers of the Year at a ceremony in Augusta last week. Among the honorees this year are six teachers with degrees from the University of Maine:

- Aroostook County Teacher of the Year Heather Anderson ('99), Caribou Community School, Caribou
- Hancock County Teacher of the Year Rebecca Edmondson ('04G), Conners-Emerson School, Bar Harbor
- Kennebec County Teacher of the Year Seth Mitchell ('01, '08G), Monmouth Memorial School and Monmouth Academy, Monmouth
- Penobscot County Teacher of the Year Emily Albee ('06, '09G, '12G), Hampden Academy, Hampden
- Somerset County Teacher of the Year Debra Susi ('79), Maine Central Institute, Pittsfield
- Washington County Teacher of the Year, Alyssa Stephens ('13), Woodland Elementary School, Baileyville

Maine County Teachers of the Year are selected by a panel of teachers, principals and business leaders. They serve as ambassadors for teachers, students and education throughout the state, and participate in the intensive Maine State Teacher of the Year selection process, with finalists and a winner to be announced later this year. Current Maine Teacher of the Year [Kelsey Stoyanova](#) is a two-time UMaine graduate, as well as a graduate student in educational leadership in the College of Education and Human Development. More information about the 2022 Maine County Teachers of the Year is on the Maine Department of Education [website](#) and the Educate Maine [website](#).

Professor emeritus White passes away

18 May 2022

Jefferson White, emeritus professor of philosophy at the University of Maine, passed away at his home in Westwood, Massachusetts, on March 24, 2022, at the age of 92, after a brief illness. White retired from the university in 2010 after half a century of teaching and research in philosophy. After receiving a B.A. at Baylor University in Latin, Greek and English, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University, White joined the Philosophy Department at Clark University in 1961, where he later served as department chair and dean of the college, until 1972, when he was hired to chair the Philosophy Department at UMaine, a role he took on twice in his career, promoting collegiality, pluralism and diversity. Until his retirement, White taught a wide range of courses in the philosophy curriculum, including methods of reasoning, aesthetics, epistemology, philosophy of mind, philosophy of language and philosophy of law. Excellence in undergraduate teaching was at the heart of White's career, and many hundreds of students benefited from his careful and attentive mentoring, and the example of his integrity, his careful erudition and his dedication to living the philosophical life. He identified himself as an analytic philosopher, but was curious about other approaches, and was well versed in the history of philosophy and theology. His early research focused on idealism, and he served as associate editor of "Idealistic Studies." In the late 1970s, after a sabbatical at Yale Law School, he turned his attention to the philosophy of law, contributing essays to the "Blackwell Companion to the Philosophy of Law and Legal Theory" (1996) and "The Law in America: 1607–1861" (1989). He co-authored, with Dennis Patterson, "Introduction to the Philosophy of Law: Readings and Cases" (Oxford University Press, 1999). But his philosophical interests remained broad, evidenced by the many book reviews he wrote on topics outside the philosophy of law. White served the university and the state as a member of the Faculty Senate, a faculty representative to the Board of Trustees, and a member of the Ethics Committee of Maine's Supreme Judicial Court. Moreover, he was a multisided and multitalented individual, a jazz trumpeter, and connoisseur of the fine arts, particularly music, painting, dance and literature. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary White, and is survived by their two sons, Geoffrey and Byron. At the University of Maine, White will be remembered as a great colleague and friend. Ever curious and supportive, he would regularly make the rounds of the offices in the department, for conversations about the state of one's research or teaching, or how one's family was doing. He frequently hosted philosophy faculty colloquia at his home, was dedicated to ongoing philosophical discourse among the faculty and students and was instrumental in promoting the department's Visiting Scholar Program, Colloquium Series, and several annual student awards. He will be missed, but his legacy lives on in the institutional culture of UMaine's Philosophy Department and in the hearts of those who knew him.

Presidential Awards Recognition May 24

18 May 2022

The University of Maine Presidential Awards Recognition Ceremony honoring recipients of the 2021 and 2022 University of Maine Presidential Awards will be at 3 p.m., May 24 in Minsky Recital Hall. The ceremony will be followed by a reception in Miller Café, Collins Center for the Arts.

UMaine faculty to speak at Northern Light Health's sixth Research Expo May 25

18 May 2022

Northern Light Health will host its sixth annual Research Expo on Wednesday, May 25. The Expo, with a theme of innovation, will feature four Zoom-based virtual sessions and online poster presentations from 11:30 a.m.–4 p.m. All sessions are free; registration is required. Session two from 1–1:55 p.m. will feature University of Maine faculty members — David Harder, Jeffrey Hecker, Babak Hejrati, Benjamin King and Karissa Tilbury — presenting on "UMaine Institute of Medicine — Advancing Human Health and Well-being in Maine and Beyond." The goal of the Expo is to provide an opportunity for attendees to learn more about the innovative research at Northern Light Health and throughout Maine. To register and get a full schedule of events, visit [Northern Light Health's website](#).

Versant Power Astronomy Center to host Minecraft-themed summer camp

18 May 2022

The Versant Power Astronomy Center will host a free summer camp for youth ages 10–14 through What-If Hypothetical Implementations in Minecraft (WHIMC), a National Science Foundation-funded research project and interdisciplinary collaboration dedicated to attracting young people to science through cutting-edge and impactful informal learning. Participants will use Minecraft Java Edition to explore astronomy via space exploration "what if?" scenarios, such as, "What if the Earth were a moon?" or "What does the surface of an exoplanet look like?" They will play the role of scientists and engineers as they take part in creative and critical thinking design prompts, including drawing exoplanets or exhibits in the planetarium. As a final project, campers will work in small teams to build and present a Minecraft Mars base. The camp will be held from 9 a.m.–noon from Aug. 1–5. For more information and to apply, visit the camp [webpage](#).

Pen Bay Pilot notes Sea Grant participation in S.E.A. Fair

18 May 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) noted that Maine Sea Grant at the University of Maine will participate in S.E.A. FAIR, presented by the Stewardship Education Alliance on June 3, from 1–5 p.m. at the Camden Public Library Amphitheatre. S.E.A. FAIR is an opportunity for the public to meet representatives from 20 local nonprofits and learn how they are working to foster responsible stewardship of the environment. The fair is a free family-friendly event.

Media reports on Darling Marine Center’s summer research and seminars

18 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and the [Lincoln County News](#) reported that more than 20 undergraduate and high school student interns will participate in research projects this summer at the Darling Marine Center’s Walpole campus and nearby field sites on topics ranging from the biology of oysters and lobsters to the physics and chemistry of the ocean environment. Researchers will be joined by visiting scientists and college groups to investigate the ecology of the estuary and nearby ocean ecosystems. Summer science seminars will be hosted in July, as well as campus tours, which will be ticketed and advertised through the lab’s social media channels and website beginning in June.

Media shares study contributed to by UMaine showing U.S. ocean conservation lacking

18 May 2022

[Science Daily](#), the [Corvallis Advocate](#), [Scienmag](#), [Today UK News](#), [Tech Codex](#), [Biz News Post](#) and the [Daily Check](#) shared a study that shows more than 98% of U.S. waters outside the central Pacific Ocean are not part of a marine protected area, and the ones that are tend toward “lightly” or “minimally” protected from damaging human activity. Heather Leslie, director of the University of Maine Darling Marine Center, was among the contributors of the study.

PPH boosts Extension Master Gardener plant sale in York

18 May 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Plant Sale in York County, which will be held on May 21 from 8:30 a.m.–noon. The plant sale will take place outside the University of Maine Extension office in Springvale located at 15 Oak St. Proceeds from the Plant Sale benefit York County Master Gardener Volunteer Projects in communities across York County. Programs include native plant demonstration gardens, the Garden Angel Program, Maine Harvest for Hunger initiatives, school gardens, and more; all which rely on Master Gardeners’ expertise and volunteer time. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Frank Wertheim, 207.324.2814; frank.wertheim@maine.edu.

Ortiz research on 3D printing weeds featured in PenBay Pilot, Morning Ag Clips

18 May 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) featured Sonora Ortiz, an undergraduate at the University of Maine whose research focuses on developing artificial weeds using 3D printing and nanocoating technology with the goal of improving physical weed removal and reducing the need for pesticides. Ortiz was recently awarded the 2022 John Jachetta Undergraduate Research Award from the Weed Science Society of America for their research.

News Center Maine cites UMaine soft-shell clam industry research

18 May 2022

In an article about the risk posed to soft-shell clam fisheries by climate change, [News Center Maine](#) cited [information from Maine Sea Grant](#) at the University of Maine, stating that clamming is a \$67.5 million industry in the state. Clamming often ranks second or third in Maine’s seafood industries, with lobsters taking the top spot.

Pitman pens op-ed for BDN about homelessness law

18 May 2022

Brad Pitman, assistant professor of sociology, wrote an op-ed for the [Bangor Daily News](#) examining the implementation of a law requiring police agencies to have homelessness crisis response protocols in Maine. Pitman writes that the new law may be well-intentioned, but might have the unintended consequence of increasing police surveillance of the growing number of unhoused people in Maine, which Pitman says won’t help solve the widening crisis and may have a detrimental impact on unhoused communities. Pitman is a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Many Maine rural youth want to stay rural, UMaine research says

18 May 2022

Rural areas centered around the forest industry have faced uncertain economic times. Global competition, coupled with the decline of print media and national recessions, have decreased the demand for traditional paper and lumber products. While some forest-dependent communities have thrived in transitioning to focus on industries like nature-based tourism rather than manufacturing, others have stagnated — and, with that, have struggled to convince their youth to stay. New research co-authored by Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions and natural resources at UMaine, shows that when it comes to keeping rural youth in forested rural communities — like the ones prevalent throughout Maine — fostering connections to the land and community may be even more important than simply providing jobs in the area. In the [study](#) published in the journal *Community Development*, researchers analyzed over 2,000 survey responses from middle and high school youth from traditionally forest-dependent communities in greater Piscataquis County, Maine, and Coos County,

Oregon. The survey looked at the subjects' perceptions of their schools and community, connection to the outdoors and educational aspirations. They compared data to the students' desired future residential location — specifically, whether they planned to stay in a rural area or move to a nonrural area. Overall, rural youth with more positive perceptions of their communities and a stronger attachment to outdoor places were more likely to want to live in a rural place in the future. Higher educational aspirations were associated with students being less likely to want to live in a rural place than a nonrural place. School perceptions, extracurricular involvement, academic grades, income and demographics like gender, race or ethnicity did not have a statistically significant relationship with youth residential aspirations. No significant differences in residential aspirations were found between high school students who perceived their local economy as getting worse and those who perceived the economy as staying the same or improving, either. Notably, Maine's rural youth were more likely to want to live in a rural place than study subjects from Oregon. "We suspect that students in Piscataquis County want to live in a rural place when they grow up because of the cultural emphasis on rural living in Maine. Oregon is also more urban overall," says Leahy, who co-authored the article with researchers from Oregon State University, University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of Georgia and James Madison University. The researchers concluded that rural forest-dependent communities concerned about the sustainability of their communities may better retain or attract rural youth by focusing on community attributes and connections to the outdoors. Policies are often developed to recruit young workers to rural locales, but without fostering attachments, simple economic incentives are not enough to keep them there. "Piscataquis County is doing all the right things by having lots of outdoor opportunities and groups like the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District and Appalachian Mountain Club who encourage youth to get outdoors. There's also a focus on positive community attributes through their economic development efforts, the new ice arena and in-town programming for youth. They're headed in the right direction to encourage youth to stay in their community or return at some point in the future," Leahy says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

STEM college research and career exploration course offered to high school students at UMaine Orono tuition free

19 May 2022

Registration is open for an innovative four-week college STEM research course for qualified high school students (rising 11th–12th grade) offered by the University of Maine, July 18–August 11 in Orono. Sections of this course are offered at the UMaine Hutchinson Center and UMaine Machias on the same dates. Introduction to Integrated Science and Career Exploration (INT 188) will meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. High school students will earn three college credits upon completion of the course. Early College is a partnership between the University of Maine System and the Maine Department of Education, supported by the Legislature. Early College classes are offered tuition free for qualified high school students. Students who pay to attend high school in Maine, including out-of-state and international students, will be charged a reduced Early College rate. This innovative course with a low student-teacher ratio provides a unique summer opportunity for students in midcoast Maine who are interested in exploring STEM-related careers and engaging in a research project. Thirty percent of class time will be spent outdoors doing fieldwork, with the remainder spent in the classroom and lab. INT 188 is designed to introduce high school students to higher education and careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The course includes lecture and laboratory instruction in data collection and analysis, experimental design, measuring and graphic techniques, scientific writing and evidence-based thinking. "I know I wouldn't have made it as far as I did this year if it weren't for the experience I received in the class. I learned so much about scientific research in a very short period of time," says Ruth Havenner, who took INT 188 in 2021 and recently won a full tuition scholarship to UMaine at the Maine State Science Fair for her research on extracting microplastics from blue mussels. Students will participate in group work, a research project in environmental biology, a career-planning assignment focusing on STEM fields, career exploration experiences and a final research symposium on August 11. In previous years, INT 188 students have used this opportunity to research local environmental issues, such as the impact of the presence of microplastics in the bay. Instructor Torey Bowser works with early undergraduate students in the Marine Science department at UMaine. Her classes focus on data literacy and fundamental research skills. Bowser holds a Masters of Marine Biology from the University of Maine's School of Marine Science. Her research was focused on heavy metal impacts on fish behavior. Outside of teaching, she endeavors to bring together art and science, working with groups on campus to design creative logos for labs, projects and symposiums. To register, visit umaine.edu/earlycollege/courses/summer-courses/int188. For more information about the course content contact Chris Tremblay, 338.8038; christopher.james.tremblay@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension to host plant sale May 28 to benefit Master Gardener Volunteer program

19 May 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteers in Cumberland County will host their 27th annual plant sale 8 a.m.–noon Saturday, May 28, at the [UMaine Extension Gardens at Tidewater Farm](#), Farm Gate Road, Falmouth. The [2022 Master Gardener Plant Sale](#) will offer native and pollinator plants, organic vegetable and herb seedlings, perennials, shrubs and annuals. Gently used garden tools and supplies, a Master Gardener calendar raffle, bake sale items and local compost also will be for sale. UMaine Extension Master Gardener Volunteers will be on hand to help with plant selection and answer questions. Proceeds will support the UMaine Extension Master Garden Volunteers Seed Grant program for community projects in Cumberland County. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, 207.781.6099; pamela.hargest@maine.edu.

Boteva quoted in U.S. News and World Report story about questions for international student offices

19 May 2022

Orlina Boteva, director of the Office of International Programs at the University of Maine, was tapped for a [U.S. News and World Report](#) story about questions that international students should ask of their school's international programs office. Boteva said that universities often have different financial aid policies and scholarship deadlines, typically in January or early February. "International students should apply as early in the application timeline as possible to maximize their opportunity for scholarship consideration. Some universities stop awarding scholarships after a set and published deadline, while others offering rolling admission may continue to award scholarships," Boteva said.

News Center Maine, WMTW cite UMaine floating turbine research

19 May 2022

[News Center Maine](#) and [WMTW \(Channel 8 in Portland\)](#) reported on the plans for the first offshore turbine off the Maine coast, which will be designed by the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Gov. Janet Mills applied for a lease last October from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) for 15 square miles of ocean to set up an array of floating research turbines, developed at the University of Maine. The turbine will be

400-foot tall and float 14 miles off the Maine coast, 2 miles south of Monhegan Island. The turbine will be deployed in 2024 and will generate enough electricity for more than 5,000 homes.

Morning Ag Clips reports on UMaine research showing more Maine rural youth want to stay rural

19 May 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) featured a study co-authored by University of Maine's Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions and natural resources at the School of Forest Resources, showing that when it comes to keeping rural youth in forested rural communities — like the ones prevalent throughout Maine — fostering connections to the land and community may be even more important than simply providing jobs in the area. Notably, though, Maine's rural youth were more likely to want to live in a rural place than study subjects from Oregon.

Isenhour interviewed for Waste Dive about reusable takeout containers

19 May 2022

Cindy Isenhour, associate professor of anthropology and climate change and Mitchell Center Faculty Fellow, recently spoke with [Waste Dive](#) about her [research](#) on reusable takeout containers. In fall 2021, Isenhour worked with graduate student Jared Entwistle to present a few possible models for reusable takeout containers to a group of 35 Maine hospitality, waste and environmental management stakeholders as part of a larger project examining the potential for reusables in the state. Isenhour noted that the majority said they would prefer a third-party service that regularly dropped off clean containers. Costs involved in providing permanent storage space and cleaning packaging appeared to be factors given businesses current issues with staffing.

Sea Grant, DOE, NOAA Fisheries fund six projects for the coexistence of offshore energy with Northeast fishing and coastal communities

19 May 2022

The Northeast Sea Grant Consortium — in partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy's Wind Energy Technologies Office and Water Power Technologies Office, and NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center — today announced six projects to advance social science and technology research on offshore renewable energy in the Northeast United States. This funding opportunity, [first announced in March 2021](#), seeks to catalyze research for the coexistence of marine energy, including wind, current, tidal and wave energies, with Northeast fishing and coastal communities. The innovative funding partnership applies the Sea Grant model to connect science and tools directly with communities and ocean users. The selected projects were collectively awarded over \$1.1 million in federal funds, with each project matching 50% in nonfederal funds. The two-year projects have roots across the Northeast:

- [Building Capacity for Participatory Approaches to Community Resilience and Ocean Renewable Energy Siting](#) (Project Lead: Heather Leslie, University of Maine, Orono, Maine) will characterize values and beliefs in three communities to understand where ocean renewable energy is a good fit for people and place, and develop a community tool kit with maps, surveys and participatory practices that can be applied across the Northeast.
- [Can Proprietary Commercial Lobstering Data be Used to Inform Offshore Wind Development?](#) (Project Lead: Kate Beard-Tisdale, University of Maine, Orono, Maine) will create a standardized procedure for constructing representations of the Maine lobster fishery using data and knowledge from individual fishermen, and develop data product models and sample products that will inform fisheries management and marine spatial planning.
- [Community Engagement and Stakeholder Perceptions of Floating Offshore Wind](#) (Project Lead: Alison Bates, Colby College, Waterville, Maine) will develop a stakeholder database, survey tools and holistic outreach strategy to evaluate community perceptions of offshore wind, identify the capacity and necessary conditions for stakeholders to coexist with offshore wind, and present recommendations for equitable solutions.
- [Evaluating Messaging, Communication Networks, and Public Engagement on Offshore Wind Development in Southern New England](#) (Project Lead: Emily Diamond, University of Rhode Island, South Kingstown, Rhode Island) will analyze public engagement strategies, messages, networks, and sources used to communicate and engage communities and stakeholders in decision making for proposed offshore wind projects, and incorporate community perspectives to make recommendations for effective and equitable messaging and strategies.
- [Regional Community Attitudes Regarding Procedural and Distributive Justice Dimensions of Southern New England Offshore Wind Development](#) (Project Lead: David Bidwell, University of Rhode Island, South Kingstown, Rhode Island) will assess community concerns and research questions regarding procedural, distributive and recognition justice dimensions of offshore wind projects in southern New England, and work to address barriers within and among communities to ensure equity and well-being for a just energy transition.
- [Achieving Community Resilience by Optimizing Symbiotic Offshore Renewable Energy and Food Systems](#) (Project Lead: Maha Haji, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York) will develop a mapping tool for spatial planning allowing for the integration of multiple ocean uses in the same area. The goal is to enable symbiosis between renewable energy and food systems and empower stakeholders, fishers, aquaculture farmers, and developers to make informed decisions for long-term resilience.

“The United States has abundant wind and water power resources along our coastlines that can help our nation, and our coastal and marine communities in particular, reach a 100% clean energy economy with net-zero emissions no later than 2050,” said Kelly Speakes-Backman, principal deputy assistant secretary for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy. “At the same time, we recognize communities and local economies depend on the ocean for their livelihoods and way of life. Through this research partnership with the Northeast Sea Grant Consortium and NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center, we can better understand and optimize these shared uses of the ocean.” “The Northeast Sea Grant programs are pleased to be partnering with the DOE's Wind Energy Technologies Office and Water Power Technologies Office, and NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center to fund research on this timely topic, which we hope will provide decision makers with guidance on how different users of resources in the marine environment in our region can coexist,” said Matt Charette, director of the [Woods Hole Sea Grant program](#). As the United States continues developing and deploying offshore renewable energy technologies, the Northeast Sea Grant Consortium and federal partners will continue to engage the public and decision makers in collaborative research that supports resilient communities and economies. “NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center has joined Northeast Sea Grant Programs and Department of Energy to advance needed socio-economic research,” said Jon Hare, science and research director of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center. “Understanding the social and economic connections between offshore wind energy and existing ocean users such as commercial and recreational fisheries is critical to supporting coastal communities.” To effectively translate the results of the funded research for use by communities, NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center designated \$350,000 in federal funding in parallel with the research projects. As part of these efforts, Northeast Sea Grant program extension staff will work directly with fishing communities and other stakeholders to provide scientific, legal and policy research support in response to fishing community needs. This research and extension will benefit a variety of ocean users and stakeholders by providing the community-

focused tools required for equitable and sustainable development of the Northeast’s coastal and ocean resources. Contact: Contact: Hannah Robbins, hannah.robbsins@maine.edu

UMaine Extension 4-H Waldo County offers shooting sports workshop

20 May 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Waldo County is offering a shooting sports workshop for ages 9–18 from 10 a.m.–noon June 18 at Maine Outdoor Sportsman, 144 Atlantic Highway, Northport. The [Explore 4-H Shooting Sports](#) workshop will introduce participants to the basics and principles of archery, including marksmanship, the principles of hunting, safe and responsible use of firearms, and more. The workshop will be taught by certified archery instructors. The workshop is free; all materials will be provided. Registration is limited to 15 participants. Register on the [event webpage](#). The monthly Explore 4-H workshop series introduces youth and families to the opportunities available in Maine 4-H. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.342.5971 or sadee.mehuren@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension wild blueberry Downeast IPM meeting June 9

20 May 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry field days continue 2–4 p.m. June 9 at Harmon Mountain Farm, 2001 Northfield Road, Northfield. The [Downeast IPM field meeting](#) will focus on pest and crop management on a farm that specializes in wild blueberries, along with a heritage apple orchard. UMaine Extension wild blueberry specialist and University of Maine assistant professor of horticulture Lily Calderwood will be joined by Harmon Mountain Farm manager Ethan Davis. The field meeting is free; registration is requested. One pesticide credit is approved. Register and find more information on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Mary Michaud, 207.581.3175; mary.j.michaud@maine.edu.

PenBay Pilot boosts UMaine Extension 4-H shooting sports workshop

20 May 2022

The Penobscot Bay Pilot shared information about a shooting sports workshop offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Waldo County for ages 9–18 on June 18 from 10 a.m.–noon at Maine Outdoor Sportsman in Northport. The workshop, taught by certified archery instructors, will introduce participants to the basics and principles of archery, including marksmanship, the principles of hunting, safe and responsible use of firearms and more. Register on the [event webpage](#).

Sun Journal shares workshops by UMaine Extension and Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District

20 May 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) shared information about two in-person workshops in June on natural landscaping and yoga for gardeners hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District. Both workshops will be held at the Oxford Cooperative Extension office, 17 Olson Road, Suite 3 in South Paris. The first workshop, “Naturescaping: An Ecological Approach to Landscaping,” will begin at 2 p.m. June 3. The second workshop, “Yoga and Mindfulness for Gardeners,” is set for 10 a.m. Thursday, June 16. Registration and payment information are available on the Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District [website](#).

Media features UMaine’s National Guard send-off ceremony

20 May 2022

[News Center Maine](#), [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) and [Spectrum News](#) reported on a send-off ceremony at the University of Maine for over 80 members of the Maine Army National Guard. The 120th Regional Support Group of the Maine Army National is being deployed to Poland for a year-long mobilization in support of the U.S. Army Europe’s Atlantic Resolve.

Bored Panda highlights Blackstone in article about child-free lifestyle

20 May 2022

[Bored Panda](#) cited an interview with Amy Blackstone, professor of sociology at the University of Maine and the author of “Childfree by Choice: The Movement Redefining Family & Creating a New Age of Independence.” Blackstone said that the child-free lifestyle is more popular because more people are aware of it as an option than ever before. “That is largely thanks to the willingness of childfree people to speak out about their choice and of course to the decades-long work of reproductive justice advocates. Whether more people than in the past will ultimately remain childfree for their lifetimes remains to be seen,” Blackstone said.

Media shares free UMaine STEM college research and career exploration course for high schoolers

20 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Centralmaine.com](#), [Sun Journal](#) shared information about an innovative four-week college STEM research course for qualified high school students (rising grade 11–12) offered by the University of Maine, July 18–Aug. 11 in Orono, with sections offered at the UMaine Hutchinson Center and UMaine Machias on the same dates. Introduction to Integrated Science and Career Exploration (INT 188) will meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. INT 188 is designed to introduce high school students to higher education and careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The course includes lecture and laboratory instruction in data collection and analysis, experimental design, measuring and graphic techniques, scientific writing and evidence-based thinking. High school students will earn three college credits upon completion of the course. [Register online](#).

UMaine Extension offers free tomato seedlings June 3–4**23 May 2022**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension Aroostook County will be giving away cherry tomato seedlings as part of the One Tomato Project™ at three locations from 9 a.m.–noon starting June 3 at University of Maine Fort Kent, 34 Armory Road, Fort Kent, and the Houlton Higher Education Center, 18 Military St., Houlton. On June 4, seedlings will be available at the Aroostook Centre Mall parking lot, 830 Main St., Presque Isle. UMaine Extension staff and members of Aroostook County Extension Homemakers and 4-H will be at the drive-thru events to hand out growing guides with the seedlings and answer questions. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Emily Dow, 207.532.6548; emily.dow@maine.edu. More information also is available on the [event webpage](#). This event is made possible in part by the support of the Aroostook County Extension Association and The King's Gardener, Presque Isle.

UMaine Extension, Maine Beef Producers host barbecue for producers June 4**23 May 2022**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Beef Producers Association will host a barbecue 10:45 a.m.–2 p.m. June 4 at Knight Family Farm, 30 Jones Road, Garland. The "[Meet and Greet and Brisket BBQ](#)" is for new or experienced farmers interested in beef production and current beef producers to meet other producers and representatives from UMaine Extension and USDA Rural Development, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency. Extension assistant professor and state livestock specialist Colt Knight will lead the event. The \$10 fee includes lunch and a farm tour; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Melissa Babcock, 207.581.2788; melissa.libby1@maine.edu.

Morning Ag Clips, BDN boost UMaine Extension wild blueberry Downeast IPM meeting**23 May 2022**

[Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#) and Morning Sentinel shared information about University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry field days, which will take place from 2–4 p.m. June 9 at Harmon Mountain Farm, 2001 Northfield Road, Northfield. The [Downeast IPM field meeting](#) will focus on pest and crop management on a farm that specializes in wild blueberries, along with a heritage apple orchard. UMaine Extension wild blueberry specialist and University of Maine assistant professor of horticulture Lily Calderwood will be joined by Harmon Mountain Farm manager Ethan Davis. The field meeting is free; registration is requested. One pesticide credit is approved. Register and find more information on the [event webpage](#).

BDN features Mayewski's Research.com ranking as a top Earth scientist**23 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Paul Andrew Mayewski, professor and director of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, was [ranked #125 in the world and #66 in the United States](#) in the first edition of the ranking of top Earth scientists produced by Research.com. The ranking was determined by the proportion of the contributions made within the given discipline in addition to the awards and achievements of the scientists.

Media cite UMaine study in article about US wood producing industry**23 May 2022**

In an article about how the wood producing industry has adjusted to the pandemic, [KMGH](#) (Channel 7 in Denver, CO), [WTVR](#) (Channel 6 in Richmond, VA), [KSBY](#) (Channel 6 in San Luis Obispo, CA), [WKBW](#) (Channel 7 in Buffalo, NY) and other national media outlets cited a University of Maine study showing that logging industry in Maine makes up about \$7.8 billion of the U.S. economy.

BDN advances Mitchell Center's food scrap diversion workshop**23 May 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about four Food Scrap Diversion Workshops hosted by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection in collaboration with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry and the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainable Solutions. The free half-day public workshops, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., offer a chance to learn about the most up-to-date information on local food waste recycling initiatives, and will introduce participants to the concept of local consolidated food scrap collection and management as an alternative to disposal in landfills. Registration and more information are [online](#).

Cobo-Lewis interviewed by Maine Beacon about raising direct care worker wages**23 May 2022**

Alan Cobo-Lewis, associate professor of psychology and director of the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, spoke to the [Maine Beacon](#) about the importance of raising direct care worker wages in order to eliminate large waitlists for various home or community-based care services. Cobo-Lewis said that even the long-sought raise to \$15.94 an hour wouldn't be able to compete in today's labor market against less-demanding jobs. [News from the States](#) and [Patch](#) shared the Maine Beacon report.

Fortune features Maine Business in article about fastest growing online MBA programs**23 May 2022**

[Fortune](#) reported that the University of Maine boasts the second fastest growing online MBA program in the country. Online MBA programs experienced a surge in enrollment during the COVID-19 pandemic, and have remained popular for their flexibility, relative affordability, and ability to allow professionals to apply what they learn in class in real time. The Maine Business School online MBA program had 402 students enrolled in the 2022 academic year, compared to 97 students enrolled in 2019. The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [News Center Maine](#) reported on the ranking.

Smithsonian features Ruskin in article about saving the saltmarsh sparrow

23 May 2022

[Smithsonian](#) interviewed Kate Ruskin, a University of Maine researcher and member of the Saltmarsh Habitat and Avian Research Program, about the efforts to save the saltmarsh sparrow, whose habitats are rapidly shrinking along the East Coast. Ruskin spoke about the saltmarsh sparrow's tendency to breed with multiple partners. "There's this whole 'free love' thing happening in the marsh. It's a really interesting story about ecology, evolution and how creatures become specialized to their habitats," Ruskin said.

Brewer and Fried featured in Maine Monitor report about voting misinformation

23 May 2022

[The Maine Monitor](#) interviewed Mark Brewer and Amy Fried, University of Maine professors of political science, for an article about Maine's efforts to combat voting misinformation. "The Republican base, which still adamantly supports Trump, eats that stuff up and they believe it. So if you're a Republican running for office in 2022 and you want to appeal to the base of your party and these adamant Trump supporters, you have to pay lip service to fraud," Brewer said. Fried told the Maine Monitor that skepticism about government is part of a healthy democracy, but it is corrosive when it is used to undermine systems and institutions. The Maine Monitor noted that Fried co-authored a [paper](#) in October 2020 predicting likely impacts if Trump persisted in "delegitimizing the election," and correctly foresaw that "initial vote counts would favor Trump but would become increasingly pro-Biden as mailed ballots are counted," and that Trump would use that as a reason to claim the election "was being rigged or stolen." The paper also correctly predicted that, "there is potential for not only protracted legal challenges, but also social disruption" after the election and before the inauguration, which manifested during the insurrection at the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2022.

Three of UMaine's best advocates honored at Stillwater Society Dinner

24 May 2022

Orono, Maine — The University of Maine celebrated three of its top advocates at the Stillwater Society Dinner May 21. The annual event in Orono honors UMaine's most generous philanthropists. Currently, there are 1,541 members in the society, including 270 new members inducted and 197 members who advanced in their membership level at the event. "The Stillwater Awards honor those who have consistently demonstrated philanthropic leadership and dedicated service on behalf of the University of Maine," said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "This year's honorees — alumni Matthew Rodrigue and Trish Riley, and longtime College of Engineering Dean Dana Humphrey — are among our staunchest champions of student success and the importance of a research university to Maine and beyond. We appreciate their vision and commitment to our R1 university and tomorrow's leaders." Those honored, also Stillwater Society members, were alumni Matt Rodrigue and Trish Riley, and Dean Dana Humphrey. Rodrigue grew up in Wilton, Maine, where he was a standout runner and valedictorian of the Mt. Blue High School Class of 2000. As a student at UMaine, Rodrigue participated in varsity cross country, Student Government and Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He also served as the Student Trustee for the University of Maine System and was a Senior Skull. Rodrigue has served four terms on the Board of Visitors. He is an Incorporator of the University of Maine Foundation, where he is currently a member of the Investment Committee. He also co-chairs the UMaine 2025 Commission, and he remains an active volunteer with Sigma Phi Epsilon. Riley from Brunswick was active in Student Government and was elected the first woman Student Government president. She served as a student representative to the Faculty Senate and on the first Task Force on the Status of Women, chaired by her mentor English professor Constance Carlson. A member of Pi Beta Phi, she also was active in the women's movement, leading the first women's symposium and working with community members to launch a day care center on campus. She also worked to gain students the right to vote in their college town. She has served as president of the Alumni Association, chaired the Board of Visitors and served on the UMaine Foundation Board of Directors. Presently she serves on the UMS Board of Trustees. Riley holds a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from UMaine. Humphrey from Palmyra taught early in his career while doing research for the Maine Department of Transportation. He became a pioneer in using cut-up pieces of scrap tires, which he called tire derived aggregate (TDA), as fill for highways and bridge abutments. Over the years, he did projects coast to coast in the U.S., and consulted on projects in Canada, Australia, Hong Kong and Europe. In 1994, his accomplishments were recognized when he was named the Distinguished Maine Professor and the Carnegie Foundation Maine Professor of the Year. He served as chair of Civil Engineering, chair of UMaine's 150th Anniversary Celebration, lead for formation of the Maine College of Engineering, Computing, and Information Science, and, for the last 16 years, as dean of the UMaine College of Engineering. Under his leadership, the college's enrollment has grown over 70% and annual research awards now top \$30 million. He oversaw the fundraising, planning and construction for the \$78 million Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center that will open in August 2022. He also serves on the review committee of the Alfond Leaders Student Debt Reduction Program. For this work, he was honored as the inaugural Kenneth Warren Saunders and Henry W. Saunders Professor of Engineering Leadership and Management. University of Maine Foundation President Jeff Mills, who emceed the event, noted, "It is a pleasure to celebrate those who give so much back to UMaine and this is our opportunity to thank them. We never want anyone to think that this extraordinary service is taken for granted." Guests were entertained by UMaine School of Performing Arts faculty and recent alumni who wrote and performed a parody song to honor each awardee. The Stillwater Society was created in 2000 to recognize people who have consistently demonstrated philanthropic leadership, loyalty and dedicated service on the university's behalf. The awards are presented semi-annually at the Stillwater Society dinner. Contact: Monique Hashey, monique@maine.edu

Dianne Avery named 2022 Outstanding Professional Employee

24 May 2022



Dianne Avery, senior officer for administration and finance, has been named the 2022 Outstanding Professional Employee by the University of Maine Professional Employees Advisory Council. The award is based on a professional employee's demonstrated dedication to serving others, maintaining the highest level of professional services, creating a better campus environment and public service engagement in their field and community. Award recipients are recognized for their accomplishments with a \$1,000 stipend. Avery has been a member of the UMaine community since 1985. As senior officer of administration and finance in the Provost's Office, she is responsible for organizing the searches and hires of many UMaine leadership positions. This past year she has co-lead the change management process related to university finances in the Financial Management Initiative and has played a leading role in the 2022 Commencement, which this year involved four ceremonies. In her multiple letters of nominations for the award, Avery is cited for her dedication to the university and her professionalism, efficiency and expertise. She is known for working long hours and weekends to get projects completed in a timely manner, which was particularly true with commencement — from answering emails of graduates and parents to coordinating the many major planning components to ensure the success of UMaine's largest event of the year. "Dianne is always willing to go above and beyond the call of duty, provides professionalism and counsel to those around her," noted one nominator. Avery's attention to detail allows the budget for the Office of Academic Affairs and the Provost Office to run smoothly and efficiently. Her experience of all processes within these offices and throughout the university makes her a valuable resource to administrators and staff and many have benefitted from her hard work. As another nominator noted, "Dianne's three and a half decades of service to the University of Maine are a testament to her commitment and dedication to this institution and to the communities it serves."

Morning Ag Clips boosts UMaine Extension, Maine Beef Producers barbecue

24 May 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) shared information about a "Meet and Greet and Brisket BBQ" for new or experienced farmers interested in beef production and current beef producers to meet other producers and representatives from University of Maine Cooperative Extension and USDA Rural Development, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency. UMaine Extension and the Maine Beef Producers Association will host the barbecue from 10:45 a.m.–2 p.m. June 4 at Knight Family Farm, 30 Jones Road, Garland. UMaine Extension assistant professor and state livestock specialist Colt Knight will lead the event. Register on the [event webpage](#).

BDN boosts Hutchinson Center's online critical thinking workshop

24 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about an online professional development workshop, Engaging Your Critical Thinking Skills, offered 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m. June 17 via Zoom through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast in partnership with the Maine Business School. Instructor Terry Porter, UMaine associate professor emerita, taught business strategy and sustainability in the Maine Business School for 13 years. More information is available on the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

Socolow featured on WERU 89.9 show about changing media landscape in Maine

24 May 2022

Michael Socolow, media historian and associate professor of communication and journalism at the University of Maine, was a guest on the [WERU 89.9](#) show "Talk of the Towns", during which he and producer and host Ron Beard talked about the changing media landscape in Maine and elsewhere.

BDN cites UMaine Extension Tick Lab in article about disease-carrying ticks in Maine

24 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) cited data from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab in an article about the various disease-carrying ticks that can be found in Maine. According to the [UMaine Extension Tick Lab](#), Lyme disease was first reported in Maine in 1986, and cases have been steadily increasing ever since.

Rubin interviewed by News Center Maine about nuclear energy

24 May 2022

Jonathan Rubin, director of the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and professor at the School of Economics, spoke to [News Center Maine](#) about the underlying issues in relying on nuclear energy for decarbonization. “I think siting of public assets, either wind turbines or nuclear plants or wastewater treatment plants, all these things they may be privately owned or publicly owned, but they serve a public good in some sense. Those are really challenging things, and I don’t know if it’s possible to site a new one,” Rubin said.

Rescheduled: UMaine PD retirement ceremony for Norman and Ash is June 2

25 May 2022

The University of Maine Police Department retirement gathering honoring Lt. Robert Norman and Officer George Ash, each with 40 years of service to the UMaine community, has been rescheduled for 2:30–5 p.m., June 2 in Wells Conference Center.

The County shares UMaine Extension tomato seedling giveaway

25 May 2022

[The County](#) shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Aroostook County will be giving away cherry tomato seedlings as part of the One Tomato Project at three locations from 9 a.m. to noon starting June 3 at University of Maine Fort Kent, 34 Armory Road, and the Houlton Higher Education Center, 18 Military Street, Houlton. On June 4, seedlings will be available at the Aroostook Centre Mall parking lot, 830 Main Street, Presque Isle. More information also is available on the [event webpage](#).

Ellsworth American features Birch concert

25 May 2022

The [Ellsworth American](#) shared information about a concert by Kevin Birch, music faculty member at the University of Maine’s School of the Performing Arts, at 7 p.m. Friday, June 3, at Hammond Hall in Winter Harbor. A historical instrument specialist, Birch will perform on the clavichord, a precursor to the piano played largely from the late Middle Ages through the Renaissance, Baroque and classical eras. Purchase tickets or register for the event livestream on the Winter Harbor Music Festival [website](#).

Lincoln County News boosts Lilley talk at Maine Tasting Center

25 May 2022

[Lincoln County News](#) reported that Jason Lilley, sustainable agriculture and maple professional at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will instruct a class at the Maine Tasting Center in Wiscasset. Lilley will host a workshop entitled “[Marvelous Maine Maple Syrup](#)” on Tuesday, September 13. Visit the [Maine Tasting Center website](#) for more information and to register.

Wertheim interviewed for WMTW about community gardens in Maine

25 May 2022

[WMTW \(Channel 8 in Portland\)](#) spoke to Frank Wertheim, associate professor of agriculture/horticulture at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension in York County, about the proliferation of community gardens across Maine in recent years. Wertheim told WMTW that community gardens have been popular in urban areas for decades but have steadily expanded into small towns and even rural areas over the past 15 to 20 years. He noted that there are now at least eight community gardens in York County and it seems more are being planned each year all across Maine.

Gabe survey about economic impact of Maine’s film industry featured on News Center Maine

25 May 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported on a [survey](#) by the Maine Film Association and the University of Maine School of Economics professor Todd Gabe that shows Maine’s film production industry has driven an annual \$64 million economic impact for the state. The survey collected data from the industry’s 2019 revenue, as well as data from the expenses of 128 Maine-based companies in the industry, including freelance. Currently, the industry includes more than 40 production companies, in addition to over 200 freelance filmmakers who are working out of the state of Maine.

Dill speaks to the BDN about differentiating browntail moth and tent caterpillars

25 May 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, for an article about caterpillars that Mainers mistake for browntail moth caterpillars. Dill said that tent caterpillars can be mistaken for browntail moth caterpillars, and while they are considered a nuisance pest in Maine, they do not have the toxic hairs that the browntail moth caterpillars possess. Tent caterpillar nests look similar to browntail moth caterpillar nests, but they are often found in apple trees as opposed to the oak trees where browntail moths prefer to build their nests. “Yes, they are a pest and yes, if a tree has a half dozen or so nests they will be a problem, but one nest in a tree will not do a lot of damage,” Dill said. The [Associated Press](#) shared the BDN report. [U.S. News and World Report](#), the [Sun Journal](#), [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) and other national outlets shared the AP summary.

Media features Minecraft summer camp at Versant Power Astronomy Center

25 May 2022

[WABI \(Channel 5 in Bangor\)](#), [WEBB-FM](#) (B98.5 in Augusta) and [WMME-FM \(92 Moose in Augusta\)](#) reported that the Versant Power Astronomy Center at the University of Maine is hosting the free camp for students ages 10 through 14 during the first week of August. Those at the camp will use the video game Minecraft to play the role of scientists and engineers as they take on creative and critical thinking design prompts. For more information and to apply, visit the camp [webpage](#).

UMaine industry liaison testifies to Congress about preparing future forest workforce

26 May 2022

The University of Maine's liaison to the forest products industry testified before Congress on Wednesday about university-led programs and partnerships to develop the workforce and innovations necessary to maintain Maine's leading role in the global forest economy and support rural jobs and opportunity. Shane O'Neill, the forestry industry business development manager at UMaine, was a witness for the U.S. House Agriculture Committee's Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee as part of [a hearing](#) on supporting careers in conservation. [His testimony is here](#) and the hearing [can be viewed here](#). O'Neill explained how changing markets and climate, and advances in science, engineering and technology have led to new ways to manage our forests and add value to its products, but require an increasingly educated workforce. "Accelerating innovation in forest products and training a skilled workforce that meets the current and emerging needs of these new products and practices is key to meeting the increasing global demand for low-carbon materials, chemicals and fuels that can come from forests," O'Neill testified. Maine's own Rep. Chellie Pingree serves on the subcommittee and participated in the hearing. She lauded the [FOR/Maine](#) initiative that includes UMaine and industry, community, government and other partners for working together since 2016 to reposition the state's forest economy, and [a recent workforce analysis](#) prepared for FOR/Maine by O'Neill and colleagues from UMaine and the University of Southern Maine. That analysis projected 7,600 positions in the sector would open over the next 15 years, and recommended specific strategies to meet that employer demand including an education and awareness campaign showcasing career opportunities in the modern forest economy, outreach to middle and high school students leveraging the younger generation's interest in sustainability, and attracting those seeking to relocate after military service. "With extensive expertise, broad relationships, statewide reach, and research and development capacity across the forest economy and beyond, the R1 University of Maine is critical to this collaboration, providing knowledge-based information and innovations to deliver on FOR/Maine's strategic objectives. And, as the largest generator of graduates in the state, we can most impact the size and skill of the workforce for this sector," O'Neill also told the subcommittee. "Our work, and the workforce we are developing, has never been more essential to Maine and our nation's ability to sustainably manage and utilize our forest resources, mitigate forest fire and invasive risks, sequester carbon, improve clean air, water, and habitat, and protect the economic foundation and identity of many rural communities." Contact: Ashley Forbes, ashley.forbes@maine.edu

Retirement ceremony for Johnson and Boulier scheduled for June 3

26 May 2022

The University of Maine will hold a retirement ceremony for Douglas Johnson, director of the Counseling Center, and April Boulier, Counseling Center psychologist, on Friday, June 3, 4-6 p.m. in the Buchanan Alumni House Andrews Leadership Hall and courtyard. Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will be available.

Machias Valley News Observer shares Schnieders awards

26 May 2022

The [Machias Valley News Observer](#) reported that H. Lori Schnieders, associate professor of psychology at the University of Maine at Machias, has been recognized with awards for excellence in academics. Schnieders received the Frederic A. Reynolds Faculty Award, which is presented annually to a faculty member who exemplifies commitment and dedication to UMaine Machias students. She also was awarded a Trustee Professorship for the academic year 2022-23, presented to a faculty member in the University of Maine System who has made noteworthy contributions to academic excellence on their campus.

Wiemann opera about Rose Standish Nichols boosted by Beacon Hill Times, Boston Sun

26 May 2022

[Broadway World](#), the [Boston Sun](#) and [Beacon Hill Times](#) shared information about a performance of an original, one-woman opera based on the life of Rose Standish Nichols, pacifist, suffragist, garden designer and museum founder who died in 1960 at the age of 88. Beth Wiemann, professor of composition, clarinet and music theory in the University of Maine School of Performing Arts, is the composer and librettist of the opera, entitled "I Give You My Home: The Rose Standish Nichols Story." The performance will take place at the Nichols House Museum, her former family home, for five performances June 3-5.

WABI shares Maine men's rugby championship livestream

26 May 2022

[WABI \(Channel 5 in Bangor\)](#) reported that the Maine men's rugby team will compete in the 2022 Collegiate Rugby Championship from Saturday to Monday in New Orleans. Livestreaming will be available on the [UMaine Men's Rugby Facebook page](#).

Dagher interviewed by Maine Public about offshore wind energy development

26 May 2022

[Maine Public](#) spoke with Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center at the University of Maine, about the efforts to push the development of offshore wind energy in the Gulf of Maine by leasing areas to offshore wind developers. Officials at the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management outlined their plans for handling Gov. Janet Mills' proposed 16-square-mile lease site for the research array on May 18, when they convened a task force of officials from Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and tribal governments to consider the next phase in the push to stand up a new "green" industry off the shores of Northern New England. [Connecticut Public Radio](#) shared the Maine Public report.

Fortune cites MaineMBA as one of the top five fastest-growing online programs

27 May 2022

The University of Maine MBA program was highlighted by Fortune Magazine as one of the top five fastest-growing online programs in the country. The story is online. The MaineMBA was formally launched in 2019 just before the pandemic from its foundational programs at the University of Maine and University of Southern Maine. Thus, it had a core of very strong and engaged MBA faculty in place. The MBA is a STEM-certified MBA, so a very strong core, with a set of concentrations that could be taken. Offered online, in person and in a flexible format, it was a program of choice for many during the pandemic. As we come out of the COVID-19 period, we expect our enrollments to flatten. A grant from the Harold Alfond Foundation, in part, helped to launch the MaineMBA and included resources to build the Graduate School of Business, where the MBA is housed in Portland, Maine. Dean Norm O'Reilly leads the UMaine Graduate School of Business that features faculty at the University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine offering business graduate programming for the state and beyond. "The combination of our attributes, high rankings, world-class faculty, flexible formats/modalities and a very low price point for the quality offered gives us unique positioning," O'Reilly told the magazine. Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

UMaine Extension food-preserving webinar series starts June 16

27 May 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a new series of monthly webinars about preserving Maine foods starting June 16, from noon–12:45 p.m. "[Common Home Food Preservation Ingredients and Equipment](#)" topics include recommended equipment and ingredients for canning and freezing, as well as how to resolve common problems. UMaine Extension instructors will lead each workshop in an interactive format. Registration is required; a \$5 donation per session is optional. Register on the [event webpage](#) to receive the link and resources. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Kate McCarty, 207.781.6099; kate.mccarty@maine.edu. Information about more upcoming workshops is available on the [Extension food preservation website](#).

Field Days at Tidewater Farm June 16

27 May 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension Field Days at Tidewater Farm will be held from 5:30–6:30 p.m. June 16 in Falmouth. Experience and learn about the [gardens at Tidewater Farm](#), and engage in hands-on demonstrations with UMaine Extension Staff and Master Gardener Volunteers. Demonstrations begin at 5:30 p.m., and include such topics as dividing perennials and irrigation for vegetable gardens. This free public event does not require registration. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit the event [website](#) or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

Ship Management International reports on MacKay keynote at Ferry Design Competition

27 May 2022

[Ship Management International](#) shared that Susan MacKay, senior R&D program manager at the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, gave the keynote speech at the awards ceremony for the annual Ferry Design Competition of the Worldwide Ferry Safety Association. Her presentation offered insight into future directions of UMaine's 3D printing shipbuilding project, with a focus on the development of biobased, recyclable materials conducive to large-scale additive manufacturing.

The Quint cites UMaine Climate Change Institute in article about menstrual health

27 May 2022

[The Quint](#) quoted the University of Maine Climate Change Institute in an article about the climate crisis and menstrual health. The article said that the UMaine Climate Change Institute defines "climate futures" as a framework for developing plausible scenarios of future climate for adaptation, mitigation and sustainability efforts at local, regional and global scales. As such, the article wrote, menstrual health in the time of climate crises at the sectoral level not only in India but regionally and globally.

BDN interviews Dill about repelling summer bugs

27 May 2022

Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the best methods to keep summer bugs at bay. Dill recommended that anyone who spends a lot of time outdoors gardening or doing yard work dedicate a specific set of clothes and shoes to these activities and periodically treat them with permethrin. "Permethrin is a highly effective repellent against ticks. Though not for use on skin, treating clothing, shoes and gear with permethrin provides excellent protection from ticks and other biting pests," Dill said.

Christian Science Monitor features Gill in article about link between mass shootings and climate change

27 May 2022

Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) for an article about how climate "doomism" fuels extremist violence. Gill said that while most mainstream environmental organizations have backed away from, and even apologized for, their focus on overpopulation during the '60s and '70s, the rhetoric still comes up regularly in conversations about climate change. "It's really hard to get people to accept that consumption is the problem, not how many people there are. And that when we talk about overpopulation, there's a dog whistle there that a lot of people don't even realize that they're blowing," Gill said. Gill added that so-called "eco-fascists" tend to blame environmental problems on people who have done the least to create climate change, and are already suffering most from its impacts, like immigrants, residents of developing countries and people of color.

Darling Marine Center graduate students make their homes and futures in Maine

27 May 2022

When he arrived at the University of Maine Darling Marine Center in the summer of 2018, Struan Coleman did not expect to spend several years living in rural Maine. Coleman was recruited to Damian Brady's research group and tasked with investigating the growth rates of oysters living in different parts of the Damariscotta River. The work, however, took an unexpected turn when Coleman broke his leg before beginning his internship, and he was delayed in arriving at the Walpole campus. "Why don't you work on the scallop project?" Brady, an associate professor of marine sciences, said to Coleman. That discussion began a two-year odyssey to document the economics of scallop farming in Maine, which led to Coleman working for an environmental research nonprofit studying carbon storage and other co-benefits created by kelp farming in the state and beyond. Coleman is one of six UMaine graduate students who completed their work at the DMC during the last two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. These students, who worked on projects ranging from oyster aquaculture to coastal community resilience, made their homes and lives in Maine during their studies. Several of them have been able to find ways to stay in Maine after graduation. Coleman is originally from New York, and moved to midcoast Maine from rural New Hampshire soon after earning his undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College. Similarly, Melissa Britsch, a resident of Brunswick, Maine, and now a senior marine planner with the Maine Coastal Program at the Maine Department of Marine Resources, joined the DMC community from Oregon State University following her undergraduate work on the Pacific coast. "I was looking for more field experience," Britsch says. "I'd been able to do quite a lot of fieldwork in Oregon, but it was focused on questions where I worked primarily with other scientists. In Maine, I was excited to work with shellfish farmers and learn more about aquaculture." Britsch's graduate work culminated in dual masters degrees in marine biology and marine policy, which she received in May 2021. Together with another graduate student, Sarah Risley who resides in Wiscasset, Maine, Britsch documented local knowledge related to wild shellfisheries, aquaculture and other activities in the Damariscotta and Medomak River estuaries. This social science research complemented two other projects she led during her three years at UMaine, both related to the science and practice of aquaculture and its interactions with other uses of the Maine coast. Risley earned dual masters degrees in marine biology and marine policy earlier this month for her social-ecological research connecting local and scientific knowledge in support of shellfish and estuarine management. Advised by Heather Leslie, DMC director and professor of marine sciences, and Joshua Stoll, an assistant professor of marine policy, Risley developed a community science program focused on the upper Damariscotta River Estuary in partnership with members of the joint shellfish committee of Damariscotta and Newcastle and teachers and students at Lincoln Academy. Risley will be continuing her research at the DMC as a UMaine Ph.D. student, thanks to local supporters of the DMC and UMaine and federal grants. While many students are drawn to the DMC because of its decades-long focus on shellfish aquaculture, others find the marine laboratory for other reasons. Julia Johnstone, an invertebrate biologist who is now a postdoctoral research associate with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration based at the Holling Marine Laboratory in Charleston, South Carolina, conducted her doctoral research at the DMC. She studied the reproductive ecology of cold-water corals, based on field expeditions to Alaska that she participated in under the guidance of Rhian Waller, an associate professor with the UMaine School of Marine Sciences. While in Walpole, Johnstone also had the opportunity to gain experience as a teacher. She supported one of the core courses taught as part of Semester by the Sea, the immersive marine science experience offered to undergraduates every fall at the DMC in partnership with the School of Marine Sciences. Andrew Goode of Boothbay, Maine was among the hundreds of students who have learned about marine invertebrates at the DMC over the last 30 years. In 2019, he served as a graduate teaching assistant for the Marine Invertebrate Zoology course that is taught every fall as part of Semester by the Sea. As an undergraduate and then graduate student studying marine sciences at UMaine, Goode has leveraged not only his academic studies, but also his experience as a commercial fisherman. While working out of the DMC, he brought together field observations and models of the American lobster fishery to help forecast how the fishery is likely to respond to climate-related impacts. Since becoming a National Sea Grant postdoctoral researcher at the DMC after graduating in December 2021, Goode has continued to work with collaborators at UMaine and the Department of Marine Resources. Jessica Reilly-Moman, who resides in Round Pond with her family, first came to the DMC as a visiting researcher for an international scientific workshop funded by the National Science Foundation that focused on Mexican small-scale fisheries. Once in Maine, she realized that it would be the perfect place to continue her interdisciplinary studies of coastal community resilience. As a doctoral student in UMaine's Graduate Program in Ecology and Environmental Sciences, she conducted research on community resilience in both Maine and Mexico. This interdisciplinary research and the community engagement that it required prepared her well to serve as technical staff for the Maine Climate Council's Coastal and Marine Working Group during the last part of her program. Reilly-Moman now serves as a postdoctoral research associate with the Aspen Global Change Institute. In collaboration with colleagues at UMaine and other institutions around the state, she is about to begin a new project funded by NOAA that focuses on community planning and perspectives in the context of ocean renewable energy in the Gulf of Maine. "While the achievements of these six young scientists are impressive, what is equally notable is that many of them still live in midcoast Maine and contribute to our local community," Leslie says. "Far too many young professionals have had to leave Maine to find professional opportunities. These DMC graduates are great examples of how Maine not only is a great place to study and learn, but also to make a life." Contacts: Matthew Norwood, 207.563.8220; matthew.norwood@maine.edu

Former faculty member Craig Shuler passes away

31 May 2022

Craig Shuler, a former faculty member with the University of Maine School of Forest Resources, passed away on April 26. Shuler worked at UMaine from 1969–79 and served in the Maine Air National Guard. An obituary is [online](#).

Media promotes UMaine Extension gardening wellness event at Tidewater Farm

31 May 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and the [Sun Journal](#) shared information about an event to promote wellness through gardening at Tidewater Farm on Presumpscot Point Road in Falmouth, hosted by the Falmouth Community Wellness Committee and University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The June 18 event is from 10 a.m.–noon at the property located behind the Tidewater neighborhood off Farmgate Road. Registration is not required.

Trostel interviewed for WABI about predictions for Maine's summer economy

31 May 2022

Philip Trostel, a professor in the University of Maine School of Economics, was interviewed by [WABI \(Channel 5 in Bangor\)](#) about his prediction that Maine's economy will flourish this summer. "I would be very surprised if the economy wasn't borderline booming over the summer. To be specific, there

were obviously the stimulus packages that were passed to try to put more money into people’s hands, but also there was a tremendous increase in the money supply by the Federal Reserve,” Trostel said.

Deseret News reports UMaine working to create insulin for Maine

31 May 2022

[Deseret News](#) (Salt Lake City, UT) reported that the University of Maine and private sector groups are interested in competing with big drug manufacturers by manufacturing their own insulin to combat the crisis of rising insulin prices. Maine is also studying interstate compacts because Maine may not have a big enough market and petitioning the federal government to take action on rising insulin prices.

Lichtenwalner featured on Maine Science Podcast

31 May 2022

Anne Lichtenwalner, associate professor of animal and veterinary sciences with University of Maine Cooperative Extension and director of the University of Maine Animal Health Laboratory, was featured on an episode of the [Maine Science Podcast](#) from the Maine Science Festival. Lichtenwalner spoke about her career conducting research about and serving Maine’s animal industries.

The American Conservative notes Olmsted architectural elements on UMaine campus

31 May 2022

In an article about architect Frederick Law Olmsted’s influence across the United States, the [American Conservative](#) noted that the campus at Orono features Olmsted design elements. The article says that the original Olmsted and Vaux plan at Orono was rejected, “but they adopted his concept of orienting academic buildings toward the Stillwater River and an open parade ground and arboretum.” In the 1930s, UMaine hired the Olmsted Brothers firm, who plotted a new axis for building development, an elm allée, a landscaped lake, as well as suggestions for removing buildings.

PenBay Pilot features Darling Marine Center graduate students

31 May 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) featured several UMaine graduate students who completed their work at the Darling Marine Center during the last two years of the COVID-19 pandemic who have stayed to work in Maine after graduation. Struan Coleman studied the economics of scallop farming in Maine, which led him to working for an environmental research nonprofit studying carbon storage and other co-benefits created by kelp farming in the state and beyond. Melissa Britsch is now a senior marine planner with the Maine Coastal Program at the Maine Department of Marine Resources. Sarah Risley will continue her research about local knowledge related to wild shellfisheries, aquaculture and other activities in the Damariscotta and Medomak River estuaries as a UMaine Ph.D. student.

Caron and Bishop speak to PPH about why teachers aren’t implementing Maine policy supporting LGBTQ education

31 May 2022

Sandra Caron, a professor of family relations and human sexuality at the University of Maine, and Penny Bishop, dean of the University of Maine’s College of Education and Human Development, were interviewed by the [Portland Press Herald](#) for an article about why many teachers in Maine are not incorporating LGBTQ education in the classroom despite Maine policy supporting the curriculum. Caron says affirmation and representation should start early, calling in the fourth “r” of classroom instruction — reading, writing, arithmetic and relationships. “Teaching children about acceptance and diversity is always age-appropriate. Kindergarten kids are learning to treat others, including those who are different, with kindness and respect, and to expect that for themselves.” However, the current deeply polarized political climate across the nation and in Maine makes it difficult for teachers to incorporate such lessons into their curriculum. “It’s always been a complicated time to be a teacher. From evolution to religion to racism, being a teacher is often about having challenging community conversations about controversial topics,” Bishop says. A new, not-yet-published University of Maine graduate school study done in conjunction with Equality Maine found only about a quarter of the schools sampled have pro-LGBTQ policies in place. The [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the Portland Press Herald report.

News Center Maine reports on UMaine Extension research about crops soaking up PFAS

31 May 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported on research conducted by the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association and Maine Farmland Trust in collaboration with University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Department of Environmental Protection about crops that may be able to absorb PFAS from the soil. Plants like hemp have been shown to suck the chemicals out of the soil, a process known as phytoremediation. The researchers have found that corn also exhibits this process and takes up PFAS into the stalk, but not the ear of corn. They are also analyzing crops like carrots and beets to see if chemicals are only showing up in their leaves and not the roots. The [Atlanta Business Journal](#) shared the News Center Maine report.

Riley Clark earns prestigious Wilma Rudolph Student-Athlete Achievement Award

31 May 2022

The National Association of Academic and Student-Athlete Development Professionals (N4A) has announced that University of Maine diver Riley Clark is one of five national recipients of its prestigious 2022 Wilma Rudolph Student-Athlete Achievement Award. Clark will be honored at the 2022 N4A Convention in Las Vegas on June 27. The N4A Wilma Rudolph Student-Athlete Achievement Award honors student-athletes who have overcome great personal, academic, and/or emotional odds to achieve academic success while participating in intercollegiate athletics. The individuals honored have

persevered and made significant personal strides toward success. Clark is a junior from Prospect, Connecticut majoring in kinesiology and physical education. He also is a cancer survivor. Read the full story on the [UMaine Athletics website](#). Contact: Tyson McHatten, tyson.mchatten@maine.edu

Peaco to join UMaine Alumni Association as president and CEO

01 Jun 2022

The University of Maine Alumni Association Board of Directors has selected Thomas G. Peaco as the organization’s next president and CEO, effective July 5. He will succeed John N. Diamond, who is retiring after leading the 110,000-member association for the past seven years. A longtime Rockland resident and community leader, Peaco currently serves as president and CEO of the Penobscot Bay Regional Chamber of Commerce, which serves over 750 businesses and organizations in the Camden-Rockland region. In his new role, he will oversee the Alumni Association’s programs and events, member communications and engagement, and higher education advocacy. “Tom brings a wealth of experience to the position,” said Julia Munsey, a board officer who chaired the search committee. “He is extremely well connected in Maine, having served as a business and industry advocate, and civic and community leader. We look forward to working with him to set the association’s direction for years to come.” Peaco is a New Gloucester native and a 1988 UMaine graduate who received a bachelor’s degree in business administration. He has more than three decades of leadership experience in not-for-profit organizations, including nearly 20 years leading Make-A-Wish Maine, and the past seven years with the Penobscot Bay Regional Chamber. Peaco also has extensive volunteer leadership experience. He is a member of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and a longtime member and leader of Rotary International’s Camden and West Bay clubs. He also spent several years as a volunteer Cub Scout leader, and as a coach and board member of Oceanside Little League. “Tom’s leadership skills and not-for-profit experience are a perfect fit for the Alumni Association,” said Rob Frank, the association’s board chair. “We are excited about working with him to advance the interests and needs of Black Bear alumni and UMaine itself.” Peaco is part of a large Black Bear family: His wife Michelle is a 1992 UMaine graduate, as is their son Zach, who graduated in May 2019. Their middle son Josh is entering his senior year, and their youngest, Andrew, will enter UMaine in the fall as a first-year student. “I am honored to become the next leader of the UMaine Alumni Association,” said Peaco. “I am eager to work with the association’s tremendous staff and board to build on the great work that John [Diamond] has done here for the past seven years.” Diamond spent a total of 28 years as a faculty member and senior administrator for UMaine and the University of Maine System. He said he’s excited about Peaco’s selection. “Tom has a great reputation as a leader and advocate,” Diamond said. “He will join a terrific staff and board that passionately champions UMaine and higher education.” Established in 1875, the University of Maine Alumni Association is a self-governing not-for-profit organization with members in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and more than 100 countries. Its mission is to promote the best interests of UMaine and its former, current, and future students by encouraging relationships and mobilizing resources in ways that enhance the value of a UMaine degree. The association’s efforts primarily focus on two areas: providing information, programs, and events that serve its members’ personal and career interests; and advocating for policies and resources that strengthen UMaine’s quality, affordability, reputation and value. Contact: Nicolette Hashey, nicolette.hashey@maine.edu

UMaine Extension wild blueberry Midcoast IPM meeting June 14

01 Jun 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry field days continue 4–6 p.m. June 14 at Brodis Blueberries, 87 Jones Hill Road, Hope. The [Midcoast IPM field meeting](#) will focus on pest and crop management and large-scale mulching. UMaine Extension wild blueberry specialist and University of Maine assistant professor of horticulture Lily Calderwood will be joined by Brodis Blueberries operator Ron Howard. The field meeting is free; registration is requested. Two pesticide credits are approved. Register and find more information on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Mary Michaud, 207.581.3175; mary.j.michaud@maine.edu.

Kinghorn named senior executive director of cultural engagement and arts initiatives

01 Jun 2022

George Kinghorn has been named senior executive director of cultural engagement and arts at the University of Maine. In addition to this three-year appointment, he also will continue to serve as director and curator of UMaine’s Zillman Art Museum. Kinghorn will collaborate with Danny Williams, executive director of the Collins Center for the Arts, and Gretchen Faulkner, director of the Hudson Museum, to coordinate overall vision, leadership and operation of the cultural units. The goal is to enhance UMaine’s leadership as a regional and statewide cultural hub, and advance community engagement and fundraising efforts to meet the cultural units’ short- and long-term objectives. Promoting the visual and performing arts on campus also is key, including increasing student engagement to ensure that arts and culture are an integral component of the university experience. Kinghorn will collaborate with UMaine’s arts-related academic departments and the newly formed UMaine Arts Initiative, which Kinghorn co-chairs. “UMaine cultural resources contribute to experiential learning, promote dialogues in diversity and build community,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “Through arts and cultural engagement, patrons of all ages cultivate what we hope will be a lifelong, enriching appreciation for arts and culture. I look forward to the opportunity to take our cultural engagement and arts initiatives to the next level.” Kinghorn has led the Zillman Art Museum since 2008. Under his leadership, the museum has expanded educational and exhibition offerings, including the recent construction of five new galleries, and public participation has more than doubled. In addition, the museum has added important contemporary works to the permanent collection and has implemented new art conservation initiatives.

Media shares UMaine Extension food preserving workshop

01 Jun 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about a new series of monthly webinars offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension about preserving Maine foods starting June 16, from noon–12:45 p.m. “Common Home Food Preservation Ingredients and Equipment” topics include recommended equipment and ingredients for canning and freezing, as well as how to resolve common problems. Register on the [event webpage](#) to receive the link and resources.

Glover pens op-ed for BDN about gun violence in Maine

01 Jun 2022

Robert Glover, associate professor of political science and honors at the University of Maine, wrote an op-ed for the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the prevalence of gun violence in Maine. “Gun violence is here. It is costly. It is devastating. There is no cultural or social protective bubble rendering us immune from the grisly murder we saw unfold in Texas last week. If we don’t take action, a mass killing such as this will be inevitable in our future,” Glover wrote. Glover co-directs the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Perry featured by BDN about regulating harvested seaweed

01 Jun 2022

Jennifer Perry, a professor of food microbiology at the University of Maine, was featured by the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the challenge of developing well-fitting food safety regulations for harvested seaweed. Perry has been working with seaweed food safety for years and said there are a number of factors that make it hard to craft comprehensive food safety regulations. The Maine seaweed industry is also still relatively small compared with other food industries. Harvesting methods, growing conditions and air-drying processes are all highly personalized to each farmer, making it hard to replicate in any study.

USA Today features Birkel and Climate Reanalyzer in article about temperature changes and climate change

01 Jun 2022

[USA Today](#) featured the University of Maine’s [Climate Reanalyzer](#), an online tool that allows users to access global weather and climate data, and interviewed Sean Birkel, who developed and maintains the website, about the relationship between temperature and climate change. Birkel said that climate patterns cannot be established using one day's data. "Anomaly values can vary significantly from day-to-day ... depending on weather patterns. However, long-term warming trends are clear based on data going back several decades to more than a century," Birkel said. [Yahoo News](#) shared the USA Today report.

Online grant writing program offered in July through Hutchinson Center

02 Jun 2022

Registration is open for a five-week professional development program, Grant Writing Essentials, through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center. The fee for the online, instructor-led program is \$895. Need-based scholarships are available. Sessions are 9 a.m.–noon on five consecutive Fridays, July 8, 15, 22, 29 and Aug. 5. This program is designed to benefit people across the grant-writing spectrum, including those new to the genre, those in the midst of writing grants, and successful grant writers looking to refine their skills and gain new insights. This interactive and dynamic program, held synchronously via live Zoom sessions, will teach the basics of seeing a grant from inception to completion. Participants will learn how to get their organization ready to apply for grants, where to find funders and funding opportunities, how to write the components of a grant and how to submit a successful application that has all the information funders want to see. Instructor Elizabeth Haffey is a Maine-based professional grant writer. Through her business, E. Haffey Grant Consulting, she helps clients develop and write proposals, researches opportunities and trains staff and volunteers to apply for grants. Haffey is a master’s in public policy at the University of Southern Maine. Participants will earn a badge in Grant Writing Level 1 and 2 and a certificate of completion. For those interested in continuing education credits, 3 CEUs and 30 contact hours are available. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Abby Spooner, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8000. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available for people who live or work in Knox or Waldo County. For more information about upcoming professional development programs, scholarships or registration, go [online](#).

UMaine Men’s Rugby Team places fifth in division of national championship

02 Jun 2022

The University of Maine Men’s Rugby Team placed fifth in the small college division of the 2022 Collegiate Rugby Championship May 28–30. Black Bears, led by team captain Shawn Nitsche of Shelton, Connecticut, [defeated teams](#) from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, the University of Denver, Susquehanna University, the University of Wisconsin-Stout, Coastal Carolina University and Loyola University Maryland during the competition in New Orleans, also known as May Madness 7s. They lost to Christendom College, 21–7. Their division consisted of 28 teams overall. Of the 25 UMaine team members, 16 competed in the national championship, including eight who were returning players for the team. It was the first 7s national championship, meaning seven players per team competing in a game, for which the Black Bears have qualified. The last national championship the team participated in was a 15s championship in 2016, during which it finished in sixth place.

UMaine Extension offers facts, recipes for strawberries, peas, leafy greens

02 Jun 2022

Freezing berries in season and making low-sugar homemade jams and jellies are some of the ways to increase access to a year-round supply of local foods, cut back on sugar and reduce grocery bills. University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator Kathy Savoie demonstrates techniques for freezing strawberries in an [easy-to-follow video](#), and how to reduce the sugar content when making strawberry jam in this [short video](#). UMaine Extension is also offering [upcoming food preservation workshops](#), in person or by webinar, to coincide with the arrival of Maine’s seasonal foods, along with the monthly [Spoonful Blog](#) featuring recipes and bite-sized food and nutrition information. [Extension publications](#) can provide ways to find, grow, use and store in-season fruits and vegetables, including how to preserve these June favorites.

- [Let’s Preserve Strawberries](#)
- [Let’s Preserve Jellies, Jams, Spreads](#)
- [Let's Preserve: Leafy Greens](#)
- [Freezing Fruits](#)
- [Freezing Vegetables](#)
- [Vegetables and Fruits for Health: Peas](#)

Updated information, and publications to download or order, are available on the [Extension website](#), or by contacting 207.581.3188, 800.287.0274 (in Maine); extension@maine.edu.

Media boosts UMaine Extension Midcoast IPM field meeting

02 Jun 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and Morning Sentinel noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry field days will continue 4–6 p.m. June 14, at Brodis Blueberries, 87 Jones Hill Road, Hope. The [Midcoast IPM field meeting](#) will focus on pest and crop management and large-scale mulching. Register and find more information on the [event webpage](#).

Ellsworth American features Dill presentation to Surry Garden Club

02 Jun 2022

The [Ellsworth American](#) reported that Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, will speak on how to control ticks in the garden at the Surry Garden Club meeting on Wednesday, June 8, at 6:30 p.m. at Rural Hall, located at 680 Surry Road.

FreshFruitPortal.com shares UMaine Extension publication about properly washing fruits and vegetables

02 Jun 2022

[FreshFruitPortal.com](#) shared a University of Maine Cooperative Extension bulletin about properly washing fruits and vegetables by Jason Bolton, UMaine Extension professor and food safety specialist, and Robson Machado, assistant UMaine Extension professor and food science specialist. According to the publication, washing fruits and vegetables is the best way to reduce your risks for foodborne illness.

Dill speaks to BDN about hellgrammites

02 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about hellgrammites, the larval stage of dobsonflies that are found under rocks in rivers and streams. “It’s a really nasty looking critter. The male is a really strange looking critter with two long mandibles out in front that can be an inch long [and] in the insect state the body can be 2 1/2 inches long with inch-long mandibles,” Dill says. Despite their scary looks, hellgrammites only live in clean, pollution-free river water, making them a great indicator species of the water’s quality. [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) shared the Bangor Daily News report.

Blackstone interviewed by Refinery29 about doctors refusing treatment for patients with endometriosis

02 Jun 2022

Amy Blackstone, professor in sociology at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine and author of *Childfree by Choice*, was interviewed by [Refinery29](#) in an article about doctors refusing to provide women with endometriosis proper treatment if it might compromise their fertility. “What’s shocking to me about this is how many doctors seem to simply refuse to believe women. Not providing the treatment that women seek because you believe you know better than them what is best for them not only [infantilizes] women but is just one more way that women are denied their right to choose for themselves whether, when or how many children they will have,” Blackstone told Refinery29.

Fernandez quoted by Energy News Network about wood-fired power plants in Maine

02 Jun 2022

Ivan Fernandez, professor at the University of Maine’s School of Forest Resources and a member of the Maine Climate Council, spoke to [Energy News Network](#) for an article about a law encouraging the development of wood-fired combined heat and power plants in Maine, which is drawing praise for its potential to benefit the economy and the environment though questions remain about whether the program will cut carbon emissions as intended. “Yes, it’s releasing CO2, but it was going to release CO2 through decomposition anyway. As far as what the atmosphere sees, [combined heat and power] is a really good tool in the toolbox in our climate response,” Fernandez said. Fernandez added that on-site combined heat and power facilities also make it easier for logging operations to thin small or weak trees from the forest and put that wood to use.

UMaine and lobster industry team up on innovative collaboration to map Maine’s fishing effort

02 Jun 2022

The University of Maine is leading an innovative new research project to collaborate with Maine’s lobster industry to explore the potential to use data owned by commercial lobstermen to map fishing effort. These data may be used to minimize conflict from potential future offshore wind development. The state of Maine has set an aggressive goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 and is looking to floating offshore wind development in the Gulf of Maine to supply renewable power, as well as economic benefit. Participants in Maine’s commercial fisheries are concerned that offshore wind development could result in lost fishing grounds and pose significant navigation and safety concerns. While Maine’s lobster fishery accounted for 82% of the value of Maine’s commercial seafood landings in 2021, there are no comprehensive data on where and when Maine lobstermen fish. To minimize the impact on Maine’s lobster fishery, better data are needed on the location, type and intensity of fishing activity in the Gulf of Maine. Kate Beard-Tisdale is leading this collaborative project to use data already being collected by commercial lobstermen to fill these data gaps. “Right now, published maps suggest that lobster fishing is occurring everywhere. We hope through this effort to provide more spatial specificity about the most important fishing locations — where fishermen spend more time and effort,” says Beard-Tisdale, UMaine professor of spatial computing in the School of Computing and Information Science. “This spatial specificity could result in protecting fishing areas or designating areas best avoided for wind turbine placement.” Beard-Tisdale will

work closely with project partners from the Maine Lobstermen’s Association and Responsible Offshore Development Alliance and its Fisheries Knowledge Trust, as well as the University of Maine’s Lobster Institute. The project aims to develop a method to show where Maine’s lobstermen do their work throughout the year by aggregating navigation and chart plotter data from individual fishermen who have equipment that records a sequence of coordinates and documents where the boat travels. Not only would the data provide a spatially accurate picture of where fishing is taking place, but it would also be less expensive to monitor the small fishery’s activity this way than with the high cost systems used in other fisheries. The project also will ensure that it is possible to maintain the confidential nature of individual fisherman’s data contributions. “Fishermen have a proprietary interest in where they fish and, by extension, in their plotter data, so we want to be really careful in terms of how we anonymize and combine their data such that individual fishing data are not revealed,” Beard-Tisdale says. Ultimately, the researchers aim to build a software system that will aggregate and parse the data from various commercial systems in order for the lobster industry to be able to best inform regional energy development, fishery stock assessments, protected species management and other pressing management issues. Moreover, if the project is successful in both data collecting and anonymizing, it could build trust among fishermen, scientists and fishery managers in further developing fine scale spatial data for use in decision making. “The Fisheries Knowledge Trust is a really valuable tool, as it provides legal and technical support for fishermen to be the holders and managers of their collective data,” says Beard-Tisdale. “The Knowledge Trust can empower fishermen by giving them control over their data. There is oversight by a board of advisors so that data products are created that the fishermen trust and that have also met the approval of the advisory board. Ideally it creates a win-win situation for improving marine spatial planning if the process gives everyone confidence in the data. If the idea takes hold it can extend to give fishermen of all types a more direct voice in marine planning activities.” Beard-Tisdale’s research was one of six projects across the Northeast selected for funding by the Northeast Sea Grant Consortium in partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy’s Wind Energy Technologies Office and Water Power Technologies Office and NOAA’s Northeast Fisheries Science Center. The funding is meant to catalyze research for the coexistence of marine energy, including wind, current, tidal and wave energies, with Northeast fishing and coastal communities. Beard-Tisdale’s research was awarded \$192,924. “My husband worked a season on a lobster boat back in the ’70s. His boss was a strong advocate for more collective effort in managing aspects of the fishery — owning their own wharf. I see a similar situation here. Individual lobstermen have less bargaining power in these situations of competing for marine space. Collectively, by building a database that they can trust, hold and manage, they have a stronger voice for conveying their interests,” Beard-Tisdale says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Lincoln County News features UMaine graduate student-led citizen science program

03 Jun 2022

The [Lincoln County News](#) reported that Sarah Risley, a University of Maine graduate student based at the Darling Marine Center, will lead a team of undergraduate and high school students to study the shellfish species living at several sites along the upper Damariscotta River and document local knowledge of the estuary held by fishermen and other local residents. The information gathered from this program, which is now in its fourth season, will be used to help inform future management by the shellfish committee in coordination with the state’s Department of Marine Resources. “We are working as a team of local scientists, students, educators, harvesters and municipal leaders to collect information on shellfish and document how the estuary is changing,” Risley said.

Maine Monitor interviews Isenhour about accounting greenhouse gas emissions

03 Jun 2022

Cynthia Isenhour, associate professor of anthropology and climate change at the University of Maine, was interviewed by the [Maine Monitor](#) about emissions that are often overlooked in accounting greenhouse gasses. Isenhour explained that oversights in emissions accounting can lead to an unjust form of “global burden shifting.” She said that it’s essential to understand “not just where greenhouse gas emissions come from but why,” and ask, “Who benefits from those emissions?” For example, Americans buy and use items manufactured in countries like China and Mexico while, as Isenhour said, “saddling them with reducing those emissions.”

Media features UMaine Extension resources and recipes about strawberries, peas, leafy greens

06 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), the [Sun Journal](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and the [Piscataquis Observer](#) shared University of Maine Cooperative Extension resources about freezing berries in season and making low-sugar homemade jams and jellies to increase access to a year-round supply of local foods, cut back on sugar and reduce grocery bills. More information about these resources can be found [on the University of Maine website](#).

Golet demonstration at ‘Walk the Working Waterfront’ featured in Portland Press Herald

06 Jun 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that Walt Golet, assistant professor at the School of Marine Sciences and research scientist at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, presented at the seventh annual “Walk the Working Waterfront.” Golet dissected a tuna head in front of a crowd at the event on Saturday with the assistance of a volunteer from the audience, Clara Martin, 7, of Yarmouth.

Media report on UMaine research using lobster boat data to map fishing efforts

06 Jun 2022

[NBC 10 Boston](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [Mainebiz](#) and the [Mount Desert Islander](#) reported that University of Maine is leading an innovative new research project to collaborate with Maine’s lobster industry to explore the potential to use data owned by commercial lobstermen to map fishing efforts. Kate Beard-Tisdale, a professor in the School of Computing and Information Science, is leading a collaborative project aggregating navigation and chart plotter data from individual fishermen who have equipment that records a sequence of coordinates and documents where the boat travels. These data may be used to minimize conflict from potential future offshore wind development.

Mech speaks to Maine Public about browntail moths and climate change

06 Jun 2022

Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology at the University of Maine, spoke to [Maine Public](#) about research that shows Maine’s browntail moth outbreaks may be fueled by climate change. About six years ago, browntail moths began to spread across Maine. Mech said this may be due to a changing climate, and its effects on a fungal pathogen that keeps browntail moths in check. “And like most fungi out there, they require cool wet springs to have the right climate to proliferate. And because of climate change we haven’t had those cool wet spring temps that really allow the pathogen to knock back browntail moth and so, one of the hypotheses as to why browntail moth is exploding is because of the lack of the right climate for the fungus,” Mech said. [Connecticut Public Radio](#) shared the Maine Public report.

NPR highlights Lukens’ book in list of books from every state

06 Jun 2022

In an article listing the quintessential books from every state, [NPR](#) highlighted “‘Still They Remember Me’: Penobscot Transformer Tales, Volume 1” co-authored by Margo Lukens, University of Maine professor of English. The collection features 13 traditional Penobscot tales presented in the Penobscot language alongside their English translations, originally told by storyteller Newell Lyon to anthropologist Frank Speck, who published them in 1918 as “Penobscot Transformer Tales.”

Beaches Conference returns June 10

06 Jun 2022

The 13th biennial Beaches Conference will take place on Friday, June 10 at Berwick Academy. Returning after a three-year hiatus, this event brings together residents; beach monitors; artists; scientists; students; local, state and federal agencies; youth; and anyone else who cares about the beaches and coasts to discuss the latest science, arts and culture, management and other trends on the shore. The conference focuses on both New Hampshire and Maine coasts. This year’s themes include beach, coastal and ecological modeling; coastal management and policy; coastal tourism; community engagement in coastal science; harvesting from the sea; changing coastlines; and community resilience in the face of warming oceans and a changing climate. Conference plenary speakers will tell the stories that explore history through integrated, collaborative approaches that draw on science; archeology; and merged Indigenous, local and Western knowledge. “The opening session, ‘An inclusive future out of an inherited past,’ will explore the use of archeology at coastal sites in Maine and New Hampshire,” says Rob Sanford of the University of Southern Maine. “We will examine how archeology is used to uncover the truth by revealing hidden stories.” The conference includes an optional same-day field trip to the Strawberry Banke Museum, where participants will explore the impacts of sea level rise and the progress made to understand and mitigate them. The program includes interactive workshops, such as a Haiku poetry writing, an opportunity to create a collaborative sculptural installation using plastic recycling materials, and lessons on green crab sorting. Attendees also will have the opportunity to attend sessions on community projects, monitoring efforts, recent research and creative solutions to managing coastal issues. The Beaches Conference runs from 8 a.m.–4:15 p.m., then concludes with a networking and socializing event onsite in the Berwick Academy Dining Commons and on the lawn that runs through 6:15 p.m. Event planners expect approximately 250 attendees to attend the conference. “Our coastline can be so awe-inspiring that it would be easy to lose sight of its critical function to the environment and to the local economy,” says Liz Torrance, community relations and social responsibility manager at Kennebunk Savings, which is the event’s lead sponsor. “This conference, and the important conversations and connections it inspires, will help keep us all focused on what matters most.” The Beaches Conference is made possible through the support of numerous organizations and businesses, including Wave-level sponsor Kennebunk Savings; Umbrella-level sponsors NH Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Ransom Consulting, Maine Coastal Program, NH Coastal Program, Save Our Shores Maine, Horizon Foundation, Great Bay Stewards, Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, and NERACOOS; and Sand-level sponsors Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Maine Geological Survey, Maine Floodplain Management, Drummond Woodsum, Maine Boats, Homes & Harbors, Seacoast Science Center, Union of Concerned Scientists, PREP, and FB Environmental. Registration is \$60 prior to the event or \$75 on the day of, with a \$10 cost for the field trip and a \$10 charge for the networking and socializing event. Tickets are available [online](#). Anyone who wants to attend the conference must show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test within three days of the event date. The conference will follow the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s \(CDC\) COVID-19 recommendations](#) for face masks and other safety measures. Contact: Kristen Grant, kngrant@maine.edu

UMaine researchers develop recyclable nanocellulose food containers

07 Jun 2022

Takeout food is more popular than ever, but waste created by single-use plastic containers is environmentally harmful. University of Maine engineers have created a grease-proof, water-resistant container from recyclable cellulose nanocomposites that could be the next big thing in takeout technology. The demand for takeout, fast food and ready-made food has created an enormous plastic problem. Plastic takeout containers are useful because they are sturdy, grease-resistant and water-resistant, so they can hold a variety of foods without leaking. However, plastics are not biodegradable, and thus create an increasingly massive amount of waste. A [2021 Swedish study](#) showed that approximately 80% of marine wastes are plastic wastes, and of that, 70% are single-use plastics such as disposable plates, bottles and straws. Pulp and paper-based containers are more environmentally friendly because they break down over time, but they are much less resistant to water, oil and grease. Applying a coating of plastic can improve these qualities in the containers, but they make the containers more difficult to recycle. Other methods for improving water, oil and grease resistance, such as adding substances like PFAS, pose serious health concerns and environmental hazards. To address this problem, a group of UMaine researchers developed containers out of recyclable wood composites with a new coating made of lignin-containing cellulose nanofibrils, which improves the quality of the containers for takeout purposes while allowing the container to be properly recycled without the health risks imparted by plastic coatings or PFAS. “Research in my lab has been focused on two main topics: using cellulose nanomaterials as binder in composites for building and automotive applications, and producing renewable packaging materials with barrier properties against oxygen, water, oil and grease,” says Mehdi Tajvidi, co-author of the study and associate professor of renewable nanomaterials at UMaine. “This work essentially combines these two topics by coating a grease-proof layer of lignin-containing cellulose nanofibrils on a thin wood-flour composite bonded with nanocellulose.” The containers are constructed from cellulose nanofibril and lignin-containing cellulose nanofibril wood flour composites, which producers have recently shown interest in because they are non-toxic, biodegradable, strong, stiff and resistant to oil and grease. Normally, though, these materials aren’t very water resistant, which is an important quality for takeout containers. UMaine researchers found that alum — a substance long used by the paper industry to increase particle retention — improves the materials’ water resistance for the length of the food container’s expected use. The improved containers were also found to be fully recyclable. Researchers could disintegrate the samples and reform them, and the composites would retain their structure and oil- and grease-resistant properties. The findings could have direct consequences for Maine. In 2021, Maine banned the use of disposable polystyrene

takeout containers. A wood-based nanocomposite container could be an alternative for restaurants throughout the state. There is a market for such a container beyond Maine, too. According to a 2020 study from Acumen Research and Consulting, the market value of the plastic-free disposable plates is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 5.6%, eventually reaching a value of \$5.96 billion in 2027 as consumers are increasingly concerned about plastic waste. The [study](#) detailing the development and testing of the container was published in February 2022 in the journal *Cellulose*. The other UMaine co-authors of the study are Rakibul Hossain, Ph.D. student; Douglas Bousfield, director of the Paper Surface Science Program; and Douglas Gardner, professor of sustainable materials and technology in the School of Forest Resources and Advanced Structures and Composites Center. “We are working with UMaine’s Process Development Center, which hosts a state-of-the-art fiber thermoforming machine, to evaluate if our material system can be processed using this fully automated system to produce food containers. This will be a huge step to showcase the feasibility and industrial relevance of the work we have done so far,” Tajvidi says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Hargest discusses mulching on News Center Maine’s Gardening with Gutner

07 Jun 2022

Pamela Hargest, horticultural professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was featured on [News Center Maine](#)’s show Gardening with Gutner talking about the benefits of mulching in the garden. “It actually can prevent weeds in your garden. And in addition to that, it can conserve water, especially during the heat of the summer. And in a vegetable garden, it does a really good job of preventing disease issues,” Hargest said.

Garland featured on Maine Calling answering questions about gardening

07 Jun 2022

Kate Garland, horticultural professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, served as a panelist on the [Maine Public](#) show Maine Calling answering questions about maintaining healthy vegetables and flowers, trees and shrubs, native plants, pest and invasive management and more.

AP reports UMaine Beaches Conference to return after three year hiatus

07 Jun 2022

[The Associated Press](#) reported that the 13th biennial Beaches Conference, which is hosted by the Maine and New Hampshire Sea Grant and focuses on the health of the Maine and New Hampshire coasts, is scheduled for June 10 at Berwick Academy in Maine after a three-year hiatus. UMaine officials said the conference themes this year include tourism, coastal management and community resilience in the era of climate change. [U.S. News and World Report](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [Boston.com](#) and other national outlets shared the AP report.

University of Maine to participate in ceremony naming U.S. Capitol room for Sen. Margaret Chase Smith

07 Jun 2022

The director of the nonpartisan policy center at the University of Maine charged with carrying forth the ideals of Sen. Margaret Chase Smith will speak Wednesday at a ceremony at the U.S. Capitol naming a room there in her honor. UMaine’s Jonathan Rubin will join Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King, and U.S. Senate leaders from both sides of the aisle at the official opening of the U.S. Senator Margaret Chase Smith Room (S-124), as well as the U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski Room. The naming follows [unanimous passage](#) by the U.S. Senate in December 2020 of a [resolution](#) that marked the first time rooms in the U.S. Capitol would be named for women who served in the upper chamber. Smith was the first woman to serve in both houses of Congress, the first woman to hold a leadership position in the Senate as the chair of the Republican Conference and the first woman to represent Maine in Washington. She’s also the namesake of UMaine’s independent [Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center](#), which was created in 1989 with her full support. The center conducts applied public policy research to inform local, state and national decision makers, and publishes the Maine Policy Review. It also supports student scholarships and leadership development programs, including one that annually places dozens of Maine students into meaningful full-time paid internships with state agencies and local and county governments. Another annual center program that seeks to prepare and empower more young women to pursue civic and political leadership roles will convene its 13th cohort on Friday in Winter Harbor, Maine. UMaine also operates the [Margaret Chase Smith Library](#) in Skowhegan, Maine on behalf of a foundation carrying the late senator’s name. Library Director David Richards will attend and share brief remarks at the Capitol ceremony, which begins at 5 p.m.

UMaine study offers model for providing social skills supports to college students with autism

07 Jun 2022

A pilot study led by researchers at the University of Maine could lead to improved services for college students with autism. The study investigated the use of a social skills curriculum for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) making the transition from high school to college. Although results were limited, the project included a partnership with the Maine Department of Labor’s Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) that may serve as a model for how state vocational rehab agencies and higher education institutions can work together to support college students on the autism spectrum. The partnership and pilot study are detailed in a new journal article by University of Maine special education faculty members Sarah Howorth, Deborah Rooks-Ellis and Joshua Taylor, along with Alan Cobo-Lewis, associate professor of psychology and director of UMaine’s Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS), and Christine Moody from the Tarjan Center at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and the UCLA PEERS Clinic. According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), about one in 44 children in the United States have been diagnosed with ASD, a developmental disability that affects behavior, communication, interaction and learning. Approximately 49,000 students with ASD graduate from high school in the U.S. every year, and about 16,000 of them go on to college. “Currently, traditional accommodations offered by post-secondary institutions (e.g., extended time on tests and note-takers) do not adequately address the needs of college students on the spectrum,” the researchers note. For instance, few supports are offered for the social communication challenges faced by college students with autism. PEERS (Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills) is a social skills treatment for children and young adults with ASD developed by Elizabeth Laugeson at the UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. It includes training and practice sessions on communication and interpersonal skills, such as how to start, maintain and exit conversations. Research has shown it to be an effective intervention for those on the spectrum, or with attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, anxiety, depression and other social-

emotional health conditions. Previous research on PEERS has focused on its use in either school-based or clinical psychiatric settings. UMaine's study is the first time the program has been implemented by a state vocational rehab agency as pre-college or pre-employment transition support. The collaboration between UMaine researchers and the state began in 2019, with the [Step Up to College](#) program. The five-week summer program led by the DVR is designed to help high school juniors and seniors on the spectrum who are interested in attending college gain skills and experience associated with postsecondary education success. In 2019, Howorth and Rooks-Ellis led an abbreviated and adapted version of PEERS for Step Up participants. The sessions focused on conversational skills, specifically starting conversations, entering group conversations and exiting group conversations. "These skills were chosen as they are the foundation for a variety of social interactions and relationships," the researchers write. The pilot study indicated that participants' conversational skills did improve as a result of the PEERS seminars. But due to the small number of students in the 2019 Step Up program and the abbreviated and adapted nature of the PEERS sessions, a functional relation was not established demonstrating the effect of the treatment. The authors say further study is needed. The biggest implication of the pilot study was the partnership between UMaine and the DVR. "This study, and its investigation of the PEERS curriculum as an educational transition service, adds new information on how PEERS may be used," the research team says. "Indeed, previous research has noted that college students with ASD have indicated that they need more specific university support and training in interpersonal skills." In 2020, the Step Up program, including the PEERS classes, moved to a virtual format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Howorth collaborated with Maine DVR director Libby Stone-Sterling and UMaine CCIDS staff to create an online friendship bootcamp as part of the 2020 and 2021 Step Up programs. Howorth and Stone-Sterling recently presented on a research project looking at delivery of the PEERS curriculum via telehealth at the Council for Exceptional Children Division on Career Development and Transition conference in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. "The pilot study helped inform the telehealth PEERS groups that we provided when the Step Up program went virtual due to the pandemic," says Howorth. "It was viewed as a critical component to college success for individuals on the autism spectrum." "The research also showed everyone involved with preemployment training, college support services and Step Up that there is a critical need to support the social communication needs of these students, as challenges in these areas are a defining feature of Autism Spectrum Disorder," she adds. The researchers hope to continue their investigation of in-person PEERS classes as part of the 2022 Step Up summer program to be held on the UMaine campus. The pilot study was published in the journal Career Development and Transition for Exceptional Individuals, and is available [online](#). It was funded by the Maine DVR through grants from the U.S. Department of Education and the Maine Developmental Disabilities Council, with additional funding from UMaine via U.S. Administration for Community Living grants. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Emily Dunlap: The UMaine music education experience

07 Jun 2022

Emily Dunlap from Old Town, Maine is a rising fourth-year music education major with an instrumental concentration. She is also in the Honors College. Dunlap has received the Thomas E. Lynch Honors Fellowship, been recognized as a James S. Stevens Outstanding Junior and is an alumni member of the 2021 Macy's Great American Alumni Marching Band. Apart from academics, she is involved in a wide variety of extracurriculars, including UMaine UVote and the National Association for Music Educators Collegiate Chapter. In fall 2020, she was a part of an externship program with her former middle school where she taught free, online Zoom lessons — an experience she said made her realize the level she wanted to teach in her future. After graduation, Dunlap plans to either apply for a Fulbright scholarship to pursue a master's degree in musicology or start her teaching career. **Why did you choose to come to UMaine?** I chose to come to UMaine because it has been with me all my life growing up in Old Town. Both of my parents are alumni of the university, and they have a wonderful and supportive group of professors and colleagues in the School of Performing Arts. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and how has it helped you to reach your goals?** UMaine has helped me grow not only as a person, but also as a leader in my own community. My professors and colleagues have shown a level of support I have not seen anywhere else, and it makes attending the University of Maine all that much more worthwhile. If I did not have this kind of support, I do not know if I would be where I am today. **Has there been any particular initiative, program or set of resources that has helped you succeed at UMaine?** For me, a program that has helped me succeed here at UMaine has been the Honors College. The program has helped me see myself in a different light, as well as being curious of the world around me and how I can apply those curiosities toward my career in music. **Have you worked with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** When I think of a professor who made my UMaine experience better, the first person that comes to mind is my clarinet professor and thesis adviser, Beth Wiemann. Not only has she helped me improve greatly at my clarinet craft, she also sets a high bar when it comes to being organized and on top of my work. **Do you have any advice for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** I have many pieces of advice I could put in here, but the most important one I can think of is this: do not hesitate to reach out to your professors or colleagues if you ever need help (even if it is not academic)! I was blessed to have such amazing support in all facets in the School of Performing Arts. Contact: Hope Carroll, hope.carroll@maine.edu

Jord Thomas: MaineMBA at any age

07 Jun 2022

Why would a 57-year-old who lives in Escondido, California decide to earn his MBA from the University of Maine? A sense of community, history and flexibility. Jord Thomas had hit a wall promotion-wise at his job. He works as a production operations supervisor at a recovery firm serving major banks and vehicle manufacturers. He earned his bachelor's degree in business administration and information systems from San Diego State University in 2003 and started thinking about earning his MBA. But life got in the way. He continued to learn through workshops and seminars, even teaching himself to program in C#. "Work became more challenging," says Thomas. "So I started thinking about my options. "On one of my visits to Maine to visit my father, I scouted out the UMaine campus for possible degree programs for my daughter, Megan," says Thomas, who was born in New York City and is an enrolled member of the Penobscot Nation. By the time he was ready to enroll in an MBA program in 2019, the online MaineMBA was waiting for him. "The program's reputation and rankings, and knowing the University of Maine is just minutes away from my tribe on Indian Island, factored into my decision to enroll." Read the full story about Thomas on the [Maine Business School website](#).

UMaine Child Development Learning Center accreditation renewed for five years

08 Jun 2022

The Katherine Miles Durst Child Development Learning Center at the University of Maine was recently reaccredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Reaccreditation means the center meets or exceeds NAEYC standards in 10 areas, including relationships, curriculum, teaching, health and physical environment. The program earned an overall pass rate of just over 97% across all standards combined. It also went through an extensive site visit by an NAEYC assessor that included a classroom observation and interviews with staff. Established in 1931, the Durst center is one of the oldest university-affiliated laboratory schools in the country, allowing students in UMaine's education and early childhood programs to learn

through teaching and observation. The preschool is open to families from the university and surrounding communities, enrolling approximately 35 children, ages 3–5, each year, according to Margo Brown, coordinator of the center and lecturer in child development and family relations in the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. Two graduate students oversee the program as head teachers, supervising several undergraduate students each semester who serve as assistant teachers while taking UMaine’s Early Childhood Education Field Placement class. The program emphasizes whole-child development through play and social literacy. The center first earned NAEYC accreditation 10 years ago and was previously reaccredited in 2016. The new reaccreditation is valid until July 2027. It’s one of 39 programs in Maine to be accredited by the NAEYC, the nation’s leading organization for early childhood professionals.

Down East features UMaine research about phytoremediation of PFAS

08 Jun 2022

In an article about the toxic legacy of “forever chemicals” on Maine’s farms, [Down East Magazine](#) cited a nascent collaboration among several state agencies and the University of Maine examining the possibilities for phytoremediation, or using plants to pull PFAS out of the soil.

PPH cites UMaine-designed floating concrete platform for offshore wind turbines

08 Jun 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that developers of a planned offshore wind energy research array, Pine Tree Offshore Wind, have asked state regulators to approve a 20-year electricity supply contract with terms they say are essential to their investing \$1.2 billion in a project that could help launch a new renewable energy industry in Maine. The article says that the partnership laid out how the deal, known as a power purchase agreement, is vital to Maine’s ability to develop a major new industry based on a patented floating concrete platform designed at the University of Maine. The [Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and Associated Press shared the PPH report. The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Boston Globe](#), [U.S. News and World Report](#) and other outlets shared the AP summary.

Dill speaks to BDN about avoiding ticks in northern Maine

08 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, about areas in Maine with lower tick populations. Dill explained that the number of ticks in a given area seems to correspond to the habitat. In the southern part of the state and along the coast is more mixed forest that is more conducive to deer ticks. Farther north, the forests go from mixed to conifer dominated. “The further north you go, the lower the population,” he said. “Once you are in Aroostook County, it’s quite low.” However, it may only be a matter of time before deer ticks increase in the north. “Climate change will play a role because now they are somewhat limited by the temperature range,” Dill said. “As temperatures warm, [deer tick] hosts like small mammals will be able to survive farther north and that can help the ticks in their northward march.”

Dublin Inquirer cites Reagan book in article about controversial Ryanair quiz

08 Jun 2022

[The Dublin Inquirer](#) cited a book by Timothy Reagan, professor of foreign language education at the University of Maine, in a report about South African citizens being refused passage without a visa on the airline Ryanair because they are not able to complete a quiz in Afrikaans. Reagan’s 2019 book “Linguistic Legitimacy and Social Justice” says that today’s Afrikaans evolved from the Dutch language, whose speakers colonized the country centuries ago. The fraught history of the language makes the Ryanair incidents “all the more painful and ironic,” according to the article.

Lacy awarded Mike Linkovich grant from Maine Athletic Trainers’ Association

08 Jun 2022

Alicia Lacy, assistant professor of athletic training, received the 2022 Mike Linkovich Graduate/Post-Graduate Grant Award at this year’s Northern New England Athletic Trainers Conference in Portland. The \$1,000 award is provided by the Maine Athletic Trainers’ Association to promote research or scholarly works that will facilitate advancement of the athletic training profession. Lacy will put the grant toward a qualitative study aimed at understanding how athletic trainers unlearn in their clinical practice. UMaine athletic training faculty who received Linkovich grants in the past include Christopher Nightingale and Sherrie Weeks.

Lynn Dwelley: Preparing for a future in counseling

08 Jun 2022

Lynn Dwelley from Lincoln, Maine is a double major in psychology with a concentration in abnormal/social psychology, and in sociology, and a minor in mental health and rehabilitation. Dwelley has received the Maine Top Scholar award and is a James S. Stevens Outstanding Junior. Last year, Dwelley was a research assistant in the Peer Relations Lab, where she spent her time researching literature and coding data from research articles. In the spring semester she was professor Karyn Sporer’s teaching assistant for Sociology 101. During her time at UMaine, Dwelley has taken part in both the Best Buddies program and the Alternative Breaks volunteer group. After she graduates, Dwelley plans to go to the University of Southern Maine to pursue a master’s degree in counseling. **Why did you choose to come to UMaine?** I chose to come to UMaine because I have been coming to this campus since I was a child; whether that be through school field trips, or with my family to watch a hockey game. I love the state of Maine and I wanted to stay close to my favorite things in life including the great outdoors and my family. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and how has it helped you to reach your goals?** At UMaine I’ve met a lot of amazing people who have shown me different perspectives on the world. While many of my opinions have grown and changed, I have also learned how important my roots are and how to incorporate new concepts with my fixed beliefs. At UMaine, I have learned the importance of becoming informed on a wide variety of topics so that, whether your original opinions change or remain the same, you know you’re acting as a well-informed individual. **How has your research experience at UMaine prepared you for your future?** When I used to think about research it seemed unattainable. I thought it was all conducted by one or two researchers who have several advanced degrees and have studied a topic for years. I didn’t consider all of the people who

helped in the research as actually being real researchers. In reality, it takes dozens, if not even hundreds, of people working together in order to conduct research. I never thought I'd take part in research because it seemed way beyond my capabilities; even though my role was small, I still was a part of the process. This experience made me realize that even if something seems unattainable, if you break it down there is always something you are capable of doing. The big picture is important but it's all the little things along the way that get you there. **Have you worked with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I've had some amazing professors who I've really appreciated over the years including Shannon McCoy, Cynthia Erdley, Benjamin Guenther, Rebecca Schwartz-Mette, Karyn Sporer, Michael Haedicke and Annette Nelligan, to name a few. **Do you have any advice for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** Always read the syllabus and if you have a question, don't be afraid to ask it. Contact: Hope Carroll, hope.carroll@maine.edu

UMaine Extension 4-H summer learning series kicks off July 5

09 Jun 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer its hands-on virtual summer learning series July 5–Aug. 5 with over 20 workshops open to all youth ages 5–18. The [UMaine Extension 4-H Summer Learning Series](#) includes hands-on workshops in the fields of arts and crafts, food and nutrition, STEM, marine science and aquaculture, animal science and agriculture, and more. Any required materials will be mailed to participants at no cost. Workshops are free with optional sliding scale fee; registration required (opens June 10). Offline projects to be completed at home also are available. Register and find more information on the [Extension 4-H Summer Learning Series webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jessy Brainerd, 207.581.3877; jessica.brainerd@maine.edu.

Baltimore Fishbowl, What's Up magazine cite seal DNA given to UMaine

09 Jun 2022

The [Baltimore Fishbowl](#) and [What's Up](#) magazine reported on a grey seal named Louis Armstrong that was released at Assateague Island National Seashore on June 3 after rehabilitation at the National Aquarium's Animal Care and Rescue Center in Baltimore. The article noted that a DNA sample from Louis was shared with the researchers at the University of Maine, who are studying seal populations along the East Coast. What's Up magazine highlighted the partnership in celebration of World Oceans Day 2022.

The Cold Wire cites UMaine Extension information about cost of horses

09 Jun 2022

In an article about the expenses of owning a horse, [The Cold Wire](#) cited a survey conducted by the University of Maine that shows that monthly costs for horse ownership are around \$250–\$300 per month, adding up to annual costs ranging from \$2,419 to \$3,876 per animal.

Camire speaks to Atlanta Business Journal about buying organic

09 Jun 2022

Mary Ellen Camire, professor of food science and human nutrition, was interviewed by the [Atlanta Business Journal](#) about how to shop for organic foods without breaking the bank. Camire discussed the impact of importing produce in general, noting that bringing conventional or organic produce from a distance can have a negative impact on its nutrient content.

Tajvidi interviewed by media about newly developed nanocellulose food containers

09 Jun 2022

[News Center Maine](#) and [WVFX](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7) spoke to Mehdi Tajvidi, associate professor of reusable nanomaterials, about his research developing safe and recyclable food containers from nanocellulose in an effort to reduce plastic waste. Tajvidi told WFVX that the containers would be made out of wood or nanocellulose, which has a high crystallinity that is perfect for making a container. "By 2050 there will be more plastic by weight, in oceans, than fish. So this is a huge problem worldwide and most of the sources for that plastic pollution is actually from single-use food serving or container materials," Tajvidi told News Center Maine. "By 2050 there will be more plastic by weight, in oceans, than fish. So this is a huge problem worldwide and most of the sources for that plastic pollution is actually from single-use food serving or container materials," Tajvidi said.

Present Antarctic deglaciation may be unprecedented in last 5,000 years, UMaine study finds

09 Jun 2022

Two major glaciers in West Antarctica may be losing ice faster than they have in at least the last 5,000 years, a University of Maine study finds. The rapidly melting glaciers could lead to major sea level rise over the next several centuries. Over the past few decades, the West Antarctic Ice Sheet has retreated and thinned at accelerated rates. The Thwaites and Pine Island glaciers that extend deep into the heart of the ice sheet are of particular concern. These glaciers are susceptible to rapid melting because they sit on an inland-sloping bed where warm ocean water can flow underneath floating parts of the glacier tongues and erode the ice sheet from its base, which can lead to runaway ice loss. Runaway retreat of these two glaciers could reduce the size of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet, potentially contributing as much as 3.4 meters to global sea level rise over the next several centuries. However, it is hypothesized that the glaciers may have been much smaller in the geologically-recent past — namely, during the mid-Holocene, an era over 5,000 years ago that was even warmer than the present day. If they were smaller, they must have subsequently re-grown, raising the hope that they could do this again in the future. An international team of researchers led by the University of Maine looked at the relative sea-level change close to the glaciers during the past 5,000 years as an indirect way of determining whether they were substantially smaller than present in the mid-Holocene and then re-expanded. Relative sea level at a location depends on the amount of water in the ocean but also, importantly, on local changes in the shape of the earth's crust due to loading and unloading of glacier ice. Thus, reconstructions of relative sea level over time can be used to identify large-scale changes in glacier advance and retreat. The team, led by University of Maine Ph.D. student Scott Braddock, used radiocarbon dating of shells from ancient beaches that are now elevated above modern sea level to reconstruct

changes in relative sea level over time. The shape of the resulting curve is related to the growth and retreat of the glaciers. “Relative sea-level change allows you to see large-scale crustal loading and unloading by ice,” says Brenda Hall, corresponding author of the study and professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences and the Climate Change Institute. “For example, glacier readvance, which would result in crustal loading, would slow the rate of relative sea-level fall or potentially even cause submergence of the land below sea level.” The results showed a steady fall in relative sea level over the last 5,000 years. This pattern is consistent with relatively stable glacier behavior with no evidence of large-scale glacier retreat or advance. Moreover, the researchers found that the rate of relative sea-level fall recorded by the shells was almost five times lower than that measured today. The most likely reason for such a large difference is recent rapid ice loss in the region. “Our work suggests that these vulnerable glaciers were relatively stable during the past millennia, yet their current rate of melting is accelerating and raising global sea level,” says co-author Dylan Rood, senior lecturer at Imperial College London. “These currently elevated rates of ice melting may signal that those vital arteries from the heart of West Antarctic Ice Sheet have burst, leading to accelerating flow into the ocean that is potentially disastrous for future global sea level in a warming world.” The researchers also compared their results to existing models of the dynamics between ice and the Earth’s crust. They found that the models did not accurately represent the sea-level history revealed by their data. This study helps to paint a more accurate picture of the history of the region and suggests that the models need refining. Although the new evidence does not exclude the possibility of minor fluctuations of the Thwaites and Pine Island glaciers over the past 5,000 or so years, the researchers concluded that the simplest interpretation of their data is that these glaciers have been relatively stable since the mid-Holocene until recent times – and that the present-day rate of glacier retreat may be unprecedented over the last 5,000 years. With no evidence from the relative sea-level data that the glaciers have recovered from a smaller-than-present configuration in the last few thousand years, the possibility remains that the present accelerating retreat of these glaciers could lead to ever-increasing ice recession into the heart of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet with consequent implications for global sea level. The [study](#) was published June 9, 2022, in the journal Nature Geoscience. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Learn how to create habitat for grassland birds June 17

10 Jun 2022

Grab your binoculars and take a guided walk through bobolink habitat at Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station’s Witter Farm Park Street Fields on Friday, June 17, from 9–11 a.m. Amber Roth, assistant professor of forest wildlife management at the University of Maine; Livia Raulinaitis, Maine pollinator and beneficial insect conservation planner at the Xerces Society; and Laura Suomi-Lecker, technical director of the Ag Allies’ Grassland Bird Program will lead a free workshop about how to improve and manage grasslands for bird habitat, forage production and pollinators. Participants will have the opportunity to view nesting behaviors of grassland birds, including bobolinks, savannah sparrows, and northern harriers. The workshop will also include guidance on how to revitalize fallow fields for grassland wildlife habitat, and the background on life history of Maine’s grassland bird species that face [steep population decline](#). The event is free; advance registration is required and available [online](#). Participants should meet at the Witter Farm Park Street Fields in Orono and be prepared to spend two hours outdoors walking over uneven terrain. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Karen Cliff, 207.581.2887; karen.cliff@maine.edu. The Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station at the University of Maine supports faculty who conduct fundamental and applied research to address specific problems of importance to the people of Maine. This integration of research with university and public education ensures that people learn the most current information, even in rapidly changing fields. Since 2016, Ag Allies, hosted by Somerset County SWCD, has worked with land trusts and landowners statewide to increase the nesting success of grassland birds using incentive payments, technical assistance and education. The program empowers landowners to make sustainable, bird-friendly management changes on their land and improve the chance for nesting success of grassland birds in Maine.

UMaine Extension 4-H Fridays on the farm start July 15

10 Jun 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering its on-farm summer learning series for ages 12–18 starting 9 a.m.–noon July 15 at Rustic Roots Farm, 120 Vipah Lane, Farmington. This is the second year “[4-H Fridays on the Farm](#)” has been offered for Maine teens to gain hands-on experience, talk with local growers and learn more about the Maine food system. Additional farms in the six-session series include:

- Morning Glory Farm, 343 Flat Road, Bethel; 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. July 22; includes lunch
- Brigeen Farms, 278 Upper Street, Turner; 9 a.m.–noon Aug. 5
- Lone Spruce Farm, 306 Bald Mountain Road, Dedham; 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Aug. 5
- Pumpkin Vine Family Farm, 217 Hewett Road, Somerville; 9 a.m.–noon Aug. 12
- McDougal Orchards, 201 Hanson Ridge Road, Springvale; 9 a.m.–noon Aug. 19

The program is free; current 4-H enrollment is not required. Register on the [program webpage](#) for one or more sessions. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Alisha Targonski, 207.622.7546; alisha.targonski@maine.edu.

BDN reviews “The Moors” at Cyrus Pavilion Theater

10 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reviewed playwright Jen Silverman’s 90-minute, one-act play “The Moors,” presented this weekend by True North Theatre at the Cyrus Pavilion at the University of Maine. Lauren Billings, who plays the free-spirited younger sister Huldey, will begin her third year as a theater major with a minor in dance at the University of Maine in the fall.

BDN reports on UMaine pilot study to support students with autism

10 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on a University of Maine pilot study that investigated the use of a social skills curriculum for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) making the transition from high school to college. Although results were limited, the project included a partnership with the Maine Department of Labor’s Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) that may serve as a model for how state vocational rehab agencies and higher education institutions can work together to support college students on the autism spectrum.

Rubin speaks to News Center Maine about U.S. Capitol's new Margaret Chase Smith Room

10 Jun 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that Margaret Chase Smith, a groundbreaking politician who represented Maine in the United States Congress for more than 30 years, now has her own room in the U.S. Capitol. Smith was the first woman to serve in both chambers of the Congress, and was the first woman to represent Maine in either chamber. Jonathan Rubin, director of the The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine, spoke to News Center Maine about Margaret Chase Smith. "Sen. Smith said, 'The right way is not always the popular or easy way. Standing for right when it is unpopular is a true test of moral character.' She also said, 'Public service must be more than just doing a job efficiently and honestly. It must be a complete dedication to the people and to the nation,'" Rubin said. Rubin also encouraged everyone to visit the Margaret Chase Smith Library in Skowhegan. The [Bangor Daily News](#) also reported on the designation and noted Rubin's attendance at the ceremony.

Media reports on UMaine-led study of Antarctic glaciers

10 Jun 2022

[Eos](#), [Science News Explores](#), the [Environmental News Network](#), [Science Daily](#), [Scienmag](#), [ScienceNews](#), [Phys.org](#) and other international outlets reported on a University of Maine-led research study that found major glaciers in West Antarctica may be losing ice faster than they have in at least the last 5,000 years. At the current rate of retreat, the Thwaites and Pine Island glaciers, which extend deep into the heart of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet, could contribute as much as 3.4 meters to global sea level rise over the next several centuries.

Vekasi testifies before U.S.-China Economic and Security Commission

10 Jun 2022

Kristin Vekasi, associate professor at the Department of Political Science and School of Policy and International Affairs at the University of Maine, testified in front of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Commission on her research about rare earth policies on June 9, 2022. [A copy of her testimony can be found online.](#) Vekasi testified that in general, the risk in the rare earth sector comes from environmental impacts in the process of mining and refining the 17 elements, the high level of technological expertise required and the information failures, like the lack of reliable and transparent price information that makes it challenging for new players to enter the market. Despite these risks, China has dominated the rare earth industry over the past few decades using market intervention, industrial policy and investment in the necessary expertise. However, concentrating the market for these essential elements in China makes the supply chain vulnerable. Vekasi said that China will not be able to meet domestic or global demand for rare earths — particularly the rare earths used as permanent magnets, the demand for which has sharply increased in part due to the growth of the electric vehicle and green technology market. "Relying on a single geographic source for any key material inherently introduces vulnerability in a supply chain, even without concerns about rivalrous politics," Vekasi said. "We have seen increased weaponization of trade and supply chains around the world over the past decade, including from China with rare earth elements. However, more than the intentionality suggested by potential economic coercion, geographically concentrated raw mineral supply chains increase vulnerability because there is simply an inability to nimbly respond to any crisis or a demand shock." To address the supply chain vulnerabilities of the global rare earth industry, Vekasi recommended that the United States government diversify along the midstream of the supply chain by investing in basic research, increasing funding and opportunities for national labs and facilitating public-private knowledge transfer. She also said that the United States should direct the Department of Commerce to increase information transparency in rare earths — for example, by developing an international price index in cooperation with China. "This task could also potentially be accomplished through cooperation with international organizations such as the International Monetary Fund," Vekasi said. "Price transparency would facilitate success for new market entrants." Finally, Vekasi recommended that the United States emulate Japan's model of public-private funding for new mining and separation facilities that help overcome initial political and environmental risks in the rare earth sector. "Even with public funding, it is likely that private companies will need to lean on Chinese expertise to develop a resilient business model," Vekasi said. "The United States should recognize China's technical leadership in this sector and not prohibit private-sector cooperation with Chinese commercial entities in order to be eligible for opportunities." Previously, Vekasi has [written articles](#) about rare earth policies in China for outlets like East Asia Forum. Vekasi spent her 2021–22 sabbatical year at Harvard University, where she used her position as academic associate with the Weatherhead Institute's U.S.-Japan Program to advance research for her second book about how China, Japan, and the United States cooperate and compete to manage complex supply chains. Vekasi published early research for the book on the geoeconomics of critical rare earth minerals in fall 2020 with the [Georgetown Journal of International Affairs](#). A recording of the full hearing, U.S.-China Competition in Global Supply Chains, can be found on the U.S.-China Economic and Security Commission [website](#). Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Fort Kent native Lily Brickman finalist for Nutrition Science Abstract Recognition Award Program

13 Jun 2022

Lily Brickman of Fort Kent, Maine, has been named as a finalist for the Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Abstract Recognition Award Program in Community and Public Health Nutrition, a program of the American Society for Nutrition (ASN) that recognizes the highest quality research presented by students and young investigators at NUTRITION 2022 LIVE ONLINE. More than 700 abstracts were submitted by students and postdoctoral fellows and the Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Abstract Recognition Award Program aims to recognize the top 15% highest scoring abstracts. Abstracts were rated by more than 400 nutrition scientists. Finalists will be recognized during NUTRITION 2022 LIVE ONLINE, the American Society for Nutrition's annual scientific event that will be held virtually from June 14–16. Brickman received her B.S. from UMaine in food science and human nutrition in 2021 and is currently a dietetic intern in the M.S. program in food science and human nutrition advised by professor Mary Ellen Camire. Her abstract for NUTRITION 2022 LIVE ONLINE is titled "Identifying Cofactors Contributing to Food Insecurity in Elderly Maine Residents Living at Home," which is based on her 2021 Honors College thesis. "Through this program, the American Society for Nutrition celebrates the achievements of our rising stars," said Paul Coates, president of the American Society for Nutrition. "The society looks forward to watching their future contributions to advance our understanding of nutrition science and practice."

52 college students begin 12-week Maine government internships

13 Jun 2022

Fifty-two undergraduate and graduate college students have started working in state, municipal and county offices through the 2022 Maine Government Summer Internship Program. The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine administers the program that provides full-time, 12-week work experience to students who are Maine residents and scholars attending Maine colleges. Thirty-seven interns are working in departments of Maine state government, including Education; Labor; Economic and Community Development; Environmental Protection; Finance; and Transportation. Thirteen are taking part in municipal and county internships in locations ranging from Houlton to Bridgton to Windham. Two more interns are placed with a regional planning commission and a nonprofit transportation planning agency. The students' educational backgrounds include law, business, government, communications, environmental studies, engineering, and economics. They're utilizing knowledge and skills they've gained in higher education to work as GIS specialists, town manager assistants, law interns, data analysts, marketing and planning specialists, media content creators, and conservation assistants. Many have expressed interest in pursuing a career in government or public service. The MCS Policy Center pairs each intern with a direct supervisor in the host agency, department or municipality. Students tackle assigned projects and provide their skills, enthusiasm and fresh approaches to issues facing departments and communities. Students gain professional work experience, networking opportunities, and insights into the functions of local and state governments. The 103rd Maine Legislature established the Maine Government Summer Internship Program in 1967 to attract and select college students with ambition and talent for temporary internships within government. Over the past 50 years, more than 1,800 students have completed internships. For more information, visit mcspolicycenter.umaine.edu. Following are the interns, in alphabetical order, as well as their hometowns, school attending, and placements. Peyton Arbour of Sidney, Maine; Stevenson University; solid waste engineering unit assistant, Maine Department of Environmental Protection; Karoline Bass of Orono, Maine; St. Lawrence University; city document management and social media intern, City of Old Town; Nina Boudreau of Hallowell, Maine; Colby-Sawyer College; Office of Creative Services intern, Maine Department of Transportation; Hunter Brown of Lebanon, Maine; Franklin Pierce University; conservation intern, Maine Department of Defense Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Army National Guard; Alexa Bryant of Hartland, Maine; Middlebury College; communications team intern, Maine Department of Education; Augustin Buyeye of Lewiston, Maine; Central Maine Community College; contract grant assistant, Maine Department of Public Safety; Martin Carriere of Lewiston, Maine; Bates College; recycling program intern, Maine Department of Environmental Protection; Hailey Champagne of Lewiston, Maine; University of Maine; Step Up summer intern, Maine Department of Labor, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; Savannah Clark of Vassalboro, Maine; University of Maine; cemetery project coordinator, Town of China; Abigail Cloutier of New Gloucester, Maine; University of Maine at Farmington; community outreach assistant, Town of Gray; Sadie Colby of Sidney, Maine; University of Maine; assistant to the town manager, Town of Fayette, Maine; Annabelle Collins of Jay, Maine; University of Maine; engineering/energy assistant, Maine Department of Defense Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Army National Guard; Nathan Couture of Manchester, Maine; University of Southern Maine; data warehouse assistant, Maine Judicial Branch, Administrative Office of the Courts; Nathan Farnsworth of Auburn, Maine; Bryant University; strengthening our digital connection with the community intern, Town of Winthrop; Erin Frankhauser of Pittston, Maine; St. Thomas University; computer science education research assistant, Maine Department of Education; Keegan Gentle of Houlton, Maine; University of Maine; cemetery census and mapping project organizer, Town of Houlton; Emily Gerencer of Gardiner, Maine; Gustavus Adolphus College; climate resiliency and planning assistant, Lincoln County; Alden Hallett of Chelsea, Maine; University of Maine; planning and ordinance review assistant; Town of Chelsea; Jackson Hansen of Brunswick, Maine; Bowdoin College; housing intern, City of Bath; Ryan Harke of Portland, Maine; University of Maine School of Law; consumer credit examiner intern, Maine Department of Professional and Financial Regulation; Grace Harvey of Old Town, Maine; Colby College; innovative education assistant, Maine Department of Education; Chase Holak of Bluffton, South Carolina; University of Maine at Farmington; records management and operations intern, Maine Department of Education; Athen Hollis of Steep Falls, Maine; Marist College; assistant to the community development office, Town of Bridgton; Caroline Jeffrey of Blue Hill, Maine; George Washington University; climate, culture, and resiliency team assistant, Maine Department of Education; Keying Jiang of Saco, Maine; Brandeis University; junior compensation analyst, Judicial Branch, Administrative Office of the Courts; Tessa Kilgore of South Portland, Maine; University of Michigan; data research and GIS mapping intern, Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission; Abigail Johnson of Orono, Maine; University of Maine; marketing and communications intern, Maine Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Human Resources; Gus La Casse of Trenton, Maine; University of Maine; computer science education research assistant, Maine Department of Education; Rosalie Leonard of South Portland, Maine; Clark University; data analyst, Department of Labor, Center for Workforce Research & Information; Noah Lessard of Gray, Maine; University of Maine; engineering/energy assistant, Maine Department of Defense Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Army National Guard; Keiran Lorentzen of Yarmouth, Maine; Kenyon College; beverage container redemption program intern, Maine Department of Environmental Protection; Gabrielle Low of Winthrop, Maine; University of Connecticut; workers' compensation assistant, Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Employee Health and Wellness; Scott McCallister of Sidney, Maine; University of Maine at Augusta; assistant planner, Maine Department of Defense Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Army National Guard; Shaylyn MacKinnon of Portland, Maine; University of Michigan; American rescue plan policy project manager, Maine Department of Health and Human Services; Evan Ma of Mashpee, Massachusetts; Bates College; city planning and rezoning assistant, City of Auburn; Derek Malinowski of West Gardiner, Maine; University of Southern Maine; benefits and policies coordinator, Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Employee Health and Wellness; Jackson Martin of Unity, Maine; University of Maine; human resources planning assistant, Maine Department of Administrative and Financial Services; Cat Merkle of Waterville, Maine; Colby College; MTSS framework content and web development assistant, Maine Department of Education; Sierra Millay of Chelsea, Maine; Mount Holyoke College; planning resource analyst, Maine Department of Transportation; Grace Nichols of Portland, Maine; University of Maine School of Law; advocate assistant, Maine Workers' Compensation Board; Hung Nguyen of Hanoi, Vietnam; University of Southern Maine; public works intern/road analyzer, Town of New Gloucester; Ashley O'Brien of Scarborough, Maine; College of the Holy Cross; junior compensation analyst, Judicial Branch, Administrative Office of the Courts; Mary O'Flaherty of Orono, Maine; University of Maine; transportation planning intern, Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System; Patrick Osborne of Biddeford, Maine; Emory University; environmental engineering assistant, Maine Department of Environmental Protection; Anna Pellerin of Winslow, Maine; Clark University; Bureau of Rehabilitation Services intern, Department of Labor, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services; Ella Pierce of Camden, Maine; Wellesley College; learning through technology data and media assistant, Maine Department of Education; Jevaun Quinn of Gansevoort, New York; University of Maine School of Law; public advocate intern, Maine Office of the Public Advocate; Erica Sanderson of Farmington, Maine; University of Maine at Farmington; accounts payable application assistant, Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Division of Financial and Personnel Services; Piper Strunk of Cape Elizabeth, Maine; Bates College; innovative education assistant, Maine Department of Education; Malcolm Svec of Old Town, Maine; University of Maine; intelligent transportation systems and traffic safety analyst, Maine Department of Transportation; Elias Young of Redding, Connecticut; University of New England; environmental/ stormwater intern, Town of Windham.

BDN shares UMaine Extension 4-H Fridays on the Farm

13 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is offering its on-farm summer learning series for ages 12–18 starting 9 a.m. to noon July 15 at Rustic Roots Farm, 120 Vipah Lane, Farmington. This is the second year “4-H Fridays on the Farm” has been offered for Maine teens to gain hands-on experience, talk with local growers and learn more about the Maine food system. For more information and to register, visit the program

[webpage](#).

Media boosts UMaine Extension 4-H virtual summer learning series

13 Jun 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Irregular](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer its hands-on virtual summer learning series July 5–Aug. 5 with over 20 workshops open to all youth ages 5–18. The 4-H Summer Learning Series includes hands-on workshops in the fields of arts and crafts, food and nutrition, STEM, marine science and aquaculture, animal science and agriculture, and more. Any required materials will be mailed to participants at no cost. For more information and to register, visit the program [webpage](#).

Media shares grassland bird habitat building workshop

13 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about a guided walk through bobolink habitat at Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station’s Witter Farm Park Street Fields on Friday, June 17 from 9–11 a.m. Amber Roth, assistant professor of forest wildlife management at the University of Maine; Livia Raulinaitis, Maine pollinator and beneficial insect conservation planner at the Xerces Society; and Laura Suomi-Lecker, technical director of the Ag Allies’ Grassland Bird Program will lead a free workshop about how to improve and manage grasslands for bird habitat, forage production and pollinators. The event is free; advance registration is required and available [online](#).

WABI reports on Summer Special Olympics at UMaine

13 Jun 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine hosted the Summer Special Olympics on June 11, 2022. The event has not been held in the past few years due to the pandemic.

Vekasi quoted in media about China’s rare earth elements

13 Jun 2022

Kristin Vekasi, associate professor in the School of Policy and International Affairs at the University of Maine, was quoted by [Tech Target](#), [National Cyber Security News Today](#) and [Business Telegraph](#) explaining that China remains a leader in mining of the raw materials, rare earth elements, used for semiconductors.

Adirondack Explorer features UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data

13 Jun 2022

The [Adirondack Explorer](#) reported that the Northeast, along with some parts of the West, has the highest probability in the U.S. of being hotter than usual this summer. The article cited data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer detailing the change in temperature over the past 50 years in New York City and Saranac Lake, New York. According to the data, temperatures since 2015 show a steeper increase than the previous 50 years.

News Center Maine cites UMaine Tick Lab in report about increased number of ticks

13 Jun 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that researchers at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab are seeing an increase in the number of deer tick samples. So far, they have received 1,350 deer tick submissions in 2022, which is a significant increase compared to the 900 samples received this time last year. About 60% of the ticks submitted to the lab this year have tested positive for Lyme.

Oh receives inaugural award named in her honor, recognition from Legislature and Gov. Mills for service to older adults

13 Jun 2022

Patricia Oh, senior project manager for the University of Maine Center on Aging, received an award created in her honor, and recognition from the Maine Legislature and Gov. Janet Mills for her service to older adults and communities that support them. The Lifelong Communities Fellows, experienced lifelong community leaders who mentor groups starting or expanding a program to make their municipality more livable, especially for older residents, created and gave her the inaugural Patricia Oh Lifelong Communities Award June 3 for her “exceptional contributions to the Age-Friendly, Livable and Lifelong Communities of Maine and Throughout the United States.” Oh also is an adviser to AARP Maine/Livable, and director of the Lifelong Maine AmeriCorps Program. The annual award will recognize an individual or community that has shown exemplary work in making Maine a better place for all ages to live. The Maine Legislature in a joint resolution and Gov. Mills in a letter celebrated Oh’s more than 20 years of service and achievements in the aging field — particularly those accomplishments that improved the lives and well-being of older adults. Since 2012, Oh has helped foster age-friendly communities across the state and nation, particularly in rural areas. She works with other professionals to develop resources that municipalities can use to enhance their physical, social and service environments to help maintain older residents’ health, well-being and ability to engage in community life. During Oh’s tenure, 84 communities in Maine have been designated age-friendly by AARP. Gov. Mills noted in her letter that “in October 2019, the state earned the designation as well, the sixth in the nation to do so.” “It is a tremendous honor to be recognized by the Lifelong Communities Fellows, the Maine State Legislature, Governor Mills, and Representative Seth Berry,” Oh says. “However, the real heroes of the lifelong, age-friendly movement in Maine are the local volunteer leaders spearheading change in their community and municipal officials and partner organizations who support their work. Thanks to all of them, Maine is becoming an even better place to grow up and to grow old.” In addition to working for the UMaine Center on Aging, Oh has served with the Maine Gerontological Society, the Gerontological Society of America, the Sagadahoc County Board of Health, the board of the Bowdoinham Community

Development Initiative and the Maine Age-Friendly State Advisory Committee. She also has written articles and book chapters about age-friendly community development, is a contributing author to the award-winning AARP Roadmap Livability Series and Rural Livability report, and has presented at state, regional, national and international events. “You can be sure that we will display the Patricia Oh Lifelong Communities Award plaque with great pride at the Center on Aging. And, it is only fitting for Patricia to be the inaugural honoree,” says Lenard Kaye, director of the Center on Aging and UMaine professor of social work. “Her expertise and commitment to the age-friendly and life-long community movement in Maine and throughout the United States is, in my opinion, without equal. She has gained a national reputation through her pioneering hands-on work with older adult advocates as well as her scholarship in this area and enabled the University of Maine to assume an increasingly important role in advancing the highly desirable principles of livable communities.” The Center on Aging and [Maine Community Foundation](#) established the Lifelong Communities Fellows Program to provide training, stipends and other support to volunteers seeking to help communities improve the quality of life for older residents by improving accessibility, developing community gardens, implementing volunteer transportation programs and conducting a host of other initiatives that make the community livable for all ages. These fellows who created the new, annual award in honor of Oh will work with her to further develop the criteria for it and future nominees. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 202.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Browntail moth caterpillars can feed on conifers during outbreaks, UMaine researchers discover

14 Jun 2022

Over the past 200 years that browntail moth caterpillars have been studied, the invasive pest has only been documented feeding on hardwood trees. Now, preliminary findings from the University of Maine suggest that mature browntail moth caterpillars also may be able to subsist on coniferous trees. The discovery — which was made thanks to a chance sighting by a UMaine undergraduate student researcher — might mean that scientists have had an incomplete understanding of the pests’ outbreaks and where they might spread in the future. Rachel Jalbert was walking down her driveway in Hampden, Maine one day in late May when she noticed something strange: browntail moth larvae on a coniferous spruce tree. Jalbert knew from her experience as an undergraduate researcher in forest entomology professor Angela Mech’s lab that browntail moth larvae have been thought to feed strictly on deciduous trees and can’t utilize coniferous foliage. She questioned what she saw. Jalbert’s current research, funded through the REU Initiative for One Health and the Environment, focuses on browntail moths’ attraction to light — not caterpillars on conifers. Maybe she misidentified the insect for one of its many lookalikes, like tussock moth caterpillars, or perhaps the larvae had just fallen onto the spruce from a nearby infested oak tree. “I’m fairly new to entomology,” Jalbert says. “I haven’t taken general entomology class, so I thought there’s probably a huge chance that I’m really wrong, but I thought I’d bring it up anyway.” Jalbert brought her observation to Mech, who, instead of dismissing the sighting as a fluke, sat down and investigated with her student researcher. They combed through nearly 200 years of literature and found no mention of browntail moths utilizing conifer hosts. Then, Jalbert and Mech recruited graduate student researcher Sadia Crosby, and the three set up an experiment isolating browntail moth caterpillars into cups with spruce branches that had both old and new growth. “The first question was maybe they’re just starving and can eat it, but won’t be able to survive. But they fed on old growth, new growth and molted, which is an indication that they can be successful feeding on conifers,” Mech says. The discovery, though startling, isn’t completely without precedent. Browntail moths are closely related to spongy moths, which have a similar behavior when they are outbreaking where older caterpillars can utilize different hosts — including conifers — outside of their usual deciduous tree diet. However, given the impact of the browntail moth on public and environmental health in Maine, the implications of this finding are troubling. Mech says that the existing risk maps tracking browntail moths — and the resulting management strategies — could be incomplete because researchers haven’t been looking for the caterpillars on coniferous trees. If browntail moth caterpillars are eating coniferous foliage, it could have a different impact on Maine’s forests. One year of defoliation can be stressful to evergreen conifers, compared to deciduous trees that grow their foliage back every season. Plus, if browntail moth caterpillars can feed on conifers, that changes where in Maine they may be able to spread. “As they move further north and inland, there could be enough suitable hosts to keep the populations present, even if there are less hardwoods,” Mech says. The browntail moth feeding season is coming to a close, and more trials will need to be conducted next year before the researchers can say what, exactly, the relationship between the browntail moth caterpillar and coniferous trees is. Can the caterpillars feed on conifers beyond spruce? Are conifers a primary or a secondary host for these caterpillars? Has this behavior previously eluded researchers because browntail moth larvae only feed on conifers when they are outbreaking, as they have for the past six or seven years in Maine? Jalbert is graduating in December, but Mech and Crosby will continue to run trials to substantiate their findings. “The fact that we’re still learning things about the browntail moth is wild,” Crosby says. “Even though we’re getting close on certain aspects, it still throws curveballs like this. It’s exciting, but we have a lot of work to do.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu Categories: News releases; top spot; homepage; Research; Outreach; NSFA;

Nick Poulin: Achieving more at UMaine

14 Jun 2022

Nick Poulin from Augusta, Maine is one of the 2021–22 James S. Stevens Outstanding Junior Award recipients. He is a marketing and new media double major, and will be a senior in the fall. Poulin works for ASAP on campus, and is a marketing intern for both the Maine Business School and the United Way of Eastern Maine. Poulin is very involved as an MBS ambassador and the president of Beta Gamma Sigma. After graduation, Poulin plans to attend graduate school at UMaine. **What difference has UMaine made in your life and how has it helped you to reach your goals?** UMaine has given me the ability to have strong faith in myself and my future. I had come here in 2019 confident in myself, but unsure about my career, through various networking events and one-on-one time with professors, faculty and peers, I realized how well this school can prepare you for the real world. UMaine has helped me reach my goal of not dreading the future but looking forward to it. **Can you think of a specific experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** Intro to Business my first semester. I was told to keep an open mind about how I perceive college and I was advised to pick up a second major (new media). Because of that, I would not have been able to acquire two of my current positions. That simple advice to not be so steadfast in my thinking allowed me to achieve more than I thought possible going into college. I plan to carry that mindset beyond my schooling and incorporate that into my daily life. **Have you worked with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** I have worked with several professors and mentors who have made my time here memorable, some being Melanie Brooks, Taylor Ashley, Faye Gilbert, Stefano Tijerina, Mike Scott, Erin Carter, Rusty Stough, Grant Miles, and many others. **Do you have any advice for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** If you find some event or opportunity that you think will help you out in the future, just show up. There’s no harm in going. Contact: Hope Carroll, hope.carroll@maine.edu

Technological advancements can improve carbon storage in harvested wood products, UMaine study says

14 Jun 2022

New technology can enhance the carbon storage of harvested wood products in Maine by using the materials for innovative, longer-lasting end uses such as

building materials, according to a study led by the University of Maine. Harvested wood products used in buildings, paper, biochar and more all store carbon. Agencies like the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change provide guidance on how to calculate the carbon stored in harvested wood products, but it often does not account for the many advances that the industry has made over the last century. The impact of innovative new products, improved processing efficiency and increased product recycling rates are rarely included in these existing calculation methods. “While we had some theories on the levels and magnitude of carbon stored from our forests, it wasn’t until this full assessment was conducted that we gained greater confidence in the data,” says Ling Li, assistant professor of sustainable bioenergy systems at UMaine. Li joined Daniel Hayes, associate professor of geospatial analysis and remote sensing, and other researchers in the UMaine School of Forest Resources, as well as Xinyuan Wei at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, to create a new carbon accounting framework that incorporates the influence of technological advancements in wood products. The researchers then used this framework to look at the carbon dynamics associated with wood product pools in Maine from 1901 to 2019. The researchers found that harvested wood products contain 11% of all the carbon stored in the entire forestry sector of Maine — a significant amount, but a lower level than other places worldwide due to the fact that much of the harvested timber in Maine is pulpwood and used to produce paper with a shorter service life. The study suggests that technological advancement — such as using the harvested wood products for building and home applications, which have a significantly longer life than paper — can increase this storage by as much as 44% and expand the carbon stored across the forestry sector and wood products to 15%. The study finds that production of innovative, long-lasting wood products, like mass timber panels and wood fiber insulation for building and home applications, will play the most important role in expanding this carbon storage ability. Higher processing efficiency and recycling rates are less important to achieving carbon storage for harvested wood products in Maine, but still have a role to play. “Understanding where different forest products and end uses impact and influence the carbon storage lifecycle can assist our policymakers in developing long-term carbon strategies for our state and guide economic development and research areas aligned with those goals,” says Li. The study was published in the June 2022 issue of the journal [Biomass and Bioenergy](#). The framework developed by the researchers will help other areas develop a more accurate picture of their harvested wood product carbon accounting, though the algorithm will have to be adjusted slightly for each location. Li and other professors at the School of Forest Resources are also developing innovative wood fiber insulation panel products for building applications using Maine’s forest resources. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

MIRTA accelerator projects to be showcased June 14 at Foster Center for Innovation

14 Jun 2022

Four faculty-led research projects being developed for commercialization will be showcased by the fifth cohort of University of Maine MIRTA accelerator teams from 5–7 p.m. June 14 at UMaine’s Foster Center for Innovation. The participating teams that will pitch their projects and provide updates on their plans for commercialization:

- Future Fish Tags: A tag dart designed for aquatic research that improves animal welfare, results in 100% tag retention, and promotes ingrowth and vascularization within the animal.
- Oyster Pod A 3D-printed aquaculture tank insert made from forest product feedstocks and bioplastic that helps maximize oyster growth.
- WAVED: Computer-aided detection (CAD) technology that uses a patient’s mammographic history and clinical data to identify physical markers that help analyze risk for the development of breast cancer.
- Wheelchair Odyssey: Immersive software to simulate wheelchair navigation in inaccessible, real-world settings to deepen understanding of wheelchair use and increase accessibility and inclusion.

[MIRTA](#) is designed to advance university research projects along the path from discovery to becoming commercial products with public benefit. With support from the University of Maine System Research Reinvestment Fund and the Maine Technology Institute, four teams of faculty, staff and students have completed an intensive three-month program to accelerate the development of their research. Over the course of the program, guided by Foster Center staff and external advisers, teams engaged in customer discovery, market analysis, prototype development and technology evaluation to map strategies for bringing their research to market.

Ouellette pens op-ed for BDN about youth mental health

14 Jun 2022

Kristy Ouellette, University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor of 4-H youth development at the University of Maine, wrote an opinion piece for the [Bangor Daily News](#) about how the youth mental health crisis is impacting schools and teachers. “In the midst of a national youth mental health crisis, instead of claiming the kids are OK, it is time for action. If you are not already, get involved with your local school budget process; advocate for systems which will meet the challenges our kids are facing through innovation and action. Providing our schools with the support needed is just one layer of solution,” wrote Ouellette, a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Rooks-Ellis quoted by PPH in article about sensory-friendly performances at Maine State Music Theatre

14 Jun 2022

Deborah Rooks-Ellis, director of the Maine Autism Institute for Education and Research in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine, was interviewed by the [Portland Press Herald](#) for an article about the Maine State Music Theatre’s sensory-friendly performance of “The Very Fractured Tale of Robin Hood,” by Randall Frizado. Rooks-Ellis explained that sensory-friendly shows are hugely valuable because they promote inclusivity for all families. “Guests are encouraged to freely respond to shows in their own way, and organizations relax the ‘house’ rules. Convention typically requires guests to remain quiet and seated throughout most shows, but during sensory-friendly performances, guests/families are welcome to do things like sing or dance,” she said. [Yahoo News](#) shared the PPH report.

Brewer interviewed by WMTW about school board elections in Maine primary races

14 Jun 2022

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland) about the tightly packed school board races

in Maine’s primary elections this Tuesday. In Portland, 12 candidates will compete for three open seats. Two are for at-large school board positions and one is for an opening in district five. “School board elections in Maine generally have been pretty low interest and low intensity races. That being said, that’s started to change,” Brewer said.

Composites World cites UMaine ASCC collaboration with Oak Ridge National Laboratory

15 Jun 2022

In an article about low-void, large-scale, high-volume 3D printed composites, [Composites World](#) noted that Oak Ridge National Laboratory, a leader in the development of these materials, works closely with the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center on the development of cellulose nanofibrils and applications of these materials using a variety of manufacturing processes. The publication reported that in one pilot project, two molds for seven-piece, 100-foot offshore wind blades were built on UMaine’s 3D printer using cellulose nanofibril materials.

National Fisherman notes UMaine presentation at Seafood Summit

15 Jun 2022

[National Fisherman](#) noted that representatives from the University of Maine will present about putting values into practice for local and regional seafood systems at the Seafood Summit in Girdwood, Alaska Oct. 2–3.

Civil + Structural Engineer features UMaine ASCC’s timber revolution

15 Jun 2022

[Civil + Structural Engineer](#) magazine reported that the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) is positioning itself to lead a mass timber revolution. ASCC qualified two new grades of cross-laminated timber using Maine-sourced lumber, so Maine lumber can now be used in CLT building construction for buildings as high as 10 stories or more. “The Advanced Structures and Composites Center is at the forefront of leveraging Maine’s abundant natural resources, like wood, to drive sustainable economic development opportunities through research, development, commercialization and workforce training. Working hand in hand with our partners in industry, our goal is to develop the materials and technologies to drive future value streams for the Maine forest products industry and train our next-generation manufacturing workforce,” said Habib Dagher, executive director of ASCC.

Morning Ag Clips notes Egyptian researcher at UMaine studying ruminant animals

15 Jun 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) reported that Alaa Rabee from the Desert Research Center in Egypt will arrive at the University of Maine on June 24 to conduct research on ruminant animals and their ability to convert feed into sugars that can be used in biofuel production. Over the next six months, Rabee will study the gut microbes of cows at the J. Franklin Witter Teaching and Research Center in Old Town, as well as cows and sheep at nearby farms, to evaluate their potential as sources of enzymes that could be used in biofuel production or other technology. This international exchange has been facilitated by Sue Ishaq, assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences at the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture.

Camire quoted in Quality Assurance article about flavor trends

15 Jun 2022

Mary Ellen Camire, professor of food science and human nutrition, was quoted in an article from [Quality Assurance](#) magazine’s June 2022 issue about the science behind flavor trends. “Tasting is really flavor by our nose, so something that is very dry will need a little more of a flavor boost compared to a food that is moist and will allow that retro-nasal smell — where you eat the food and aromas go up into your throat and into the nose,” Camire said.

Socolow featured on WOSU-FM show insurrection hearing’s similarity to Watergate

15 Jun 2022

Michael Socolow, media historian and associate professor of communication and journalism at the University of Maine, was a featured guest on the [WOSU-FM 89.7 \(Columbus, Ohio\)](#) show All Sides with Ann Fisher. The program explored whether the public hearings on the Jan. 6 insurrection can still enthrall the nation in the same way, how they’re being covered and whether the investigation could have the same historical impact as Watergate.

Brewer speaks to WABI about possible political rematch in Maine election

15 Jun 2022

Mark Brewer, political science professor at the University of Maine, was interviewed for [Washington News Bureau](#) about the possibility of a rematch between Republican Bruce Poliquin and Democrat Jared Golden after the primary election. He said he suspects if Poliquin and Golden face off again, the campaign will get heated quickly. Brewer predicated that gun rights, abortion rights, and environmental issues will bring voters to the polls, but the economy will likely be the number one issue that drives most Maine voters to cast their ballots. “I think inflation is just the, the biggest item on the table and there’s not even a close second to it,” Brewer said. [WABI \(Channel 5 in Bangor\)](#) shared the Washington News Bureau report.

Sofia Rivera: Using art to inspire

15 Jun 2022

Sofia Rivera from Oakhurst, New Jersey is an art education and studio art double major with a minor in art history. Rivera has been honored with numerous

awards from the Department of Art, including the CLAS Dean's Exhibition Award and the Department of Art Elizabeth Graves Fine Art Scholarship award for outstanding performance in art education. She also is a James S. Stevens Outstanding Junior. Rivera has recently led and collaborated on two projects with the Blue Hill Heritage Trust, where she helped write and illustrate a children's book, and create a cookbook — two projects to help raise awareness and rebuild the Surry Forest. After graduation, Rivera plans to become a full-time art teacher in Maine, as well as find ways to sell her artwork as much as possible. **Why did you choose to come to UMaine?** When I was looking for a school to attend, I realized that UMaine was the only school that had everything I wanted in terms of education, environment, and location. The close-knit feeling of campus and the ability for me to succeed in my pursuit to learn more about art, as well as achieve my teacher's certification in Art Education made this school the perfect one for me. Also, I love the snow! **What difference has UMaine made in your life and how has it helped you to reach your goals?** UMaine has helped me reach my goals by giving me an intimate and thorough education in my field of study. I have made lifelong connections through my attendance at this school, as well as found new interests and talents that will surely last a lifetime. **Can you think of a specific experience at UMaine that has changed or shaped the way you see the world?** The biggest experiences at UMaine that has shaped the way I see the world came from my education classes, learning how multiculturalism, the environment, and art as a whole can truly change the life of any given student. It's helped me grow in my passion of wanting to teach, and it has given me the skills and understanding to do it well. **Has there been any particular initiative, program or set of resources that has helped you succeed at UMaine?** One program that has helped me immensely during my studies is the ArtWorks! Program, held every semester and run by junior level students in the Art Education Program. It provides students with the opportunity to teach in a laboratory class, before formal student teaching while still incorporating the main aspects of teaching. It was so helpful to be able to teach students in a smaller, more informal format before being thrown into student teaching, and it really helped me to be more comfortable and confident in the classroom. **Have you worked with a professor or mentor who made your UMaine experience better?** Constant Albertson has made my entire experience at UMaine more enjoyable. She is holding the entire Art Education program up by herself, and she continues to provide top-notch education and advice to her students whenever they need it. She has become a great mentor, teacher and friend, and I know I can count on her for support and advice, now and in the future. **Do you have any advice for incoming students to help them get off to the best start academically?** As important as academics are, it's also important to take care of yourself and take time to do things you enjoy. Don't feel like you're wasting time if you're not always doing homework or seemingly being productive, because doing things for yourself is just as important as your education. Contact: Hope Carroll, hope.carroll@maine.edu

UMaine Extension celebrates garden-to-table at Rogers Farm June 27

16 Jun 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold a hands-on workshop featuring gardening and culinary skills June 27, 5–7 p.m., at the UMaine Extension Master Gardener Volunteers demonstration garden, University of Maine Rogers Farm, 914 Bennoch Road, Old Town. This [Garden-to-Table workshop](#) begins at Rogers Farm with discussion and demonstrations of planting timelines, spacing, pest management and strategies for harvesting early-season produce. Participants then travel to the UMaine campus for an introduction to creating emulsions using garlic scapes and chives. Rhubarb will be on the dessert menu. The workshop will be led by Laurie Bowen, Extension community education assistant; Rob Dumas, UMaine food science innovation coordinator and certified executive chef; and Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. The sliding scale fee includes materials and a light meal. Register on the [event webpage](#) by June 26. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.942.7396; katherine.garland@maine.edu.

Media shares UMaine discovery about browntail moth caterpillars feeding on conifers

16 Jun 2022

[Maine Public](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [Mount Desert Islander](#) and [WMTW](#) (ABC 8 in Portland) in shared preliminary findings from the University of Maine that suggest that mature browntail moth caterpillars also may be able to subsist on coniferous trees. The discovery — which was made thanks to a chance sighting by a UMaine undergraduate student researcher — might mean that scientists have had an incomplete understanding of the pests' outbreaks and where they might spread in the future. [MSN](#) shared the WMTW report.

Brewer interviewed for NBC News about Paul LePage

16 Jun 2022

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to [NBC News](#) about Paul LePage running for Maine state governor again. "What he's trying to do is not necessarily change his policy, but take some of the rough edges off. He's hoping a new, kinder, gentler Paul LePage maybe can win some of those voters over," Brewer said.

WABI interviews Aggrawal about how rising interest rates will affect Mainers

16 Jun 2022

Pankaj Aggrawal, professor of finance at Maine Business School, spoke to [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) about how rising interest rates will impact Mainers. Aggrawal says the rise in inflation happened due to a combination of imbalance in supply and demand, overseas conflict, supply chain shortages, COVID-related impacts on unemployment and the housing market. Raising interest rates now is a way to slowly drive down consumer demand, realigning it with decreased supply. "Now that the interest rates are going up, it is going to create a pressure on the mortgage rates. Being careful with your work, being careful with your spending, the world has changed. Things are changing, and being adaptive is difficult. But, as you know, being adaptive is the number one trait of being a successful species," Aggrawal said.

Lee speaks to Popular Science about composting

16 Jun 2022

Susanne Lee, faculty fellow at the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, spoke to [Popular Science](#) about compost management. Lee says that creating compost as a community can displace the need to purchase manure and fertilizer — or even be sold at a profit. "If you have an end product that has a market value, of course that is going to be saving you money versus trying to take up space in the landfill," said Lee. [The Institute for Local Self-Reliance](#) shared the

Popular Science report.

UMaine researchers speak at Maine Audubon's Native Plant Festival

16 Jun 2022

Maine Audubon hosted its sixth annual Native Plant Festival on June 11. The festival's feature event was an interactive presentation featuring University of Maine researchers who are working to conserve brown ash (*Fraxinus nigra*). John Daigle, a citizen member of the Penobscot Nation and professor of forest recreation management, and Ph.D. students Suzanne Greenlaw of the Maliseet Nation, Tyler Everett of the Mi'kmaq Nation and Emily Francis discussed the cultural and ecological significance of brown ash and the trees' vulnerabilities climate change, certain forestry practices and the invasive emerald ash borer. The team discussed forest management opportunities to sustain the trees in Maine's forests in spite of these challenges. Gabriel Frey, a renown basketmaker and member of the Passamaquoddy Nation, also demonstrated part of the process that Wabanaki artists use to transform ash trees into the baskets that represent New England's oldest documented artistic tradition. More information about this event is available on [Maine Audubon's website](#).

On-campus COVID-19 vaccination clinic June 21–24

17 Jun 2022

An on-campus COVID-19 vaccination clinic will be held from 1:30–3 p.m., June 21–24 in the Coe Room, Memorial Union. Members of the UMaine community who received the Moderna, Pfizer or J&J vaccines are encouraged to participate. You need to be 5 months out from your last Pfizer or Moderna vaccinations, and 2 months from your last J&J vaccinations to receive the booster. Interchanging the type of vaccine with the booster shot is an approved practice. This is a walk-in clinic; no appointments required. Bring to your appointment:

- a copy or the original insurance card used for prescriptions, or have a picture of it readily available on your phone
- COVID vaccination card or a picture of it on your phone

UMaine Auxiliary Services featured in College Services magazine

17 Jun 2022

The University of Maine Auxiliary Services department was featured in [College Services magazine](#) for its exceptional dedication to the on- and off-campus community. The article highlighted how UMaine Dining, Housing Services, the Bookstore, University Volunteer Ambulance Corps and more support the university community. The story also featured UMaine Auxiliary Services' role during the pandemic in managing all elements of health and safety.

Knowridge Science Report highlighted UMaine research about vitamin B and high blood pressure

17 Jun 2022

[Knowridge Science Report](#) shared information about a study led by scientists from the University of Maine that found using B vitamins to lower homocysteine levels is an effective means of reducing blood pressure, and vitamin B may be especially useful in the management of drug-resistant high blood pressure. The research is published in the American Journal of Hypertension.

News Center Maine cites UMaine Extension in Gardening with Gutner segment

17 Jun 2022

News Center Maine's Gardening with Gutner segment, hosted by chief meteorologist Todd Gutner, cited information from the [University of Maine Cooperative Extension](#) about cold crops. UMaine Extension notes that plants like tomato, eggplant and peppers can not go out until the last frost.

Radio stations highlight UMaine Tick Lab testing

17 Jun 2022

[WBJQ-FM](#) (97.9 in Portland), [WBLM-FM](#) (102.9 in Portland), [WOKQ-FM](#) (97.5 in Dover, New Hampshire) [WCYY-FM](#) (94.3 in Portland) and [WSHK-FM](#) (102.1 and 105.3 in Dover, New Hampshire) highlighted the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab testing service, encouraging Mainers to "take the guesswork out of tick bites" by sending in their samples. For \$15, the Tick Lab will test for Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, *Borrelia miyamotoi* disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis and tularemia. Results are usually available after three days. To learn more about submitting a tick for testing, visit the Tick Lab [website](#).

PoultryProducer.com shares UMaine Extension bulletin about coliform salpingitis

17 Jun 2022

[PoultryProducer.com](#) shared a [bulletin from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension about coliform salpingitis](#), inflammation of the oviduct and uterus causes a loss of production and may cause death in poultry. The bulletin was written by Anne Lichtenwalner, associate professor of animal and veterinary sciences at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the director of the University of Maine Animal Health Laboratory.

Maine Monitor highlights student research about microplastics

17 Jun 2022

In an article about Maine's sludge spreading ban, the [Maine Monitor](#) noted that University of Maine student researchers Maine that microplastics were in a fifth of the snails and slugs and more than half of the livestock feces while analyzing samples taken for an unrelated experiment is the nation's first state [to ban the spreading of sludge and sludge-based compost](#) in order "to prevent further contamination of the soils and waters of the State with so-called forever chemicals."

BDN reports on new UMaine softball facility

17 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that work has begun on the new University of Maine softball facility. The new softball field — which will have an artificial surface, lights, a two-lane hitting pavilion, bleacher seating for 500 with more than 200 chairback seats, new dugouts and a press box — is expected to be completed by March, according to University of Maine director of athletics Ken Ralph. "After it's done, it will arguably be the best facility in the Northeast," Ralph said.

Freeman interviewed by PPH about Juneteenth

17 Jun 2022

Mary Freeman, an assistant professor of New England history at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Portland Press Herald](#) about the history of the Juneteenth holiday, which Maine will observe for the first time this year after it was declared a federal holiday last year. "There has been historically not as much attention to the causes of the war and the consequences of the war, which would be slavery and emancipation. The great thing about Juneteenth is that it's tied to the central event in American history, the Civil War, and it's emphasizing the central part of that central event, which was the struggle over slavery and emancipation," Freeman said. The [Sun Journal](#) shared the PPH report.

UMaine supports teachers with first summer Educators Institute

21 Jun 2022

Schools across the state held their last classes of the 2021–22 school year this week, marking the official start of summer for Maine students, parents and teachers. However, about 125 educators won't be leaving the classroom just yet, as they take part in the first annual University of Maine Educators Institute being held virtually June 22–23. The theme of this new UMaine Summer University program, developed in collaboration with the Maine Department of Education, is "Supporting Emotional and Behavioral Well-Being in School Communities: From Surviving to Thriving." "Educators have always faced challenges, many of which have been amplified by the pandemic, as well as by the social and cultural environment of the past few years," says Penny Bishop, dean of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. "We're launching this institute in hopes of equipping teachers and other school-based professionals with new knowledge and strategies they can take back to their schools next year to meet these challenges head on." The program features six strands, with workshops led by faculty members from UMaine, as well as educators and other experts from around the state and beyond. The six strands are Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice; Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS); Trauma and Resilience; Social-Emotional Learning (SEL); Student-Centered Learning; and Exploring Wabanaki Studies. The institute also will include keynote speeches by Dr. Judith Josiah-Martin, a faculty member at the UMaine School of Social Work and former director of UMaine's Office of Multicultural Student Life, and Dr. Catherine Bradshaw, university professor and senior associate dean for research and faculty development at the University of Virginia School of Education and Human Development. Participants are eligible to earn continuing education units (CEUs) for professional development. In addition, more than a dozen educators will take part in the institute as part of a three-credit graduate course that runs from mid-June to mid-July and includes additional content and strategies. "We're excited about the program for this inaugural institute and look forward to working with the College of Education and Human Development to make it the premier summer personal and professional development opportunity for educators in Maine moving forward," says Patricia Libby, assistant dean of the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning. In addition to the UMaine Educators Institute, the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning is offering two other Summer University opportunities for teachers and educators: The UMaine Climate Change Workshop: "Climate Change Teaching Tools," July 12–13; and the Summer Technology Institute: "Cooperation Across Environments and Boundaries," Aug. 2–4. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Media shares UMaine Extension garden-to-table workshop at Rogers Farm

21 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared a University of Maine Cooperative Extension workshop featuring gardening and culinary skills June 27 from 5–7 p.m. at the UMaine Extension Master Gardener Volunteers demonstration garden, University of Maine Rogers Farm, 914 Bennoch Road. The hands-on workshop begins at Rogers Farm with discussion and demonstrations of planting timelines, spacing, pest management and strategies for harvesting early-season produce. Register on the [event webpage](#) by June 26.

Potocki interviewed by IFLScience about Mount Everest base camp

21 Jun 2022

Mariusz Potocki, research assistant at the University of Maine, was interviewed for [IFLScience](#) about the impacts of climate change on Mount Everest's base camp. The article cited Potocki's [study](#) that found that Everest's highest glacier, the South Col Glacier, shed 2,000 years' worth of ice in 30 years and has lost half its mass since the 1990s — and the worst could be yet to come. "Climate predictions for the Himalaya suggest continued warming and continued glacier mass loss, and even the top of ... Everest is impacted by anthropogenic source warming," Potocki said.

PPH notes Boston startup working with UMaine to produce carbon-neutral home heating oil

21 Jun 2022

In an article about environmentally-friendly alternatives to heating oil, the [Portland Press Herald](#) noted that Boston startup Biofine Technology is working

with the University of Maine to build a biorefinery to produce what it says is a carbon-neutral substitute for home heating oil at a former paper mill in Lincoln.

Mount Desert Islander shares UMaine nanocellulose container study

21 Jun 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) reported that University of Maine engineers have created a grease-proof, water-resistant container from recyclable cellulose nanocomposites that could be the next big thing in takeout technology. The containers are constructed from cellulose nanofibril and lignin-containing cellulose nanofibril wood flour composites, which producers have recently shown interest in because they are nontoxic, biodegradable, strong, stiff and resistant to oil and grease.

Media reports on Maine App Challenge winners

21 Jun 2022

[MaineBiz](#), [Yahoo Life](#), [Business Wire](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on the winners of the [2022 Tyler Technologies Maine App Challenge](#), a contest that challenges high school students to show off their skills and creativity by building a mobile application. Tyler Technologies collaborated with the Foster Center for Innovation at the University of Maine to host a series of free workshops for students to help with brainstorming, prototyping, and testing their applications. Students that attended these workshops began their work to qualify for a [University of Maine System Innovation Micro-Credential](#).

BDN shares UMaine Machias lobsterman survey

21 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on a survey conducted by University of Maine at Machias associate professor Tora Johnson that polled 106 lobstermen and shellfish harvesters in Hancock and Washington counties and found that barriers to medical care in the injury-prone industry are likely significant contributors to addiction and overdose. Johnson said the burden of traveling from remote fishing villages to health care providers while trying to sell the day's catch, scheduling doctor visits around the tides and a prevalence of either little to no health insurance in the industry were some of the major hurdles to care. "What we are hearing is a very large, probably vast, majority of harvesters have trouble finding access to the health care that they need," Johnson said.

Brawley interviewed by Salon about sea moss gel

21 Jun 2022

[Salon](#) spoke to Susan Brawley, professor at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, about sea moss, which has been trending on social media apps like TikTok for its purported health benefits. Brawley told Salon that sea moss is a type of red algae. Also known as "Irish moss," or more technically *Chondrus crispus*, it grows along the rocky parts of the Atlantic coasts of Europe and North America and is a foundation species in the North Atlantic intertidal zone. "It provides 3-D structure for smaller organisms and food for invertebrate herbivores in the low zone," she said. Brawley said that foraged sea moss should not be harvested from polluted areas, but otherwise, she doesn't see a negative environmental impact if people forage for their own *Chondrus crispus*. "Indeed, for centuries, that is exactly what coastal people did across the North Atlantic. When I came to Maine, a colleague who was a native Mainer gave me her handed-down family recipes for how to collect, clean, and prepare Irish moss, as well as a pudding recipe," Brawley said.

Ticks can survive cold winter temperatures in the right conditions, UMaine research finds

22 Jun 2022

Winter cold may not be what's keeping ticks from spreading north in Maine, a new University of Maine study finds. The research shows that blacklegged tick nymphs are able to survive inhospitably cold winter temperatures with insulation from leaf litter and snow pack, which may lead to an expansion of their range into northern Maine as climate change leads to warmer and wetter winters. In the past few decades, ticks have expanded in both population size and range throughout the state of Maine. Nymphal and adult blacklegged ticks are of particular public health significance as they transmit a diverse array of pathogens, including the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. Northern Maine has been considered a safe haven, though, with low tick population density compared to other parts of the state. Previously, scientists assumed that this is due to the freezing winter temperatures in northern areas of the state. As climate change brings warmer winters to northern Maine, it has also brought anxiety about whether ticks will soon settle there and cause the myriad public health concerns that they have in other parts of the state. "Conventional wisdom is that cold winter temperatures kill ticks, but this rarely has been tested experimentally in the field," says Allison Gardner, assistant professor of arthropod vector biology and co-author of the study, published in the journal [Ticks and Tick-borne Diseases](#). "We designed our study to test the hypothesis that insulation protects ticks from the most extreme ambient temperatures, potentially enabling blacklegged ticks to survive even in the coldest parts of the state." A team of researchers from the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology, the University of Maine at Presque Isle and the Vector-Borne Disease Laboratory at the Maine Medical Center Research Institute set out to see whether the cold was to blame for the current low concentration of black-legged ticks in northern Maine when compared to the coastal southern and inland central areas of the state. The study was led by Michelle Volk, at the time a master's student in the Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, now a Ph.D. student at Michigan State University. The researchers established enclosures from one-gallon plastic buckets containing blacklegged tick nymphs at four sites across Maine that were chosen to span the state's full temperature and snowfall gradients: Cape Elizabeth, Orono, Brownville and Presque Isle. From 2018–20, the scientists observed whether the tick nymphs were able to survive the winter, ensuring that some of the subjects' enclosures were covered in snow or leaf litter as they often are in the wild while others were cleared. The results showed that overwinter survival was consistent across the sites — even in northern Maine. Snow and leaf litter cover contributed significantly to the overwinter survival at sites in both southern and northern Maine. In 2019, the scientists also collected host-seeking blacklegged ticks at seven sites across Maine to compare their experimental results to real-world conditions. They found higher densities of blacklegged ticks in coastal and southern Maine than inland central Maine — and, perhaps most importantly, no blacklegged ticks in inland northern Maine. "The findings of this study suggest that the impact of low temperatures on overwinter survival may not be the single factor limiting blacklegged tick populations in northern Maine," Gardner says. "While climate change likely has some role in the geographic range expansion of ticks in the state, the ecological mechanisms limiting the spread of the blacklegged tick likely are very complex." The disparity shows that extremely cold winter

temperatures doesn't prevent ticks from overwintering in northern Maine as long as there is significant insulation in the form of leaf litter and snowfall. On a small scale, manipulating the availability of insulation at different sites, though — for example, reducing leaf litter or snow cover through the fall and winter — could help manage tick populations in Maine. However, as climate change is expected to both increase northern winter temperatures and precipitation in the northeastern United States, the future of blacklegged tick populations in the region will have to be even more closely tracked. “The goal of our ongoing work is to conduct more detailed studies of how abiotic conditions impact tick survival in the environment. Right now, my group is attempting to understand the role of temperature variance as opposed to temperature extremes on tick survival,” Gardner says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Maine wild blueberry fields experience warming differently depending on location, season, time, UMaine study finds

22 Jun 2022

The location, season and the time of day influence how fast temperatures are rising at Maine wild blueberry fields due to climate change, according to a new University of Maine study. To identify variations in climate across Maine wild blueberry fields at different times of the day and year, the research team led by Rafa Tasnim, a Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences, analyzed annual and seasonal temperature, precipitation and snow cover data from 1980–2020 for Washington, Hancock, Piscataquis, Waldo, Knox, Lincoln, Kennebec and York counties. Understanding how warming patterns differ based on these factors can provide growers more targeted information about the possible effects of climate change on their fields, which allow for more tailored strategies to mitigate them. Over 41 years, temperatures rose at a faster rate in the fall, winter and summer in all eight counties, but not in the spring, according to researchers. The growing season for these wild blueberries has extended later into the fall, and the average first frost has been pushed back to December. The longer season, however, exposes blueberries to a greater risk of frost damage because they develop and mature before the late and last spring frosts occur, researchers say. Fields in Piscataquis and Washington counties are warming faster and experiencing longer growing seasons than other counties analyzed by researchers, although their average temperatures are not as high, according to study. The more eastern or closer to the coast the fields are, the faster they warm and the more at risk they are to frost damage. The team also found that minimum nighttime temperatures increased over the past 40 years at fields in all counties faster than those for the daytime maximums. The shift can result in wild blueberries producing more carbon dioxide than they absorb — which can alter the carbon cycle — because while warmer daytime and nighttime temperatures increase the rate of respiration, only daytime temperatures affect the frequency of photosynthesis. Researchers found no notable differences in snow cover or precipitation, save a significant increase in the latter in Washington County, from 1980–2020 across the eight counties. “I believe the outcomes from the analyses of this study have opened more room for further research to verify the responses of Maine’s beloved wild blueberries to the dramatic seasonal and spatial climatic changes that they are and will keep experiencing,” Tasnim says. “It would be vital and more beneficial for the growers if we research scientists can plan and recommend management strategies based on both the climate analyses that we have done as well as based on the wild blueberry plants’ specific responses.” Other researchers involved in the study, which was published in the journal *Atmosphere*, include Yongjiang Zhang, an assistant professor of applied plant physiology; Lily Calderwood, University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture; Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and faculty member with the Climate Change Institute and UMaine Extension; and Samuel Roberts, an undergraduate student in the Ecology and Environmental Science program of the University of Maine. It is “the first to access and report diurnal, seasonal, annual and spatial climate patterns for” Maine wild blueberry fields, they say. The study builds on previous research from Tasnim and her faculty colleagues exploring the effects of climate change on wild blueberries. Earlier research revealed that [fields in Down East are warming faster](#) than those for Maine as a whole, and that [proper soil moisture management](#) is more important to helping wild blueberries thrive, especially in the long term, than previously thought. Differences in warming based on location and time mean that some fields will benefit from rising temperatures some years and suffer during others, according to researchers. They recommend further investigations into how wild blueberries respond to experiencing warmer day and night temperatures, summers, falls and springs, as well as climate extremes. “We showed different climate change patterns in different seasons and locations. Also, there is an increase in extreme climate events, so we need to study how wild blueberries will respond, and develop new management techniques to enhance the resilience of this crop and protect it from climatic changes,” says Zhang. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Office of International Programs announces 2022 recipients of President Winthrop C. Libby/Reverend Pavlos T. Taiganides Award

22 Jun 2022

The University of Maine Office of International Programs announced three recipients of the 2022 President Winthrop C. Libby/Reverend Pavlos T. Taiganides Award: Betelhem Abay from Ethiopia, Saman Zare from Iran and Priya Bhatta from Nepal. The award is given annually to new international graduates who contributed the most in international relations on the campus and in the university community through participation in student activities, scholastic achievement and moral leadership. More information about the award and recipients is on the Office of International Programs [website](#).

Sustainable fishing, solar energy topics of new 4-H STEM toolkits

22 Jun 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H has two new STEM toolkits available for use by formal and informal educators in hands-on science-based activities with youth. [The Sky’s the Limit](#) is designed to increase awareness and understanding of solar energy through basic circuitry; energy collection and transfer; engineering design principles; and building design challenges. Suitable for grades 6–8. Support for this toolkit is from the Maine 4-H Foundation and RLC Engineering. The [Sustainable Fishing](#) toolkit is designed for use with grades 3–5 to explore and investigate what species are fished for in Maine waters and methods of finding fish, including showing how eDNA is used to detect species’ presence in the water and the difference between sustainable and unsustainable fishing. This toolkit is supported by National Science Foundation award #OIA-1849227 to Maine EPSCoR at the University of Maine and developed by UMaine Extension as part of the Maine-eDNA research, education and outreach program. For more information contact 207.581.3877 or 4-HScience@maine.edu. More information also is available on the [Extension 4-H STEM Toolkit webpage](#).

UMaine Extension wild blueberry field day at Welch Farm July 7

22 Jun 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry field days continue with a focus on fresh pack line improvements at 10 a.m.–noon July 7 at Welch Farm, 186 Roque Bluffs Road, Roque Bluffs. This [fresh pack line meeting](#) includes a cold storage demonstration and discussion of berry quality related to new equipment installed in 2021 by Welch Farm owners Lisa and Wayne Hanscom. Lily Calderwood, UMaine Extension wild blueberry specialist and

assistant professor of horticulture, leads the meeting. The event is free; registration is requested. Register and find more information on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Mary Michaud, 207.581.3175; mary.j.michaud@maine.edu.

Media boosts UMaine Extension wild blueberry field day at Welch Farm

22 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry field day with a focus on fresh pack line improvements 10 a.m.–noon on July 7 at Welch Farm, 186 Roque Bluffs Road. This fresh pack line meeting includes a cold storage demonstration and discussion of berry quality related to new equipment installed in 2021 by Welch Farm owners Lisa and Wayne Hanscom. Lily Calderwood, UMaine Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, leads the meeting. Register and find more information on the [event webpage](#).

Waste 360 cites UMaine study

22 Jun 2022

In an interview with [Waste 360](#), Troy Moon, sustainability director for the city of Portland, cited a waste composition study conducted with the University of Maine that showed 36% of what Portland residents were throwing out by weight was food scraps and other organics. As a result of the study, Portland established a composting program in 2021. The city will be sharing data collected during the program with the UMaine Mitchell Center, whose researchers will help evaluate the environmental benefits of food waste collection and assess ways to reduce municipal disposal costs through composting.

Media share UMaine Extension STEM toolkits

22 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Daily Bulldog](#) and the [Irregular](#) shared University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H's two new STEM toolkits available for use by formal and informal educators in hands-on science-based activities with youth. [The Sky's the Limit](#) is designed to increase awareness and understanding of solar energy through basic circuitry; energy collection and transfer; engineering design principles; and building design challenges. The [Sustainable Fishing](#) toolkit is designed for use with grades 3–5 to explore and investigate what species are fished for in Maine waters and methods of finding fish, including showing how eDNA is used to detect species' presence in the water and the difference between sustainable and unsustainable fishing. More information also is available on the [Extension 4-H STEM Toolkit webpage](#).

Waste Dive featured UMaine research on circular economy

22 Jun 2022

[Waste Dive](#) featured research from the University of Maine about the circular economy may be overlooking environmental justice. The researchers conducted a [study](#) where they documented language used in about two dozen circular economy reports from 2018 through 2020 to get a better understanding of how the plans discussed concepts of justice. They also conducted focus groups with stakeholders whose work involves the circular design of products, packaging or infrastructure. The researchers found that many of the reports argue the circular economy can address social or environmental justice issues through job creation or other economic solutions, but many do not acknowledge longstanding racial, economic and social inequalities in U.S. society that may enable or perpetuate those issues. Study authors Cindy Isenhour, associate professor of anthropology and climate change, and Michael Haedicke, associate professor of sociology, conducted a Q&A with Waste Dive about their research.

Winski interviewed by Globe and Mail about ice core sampling on Mount Logan

22 Jun 2022

[The Globe and Mail](#) reported on a research expedition to the summit of Mount Logan, Canada's tallest mountain, last month to collect ice core samples from the massive glacier that resides just below the summit's multiple peaks. Dominic Winski, research assistant professor at the University of Maine Climate Change Institute and an expedition member, said that he plans to study the ice core data for clues to the changing nature and extent of wildfires over the past several thousand years by detecting fine particles of soot that are trapped in the ice to identify past fires. "There's a whole fleet of chemicals that are released when you burn plant material. So we can not only tell how much fire was burning within the catchment of that ice core, but we can use the different chemistry of those compounds to tell what type of vegetation was burning," Winski said.

Dagher interviewed by Public News Service about offshore wind prototype

22 Jun 2022

[Public News Service](#) interviewed Habib Dagher, executive director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center at the University of Maine, about UMaine's offshore wind turbine array prototype, which successfully fed into the New England electric grid as part of a project called Aqua Ventus. "The advantages of floating is that you can put them beyond the horizon. So people don't see them from land, you can also have a lot more places you can put them that would minimize impact on the environment, minimize impact on wildlife, and also minimize impacts on other users, such as fishing and so forth," Dagher said. The [Del Norte Triplicate](#) shared the Public News Service report.

Media highlights UMaine study showing winter cold may not kill ticks

22 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland) reported on University of Maine research that shows with the right conditions, black-legged tick nymphs could survive cold winter temperatures. "The findings of this study suggest that the impact of low temperatures on overwinter survival may not be the

single factor limiting black-legged tick populations in northern Maine. While climate change likely has some role in the geographic range expansion of ticks in the state, the ecological mechanisms limiting the spread of the black-legged tick likely are very complex," said Allison Gardner, UMaine assistant professor of arthropod vector biology and author of the study.

Mayewski quoted in NYT Opinion piece about climate cooperation on Mount Everest

22 Jun 2022

In an opinion essay about international conflicts in data collection on Mount Everest, the [New York Times](#) quoted Paul Mayewski, director of the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, as saying Chinese researchers are "much tougher" than their Western counterparts. Shichang Kang of China's State Key Laboratory of Cryospheric Sciences and a former student of Mayewski, began working in the Everest region in 1997 and has made 11 scientific expeditions above 21,300 feet and is likely the most experienced of Everest climate scientists.

Freeman speaks to Bangor Daily News about racist Juneteenth sign in Millinocket

22 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) spoke to Mary Freeman, assistant professor of New England history at the University of Maine, about a racist sign at the Harry E. Reed Insurance Agency in Millinocket on Juneteenth. Freeman said the relation of eating collard greens and fried chicken on Juneteenth draws on stereotypes that have been present in American culture since the 19th century and probably before. "The fact that this person could create a sign that does not use an obvious racial slur, but still gets its message across by drawing on these kinds of associations and images that have had a racist association in American culture again shows how Maine is not so far removed from this history," Freeman said. [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland), the [Miami Herald](#), [Sacramento Bee](#), [Kansas City Star](#) and other national outlets highlighted the Bangor Daily News' conversation with Freeman.

Mayewski interviewed by CNN about moving Everest base camp

22 Jun 2022

In an article about Nepal potentially moving the Mount Everest base camp as a result of climate change, [CNN](#) spoke to Paul Mayewski, director of the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, about a study he authored that revealed that ice formed over a period of 2,000 years on the South Col Glacier melted in about 25 years. Mayewski told CNN that the findings showed "a complete change from what has been experienced in that area, throughout probably all of the period of occupation by humans in the mountains." [Nine News Australia](#), [MSN Canada](#), [KVIA-TV](#) (ABC 7 in El Paso, Texas), [KMIZ-TV](#) (ABC 17 in Columbia, Missouri) and other international outlets shared the CNN report.

Allan speaks to News Center Maine about psychological impacts of hazing

22 Jun 2022

In an article about fraternity hazing at the University of New Hampshire, [News Center Maine](#) spoke to Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine, about the psychological damage of hazing. "I think this is something that we really need to work on, is helping everyone understand that there is a broad spectrum of hazing and it can be harmful to everyone involved," Allan said.

Robidoux interviewed by WNYC Studios about seaweed in cattle feed

22 Jun 2022

Jaclyn Robidoux, Maine Sea Grant marine extension associate at the University of Maine, was featured on [WNYC Studios' program The Takeaway](#) discussing the benefits of adding seaweed to cattle feed. A particular red algae strain of seaweed called asparagopsis has also been added to cattle feed with surprising results, and may be able to reduce over 80% of methane gasses into the atmosphere.

Vinh-Nhan Ngo: Physics research and pilot certified

22 Jun 2022

Getting pilot certification and flying a plane may not be the first things that come to mind when you think of college experiences. But for Vinh-Nhan Ngo, of Bangor, Maine, these have always been his goals. As a first-year student, Nhan became a member of the UMaine Flying Club and as a sophomore, obtained his pilot certification and was elected president of the student organization. Nhan says that being able to achieve his dream of flying has given him the opportunity to see a new perspective of the world and also share that experience with his friends and family. Nhan is hoping to become a certified flight instructor. "I've always enjoyed teaching people the basics of flying when I take them up and I think it would be fun to take on real students," he says. Nhan hopes to get his instrument rating next year, which will allow him to fly in more adverse weather and become a safer pilot. Nhan will be graduating from UMaine a year early with a major in physics and three minors, political science, astronomy and math. Through his academic success he has been awarded the UMaine Presidential Award, has been recognized as a James S. Stevens Outstanding Junior and is a Sigma Pi Sigma inductee, the honor society for physics. After he graduates, Nhan would like to attend graduate school. In addition to the Flying Club, Nhan is also involved on campus as the treasurer of the Society of Physics Students and is a member of Mainely Voices. Nhan is currently working with Sam Hess' lab group in biophysics and super resolution microscopy research. Their team is working on flu and COVID-19 to investigate how they behave and infect cells. Nhan says that Hess has made his UMaine experience better and describes him as a professor that is "always very accommodating and teaches in a very intuitive way." Nhan describes the main project that Hess' group has been working on as "investigating clusters of influenza viral protein hemagglutinin (HA). It is known to colocalize with a lipid called PIP2, so we can see both, and we can investigate the clustering mechanism. By finding drugs that disrupt the clustering, the viral replication can be slowed, and these methods have impacts on other viruses such as COVID." With his concentration on the physics side of this project he says he will mainly be "trying to find models of identification in fluorescence photoactivation location microscopy images, such as programs to identify size and position of clusters." A program that has helped Nhan to succeed at UMaine has been the Maine Learning Assistants Program, which he says "has been helpful for my bottom line when I work as an MLA, and also having peers your age who are excited to teach is a great way to learn." Contact: Hope Carroll, hope.carroll@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hires agricultural engineer Sumon Datta

23 Jun 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension has named Sumon Datta an assistant Extension professor and Extension agricultural engineer. Datta will be working statewide with Maine's agricultural community. Datta recently completed his Ph.D. and postdoctoral training in biosystems and agricultural engineering at Oklahoma State University. His research interests include the use of smart technologies, particularly with agricultural water management, and the design and effective use of harvest and post-harvest technologies. Through his exposure to the work of Cooperative Extension during graduate studies, Datta was impressed by the ability to tailor resources to the needs of an individual farmer or agricultural community. He is looking forward to working with Maine growers to optimize their efforts with diverse commodities in a changing climate. When he is not working as an engineer, Datta enjoys spending time fishing and hiking Maine's mountains. More information is available on the [UMaine Extension agricultural resources website](#) or by contacting 207.581.3188; extension@maine.edu.

Second webinar on ASCC bridge girder to be held June 27

23 Jun 2022

The second and final webinar in the Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center (TIDC) Fiber-Reinforced Polymer Composite Bridge Girder Webinar series will be held June 27 from noon–1 p.m. To register for the webinar highlighting the future installments and next generation of the GBeam, visit the TIDC [website](#). GBeam technology is corrosion-resistant and designed to last over 100 years with little to no maintenance. The composite tub girders are lightweight, weighing as little as one-quarter the weight of steel girders. From the environmentally conscious materials and low maintenance during a longer life cycle expectancy to the faster and less disruptive installations, this technology is a promising, sustainable, low-cost alternative to steel and concrete. "This technology packs small, packs light, and can be deployed very quickly and easily," said Habib Dagher, executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC). "The girders are designed to be stackable, which reduces transportation costs and lowers their carbon footprint." TIDC researchers have collaborated with AIT Bridges to create the next generation of G-Beam. The first installation of the double t G-Beam is planned for fall 2022 in Hampden, Maine. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ERDC and the U.S. Department of Transportation provided funding for the research through the TIDC. The TIDC is a consortium of six New England universities, led by UMaine, and is the 2018 Department of Transportation Region 1 University Transportation Center located in the ASCC. TIDC is dedicated to developing innovative and sustainable solutions to the transportation infrastructure problems in New England and nationwide.

WFXV features grassland bird walk

23 Jun 2022

[WFXV](#) (Fox22/Channel 7 in Bangor) reported on a [Grassland Bird Walk](#) at the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station's Witter Farm Park Street Fields on June 17. The event also was promoted by the Portland Press Herald. The free field workshop was led by Amber Roth, assistant professor of forest wildlife management at the University of Maine; Livia Raulinaitis, Maine pollinator and beneficial insect conservation planner at the Xerces Society; and Laura Suomi-Lecker, technical director of the Ag Allies' Grassland Bird Program. During the walk, participants toured the field and learned about how to manage grasslands to improve forage production along with bird and pollinator habitat. "What we can learn here is why it's important to, again, partner on conservation but also working lands," said Linden Schneider, assistant director of the experiment station. "So not to do away with the hay harvest at all, but postpone it and Ag Allies is a unique partnership in that way because they do offer some compensation for any monetary loss in postponing the hay harvests."

Beal interviewed by Boston Globe about New England's soft-shell clam industry

23 Jun 2022

Brian Beal, cooperating research professor of marine ecology and research director of the Downeast Institute, spoke to the Boston Globe about the soft-shell clam industry in New England. The [Boston Globe](#) reported that clams have been disappearing in recent years, and Maine's \$18.2 million soft-shell clam industry is tanking. "We're at a point where there's so few clams that no one that's alive right now has seen this few clams on flats," Beal said. Beal pointed out that the only massive clam declines have been associated with mild winters, which allow for invasive green crabs to flourish.

Media advances UMaine study about wild blueberry field warming

23 Jun 2022

[News Center Maine](#), [Scienmag](#), [Phys.org](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [The Piscataquis Observer](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Environmental News Network](#) and other national outlets reported on University of Maine research showing that the location, season and the time of day influence how fast temperatures are rising at Maine wild blueberry fields due to climate change. Differences in warming based on location and time mean that some fields will benefit from rising temperatures some years and suffer during others. "I believe the outcomes from the analyses of this study have opened more room for further research to verify the responses of Maine's beloved wild blueberries to the dramatic seasonal and spatial climatic changes that they are and will keep experiencing. It would be vital and more beneficial for the growers if we research scientists can plan and recommend management strategies based on both the climate analyses that we have done as well as based on the wild blueberry plants' specific responses," said Rafa Tasnim, a Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences and lead author of the study.

ASCC, School of Forest Resources researchers attend international CNM conference in Finland

23 Jun 2022

Advanced Structures and Composites and School of Forest Resources professors and researchers Douglas Gardner and Yousoo Han, and doctoral students Elliot Sander and Sungjun Hwang, presented at the 2022 TAPPI International Conference on Nanotechnology for Renewable Materials in Helsinki, Finland. Their presentation: "Methods to produce dry nanoscale cellulose nanocrystal powders: challenges and opportunities." The conference, co-chaired by Dr.

Mehdi Tajvidi, associate professor of renewable nanomaterials in the School of Forest Resources, focused on materials for sustainability and sustainable process of producing cellulose nanomaterials (CNM). Materials for sustainability encompasses the utilization of renewable materials and nanotechnology to address the 17 sustainable development goals set by the United Nations in a collective effort to foster a secure and sustainable economic growth. A sustainable process of producing CNMs focuses on processes with low energy input and environmentally benign and highly recyclable chemicals for economic production of CNMs. Much of this work was done as a part of the Hub and Spoke program, a UMaine/ASCC/Oak Ridge National Lab partnership.

The Business Times interviews Mayewski for article about Mount Everest

24 Jun 2022

Paul Mayewski, director of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, spoke with [The Business Times](#) for an article titled “On a divided Mt Everest, climate cooperation is being tested.”

BDN and WMTW report on UMaine alumni creating skin cream for browntail moth rash

24 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WMTW](#) reported that Marin Skincare, founded by University of Maine alumni Patrick Breeding and Amber Boutiette, released a new skin cream to treat rashes caused by browntail moth caterpillar hairs.

Recharge News references UMaine-affiliated floating offshore wind project

24 Jun 2022

In an article about the role floating wind turbine technology can play in growing the U.S. offshore wind sector, [Recharge News](#) referenced the floating offshore wind technology demonstration project being developed by the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center and New England Aqua Ventus, a joint venture of Diamond Offshore Wind, a subsidiary of the Mitsubishi Corporation, and RWE Renewables.

Soucier speaks with BDN about growing number of overdoses in Bangor

24 Jun 2022

Daniel Soucier, a research associate at the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the growing number of overdoses happening in Bangor in recent years. Soucier, who collects data about Maine’s opioid crisis, said trends involving the international drug supply and social isolation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic played a role in the uptick. “Folks who were in recovery or in stable drug use patterns began using chaotically,” Soucier said. “Also, the drug supply was interrupted and folks sometimes bought from dealers they did not know, making the supply unknown and less safe.” The article also used data about overdoses in Penobscot County from the Maine Drug Data Hub, a tool created through a partnership between the Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, the Office of the Attorney General, the University of Maine and several state agencies.

Press Herald interviews Maddaus about Supreme Court ruling on Maine’s ban on public funds for religious schools

24 Jun 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) interviewed John Maddaus, an associate professor emeritus of education at the University of Maine, for an article titled “U.S. Supreme Court strikes down Maine ban on public funds for religious school tuition.” “It’s not really about Maine,” said Maddaus, who researched the tuition program in the 1990s. “Yes, it’s a Maine program. But it’s really about this larger national game.” The [Republican Journal](#) shared the Press Herald article.

Brewer speaks to BDN about decline in unenrolled voters

24 Jun 2022

Mark Brewer, a University of Maine professor of political science, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the decline in Maine voters who are not enrolled with a major political party. A growing number of people registering with political parties reflects national polarization, Brewer says. “Twenty years ago, Maine politics was very different than American politics as a whole,” he said. “I think that’s become less true over time, particularly over the last decade.”

Tasting Table cites Camire in article about how salt affects pineapple taste

24 Jun 2022

[Tasting Table](#) cited Mary Ellen Camire, a University of Maine professor of food science and human nutrition, in an article titled “The Unexpected Way Salt Affects The Taste Of Pineapple.” According to Camire, salt can intensify its sweetness.

Fifth cohort of MIRTa accelerator teams wraps up work

27 Jun 2022

Four faculty-led teams pursuing commercialization of research projects are ready for the next steps in that journey having completed the University of Maine’s 2022 MIRTa accelerator program. The teams presented their projects at a Demo Day event earlier this month, marking the conclusion of this year’s program. The 2022 MIRTa teams, the fifth cohort to complete the program, are exploring innovations in accessibility education, aquaculture, computer-aided breast cancer detection, and marine sciences. (Please see below for detailed team descriptions and links to their Demo Day pitches.) “The latest MIRTa projects showcase how research innovations from Maine’s public universities can meaningfully impact a range of crucial business sectors in Maine, from aquaculture and marine research to biomedicine, education, and forest products,” says University of Maine director of business incubation Veena Dinesh. “I

am always impressed by the entrepreneurial mindset our researchers bring to this program and by their commitment to investigating and realizing the commercial potential of their work.” MIRTHA was designed to assist University of Maine System researchers to advance lab discoveries into public and commercial use, and the program has expanded to support innovations from other Maine research institutions. The accelerator is administered by the Office of Innovation and Economic Development (OIED) out of the Foster Center for Innovation, with support from Maine Technology Institute and the University of Maine System Research Reinvestment Fund. Over the course of the program, guided by program staff and external advisers, teams engage in customer discovery, market analysis, prototyping, partnership development and technology evaluation to map strategies for bringing their research to market. In addition, each team has an advisory committee of industry and technology experts who provide feedback and advice. The teams are eligible for up to \$25,000 each to help develop commercialization implementation plans. Commercialization plans vary depending on the type of invention a team brings to MIRTHA, and the end result could be starting a new company or licensing to an existing one. MIRTHA is among several commercialization programs offered by the Office of Innovation and Economic Development. Researchers are encouraged to participate in the [Commercialization Training Series](#), a webinar series providing topical overviews on subjects ranging from idea validation to intellectual property. UMaine’s [I-Corps site program](#) is the next step, helping research teams explore commercialization potential with grant funding available through the National Science Foundation. The MIRTHA accelerator helps I-Corps participants build on their knowledge and move their ideas even closer to realization. From the 21 teams in the five MIRTHA cohorts to date, seven new startups have been formed, eight patents have been filed or issued, and the teams have collectively raised more than \$2.5 million in external funding and prototype sales to support ongoing commercialization. Companies that have been formed after participation in MIRTHA include [Neuright](#), winner of the \$25,000 David Shaw prize at the statewide Top Gun accelerator program in 2019, and [UNAR Labs](#), selected to join the first cohort of the Roux Institute Startup Residency Program in 2021. The next MIRTHA cohort is scheduled to begin in early 2023. For more information about the program, contact Veena Dinesh at veena.dinesh@maine.edu.

The MIRTHA 5.0 Cohort

Future Fish Tags

[Watch the Future Fish Tags pitch](#) Future Fish Tags is pursuing commercialization of an improved tag dart for aquatic research. This biocompatible implant made from printed titanium foam metal improves tissue integration and animal welfare, and maximizes the retention of conventional and electronic tags used on aquatic animals. Team: Walt Golet, assistant professor of marine sciences, University of Maine and Gulf of Maine Research Institute; Sammi Nadeau, Pelagic Fisheries Lab technician; with external partner Brian McLaughlin, founder and CEO, Amplify Additive

Oyster Pod

[Watch the Oyster Pod pitch](#) The Oyster Pod is a 3D-printed aquaculture tank insert made from forest product feedstocks and bioplastic that is designed to maximize oyster growth and improve efficiencies for Maine’s small shellfish farmers. Team: Doug Gardner, professor of sustainable materials and technology; Matthew Nixon, Ph.D. candidate, aquaculture and aquatic resources, and owner of Muddy River Farm Aquaponics

WAVED Medical

[Watch the WAVED Medical pitch](#) WAVED is a patented risk-assessment technology that uses a patient’s mammographic history and clinical data to identify the physical markers believed to be linked to malignant tumor onset and growth, leading to early detection of breast cancer. Team: Andre Khalil, professor of biomedical engineering, University of Maine; Kendra Batchelder, interdisciplinary Ph.D. candidate in computational biomedicine

Wheelchair Odyssey

[Watch the Wheelchair Odyssey pitch](#) Wheelchair Odyssey is pursuing development and commercialization of immersive software to simulate wheelchair navigation in inaccessible, real-world settings. Designed for students in higher education so they can experience the everyday obstacles that wheelchair users face and learn about related Americans with Disabilities Act access requirements, the software aims to deepen understanding of wheelchair use to increase accessibility and inclusion. Team: Karen Barrett, professor and program coordinator of rehabilitation services, University of Maine at Farmington; J. Chad Duncan, chair/program director, orthotics and prosthetics, Salus University; with external partner Avery Olmstead, accessibility subject matter expert Contact: Ashley Forbes; 207.581.1429; ashley.forbes@maine.edu

UMaine Dining reaches goal of 25% local purchases three years ahead of schedule

27 Jun 2022

UMaine Dining has met its goal of purchasing 25% of its food and beverage from local sources nearly three years ahead of schedule. From July 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022, UMaine Dining purchased 25.96% of its food and beverage from local vendors. The movement to support local food producers at UMaine started in 2007 under the direction of Glenn Taylor, associate executive director of housing and dining, with carrots purchased from Lakeside Farms in Newport. Since then, the number of local producers partnering to provide Maine-sourced foods has grown to 72. The University of Maine System defines locally sourced as any food or beverage produced or harvested by a producer or processor, including in Maine, within 175 miles of the University of Maine System’s primary universities. This definition applies to the following food product categories: produce (fruits and vegetables), dairy, eggs, poultry, meat, fish/seafood, baked goods/grains and grocery. “We’re proud of the strength of our local program,” says Kerry Chasteen, interim director of UMaine Dining. “Buying from local producers supports our local communities and is an important part of our sustainability mission.” Local foods and beverages are used in the campus dining halls, where an average of 3,170 residential students and 313 commuter students are served during the academic year, and in its on-campus retail locations and catering operations. In 2021–22, more than 399,000 transactions took place to purchase a meal, snack or a beverage from a UMaine Dining retail venue. From menu ingredients to condiments, beverages to groceries, local foods are worked into every facet of UMaine Dining’s everyday operations. This includes use in meals and events managed by UMaine Catering. Local foods are highlighted frequently in special menus at events, including New Student Orientation on June 21–24. Incoming students and their parents were served a local menu that included sweet Italian sausage from W.A. Bean (Bangor, Maine), mustard from Raye’s Mustard (Eastport, Maine), Fox Family Chips (Mapleton, Maine) and Go Blue whoopie pies made by UMaine Dining. UMaine Dining also assisted in sourcing and serving Gifford’s ice cream served during the Black Bear Send Off each day of orientation. Beyond being a delicious addition to menus and variety for retail, supporting local producers serves another important purpose, Chasteen notes: it ensures that the local

production economy stays strong. “By supporting our local producers, we’re ensuring that they are able to continue their important role in our economy,” she says. “We’ve heard feedback from our vendors that our business is a major part of their annual bottom line. By supporting them, we’re ensuring that our local partners succeed and our guests benefit from delicious food and beverages on the menu and on the shelves. That’s a win-win for everyone.” Contact: Debra Bell, debra.bell@maine.edu

PPH highlights Clark on receiving the national Wilma Rudolph Student-Athlete Achievement Award

27 Jun 2022

Riley Clark, a rising senior at the University of Maine, was featured in the [Portland Press Herald](#) for being awarded the Wilma Rudolph Student-Athlete Achievement Award. Clark was diagnosed with cancer in 2020. Clark competed at the America East Conference swimming and diving championships, where he finished fifth, just three months after beating cancer in January 2021. The Sun Journal and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the PPH report.

Fried quoted in AP about Collins’ role in Roe v. Wade decision

27 Jun 2022

An [Associated Press](#) story about criticism that Sen. Susan Collins received in the aftermath of the Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade quoted Amy Fried, professor of political science at the University of Maine. The [Washington Post](#) and other national outlets shared the AP story.

Dill speaks to BDN about the growing number of black fly species in Maine

27 Jun 2022

Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) on how the increase in black fly species is leading to longer black fly seasons. Black flies need clean, fresh water to reproduce and this rise in reproduction can be linked to Maine’s Clean Water Act. Dill also warns of the increase in mosquito species which will lead to a summerlong mosquito season. Dill says that, “covering up and using natural or chemical bug repellent are the best way to deal with Maine’s biting insects.” The [Associated Press](#) cited the Bangor Daily News report, and [Spectrum News](#), the [Portland Press Herald](#), [U.S. News and World Report](#), [CBS Boston](#) and other national outlets shared the AP report.

Savoie speaks to CentralMaine.com about using mint in the kitchen

27 Jun 2022

Kathy Savoie, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator, spoke to [CentralMaine.com](#) on the many options for using mint in the kitchen. Savoie says that “if you have mint, you have a lot of mint, you never have a little mint.” The article shares three summer recipes that incorporate the herb.

Former faculty and Associated Faculties president Work dies at 88

28 Jun 2022

Gerald Work, former professor and president of the Associated Faculties of the University of Maine, died on June 4 at the age of 88 at his home in Pennsylvania. After serving in the U.S. Navy, Work received his B.A. from Albright College, followed by an M.S. and a Ph.D. in counseling and higher education from Ohio University. Upon graduation, he became a professor of education at UMaine. He was instrumental in forming the Associated Faculties of the University of Maine and served as its president. He also helped found and administer the Martin Luther King Jr. scholarship fund. The University of Maine Foundation has established the [Gerald G. Work Scholarship Fund](#) in his honor. Read the full Bangor Daily News obituary [here](#).

Morning Ag Clips, PPH share Datta hiring to UMaine Extension

28 Jun 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) and [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension has named Sumon Datta an assistant Extension professor and Extension agricultural engineer. Datta recently completed his Ph.D. and postdoctoral training in biosystems and agricultural engineering at Oklahoma State University. His research interests include the use of smart technologies, particularly with agricultural water management, and the design and effective use of harvest and post-harvest technologies. Datta will be working statewide with Maine’s agricultural community. [Yahoo News](#) shared the Portland Press Herald report.

BDN, Piscataquis Observer share Lobster Institute event at Thompson Free Library

28 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Piscataquis Observer](#) noted that the University of Maine Lobster Institute will hold an event teaching children about lobster life cycles and migration patterns on Wednesday, July 20 at 10:30 a.m. at the Thompson Free Library in Dover-Foxcroft.

BDN notes upcoming UMaine collaboration on planning studies for Penobscot and Piscataquis counties

28 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Eastern Maine Development Corp. will work with Piscataquis and Penobscot counties and the University of Maine’s Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center on two planning studies about transportation options that will better connect the counties using more than \$445,000 in federal funding.

Ouellette featured on Maine Public discussing youth mental health

28 Jun 2022

Kristy Ouellette, University of Maine Extension professor, 4-H Youth Development, Androscoggin & Sagadahoc counties, was featured on the [Maine Public](#) show Maine Calling speaking about the youth mental health crisis in Maine. The program spoke to experts about the causes of this nationwide crisis to discuss what’s happening in Maine and how to help.

BDN interviews Dill about what to do after a tick bite

28 Jun 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) spoke to Jim Dill, former head of the University of Maine’s tick lab at pest management specialist at the Maine Food and Agriculture Center, about what to do after a tick bite. Dill said prevention is always the best option, but in the event of a tick bite, he advised against using petroleum jelly, finger nail polish, ethyl alcohol, a hot match or anything else, which increase the likelihood that a tick will vomit and leave infection behind.

UMaine, Wyman’s to launch Wyman’s Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center on June 30

29 Jun 2022

Wyman’s Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center will celebrate its launch in Old Town off University Farm Road on Thursday, June 30, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. The launch event celebrates a new, 3-acre wild blueberry research and education site at the J. Franklin Witter Teaching & Research Center near the University of Maine campus. It will be established through a gift from Wyman’s to the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station through the University of Maine Foundation. The center’s wild blueberry research plots will be unlike any other in Maine — or the world — with raised beds precisely controlled for genotype and climate conditions. This approach to wild blueberry research is uniquely suited to intensive study and transformational scientific breakthroughs, while providing unprecedented experiential learning opportunities for students. The work will also complement field-scale research UMaine’s scientists conduct at Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro, and on commercial wild blueberry operations ranging from one-half to more than ten thousand acres across the growing region. Among those expected to speak at the event: Wyman’s President/CEO Tony Shurman; Wyman’s agronomist Bruce Hall; Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of the University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias; and Diane Rowland, dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture and director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station at the University of Maine. Following the welcome, the interdisciplinary research team that will lead research at the site starting in 2024 will demonstrate how they will advance the fundamental knowledge of wild blueberry production, from heat stress and erratic rainfall to pollinator diversity. Presentation topics include a climate change simulation chamber, biochar mulch, bumblebee colony, weather station and wild blueberry plants that will be rooted at the center in October 2022. Wyman’s will have its Bee Wild Mobile onsite to give celebrants a taste of Maine’s state fruit.

Dill speaks to BDN about slugs in home gardens

29 Jun 2022

Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was interviewed by the [Bangor Daily News](#) about this year’s prevalence of slugs in home gardens. “I’ve heard there seem to be more slugs and snails this year than ever before. It’s been a wet year with lots of soggy vegetation for them to hide in during the day,” Dill said. He added that gardeners can “call in reinforcements” to control slugs. “Toads are slugs’ most important natural enemies and many people claim that having several ducks keeps a garden slug-free,” Dill told the BDN.

Kiowa County Press shares UMaine Extension spinach potato pancake recipe

29 Jun 2022

The [Kiowa County Press](#) (Eads, CO) shared a [recipe for spinach potato pancakes](#) from University of Maine Cooperative Extension. This versatile veggie dish makes a tasty snack or appetizer, especially served with applesauce on the side.

Tasting Table cites UMaine Extension information about beans

29 Jun 2022

In an article about the common mistakes cooks make when preparing beans, Tasting Table cited [information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension](#) stating that once canned beans are cooked, they can only be kept safely in the fridge for three to four days because preservatives are necessary to make this a shelf-stable product.

Mount Desert Islander features UMaine graduates who developed cream for browntail moth rash

29 Jun 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) reported on two University of Maine graduates who have built a skincare brand around the regenerative benefits of lobsters, and their product offers a solution to a problem faced by many Mainers. Amber Boutiette and Patrick Breeding, former bioengineering graduate students, launched their company Marin Skincare early in 2020 using the proteins and enzymes in lobsters that allow them to regenerate limbs. A more recent discovery — that the cream could also be used to treat the irritation caused by browntail moth caterpillars — has propelled the company into a wider market.

Food Management highlights UMaine Dining meeting local purchases goal

29 Jun 2022

Industry publication [Food Management](#) boosted the fact that University of Maine Dining has met its goal of purchasing 25% of its food and beverage from local sources nearly three years ahead of schedule. The movement to support local food producers at UMaine started in 2007 under the direction of Glenn Taylor, associate executive director of housing and dining, with carrots purchased from Lakeside Farms in Newport. Since then, the number of local producers partnering to provide Maine-sourced foods has grown to 72.

Scientific American features UMaine using 3D printing to reproduce Indigenous artifacts

29 Jun 2022

[The Scientific American](#) reported that the University of Maine's Hudson Museum is working with students and researchers to replicate a Tlingit clan crest hat before repatriation from the museum's collection.

Maiwand Kakar: IEI in Turkey

29 Jun 2022

Maiwand Kakar enrolled in the Intensive English Institute at the University of Maine for the 2021–22 academic year as an online student based in Turkey. He was recommended for participation by his mentor and virtual language tutor Peter Collins from Blue Hill, Maine. Peter, who had completed the TESOL Certificate at UMaine IEI in 2016, recommended Kakar as a bright and motivated student who needed to improve his English to qualify for graduate school admission. Kakar is a very dedicated student who didn't allow distance and technology to impede his learning. He attended regularly, participated in class virtually and greatly improved his English proficiency. In April 2022, he successfully passed the Duolingo English test and was offered admission in the master's program in construction engineering and management at Concordia University in Canada. "Maiwand's story is one of the crises many of us are watching unfold in Ukraine, but also of dedication and rising above that crisis in ways that are amazing, thoughtful and thought provoking," said Cheryl Robertson, one of Kakar's IEI teachers. "It is a pleasure to know Maiwand, and I'm reminded that his genuine gratitude, even in the face of being a refugee for most of his young life, shows that human resilience can overcome even the most difficult of times." Read Kakar's full story on the Intensive English Institute [website](#).

Polymakers can do more to help manage obesity in Maine, UMaine researchers say

29 Jun 2022

In light of the pandemic, addressing conditions like obesity that can lead to higher rates of hospitalizations and death is more important than ever. According to researchers from the University of Maine School of Nursing, the key to managing the obesity epidemic in Maine lies in better state and federal policies and incentives, as well as more accessible health information to empower individuals to act. The worldwide prevalence of children who are affected by excess weight or obesity nearly quadrupled between 1975 and 2016. Maine is facing a health crisis from the high prevalence of obesity, which is further complicated by social, economic and cultural factors, like the state's aging population, high poverty rate and low health literacy. Obesity is known as a comorbid condition, or one that creates a chronic inflammatory response that makes a person more likely to suffer from poor health outcomes when exposed to other inflammatory conditions like viruses. Individuals who are obese are more likely to die when they contract a novel virus, like the SARS-CoV-2 virus or H1N1, or swine flu, which experienced a global outbreak in 2009. The COVID-19 pandemic made the risks of obesity even more relevant, as hospitalizations tripled for obese COVID-19 patients. Genetics and social factors like geographic location, access to social services and socioeconomic status can predispose an individual to obesity, but measures can also be taken to manage the comorbid condition. In a newly [published](#) perspective for the American Society of Microbiology journal, Kathryn Robinson, assistant professor of nursing, and Deborah Saber, associate professor of nursing, argue that new initiatives and revised policies are needed to address the crisis in Maine. "This is important because we need to optimize the health of our population to prepare for future infectious outbreaks," says Saber. First, they suggest more state health incentives. State-led services covered COVID-19 tests and vaccinations, for example, but little has been done with the focus on addressing the obesity epidemic. Virtual opportunities are also needed to provide education to rural areas, as well as financial grants for those living in poverty and struggling with food security. Second, Robinson and Saber recommend that employers in Maine incentivize healthy living. Some employers already have programs that promote mental health and nonsmoking with financial rewards and cost savings. Additional programs could focus on healthy eating and weight management. They also recommend replacing high sugar and fat options in vending machines with healthy snacks, catering cafeteria foods towards healthy eating and offering educational campaigns to promote healthy weights through workplaces. Third, the state should take better advantage of federal incentives and initiatives to grow and distribute healthy foods. During the pandemic, the U.S. Department of Agriculture covered certification and education expenses to farms producing certified organic or transitioning to organic farms. Also, a licensing law agreement with the federal program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program provides nutritious meals and snacks to children and adults in their care through federal funding but only about 45% of licensed childcare programs in Maine utilized the program in 2021. Maine health care agencies promote a healthier lifestyle through "Healthy People 2020," a federal government prevention agenda for "building a healthier nation" by increasing public awareness and education surrounding physical activity and tracking the proportion individuals with obesity, but prioritizing factors like the geographic location, available social services and socioeconomic status of individuals in vulnerable communities will help better tailor such programs to the needs of Maine. "The pandemic demonstrated that Maine has the capacity to quickly adapt in times of crisis, and has the infrastructure to support promotion of wellness. We'd like to see more organizations at the local, state, and federal level provide wellness initiatives and incentives to the Maine people," says Robinson. Finally, individuals need to feel empowered to take responsibility for their health and wellness. While governing bodies can do more to increase health literacy among Mainers, individuals should feel empowered to make well-informed health decisions. Digital health literacy could help, increasing access to electronic sources such as websites and gaining access to personal health information will provide quicker involvement. Consumers have easily accessible and free healthy opportunities, they may be motivated to participate. Novel infections like COVID-19 will continue to emerge in the future. Addressing the obesity crisis in a multi-dimensional way needs to be at the forefront of Maine's health care. "We hope to see a proactive approach to building and maintaining health rather than a reactive approach to regaining health," says Saber. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Wyman's gift to establish first-of-its-kind wild blueberry research field at UMaine

30 Jun 2022

Wild blueberries, an icon of Down East landscapes, will soon take root at the University of Maine's new Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center. The three-acre research and education site will be established off University Farm Road in Old Town over the coming year through a gift from

Wyman's, a 148-year-old family-owned business based in Milbridge, to the University of Maine Foundation. Wyman's, which harvests and processes fruit throughout Down East and Midcoast Maine, is the number one brand of frozen fruit in the nation and distributes wild blueberries globally. The center's new wild blueberry research field site will be unlike any other in Maine — or the world — with plots controlled for genotype, akin to research traditionally conducted in orchards or row crops. “At Wyman's, we view the genetic diversity of wild blueberries as a core strength, while recognizing the significant challenge it presents to production and research when compared to other crops. It's paramount for us to understand the entire crop across a whole system or area because we don't use a single variety,” says Bruce Hall, an agronomist at Wyman's. “The Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center will provide opportunities to develop innovative production techniques and the next generation of wild blueberry industry leaders through increased exposure and learning opportunities. By doing both, we saw an opportunity to grow our ongoing commitment to serving our local communities,” Hall says. The center's proximity to campus will improve year-round access for intensive long-term studies, and scientists who study issues related to, but not primarily focused on, Maine's state fruit. It will also provide UMaine students with hands-on research and learning opportunities to ensure future generations of leaders in this field. “The center will provide valuable opportunities to dive deep into intensive research, and involve undergraduate and graduate students in new studies. I'm especially excited by the research our team will be doing on the effects of climate change on wild blueberries, which will lead to information that the industry can use to adapt,” says Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at UMaine. Schattman led the project's development in collaboration with Hall and UMaine faculty YongJiang Zhang, assistant professor of plant physiology; Phil Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology; Seanna Annis, associate professor of mycology; Sean Birkel, research assistant professor in the Climate Change Institute, UMaine Cooperative Extension climate services specialist and Maine State climatologist; Lily Calderwood, assistant professor of horticulture and UMaine Extension wild blueberry specialist; and Diane Rowland, dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, and director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. Wild blueberries have crept across Maine's barrens for more than 10,000 years, following melting glaciers into gravelly, acidic soils that most plants find inhospitable. The Wabanaki people call them sahtayimi'nosi, and continue to manage and harvest berries today. The plants' native roots create a bounty of genetic diversity, with thousands of distinct genotypes in a given field. This biodiversity provides a base-level of crop resilience, but makes the crop's response to farm practices and experiments unpredictable. Wyman's will donate genetically distinct parent plants from its farm in Deblois that will be rooted in 6-by-6- and 12-by-12-foot raised beds at the new center in Old Town. The research team will fit each bed with clear plastic overhead and a moisture barrier below to create controlled microenvironments amid the field growing conditions the berries need to thrive. With the ability to control for precipitation, temperature and plant genetics, the research team will be able to study the crop with precision. The diverse background of the research team creates an environment where interactions between the crop and the system it depends on, from precipitation to pollination, can be studied and integrated seamlessly. This represents research that is more similar to conditions and operations in a real-world setting, accelerating the delivery of research breakthroughs into practice. Starting in 2024, Schattman will study how plant genetics influence plant production measures, like water and nutrient use. Her research will be informed by historic and projected rainfall patterns developed by Birkel. Zhang, in turn, is studying how different genotypes will respond to climate warming to build resilience in the crop. He is also testing the use of biochar, a processed form of timber harvest byproducts, to improve water-holding capacity in the soil, which may ultimately help Maine's growers hedge against drought. Fanning will study how climate change may impact pollinator behavior and health as warmer springs herald earlier blooms and more insect pathogens. Experts like Rowland, Annis and Calderwood will be on standby to help the research team respond as wild blueberry pests like weeds and mummy berry disease crop up. This novel approach will help researchers and farmers understand how the wild environment the berries inhabit influences the crop and will ultimately inform advanced crop production techniques that benefit growers, consumers, and the environment. “This center represents the future of the college and Experiment Station — shared resources, experiential learning, and the removal of disciplinary silos,” says Rowland, who pioneered crop management systems and transdisciplinary projects to address food security worldwide before becoming dean and director. “These approaches compound the impact of investment in the university and better align research and education with real-world conditions, ultimately helping Maine to accelerate the delivery of research advancements into the hands of society.” The partnership is the latest development for UMaine's Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, which supports fundamental and applied research to improve the lives of Mainers. Station faculty and their students have conducted wild blueberry research since at least 1898, primarily conducted at the Experiment Station's Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro and on commercial growing operations ranging from one-half to more than 10,000 acres across the growing region. The addition of the Wyman's Center in Old Town will facilitate more detailed and controlled research investigating the factors that impact production, taste and nutritional value of wild blueberries. This information can then be scaled up at Blueberry Hill Farm to commercial levels, allowing the two facilities to complement and advance research in a new way. The Wyman's Center will also facilitate more active and frequent involvement of a broader group of students in the research process, enhancing workforce development opportunities. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu or Colleen Craig, ccraig@wymans.com

UMaine alumnus named a top young dentist in national dental magazine

30 Jun 2022

National dental publication [Incisal Edge magazine](#) named University of Maine alumnus Dr. Benjamin Lawlor one of its 2022 “40 Under 40” top young dentists in the U.S. Lawlor, who graduated in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology, founded Maine Dentistry and treats patients at all of its locations in Portland, Auburn and Gray. He also is an International College of Oral Implantologists Fellow and member of both the American Dental Association and American Academy of Cosmetic Dentists. Incisal Edge will feature Lawlor and the other top young dentists in a series of profiles in its fall “40 Under 40” editorial coverage.

BDN highlights UMaine's Zillman Art Museum arts education program

30 Jun 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#) highlighted UMaine's Zillman Art Museum that has recently received a UMaine arts initiative seed grant. The grant is to be used towards the creation of an arts education program with the Cobscook Institute in Lubec, known for its birding programs. Until recently the museum did not have any “bird-centric art” for the exhibit but a perfectly timed donation of bird paintings, painted by the late Maine biologist and artist, Walter Rich, changed that. Rich's paintings were passed down to his friend's great-granddaughter, Kendra Raymond, who had Rich's paintings sitting in her closet for fifteen years until recently when her daughter suggested she reach out to the Zillman Museum. The exhibit will be on display through Sept. 3.

Allan discusses anti-hazing laws with The Chronicle of Higher Education

30 Jun 2022

Professor of higher education Elizabeth Allan was quoted in a recent story in [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) about the failure of an anti-hazing bill in

Virginia prompted by the death of a student in a fraternity house. The article explores why some state legislatures pass anti-hazing legislation following the death or serious injury of a student, while others do not. “It is often the case that we don’t come up with a response until there’s been a very, very serious issue or harm that’s resulted,” Allan said. “And that’s not unique to hazing.” She added that while laws are part of an overall prevention strategy, they are not enough on their own to stop hazing. “It needs to be more widely understood why hazing is a problem, how it causes harm, how it undercuts the good things that we’re working toward for students,” she said.

‘Finding Our Voices’ exhibit to be shown starting in July at the UMaine Hutchinson Center

01 Jul 2022

“Finding Our Voices,” an exhibit featuring Patrisha McLean’s photo portraits of 43 Maine survivors of domestic abuse, opens July 7 in the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. The exhibit, on display through October, is free and open to the public from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday. There will be an opening reception for the exhibit on Thursday, July 14 at the Hutchinson Center from 5-7 p.m. The community event, open to the public, will be an opportunity to connect with domestic abuse survivors, including some of the 43 sister-survivors of the Finding Our Voices project. The show features framed color photographs by Patrisha McLean. McLean, a survivor of domestic abuse, is also the founder and president of Finding Our Voices. Documentation of the abuse the women in the show experienced, including customized power and control wheels, will be shown alongside their portraits. The exhibit is sponsored by Camden National Bank. The survivors featured in this exhibit range in age from 18–82 and include an incarcerated woman, doctors, nurses, business owners and Gov. Janet Mills, illustrating that domestic abuse can happen to anyone and is everywhere. “Empowering young people to recognize and talk about dating/domestic abuse is critical for healthy relationships, and also to break the intergenerational cycle of abuse,” says McLean. “I am grateful to everyone at the Hutchinson Center who is bringing this educational outreach to students of all ages.” Various iterations of this project have been shown in and around Waldo County since its launch on Valentine’s Day 2019 at the Camden Public Library including a Belfast Pecha Kucha presentation and a Waldo County Breaks the Silence exhibit in June 2021 that papered the windows of the Belfast City Hall. The exhibit has been shown at the Holocaust and Human Rights Center in Augusta, Maine, University of New England’s Biddeford campus, and community centers in North Haven and Islesboro. The award-winning educational outreach of Finding Our Voices features posters of 43 domestic abuse survivors. The posters have been in downtown business windows of more than 65 Maine towns in the past two years as well as in virtually every high school in Maine. The posters are in the dressing rooms of every Goodwill in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont and every Maine Family Planning clinic. Through a collaboration with Maine Mobile Health Program, the survivor-powered outreach is going to farmworker communities statewide. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Abby Spooner, hutchinsoncenter@maine.edu. More information about the Hutchinson Center’s H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery and the “Finding Our Voices” exhibit is [online](#).

Media highlight UMaine wild blueberry research field

01 Jul 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5), [News Center Maine](#) (Channel 2), [WVFX](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7), the [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) and [Energy News Network](#) highlighted UMaine’s new Wyman’s Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center, which will look at the impact that climate change, genetics, pests and diseases have on the state fruit. The researchers hope to learn advanced crop production techniques that benefit growers, consumers and the environment. UMaine held a launch event for the new center, which will include a 3-acre research field. The UMaine research teams will begin their work in 2024.

University of Maine announces spring 2022 Dean's List

05 Jul 2022

The University of Maine recognized 2,951 students for achieving Dean’s List honors in the spring 2022 semester. Of the students who made the Dean’s List, 1,938 are from Maine, 955 are from 41 other states and 58 are from 30 countries other than the U.S. To be eligible for the Full-time Dean’s List, a student must have completed 12 or more calculable credits in the semester and have earned a 3.50 or higher semester GPA. Students who have part-time status during both the fall and spring semesters of a given academic year are eligible for Part-time Dean’s List. They must have completed 12 or more calculable credits over both terms and have earned a combined GPA in those terms of 3.50 or higher. [Also available is a breakdown of the Dean’s List by Maine counties.](#) *Please note that some students have requested that their information not be released; therefore, their names are not included.*

Last name	First name	City	State	Country
Abbotoni	Alyssa	Houlton	ME	
Abell	Madeline	Stoneham	MA	
Acharya	Arnav	Biratnagar Bazar		Nepal
Ackley	Caleb	Milford	ME	
Adams	Abby	Mendon	MA	

Adams	Ileana	Milford	ME	
Adams	Jack	Westerly	RI	
Adams	Mikayla	North Brookfield	MA	
Adams	Olivia	Lowell	MA	
Adetogun	FoFo	Regina	SK	Canada
Agatako	Au-Lionne	Naugatuck	CT	
Agbuya	Kyle	Waldo	ME	
Agneta	Dominic	Windham	ME	
Ahlstrand	Thais	Midland	TX	
Aiello	Nick	Nashua	NH	
AlAbbasi	Raheel	Isa Town		Bahrain
Albert	Joe	West Gardiner	ME	
Albert	Matthew	Bradford	ME	
Aldarwish	Hamidah	Orono	ME	
Aldrich	Ayla	Biddeford	ME	
Alexander	Cole	Brewster	MA	
Ali	Ethan	Cumberland Center	ME	
Alicea	Talia	Litchfield	CT	
Allard	Alexis	Levant	ME	
Allen	Gavin	Old Town	ME	

Allen	Paige	Mendon	MA	
Allen	Phil	Vassalboro	ME	
Allen	Ryan	Chapel Hill	NC	
Alley	Ryan	Beals	ME	
Allison	Josh	Veazie	ME	
Almansoori	Ahmed	Ghiyathi		United Arab Emirates
Almohsen	Ali	Orono	ME	
Almonte	Niomi	Orono	ME	
Alsamsam	Maher	Bangor	ME	
Alshuwaysh	Hassan	Orono	ME	
Alward	Dustin	Mapleton	ME	
Ambeliotis	Maggie	Peabody	MA	
Ambrosio	Hannah	Northport	NY	
Amero	Katelyn	Mapleton	ME	
Ames	Ashley	Moultonborough	NH	
Ames	Mike	Hollis Center	ME	
Ames	Mikey	Levant	ME	
Ammerman	Ian	Bangor	ME	
Amon	Ashlynn	Yuma	AZ	
Amos	Tyler	New Gloucester	ME	

Andersen	Kenzie	Plymouth	MA	
Andersen	Mike	Beverly	MA	
Andersen	Patty	Durham	NH	
Anderson	Erik	Ipswich	MA	
Anderson	Garrett	Hermon	ME	
Anderson	Heather	Old Town	ME	
Anderson	Josh	Auburn	MA	
Anderson	Liam	Swansea	MA	
Anderson	Luke	Williamsburg	VA	
Anderson	Nolan	Newcastle	ME	
Andrade	Meghan	Sutton	MA	
Andre	Brooke	Gardiner	ME	
Andrew	Colin	Beverly	MA	
Andrews	Cam	New Gloucester	ME	
Andrews	Lauren	Derry	NH	
Andrews	Riley	Brewer	ME	
Androlewicz	Connor	Lewiston	ME	
Anghel	Octavian	Windham	ME	
Annable	Seana	Glenburn	ME	
Apovian	Kelsey	Scarborough	ME	

Applebee	MaryEllen	Old Town	ME	
Aquadro	Paul	East Dummerston	VT	
Ardito	Ava	Belgrade	ME	
Arey	Molly	Gorham	ME	
Armitage	Gwenyth	Falmouth	ME	
Armstrong	Isabelle	Falmouth	ME	
Arnold	Corbett	Lincoln	ME	
Arsenault	Emilee	Alton	ME	
Arsenault	Katherine	New Gloucester	ME	
Arsenault	Laura	Gray	ME	
Ashby	Seth	Hallowell	ME	
Asherman	Davis	Eddington	ME	
Aspinall	Jensen	Thorndike	ME	
Atkinson	Isaac	Marshfield	ME	
August	Caelie	Dunkirk	MD	
Austin	Kathryn	Brewer	ME	
Avery	Emily	Laconia	NH	
Avery	Nick	Bradley	ME	
Aylesworth	Emme	Lake Stevens	WA	

Baartvedt	Mille Sofie	Oslo		Norway
Bacon	Jack	Reading	MA	
Badstubner	Anna	Shrewsbury	MA	
Baez-Vazquez	Estephanie	Waterville	ME	
Bagley	Abby	Newport	ME	
Baiguy	Mikayla	Windham	ME	
Bailey	Madi	Topsham	ME	
Bailey	Matt	Old Town	ME	
Bair	Taylor	Cape Neddick	ME	
Baird	Jake	Colchester	VT	
Bairos	John	Taunton	MA	
Baker	Erin	Viroqua	WI	
Baker	McKenna	Hermon	ME	
Baldwin	Alyssa	Watertown	CT	
Baldwin	Anna	Hampden	ME	
Baldwin	Wilder	Portland	ME	
Ball	Rileah	West Glover	VT	
Bamberger	Rae	Brunswick	ME	
Bambrick	Ben	Hampden	ME	
Bamford	Hannah	Rochester	NH	

Bangs	Madi	Old Town	ME	
Banko	Brianna	Annandale	NJ	
Banks	Grace	Naples	ME	
Banks	Nicolas	Old Town	ME	
Banner	Alexis	Port Charlotte	FL	
Baptista	Alexia	Carver	MA	
Barboza	Liv	Cumberland	RI	
Bard	Marsha	Winslow	ME	
Barden	Jack	Hyde Park	MA	
Bardini	Ilaria	Salem	MA	
Barker	Ashley	Levant	ME	
Barnes	Alyssa	West Gardiner	ME	
Barney	Holly	Falmouth	ME	
Baron	Joseph	Milford	PA	
Baron	Nicholas	Old Town	ME	
Barrett	Kaleb	Freeport	ME	
Barron	Carter	Sarnia	ON	Canada
Barry	Nick	Kennebunk	ME	
Bart	Phillip	Bar Harbor	ME	
Bartlett	Quinn	Carmel	ME	

Bartow	Evan	Green Lake	WI	
Basile	Matthew	Saco	ME	
Basile-Maslowe	Jasper	Newton Center	MA	
Bassi	Jacqueline	South Berwick	ME	
Bate	Julia	Hermon	ME	
Bates	Olivia	Wallingford	CT	
Bates	Silas	Bangor	ME	
Batron	Rebecca	Exeter	ME	
Batson	Nathanael	Fairfield	ME	
Bauer	Chris	Merrimac	MA	
Baumann	Elizabeth	Bucksport	ME	
Bausman	Parker	Arlington	MA	
Beady	Peyton	Weymouth	MA	
Beal	Lilia	Cape Neddick	ME	
Bear	Jake	Standish	ME	
Beard	Savannah	Simsbury	CT	
Beason	Jalyssa	Scarborough	ME	
Beaton	Zachary	Hermon	ME	
Beaulieu	Caitlyn	Sanford	ME	
Beaulieu	Derek	South China	ME	

Beaulieu	Jaida	Washburn	ME	
Beaulieu	Mychal	Hampden	ME	
Beaulieu	Rene	Brewer	ME	
Beauregard	Jarrold	Acton	MA	
Beauregard	Mark	Avon	CT	
Beckshaw	Marie	Haverhill	MA	
Beckwith	Gordon	Lewiston	ME	
Begos	Gabrielle	Westbrook	ME	
Beirne	Collin	Milford	CT	
Belden	Chris	North Billerica	MA	
Bell	Aidan	Gorham	ME	
Bell	Connor	Orono	ME	
Belleau	Maggie	Lewiston	ME	
Bellenoit	Gamma	West Warwick	RI	
Beltz	Alexandra	Sleepy Eye	MN	
Belvin	Morgan	Rochelle Park	NJ	
Bena	Sean	Dexter	ME	
Benner	Sarah	Farmingdale	ME	
Bennett	Abigail	Brewer	ME	
Bennett	Grace	Hampden	ME	

Bennett	Kenzie	Calais	ME	
Bennett	Meggie	Medway	MA	
Bennoch	Connor	West Bath	ME	
Benson	Bruce	Westfield	MA	
Benson	Emily	Middleboro	MA	
Benson	Gabby	Chelsea	ME	
Benson	Tamra	Turner	ME	
Bent	Lucas	Berwick	ME	
Bentzinger	Joshua	Camden	ME	
Berez	Ellie	Camden	ME	
Berger	Hadley	Camden	ME	
Berger	Luke	Cape Neddick	ME	
Bergeron	Lucas	Topsham	ME	
Berkes	Anna	Winthrop	ME	
Bermeo	Gabriella	Biddeford	ME	
Bermeo	Grace	Biddeford	ME	
Bernheisel	Katie	Cumberland Foreside	ME	
Bernier	Hannah	Raymond	ME	
Berry	Graham	Ashland	ME	
Berry	Josh	Hermon	ME	

Best	Kate	Braintree	MA	
Betz	Trixie	West Haven	VT	
Beyer	Cyrus	Concord	MA	
Bhatta	Priyanshu	Orono	ME	
Bidwell	Jordan	Glastonbury	CT	
Bierman	Samantha	Sorrento	ME	
Bifulco	Hope	Camden	ME	
Bilella	James	Penobscot	ME	
Billingsley	Reagan	Liberty	MO	
Billiter	Mikayla	Hebron	CT	
Bilodeau	Sophie	Veazie	ME	
Bindell	Scott	Wantagh	NY	
Binette	Joe	Sanford	ME	
Birch	Matthew	Orono	ME	
Birkett	Hannah	Chebeague Island	ME	
Birri	Nicole	Shrewsbury	MA	
Bisecco	Morgan	North Haven	CT	
Bishop	Briton	Mexico	ME	
Bishop	Patrick	Orono	ME	
Bissell	Jeremy	Brewer	ME	

Black	Isaac	Brooks	ME	
Black	Lauren	Windham	ME	
Blackie	Layla	Milford	ME	
Blackstone	Felicia	Presque Isle	ME	
Blackwell	Peter	Bangor	ME	
Blair	Madeline	Bethlehem	PA	
Blakeman	Lilly	Brewer	ME	
Blanchard	Grace	Bangor	ME	
Blanchard	Lizzie	Gorham	ME	
Blanchard	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Blanchette	Jonny	New Canada	ME	
Bland	Lindsay	Ellsworth	ME	
Bleakney	Allison	Old Town	ME	
Blejeru	Teodora	Hampden	ME	
Blondin	Faith	Westfield	MA	
Bloom	Ava	Hydes	MD	
Bloom	Josiah	Waterville	ME	
Bloom	Sydney	Scarborough	ME	
Bocage	Shyne	Tracy	CA	

Bock	Phil	Yarmouth	ME	
Bodkin	Porter	Acton	ME	
Bogner	Molly	Milford	MA	
Bogue	Justin	Wichita Falls	TX	
Bois	Josh	Scarborough	ME	
Bois	Oliver	Hampden	ME	
Bois	Ryleigh	Scarborough	ME	
Boissonneault	Owen	Saco	ME	
Bolduc	Andrew	Winslow	ME	
Bolduc	Connor	Lewiston	ME	
Bolduc	Gillianne	North Haven	CT	
Bolduc	Justin	Winslow	ME	
Boles	Ryan	South Portland	ME	
Boltz	Aidan	White Horse Beach	MA	
Bolvin	Sam	Skowhegan	ME	
Bonanno	Allie	Burlington	MA	
Bond	Kacie	Blue Hill	ME	
Bonilla	Ruby	South Berwick	ME	
Boone	Christian	Glenburn	ME	
Boone	Libby	Presque Isle	ME	

Boos	Meghan	Naples	ME	
Borodaenko	Danila	Camden	ME	
Boscarino	Adam	West Stockbridge	MA	
Bouchard	Emily	Syracuse	NY	
Boucher	Abby	Carmel	ME	
Boucher	Hana	Presque Isle	ME	
Boucher	Jenna	Greene	ME	
Boudreau	Abby	Westminster	MA	
Boudreau	Paige	Dayton	ME	
Boudreaux	Emma	Essex Junction	VT	
Boulier	Jasmine	Hermon	ME	
Bourassa	Fischer	South Portland	ME	
Bourassa	Noah	Salem	NH	
Bourett	Claire	Waldoboro	ME	
Bourgeois	Abby	York	ME	
Bourgoin	Alex	Madawaska	ME	
Bourke	Molly	Cumberland	RI	
Bourque	Casey	Gardiner	ME	
Bourque	David	Biddeford	ME	
Bourque	Ryan	Benton	ME	

Bowden	Emma	Orrington	ME	
Bowden	Hope	Orland	ME	
Bowen	Claire	Hampden	ME	
Bowen	Kate	Norway	ME	
Bowen	Katherine	Rockport	ME	
Bowker	Katelynn	Bangor	ME	
Bowman	Shawn	Bear	DE	
Boyd	Danielle	Plymouth Meeting	PA	
Boyes	Chloe	Windham	ME	
Boyle	Zachary	Orono	ME	
Bracher	Evie	Hope	ME	
Bradbury	Brayden	Bridgewater	ME	
Bradfield	Lydia	Sidney	ME	
Bradford	Christian	Fairfield	ME	
Bradford	Maggi	Standish	ME	
Bradish	Hannah	Lyman	ME	
Bradley	Annie	Wallingford	CT	
Bradley	Grace	Chester	CT	
Bradstreet	Erin	Brunswick	ME	
Bradstreet	Leah	Pittsfield	ME	

Bradt	Garret	Rockford	IL	
Brady	Gabe	Dennysville	ME	
Braga	Haley	Stockton Springs	ME	
Braga	Samuel	Auburn	ME	
Bragdon	Nani	Old Town	ME	
Bragg	Kate	Winterport	ME	
Brahan	Christopher	North Sutton	NH	
Brainerd	Nate	Bangor	ME	
Brands	Justin	Hudsonville	MI	
Brasile	Jenna	East Haddam	CT	
Brayson	Katie	Orono	ME	
Breazeale	David	Jenison	MI	
Breen	Lynden	Saint John	NB	Canada
Brennan	Alexa	Belgrade	ME	
Brennan	Elizabeth	West Chester	PA	
Brennan	Kyle	Harpwell	ME	
Brennan	Noah	Wakefield	MA	
Brennan	Riley	Manasquan	NJ	
Brenner	Jonathan	Livermore	ME	
Bressette	Gavin	Oakland	ME	

Brewer	Kristen	Monticello	ME	
Brich	Tea	Glenwood	NJ	
Bridges	Kelsey	Hermon	ME	
Briggs	Beau	Newport	ME	
Briggs	Paul	Lamoine	ME	
Briley	Anna	Old Town	ME	
Brindisi	Sarah	Trumbull	CT	
Brinegar	Wes	Livermore Falls	ME	
Brinn	Declan	Searsmont	ME	
Brittain	Katie	Wilton	ME	
Broadaway	Taylor	Tulsa	OK	
Brock	Maggie	Waterville	ME	
Broetzman	Audrey	Belfast	ME	
Brooks	Ben	Monmouth	ME	
Brooks	Mercedes	Exeter	RI	
Broome	Zach	Portland	ME	
Broughton	Alana	Hermon	ME	
Brown	Ashley	Richmond	ME	
Brown	Burdette	Whiting	ME	
Brown	Camryn	Orono	ME	

Brown	Christine	Howland	ME	
Brown	Kaitlyn	Weare	NH	
Brown	Maia	Meredith	NH	
Brown	Matt	Clinton	ME	
Brown	Mel	East Weymouth	MA	
Brown	Noah	Turner	ME	
Brown	Peta-Gay	Manchester	CT	
Brown	Rian Ali	Pittsburgh	PA	
Brown	Ruby	Bar Harbor	ME	
Brown	Sam	South Portland	ME	
Brown	Sarah	Saint Louis	MO	
Brown	Sydney	Saco	ME	
Brown	Sydney	Vineyard Haven	MA	
Brucker	Theo	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Bruneski	Dawson	New Norway	AB	Canada
Brunken	Shannon	Stony Brook	NY	
Brusie	Emma	Hudson	NY	
Bruskotter	Henry	Cape Neddick	ME	
Bryant	Cole	Farmingdale	ME	
Bryer	Graham	Boothbay	ME	

Bucco	Angelina	Danvers	MA	
Buck	Luke	Sidney	ME	
Bucknor	Tiana	Milton	ON	Canada
Bui	Morgan	Ottawa	ON	Canada
Bullard	Tim	Wells	ME	
Bullock	Harry	North Attleboro	MA	
Bunker	Brian	Gorham	ME	
Bunker	Danny	Bucksport	ME	
Burgess	James	Carmel	ME	
Burgess	Samuel	Orono	ME	
Burhoe	Pamela	Hancock	ME	
Burmeister	Rory	Brewer	ME	
Burnell	Jack	Portland	ME	
Burnham	Jaden	Lisbon	ME	
Burns	Delaney	Gorham	ME	
Burrell	Sami	Pownal	ME	
Burris	Brandon	Orono	ME	
Burt	Don	Mason	MI	
Burt	Travis	Windham	ME	

Bush	Scout	Blacksburg	VA	
Buskey	Elly	Hyannis	MA	
Butala	Simon	Downingtown	PA	
Butler	Krista	Cushing	ME	
Buxton	Brooke	Veazie	ME	
Buzby	Noa	Southampton	PA	
Buzzell	Audrey	Greenbush	ME	
Byrne	Emily	Standish	ME	
Cabral	Erin	Pelham	NH	
Caccese	Anthony	Levant	ME	
Caccese	Gino	Bangor	ME	
Cadorette	Abby	Bangor	ME	
Caldwell	Ethan	Albion	ME	
Call	Aspyn	Kenduskeag	ME	
Call	Ricco	Newry	ME	
Callaghan	Owen	Dedham	MA	
Callahan	Bridget	Wilbraham	MA	
Callahan	Ivalani	Waterboro	ME	
Callahan	Kiely	Standish	ME	
Callahan	Lily	North Weymouth	MA	

Callahan	Sarah	Salem	MA	
Callanan	Courtney	South Berwick	ME	
Callas	Jacob	Orono	ME	
Camire	Brooke	Acton	ME	
Campagna	Samantha	York	ME	
Campano	Syd	Pepperell	MA	
Campbell	Killian	Kittery	ME	
Campbell	Margaret	San Diego	CA	
Canale	Marlee	Egg Harbor City	NJ	
Canders	Lily	Brewer	ME	
Canelli	Hailey	Braintree	MA	
Cannell	Wyatt	Readfield	ME	
Canon	Mason	Falmouth	ME	
Cantwell	Ashley	Merrimack	NH	
Capelle	Ashleigh	Hyannis	MA	
Capozza	Nicholas	North Yarmouth	ME	
Capuzzi	Clare	Morris Plains	NJ	
Carbone	Emma	Richmond	ME	
Card	Katie	Woolwich	ME	
Caret	Eli	Oakland	ME	

Carey	Sean	Attleboro	MA	
Carmone	Syerra-Marie	Berkley	MA	
Carney	Ashley	York	ME	
Carney	Isak	Brunswick	ME	
Caron	Lydia	Glenburn	ME	
Caron	Meg	Bangor	ME	
Carpenter	Erica	Trumbull	CT	
Carreira	Kat	Eddington	ME	
Carrier	Devon	Calais	ME	
Carrier	Kayla	Burlington	CT	
Carrier	Kylie	Buckfield	ME	
Carroll	Hope	Portland	ME	
Carrolton	Eleanor	Bath	ME	
Carrolton	William	Bath	ME	
Carter	David	Raynham	MA	
Carter	Max	Bangor	ME	
Carter	Teegan	Tewksbury	MA	
Cartwright	Joy	Ellsworth	ME	
Cartwright	Sam	Old Town	ME	
Carver	Brooke	Eastbrook	ME	

Casalino	Carissa	North Providence	RI	
Casella	Angie	Old Town	ME	
Casey	Andrea	Tribes Hill	NY	
Cassidy	Will	Auburn	ME	
Castillo Garcia	Annabel	Coral Gables	FL	
Castillo Parkman	Kassidy	Falmouth	ME	
Castonguay	Abby	Livermore	ME	
Castro-Rovira	Gabriella	Andover	MA	
Cavic	Christopher	Berkley	MA	
Cavilla	Robert	Tenafly	NJ	
Cavo	Maura	Springfield	VA	
Cecelya	Jack	Hudson	MA	
Celani	Lydia	Auburn	ME	
Chadburn	Autumn	Sabattus	ME	
Chadwick	Colby	Abbot	ME	
Chahley	Peyton	Hampden	ME	
Chalmers	Brooke	Framingham	MA	
Chalmers	Matthew	Framingham	MA	
Chamberlain	Sebastien	Windsor	ME	
Chamberland	Andrew	Topsham	ME	

Chambers	Caitlin	Topsham	ME	
Champagne	Hail	Lewiston	ME	
Chandler	Nicole	Lee	ME	
Chann	Lailani	Orono	ME	
Chaplin	Louise	Northeast Harbor	ME	
Chapman	Autumn	Auburn	ME	
Chappelle	Tim	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Charette-LaBreque	Abbey	Bangor	ME	
Chase	Kelsey	Chesapeake	VA	
Chase	Mackenzie	Chesapeake	VA	
Chasse	Camden	Old Town	ME	
Chavaree	Alanna	Indian Island	ME	
Chen	Kiley	Hillsborough	NJ	
Chern	Lara	Webster	NH	
Cherry	Haley	Whiting	ME	
Chhoeuk	Kimmy	Shrewsbury	MA	
Childs	Sophie	Litchfield	ME	
Cholod	Caleb	Portland	ME	
Chongris	Jake	North Andover	MA	
Chouinard	Ben	Windham	ME	

Chretien	Noah	Shapleigh	ME	
Christensen	Erin	Brant Rock	MA	
Christian	Logan	Hampden	ME	
Christiansen	Erik	Naples	ME	
Ciampa	Erin	Tewksbury	MA	
Cichon	Wojciech	Verona	NJ	
Cielinski	Cameron	Keene	NH	
Ciesielski	Kate	Duxbury	MA	
Cifune	Edward	Bristol	RI	
Cilley	Mike	Chesterville	ME	
Cilley	Tristan	Bath	ME	
Cinfo	Jocelyn	South Berwick	ME	
Ciola	Jenna	Bethany	CT	
Cirone	Stephen	Jonesport	ME	
Cisowski	Michaela	Orono	ME	
Clark	Ben	Vergennes	VT	
Clark	Dylan	Bangor	ME	
Clark	Fisher	New Fairfield	CT	
Clark	Hannah	Bangor	ME	
Clark	John	Brewer	ME	

Clark	Keely	Yucaipa	CA	
Clark	Maddie	Hudson	ME	
Clark	Sarah	Berlin	NH	
Clark	Syeira	Lancaster	MA	
Clarke	Emmy	Holden	ME	
Cleaves	Joseph	Jefferson	ME	
Clement	Evie	Falmouth	ME	
Clement	Libby	Monmouth	ME	
Clements	Lindsay	Newburgh	ME	
Clemmer	Caroline	Gastonia	NC	
Clemons	Hannah	Harpswell	ME	
Cliffe	Julia	Woolwich	ME	
Clifford	Emery	Benton	ME	
Clifford	Michael	Ipswich	MA	
Clifford	Sam	Walpole	MA	
Climo	Cassidy	Bradley	ME	
Cline	Tori	Bangor	ME	
Cloutier	Amanda	Brunswick	ME	
Cloutier	Samantha	Readfield	ME	

Clukey	Peter	Portland	ME	
Cobb	Amelia	Gray	ME	
Cobb	Johnny	Holden	ME	
Cobb	Katie	Fairfield	ME	
Cobb	Nicole	Gray	ME	
Cochran	Dakota	North Yarmouth	ME	
Coffey	Devin	Glen Mills	PA	
Coffey	Toby	Bangor	ME	
Coffin	Connor	Scarborough	ME	
Coffin	Jonah	Sudbury	MA	
Coffin	Tristram	Scarborough	ME	
Cohn	Emmersen	Bangor	ME	
Coker	Kassidy	Bangor	ME	
Cole	Denise	Taunton	MA	
Cole	James	Belfast	ME	
Coleman	Aiden	Wakefield	MA	
Coleman	Peter	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Collard	Braden	Missoula	MT	
Colley	Libby	Bangor	ME	
Collias	Mary	Wilton	CT	

Colliver	Elijah	Blacksburg	VA	
Colson	Delaney	Rutland	MA	
Combs	Ian	Weare	NH	
Comeau Duran	Stacey	Glenburn	ME	
Comis	Max	Belgrade	ME	
Conant	Brendan	Bridgewater	MA	
Condon	Lacy	Orono	ME	
Congdon	Caleb	Kennebunk	ME	
Conley	James	Standish	ME	
Connelly	Chantal	Hampden	ME	
Connelly	Sean	Turner	ME	
Connolly	Caeli	Elizabethtown	PA	
Connolly	J.G.	Kennebunk	ME	
Connolly	Sean	Dorchester	MA	
Conroy	Jordan	Halifax	MA	
Cook	Colby	Amesbury	MA	
Cook	Danielle	Goodyear	AZ	
Cook	Jacob	Perry	ME	
Coombs	Jasmyne	Solon	ME	
Coombs	Rachel	Randolph	NJ	

Coombs	Samantha	Alton	ME	
Coomey	Rori	Eliot	ME	
Cooney	Brian	Naugatuck	CT	
Cooper	Charlie	Hope	ME	
Cooper	Jocelyn	Boxford	MA	
Cooper	Mackenzie	Acton	MA	
Corbett	Patrick	Calais	ME	
Cordes	Oz	Porter	ME	
Cormican	Meghan	Quincy	MA	
Cormier	Alana	Orono	ME	
Cormier	Madeleine	Ipswich	MA	
Cornell	Grace	Greenfield Center	NY	
Cornish	Carly	Topsham	ME	
Corradi	Mia	Cheshire	CT	
Cortez	Nicole	Deer Isle	ME	
Corzo	Ryan	Howell	NJ	
Cosgrove	Brian	East Greenwich	RI	
Costa	Isabella	Taunton	MA	
Costanza	Samantha	Norwalk	CT	
Costigan	Hugh	Appleton	ME	

Cote	Amy	Lewiston	ME	
Cote	Elaina	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Cote	Jacob	Philadelphia	PA	
Cote	Vanessa	Rumford	ME	
Cotner	Stella	Saint Paul	MN	
Cotter	Meaghan	Lebanon	NJ	
Coulombe	Emily	Berlin	NH	
Courser	Madi	Warner	NH	
Courtois	Madi	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Cousins	Alex	Augusta	ME	
Couture	Brian	South Berwick	ME	
Couture	Ethan	Dixfield	ME	
Cowan	Katherine	Barnet	VT	
Cox	Amanda	Hermon	ME	
Cox	Jenna	North Granby	CT	
Cox	Julie	Corinth	ME	
Cox	Matthew	Bar Harbor	ME	
Coxen	Amber	Dayton	ME	
Craig	Ailsa	Dorchester	MA	
Crapo	Morgan	Orono	ME	

Crawford	Caitlin	Orono	ME	
Crawford	Mackenzie	Attleboro	MA	
Cray	Ashley	Old Town	ME	
Creamer	Mac	Chelsea	ME	
Cringle	Liam	Pittsburgh	PA	
Cripps	Nate	Kennebunk	ME	
Crisci	Joe	East Haven	CT	
Crispin	Crispin	Auburn	ME	
Crocker	Brett	West Enfield	ME	
Crone	Jennifer	Orono	ME	
Cronin	Garrett	York	ME	
Cronin	Hanna	Methuen	MA	
Cronkrite	Lexy	Mooers Forks	NY	
Cross	Alexander	Bangor	ME	
Crossman	Fallon	Hampden	ME	
Crowley	Dominic	Cumberland Center	ME	
Cruz	Aaliyah	Waterville	ME	
Cummings	Brandon	Orono	ME	
Cummings	Brandon	Windham	ME	
Cummings	Samantha	Casco	ME	

Cunningham	Alex	Sagamore Beach	MA	
Cunningham	Erica	Howell	NJ	
Cunningham	Will	Portland	ME	
Curioli	Laura	Hampden	ME	
Currie	Rissa	Colchester	CT	
Curtis	Ben	Portland	ME	
Curtis	Jacob	Dedham	ME	
Cusack	Peter	Sanford	ME	
Cushing	Riley	Nobleboro	ME	
Cushman	Biaggio	Raymond	ME	
Cushman	Grace	Pownal	ME	
Cusick	Rebecca	West Warwick	RI	
Cusson	Lauren	Eliot	ME	
Cusson	Nate	Scarborough	ME	
Cyr	Alec	Caribou	ME	
Cyr	Devin	Westbrook	ME	
Cyr	Jake	East Waterboro	ME	
Cyr	Kallie	Westbrook	ME	
Cyr	Matthew	Madawaska	ME	
Czuchra	Nicholas	Searsmont	ME	

D'Arcy	Josh	Salisbury	MA	
D'Entremont	Drew	Gloucester	MA	
Dacey	Ellie	Hampden	ME	
Dacey	William	Hampden	ME	
Dagenais	Heather	Harleysville	PA	
Dagher	Joseph	Veazie	ME	
Dahl	J.D.	Orrington	ME	
Daigle	Alex	Madawaska	ME	
Daigle	Andre	Caribou	ME	
Daigle	Hannah	Fort Kent	ME	
Daigle Thompson	Juliette	Bangor	ME	
Daigneault	Daigs	Winslow	ME	
Dalton	Elizabeth	Lamoine	ME	
Daly	Cameron	Brunswick	ME	
Daly	Tommy	Bangor	ME	
Damboise	Oliviah	Old Town	ME	
Daniels	Garrett	Falmouth	ME	
Danis	Justin	North Reading	MA	
Danner	Ben	Waterville	ME	

Daries	Eve	Brewer	ME	
DaSilva	Chloe	Orono	ME	
Dau	Alyssa	Bowdoinham	ME	
Davenport	James	Cumberland Center	ME	
David	Hunter	Bow	NH	
Davids	Leila	Bangor	ME	
Davie	Maxwell	Bennington	NH	
Davis	Caroline	Kenduskeag	ME	
Davis	Elizabeth	Gray	ME	
Davis	Gwen	Bangor	ME	
Davis	Holly	South Weymouth	MA	
Davis	Jinny	Jonesboro	ME	
Davis	Nate	Freeport	ME	
Davis	Sam	Belfast	ME	
Davis	Taylor	South Portland	ME	
Davison	Emily	North Waterboro	ME	
Davison	Katie	Charlton	MA	
Dawe	Adam	Gander	NL	Canada
Dawson	Naomi	Old Town	ME	
Day	Matthew	Garland	ME	

Day	Ryan	Brewer	ME	
De Lorenzi	Jack	Portland	ME	
de Souza	Jamie	Old Town	ME	
De Vries	Kaia	Fryeburg	ME	
Dean	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Dean	Sophie	Keene	NH	
Deans	Zoe	Belmont	ME	
Debeauchamp	Jazmine	Brandenburg	KY	
DeBlois	Brandon	Smithfield	RI	
DeBoer	Staci	Waterville	ME	
Decker	Isabelle	Chesterville	ME	
Deighan	Hannah	Beverly Hills	MI	
Delaney	Drew	Livermore	ME	
Delano	Chloe	Portland	ME	
DeLap	Daniel	Dekalb	IL	
Delile	Zack	Clinton	ME	
DelMonico	Matt	North Andover	MA	
Delmonte	Sarah	West Brookfield	MA	
Delorge	Michael	Saco	ME	
Delpino	Daniela	Old Town	ME	

DelVecchio	Kellie	Exeter	RI	
DeMarte	Venae	Naperville	IL	
DeMoura	Ethan	Berwick	ME	
Dempsey	John	Gillette	NJ	
Denbow	Emma	Harrington	ME	
Denico	Aubrey	Standish	ME	
Denico	Sadie	Standish	ME	
DeRogatis	Lauren	Toms River	NJ	
DeRosby	Bryce	Hampden	ME	
Desbois	Eric	Orono	ME	
DeSimone	Grace	Waterboro	ME	
DesJardin	Nancy	Winterport	ME	
Desmond	Evan	Windham	ME	
Dever	Griffin	Bath	ME	
Dewsnap	Alison	Peabody	MA	
Dexter	Troy	New Gloucester	ME	
DiBiase	Lauren	South Portland	ME	
Didonato	Aidan	Wendell	MA	
DiFilippo	Ally	Essex Fells	NJ	
DiGirolamo	Emma	Belgrade	ME	

DiLeo	Annalisa	Brookfield	CT	
Dill	Luke	Rockport	ME	
Dill	Todd	Lake Havasu City	AZ	
Dill	Zack	Milford	ME	
Dillon	Lauren	Boxford	MA	
Dimock	Nate	Madison	ME	
Dingley	Rachel	Hebron	CT	
Dionne	Colby	Raymond	ME	
DiSpirito	Dominique	Woonsocket	RI	
Dix	Nathan	Gorham	ME	
Dixon	Carolyn	Andover	MA	
Dixon	Ellen	Mendon	MA	
Dixon	PhilAnn	Wallingford	PA	
Dixson	Sequoia	Locke	NY	
Dobrzynski	Paige	Orono	ME	
Doherty	Anthony	Jacksonville	FL	
Doherty	Joe	Chelmsford	MA	
Dolan	Claudia	Pottstown	PA	
Doliber	Tyler	Old Town	ME	
Domin	Natalie	Freeport	ME	

Donnelly	Jon	Old Town	ME	
Donovan	Emma	Quebec	QC	Canada
Doody	Janell	Corinth	ME	
Doore	Georgia	Brewer	ME	
Dore	Becky	Grantham	NH	
Dorey	Sarah	Dedham	ME	
Doucette	Logan	Bradley	ME	
Doucette-St Onge	Elias	Lewiston	ME	
Dougherty	Olivia	Warren	ME	
Doughty	Ian	Union	ME	
Doughty	Katie	Winslow	ME	
Doughty	Sara	Winslow	ME	
Douin	Kyle	Augusta	ME	
Dowd	James	Leopold	MO	
Doyle	Kellen	Orono	ME	
Doyle	Maddie	Brimfield	MA	
Drage	Aidan	Wiscasset	ME	
Draves	J.D.	Homer	AK	
Drelich	Elizabeth	Portland	ME	
Drew	Freya	Lafayette	NJ	

Drexler	Ashley	Portland	ME	
Driscoll	Ryan	Eliot	ME	
Dritschilo	Hannah	Brunswick	ME	
Drobot	A.J.	Southampton	PA	
Drumm	Emilyann	Oxford	ME	
Duarte	Henry	Brentwood	NH	
Dubay	Jake	Old Town	ME	
Dube	Brady	Orrington	ME	
Dube	Sophie	Winterport	ME	
DuBois	Cole	Searsport	ME	
Dubose	Daniel	Huntsville	AL	
Duerr	Sam	Burr Ridge	IL	
Duffy	Nick	South Portland	ME	
Dunbar	Ashton	Lee	ME	
Dunham	William	Scarborough	ME	
Dunkle	Wesley	Rockland	ME	
Dunlap	Emily	Old Town	ME	
Dunn	Ana	Holden	ME	
Dunn	Kathleen	Bangor	ME	
Dunn	Vanessa	Wiscasset	ME	

Dunphy	Ashley	Hermon	ME	
Dunton	Dyllon	Bangor	ME	
Duplisea	Christopher	Old Town	ME	
Duplissie	Aubrey	Brewer	ME	
Dupuis	Peter	Northbridge	MA	
Durall	Ashley	Weston	MA	
Durand	Donovan	Minneapolis	MN	
Duranko	Jessie	Westport	CT	
Durepo	Sydney	Bangor	ME	
Durkee	Jaron	Biddeford	ME	
Durkin	Caileigh	Barrington	RI	
Durocher	Sarah	Buxton	ME	
Dustin	Aaron	Bowdoin	ME	
Dustin	Adam	Bowdoin	ME	
Dustin	Bram	Hebron	ME	
Dutton	Juliette	Derry	NH	
Dworkin	Liam	Newcastle	ME	
Dyer	Hannah	Bangor	ME	
Dyer	Sarah	Winterport	ME	

Dymowski	Matt	Elkton	MD	
Dziewietin	Meryl	Worcester	MA	
Easterbrooks	Phillip	Winthrop	ME	
Eastlack	Lauren	Rangeley	ME	
Eastman	Gunnar	Bangor	ME	
Eberle	Charles	Califon	NJ	
Economy	Sara	Hampden	ME	
Edgerly	Emily	Madison	ME	
Edwards	Colin	Harrison	ME	
Edwards	Julian	Freeport	ME	
Edwards	Lauren	Gorham	ME	
Edwards	Marissa	Scarborough	ME	
Eichorn	Victoria	Hebron	ME	
Eldredge	Michaela	South Dennis	MA	
Ellick	Alyssa	Old Town	ME	
Elliot	Alixandra	Pembroke	MA	
Elliott	Grace	Belgrade	ME	
Ellis	Trenton	Glenburn	ME	
Ellis	Zackery	Farmingdale	ME	
Emerson	Carter	Hampden	ME	

Emond	Brynn	Wales	ME	
Empsall	Chase	Saint Johnsbury	VT	
Enck	Abyy	Gorham	ME	
English	Kate	Ledyard	CT	
English	Zachary	Berwick	ME	
Engstrom	Garrett	Lowell	ME	
Enos	Kya	Taunton	MA	
Eramian	Matthew	Boonton	NJ	
Erb	Christopher	Readfield	ME	
Erickson-Harris	Josh	Kennebunk	ME	
Erikson	Theo	Orono	ME	
Ernenwein	Max	York	ME	
Eshleman	Will	Norway	ME	
Estrach	Liron	Old Town	ME	
Esty	Colby	Skowhegan	ME	
Evangelista	Danika	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Evangelista	Jaclyn	Stoughton	MA	
Evans	Amelia	Chelsea	ME	
Evans-Ralston	C.J.	Oxford	PA	
Fahey	James	Bangor	ME	

Fahey	Maggie	Hampstead	NH	
Falcone	Frankie	Pembroke	MA	
Fallon	Caitlyn	Warwick	RI	
Falone	Samantha	Hermon	ME	
Farino	Brian	Scarborough	ME	
Farmer	Laura	Kennebunkport	ME	
Farnsworth	Jordan	Princeton	MA	
Farrelly	Joseph	Jamestown	RI	
Farrington	Koby	Lincoln	ME	
Farris	Kenny	Stow	MA	
Farrow	Max	Orono	ME	
Farwell	Kristin	Windham	ME	
Favreau	Gretchen	Falmouth	ME	
Fay	Greg	Winthrop	ME	
Fazendin	Carly	Sarasota	FL	
Fazli	Mohammed	Orono	ME	
Fecteau	Zachery	Westbrook	ME	
Feely	Michael	South Portland	ME	
Feeney	E.	Winthrop	ME	
Feid	Julia	North Attleboro	MA	

Feierbergs	Kristians	Riga		Latvia
Fein	Gabe	Fayette	ME	
Feix	Jon	Bangor	ME	
Fennelly	Meg	Bethlehem	CT	
Ferguson	Maia	Poland	ME	
Ferland	Myla	Rockland	ME	
Fernandez	Adrian Reister	Midsayap		Philippines
Ferrell	Fiona	Falmouth	ME	
Ferrell	Hannah	Bucksport	ME	
Fetcho	Maya	North Easton	MA	
Ficcardi	Max	Medfield	MA	
Field	Caine	Bangor	ME	
Fielding	Callie	Raymond	ME	
Fifield	Brooke	Franklin	NH	
Filer	Collette	Bangor	ME	
Findlen	Austin	New Sweden	ME	
Findley	Beca	Seymour	CT	
Fine	Ryan	Germansville	PA	
Finley	Grace	Kittery	ME	
Fiore	Alexiis	Portland	ME	

Firth	Connor	Vienna	ME	
Fisher	Abigail	Auburn	ME	
Fisher	Charlotte	Township of Washington	NJ	
Fisher	Zoe	Beverly	MA	
Fiske	Ben	Milford	ME	
Fitch	Elijah	Liberty Hill	TX	
Fitts	Madison	Pittsfield	ME	
Fitzgerald	Brendan	Falmouth	MA	
Fitzgerald	Colin	Lititz	PA	
Fitzgerald	Patrick	Millville	MA	
Fitzmaurice	Ryan	Bath	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Conor	Mansfield	MA	
Fitzpatrick	Emma	Fayette	ME	
Fitzpatrick	Gabe	Houlton	ME	
Flaherty	Rory	Braintree	MA	
Flannery	Michael	Concord	MA	
Flannery	Zachary	Hampden	ME	
Fleischner	Leah	Trumbull	CT	
Fleming	Patrick	Enfield	CT	

Fletcher	Madysen	East Falmouth	MA	
Fletcher	Michael	Castlegregory		Ireland
Flint	Sam	Danvers	MA	
Florio	Haley	Butler	NJ	
Floyd	Amanda	Bangor	ME	
Flubacher	Riley	Winter Harbor	ME	
Flubacher	Tara	Winter Harbor	ME	
Flynn	Bridget	Quincy	MA	
Flynn	Kate	Lee	NH	
Fogg	Kate	Dedham	ME	
Foley	Morgan	Hopedale	MA	
Follett	Ben	Cumberland Center	ME	
Folley	Anna	South Portland	ME	
Fonger	Emma	Jackson	ME	
Fonger	Morgan	Jackson	ME	
Fontaine	Bronte	Brunswick	ME	
Ford	Ethan	Appleton	ME	
Ford	Paige	Belfast	ME	
Foreman	Haley	Portland	ME	
Forgue	Clay	Winthrop	ME	

Fountain	Alex	Liberty	ME	
Fournier	Blaise	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Fox	Claudia	Owls Head	ME	
Fox	Conor	Freeport	ME	
Fox	Ellie	Monmouth	ME	
Fox	Jette	Glen Allen	VA	
Foye	Eliza	Eliot	ME	
Fracassa	Lauren	Warwick	RI	
Frager	Laini	Portland	ME	
Frahn	Spencer	Auburn	ME	
Francis	Landyn	Bangor	ME	
Franco	Matthew	East Setauket	NY	
Franey	Kyra	Pittston	ME	
Frank	Josh	South Portland	ME	
Frankian	Riley	Shrewsbury	MA	
Franzose	Caden	Madison	ME	
Fraser	Caiden	West Bath	ME	
Fraser	Caitlin	Brewer	ME	
Fraser	Emily	Bethel	ME	
Frasier	Kara	Sanford	ME	

Frazer	Devin	Danbury	NH	
Frechette	Amren	Windham	ME	
Frechette	Rilye	Winthrop	ME	
Frederick-Bittner	Evan	Annapolis	MD	
Fredette	Serina	Pleasant Point	ME	
Freedman	Emily	Portland	ME	
Freedman	Noah	Peabody	MA	
Freeman	Dylan	Ellsworth	ME	
Freeman	Julia	Scarborough	ME	
Fremouw	Kell	Orono	ME	
French	Audrie	Hampden	ME	
French	Jasmine	New Gloucester	ME	
Freudig	Ben	Bernard	ME	
Frost	Noah	Caribou	ME	
Frost	Stephanie	Bangor	ME	
Frost	Syd	Stetson	ME	
Fuller	Grace	Weymouth	MA	
Fuller	Megan	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Fuller	Sean	Eliot	ME	
Furlong	Julia	Weymouth	MA	

Futrelle	Lindsey	Old Town	ME	
Gaboury	Cody	Farmington	ME	
Gaboury	Danielle	Cranston	RI	
Gagne	Sophie	Gorham	ME	
Gagner	Toni	Baileyville	ME	
Gagnon	Alec	Brewer	ME	
Gagnon	Katrina	East Millinocket	ME	
Gagnon	Matthew	Yarmouth	ME	
Gagnon-Victor	Eliott	Ellsworth	ME	
Gaidola	Alexander	Topsham	ME	
Gaines	Susannah	Lexington	MA	
Galgano	Sierra	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Gallagher	Colin	Bangor	ME	
Gallup	Aiden	Portland	ME	
Gallup	Kyla	Portland	ME	
Gamache	Gabrielle	Colchester	CT	
Gammaitoni	Demetri	Auburn	ME	
Ganz	Somerset	Union	ME	
Ganzel	Autumn	Linneus	ME	
Garala	Nathan	New Hartford	CT	

Gardner	Ani	Westminster	MD	
Gardner	Marlowe	Ambler	PA	
Garfein	Laura	Walnut Creek	CA	
Garrison	Sydney	Mars Hill	ME	
Gasper	Katie	Mount Vernon	ME	
Gass	Caoilinn	Smithfield	RI	
Gates	Ethan	Greene	ME	
Gates	Tyson	Orono	ME	
Gauthier	Julianna	Pascoag	RI	
Gauvin	Emile	Burien	WA	
Gaynor	Joseph	Sandown	NH	
Geiger	Kenyon	Carmel	ME	
Geiser	Jennah	Brewer	ME	
Geiser	Nick	Holden	ME	
Gelinas	Robert	Orono	ME	
Gellis Morais	Bell	Montevideo		Uruguay
Gendreau	Nate	Gray	ME	
Genereux	Adam	Sanford	ME	
Geniti	Olivia	Scotia	NY	
Genoter	Melissa	Townsend	MA	

Genrich	Jonathan	Bar Harbor	ME	
Gentle	Keegan	Houlton	ME	
Geohegan	Remi	Orono	ME	
George	Taylor	Kittery	ME	
Gerace	Michael	Bel Air	MD	
Gernhard	Maddy	Spring	TX	
Gerrie	Elyana	Corinna	ME	
Gervais	Mikki	Sabattus	ME	
Gessner	Bridget	Huntingdon Valley	PA	
Gichana	Maria	North Andover	MA	
Giguere	Jaimie	Orono	ME	
Gil	Annika	South China	ME	
Gil	Jason	Sanford	ME	
Gilbert	Brayden	South Portland	ME	
Gilgan	Chelsea	Bangor	ME	
Gillespie	Ethan	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Gilman	Madison	West Enfield	ME	
Gilman	Rachel	Cream Ridge	NJ	
Gilmore	Lydia	Bangor	ME	
Gingras	Rowan	Brewer	ME	

Ginsburg	Max	Attleboro Falls	MA	
Giuka	Carla	Levant	ME	
Gladstone	Deanna	Stamford	CT	
Glatter	Sarah	Orono	ME	
Gleason	Gavin	Beverly	MA	
Gleason	Madison	Wake Forest	NC	
Glendinning	Nuala	South Bristol	ME	
Glick	Joshua	Longmeadow	MA	
Glidden	Jodi	Milford	ME	
Glover	Emma	Cheshire	CT	
Glueck	Molly	Waterville	ME	
Godin	Dan	Bangor	ME	
Godinez	Joe	Tarentum	PA	
Goldman	Anya	Orono	ME	
Goncalves Da Silva	Luiz	Malden	MA	
Gonzalez	Derrick	Whiting	NJ	
Gonzalez Merrill	Angel	Skowhegan	ME	
Goodale	Jesse	Lincolntonville	ME	
Goodenough	Turner	Eliot	ME	

Goodman	Connor	Miami Beach	FL	
Gordesky-Hooper	Tovin	Burlington	VT	
Gordon	Drew	Litchfield	ME	
Goss	Brenden	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Gosselin	Luke	Saco	ME	
Gould	Rhiannon	Washington	ME	
Goulet	Hanna	Springvale	ME	
Gowell	Jordyn	Monmouth	ME	
Graham	Elly	North Yarmouth	ME	
Graham	Grace	Cary Plantation	ME	
Graham	Ryder	Houlton	ME	
Granger	Curran	Blue Hill	ME	
Grant	Emalee	Union	ME	
Grant	Katelyn	Orrington	ME	
Grant	Riley	Addison	ME	
Greco	Avery	Lewiston	ME	
Green	Erick	East Millinocket	ME	
Green	Wyatt	Augusta	ME	
Greene	Megan	Calais	ME	
Greenlaw	Kathleen	Bangor	ME	

Greenlaw	Tyla	Steep Falls	ME	
Greenwood	James	Lewiston	ME	
Gregor	Chad	Eliot	ME	
Gregory	Claire	Portland	ME	
Grierson	Anna	South Thomaston	ME	
Griffin	Riley	Cheshire	CT	
Griffith	Matthew	Stillwater	ME	
Griffith	William	Maplewood	NJ	
Griffiths	Eva	Portland	ME	
Grilo	Britney	Bradford	NH	
Grindle	Riley	Ellsworth	ME	
Grogan	Leann	Orono	ME	
Grous	Emma	Ashford	CT	
Grover	Emily	Carver	MA	
Grover	Ethan	Bangor	ME	
Gruitich	Alex	Englewood	CO	
Grunwald	Abigail	Port Matilda	PA	
Guarnieri	Martin	Belgrade	ME	
Guerrette	Nickolas	Caribou	ME	
Guerrette	Ronald	Caribou	ME	

Guertin	Gabe	Ware	MA	
Guillemette	Gabrielle	Lyman	ME	
Gundermann	Sara	Palmyra	PA	
Gunster	Brennan	Duxbury	MA	
Gurney	Lauren	Melvin Village	NH	
Gushue	Niall	Raymond	ME	
Gustavesen	Julia	Upton	MA	
Guy	Henry	Worthington	OH	
Guzman	Jon	Waterbury	CT	
Guzzi	Melissa	Boothbay	ME	
Gylstorff	Caroline	Risskov		Denmark
Ha	Trizzie	Gray	ME	
Hadley	Zoe	Miami	FL	
Hafford	Colby	Dedham	ME	
Hagarman	Sydney	Old Town	ME	
Haggerty	Jillian	Houlton	ME	
Hagi	George	South Glastonbury	CT	
Hainer	Ainsley	Lincoln	ME	
Hale	Glenice	Bangor	ME	
Hale	Molly	Cumberland Center	ME	

Hall	Chappy	Brunswick	ME	
Hall	Danielle	Sidney	ME	
Hall	Jacqueline	Owls Head	ME	
Hall	Kayla	Eagle River	AK	
Hallagan	Isabelle	Falmouth	ME	
Halle	Kaitlin	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
Hallett	Alexis	Blue Hill	ME	
Hallett	Tholia	Falmouth	ME	
Halliday	Jason	Falmouth	ME	
Halloway	Alissa	Windham	ME	
Halvorsen	Jason	South Portland	ME	
Ham	Melissa	Teaticket	MA	
Hamblen	Sammy	Searsport	ME	
Hamilton	Erik	Monroe	ME	
Hamilton	Jared	Ellsworth	ME	
Hamlin	Luke	Searsmont	ME	
Hammill-Nordfors	Camryn	Bangor	ME	
Hammond	Caroline	Auburn	ME	
Hammond	Nick	Lyman	ME	
Hancock	Ryan	Moyock	NC	

Handley	Makenzie	Bangor	ME	
Hanington	Sarah	Lincoln	ME	
Hankinson	Gabe	Braintree	MA	
Hanna	Mackenzie	Lamoine	ME	
Hannan	Kaleb	Gray	ME	
Hanscom	Emily	Bethel	ME	
Hanselmann	Steve	Sanford	ME	
Hanson	Trevor	Diamond	IL	
Harden	Ian	Augusta	ME	
Harder	Katie	Orono	ME	
Hardina	Oliver	Nobleboro	ME	
Harding	Brady	Howland	ME	
Harding	Courtney	Presque Isle	ME	
Harding	Seth	Biddeford	ME	
Hardison	Kaori	Nashville	TN	
Hardy	Amy	Deer Isle	ME	
Hardy	Caitlyn	Exeter	ME	
Hargraves	Cam	Sun Prairie	WI	
Hargrove	Hannah	Sidney	ME	
Harman	Grace	Veazie	ME	

Harmatys	Grace	Livermore	ME	
Harmon	Camden	Greenville Junction	ME	
Harmon	Casey	Portland	ME	
Harmon	Danielle	Lincoln	RI	
Harmon	Jack	Eliot	ME	
Harper	Caleb	Bangor	ME	
Harper	Luke	Madison	ME	
Harriman	Parker	Bangor	ME	
Harrington	Emalee	Bethel	ME	
Harrington	Jack	York	ME	
Harris	Anthony	Nazareth	PA	
Harris	Dorothy	Sinclair	ME	
Harris	Wyatt	Scarborough	ME	
Hart	Chloe	Orrington	ME	
Hart	Cooper	Waterville	ME	
Hart	Kai	Camden	ME	
Hart	Leah	Holden	ME	
Harthorne	Wyatt	Dyer Brook	ME	
Hartley	Sofia	Poland	ME	
Hartmann	Emily	Sparta	IL	

Hartt	Bill	Carmel	ME	
Harzewski	Matt	Dixmont	ME	
Haskell	Abigail	West Gardiner	ME	
Hasselbaum	Cam	Bellingham	MA	
Hatch	Aidan	Dover	NH	
Hathaway	Adam	Veazie	ME	
Hatt	Arianna	Winslow	ME	
Haughton	Dylan	Bangor	ME	
Hauser	Sydney	Quaker Hill	CT	
Haverty	Erin	Fitchburg	MA	
Hawkins	Courtney	Brewer	ME	
Hayden	Amelia	Surry	ME	
Hayden	Jessica	Milford	ME	
Hayes	Aidan	North Yarmouth	ME	
Hayes	Anna	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Hayes	Kenzie	Presque Isle	ME	
Hayes	Michael	New Hyde Park	NY	
Hays-Peterson	Katrina	Syracuse	NY	
Hayward	Tatum	Scarborough	ME	

Hazelton	Ian	Leominster	MA	
Hazlewood	Jaclyn	Westbrook	ME	
Heartquist	Jacob	Lowell	MA	
Hebert	Aela	Bangor	ME	
Hebert	Ben	Madawaska	ME	
Hebert	Branden	Presque Isle	ME	
Hebert	Cheyenne	Stockton Springs	ME	
Hebert	Keri	Madawaska	ME	
Heck	Max	Greenfield	NH	
Heikkinen	Kaisa	Paris	ME	
Heiser	Emma	Saint James	NY	
Helfen	Kaitlyn	Brewer	ME	
Helinski	Mina	Whitinsville	MA	
Henderson	Isabel	Orono	ME	
Henderson	Reed	Gorham	ME	
Henderson	Savanah	Las Vegas	NV	
Hendrickson	Sheila	Wilmington	DE	
Hendrigan	Emily	Brockton	MA	
Hepler	Ada	Orono	ME	
Herbert	Maddie	Westbrook	ME	

Heredia	Charlie	Wayne	IL	
Hernandez	Kay	Newburgh	NY	
Herrick	Isabella	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Hersey	Mickey	Brewer	ME	
Hershbine	Nicholas	Exeter	ME	
Herzig	Elizabeth	Colrain	MA	
Hess	Alec	Brunswick	ME	
Heuss	Caleb	Yarmouth	ME	
Heyland	Jared	Newington	NH	
Hickey	Alexei	Monroe	CT	
Hickey	Rose	Waldoboro	ME	
Hicks	Jon	Clinton	CT	
Higgins	Alex	Skowhegan	ME	
Higgins	Nick	Old Town	ME	
Higgs	Reid	Bangor	ME	
Hild	Oliver	Hiram	ME	
Hills	Emily	Searsmont	ME	
Hills	Julia	Windham	ME	
Hinde	Gabi	North Kingstown	RI	
Hinkley	Amos	Waldoboro	ME	

Hinz	Jacob	Austin	TX	
Hipsky	Erika	Blue Hill	ME	
Hixon	Noah	Orono	ME	
Hoar	Alexander	Haverhill	MA	
Hobbs	Emily	South Portland	ME	
Hodgdon	Aurora	Sanford	ME	
Hodgdon	Chloe	South Paris	ME	
Hodgkins	Desiree	Westbrook	ME	
Hodgkins	Molly	Windham	ME	
Hodgson	Sera	Rindge	NH	
Hodson	John	Wiscasset	ME	
Hodson	Julianna	Pittsfield	NH	
Hogan	Jack	Saunderstown	RI	
Hogg	Kayleigh	Palmyra	PA	
Holbrook	Sam	South Portland	ME	
Holland	Caeley	Taunton	MA	
Holland	Sunni	Salem	NH	
Hollander	Evan	Blackstone	MA	
Holm	Zach	Amston	CT	
Holman	Cody	Bowdoin	ME	

Holmes	Alex	Winterport	ME	
Holmes	Angela	Brooks	ME	
Holmes	Ashley	Waldoboro	ME	
Holt	Allison	South Portland	ME	
Holt	Chase	Cape Neddick	ME	
Holt	Emily	Cape Neddick	ME	
Holt	Logan	Belgrade Lakes	ME	
Holubcova	Tereza	Praha		Czech Republic
Holyoke	Lauren	Holden	ME	
Homa	MacKenna	Westbrook	ME	
Hopkins	Cari	Augusta	ME	
Hopp	Zach	Maple Grove	MN	
Horne	Joe	Berwick	ME	
Hornschild-Bear	Liam	Freeport	ME	
Horowitz	Rebekah	Bangor	ME	
Horton	Chris	Bar Harbor	ME	
Horton	Karen	Stillwater	ME	
Horton	Molly	North Yarmouth	ME	
Horvat	George	Saco	ME	
Horvath	Cleo	Hillsdale	NJ	

Hotham	Jimmy	Blaine	ME	
Hotham	Lizzy	Blaine	ME	
Houghton	Abyy	Bangor	ME	
House	Natalee	Farmington	ME	
Hovda	Catherine	Littleton	ME	
Howard	Blue	Gouldsboro	ME	
Howard	Kali	Farmington	ME	
Howard	Lisa	Nobleboro	ME	
Howard	Skye	Gouldsboro	ME	
Howe	Ethan	Hampden	ME	
Howell	Aaron	Cumberland Center	ME	
Howell	Billy	South China	ME	
Howell	Cadi	Mount Desert	ME	
Howell	Ryan	Portland	ME	
Howes	Morgan	Sandwich	MA	
Howland	Mikyla	Haynesville	ME	
Howlett	Brooke	Mars Hill	ME	
Hoy	Andrew	King of Prussia	PA	
Hoyt	Ben	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Hoyt	Mark	Concord	NH	

Huber	Shaelyn	West Milford	NJ	
Huckaby	Garrett	Salem	AL	
Hudock	Alexy	North Berwick	ME	
Huerth	Maddie	Bradley	ME	
Huff	Tevin	Skowhegan	ME	
Hughes	Aurora	Dudley	MA	
Hughes	Cameron	West Warwick	RI	
Hughes	Mackenzie	Saugus	MA	
Hull	Gregory	Eau Claire	WI	
Humphrey	Maddy	Winterport	ME	
Humphrey	Tyler	Cape Neddick	ME	
Hunt	Benjamin	Corea	ME	
Hunt	Ellie	Bangor	ME	
Hunt	Faith	Boise	ID	
Hunt	Kimberly	Corea	ME	
Hunt	Timothy	Corea	ME	
Hunter	Bobby	Beverly	MA	
Hunter	Jason	Northport	ME	
Hureau	Tess	Fort Collins	CO	
Hurlburt	Rowan	Lincolnville	ME	

Hurlburt	Zachary	Alfred	ME	
Hussey	Kaylee	Milford	ME	
Hutchins	Trinity	Fairfield	ME	
Hutchins	Wesley	Swanville	ME	
Hutchinson	Anna	Hooksett	NH	
Hutchinson	Jessica	Canterbury	NH	
Hutzler	Drew	Hanahan	SC	
Hwang	Seokhyeon	Orono	ME	
Hyora	Ava	Brewster	MA	
Ickia Ngaullo	Simona	South Portland	ME	
Ilvonen	Karl	Owls Head	ME	
Ingalls	Brendan	Melrose	MA	
Ingersoll	Dianna	Windham	ME	
Inman	Morgan	Wales	ME	
Ireland	Meghan	Hampden	ME	
Ireland	Morgan	Presque Isle	ME	
Ireland	Zach	Bangor	ME	
Ireland	Zack	Old Town	ME	
Irish	Hannah	Lincoln	ME	

Irujo	Carmen	Newburyport	MA	
Irvine	Emily	Bangor	ME	
Isada	Alex	Richfield	OH	
Ismail	Alexis	Glenburn	ME	
Ismail	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Isnor	Erika	Baileyville	ME	
Ittleson	Claire	West Hartford	CT	
Ivanicka	Dominika	Orono	ME	
Ives	Amanda	Newburyport	MA	
Ivory	Madi	Newport	ME	
Izere	Henry	Orono	ME	
Jablonski	Ben	Chicopee	MA	
Jacey	Elena	Arlington	MA	
Jackson	Caleb	Bar Harbor	ME	
Jackson	Pearl	Orono	ME	
Jackson	Tony	Bradley	ME	
Jackson	Tony	Vineyard Haven	MA	
Jackson	Zack	Lansdale	PA	
Jackson Gianino	Calista	Scarborough	ME	
Jacobs	Lizzie	Glenburn	ME	

Jacobs	Nathan	Westbrook	ME	
Jacobs	Nicholas	Glenburn	ME	
Jacobson	Alicia	Bangor	ME	
Jakacky	David	Orono	ME	
Jalbert	Rachel	Burlington	CT	
James	Abriah	St John's		Antigua and Barbuda
Jamison	Caitlyn	Villas	NJ	
Jandreau	Isabelle	Madawaska	ME	
Janes	Ali	Avon	CT	
Jarvis	Alexa	Bangor	ME	
Jarvis	George	Valley Stream	NY	
Jarvis	James	Kennebunk	ME	
Jenkins	Kristin	Bangor	ME	
Jenkins	Lily	New Canaan	CT	
Jennings	Lily	Scarborough	ME	
Jensen	Dustin	Old Town	ME	
Jensen	Katie	South Weymouth	MA	
Jerome	Mike	Halifax	MA	
Jerose	Maya	Enosburg Falls	VT	
Jiang	Qikai	Orono	ME	

Jipson	Storm	Auburn	ME	
Jobe	Devon	Orono	ME	
Jodoin	Kaitlyn	Gorham	ME	
Johanson	Chris	Old Town	ME	
Johnson	Anna	Springvale	ME	
Johnson	Beatrice	Falmouth	ME	
Johnson	Ben	Orono	ME	
Johnson	Chris	Bradley	ME	
Johnson	Dane	Fall Creek	WI	
Johnson	Ethan	Falmouth	ME	
Johnson	Heather	Old Town	ME	
Johnson	Jeff	Ware	MA	
Johnson	Mei Li	Port Jefferson Station	NY	
Johnson	Mollie	Wareham	MA	
Johnson	Nicholas	North Berwick	ME	
Johnson	Olivia	Levant	ME	
Johnson	Reid	South Berwick	ME	
Johnson	Riley	Gorham	ME	
Johnson	Ryan	Danielson	CT	
Johnson	Will	Falmouth	ME	

Johnston	Amber	Thomaston	ME	
Jolliffe	Eli	Searsmont	ME	
Jones	Audrey	Scarborough	ME	
Jones	Brenna	Winterport	ME	
Jones	Madison	Lamoine	ME	
Jones	Sarah	Himrod	NY	
Jordan	Abe	Scarborough	ME	
Jordan	Jalen	Upper Darby	PA	
Jordan	Nate	Winterport	ME	
Judkins	Jordyn	Deer Isle	ME	
Judson	Caileigh	Pembroke	MA	
Kachmar	Sydney	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Kahelin	Anna	Helsinki		Finland
Kahkonen	Tyler	Brewer	ME	
Kane	Devon	Swanville	ME	
Kane	Emily	Pembroke	MA	
Kane	Maddie	Monson	ME	
Kane	Michael	Harpswell	ME	
Kaphle	Apurba	Fort Kent	ME	
Karamousadakis	Emmanouil	Winthrop	ME	

Kariores	Kyle	Gloucester	MA	
Kasacek	Jess	Canterbury	CT	
Kashmark	Nathaniel	Sabin	MN	
Kasprzak	Allie	Danvers	MA	
Kaufman	Sophie	Gorham	ME	
Kauppila	Wesley	Newburgh	ME	
Kaurin	Aleksandar	South Portland	ME	
Kay	Annie	Marblehead	MA	
Kazilionis	Aaron	Scarborough	ME	
Kearney	John	Cumberland Center	ME	
Keast	Matthew	Portland	ME	
Keast	Megan	Portland	ME	
Keating	Emily	Freedom	ME	
Keebler	Isabella	Bangor	ME	
Keebler	Paul	Bangor	ME	
Keefe	Charlie	Yarmouth	ME	
Kelley	Dillon	Falmouth	ME	
Kelley	Ethan	Yarmouth	ME	
Kelley	Kaitlyn	Saco	ME	

Kelley	Mitchell	Falmouth	ME	
Kelley	Myles	Appleton	ME	
Kelly	Mckenzie	Merrimac	MA	
Kelly	Melissa	Bangor	ME	
Kelly	Owen	Westborough	MA	
Kelly	Thomas	Steamboat Springs	CO	
Kelsey	Courtney	Hermon	ME	
Kempf	Joy	Ellsworth	ME	
Kenison	Matt	Topsham	ME	
Kennedy	Bhreagh	Skowhegan	ME	
Kennedy	Erin	Monmouth	ME	
Kennedy	Jessie	Williston	VT	
Kenney	Alyssa	Wells	ME	
Kenney	Wyatt	Gray	ME	
Kenny	Adam	Milford	ME	
Kent	Rylee	Lake Worth	FL	
Kerr	Stephen	Franklin	MA	
Ketch	Emily	Bradley	ME	
Key	Brandon	Nicholasville	KY	
Khat	Daniel	Sanford	ME	

Kihn	Naomi	Warren	ME	
Kilborn	Chloe	Brunswick	ME	
Kilby	Kaylah	Charlotte	ME	
Kiley	Andrew	Holden	ME	
Kindler	Henry	Kennebunk	ME	
King	Ashley	Bangor	ME	
King	Cade	Palermo	ME	
King	Dylan	Uxbridge	MA	
King	Katie	Wayne	ME	
King	Liam	Alfred	ME	
King	Parker	Palermo	ME	
King	Sam	Thomaston	ME	
Kinney	Richard	Bangor	ME	
Kinney	Ryan	Bangor	ME	
Kintner	Ben	Farmington	CT	
Kinyon	Kalina	Westport	CT	
Kirby	Dean	Sicklerville	NJ	
Kirby	Natalie	Hampden	ME	
Kirkpatrick	Ethan	Colchester	CT	
Kirouac	Kayden	Auburn	ME	

Kirshkaln	David	Dexter	ME	
Kjellander	Olivia	Kingston	MA	
Klanjscek	Maks	Ljubljana		Slovenia
Klass	CJ	Beverly	MA	
Klimowich	Scott	New Milford	CT	
Klodenski	Tom	Old Town	ME	
Knapp	Andrea	Sullivan	ME	
Knapp	Dawson	Sanford	ME	
Knapp	Willow	Bangor	ME	
Knedler	Blake	New Gloucester	ME	
Kneeland	Braydon	Bangor	ME	
Kneissler	Casey	Fryeburg	ME	
Knight	Olivia	Raleigh	NC	
Knowles	Joseph	Topsham	ME	
Knowles	Kaylee	Bucksport	ME	
Knowles	Liam	Topsham	ME	
Knowles	Megan	Monmouth	ME	
Kobrock	Carlee	Moodus	CT	
Kockodan	Jon	Poland	ME	
Koenig	Abbye	Old Town	ME	

Koenig	Evan	Gorham	ME	
Kogler	Kaleigh	Lexington	KY	
Kohr	Maddie	Palmyra	PA	
Kolodziej	Cam	Salem	MA	
Kolodziej	Christopher	Salem	MA	
Kolota	Anna	Bangor	ME	
Kondor-Ouellette	Sara	Wells	ME	
Koneff	Roy	Alton	ME	
Kontio	Emily	Hermon	ME	
Korasadowicz	Bogumil	Baileyville	ME	
Koretsky	Alexandra	Presque Isle	ME	
Koretsky	Dina	Houlton	ME	
Kornsey	Danny	Waterville	ME	
Korstanje	Thomas	Bar Harbor	ME	
Kosmin	Stephanie	North Chelmsford	MA	
Kostelnick	Isabelle	El Paso	IL	
Kovacs	Sam	Buxton	ME	
Koval	Elizabeth	Brunswick	ME	
Kraemer	Abby	Waterloo	ON	Canada
Krause	Izaak	Brownville	ME	

Kressel	Matteo	Haddon Heights	NJ	
Krivorotko	Dima	Orono	ME	
Kronberg	Karin	Tibro		Sweden
Kroushl	J.	Franklin	MA	
Kruczek	Jade	Dayton	ME	
Kruger	Max	Shelton	CT	
Krull	Alexis	Old Town	ME	
Kruse	Emma	Greenwood	ME	
Kubinsky	Bryn	Allentown	PA	
Kucia	Jackie	Rehoboth	MA	
Kueck	Alison	Scarborough	ME	
Kugell	Dominic	Oxford	ME	
Kummer	Sophie	Fryeburg	ME	
Kuoppala	Ida	Pietarsaari		Finland
Kuras	Lia	San Diego	CA	
Kusnierz	Brett	Garland	ME	
Kutzinski	Kira	Buende		Germany
Kuver	Anna-Cate	Haverhill	MA	
Kwan	Matthew	Natick	MA	
La Casse	Gus	Trenton	ME	

Labb	Tommy	Wells	ME	
Labbe	William	Brunswick	ME	
Labonte	Delaney	York	ME	
LaBrier	John	Orland	ME	
LaCasse	Lily	Old Orchard Beach	ME	
LaChance	Olivia	Scarborough	ME	
Lachapelle	Cade	Holyoke	MA	
Ladd	Connor	South Paris	ME	
Ladd	Mackenzie	Bangor	ME	
Ladd	Navia	Waterford	CT	
Ladd	Sophie	Byron	ME	
Ladner	Abby	Danville	PA	
Ladner-Hudson	Annabel	Gardiner	ME	
Laferriere	Danny	Wallingford	CT	
Laffey	Kaycee	Brewer	ME	
Lafleur	Nicholas	Stonington	CT	
Lafontaine	Sarah	Greene	ME	
LaFrance	Grace	Alfred	ME	
Lagace	Dominic	Springvale	ME	
Lage-Lichko	Steph	Waldoboro	ME	

LaGodna	Carl	Clinton Township	MI	
Lai	Peter	Waterville	ME	
Lajoie	Josh	Hebron	ME	
Lamb	Jasmine	Poland	ME	
Lambert	Miranda	Fairfield	ME	
Lambert	Noah	Standish	ME	
Lambert	Poppy	Greytown		New Zealand
Lambert	Sophia	Presque Isle	ME	
Lambrecht	Isaac	Winslow	ME	
Lambros	Paige	North Tonawanda	NY	
Lamkin	Chaz	Standish	ME	
Lammert	Devon	Washington	DC	
Lamont	Chloe	Northbridge	MA	
LaMontagne	Jacob	Berwick	ME	
Lancaster	Lauren	Pittsfield	ME	
Lander	Jack	Orrington	ME	
Lander	Meg	Orrington	ME	
Landry	Hunter	Lewiston	ME	
Landry	Madison	Freeport	ME	

Landry	Pierce	Farmington	CT	
Landsman	Baylor	Bar Harbor	ME	
Lane	Julia	Lancaster	MA	
Langley	Alexys	Brewer	ME	
Langone	Gabrielle	Lynnfield	MA	
Lantheaume	Eliana	Chelmsford	MA	
LaPerriere	Caroline	Orono	ME	
Lapierre	Luke	Sanford	ME	
LaPointe	Jillian	Stow	MA	
LaPorte	Sam	Duxbury	MA	
Largay	Bryce	Brewer	ME	
Larochelle	Sam	Durham	ME	
Larouche	Macie	Fairfield	ME	
Larson	Shelby	Reynoldsburg	OH	
LaScala	Julian	Keene	NH	
Laskey	Eamon	Eddington	ME	
Lasorsa	Jolene	Lunenburg	MA	
Laubscher	Alec	Simsbury	CT	
Laurence	Abbe	Greenland	NH	
Laurita	Louis	Hope	ME	

Lavertu	Sarah	Frenchville	ME	
Laverty	Kaya	Medford	ME	
Lavin	Madison	Ashland	MA	
Lavoie	Lee	Winthrop	ME	
Lavoy	Nathan	Portland	CT	
Lawrence	Griffin	Mattapoisett	MA	
Le	Khiana	Portland	ME	
Le	Phuoc	Da Nang		Viet Nam
Leary	Griffin	Needham	MA	
Leary	McKayla	South Berwick	ME	
Leathers	Alec	Ellsworth	ME	
Leavitt	Emily	Glenburn	ME	
LeCates	Iris	Cincinnati	OH	
Lecko	Veronica	Chicopee	MA	
LeClair	Emily	Bangor	ME	
LeClair	Hannah	Waterville	ME	
LeClair	Jasmine	Presque Isle	ME	
Ledford	David	Hudson	ME	
LeDuc	Ellie	Rumford	ME	
Ledue	Emily	Hartland	ME	

Lee	Carmen	Old Town	ME	
Lee	Kyle	Skowhegan	ME	
Lee	Matty	New Gloucester	ME	
Lees	Justin	Naples	ME	
Lefebvre	Kerry	Freeport	ME	
Lehan	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Lehan	Lily	Bangor	ME	
Leighton	Cassandra	Milford	ME	
Leighton	Gavyn	Wells	ME	
Lembree	Hannah	Claremont	NH	
Lemieux	Benjamin	Rome	ME	
Lemieux	Rollan	Cape Neddick	ME	
Lenfest	Lucas	Smithfield	ME	
Lengyel	Roxana	Falmouth	MA	
Lennon	Nellie	Saco	ME	
Lennox	Alexandria	Shamong	NJ	
Leschey	Nick	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Lessard	Alexandra	Jackman	ME	
Lessard	Niko	Raymond	ME	
Lester	Tim	Cumberland Center	ME	

Letourneau	Eliza	Scarborough	ME	
Lettre	Carly	Augusta	ME	
Leung	Annapurna	Braintree	MA	
Lever	Maggie	Bangor	ME	
Levesque	Amanda	Swansea	MA	
Levesque	Emily	Sidney	ME	
Levesque	Levi	Lisbon	ME	
Levinson	Adam	Yarmouth	ME	
Lewin	Reeseanne	Bridgewater	NJ	
Lewis	Alden	Camden	ME	
Lewis	Bailey	Skowhegan	ME	
Lewis	Katherine	Windham	ME	
Lewis	Shelby	Oakfield	ME	
Lezin	Joshua	Lakewood	NJ	
Libby	Erin	Cumberland Center	ME	
Libby	Immanuel	Saco	ME	
Libby	Owen	Bow	NH	
Libuda	Casey	Laconia	NH	
Liebler-Bendix	Ailin	Jamesville	NY	
Liedtka	Claire	San Antonio	TX	

Liem	Kendrick	Palo Alto	CA	
Lilley	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	
Lilly	Eve	Oakland	ME	
Lin	Hua	Portland	ME	
Lindstrom	Hannah	North Attleboro	MA	
Lindyberg	Jack	Stockton Springs	ME	
Lines	Eli	Trumansburg	NY	
Linkel	Reilly	Orland	ME	
Linscott	Jordan	Windsor	ME	
Lipson	Jacob	Franklin	MA	
Little	Kennedy	Andover	MN	
Littlefield	Rebekah	Winterport	ME	
Liu	Kaitlin	Brewer	ME	
Lizzotte	Hunter	Farmingdale	ME	
Llanto	Amelaine	Waterville	ME	
Llerena	Julianne	Hampden	ME	
Lobdell	Brady	Hampden	ME	
Locke	Tyler	Brookfield	MA	
Lockhart	Mariah	Winterport	ME	
Loeser	Claire	Saco	ME	

Loftus	Riley	Winslow	ME	
Lolar	Ethyn	Old Town	ME	
Longley	Hannah	Fairfield	ME	
Longtin	Kate	Brewer	ME	
Lonko	Charlotte	Milford	ME	
Looney	Brody	Vienna	ME	
Loper	Sydney	North Yarmouth	ME	
Lopez Valencia	John	Bangor	ME	
Lopez-Mata	Maddie	East Falmouth	MA	
Loranger	Jake	Portland	ME	
Lord	Christiana	Danforth	ME	
Lord	Griffin	Orono	ME	
Lord	Sarah	Wells	ME	
Lorenc	Kayla	Oakland	NJ	
Lorenzo	Jacob	Falmouth	ME	
Lorom	Sydney	Houlton	ME	
Losquadro	Katie	Bar Harbor	ME	
Loughman	Kayla	Reading	MA	
Lounsbury	Sinead	Fryeburg	ME	
Lounsbury	Sydney	Southbury	CT	

Lovblad	Max	Orono	ME	
Loveless	Austin	Cumberland Center	ME	
Low	Maria	Brewer	ME	
Low	Sarah	Orland	ME	
Lucas	Tucker	Waterboro	ME	
Lucci	Cassie	Wakefield	MA	
Luchon	Adam	Willington	CT	
Lucia	Tori	Fairfield	CT	
Luck	Katie	Upton	MA	
Lueders	Luke	Canton	ME	
Lueders	Page	Canton	ME	
Lunedei	Jake	Monument Beach	MA	
Lunt	Chloe	Greenfield	MA	
Lupien	Allison	Waldoboro	ME	
Lupien	Emily	Waldoboro	ME	
Luu	Kiera	Silver Spring	MD	
Lyford	Jennah	Hampden	ME	
Lynch	Danielle	Burlington	MA	
Lyons	Abby	Hampden	ME	

MacAskill	Erin	New Fairfield	CT	
MacBurnie	Amanda	Stillwater	ME	
MacDonald	Brianna	Holliston	MA	
MacDonald	Cam	Seabrook	NH	
MacDonald	Eamon	Audubon	NJ	
MacDougall	Daniel	Taunton	MA	
Mace	Emily	Norwood	MA	
Macek	Aaron	Wade	ME	
Mack	Jada	Cornville	ME	
MacKay	Megan	Dracut	MA	
MacKinnon	Ian	Presque Isle	ME	
Macklin	Fisher	Salem	CT	
MacLean	Cam	Augusta	ME	
MacLean	Darcy	Gray	ME	
MacLean	Ella	Antigonish	NS	Canada
MacLeod	Shayla	Wayland	MA	
MacNeil	Morgan	Bridgton	ME	
MacPherson	Tommy	Quincy	MA	
MacVane	Chloe	South Portland	ME	
Madden	Dylan	Greenbush	ME	

Maddock	Casey	Scarborough	ME	
Maddox	Audrey	Dixmont	ME	
Madison	Zach	Turner	ME	
Madore	Paige	Bridgewater	MA	
Maguire	Anthony	Westbrook	ME	
Mahan	Madison	Portland	ME	
Mahoney	James	Eddington	ME	
Mahoney	Julia	Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures	QC	Canada
Maidman	Jonathan	Carrabassett Valley	ME	
Mailey	Trinity	Old Town	ME	
Mains	Isaac	Bar Harbor	ME	
Malcolm	Adam	Palmyra	ME	
Malia	Patrick	Fryeburg	ME	
Malieswski	Ryan	Framingham	MA	
Malkin	Julian	Woodbury	CT	
Maloney	Katie	Louisville	CO	
Maloney	Liv	Worcester	MA	
Maloney	Maeve	West Hartford	CT	
Maltese	Sam	Camden	ME	
Manahan	Aidan	Newcastle	ME	

Manfredonia	Madeline	Southbury	CT	
Manning	Sarah	East Hampstead	NH	
Mantini	Gianna	Dunbarton	NH	
Marchessault	Mike	Cumberland Center	ME	
Marcincavage	Gabe	Framingham	MA	
Marcktell	Alex	Simsbury	CT	
Marcotte	Sarah	Bangor	ME	
Marcotte	Sarrah	Biddeford	ME	
Marcotte	Shannon	Dracut	MA	
Marinaccio	Tyler	Plainview	NY	
Markie	Grady	Bangor	ME	
Marks	Charlie	Orono	ME	
Marks	Jacob	Falmouth	ME	
Marsanskis	Luke	Cumberland Center	ME	
Marsh	Bryant	Cutler	ME	
Marsh	Hannah	Rowley	MA	
Marshall	Ella	Little Deer Isle	ME	
Marshall	Ennis	Little Deer Isle	ME	
Marshall	Kai	Natick	MA	
Marston	Matt	Fort Kent	ME	

Martell	Kyle	Gray	ME	
Martin	Brandon	Biddeford	ME	
Martin	Matthew	Hopkinton	MA	
Martin	Mchenna	Stonington	ME	
Martin	Michaela	Orono	ME	
Martin	Peter	Scarborough	ME	
Martin	Rebekkah	Hampden	ME	
Martinez	Ashley	Paterson	NJ	
Martwichuck	Abigail	Beverly	MA	
Marty	Hannah	Harwich	MA	
Marzano	Amaya	Freeport	ME	
Mason	Alden	Owls Head	ME	
Mason	Scott	Anson	ME	
Masterson	Jackson	Kingfield	ME	
Mastrianno	Leah	Augusta	ME	
Mastrorillo	Brandon	Old Town	ME	
Mathews	Lindsay	Fayetteville	NY	
Mathewson	Nathaniel	Linesville	PA	
Mathieu	Hannah	Sidney	ME	
Mathisen	Olivia	Wolcott	VT	

Mathisen	Sam	Conway	NH	
Matteo	Spencer	Portland	ME	
Mattessich	Logan	Rockaway	NJ	
Mattson	Timber	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Mault	Jacqueline	Chester	ME	
Max	Theresa	Ottsville	PA	
Maxsimic	Katie	Kingfield	ME	
May-Fleming	Iris	Nashville	TN	
Maybury	Michele	Brewer	ME	
Mayers	Victoria	Woonsocket	RI	
Mayhew	Zoe	Unity	ME	
Maynard	Nella	Eagle	NE	
Mayo	Matthew	Bridgton	ME	
Mayotte	Kaylee	Lebanon	ME	
Mazhar	Khan	Chantilly	VA	
Mazzie	Elizabeth	Albany	NY	
McAfee	Drake	Biddeford	ME	
McAlary	Hannah	Saco	ME	
McAuliffe	Maggie	Foxboro	MA	

McBreairty	Riley	Hampden	ME	
McBrine	Ethan	Biddeford	ME	
McCann	Charlie	Eliot	ME	
McCann	Hannah	Holden	ME	
McCann	Jack	Rehoboth	MA	
McCarthy	Billy	Norton	MA	
McCarthy	Delia	Melrose	MA	
McCarthy	Logan	Windham	ME	
McCarthy	Madi	Orono	ME	
McCarthy	Natalie	Old Town	ME	
McCauley	Justin	Randolph	MA	
McClendon	David	Watertown	CT	
McClung	D.J.	Hermon	ME	
McCollom	Daphne	Minooka	IL	
McConville	Keely	Orono	ME	
McCue	Kyle	Bangor	ME	
McCullough	Kaitlin	Ellsworth	ME	
McCullough	Nolan	Gorham	ME	
McDermott	Wyatt	Wells	VT	
McDevitt	Griffin	Sandwich	MA	

McDonagh	Sarah	Attleboro	MA	
McDonald	Meghan	Orono	ME	
McDonough	Bryson	Orono	ME	
McDonough	Caitlin	Orono	ME	
McDonough	Dylan	North Pomfret	VT	
McDonough	Katie	Rowley	MA	
McDougal	Ryan	Hartland	ME	
McDowell	Tab	Laingsburg	MI	
McDowell	Yvey	Bristol	RI	
McEnaney	Aidan	Kennebunk	ME	
McGarry	Morgan	Scarborough	ME	
McGee	Bailey	Durham	ME	
McGeoghegan	Chris	Old Town	ME	
McGlaufflin	Aiden	Sidney	ME	
McGlone	Aidan	Limington	ME	
McGovern	Nick	Methuen	MA	
McGowan	Hayley	Charlestown	MA	
McGrath	Corrine	Lyman	NH	
McHatten	Paige	Mapleton	ME	
McInnis	Drew	Portland	ME	

McIntosh	Ashlee	Appleton	ME	
McIntosh	Micah	New Providence		Bahamas
McKelvy	David	Scarborough	ME	
McKenney	Caitlin	Harmony	ME	
McKenney	Sydney	Hampden	ME	
McKeon	Daniel	Searsport	ME	
McLaughlin	Chase	Gardiner	ME	
Mclaughlin	Delani	Greenbush	ME	
McLaughlin	John	Manchester	ME	
McLaughlin	Lily	Bangor	ME	
McLaughlin	Maria	Brewer	ME	
McLellan	Ivy	Calais	ME	
McMerty	Tristan	Freehold	NJ	
McNally	Zoe	Bowdoin	ME	
McNeil	Karen	Hartford	ME	
McPhail	Jevan	Edmunds Township	ME	
McPhee	Will	Winchester	MA	
McTigue	Michael	Cumberland Center	ME	
McWhorter	Audrey	Tipp City	OH	
Mealey	Jacob	Farmington	ME	

Meaney	Lauren	North Reading	MA	
Medeiros	Josh	Scarborough	ME	
Meeker	Victoria	East Haven	CT	
Megna	Casey	Wrentham	MA	
Mehre	Alex	Veazie	ME	
Meisel	Sean	Stratford	CT	
Mejias	Jazmyne	Standish	ME	
Mellor	Rebekah	Stockton Springs	ME	
Melton	Michael	Blacksburg	VA	
Melvin	Brad	North Wales	PA	
Melz	Trevor	Acton	MA	
Membrino	Lilia	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Mendonca	Allison	Saint Albans	ME	
Mendoza Yanes	Karla	Biddeford	ME	
Meneley	Sarah	Champaign	IL	
Mercurio	Sophia	Lynn	MA	
Merz	Nolan	Rocklin	CA	
Messier	April	Camden	ME	
Metivier	Julia	Foxboro	MA	
Metz	John	Flemington	NJ	

Metz	Jordan	Nobleboro	ME	
Meyer	Claire	Bangor	ME	
Mezzadri	Dom	Blackstone	MA	
Michaud	Adreanna	Leeds	ME	
Michaud	Aidan	North Yarmouth	ME	
Michaud	Camille	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Michaud	Conner	Presque Isle	ME	
Michaud	Dante	North Berwick	ME	
Michaud	Ella	Winthrop	ME	
Michaud	Jacob	Wells	ME	
Michaud	Jake	Hampden	ME	
Michaud	Marc	Machiasport	ME	
Mierzejewski	Karissa	New Hartford	CT	
Mierzejewski	Nicholas	New Hartford	CT	
Milan	Grace	Brewer	ME	
Miljone	Liga	Kekava		Latvia
Millay	Chanthu	Brewer	ME	
Miller	Abigail	Gorham	ME	
Miller	Dillon	Ledgewood	NJ	
Miller	Dominic	Houlton	ME	

Miller	Jenna	Charlton	MA	
Miller	Jordyn	Dedham	ME	
Miller	Katelyn	Trumbull	CT	
Miller	Keyana	Chelmsford	MA	
Miller	Makayla	Bangor	ME	
Millett	Nick	Orono	ME	
Milligan	Mary	Winthrop	ME	
Mills	Nic	Chelsea	ME	
Milton	Kara	Pembroke	MA	
Minas	Katarina	Cranston	RI	
Minkin	Grace	Camden	ME	
Misiaszek	Katy	West Boylston	MA	
Misler	Zara	Winterport	ME	
Mitchell	Taylor	Southampton	MA	
Mittelstadt	Lexi	Wilton	ME	
Mkandla	Zibusiso	Bulawayo		Zimbabwe
Moery	Katie	Alexandria	VA	
Mohawass	Marina	Bangor	ME	
Mohr	Jacob	Plantsville	CT	
Molina	Justin	Elizabeth	NJ	

Moline	Brendan	Lincolnville	ME	
Moniz	Kyle	Salem	NH	
Monteiro	Luke	Mystic	CT	
Montgomery	Seanna	Waldoboro	ME	
Montuori	Isabella	Northborough	MA	
Monzo	Charlie	Colonia	NJ	
Moody	Elizabeth	Chelmsford	MA	
Moody	Kylie	Brookfield	CT	
Moon	Brianna	Howland	ME	
Mooney	Katie	Chepachet	RI	
Moore	Cole	Old Town	ME	
Moore	Max	Camden	ME	
Moore	Sydney	Port Clinton	OH	
Moore	Timothy	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Mora	Josh	Windham	ME	
Morales	Sarah	Framingham	MA	
Moreau	Sarah	Lisbon Falls	ME	
Morel	Jordyn	Fall River	MA	
Morgan	Aleigha	Dover	DE	

Morgan	Alex	Perry	ME	
Morgan	Evan	Scarborough	ME	
Morgus	Matthew	Lancaster	NY	
Morin	Abby	Winthrop	ME	
Morin	Andrea	Ipswich	MA	
Morin	Donna	Saint David	ME	
Morin	Emily	Lyman	ME	
Morin	Evan	Berlin	CT	
Morin	Joel	Old Town	ME	
Morneault	Garrett	Washburn	ME	
Morphy	Elise	Regina	SK	Canada
Morrell	Avery	Cornwall	NY	
Morrell	Jordan	Poland	ME	
Morrill	Rya	Hudson	ME	
Morrison	Bailey	Wells	ME	
Morrison	Joe	Biddeford	ME	
Morrison	Tegan	Waterloo	ON	Canada
Morrison	Trevor	Hancock	ME	
Morrisette	Alexander	Brookfield	CT	
Morrissey	Felix	Orono	ME	

Morrissey	Liam	New Boston	NH	
Morrissey	Lilly	Woodbridge	CT	
Morse	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Morse	Spencer	Freeport	ME	
Morton	Sam	Norway	ME	
Moser	Matisse	Falmouth	ME	
Mosqueda	Peter	Reading	MA	
Moss	Molly	Waterville	ME	
Moulton	Greg	Cutler	ME	
Mower	Tayah	Lynnfield	MA	
Moynihan	Naomi	Bangor	ME	
Muir	Makenzie	Concord	NH	
Mullally	Jacquie	Millis	MA	
Mulligan	Abigail	Orono	ME	
Mulligan	Aidan	West Simsbury	CT	
Mulligan	Jacob	Berwick	ME	
Mulligan	Kacie	West Enfield	ME	
Mulligan	Monica	Bangor	ME	
Mullin	Natalie	Cumberland Center	ME	
Mullin	Rachel	Bridgewater	MA	

Mullin	Sean	Redding	CT	
Mulrooney	Connor	Phippsburg	ME	
Munroe	Heather	Penobscot	ME	
Murphy	Bart	Biddeford	ME	
Murphy	Cassidy	Willow Grove	PA	
Murphy	Fiona	Bridgton	ME	
Murphy	Fiona	York	ME	
Murphy	Matthias	Lewiston	ME	
Murphy	Michael	West Baldwin	ME	
Murphy	Noah	Bangor	ME	
Murphy	Sean	Wallingford	CT	
Murray	Brenna	North Billerica	MA	
Murray	Emily	Scarborough	ME	
Murray	Kian	Brunswick	ME	
Murray	Mackenzie	Thomaston	ME	
Murray	Ryan	Scarborough	ME	
Murrin	Katie	Braintree	MA	
Muscat	Abigail	Bass Harbor	ME	
Musor	Destiny	Bangor	ME	
Muth	Julia	Sparta	NJ	

Muthig	Mya	North Berwick	ME	
Mutz	Alex	Trumbull	CT	
Myers	Hagen	Portland	ME	
Myers	Sabina	Rehoboth	MA	
Myron	Amanda	Durham	ME	
Naamani	Mohsin	Masqat		Oman
Nadeau	Larry	Fort Kent	ME	
Nahas	Natalie	Dover	NH	
Nally	Colin	Endicott	NY	
Namujju	Elizabeth	Old Town	ME	
Nangle	Sydney	Windham	ME	
Narankevicius	Melanie	Leominster	MA	
Narofsky	Sophia	Hampden	ME	
Nascimento	Ryan	Somerset	MA	
Nash	Ellie	Falmouth	ME	
Natalizia	Jake	Saunderstown	RI	
Neal	Thomas	Monmouth	ME	
Nedder	Reagan	Attleboro	MA	
Negley	Jaidyn	Greene	ME	
Nelson	Emma	Wells	ME	

Nelson	Jacob	Walpole	MA	
Nelson	Jared	Scarborough	ME	
Neufeld	David	Topsham	ME	
Neuhauser	Liv	Falmouth	ME	
Nevels	Kaden	Hermon	ME	
New	Syeira	Limerick	ME	
Newcomb	Madilyn	Perry	ME	
Newman	Sienna	Bangor	ME	
Ney	Connor	Brunswick	ME	
Ngo	Vinh-Nhan	Bangor	ME	
Nguyen	Kelly	Portland	ME	
Nguyen	Soren	Orono	ME	
Niayesh	Mohammad	Detroit	ME	
Nicholas	Annika	Littleton	ME	
Nicholas	Nathaniel	Mechanicsville	MD	
Nichols	Addison	Bangor	ME	
Nichols	Matthew	Old Town	ME	
Nickels	Claire	Hampden	ME	
Nickerson	Emma	Brunswick	ME	
Nielsen	Tyler	North Grafton	MA	

Nieves	Marcus	Hartford	CT	
Ninteau	Emily	Dracut	MA	
Nkulikiyinka	Theophile	Orono	ME	
Noddin	Connor	Bangor	ME	
Noonan	Dakota	Winterport	ME	
Norbury	Kristina	Woodstown	NJ	
Norman	Ian	Holden	ME	
Norment	Lukas	Glenburn	ME	
Norsworthy	Jeff	Yarmouth	ME	
Novak	Rebekah	Hampden	ME	
Nowack	Jeffrey	Hampden	ME	
Nowak	Lilian	Bangor	ME	
Noyes	James	Warren	ME	
Nugent	John	Rockport	ME	
Nunes	Nicole	Danvers	MA	
Nutting	Tylar	Saco	ME	
Nygaard	Aubree	Orono	ME	
Nygaard	Zane	Old Town	ME	
O'Brien	Erin	Santee	CA	
O'Brien	Liam	Oxford	CT	

O'Donnell	Laura	Tewksbury	MA	
O'Donnell	Mackenzie	Portland	ME	
O'Dowd	Kristin	Millis	MA	
O'Flaherty	Mary	Lowell	MA	
O'Kane	Erin	Bangor	ME	
O'Keefe	Armand	South Orange	NJ	
O'Kelly	Luke	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
O'Reilly	Eileen	Norwood	MA	
O'Sullivan	Julianna	Belfast	ME	
Oakes	Breanne	Hermon	ME	
Ober	Julian	Tulsa	OK	
Ochoa	Israel	Clermont	FL	
Oglesby	Wyatt	Black Hawk	CO	
Oko	Liberty	Corinth	ME	
Oliveira	Elijah	Lincoln	RI	
Oliveira	Isabella	Boxford	MA	
Oliver	Tyler	North Berwick	ME	
Olsen	Tucker	Canton	ME	
Olshin	Jasmine	Scarborough	ME	

Olski	David	Sherborn	MA	
Olson	Chase	West Simsbury	CT	
Olzinski	Molly	Johnson City	NY	
Orakwue	Chisom	Lagos		Nigeria
Oranje	Paige	Bangor	ME	
Orethun	Darien	Old Town	ME	
Orio	Mimi	Medfield	MA	
Orois Aznarez	Alba	Mollet del Valles		Spain
Ortiz	Sonora	Orono	ME	
Ortiz Albor	Ana	Milbridge	ME	
Orwig	Gracie	Manvel	TX	
Osetrova	Inna	Moscow		Russian Federation
Ostman	Victor	Danderyd		Sweden
Otash	Trent	Berwick	ME	
Ouellette	Aimee	Orono	ME	
Ouellette	Ellie	Fort Kent	ME	
Ouellette	Emma	Derry	NH	
Ouellette	Rachel	Woolwich	ME	
Ouellette	Toby	Saco	ME	
Ouimet	Allie	Old Town	ME	

Outwater	Andrew	Millbrook	NY	
Overcash	Slade	Scarborough	ME	
Owen	Sydney	Old Town	ME	
Oxley	Cameron	Holden	ME	
Ozlanski	Sarah Renee	Hampden	ME	
Pacanza-Rogers	Estrella	Raymond	ME	
Padilla	Mikayla	Midland	TX	
Padroff	Jack	Southington	CT	
Paetow	Sabrina	Topsham	ME	
Page	Hayden	Sutton	MA	
Pagliaro	Maria	Sandy Hook	CT	
Paine	Daniel	South Paris	ME	
Paine	Marissa	South Paris	ME	
Pais	Ali	Peabody	MA	
Palazzo	Riley	Orange	CT	
Palm	Gunnar	Kittery Point	ME	
Palmer	Mallory	Brunswick	ME	
Palmer	Mikayla	West Gardiner	ME	
Palumbo	Alex	Brooklyn	CT	
Panagakos	Gaby	Scarborough	ME	

Panciocco	Michael	Walpole	MA	
Papushka	Gabrielle	Surrey	BC	Canada
Paquin	Alyssa	Waterboro	ME	
Pardilla	Jerry	Rio Rancho	NM	
Pare	Stephen	Norwalk	CT	
Parent	Jeffery	Waldoboro	ME	
Park	Soojin	Old Town	ME	
Parker	Anya	Orono	ME	
Parker	Garrett	Brooksville	ME	
Parker	Scott	Denmark	ME	
Parks	Gavin	Calais	ME	
Parrotta	Emma	Cape Neddick	ME	
Parsons	Miko	Dixfield	ME	
Parsons	Sam	Hampden	ME	
Parsons	Taylor	Glastonbury	CT	
Pasamba	Anna	Edison	NJ	
Patashnik	Emily	Scarborough	ME	
Patel	Niraj	Sanford	ME	
Pateman	Nicole	St. Thomas	ON	Canada
Paterson	Adam	Mapleton	ME	

Patota	Sean	Swansea	MA	
Patten	Donny	Belfast	ME	
Patten	Noelle	Hermon	ME	
Patterson	Jaida	Gray	ME	
Pavlik	Zoe	Durham	NH	
Peacock	Hannah	Orono	ME	
Peakes	Olivia	Dexter	ME	
Pearson	Mariah	Mooresville	NC	
Peary	Alexandra	Cumberland Center	ME	
Pease	Josh	York	ME	
Pease	Nick	Palmyra	ME	
Peirce	Cammie	Hermon	ME	
Peirce	Neill	Sewickley	PA	
Pelkie	Shelby	Fryeburg	ME	
Pellegrino	Kelly	Bangor	ME	
Pelletier	Courtland	Methuen	MA	
Pelletier	Justin	Madawaska	ME	
Pelletier	Lacy	Wallagrass	ME	
Pelletier	Marielle	Industry	ME	
Peloteau	Melina	Quebec	QC	Canada

Peluso	Gabriella	Dumont	NJ	
Pender	Troy	Amesbury	MA	
Pendergast	Annie	Sudbury	MA	
Pendleton	Annabelle	Auburn	ME	
Perez-Simons	Dean	Grand Rapids	MI	
Perilla	Emily	Freeport	ME	
Perkins	Dominic	Kittery	ME	
Perkins	Logan	Exeter	ME	
Perovic	Novak	Orono	ME	
Perrotta	Margaret	Freeport	ME	
Perry	Emily	Kensington	NH	
Perry	Riley	Veazie	ME	
Persson	Andrew	Bangor	ME	
Peters	Aidan	Old Town	ME	
Peters	Max	Falmouth	ME	
Petersen	Olivia	Eliot	ME	
Peterson	Josh	Levant	ME	
Peterson	Rosemary	Oakland	ME	
Peterson	Tracey	Harrington	ME	

Petherick	Andrew	Groton	CT	
Petrovich	Matthew	Oxford	CT	
Pewee	Kolubah	Bayonne	NJ	
Peyton	Madeline	Herkimer	NY	
Phalon	Max	Mason	NH	
Phan	Julia	Bangor	ME	
Philips	Shelby	Bangor	ME	
Phillips	Andrew	Georgetown	MA	
Phillips	Bella	Fairfield	CT	
Phillips	Claire	Falmouth	ME	
Phillips	Elizabeth	Houlton	ME	
Phipps	Owen	Newburyport	MA	
Picard	Stephen	Saco	ME	
Pickard	Renee	Sabattus	ME	
Picone	Jojo	Bangor	ME	
Pierce	Alex	Rome	ME	
Pigott	Sean	Tyngsboro	MA	
Pike	Aiden	Searsmont	ME	
Pinkham	Jon	Damariscotta	ME	
Pitcairn	Joshua	Lincolnvile	ME	

Pitman	Ava	Gorham	ME	
Pitman	Julia	Beverly	MA	
Pitrat	Liam	Hatfield	MA	
Pitt	Kaitryn	Westbrook	ME	
Place	Eliott	Eliot	ME	
Plante	Colin	Stoughton	MA	
Plante	Kassie	Sanford	ME	
Plummer	Nathan	Raymond	ME	
Plummer	Sydni	Windsor	ME	
Poirier	Samantha	Auburn	ME	
Poisson	Ben	Vancouver	BC	Canada
Poisson	Brian	Wayland	MA	
Postras	Brennan	Caribou	ME	
Postras	Whitney	Westbrook	ME	
Polchies	Jacob	Gorham	ME	
Poling	Tom	Stetson	ME	
Poliquin	Jamie	Lewiston	ME	
Pollack	Thomas	Blauvelt	NY	
Pollard	Mark	Old Town	ME	
Pollier	Kayla	Ware	MA	

Pomerleau	Eliot	Scarborough	ME	
Pomerleau	Sierra	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Pomeroy	Emily	Old Town	ME	
Ponzini	Nick	Burlington	MA	
Poole	Will	Brownville	ME	
Porter	Cody	Old Town	ME	
Porter	Jonah	Brunswick	ME	
Porter	Kaylee	Orono	ME	
Porter	Kevin	Hingham	MA	
Porter	Sam	Sebago	ME	
Posey	Sam	Laurel	MT	
Pothier	Mia	Biddeford	ME	
Potter	Lauren	Glenburn	ME	
Pottle	Sam	Stonington	ME	
Poulin	Gabe	Stockton Springs	ME	
Poulin	Nathalie	Bradley	ME	
Poulin	Nick	Augusta	ME	
Powell	Madison- Riley	Rochdale	MA	
Power	Joshua	Auburn	ME	
Powers	Abby	Brunswick	ME	

Powers	Nick	Medway	ME	
Prats	Zoe	York	PA	
Pratt	Banalata	Bangor	ME	
Pratte	Michael	Bedford	NH	
Praul	Hunter	South China	ME	
Praul	Jacob	South China	ME	
Prejean	Delaney	Saco	ME	
Prell	Jonathan	West Simsbury	CT	
Prescott	Ellie	Hampden	ME	
Press	Ida	Uppsala		Sweden
Preston	Dean	Windham	ME	
Preston	Roxy	Southwest Harbor	ME	
Price	Matt	Sebago	ME	
Priest	Kennedy	Raleigh	NC	
Prince	Maggie	York	ME	
Probst	Cy	Lock Haven	PA	
Prokop	Matush	Skowhegan	ME	
Pugatch	Sam	Portsmouth	RI	
Pullen	Ryan	Oakland	ME	
Purple	Spencer	Westford	MA	

Pustizzi	Kacey	Burlington	MA	
Pyle	James	Fort Wainwright	AK	
Qiu	Renxuan	Freeport	ME	
Quartararo	Juliet	Scarborough	ME	
Quint-Wood	Mia	South Portland	ME	
Quintal	Aja	Deer Isle	ME	
Quirion	Myles	Orono	ME	
Radel	Sean	Kennebunk	ME	
Rae	Josh	West Barnstable	MA	
Rafferty	Neil	Mason	NH	
Rafford	Kit	North Yarmouth	ME	
Rafford	Trevor	North Yarmouth	ME	
Raimondi	Abby	Gloucester	MA	
Rajcula	Jed	Brookfield	CT	
Rambo	Brianna	Sicklerville	NJ	
Ramsey	Carl	Lake Orion	MI	
Rancourt	Kristen	Winslow	ME	
Ranisate	Camille	Monument	CO	
Ransley	Sam	New Harbor	ME	

Rath	Reagan	Glens Falls	NY	
Rathbun	Molly	Gorham	ME	
Ratliffe	Mary	Fremont	NH	
Ratz	Marcus	Limerick	ME	
Raven	Kristen	Thorndike	ME	
Raye	Kaitlynn	Hampden	ME	
Raymond	Kayla	Standish	ME	
Ready	Colin	Eliot	ME	
Reardon	Dylan	North Reading	MA	
Rec	Corinna	Kennebunk	ME	
Reed	Josh	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Reed	Lauren	West Enfield	ME	
Reed	Myah	Newport	ME	
Reed	Sydney	Skowhegan	ME	
Reese	Connor	Veazie	ME	
Regan	Adam	Old Town	ME	
Regan	Fiona	Orchard Park	NY	
Regan	Nate	Old Town	ME	
Reheuser	Kathleen	Keystone Heights	FL	
Reid	Ian	Alton	ME	

Reis	Stefan	Biddeford	ME	
Renshaw	Alex	Marshfield	ME	
Renshaw	Brianna	Marshfield	ME	
Reynolds	Dana	Kents Hill	ME	
Reynolds	Mackenzie	Conroe	TX	
Reynolds	Mikayla	Waterville	ME	
Rezack	Stephen	South Berwick	ME	
Rheault	Riley	Portland	ME	
Rhoad	Ethan	Brownsville	VT	
Rhoads-Doyle	Collin	Holden	ME	
Rhodes	Michael	Beverly	MA	
Rice	Anora	Georgetown	ME	
Rice	Keagan	New Gloucester	ME	
Rice	Olivia	Kenduskeag	ME	
Rich	Kaily	Lebanon	ME	
Rich	Maxwell	Orono	ME	
Richard	Maxwell	Ipswich	MA	
Richard	Sean	Orono	ME	
Richardson	Lauren	Brewer	ME	
Richardson	Sadie	Milton Township	ME	

Ricker	Ashley	Gorham	ME	
Ricker	Kyle	Westport Island	ME	
Ridenour	Olivia	Richmond	ME	
Rider	Rebecca	Presque Isle	ME	
Ridley	Kaitlyn	Litchfield	ME	
Rinehart	Emerson	Lakeville	CT	
Rinoldo	Becca	Upton	MA	
Riordan	Declan	Bangor	ME	
Ritchie	Katie	Northport	ME	
Ritger	Davis	Freeport	ME	
Rivera	Sofia	Oakhurst	NJ	
Robbins	Allison	Ellsworth	ME	
Robbins	Cameron	Orono	ME	
Robbins	Ethan	Holden	MA	
Robbins	Noah	Searsmont	ME	
Robbins	Sherralyn	Brewer	ME	
Roberts	Abigail	Damariscotta	ME	
Roberts	Catherine	Meredith	NH	
Roberts	Dimarco	Wells	ME	
Roberts	Lauren	Newport	ME	

Roberts	Nate	Scarborough	ME	
Roberts	Paige	Colebrook	CT	
Roberts	Sam	Old Town	ME	
Robertson	Derek	Yonkers	NY	
Robichaud	Devin	Gorham	ME	
Robinson	Ashley	Kennebunk	ME	
Robinson	Natalie	Wells	ME	
Rockwood	Olivia	Windsor	VT	
Rodrigue	Grace	Augusta	ME	
Rodriguez Santos	Sabrina	Enfield	CT	
Roehrich	Kacey	Flanders	NJ	
Rogers	Halle	Medina	OH	
Rolfe	Avery	Windham	ME	
Rolfe	Jessica	Cherryfield	ME	
Roman	Victoria	Alexandria	NH	
Romero	Jesie	Hampden	ME	
Ronco	Lucas	Dover-Foxcroft	ME	
Roof	Robert	Bangor	ME	
Roope	Gabriella	Brewer	ME	
Rosander	Chad	Sanford	ME	

Rose	Alexandria	Bangor	ME	
Roseman	Ben	Ellicott City	MD	
Rosenberg	Alexa	Bethany	CT	
Rosenbluth	Marisol	Burlington	VT	
Ross	Bella	Trenton	ME	
Ross	Callie	Walpole	MA	
Ross	Julia	Vancouver	BC	Canada
Ross	Taylor	Hanson	MA	
Rothwell	Angela	Camden	ME	
Rottari	Josiah	New Gloucester	ME	
Rouleau	Lea	Barrington	RI	
Roussel	Simon	Gorham	ME	
Rowe	Wyatt	Wells	ME	
Roy	Abby	Scarborough	ME	
Roy	Lydia	Monmouth	ME	
Roy	Sydney	Lewiston	ME	
Roy	Tanya	Orono	ME	
Royle	Grace	Minot	ME	
Rubianes	Abraham	Kittery	ME	
Rubin	Leo	Norwich	CT	

Rudai	Andi	Phoenix	MD	
Rudis	Jarrold	Berwick	ME	
Rumsey	Roisin	Orono	ME	
Rusiecki	Aaron	Freeport	ME	
Rusk	Eleanore	Exeter	RI	
Russell	Alexander	Acton	MA	
Russell	Chloe	Gorham	ME	
Russell	Lynsie	Tucson	AZ	
Rutherford	Alexis	Bradley	ME	
Rutherford	Nick	Farmington	CT	
Rutkowski	Derrick	Broad Brook	CT	
Ryan	Ally	Leeds	ME	
Ryan	Eryn	Leeds	ME	
Ryan	Shea	Buffalo	NY	
Ryan	Tim	Abington	MA	
Ryder	Candice	Stratford	CT	
Ryder	Maggie	Sabattus	ME	
Saab	Andre	Braintree	MA	
Sabatine	Sam	Portland	ME	
Sabatino	Lauren	Scarborough	ME	

Sadirova	Aytan	Baku		Azerbaijan
Sala	Emily	Bangor	ME	
Saleh	Ahmed	Cumberland Center	ME	
Salesky	Gwyn	Nashua	NH	
Salley	Kyle	Smithfield	ME	
Sandberg	Amanda Linnea	Skurup		Sweden
Sande	Matt	Shrewsbury	MA	
Sanderson	Hannah	Northport	ME	
Sands	Gabby	Plymouth	ME	
Santerre	Haley	Brewer	ME	
Sargent	Jessica	Brewer	ME	
Saulnier	Anil	Acton	MA	
Sauls	Jake	North Andover	MA	
Saulter	Sammi	Waterville	ME	
Savage	Annika	Voluntown	CT	
Savage	Emily	Plainville	CT	
Savage	Leah	Skowhegan	ME	
Savoy	Victoria	Washburn	ME	
Sawyer	Camden	Gorham	ME	

Scarponi	Sam	Portsmouth	NH	
Schanck	Aaron	Pittsfield	ME	
Schanck	Olivia	Wilton	ME	
Schindler	Evan	Arundel	ME	
Schmidt	Eric	Bangor	ME	
Schmitt	Michael	Orefield	PA	
Schnaitmann	Elizabeth	Monroe	CT	
Schneider	Myla	Calgary		Canada
Schulitz	Ella	Weatogue	CT	
Schultz	Amber	Medfield	MA	
Schwartz	Ethan	Ambler	PA	
Schweikert	Elyeah	Henderson	NV	
Schweizer	Katie	Old Town	ME	
Schweizer	Sean	Old Town	ME	
Schwinn	Morgan	Marshfield	ME	
Sciarappa	Olivia	Charlton	MA	
Scinto	Christian	Trumbull	CT	
Scobie	Claire	Hampden	ME	
Scott	Caden	Portland	ME	
Scott	Olivia	Hampden	ME	

Scott	Vincent	Readfield	ME	
Scott	Zachary	Hampden	ME	
Scruton	Taylor	Holliston	MA	
Sears	Justyn	Scarborough	ME	
Seavey	MaKayla	Ellsworth	ME	
Seddiqi	Parry	Bangor	ME	
Seekins	Katie	Oakland	ME	
Seeley	Lilli	Bangor	ME	
Seide	Thierry	Malden	MA	
Seiders	Brooke	Orono	ME	
Sekera	Eliot	Bangor	ME	
Selser	Jules	South Portland	ME	
Serappa	Livia	Portland	ME	
Seregely	Mira	Budapest		Hungary
Sergi	Samuel	Brewer	ME	
Sernyk	Bryce	Windham	ME	
Sernyk	Gabs	Windham	ME	
Sernyk	Isabella	Windham	ME	
Settele	Avery	Barrington	NH	
Seuch	Matt	Orono	ME	

Severino	Dominic	Falmouth	ME	
Sevigny	Hanna	York	ME	
Shair	Sydney	Dedham	MA	
Shane	Amber	Vinalhaven	ME	
Shannon	Julia	Lee	ME	
Sharma	Aakriti	Arlington	MA	
Sharp	Alainna	Glen Gardner	NJ	
Sharp	Andrew	Springfield	IL	
Sharrow	Olivia	Glenburn	ME	
Shaw	Liana	Orono	ME	
Shaw	Lindsey	Corinth	ME	
Shaw	Oren	Turner	ME	
Shaw	Remington	Newport	ME	
Shea	Molly	Lynn	MA	
Sheehan	Joe	Swampscott	MA	
Sheehy	Tyler	Middletown	CT	
Sheffield	Emma	Bangor	ME	
Shepherd	Dylan	Milford	ME	
Shepherd	Lucas	Old Town	ME	
Shepherd	Noah	Fairfield	ME	

Sherburne	Sydney	South Portland	ME	
Sheridan	Grace	East Greenwich	RI	
Sherman	Nicholas	Hodgdon	ME	
Sherwood	Clement	Brookline	NH	
Sherwood	Hannah	Blue Hill	ME	
Shetreet	Gabriella	York	ME	
Shiber	Morgan	Port Deposit	MD	
Shields	Chloe	Eliot	ME	
Shink	Cassidy	Fayette	ME	
Shokal	James	Alexandria	NH	
Shooter	Cori	Monroe	ME	
Sickler	Kayla	Milford	NH	
Sickles	Rachael	Corinna	ME	
Sidaway	Jaymie	Dedham	ME	
Sigler	Emily	Pembroke	MA	
Siliato	Sophia	Mahopac	NY	
Silva	Camilla	Framingham	MA	
Silva	Tori	North Waterboro	ME	
Silvera	Jasmine	Lowell	MA	
Silvestro	Marley	Lincoln	MA	

Simmons	Katie	North Yarmouth	ME	
Simon	Anne	Sandweiler		Luxembourg
Simon	Korinna	Southborough	MA	
Singer	Alyssa	Oxford	MA	
Singer	Violet	Falmouth	ME	
Siracusa	Zack	Trenton	NJ	
Sirois	Joshua	Springvale	ME	
Sirois	Thomas	Buxton	ME	
Sirota	Jakub	Orono	ME	
Sisson	Luke	South Weymouth	MA	
Skidgel	Chrissy	Caribou	ME	
Skribiski	Rachel	Greenfield	MA	
Slattery	Lucy	Ashland	ME	
Slauenwhite	Abigail	Bangor	ME	
Slocum	Amelia	Bangor	ME	
Slocum	Bane	Topsham	ME	
Small	Erika	Hudson	ME	
Small	Faith Marie	Auburn	ME	
Small	Meghan	Milford	ME	
Smalley	Bay	Portland	ME	

Smaracko	Marshall	Rollinsford	NH	
Smart	Bailey	Auburn	ME	
Smart-Pelletier	Dylan	Bangor	ME	
Smelter	Kyle	Bristol	CT	
Smith	Anneliese	Bethel	ME	
Smith	Audrey	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Brett	Kittery	ME	
Smith	Cassidy	Brewer	ME	
Smith	Charlie	Kennebunk	ME	
Smith	Colin	Brooklyn	CT	
Smith	Eli	Farmingdale	ME	
Smith	Emma	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Felicia	Lee	NH	
Smith	Hope	North Smithfield	RI	
Smith	Jackson	West Suffield	CT	
Smith	Jared	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Jasmine	Old Town	ME	
Smith	Jason	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Joshua	Bradley	ME	
Smith	Justin	Rochester	MA	

Smith	Lexi	Camden	ME	
Smith	Madison	South Portland	ME	
Smith	Mary-Kate	Bangor	ME	
Smith	Megan	Sheffield	MA	
Smith	Meghan	Saint Paul	MN	
Smith	Melanie	Cranford	NJ	
Smith	Travis	Belgrade	ME	
Smith-D'Addio	Savanna	Old Town	ME	
Smith-Herold	Keyden	Derwood	MD	
Smy	Isabelle	Cumming	GA	
Snow	Tobin	North Yarmouth	ME	
Snowiss	Ben	Franklin	MA	
Snyder	Melanie	Prescott	AZ	
Soares	Mason	Bar Harbor	ME	
Sockalexix	Emmett	Indian Island	ME	
Soctomah	Brooke	Bradley	ME	
Solans	Paige	Old Town	ME	
Solomon	Jacob	South Portland	ME	
Solomon	Tessa	Houlton	ME	

Soni	Jaitin	Osceola	IN	
Sossong	Brooke	Old Town	ME	
Soucie	Annabelle	Auburn	ME	
Soucy	Evangeline	Augusta	ME	
Soucy	Melanie	Old Town	ME	
Sousa	Alexandra	Hopedale	MA	
Sousa	Ross	Somerset	MA	
Southwick	Robin	South Hamilton	MA	
Southworth	Katie	Hope	ME	
Spann	Jennifer	Newburgh	ME	
Spaulding	Anna	Brewer	ME	
Spaulding	Ashley	Clinton	ME	
Spaulding	Azaria	Hampden	ME	
Speakman	Brynne	Bethel	ME	
Spear	Kathleen	Portland	ME	
Spears	Paige	Waterville	ME	
Speck	Birte	Reinheim		Germany
Spencer	Caroline	Falmouth	ME	
Sperrey	Alaina	Presque Isle	ME	
Sperry	Emma	Casco	ME	

Spiegel	Emma	Searsport	ME	
Spink-O'Brien	Bonnie	Bangor	ME	
Spors	Jeremy	Bangor	ME	
Sprague	Lydia	Marshfield	ME	
Spriggs	Holly	Dover	NH	
Springer	Brooke	Glenburn	ME	
Springer	Marissa	Bar Harbor	ME	
Squires	James	Oakfield	ME	
Squires	John	Southwest Harbor	ME	
St Peter	Connor	Kenduskeag	ME	
St Peter	Eleanor	Presque Isle	ME	
St Pierre	Aubrey	Slidell	LA	
St Pierre	Keenan	Poland	ME	
St Pierre	Nate	Augusta	ME	
St Romaine	Max	Cummaquid	MA	
Stamey	Mia	Westbrook	ME	
Stanard	Mark	Center Tuftonboro	NH	
Stanislaski	Kate	Somerville	MA	
Stanley	Lexi	Plattsmouth	NE	

Stanley	Nathaniel	Rockport	ME	
Staton	Sean	Orono	ME	
Stead	Sally	Cumberland	ME	
Stearns	Vicki	Veazie	ME	
Steinman	Kim	Cumberland Center	ME	
Steinman	Marcus	Topsham	ME	
Stephens	Corey	Bangor	ME	
Sterling	Rachel	Minneapolis	MN	
Steven	Willis	Bethel	ME	
Stevens	Abby	Island Falls	ME	
Stevens	Abby	Smithfield	ME	
Stevens	Annie	Windham	ME	
Stevens	Braedon	Hermon	ME	
Stevens	Katherine	Winslow	ME	
Stewart	Alex	Winthrop	ME	
Stewart	Katie	Biddeford	ME	
Stillman	Ezra	Falmouth	ME	
Stiverson	Camille	West Lafayette	IN	
Stockman	Emily	Northborough	MA	
Stoddard	Hannah	Standish	ME	

Stoelzel	Liz	Trumbull	CT	
Stokes	Colby	Hermon	ME	
Stokes-Dana	Kaden	Bangor	ME	
Stone	Sam	Greenwood	ME	
Storman	Natalie	Alton	ME	
Story	Elijah	Huntsville	AL	
Stovall	Kathy	Phillips	ME	
Stover	Lindsey	Enfield	CT	
Stow	Courtney	Niantic	CT	
Stow	Kaitlyn	Niantic	CT	
Stratton	Garrett	Rumson	NJ	
Straub	Starla	Florence	AL	
Strickler	James	Tewksbury	MA	
Strout	Anna	Harrington	ME	
Strout	Justin	Limington	ME	
Studholme	Maeve	North Easton	MA	
Sturgess	Lauren	Naples	ME	
Sturgis	Liza	Gray	ME	
Sturtevant	Levi	Bangor	ME	

Suderley	Ethan	Winterport	ME	
Sudol	Sabrina	Ramsey	NJ	
Sullivan	Jordan	Peabody	MA	
Sullivan	Natalie	Dracut	MA	
Sullivan	Nick	Old Town	ME	
Sullivan	Riley	Boothbay Harbor	ME	
Sullivan	Taylor	Peabody	MA	
Sullivan	Zackary	Kennebunk	ME	
Supple	Ben	Kingston	MA	
Suriano	Sophia	Old Town	ME	
Sutherland	Jessica	Lincoln	ME	
Suthers	Keenan	Belle River	ON	Canada
Sutton	Kaitlyn	North Kingstown	RI	
Sutton	Kearson	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Sutton	Trevor	Kennebunkport	ME	
Svec	Malcolm	Eastbrook	ME	
Swanson	Nathaniel	Peabody	MA	
Swanson	Parker	North Yarmouth	ME	
Swett	Braeden	Orrington	ME	
Swift	Logan	Gorham	ME	

Sylvain	Johnny	Portland	ME	
Szczechowicz	Jack	North Berwick	ME	
Szumilas	Kendall	Bucksport	ME	
Taggart	Emma	Raymond	ME	
Tallapureddy	Arihant	Bolton	CT	
Talon	Gabe	Old Town	ME	
Tanaka	Danny	Berkeley	CA	
Tanous	Haid	South Paris	ME	
Tanous	Marla	South Paris	ME	
Tardie	Olivia	Hermon	ME	
Tash	Hannah	Hampden	ME	
Tassinari	Maddison	Kennebunk	ME	
Taylor	Averi	Oakland	ME	
Taylor	Daniel	Scarborough	ME	
Taylor	Jillian	Winthrop	ME	
Taylor	Justin	Hermon	ME	
Taylor	Kyla	Camden	ME	
Taylor	Maria	Bangor	ME	
Taylor	Michael	Holliston	MA	

Taylor	Nathaniel	Bar Harbor	ME	
Taylor	Ryan	Holliston	MA	
Taylor	Sara	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Tedenby	Celine	Orono	ME	
Temple	Kylie	Richmond	ME	
Terril	Kyla	Sanford	ME	
Terry	Grace	Gray	ME	
Testa	Madeline	Gray	ME	
Testerman	Noah	West Simsbury	CT	
Teufel	Will	Topsham	ME	
Thayer	Rose	Sutton	MA	
Thiel	Sam	Middleton	MA	
Thiessen	Matthew	Altona	MB	Canada
Thomas	Chris	Norristown	PA	
Thomas	Zach	Kingston	NH	
Thompson	Gage	Sabattus	ME	
Thompson	Lexi	Topsham	ME	
Thompson	Nathan	Glenburn	ME	
Thompson	Olivia	Bridgton	ME	
Thompson	Rebecca	Broomfield	CO	

Thompson	Shannon	North Kingstown	RI	
Thompson	Sommer	Lebanon	ME	
Thorman	Shelby	Bethel	ME	
Thornton	Jacob	Westbrook	ME	
Thourot	Julian	Acton	MA	
Throckmorton-Hansford	Willow	Somerville	ME	
Thurlow	Ryan	Cape Neddick	ME	
Thymian	Ari	Laramie	WY	
Tibbetts	Elizabeth	Mechanic Falls	ME	
Tidd	Allisyn	Eddington	ME	
Tiemann	Maddie	Feasterville Trevose	PA	
Tiernan	Holly	South Glastonbury	CT	
Tijerina	Santiago	Old Town	ME	
Tillotson	Stephanie	Cumberland Foreside	ME	
Tillson	Ashley	Saco	ME	
Timms	Angie	Orono	ME	
Tiner	Nick	Orono	ME	
Tirone	Stella	Freedom	ME	
Tobor	Zachary	Manchester	ME	

Todd	Sara	Bar Harbor	ME	
Tolmasoff	Carter	Bucksport	ME	
Toman	Anna	Gardiner	ME	
Tomlinson	Laura	Wilbraham	MA	
Tooker	Tiernan	Kingfield	ME	
Toolan	Brian	Newburyport	MA	
Toole	Leona	Rutherford	NJ	
Topchik	Amy	Scarborough	ME	
Toppan	Ragan	Machias	ME	
Topper	Izzy	Hudson Falls	NY	
Torno	Brandon	Lebanon	ME	
Totaro	Michael	South Hackensack	NJ	
Tourigny	Troy	Biddeford	ME	
Towle	Annemarie	Augusta	ME	
Townsend	Lydia	Fairfield	ME	
Tracey	Caroline	Auburn	ME	
Tracey	Nathaniel	Union	ME	
Tracy	Jack	Standish	ME	
Trafton	Sophie	York	ME	
Traphagen	Elizabeth	Franklin	MA	

Treadwell	James	Orono	ME	
Trebilcock	Katie	Topsham	ME	
Trimper	Ally	Orono	ME	
Trimper	Morgan	Orono	ME	
Trodden	Abby	Marshfield	MA	
Trott	Ethan	Old Town	ME	
Troxell	Alec	Portland	ME	
Trujillo	Jillian	Old Town	ME	
Trumbull	Katherine	Fryeburg	ME	
Truong	Khang	Sanford	ME	
Truso	Luc	Morrisville	VT	
Trussell	Zoey	Waterville	ME	
Trusty	Yuri	Bangor	ME	
Tschirhart	Julie	North Andover	MA	
Tubbs	Zach	Bangor	ME	
Tucker	Reilly	Falmouth	ME	
Turcotte	Hannah	Old Town	ME	
Turcotte Seavey	Lauren	Bangor	ME	
Turgeon	Gwenneth	Auburn	ME	

Turgut	Ata	Ankara		Turkey
Turner	Blake	North Yarmouth	ME	
Turner	Kathrina	Old Town	ME	
Turturici	Tyler	Wilmington	DE	
Twohig	Amy	Washington	NJ	
Twombly	Megan	Hollis Center	ME	
Tykulsky	Hayden	Wellesley Hills	MA	
Tyler	Benjamin	Holden	ME	
Tytula	Allison	West Brookfield	MA	
Ucci	Nico	Reading	MA	
Umhofer	Thomas	Redwood City	CA	
Ursino	Dylan	Middleton	MA	
Utsler	Zoe	Valley Village	CA	
Vaccaro	Emily	Kingston	NH	
Vaccaro	Sam	Kennebunk	ME	
Vacchiano	Riley	Cornish	ME	
Vail	Blaize	Portland	ME	
Valenzano	Josh	Buzzards Bay	MA	
Valorose	Andrea	Dracut	MA	
Van Leer	Keldan	Brunswick	ME	

Van Ommen Kloeke	Ciaran	Danby	VT	
Van Tassell	Jeremiah	Lyman	ME	
Van Tassell	Joel	Lyman	ME	
Vanderblue	Greta	Waterford	ME	
Vandereb	Schuyler	Orland	ME	
VanDyke	Andrew	Oakland	NJ	
VanGorder	Lauren	Tewksbury	MA	
Vanorse-Jones	Oliver	Rockland	ME	
VanValkenburg	Emily	Ellenburg Center	NY	
Vargas	Andres	Lyman	ME	
Varipatis	Andrew	South Portland	ME	
Varneke	Pierce	Toms River	NJ	
Varney	Devon	Pittsfield	ME	
Varney	Ethan	Pittsfield	ME	
Varney	Everet	Turner	ME	
Varney	Olivia	Augusta	ME	
Varnum	Alexa	Dixfield	ME	
Vasquez	Alessandra	Westbrook	ME	
Veal	Marek	Perry	ME	

Vecchione	Hayley	Millville	MA	
Vegas	Guy	Portsmouth	RI	
Venard	Kevin	Sullivan	ME	
Verrill	Patrick	Carmel	ME	
Vetelino	Ben	Veazie	ME	
Viamari	Joseph	Southwick	MA	
Vickery	Kathleen	Old Town	ME	
Victoria	Steff	Dover Foxcroft	ME	
Vidler	Amber	Saint Augustine	FL	
Viekman	Sarah	Old Town	ME	
Viel	Sophia	Beverly	MA	
Villapa	Alyssa Nicole	Melrose	MA	
Villemaire	Emily	Old Town	ME	
Villeneuve	Donavan	Montreal	QC	Canada
Vincent	Molly	Auburn	ME	
Viola	Caleb	South Portland	ME	
Violette	Isaac	Oakland	ME	
Virgin	Matt	Lewiston	ME	
Vital	Macy Kate	West Haven	CT	
Vittum	Richard	Burlington	MA	

Vogel	Chris	Orono	ME	
Voight	Emily	Sebastopol	CA	
Voisine	Reece	Fort Kent	ME	
Voner	Taylor	West Wareham	MA	
Vose-Gimbel	Jack	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Voteur	Jenna	Orrington	ME	
Wagenknecht	Maria	Ellsworth	ME	
Waggoner	Sam	Gorham	ME	
Wagner	Shea	Freeport	ME	
Wagner	Will	Gibsonia	PA	
Wald	Leah	Framingham	MA	
Walden	Seamus	Pittsfield	ME	
Walker	Ellie	Scarborough	ME	
Walker	Hailee	Westbrook	ME	
Walker	Molly	South Portland	ME	
Wallace	Christina	West Enfield	ME	
Wallace	Ella	Lamoine	ME	
Wallace	Madison	East Millinocket	ME	
Walorz	Kaity	Lakeville	MA	

Walsh	Bridie	Braintree	MA	
Walsh	Jessie	Benton	ME	
Walton	Josie	South Easton	MA	
Ward	Ashley	Williamsburg	VA	
Wardwell	Finn	Dedham	ME	
Warner	Emma	Phippsburg	ME	
Warren	Katelyn	Skowhegan	ME	
Wasylyna	Ethan	Exeter	NH	
Waterhouse	Ethan	Dayton	ME	
Waterman	Sadie	Sabattus	ME	
Watkins	Gwen	Orrington	ME	
Watras	Emma	Seal Cove	ME	
Watras	Julia	Seal Cove	ME	
Watson	Josh	Glenburn	ME	
Watson	Katie	Millinocket	ME	
Weafer	Sam	Orono	ME	
Weatherbee	Jackson	Lincoln	ME	
Weaver	Dan	Orrington	ME	
Webb	Heather	Bangor	ME	
Webber	Adrian	Stratham	NH	

Webber	Isaac	Garland	ME	
Webber	Josh	Springvale	ME	
Webber	Kaitlyn	Garland	ME	
Webber	Lily	Westbrook	ME	
Webber	Meg	Leeds	ME	
Webster	Morgan	Harpswell	ME	
Weeks	Chloe	Bangor	ME	
Weinstein	Myky	Hartland	ME	
Weir	Kelsey	Copley	OH	
Weiss	Ma'ayan	Mount Kisco	NY	
Welch	Lily	Readfield	ME	
Wentworth	Emma	Sidney	ME	
Wentworth	Molly	Vinalhaven	ME	
Wentworth	Sarah	Falmouth	ME	
Werner	Ash	South Hamilton	MA	
West	Heather	Freeport	ME	
West	Olivia	Searsport	ME	
West	Sam	Bangor	ME	
Westbrook	Katie	Methuen	MA	

Westbrook	Phoebe	Binghamton	NY	
Westhaus	Taylor	Saco	ME	
Westhaver	Caroline	Weatogue	CT	
Westman	Zachary	York	ME	
Wheeler	Caroline	Bowdoin	ME	
Whinston	Julia	Silverthorne	CO	
White	Emily	Jay	ME	
White	Emma	Wells	ME	
White	Eva	Orono	ME	
White	Grady	Cumberland Center	ME	
White	John	Bangor	ME	
White	Kat	North Haven	ME	
White	Katie	Welcome	MD	
White	Lizzie	Dixfield	ME	
White	Noah	Orono	ME	
White	William	Brunswick	ME	
Whitham	Emily	Wakefield	MA	
Whiting	Sophie	Saco	ME	
Whitley	Hannah	Londonderry	NH	
Whitney	Emma	Surry	ME	

Whittle	Michael	Gales Ferry	CT	
Wichterman	Dennis	Ellsworth	ME	
Wigandt	Connor	Howell	NJ	
Wilborn	Bailey	Wichita	KS	
Wilbur	Joshua	Frankfort	ME	
Wilcox	Leah	Warren	ME	
Wilde	Aaron	Hampden	ME	
Wilkins	Alex	Wells	ME	
Willard	Henry	Winterport	ME	
Willcox	Kelby	Veazie	ME	
Wiley	Kendrah	Ripley	ME	
Williams	Anna	Norwell	MA	
Williams	Cooper	Liberty Township	OH	
Williams	Emma	Wilton	ME	
Williams	Haley	Orrington	ME	
Williams	Jacob	Irvine	PA	
Williams	Lily	Westport	CT	
Williams	Maddie	Windham	ME	
Williams	Madison	Bernard	ME	

Williams	Nathan	Orrington	ME	
Williamson	Dean	Teaneck	NJ	
Williford	Justin	Centereach	NY	
Willigar	Sam	Veazie	ME	
Willis	Hayden	Rensselaer	NY	
Willis	Kyle	West Paris	ME	
Wilson	Ashley	Gray	ME	
Wilson	Catrina	Harrison	ME	
Wilson	Darrin	Au Gres	MI	
Wilson	Jackson	South Portland	ME	
Wilson	Mackenzie	Lasalle	ON	Canada
Wind	Meadow	Rumford	ME	
Wind	Willow	Orono	ME	
Winn	Cait	Windham	ME	
Wise	Sophia	Orono	ME	
Wisell	Mary Isabelle	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Witham	Rebecca	Hampton	NH	
Wittmer	Torria	Hermon	ME	
Wofford	Lily	Dallas	TX	
Wohlstrom	Augusta	Clinton	CT	

Wollard	Aran	Maplewood	NJ	
Wood	Cassandra	Milford	ME	
Wood	Kyle	Lincolnvile	ME	
Wood	Marie	Acton	ME	
Wood	Marissa	Machiasport	ME	
Woodbury	Theo	Swans Island	ME	
Woodruff	Tristan	Camden	ME	
Worgull	Tessa	Bangor	ME	
Worster	Jason	Bangor	ME	
Wortman	Daniel	Old Town	ME	
Wright	Jared	Brewer	ME	
Wright	Kelsey	Sanford	ME	
Wright	Skyler	Old Town	ME	
Wyatt	Bruce	Gorham	ME	
Wyckoff	George	Fairfield	CT	
Wynne	Eamon	Woonsocket	RI	
Wynott	Christian	Norway	ME	
Yandell	Ben	Leesburg	GA	
Yeaton	Lily	Wiscasset	ME	

Yehle	Jeremy	Bangor	ME	
Yeldan	Ece	Orono	ME	
Yelle	Hannah	Carlisle	MA	
Yoder	Marlee	Durham	NH	
Yong	David	Sanford	ME	
York	John	Benton	ME	
York	Odin	Yarmouth	ME	
York	Sara	Topsham	ME	
Yorkey	Lucas	Poland	ME	
Yorkiewicz	Brian	Southampton	PA	
Yost	Matt	Brunswick	ME	
Young	Audrey	Owls Head	ME	
Young	Kelby	Chelsea	ME	
Young	Kenzie	Alton	ME	
Young	Lauren	Brewer	ME	
Young	Patrick	North Yarmouth	ME	
Young	Star	Pembroke	MA	
Yu	Mason	Hangzhou		China
Yuldoshev	Gulomjon	Yangibazar		Uzbekistan
Zachariason	Sarah	Stillwater	ME	

Zaenger	Calista	San Diego	CA	
Zalcman	Morgan	Ellington	CT	
Zambrano	Noah	Bradley	ME	
Zanoni	Jude	Brewer	ME	
Zanotta	Alessio	Lee	ME	
Zelmanow	Jacob	Gorham	ME	
Zenuh	Dylan	New Hartford	CT	
Zhu	Jie Ning	Belfast	ME	
Ziegra	Carolyn	Orono	ME	
Zimet	Lam	Portland	ME	
Zizza	Eden	Cushing	ME	
Zucca	Kelvy	New Milford	CT	
Zuccherio	Christian	Cape Elizabeth	ME	
Zumwalt	Evelyn	Ellsworth	ME	
Zuras	Everett	Presque Isle	ME	
Zuras	Holden	Presque Isle	ME	

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Androscoggin County

Auburn: Samuel Braga, Will Cassidy, Lydia Celani, Autumn Chapman, Crispin Crispin, Abigail Fisher, Spencer Frahn, Demetri Gammaitoni, Caroline Hammond, Storm Jipson, Kayden Kirouac, Annabelle Pendleton, Samantha Poirier, Joshua Power, Faith Marie Small, Bailey Smart, Annabelle Soucie, Caroline Tracey, Gwenneth Turgeon, Molly Vincent **Durham:** Bailey McGee, Amanda Myron, Sam Larochelle **Greene:** Jenna Boucher, Ethan Gates, Sarah Lafontaine, Jaidyn Negley **Leeds:** Adreanna Michaud, Ally Ryan, Eryn Ryan, Meg Webber **Lewiston:** Connor Androlewicz, Gordon Beckwith, Maggie Belleau, Connor Bolduc, Hail Champagne, Amy Cote, Elias Doucette-St Onge, Avery Greco, James Greenwood, Hunter Landry, Matthias Murphy, Jamie Poliquin, Sydney Roy, Matt Virgin **Lisbon:** Jaden Burnham, Levi Levesque **Lisbon Falls:** Timber Mattson, Sarah Moreau **Livermore:** Jonathan Brenner, Abby Castonguay, Drew Delaney, Grace Harmatys **Livermore Falls:** Wes Brinegar **Mechanic Falls:** Sierra Pomerleau, Elizabeth Tibbetts **Minot:** Grace Royle **Poland:** Maia Ferguson, Sofia Hartley, Jon Koczkodan, Jasmine Lamb, Jordan Morrell, Keenan St Pierre, Lucas Yorkey **Sabattus:** Autumn Chadburn, Mikki Gervais, Renee Pickard, Maggie Ryder, Gage Thompson, Sadie Waterman **Turner:** Tamra Benson, Noah Brown, Sean Connelly, Zach Madison, Oren Shaw, Everet Varney **Wales:** Brynn Emond, Morgan Inman

Aroostook County

Ashland: Graham Berry, Lucy Slattery **Blaine:** Jimmy Hotham, Lizzy Hotham **Bridgewater:** Brayden Bradbury **Caribou:** Alec Cyr, Andre Daigle, Noah Frost, Nickolas Guerrette, Ronald Guerrette, Brennan Poitras, Chrissy Skidgel **Cary Plantation:** Grace Graham **Dyer Brook:** Wyatt Harthorne **Fort Kent:** Hannah Daigle , Apurba Kaphle, Matt Marston, Larry Nadeau, Ellie Ouellette, Reece Voisine **Frenchville:** Sarah Lavertu **Haynesville:** Mikyla Howland **Hodgdon:** Nicholas Sherman **Houlton:** Alyssa Abbotoni, Gabe Fitzpatrick, Keegan Gentle, Ryder Graham, Jillian Haggerty, Dina Koretsky, Sydney Lorum, Dominic Miller, Elizabeth Phillips, Tessa Solomon **Island Falls:** Abby Stevens **Linneus:** Autumn Ganzel **Littleton:** Catherine Hovda, Annika Nicholas **Madawaska:** Alex Bourgoin, Matthew Cyr, Alex Daigle, Ben Hebert, Keri Hebert, Isabelle Jandreau, Justin Pelletier **Mapleton:** Dustin Alward, Katelyn Amero, Paige McHatten, Adam Paterson **Mars Hill:** Sydney Garrison, Brooke Howlett **Monticello:** Kristen Brewer **New Canada:** Jonny Blanchette **New Sweden:** Austin Findlen **Oakfield:** Shelby Lewis, James Squires **Presque Isle:** Felicia Blackstone, Libby Boone, Hana Boucher, Courtney Harding, Kenzie Hayes, Branden Hebert, Morgan Ireland, Alexandra Koretsky, Sophia Lambert, Jasmine LeClair, Ian MacKinnon, Conner Michaud, Rebecca Rider, Alaina Sperrey, Eleanor St Peter, Everett Zuras, Holden Zuras **Saint David:** Donna Morin **Sinclair:** Dorothy Harris **Wade:** Aaron Macek **Wallagrass:** Lacy Pelletier **Washburn:** Jaida Beaulieu, Garrett Morneault, Victoria Savoy

Cumberland County

Bridgton: Morgan MacNeil, Matthew Mayo, Fiona Murphy, Olivia Thompson **Brunswick:** Rae Bamberger, Erin Bradstreet, Isak Carney, Amanda Cloutier, Cameron Daly, Hannah Dritschilo, Bronte Fontaine, Chappy Hall, Alec Hess, Chloe Kilborn, Elizabeth Koval, William Labbe, Kian Murray, Connor Ney, Emma Nickerson, Mallory Palmer, Jonah Porter, Abby Powers, Keldan Van Leer, William White, Matt Yost **Cape Elizabeth:** Theo Brucker, Sierra Galgano, Ethan Gillespie, Brenden Goss, Anna Hayes, Isabella Herrick, Ben Hoyt, Nick Leschey, Lilia Membrino, Luke O'Kelly, Sara Taylor, Jack Vose-Gimbel, Mary Isabelle Wisell, Christian Zuccherro **Casco:** Samantha Cummings, Emma Sperry **Chebeague Island:** Hannah Birkett **Cumberland:** Sally Stead **Cumberland Center:** Ethan Ali, Dominic Crowley, James Davenport, Ben Follett, Molly Hale, Aaron Howell, John Kearney, Tim Lester, Erin Libby, Austin Loveless, Mike Marchessault, Luke Marsanskis, Michael McTigue, Natalie Mullin, Alexandra Peary, Ahmed Saleh, Kim Steinman, Grady White **Cumberland Foreside:** Katie Bernheisel, Stephanie Tillotson **Falmouth:** Gwenyth Armitage, Isabelle Armstrong, Holly Barney, Mason Canon, Kassidy Castillo Parkman, Evie Clement, Garrett Daniels, Gretchen Favreau, Fiona Ferrell, Isabelle Hallagan, Tholia Hallett, Jason Halliday, Beatrice Johnson, Ethan Johnson, Will Johnson, Dillon Kelley, Mitchell Kelley, Jacob Lorenzo, Jacob Marks, Matisse Moser, Ellie Nash, Liv Neuhauser, Max Peters, Claire Phillips, Dominic Severino, Violet Singer, Caroline Spencer, Ezra Stillman, Reilly Tucker, Sarah Wentworth **Freeport:** Kaleb Barrett, Nate Davis, Natalie Domin, Julian Edwards, Conor Fox, Liam Hornschild-Bear, Madison Landry, Kerry Lefebvre, Amaya Marzano, Spencer Morse, Emily Perilla, Margaret Perrotta, Renxuan Qiu, Davis Ritger, Aaron Rusiecki, Shea Wagner, Heather West **Gorham:** Molly Arey, Aidan Bell, Lizzie Blanchard, Brian Bunker, Delaney Burns, Nathan Dix, Lauren Edwards, Abby Enck, Sophie Gagne, Reed Henderson, Kaitlyn Jodoin, Riley Johnson, Sophie Kaufman, Evan Koenig, Nolan McCullough, Abigail Miller, Ava Pitman, Jacob Polchies, Molly Rathbun, Ashley Ricker, Devin Robichaud, Simon Roussel, Chloe Russell, Camden Sawyer, Logan Swift, Sam Waggoner, Bruce Wyatt, Jacob Zelmanow **Gray:** Laura Arsenaault, Amelia Cobb, Nicole Cobb, Elizabeth Davis, Nate Gendreau, Trizzie Ha, Kaleb Hannan, Wyatt Kenney, Darcy MacLean, Kyle Martell, Jaida Patterson, Liza Sturgis, Grace Terry, Madeline Testa, Ashley Wilson **Harpswell:** Kyle Brennan, Hannah Clemons, Michael Kane, Morgan Webster **Harrison:** Colin Edwards, Catrina Wilson **Naples:** Grace Banks, Meghan Boos, Erik Christiansen, Justin Lees, Lauren Sturgess **New Gloucester:** Tyler Amos, Cam Andrews, Katherine Arsenaault, Troy Dexter, Jasmine French, Blake Knedler, Matty Lee, Keagan Rice, Josiah Rottari **North Yarmouth:** Nicholas Capozza, Dakota Cochran, Elly Graham, Aidan Hayes, Molly Horton, Sydney Loper, Aidan Michael, Kit Rafford, Trevor Rafford, Katie Simmons, Tobin Snow, Parker Swanson, Blake Turner, Patrick Young **Portland:** Wilder Baldwin, Zach Broome, Jack Burnell, Hope Carroll, Caleb Cholod, Peter Clukey, Will Cunningham, Ben Curtis, Jack De Lorenzi, Chloe Delano, Elizabeth Drelich, Ashley Drexler, Alexiis Fiore, Haley Foreman, Laini Frager, Emily Freedman, Aiden Gallup, Kyla Gallup, Claire Gregory, Eva Griffiths, Casey Harmon, Ryan Howell, Matthew Keast, Megan Keast, Khiana Le, Hua Lin, Jake Loranger, Madison Mahan, Spencer Matteo, Drew McInnis, Hagen Myers, Kelly Nguyen, Mackenzie O'Donnell, Riley Rheault, Sam Sabatine, Caden Scott, Livia Serappa, Bay Smalley, Kathleen Spear, Johnny Sylvain, Alec Troxell, Blaize Vail, Lam Zimet **Pownal:** Sami Burrell, Grace Cushman **Raymond:** Hannah Bernier, Biaggio Cushman, Colby Dionne, Callie Fielding, Niall Gushue, Niko Lessard, Estrella Pacanza-Rogers, Nathan Plummer, Emma Taggart **Scarborough:** Kelsey Apovian, Jalyssa Beason, Sydney Bloom, Josh Bois, Ryleigh Bois, Connor Coffin, Tristram Coffin, Nate Cusson, William Dunham, Marissa Edwards, Brian Farino, Julia Freeman, Wyatt Harris, Tatum Hayward, Calista Jackson Gianino, Lily Jennings, Audrey Jones, Abe Jordan, Aaron Kazilionis, Alison Kueck, Olivia LaChance, Eliza Letourneau, Ryan Lilley, Casey Maddock, Peter Martin, Morgan McGarry, David McKelvy, Josh Medeiros, Evan Morgan, Emily Murray, Ryan Murray, Jared Nelson, Jasmine Olshin, Slade Overcash, Gaby Panagakos, Emily Patashnik, Eliot Pomerleau, Juliet Quartararo, Nate Roberts, Abby Roy, Lauren Sabatino, Justyn Sears, Daniel Taylor, Amy Topchik, Ellie Walker **Sebago:** Sam Porter, Matt Price **South Portland:** Ryan Boles, Fischer Bourassa, Sam Brown, Taylor Davis, Lauren DiBiase, Nick Duffy, Michael Feely, Anna Folley, Josh Frank, Brayden Gilbert, Jason Halvorsen, Emily Hobbs, Sam Holbrook, Allison Holt, Simona Ickia Ngaullo, Aleksandar Kaurin, Chloe MacVane, Mia Quint-Wood, Jules Selser, Sydney Sherburne, Madison Smith, Jacob Solomon, Andrew Varipatis, Caleb Viola, Molly Walker, Jackson Wilson **Standish:** Jake Bear, Maggi Bradford, Emily Byrne, Kiely Callahan, James Conley, Aubrey Denico, Sadie Denico, Noah Lambert, Chaz Lamkin, Jazmyne Mejias, Kayla Raymond, Hannah Stoddard, Jack Tracy **Steep Falls:** Tyla Greenlaw **West Baldwin:** Michael Murphy **Westbrook:** Gabrielle Begos, Devin Cyr, Kallie Cyr, Zachery Fecteau, Jaclyn Hazlewood, Maddie Herbert, Desiree Hodgkins, MacKenna Homa, Nathan Jacobs, Anthony Maguire, Kaitryn Pitt, Whitney Poitras, Mia Stamey, Jacob Thornton, Alessandra Vasquez, Hailee Walker, Lily Webber **Windham:** Dominic Agneta, Octavian Anghel, Mikayla Baiguy, Lauren Black, Chloe Boyes, Travis Burt, Ben Chouinard, Brandon Cummings, Evan Desmond, Kristin Farwell, Amren Frechette, Alissa Holloway, Julia Hills, Molly Hodgkins, Dianna Ingersoll, Katherine Lewis, Logan McCarthy, Josh Mora, Sydney Nangle,

Dean Preston, Avery Rolfe, Bryce Sernyk, Gabs Sernyk, Isabella Sernyk, Annie Stevens, Maddie Williams, Cait Winn **Yarmouth:** Phil Bock, Matthew Gagnon, Caleb Heuss, Charlie Keefe, Ethan Kelley, Adam Levinson, Jeff Norsworthy, Odin York

Franklin County

Carrabassett Valley: Jonathan Maidman **Chester****ville:** Mike Cilley, Isabelle Decker **Farmington:** Cody Gaboury, Natalee House, Kali Howard, Jacob Mealey **Industry:** Marielle Pelletier **Jay:** Emily White **Kingfield:** Jackson Masterson, Katie Maxsimic, Tiernan Tooker **Phillips:** Kathy Stovall **Rangeley:** Lauren Eastlack **Wilton:** Katie Brittain, Lexi Mittelstadt, Olivia Schanck, Emma Williams

Hancock County

Bar Harbor: Phillip Bart, Ruby Brown, Matthew Cox, Jonathan Genrich, Chris Horton, Caleb Jackson, Thomas Korstanje, Baylor Landsman, Katie Losquadro, Isaac Mains, Mason Soares, Marissa Springer, Nathaniel Taylor, Sara Todd **Bass Harbor:** Abigail Muscat **Bernard:** Ben Freudig, Madison Williams **Blue Hill:** Kacie Bond, Curran Granger, Alexis Hallett, Erika Hipsky, Hannah Sherwood **Brooksville:** Garrett Parker **Bucksport:** Elizabeth Baumann, Danny Bunker, Hannah Ferrell, Kaylee Knowles, Kendall Szumilas, Carter Tolmasoff **Corea:** Benjamin Hunt, Kimberly Hunt, Timothy Hunt **Dedham:** Jacob Curtis, Sarah Dorey, Kate Fogg, Colby Hafford, Jordyn Miller, Jaymie Sidaway, Finn Wardwell **Deer Isle:** Nicole Cortez, Amy Hardy, Jordyn Judkins, Aja Quintal **Eastbrook:** Brooke Carver, Malcolm Svec **Ellsworth:** Lindsay Bland, Joy Cartwright, Dylan Freeman, Elliott Gagnon-Victor, Riley Grindle, Jared Hamilton, Joy Kempf, Alec Leathers, Kaitlin McCullough, Allison Robbins, MaKayla Seavey, Maria Wagenknecht, Dennis Wichterman, Evelyn Zumwalt **Gouldsboro:** Blue Howard, Skye Howard **Hancock:** Pamela Burhoe, Trevor Morrison **Holden:** Ana Dunn **Lamoine:** Paul Briggs, Elizabeth Dalton, Mackenzie Hanna, Madison Jones, Ella Wallace **Little Deer Isle:** Ella Marshall, Ennis Marshall **Mount Desert:** Cadi Howell **Northeast Harbor:** Louise Chaplin **Orland:** Hope Bowden, John LaBrier, Reilly Linkel, Sarah Low, Schuyler Vandereb **Penobscot:** James Bilella, Heather Munroe **Seal Cove:** Emma Watras, Julia Watras **Sorrento:** Samantha Bierman **Southwest Harbor:** Elaina Cote, Sydney Kachmar, Camille Michaud, Timothy Moore, Roxy Preston, John Squires **Stonington:** Mchenna Martin, Sam Pottle **Sullivan:** Andrea Knapp, Kevin Venard **Surry:** Amelia Hayden, Emma Whitney **Swans Island:** Theo Woodbury **Trenton:** Gus La Casse, Bella Ross **Winter Harbor:** Riley Flubacher, Tara Flubacher

Kennebec County

Albion: Ethan Caldwell **Augusta:** Alex Cousins, Kyle Douin, Wyatt Green, Ian Harden, Cari Hopkins, Carly Lettre, Cam MacLean, Leah Mastrianno, Nick Poulin, Grace Rodrigue, Evangeline Soucy, Nate St Pierre, Annemarie Towle, Olivia Varney **Belgrade:** Ava Ardito, Alexa Brennan, Max Comis, Emma DiGirolamo, Grace Elliott, Martin Guarnieri, Travis Smith **Belgrade Lakes:** Logan Holt **Benton:** Ryan Bourque, Emery Clifford, Jessie Walsh, John York **Chelsea:** Gabby Benson, Mac Creamer, Amelia Evans, Nic Mills, Kelby Young **Clinton:** Matt Brown, Zack Delile, Ashley Spaulding **Farmingdale:** Sarah Benner, Cole Bryant, Zackery Ellis, Hunter Lizzotte, Eli Smith **Fayette:** Gabe Fein, Emma Fitzpatrick, Cassidy Shink **Gardiner:** Brooke Andre, Casey Bourque, Annabel Ladner-Hudson, Chase McLaughlin, Anna Toman **Hallowell:** Seth Ashby **Kents Hill:** Dana Reynolds **Litchfield:** Sophie Childs, Drew Gordon, Kaitlyn Ridley **Manchester:** John McLaughlin, Zachary Tobor **Monmouth:** Ben Brooks, Libby Clement, Ellie Fox, Jordyn Gowell, Erin Kennedy, Megan Knowles, Thomas Neal, Lydia Roy **Mount Vernon:** Katie Gasper **Oakland:** Gavin Bressette, Eli Caret, Eve Lilly, Rosemary Peterson, Ryan Pullen, Katie Seekins, Averi Taylor, Isaac Violette **Pittston:** Kyra Franey **Readfield:** Wyatt Cannell, Samantha Cloutier, Christopher Erb, Vincent Scott, Lily Welch **Rome:** Benjamin Lemieux, Alex Pierce **Sidney:** Lydia Bradfield, Luke Buck, Danielle Hall, Hannah Hargrove, Emily Levesque, Hannah Mathieu, Aiden McGlaufflin, Emma Wentworth **South China:** Derek Beaulieu, Annika Gil, Billy Howell, Hunter Praul, Jacob Praul **Vassalboro:** Phil Allen **Vienna:** Connor Firth, Brody Looney **Waterville:** Estephanie Baez-Vazquez, Josiah Bloom, Maggie Brock, Aaliyah Cruz, Ben Danner, Staci DeBoer, Molly Glueck, Cooper Hart, Danny Kornsey, Peter Lai, Hannah LeClair, Amelaine Llanto, Molly Moss, Mikayla Reynolds, Sammi Saulter, Paige Spears, Zoey Trussell **Wayne:** Katie King **West Gardiner:** Joe Albert, Alyssa Barnes, Abigail Haskell, Mikayla Palmer **Windsor:** Sebastien Chamberlain, Jordan Linscott, Sydni Plummer **Winslow:** Marsha Bard, Andrew Bolduc, Justin Bolduc, Daigs Daigneault, Katie Doughty, Sara Doughty, Arianna Hatt, Isaac Lambrecht, Riley Loftus, Kristen Rancourt, Katherine Stevens **Winthrop:** Anna Berkes, Phillip Easterbrooks, Greg Fay, E. Feeney, Clay Forgue, Rilye Frechette, Emmanouil Karamousadakis, Lee Lavoie, Ella Michaud, Mary Milligan, Abby Morin, Alex Stewart, Jillian Taylor

Knox County

Appleton: Hugh Costigan, Ethan Ford, Myles Kelley, Ashlee McIntosh **Camden:** Joshua Bentzinger, Ellie Berez, Hadley Berger, Hope Bifulco, Danila Borodaenko, Kai Hart, Alden Lewis, Sam Maltese, April Messier, Grace Minkin, Max Moore, Angela Rothwell, Lexi Smith, Kyla Taylor, Tristan Woodruff **Cushing:** Krista Butler, Eden Zizza **Hope:** Evie Bracher, Charlie Cooper, Louis Laurita, Katie Southworth **North Haven:** Kat White **Owls Head:** Claudia Fox, Jacqueline Hall, Karl Ilvonen, Alden Mason, Audrey Young **Rockland:** Wesley Dunkle, Myla Ferland, Oliver Vanorse-Jones **Rockport:** Katherine Bowen, Luke Dill, John Nugent, Nathaniel Stanley **South Thomaston:** Anna Grierson **Thomaston:** Amber Johnston, Sam King, Mackenzie Murray **Union:** Ian Doughty, Somerset Ganz, Emalee Grant, Nathaniel Tracey **Vinalhaven:** Amber Shane, Molly Wentworth **Warren:** Olivia Dougherty, Naomi Kihn, James Noyes, Leah Wilcox **Washington:** Rhiannon Gould

Lincoln County

Boothbay: Graham Bryer, Melissa Guzzi **Boothbay Harbor:** Tim Chappelle, Riley Sullivan **Damariscotta:** Jon Pinkham, Abigail Roberts **Jefferson:** Joseph Cleaves **New Harbor:** Sam Ransley **Newcastle:** Nolan Anderson, Liam Dworkin, Aidan Manahan **Nobleboro:** Riley Cushing, Oliver Hardina, Lisa Howard, Jordan Metz **Somerville:** Willow Throckmorton-Hansford **South Bristol:** Nuala Glendinning **Waldoboro:** Claire Bourett, Rose Hickey, Amos Hinkley, Ashley Holmes, Steph Lage-Lichko, Allison Lupien, Emily Lupien, Seanna Montgomery, Jeffery Parent **Westport Island:** Kyle Ricker **Wiscasset:** Aidan Drage, Vanessa Dunn, John Hodson, Lily Yeaton

Oxford County

Bethel: Emily Fraser, Emily Hanscom, Emalee Harrington, Anneliese Smith, Brynne Speakman, Willis Steven, Shelby Thorman **Buckfield:** Kylie Carrier **Byron:** Sophie Ladd **Canton:** Luke Lueders, Page Lueders, Tucker Olsen **Denmark:** Scott Parker **Dixfield:** Ethan Couture, Miko Parsons, Alexa Varnum, Lizzie White **Fryeburg:** Kaia De Vries, Casey Kneissler, Sophie Kummer, Sinead Lounsbury, Patrick Malia, Shelby Pelkie, Katherine Trumbull **Greenwood:** Emma Kruse, Sam Stone **Hartford:** Karen McNeil **Hebron:** Bram Dustin, Victoria Eichorn, Josh Lajoie **Hiram:** Oliver Hild **Mexico:** Briton Bishop **Milton**

Township: Sadie Richardson **Newry:** Ricco Call **Norway:** Kate Bowen, Will Eshleman, Sam Morton, Christian Wynott **Oxford:** Emilyann Drumm, Dominic Kugell **Paris:** Kaisa Heikkinen **Porter:** Oz Cordes **Rumford:** Vanessa Cote, Ellie LeDuc, Meadow Wind **South Paris:** Chloe Hodgdon, Connor Ladd, Daniel Paine, Marissa Paine, Haid Tanous, Marla Tanous **Waterford:** Greta Vanderblue **West Paris:** Kylie Willis

Penobscot County

Alton: Emilee Arsenault, Samantha Coombs, Roy Koneff, Ian Reid, Natalie Storman, Kenzie Young **Bangor:** Maher Alsamsam, Ian Ammerman, Silas Bates, Peter Blackwell, Grace Blanchard, Sam Blanchard, Katelynn Bowker, Nate Brainerd, Gino Caccese, Abby Cadorette, Meg Caron, Max Carter, Abbey Charette-LaBreque, Dylan Clark, Hannah Clark, Tori Cline, Toby Coffey, Emmersen Cohn, Kassidy Coker, Libby Colley, Alexander Cross, Juliette Daigle Thompson, Tommy Daly, Leila Davids, Gwen Davis, Kathleen Dunn, Dyllon Dunton, Sydney Durepo, Hannah Dyer, Gunnar Eastman, James Fahey, Jon Feix, Caine Field, Collette Filer, Amanda Floyd, Landyn Francis, Stephanie Frost, Colin Gallagher, Chelsea Gilgan, Lydia Gilmore, Dan Godin, Kathleen Greenlaw, Ethan Grover, Glenice Hale, Camryn Hammill-Nordfors, Makenzie Handley, Caleb Harper, Parker Harriman, Dylan Haughton, Aela Hebert, Reid Higgs, Rebekah Horowitz, Abby Houghton, Ellie Hunt, Zach Ireland, Emily Irvine, Alicia Jacobson, Alexa Jarvis, Kristin Jenkins, Isabella Keebler, Paul Keebler, Melissa Kelly, Ashley King, Richard Kinney, Ryan Kinney, Willow Knapp, Braydon Kneeland, Anna Kolota, Mackenzie Ladd, Emily LeClair, Connor Lehan, Lily Lehan, Maggie Lever, John Lopez Valencia, Sarah Marcotte, Grady Markie, Kyle McCue, Lily McLaughlin, Claire Meyer, Makayla Miller, Marina Mohawass, Sam Morse, Naomi Moynihan, Monica Mulligan, Noah Murphy, Destiny Musor, Sienna Newman, Vinh-Nhan Ngo, Addison Nichols, Connor Noddin, Lilian Nowak, Erin O'Kane, Paige Oranje, Kelly Pellegrino, Andrew Persson, Julia Phan, Shelby Philips, Jojo Picone, Banalata Pratt, Declan Riordan, Robert Roof, Alexandria Rose, Emily Sala, Eric Schmidt, Parry Seddiqi, Lilli Seeley, Eliot Sekera, Emma Sheffield, Abigail Slauenwhite, Amelia Slocum, Dylan Smart-Pelletier, Audrey Smith, Emma Smith, Jared Smith, Jason Smith, Mary-Kate Smith, Bonnie Spink-O'Brien, Jeremy Spors, Corey Stephens, Kaden Stokes-Dana, Levi Sturtevant, Maria Taylor, Yuri Trusty, Zach Tubbs, Lauren Turcotte Seavey, Heather Webb, Chloe Weeks, Sam West, John White, Tessa Worgull, Jason Worster, Jeremy Yehle **Bradford:** Matthew Albert **Bradley:** Nick Avery, Cassidy Climo, Logan Doucette, Maddie Huerth, Tony Jackson, Chris Johnson, Emily Ketch, Nathalie Poulin, Alexis Rutherford, Joshua Smith, Brooke Sotomah, Noah Zambrano **Brewer:** Riley Andrews, Kathryn Austin, Rene Beaulieu, Abigail Bennett, Jeremy Bissell, Lilly Blakeman, Rory Burmeister, Lily Canders, John Clark, Eve Daries, Ryan Day, Georgia Doore, Aubrey Duplissie, Caitlin Fraser, Alec Gagnon, Jennah Geiser, Rowan Gingras, Courtney Hawkins, Kaitlyn Helfen, Mickey Hersey, Tyler Kahkonen, Kaycee Laffey, Alexys Langley, Bryce Largay, Kaitlin Liu, Kate Longtin, Maria Low, Michele Maybury, Maria McLaughlin, Grace Milan, Chanthu Millay, Lauren Richardson, Sherralyn Robbins, Gabriella Roope, Haley Santerre, Jessica Sargent, Samuel Sergi, Cassidy Smith, Anna Spaulding, Jared Wright, Lauren Young, Jude Zanon **Carmel:** Quinn Bartlett, Abby Boucher, James Burgess, Kenyon Geiger, Bill Hartt, Patrick Verrill **Chester:** Jacqueline Mault **Corinna:** Elyana Gerrie, Rachael Sickles **Corinth:** Julie Cox, Janell Doody, Liberty Oko, Lindsey Shaw **Dexter:** Sean Bena, David Kirshkalm, Olivia Peakes **Dixmont:** Matt Harzewski, Audrey Maddox **East Millinocket:** Katrina Gagnon, Erick Green, Madison Wallace **Eddington:** Davis Asherman, Kat Carreira, Eamon Laskey, James Mahoney, Allisyn Tidd **Exeter:** Rebecca Batron, Caitlyn Hardy, Nicholas Hershbine, Logan Perkins **Garland:** Matthew Day, Brett Kusnierz, Isaac Webber, Kaitlyn Webber **Glenburn:** Seana Annable, Christian Boone, Lydia Caron, Stacey Comeau Duran, Lauren Dean, Trenton Ellis, Alexis Ismail, Lauren Ismail, Lizzie Jacobs, Nicholas Jacobs, Emily Leavitt, Lukas Norment, Lauren Potter, Olivia Sharrow, Brooke Springer, Nathan Thompson, Josh Watson **Greenbush:** Audrey Buzzell, Dylan Madden, Delani McLaughlin **Hampden:** Anna Baldwin, Ben Bambrick, Mychal Beaulieu, Grace Bennett, Teodora Blejeru, Oliver Bois, Claire Bowen, Peyton Chahley, Logan Christian, Chantal Connelly, Fallon Crossman, Laura Curioli, Ellie Dacey, William Dacey, Bryce DeRosby, Sara Economy, Carter Emerson, Zachary Flannery, Audrie French, Ethan Howe, Meghan Ireland, Natalie Kirby, Julianne Llerena, Brady Lobdell, Jennah Lyford, Abby Lyons, Rebekkah Martin, Riley McBreairty, Sydnie McKenney, Jake Michaud, Sophia Narofsky, Claire Nickels, Rebekah Novak, Jeffrey Nowack, Sarah Renee Ozlanski, Sam Parsons, Ellie Prescott, Kaitlynn Raye, Jessie Romero, Claire Scobie, Olivia Scott, Zachary Scott, Azaria Spaulding, Hannah Tash, Aaron Wilde **Hermion:** Garrett Anderson, McKenna Baker, Julia Bate, Zachary Beaton, Josh Berry, Jasmine Boulrier, Kelsey Bridges, Alana Broughton, Amanda Cox, Ashley Dunphy, Samantha Falone, Courtney Kelsey, Emily Kontio, D.J. McClung, Kaden Nevells, Breanne Oakes, Noelle Patten, Cammie Peirce, Braedon Stevens, Colby Stokes, Olivia Tardie, Justin Taylor, Torria Wittmer **Holden:** Emmy Clarke, Johnny Cobb, Nick Geiser, Leah Hart, Lauren Holyoke, Andrew Kiley, Hannah McCann, Ian Norman, Cameron Oxley, Collin Rhoads-Doyle, Benjamin Tyler **Howland:** Christine Brown, Brady Harding, Brianna Moon **Hudson:** Maddie Clark, David Ledford, Rya Morrill, Erika Small **Indian Island:** Alanna Chavaree, Emmett Sockalex **Kenduskeag:** Aspyn Call, Caroline Davis, Olivia Rice, Connor St Peter **Lee:** Nicole Chandler, Ashton Dunbar, Julia Shannon, Alessio Zanotta **Levant:** Alexis Allard, Mikey Ames, Ashley Barker, Anthony Caccese, Carla Giuka, Olivia Johnson, Josh Peterson **Lincoln:** Corbett Arnold, Koby Farrington, Ainsley Hainer, Sarah Hanington, Hannah Irish, Jessica Sutherland, Jackson Weatherbee **Lowell:** Garrett Engstrom **Medway:** Nick Powers **Milford:** Caleb Ackley, Ileana Adams, Layla Blackie, Zack Dill, Ben Fiske, Jodi Glidden, Jessica Hayden, Kaylee Hussey, Adam Kenny, Cassandra Leighton, Charlotte Lonko, Dylan Shepherd, Meghan Small, Cassondra Wood **Millinocket:** Katie Watson **Newburgh:** Lindsay Clements, Wesley Kauppila, Jennifer Spann **Newport:** Abby Bagley, Beau Briggs, Madi Ivory, Myah Reed, Lauren Roberts, Remington Shaw **Old Town:** Gavin Allen, Heather Anderson, MaryEllen Applebee, Matt Bailey, Madi Bangs, Nicolas Banks, Nicholas Baron, Allison Bleakney, Nani Bragdon, Anna Briley, Sam Cartwright, Angie Casella, Camden Chasse, Ashley Cray, Olivia Damboise, Naomi Dawson, Jamie de Souza, Daniela Delpino, Tyler Doliber, Jon Donnelly, Jake Dubai, Emily Dunlap, Christopher Duplisa, Alyssa Ellick, Liron Estrach, Lindsey Futrelle, Sydney Hagarman, Nick Higgins, Zack Ireland, Dustin Jensen, Chris Johanson, Heather Johnson, Tom Klodenski, Abbye Koenig, Alexis Krull, Carmen Lee, Ethyn Lolar, Trinity Mailey, Brandon Mastrorillo, Natalie McCarthy, Chris McGeoghegan, Cole Moore, Joel Morin, Elizabeth Namujju, Matthew Nichols, Zane Nygaard, Darien Orethun, Allie Ouimet, Sydney Owen, Soojin Park, Aidan Peters, Mark Pollard, Emily Pomeroy, Cody Porter, Adam Regan, Nate Regan, Sam Roberts, Katie Schweizer, Sean Schweizer, Lucas Shepherd, Jasmine Smith, Savanna Smith-D'Addio, Paige Solans, Brooke Sossong, Melanie Soucy, Nick Sullivan, Sophia Suriano, Gabe Talon, Santiago Tijerina, Ethan Trott, Jillian Trujillo, Hannah Turcotte, Kathrina Turner, Kathleen Vickery, Sarah Vickman, Emily Villemaire, Daniel Wortman, Skyler Wright **Orono:** Hamidah Aldarwish, Ali Almohsen, Niomi Almonte, Hassan Alshuwaysh, Connor Bell, Priyanshu Bhatta, Matthew Birch, Patrick Bishop, Zachary Boyle, Katie Brayson, Camryn Brown, Samuel Burgess, Brandon Burris, Jacob Callas, Lailani Chann, Michaela Cisowski, Lacy Condon, Alana Cormier, Morgan Crapo, Caitlin Crawford, Jennifer Crone, Brandon Cummings, Chloe DaSilva, Eric Desbois, Paige Dobrzynski, Kellen Doyle, Theo Erikson, Max Farrow, Mohammed Fazli, Kell Fremouw, Tyson Gates, Robert Gelinas, Remi Geohegan, Jaimie Giguere, Sarah Glatter, Anya Goldman, Leann Grogan, Katie Harder, Isabel Henderson, Ada Hepler, Noah Hixon, Seokhyeon Hwang, Dominika Ivanicka, Henry Izere, Pearl Jackson, David Jakacky, Qikai Jiang, Devon Jobe, Ben Johnson, Dima Krivorotko, Caroline LaPerriere, Griffin Lord, Max Lovblad, Charlie Marks, Michaela Martin, Madi McCarthy, Keely McConville, Meghan McDonald, Bryson McDonough, Caitlin McDonough, Nick Millett, Felix Morrissey, Abigail Mulligan, Soren Nguyen, Theophile Nkulikiyinka, Aubree Nygaard, Sonora Ortiz, Aimee Ouellette, Anya Parker, Hannah Peacock, Novak Perovic, Kaylee Porter, Myles Quirion, Maxwell Rich, Sean Richard, Cameron Robbins, Tanya Roy, Roisin Rumsey, Brooke Seiders, Matt Seuch, Liana Shaw, Jakub Sirota, Sean Staton, Celine Tedenby, Angie Timms, Nick Tiner, James Treadwell, Ally Trimper, Morgan Trimper, Chris Vogel, Sam Weafer, Eva White, Noah White, Willow Wind, Sophia Wise, Ece Yeldan, Carolyn Ziegra **Orrington:** Emma Bowden, J.D. Dahl, Brady Dube, Katelyn Grant, Chloe Hart, Jack Lander, Meg Lander, Braeden Swett, Jenna Votour, Gwen Watkins, Dan Weaver, Haley Williams, Nathan Williams **Plymouth:** Gabby Sands **Stetson:** Syd Frost, Tom Poling **Stillwater:** Matthew Griffith, Karen Horton, Amanda MacBurnie, Sarah Zacharison **Veazie:** Josh Allison, Sophie Bilodeau, Brooke Buxton, Joseph Dagher, Grace Harman, Adam Hathaway, Alex Mehre, Riley Perry, Connor Reese, Vicki Stearns, Ben Vetelino, Kelby Willcox, Sam Willigar **West Enfield:** Brett

Crocker, Madison Gilman, Kacie Mulligan, Lauren Reed, Christina Wallace

Piscataquis County

Abbot: Colby Chadwick **Brownville:** Izaak Krause, Will Poole **Dover Foxcroft:** Megan Fuller, Josh Reed, Kearson Sutton, Steff Victoria, Lucas Ronco **Greenville Junction:** Camden Harmon **Medford:** Kaya Laverty **Monson:** Maddie Kane

Sagadahoc County

Bath: Eleanor Carrolton, William Carrolton, Tristan Cilley, Griffin Dever, Ryan Fitzmaurice **Bowdoin:** Aaron Dustin, Adam Dustin, Cody Holman, Zoe McNally, Caroline Wheeler **Bowdoinham:** Alyssa Dau **Georgetown:** Anora Rice **Phippsburg:** Connor Mulrooney, Emma Warner **Richmond:** Ashley Brown, Emma Carbone, Olivia Ridenour, Kylie Temple **Topsham:** Madi Bailey, Lucas Bergeron, Andrew Chamberland, Caitlin Chambers, Carly Cornish, Alexander Gaidola, Matt Kenison, Joseph Knowles, Liam Knowles, David Neufeld, Sabrina Paetow, Bane Slocum, Marcus Steinman, Will Teufel, Lexi Thompson, Katie Trebilcock, Sara York **West Bath:** Connor Bennoch, Caiden Fraser **Woolwich:** Katie Card, Julia Cliffe, Rachel Ouellette

Somerset County

Anson: Scott Mason **Cornville:** Jada Mack **Detroit:** Mohammad Niayesh **Fairfield:** Nathanael Batson, Christian Bradford, Katie Cobb, Trinity Hutchins, Miranda Lambert, Macie Larouche, Hannah Longley, Noah Shepherd, Lydia Townsend **Harmony:** Caitlin McKenney **Hartland:** Emily Ledue, Ryan McDougal, Myky Weinstein **Jackman:** Alexandra Lessard **Madison:** Nate Dimock, Emily Edgerly, Caden Franzose, Luke Harper **Palmyra:** Adam Malcolm, Nick Pease **Pittsfield:** Leah Bradstreet, Madison Fitts, Lauren Lancaster, Aaron Schanck, Devon Varney, Ethan Varney, Seamus Walden **Ripley:** Kendrah Willey **Saint Albans:** Allison Mendonca **Skowhegan:** Sam Bolvin, Colby Esty, Angel Gonzalez Merrill, Alex Higgins, Tevin Huff, Bhreagh Kennedy, Kyle Lee, Bailey Lewis, Matush Prokop, Sydney Reed, Leah Savage, Katelyn Warren **Smithfield:** Lucas Lenfest, Kyle Salley, Abby Stevens **Solon:** Jasmyne Coombs

Waldo County

Belfast: Audrey Broetzman, James Cole, Sam Davis, Paige Ford, Julianna O'Sullivan, Donny Patten, Jie Ning Zhu **Belmont:** Zoe Deans **Brooks:** Isaac Black, Angela Holmes **Frankfort:** Joshua Wilbur **Freedom:** Emily Keating, Stella Tirone **Jackson:** Emma Fonger, Morgan Fonger **Liberty:** Alex Fountain **Lincolnville:** Jesse Goodale, Rowan Hurlburt, Brendan Moline, Joshua Pitcairn, Kyle Wood **Monroe:** Erik Hamilton, Cori Shooter **Northport:** Jason Hunter, Katie Ritchie, Hannah Sanderson **Palermo:** Cade King, Parker King **Searsmont:** Declan Brinn, Nicholas Czuchra, Luke Hamlin, Emily Hills, Eli Jolliffe, Aiden Pike, Noah Robbins **Searsport:** Cole DuBois, Sammy Hamblen, Daniel McKeon, Emma Spiegel, Olivia West **Stockton Springs:** Haley Braga, Cheyenne Hebert, Jack Lindyberg, Rebekah Mellor, Gabe Poulin **Swanville:** Wesley Hutchins, Devon Kane **Thorndike:** Jensen Aspinall, Kristen Raven **Unity:** Zoe Mayhew **Waldo:** Kyle Agbuya **Winterport:** Kate Bragg, Nancy DesJardin, Sophie Dube, Sarah Dyer, Alex Holmes, Maddy Humphrey, Brenna Jones, Nate Jordan, Rebekah Littlefield, Mariah Lockhart, Zara Misler, Dakota Noonan, Ethan Suderley, Henry Willard

Washington County

Addison: Riley Grant **Baileyville:** Toni Gagner, Erika Isnor, Bogumil Korasadowicz **Beals:** Ryan Alley **Calais:** Kenzie Bennett, Devon Carrier, Patrick Corbett, Megan Greene, Ivy McLellan, Gavin Parks **Charlotte:** Kaylah Kilby **Cherryfield:** Jessica Rolfe **Cutler:** Bryant Marsh, Greg Moulton **Danforth:** Christiana Lord **Dennysville:** Gabe Brady **Edmunds Township:** Jevan McPhail **Harrington:** Emma Denbow, Tracey Peterson, Anna Strout **Jonesboro:** Jinny Davis **Jonesport:** Stephen Cirone **Machias:** Ragan Toppan **Machiasport:** Marc Michaud, Marissa Wood **Marshfield:** Isaac Atkinson, Alex Renshaw, Brianna Renshaw, Morgan Schwinn, Lydia Sprague **Milbridge:** Ana Ortiz Albor **Perry:** Jacob Cook, Alex Morgan, Madilyn Newcomb, Marek Veal **Pleasant Point:** Serina Fredette **Whiting:** Burdette Brown, Haley Cherry

York County

Acton: Porter Bodkin, Brooke Camire, Marie Wood **Alfred:** Zachary Hurlburt, Liam King, Grace LaFrance **Arundel:** Evan Schindler **Berwick:** Lucas Bent, Ethan DeMoura, Zachary English, Joe Horne, Jacob LaMontagne, Jacob Mulligan, Trent Otash, Jarrod Rudis **Biddeford:** Ayla Aldrich, Gabriella Bermeo, Grace Bermeo, David Bourque, Jaron Durkee, Seth Harding, Sarrah Marcotte, Brandon Martin, Drake McAfee, Ethan McBrine, Karla Mendoza Yanes, Joe Morrison, Bart Murphy, Mia Pothier, Stefan Reis, Katie Stewart, Troy Tourigny **Buxton:** Sarah Durocher, Sam Kovacs, Thomas Sirois **Cape Neddick:** Taylor Bair, Lilia Beal, Luke Berger, Henry Bruskotter, Chase Holt, Emily Holt, Tyler Humphrey, Rollan Lemieux, Emma Parrotta, Ryan Thurlow **Cornish:** Riley Vacchiano **Dayton:** Paige Boudreau, Amber Coxen, Jade Kruczek, Ethan Waterhouse **East Waterboro:** Jake Cyr **Eliot:** Rori Coomey, Lauren Cusson, Ryan Driscoll, Eliza Foye, Sean Fuller, Turner Goodenough, Chad Gregor, Jack Harmon, Charlie McCann, Olivia Petersen, Elliott Place, Colin Ready, Chloe Shields **Hollis Center:** Mike Ames, Megan Twombly **Kennebunk:** Nick Barry, Caleb Congdon, J.G. Connolly, Nate Cripps, Josh Erickson-Harris, James Jarvis, Henry Kindler, Aidan McEnaney, Sean Radel, Corinna Rec, Ashley Robinson, Charlie Smith, Zackary Sullivan, Maddison Tassinari, Sam Vaccaro **Kennebunkport:** Laura Farmer, Trevor Sutton **Kittery:** Killian Campbell, Grace Finley, Taylor George, Dominic Perkins, Abraham Rubianes, Brett Smith **Kittery Point:** Gunnar Palm **Lebanon:** Kaylee Mayotte, Kaily Rich, Sommer Thompson, Brandon Torno **Limerick:** Syeira New, Marcus Ratz **Limington:** Aidan McGlone, Justin Strout **Lyman:** Hannah Bradish, Gabrielle Guillemette, Nick Hammond, Emily Morin, Jeremiah Van Tassell, Joel Van Tassell, Andres Vargas **North Berwick:** Alexy Hudock, Nicholas Johnson, Dante Michaud, Mya Muthig, Tyler Oliver, Jack Szczechowicz **North Waterboro:** Emily Davison, Tori Silva **Old Orchard Beach:** Peter Coleman, Madi Courtois, Danika Evangelista, Blaise Fournier, Kaitlin Halle, Lily LaCasse **Saco:** Matthew Basile, Owen Boissonneault, Sydney Brown, Michael Delorge, Luke Gosselin, George Horvat, Kaitlyn Kelley, Nellie Lennon, Immanuel Libby, Claire Loeser, Hannah McAlary, Tylar Nutting, Toby Ouellette, Stephen Picard, Delaney Prejean, Ashley Tillson, Taylor Westhaus, Sophie Whiting **Sanford:** Caitlyn Beaulieu, Joe Binette, Peter Cusack, Kara Frasier, Adam Genreux, Jason Gil, Steve Hanselmann, Aurora Hodgdon, Daniel Khat, Dawson Knapp, Luke Lapierre, Niraj Patel, Kassie Plante, Chad Rosander, Kyla Terril, Khang Truong, Kelsey Wright, David Yong **Shapleigh:** Noah Chretien **South Berwick:** Jacqueline Bassi, Ruby Bonilla, Courtney Callanan, Jocelyn Cinfo, Brian Couture, Reid Johnson, McKayla Leary, Stephen Rezack **Springvale:** Hanna Goulet, Anna Johnson, Dominic Lagace, Joshua Sirois, Josh Webber **Waterboro:** Ivalani Callahan, Grace DeSimone, Tucker Lucas, Alyssa Paquin **Wells:** Tim Bullard, Alyssa Kenney, Sara Kondor-Ouellette, Tommy Labb, Gavyn Leighton, Sarah Lord, Jacob Michaud, Bailey Morrison, Emma Nelson, Dimarco Roberts, Natalie Robinson, Wyatt Rowe, Emma White, Alex Wilkins **York:** Abby Bourgeois, Samantha Campagna, Ashley Carney, Garrett Cronin,

Max Ernenwein, Jack Harrington, Delaney Labonte, Fiona Murphy, Josh Pease, Maggie Prince, Hanna Seigny, Gabriella Shetreet, Sophie Trafton, Zachary Westman [Back to full list](#)

Penbay Pilot boosts UMaine Hutchinson Center ‘Find Our Voices’ exhibit

01 Jul 2022

[Penbay Pilot](#) shared information about UMaine’s Hutchinson Center’s new art exhibit, “Finding Our Voices.” The exhibit will open July 7 in the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery and will be on display through October. The exhibit features Patrisha McLean’s photo portraits of 43 Maine survivors of domestic abuse and will host an opening reception on Thursday, July 14 from 5–7 p.m.

Media share UMaine Extension Blueberry Hill Farm field day on July 14

01 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) shared information on UMaine’s Cooperative Extension blueberry field day which is scheduled for 9 a.m.–3 p.m. on July 14 at UMaine’s Blueberry Hill farm. The event will feature information sessions in pest, crop and drought management, as well as fresh pack technology and harvester demonstrations. [Registration](#) is requested for the field day.

Anastasia Lipp: 2022 Lunder Summer Internship recipient

01 Jul 2022

Anastasia Lipp from New Gloucester, Maine has been awarded the prestigious Lunder Summer Internship in Studio Art at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Lipp is a rising senior at UMaine and is working toward a bachelor’s degree in studio art with a minor in psychology. During Lipp’s first year of college, she was enrolled in the fine arts program at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick, Canada. While Lipp says she enjoyed her time there, she missed Maine and is thankful that she transferred to UMaine. “The students and staff here genuinely have an uplifting disposition. I am excited by the diversity of facilities in the studio art program. Somedays I am forging customized metal hooks, other days I am creating elegant screen prints. UMaine makes it easy to create a close-knit community among peers and staff that prioritize checking in on your person to ensure that you have the best tools to be a successful student,” Lipp says. At UMaine, Lipp is involved as a member of the art and design collaborative, women in business club and the sorority housing initiative. She also founded the TYPE-ONE-derful! Diabetes Club. Within this club, she hosted an art auction in collaboration with Delta Tau Delta to raise nearly \$2,000 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. As a Lunder Intern, Lipp will serve as a teacher assistant in the summer studio art classes program at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. The programs she will be teaching are weeklong, theme-based studio art classes for youth ages 5–11 and 12–17. The classes will take place in the museums galleries and studios. Lipp chose to apply for the Lunder Internship after having positive experiences taking early childhood classes at UMaine and working with adolescents at the South End Teen Center. Lipp says that she wants to be part of the team that encourages a new generation of students to use art as a resource for self expression, self reflection, and as a framework for exploring the world and human connection. “I am looking forward to learning how professionals who have years of experience and curiosity in the artistic field develop and present lessons around a diverse showcase of artifacts, how young minds take to the activities; and the best way to communicate new information to students,” Lipp says. As Lipp enters her senior year, she says she is looking forward to taking her capstone class. The studio art major capstone project is centered around students planning and installing an exhibition. Lipp plans to explore the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and return in the fall with a stronger sense of what a professional exhibition looks like, and how minds of all ages will interpret the varying pieces. Contact: Hope Carroll, hope.carroll@maine.edu

UMaine preps for 50th annual Maine Youth Summer Music Camp

05 Jul 2022

Editor’s note: Story updated July 7. The Division of Music in the University of Maine School of Performing Arts is celebrating its 50th annual Maine Summer Youth Music Camp this July, returning to its traditional in-person, residential experience after two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. The camp, led by Christopher White, UMaine director of bands, offers two sections based on grade level. This year, the junior and senior camps will run concurrently, July 10–15, with the final concerts on Friday July 15 at 2 p.m. for jazz and music theater, and 7 p.m. for strings, bands and choirs. Participants in the ensemble-based camp rehearse twice daily. Students have the opportunity to be in multiple ensembles and music classes. The camp provides the opportunity to learn from professionals from the UMaine community and throughout the country. Visiting instructors for the camp include Ben Cox, director of bands at Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham, Maine, who will direct the junior concert band; Jason Priest, band director at Hampden Academy, who will direct the junior jazz band; Sascha Zaburdaeva, first violinist with the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, who will be directing the string orchestra; Jeremy Milton, choir director from Old Saybrook High School in Connecticut and a UMaine graduate, who will direct the junior choir and senior musical theater; and Molly Priest, who will direct the junior music theater. Philip Edelman, UMaine assistant professor of music and music education, will co-direct the bands with White. More information is on the [UMaine School of Performing Arts website](#).

PenBay Pilot highlights UMaine Extension 4-H, Literacy Volunteers of Waldo County partnership

05 Jul 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H has partnered with Literacy Volunteers of Waldo County to provide educational enrichment activities to local youth.

Republican Journal notes UMaine Extension participating in new Maine Outdoor Learning Initiative

05 Jul 2022

The [Republican Journal](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension is participating in a new Maine Outdoor Learning Initiative, which aims to provide students hands-on outdoor learning experiences this summer.

Schattman discusses McCain Foods’ solar initiative with Centralmaine.com

05 Jul 2022

Rachel Schattman, a University of Maine assistant professor of sustainable agriculture, spoke with [Centralmiane.com](#) about McCain Foods’ plan to power 50% of its Easton, Maine potato processing plant with five community solar gardens, which is part of an overall effort to completely power all of its plants with renewable energy by 2030. Schattman says “Research shows us that we get the most bang for our buck by just not using as much energy and by really investing in energy efficiency and moving away from fossil fuels.”

NIFA highlights UMaine Extension facilitation skills workshops

05 Jul 2022

In a news release about how Cooperative Extension offices across the U.S. support farmers, families and community development, the [National Institute of Food and Agriculture](#) highlighted University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s Strengthening Your Facilitation Skills workshops, which tasks adults with working on community projects so they can become better leaders.

Press Herald, Centralmaine.com feature talk from Daigle and students about threats from emerald ash borer on brown ash trees

05 Jul 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) and [Centralmaine.com](#) featured a presentation about the threats the emerald ash borer poses to brown ash trees from John Daigle, a University of Maine professor of forest recreation management and citizen member of the Penobscot Nation, and his Ph.D. students.

Engineering News-Record reports on construction of Ferland EEDC

05 Jul 2022

[Engineering News-Record](#) reported on the construction of the University of Maine Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center, which is slated to open in August.

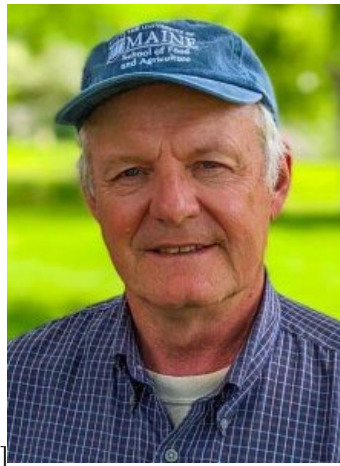
UMaine study examines long-term emotional impacts of school bullying among girls

05 Jul 2022

College-age women who were bullied in middle or high school continue to feel a range of negative emotions, including anxiety and lack of self-confidence, years after their experiences. But according to a new study from researchers at the University of Maine, some are also able to find positive gains and growth, as they feel pride at overcoming being bullied and moving forward with their lives as young adults. Researchers have long recognized that school bullying leads to feelings of anxiety, depression, loneliness and fear in victims, as well as other outcomes ranging from avoiding certain activities and situations to suicide. These negative impacts can linger into adulthood, affecting the mental and physical health, economic standing and social lives of those who have been bullied. The UMaine study was conducted by Katelyn Smith, who earned her bachelor’s degree from the university in 2017, and professor of family relations and human sexuality Sandra Caron. They sought a deeper understanding of the long-term impact of school bullying on girls by asking a dozen college-age women who had been bullied in middle and/or high school to describe the bullying behaviors they experienced, how it affected them at the time, and the ongoing impact it has had on their college experience. The most common type of bullying, which all participants in the study reported experiencing, was verbal bullying, such as “name-calling, spreading rumors, and being threatened.” “When I was in high school, one of the girls who would bully me said, ‘You could jump off a bridge and die and no one would care,’” reported one of the victims. Half of the women also reported physical attacks. “I dreaded getting on the bus to go home from school,” said one participant. “The same girl would sit behind me on purpose, and she would spit in my hair... or she would throw trash at me out of the bus window as I was boarding the bus.” Other experiences included being excluded from social or group activities, and cyberbullying. In addition to the negative emotions experienced at the time, the researchers asked about how the school bullying continued to impact victims as college students. “In the first few months of starting college, I didn’t talk to anyone or try to make friends,” said one former victim. “Being myself was a big issue for me because I had been bullied for being myself for so many years. I kept to myself because of fear of being judged.” However, 10 of the women reflected that they had come a long way since being bullied, and eight of them reported “turning the bullying experience into a positive” by being nicer and more accepting of others. “I currently attend group counseling, and this has helped me a lot,” said one of the participants. “It’s taken me three years, but I feel like I am stronger and more confident now.” All of the women who participated in the study discussed what can be done to prevent school bullying. Ideas ranged from improving training for students and staff at schools to monitoring students who frequently miss school to making sure parents are aware of what their children are doing on the internet and talking to their children about bullying. The study appears in the journal [Current Psychology](#). Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Porter awarded Honorary Life Membership by the Potato Association of America

06 Jul 2022



[caption id="attachment_91683" align="alignright" width="223"] Greg Porter[/caption] Gregory Porter, professor of agronomy in the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture, will receive an Honorary Life Membership from the Potato Association of America (PAA) at the organization’s annual meeting in July 2022. An Honorary Life Membership Award, the highest honor bestowed by PAA, recognizes exceptional contributions to the potato industry. Porter has been a member of PAA since 1981, and served as vice president, president elect and president. From 1998 to 2002, he was senior editor of the “Production Management of the American Journal of Potato Research.” He also helped organize two PAA meetings that were hosted in Maine and served on numerous committees for the organization. Porter, who grew up on a potato farm in Aroostook County, has dedicated his 38-year career at UMaine to improving potato production in the eastern United States. He has conducted research on crop and soil management practices for improving the yield and quality of potatoes and other crops. In the past decade, Porter has released five new varieties in partnership with the Maine Potato Board — Easton, Sebec, Caribou Russet, Pinto Gold and Hamlin Russet. The Caribou Russet has proven highly successful, rising to 1,476 certified seed acres in 2021 (No. 2 in Maine, No. 16 in the U.S.), with an estimated cash farm value of approximately \$41 million in 2022. “Dr. Greg Porter’s hard work within the potato industry has provided invaluable research in improving potato production. The University of Maine’s potato breeding program has shown tremendous success and this program wouldn’t be where it is today without the dedication and leadership of Dr. Porter,” says Jeannie Tapley, director of operations at the Maine Potato Board. “The Maine Potato Industry has been extremely fortunate to have him in our corner and we couldn’t think of anyone more deserving of this award.” Porter also leads the Northeast regional potato breeding and variety development project (NE1731), a regional collaboration that spearheads evaluation and release of new varieties. His efforts to compile research results from universities across the eastern U.S. and disseminate them to growers are instrumental in the project’s success. “Greg didn’t care what program developed the varieties, only that they were beneficial to Maine growers,” says Kathleen Haynes, a retired research geneticist at the USDA’s Agricultural Research Service. The intensive potato breeding and variety development process takes approximately 10–12 years. Porter and his team start with as many as 50,000 unique clones each year and conduct research on them over a period of 10-12 year in multiple locations until they have found one or more with production and palatability characteristics they seek. Candidates are meticulously tested at Aroostook Farm, a 425-acre research farm managed by the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station in the heart of Maine’s potato country. Porter draws from his previous work in agronomy and crop physiology to ensure that potential varieties will thrive in realistic growing conditions. Porter has authored or co-authored more than 66 scientific journal publications and 250 articles for potato growers and other outlets. In addition to his research, Porter teaches crop ecology and physiology, experimental design, and statistical analysis courses. He served as chair of the Department of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences from 2005 until 2010. In 2007, he assumed leadership of the University of Maine Potato Breeding Program. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

UMaine’s research, partnerships to promote housing and food security focus of visit by state policymakers and affordable housing advocates

06 Jul 2022

Legislators and affordable housing developers and advocates visited the University of Maine on Friday to see how the state’s flagship university is advancing housing and food security through research, innovation and partnerships. The daylong summit showcasing solutions to one of the state’s grand challenges was organized by UMaine and the University of Maine System in partnership with the Legislature’s bipartisan Housing and Homelessness Caucus and MaineHousing. It included a tour of the UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC), where, under the leadership of founding director Habib Dagher, research is underway to use Maine wood and the world’s largest 3D printer to help develop affordable housing. In the face of worker and supply shortages, the innovative process would reduce labor and materials needs and costs compared to standard construction, while improving housing sustainability and availability for those in need. A new Green Engineering and Materials Factory of the Future is planned to further expand the Composites Center’s world-leading work in biobased materials development. Already, \$35 million in federal funding for the project, which is expected to break ground in 2023, has been secured by the Maine Congressional Delegation led by Sen. Susan Collins, and the Mills Administration has additionally committed \$15 million through the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan. [caption id="attachment_91694" align="aligncenter" width="750"]



Chief operating engineer Evan Gilman,

right, overviews innovation at the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) to 3D print biobased housing as founding director Habib Dagher looks on during a tour Friday that included legislators from the bipartisan Housing and Homelessness Caucus, and affordable housing developers. [caption] Visitors also heard from researchers with the UMaine Center on Aging about the housing and health needs of older Mainers, and how technology, smart engineering and technical assistance from the university can help communities become more livable across the life span — including to allow Mainers to age in place. “As the state’s R1 research university, UMaine has the responsibility and the resources to address Maine’s grand challenges, and few are more urgent than access to safe affordable housing for working families and older Mainers,” explained President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, who is also the UMS vice chancellor for research and innovation. “We are grateful for the investment from state and federal policymakers and the public that allows us to innovate and partner to improve Maine’s future, as we showcased on Friday. From biobased affordable housing manufacturing to sustainable agriculture to rural health care delivery, our research and development signature strengths are in areas that most matter to Maine and can help make this the best state in which to live, work and learn,” she said. Participating legislators came from eight counties. Statewide housing providers like Community Housing of Maine and local housing authorities in communities, including Bath and Biddeford, as well as nonprofit health and social service organizations like Amistad, Preble Street and Penobscot Community Health Care also attended. “I believe Maine can lead the way in solving housing challenges with creative solutions. I wanted to bring the people who work on housing policy, homelessness and affordable housing to see how UMaine’s innovations can help our work. Together, we are developing the tools to grow the supply of housing to meet demand in Maine,” said Rep. Victoria Morales of South Portland, who chairs the Housing and Homelessness Caucus and helped organize the visit. “To grow our economy and sustain our rural communities like those I represent in Washington and Hancock counties, Maine workers and families must have access to safe, affordable housing and food. It was wonderful to see firsthand how the University of Maine is developing solutions and providing direct assistance to address these important issues, and to share with university leaders the needs we are seeing in our districts for which they could provide help,” said Sen. Marianne Moore, of Calais, who attended Friday. MaineHousing Director Dan Brennan said innovations that make building construction more efficient will be an important component to closing the housing gap in Maine and the U.S. “This homegrown technology coming from our own University of Maine is something we can all be really proud of,” Brennan said. “Not only does it put our state at the front of the pack in solving the housing crisis, it will also directly make housing more attainable and affordable for thousands of Maine families.” The group also went to Rogers Farm in Old Town, a university research site where crops are grown as part of sustainable agriculture research, and UMaine Cooperative Extension has teaching projects, and donates to area food pantries and shelters through the Maine Harvest for Hunger program. Run by UMaine Extension, Harvest for Hunger helps home, school and commercial growers contribute extra fresh fruit and vegetables to those in need in their communities, a process known as gleaned. Since the program’s inception in 2000, more than 3.3 million pounds of produce has been donated. More information is available at extension.umaine.edu/harvest-for-hunger. Extension’s Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program that serves low-income Mainers was also overviewed during the visit. The Black Bear Exchange, UMaine’s on-campus food and clothing pantry, also receives produce through the program and was highlighted Friday as part of a university-led discussion on its efforts to meet students’ basic needs and realize social mobility through affordable access to higher education. Last month following supplemental appropriations from the Legislature and Gov. Janet Mills, UMS Trustees voted to hold in-state tuition flat for the seventh time in a decade to help Maine students and families recover from the economic impact of the pandemic and in the face of inflation. Additionally, since the start of the pandemic, Maine’s public universities have passed onto students more than \$55 million in emergency aid provided through three federal relief packages. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Extension milkweed fact sheet cited in News Center Maine story on saving monarch butterflies

06 Jul 2022

[New Center Maine](#) quoted information from UMaine’s Cooperative Extension “Signs of the Seasons” [common milkweed fact sheet](#) in a story about shrinking monarch butterfly populations. The story noted the shrinking of milkweed as a reason for monarch butterfly decline. The town of Trenton, Maine has used this research to reestablish habitats for monarchs by pledging to plant more milkweed and other nectar producing flowers.

Pitman discusses newly passed gun control legislation in [centralmaine.com](#) column

06 Jul 2022

Brian Pitman, professor of sociology at UMaine, wrote a column for centralmaine.com which critically analyzes “The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.” Pitman examines key parts of the bill and their connections to a history of racism. He is a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Media highlight Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center overdose report

06 Jul 2022

[News Center Maine](#), [Maine Public](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) cited research from the [Maine Cumulative Monthly Overdose Report](#) by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. The report analyzes data from January through May 2022 and shows an increase in overdoses and deaths compared to the same timeframe last year. The research also found that one of the biggest factors in these deaths is fentanyl. UMaine researcher, Marcella Song, is quoted in the News Center Maine article discussing the dangers of the drug.

Alumna Karen L. Boudreau and her husband Thomas S. Jensen, M.D. make naming gift to UMaine

07 Jul 2022

A pledge from University of Maine alumna Karen Boudreau and her husband, Thomas Jensen, M.D. will rename North Stevens Hall on campus in honor of the former Brewer, Maine resident and now San Diego-based attorney. Karen L. Boudreau, Esq. Hall will be dedicated on July 14. Expected to participate in the ceremony are UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy; Susan Pinette, professor and director of Franco American Programs at UMaine; and Gigi Georges, author of the 2021 book “Downeast: Five Maine Girls and the Unseen Story of Rural America.” Boudreau and Jensen say they hope that naming this building for a French-Canadian woman will provide the confidence to women and those of French-Canadian heritage to pursue their dreams. “As a first-generation college student and a Franco-American woman, my path was not easy, particularly when I lived in Maine,” Boudreau says, “I want those who follow me to understand that regardless of the hurdles put in front of you, success is very achievable if you set clear goals, work hard and seek out great mentors.” The two-story Boudreau Hall, one of the oldest buildings on campus, is part of the Stevens Hall complex. It houses the Cohen Institute for Leadership and Public Service, the Political Science Department and the School of Policy and International Affairs, and the offices of Equal Opportunity and International Affairs. “Karen’s academic excellence at the state’s flagship university and her successful law career are an inspiration,” says Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of the University of Maine. “For Karen to recognize her alma mater with such a gift also honors her Franco-American heritage and the value of public higher education in Maine. We appreciate the opportunity for generations of UMaine students to know her story.” The gift will support some much-needed refurbishment of this existing campus space, says Jeffery Mills, president of the UMaine Foundation that facilitated the pledge. “We are very grateful to have donors like Karen and Tom who recognize the importance of our historic buildings.” Boudreau graduated from John Bapst Memorial High School in Bangor, Maine. At UMaine, she worked to support herself and paid all her own expenses while pursuing a double major in political science and broadcasting. She graduated with high honors and highest distinction in three years in 1980. She was admitted to Phi Beta Kappa Society. After receiving her Juris Doctorate with Honors from George Washington University, Boudreau was a law clerk for the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. In her 35-year legal career, Boudreau has represented numerous large international corporations, including IBM, Gap, Marshalls, UNUM, Sony and Accenture, both as in-house counsel and in her own practice, focusing on technology and employment matters. She holds bar admissions in six states, including Maine, New York and California, as well as admission to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States. Boudreau has been named an Attorney of Distinction and one of America’s Most Honored Lawyers. Boudreau and Jensen live in San Diego and summer on Hopkins Pond in Mariaville, Maine. Boudreau is involved in a variety of community activities including serving on the boards of John Bapst, Angels Foster Family Network and the San Diego Chapters of the Lincoln Club, the Association of Corporate Counsel and the Federalist Society. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Machias Valley News Observer shared UMaine Extension 4-H Club

07 Jul 2022

The [Machias Valley News Observer](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s six-session 4-H Nature in Focus SPIN Club for Washington County youth ages 9–18 beginning July 26 from 4–5:30 p.m. at Downeast Coastal Conservancy’s Middle River Park, Machias. Participants will explore the outdoors through photography, environmental education, outdoor recreation, and creative expression. Each session will begin with a photography lesson followed by a hike with a chance to practice new skills.

News Center Maine reports on UMaine and EMDC survey project

07 Jul 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported on a U.S. Department of Transportation grant awarded to Eastern Maine Development Corporation for planning studies aimed at identifying transportation issues and possible solutions in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties. The first step of the project is partnering with researchers at the University of Maine’s Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center to conduct a study, identify the issues, and to come up with solutions that are both climate-friendly and affordable.

General Aviation News notes UMaine golden warbler research

07 Jul 2022

[General Aviation News](#) wrote a feature about Dan Silvers, volunteer pilot for the nonprofit organization Lighthawk, who has assisted with University of Maine research to track the golden-winged warbler. Lighthawk is a network of general aviation pilots who donate their time and airplanes to fly researchers, policy makers, elected officials, and others on conservation and environmental missions. Silvers has flown UMaine researchers to a site in Rhineland, Wisconsin, several times over the past few years to tag and track the birds. “One of our objectives was to understand if females are dispersing to other locations in subsequent breeding seasons. We already had a sense that males rarely disperse off of their original territories and wanted to be able to confirm the same for females,” said Emily Filiberti, a graduate student researcher at the University of Maine.

BDN, Medical Xpress report on UMaine study about long-term impacts of bullying on girls**07 Jul 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Medical Xpress](#) reported on research from the University of Maine that shows some college-age women who were bullied in middle or high school are able to find positive gains and growth, as they feel pride at overcoming being bullied and moving forward with their lives as young adults. The study appears in the journal [Current Psychology](#).

Morning Ag Clips reports on Porter Honorary Life Membership from Potato Association of America**07 Jul 2022**

[Morning Ag Clips](#) reported that Gregory Porter, professor of agronomy in the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture, will receive an Honorary Life Membership from the Potato Association of America at the organization's annual meeting in July 2022. Porter, who grew up on a potato farm in Aroostook County, has dedicated his 38-year career at UMaine to improving potato production in the eastern United States. He has conducted research on crop and soil management practices for improving the yield and quality of potatoes and other crops. In the past decade, Porter has released five new varieties in partnership with the Maine Potato Board — Easton, Sebec, Caribou Russet, Pinto Gold and Hamlin Russet. The Caribou Russet has proven highly successful, rising to 1,476 certified seed acres in 2021 (No. 2 in Maine, No. 16 in the U.S.), with an estimated cash farm value of approximately \$41 million in 2022.

CentralMaine.com interviews Handley about U-pick raspberry farms in Maine**07 Jul 2022**

In an article about U-pick raspberry farms, the [CentralMaine.com](#) interviewed David Handley, the vegetable and small fruit specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Handley said based on surveys by the Cooperative Extension, around 90% of sales for strawberries and highbush blueberries will be from U-pick, but only around 50% to 60% of sales are from U-pick raspberries in comparison to already-picked quarts. Handley said that farms that use equipment to harvest raspberries often can only use the berries if they plan to freeze them — they can bruise or become soft. "I have more people get into raspberries and get out of growing them than other crops," Handley said. [Yahoo News](#) shared the CentralMaine.com report.

BDN features Mortelliti and animal personality research**07 Jul 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) wrote a profile about Alessio Mortelliti, wildlife biology professor at the University of Maine, and his research into how animal personalities impact forest ecosystems. Mortelliti has a number of other projects he's working on, including a new statewide project to track larger mammals like lynx, bobcats, fishers and martens using camera traps and a science education project in which high school students across New England learn about small mammal personality traits, and then go out with one of Mortelliti's students and catch a squirrel for themselves. "Everyone in the country has a story about a squirrel in their backyard. But they're just kind of there, and they can fade into the background. When you see one up close, and hold it in your hands, it can all kind of come alive. As scientists, we need to do a better job communicating science to people. Putting it right into their hands is a big part of that," Mortelliti said.

UMaine Extension holds Blueberry Hill Farm field day July 14**07 Jul 2022**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension's annual wild blueberry field day is scheduled for 9 a.m.–3 p.m. July 14 at UMaine's Blueberry Hill Farm, 1643 U.S. Route 1, Jonesboro. [Blueberry Hill Farm Field Day](#) will feature information sessions on pest and crop management, drought management, fresh pack technology and harvester demonstrations. UMaine Extension educators and UMaine researchers will lead the sessions. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. The field day is free; registration is requested. Register on the [event webpage](#). Two pesticide credits are available to eligible participants. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Mary Michaud, 207.581.3175; mary.j.michaud@maine.edu.

Nanocellulose may help wild blueberry yield when applied with fertilizer, UMaine study finds**08 Jul 2022**

Nanocellulose may help increase the yield from wild blueberry plants when used with liquid fertilizer applied to leaves, according to a new University of Maine study. Nanocellulose, a natural polymer derived from trees and plants that has many desirable properties, is used in research and development for a [myriad of applications](#), such as packaging materials, building products, medical supplies, paint, cement, [food containers](#) and much more. Previous studies have also found that nanocellulose can improve the adherence of foliar-applied fertilizers and pesticides, which are used directly on leaves; and nanocellulose could make it easier for plant leaves to retain and absorb nutrients. To understand how nanocellulose, particularly in the form of cellulose nanofibrils, could benefit wild blueberries, a UMaine research team led by Rafa Tasnim, a Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences, investigated how a mixture of it and foliar fertilizer interacted with plant leaves and through that interaction, affected crop yield, water use and storage. The nanocellulose used for the project came from UMaine's Process Development Center, an on-campus facility that can generate one ton of it per day. They tested it and the fertilizer on leaves from both common lowbush wild blueberries, which researchers say typically makes up 90% of blueberries in a given field, and velvet-leaved lowbush ones growing at UMaine's Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro. The team found an increase in yield among common lowbush blueberries that received the nanocellulose-infused fertilizer, albeit not significantly. Researchers believe the increased production resulted from the nanocellulose reducing the particle size of nutrients from the fertilizer, making it easier for the blueberry leaves to absorb them and facilitating an uptick in consumption. Further investigations need to be conducted to determine whether increasing the amount of nanocellulose in the fertilizer will result in an even greater yield from common lowbush blueberries, according to researchers. The effects it could have on yield for velvet-leaved lowbush blueberries also should be examined, they say. "Although our study with nanocellulose has been in the preliminary level, we have observed promising results by using it for the wild blueberries," Tasnim says. "Nanocellulose might be one of the sustainable options for the wild blueberry production in Maine." Other researchers involved in the study included

YongJiang Zhang, an assistant professor of applied plant physiology; Lu Wang, an assistant research professor with the Advanced Structures and Composites Center, and Mahesh Parit, a former postdoctoral research associate with the Composites Center who is now a senior research scientist with RiKarbon. They published a paper describing their research and its results in the journal [Agricultural Science & Technology](#). This research builds on a previous study led by Tasnim that identified nanocellulose as a “potentially promising adjuvant for foliar fertilizers for wild blueberries.” The latest study, however, revealed a possible trade off between yield and water conservation in wild blueberry plants when using nanocellulose-infused foliar fertilizers on the leaves. Velvet-leaved lowbush blueberry plants with nanocellulose-infused foliar fertilizer took in more water and dehydrated faster, although the same did not occur in common lowbush blueberries, according to researchers. The trichomes, or hair-like appendages, in the leaves of velvet-leaved lowbush blueberry plants are denser than those in common lowbush blueberry plants, which researchers say they believe allowed the former to interact with nanocellulose more, and thus absorb and use more water at a more rapid rate. Faster water absorption could allow for a more rapid intake of nutrients from nanocellulose-infused fertilizers, according to researchers. “Nanocellulose provides an environmentally friendly approach for growers to enhance fertilizer use efficiency, and to increase yield,” Zhang says. “Also, we will test using nanocellulose to prevent frost damage in late spring, which has become more frequent in recent years.” The study was published days before UMaine announced its new [Wyman’s Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center](#), which is being built in Old Town. The facility is made possible by a gift from Wyman’s, a 148-year-old family-owned business based in Milbridge, to the University of Maine Foundation. When the center opens in 2024, Zhang will use it for his investigations into how different wild blueberry genotypes will respond to climate warming to build resilience in the crop. The facility also will help Zhang assess the use of biochar, a processed form of timber harvest byproducts, to improve water-holding capacity in the soil, which may ultimately help Maine’s growers hedge against drought. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

4-H Kids Can Can program begins July 20

08 Jul 2022

University of Maine Extension staff and volunteers will lead a hands-on, interactive program to teach youth ages 9 and up how to grow and preserve the garden’s harvest. The 4-H Kids Can Can program will be held from 9–11 a.m. on Wednesdays, July 20–Aug. 17. Each session will begin in Extension’s Tidewater Gardens in Falmouth, where youth will harvest the fruits and vegetables needed to make jam, pickles, salsa and more. The program then moves to the UMaine Regional Learning Center Demo Kitchen, where participants will prepare a batch of preserved foods. Each participant will take home a jar of preserves. Current 4-H enrollment is not required for participation. The \$5 fee per child covers all classes. Register and find more details [online](#) For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, call 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine).

Ellsworth American cites UMaine Extension strawberry bulletin in tart recipe

08 Jul 2022

In an article featuring a recipe for a fresh strawberry tart, the [Ellsworth American](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s Strawberry Varieties for Maine [bulletin](#) is packed with valuable information for both the grower and consumer.

BDN boosts UMaine Trio Upward Bound for charity collecting events

08 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that the University of Maine’s TRIO Upward Bound Program, which provides opportunities for students to succeed in precollege performance and to prepare them for higher education pursuits, is collecting items for the Black Bear Exchange at UMaine, the Caring Community Cupboard in Old Town, and the Bangor Humane Society. On Monday, July 11, Tuesday, July 12, Monday, July 18, and Tuesday, July 19 from 1:30–4:30 p.m., students will be stationed outside of Orono IGA to collect a variety of items, including nonperishable food, lightly used clothing, cleaning supplies and pet food.

Insights publishes piece about Maine Business School DEI efforts by Brooks, Graham

08 Jul 2022

[Insights](#), the online publication of the business school accreditor AACSB, published the story “Tackling Diversity Along Many Dimensions” by Melanie Brooks, marketing and communications manager for the Maine Business School, and C. Matt Graham, associate professor of business information systems. The piece describes efforts made by the Maine Business School in recent years to improve its diversity, equity and inclusion.

Long speaks to Advertiser Democrat about browntail moths in western Maine

08 Jul 2022

Rebecca Long, University of Maine Cooperative Extension agriculture and food systems professional based in Oxford County, was quoted in the [Advertiser Democrat](#) about the spread of browntail moths into western Maine. Long said that this is the first year the Oxford County office has fielded a growing number of calls from people coming in contact with browntail moth caterpillars due to increasing public awareness about the moth’s seasonal cycles, as well as rising infestations. “In terms of what can be done right now: caterpillars already have their toxic hairs so spraying now won’t do anything to protect you from the hairs. Caterpillars can be collected off of surfaces by spraying them off with a hose and collecting them with a wet/dry vacuum with a HEPA filter filled with a few inches of soapy water. Toxic hairs can persist for up to three years so dispose of the dead caterpillars carefully. Wear protective gear when working outside where hairs may be present,” Long told the Advertiser Democrat.

Fried speaks to FiveThirtyEight about what happens when Americans don’t trust institutions

08 Jul 2022

Amy Fried, professor of political science at the University of Maine, was interviewed by [FiveThirtyEight](#) about what has happened historically when Americans do not trust their political institutions. “Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, there are all of these upheavals — Watergate, the Vietnam War, riots, assassinations,” she said. Politicians have since amplified Americans’ doubts by continuing to talk about government overreach and corruption.

Wahle interviewed by UPI about changes in Gulf of Maine fishing stocks

08 Jul 2022

Richard Wahle, director of the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine, spoke to [UPI](#) about recent research suggesting the Gulf of Maine is not only warming, but also getting saltier, more acidic and increasingly stratified — raising concerns for its fish stocks. "It's important to think about these climate effects on the gulf as going beyond just temperature effects and the direct effect on species ranges. We also have these really interesting changes in the oceanography as [a] result of circulation changes in the North Atlantic," Wahle said. [Accuweather](#) shared the UPI report.

UMS to host public comment sessions on its FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan July 15

08 Jul 2022

The University of Maine System will hold two virtual public comment sessions July 15 to gather feedback on its [proposed Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\) Hazard Mitigation Plan](#). The 45-minute public sessions are at noon and 4 p.m. on July 15, facilitated by Raegan LaRochelle of LaRochelle Consulting. Public feedback received will be documented and, if necessary, the plan will be updated prior to final submission to FEMA. The link to use for either of the public sessions: <https://maine.zoom.us/j/87973146300?pwd=dzhSaWV4WjMvTHplVmZQSC8rYk9jdz09> Passcode: 330876 Telephone: 1.301.715.8592 or 1.312.626.6799 For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, call 207.621.3098. The plan is required under the [FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program](#), which provides funding to develop hazard mitigation plans and rebuild in a way that reduces, or mitigates, future disaster losses in their communities, according to the website. Having a FEMA-approved plan demonstrates the commitment of UMS and its universities to risk mitigation which reduces our vulnerability to natural disasters and promotes a culture of safety. It also affords the opportunity to apply for future hazard mitigation grants, such as grants for generators or flood-proofing, says Gretchen Catlin, UMS director of risk management and real estate.

UMaine Extension Washington County office has a new home on Machias campus

11 Jul 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Washington County Office will move to its new home at the University of Maine at Machias later this month. The new location in the heart of campus will facilitate collaborations and connections that will strengthen UMaine Extension's 4-H, nutrition and gardening programs, and provide additional pathways for county residents to engage with the university. "We are thrilled to be moving our people and programs to the heart of the UMaine Machias campus," says Hannah Carter, associate provost for online and continuing education, and dean of Cooperative Extension. "We look forward to building on the great partnerships and collaborations that already exist and looking for new ways to meet the needs of the people of Washington County." The new location at UMaine Machias will give Extension access to more diverse spaces to host 4-H youth development programs and also provide volunteer opportunities for university students enrolled in outdoor recreation and leadership. Adults and youth involved in Extension's many in-person programs will gain new exposure to the Machias campus, learning firsthand about continuing education classes, degree programs and research projects. Community members can still visit the Extension office for resource information, such as a helpful tick fact sheet, or to enroll in youth programs, pick up a soil sample kit, reserve a 4-H STEM toolkit, get help identifying plants and pests, inquire about volunteer opportunities or test pressure cooker gauges. Extension office staff can provide on-site support and also access a network of experts statewide on topics, including nutrition for children and young families, home gardening, commercial agriculture, volunteerism, food safety, small business development and climate change adaptation. Extension specialists also conduct research on many of Maine's agricultural crops, including native wild blueberries, and work directly with growers to share up-to-date information and best practices. "We are excited to welcome the county UMaine Extension office to campus. This is a wonderful opportunity to get more university students involved in the community through volunteering and internships. This move will strengthen mutual relationships between UMaine Machias and UMaine Extension so we can better serve the communities here in Washington County and beyond," says Daniel Qualls, UMaine Machias Head of Campus. Extension will hold an open house event in conjunction with UMaine Machias later this fall with more details to come in August. For more information, contact Extension program administrator Lisa Phelps, 207.356.3851, lisa.phelps@maine.edu; or UMaine Machias assistant director of marketing and communications Jackie Leonard, 207.255.1327, jacqueline.leonard@maine.edu. Contact: Lisa Phelps, 207.356.3851; lisa.phelps@maine.edu

UMaine Extension hosts Rogers Farm garden-to-table event July 18

11 Jul 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold its second in a series of four hands-on gardening and cooking workshops 5–7 p.m. July 18 at the UMaine Extension Master Gardener Volunteers demonstration garden, University of Maine Rogers Farm, 914 Bennoch Road, Old Town. This [Garden-to-Table workshop](#) includes an onsite discussion and demonstration covering the bounty now ready for harvest and what still can be planted as late-season crops. With the harvest in hand, participants travel to the UMaine campus to help create some seasonal dishes. Laurie Bowen, UMaine Extension community education assistant; Rob Dumas, UMaine food science innovation coordinator and certified executive chef; and Extension Master Gardener Volunteers lead the workshop. The sliding scale \$0–\$45 fee includes all materials and a light meal. Register on the [event webpage](#) by July 14. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.942.7396; katherine.garland@maine.edu.

Media shares UMaine, UNH farm food safety program

11 Jul 2022

[Carriage Towne News](#) boosted a Farm Food Safety Planning hosted by the University of Maine and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extensions. Farms can sign up for the free, yearlong technical support from UMaine and UNH Extension educators, who will come to farms to identify needed food safety modifications, and help to develop a plan to improve food safety and increase the keeping-quality of fresh produce. To learn more and apply to participate, go to bit.ly/jumpstartfarm.

BDN reports on affordable housing developers, advocates and legislators meeting at UMaine

11 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that legislators and affordable housing developers and advocates visited the University of Maine recently to see how the state's flagship university is advancing housing and food security through research, innovation and partnerships. The daylong summit showcasing solutions to one of the state's grand challenges was organized by UMaine and the University of Maine System in partnership with the Legislature's bipartisan Housing and Homelessness Caucus and MaineHousing.

BDN cites UMaine Extension information about low-bush wild blueberries

11 Jul 2022

In a column about snacking on wild blueberries along the hiking trail, the [Bangor Daily News](#) cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension stating that the low-bush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium Ait.*) is native to northern New England and Atlantic Canada. It naturally inhabits mountaintops and glacial outwash plains that formed about 10,000 years ago.

BDN reports on new UMaine wild blueberry research field gifted from Wyman's

11 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on the University of Maine's new Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center, a three-acre research and education site that will be established off University Farm Road in Old Town over the coming year through a gift from Wyman's Blueberries to the University of Maine Foundation. Wyman's, which harvests and processes fruit throughout Down East and Midcoast Maine, is the number one brand of frozen fruit in the nation and distributes wild blueberries globally. The center's new wild blueberry research field site will be unlike any other in the world, with plots controlled for genotype, akin to research traditionally conducted in orchards or row crops.

Media reports on UMaine research about nanocellulose and wild blueberries

11 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [Phys.org](#) and [News Center Maine](#) reported on a new University of Maine study showing that nanocellulose may help increase the yield from wild blueberry plants when used with liquid fertilizer applied to leaves. Researchers believe the increased production resulted from the nanocellulose reducing the particle size of nutrients from the fertilizer, making it easier for the blueberry leaves to absorb them and facilitating an uptick in consumption. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report. [UK Today News](#) shared the Phys.org report.

Apul speaks to BDN about PFAS contamination in public drinking water

11 Jul 2022

Onur Apul, assistant professor of environmental engineering at the University of Maine, was interviewed by the [Bangor Daily News](#) in an article about PFAS, or "forever chemicals," that were discovered in the public drinking water systems of Skowhegan, Oakland and Fryeburg serving more than 4,500 households and businesses. Apul said that While people will undoubtedly be concerned about results in individual communities, it's important to remember that transparency about the presence of the chemicals is key to mitigating contamination. He recommended that people limit exposure to PFAS as much as possible. Bottled water is one option, though that can also contain PFAS. People can also install filters to remove contaminants. "It's such a universal crisis we're dealing with. PFAS is everywhere. The diagnosis is the most painful process. ... Now we have to strategize and remediate safely and sustainably," Apul said. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

Howell to deliver talk at National Academy of Engineering symposium

11 Jul 2022

University of Maine associate professor of biomedical engineering Caitlin Howell will deliver a talk during the National Academy of Engineering's The Grainger Foundation Frontiers of Engineering 2022 U.S.-based symposium Sept. 21–23 in Seattle. Howell is one of 84 highly accomplished, early-career engineers from academia, industry and government invited to participate in the two-and-a-half day event hosted by Amazon, as well as one of its 16 speakers. Learn more on the symposium's [website](#). For her talk, "Materials-based Approaches to Prevent Biofilm-associated Infections," Howell will discuss the growing problem of antibiotic resistance and how materials-based mechanisms that are inspired by nature can combat it. She also will describe her efforts in developing [a novel liquid surface coating for human catheters](#), inspired by the membrane of a pitcher plant used to trap insects, to help reduce protein deposition that leads to urinary tract and bloodstream infections. She is working on the project with Ana Lidia Flores-Mireles, Hawk Assistant Professor of the Department of Biological Sciences at Notre Dame. Howell leads the Howell Biointerface and Biomimetics Lab at UMaine, which works broadly to understand and ultimately control biological systems through surface interactions and other environmental factors. She also is a member of the University of Maine System Science Advisory Board, which has helped the state's public universities navigate the COVID-19 pandemic by providing leaders with the latest scientific research and medical developments involving the disease, vaccines and other pertinent topics. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

3 MBS students turn internships into employment

12 Jul 2022

An internship is an important way for students to explore possible career paths. And it's always exciting when students turn their summer internship into full-time employment. Three Maine Business School students from the class of 2022 — Allison Treat, Cameron Houde and Gabby Benson — did just that. Their internship profiles, including why they decided to continue to work for three Maine businesses after graduation, are on the [MBS website](#).

Field Day at Tidewater Farm is July 21

12 Jul 2022

A Field Day at the [University of Maine Cooperative Extension Gardens at Tidewater Farm](#) in Falmouth will be held from 5–6:30 p.m., Thursday, July 21. The free public event is an opportunity to learn about Tidewater Farm and engage with the gardens through hands-on demonstrations led by UMaine Extension staff and Master Gardener Volunteers. Demonstrations begin at 5:30 p.m. focused on pollinator-friendly gardening and vegetable garden succession planting. No registration is required. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, visit [the website](#) or contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524.

WATTPoultry.com and National Hog Farmer feature Hutchinson training on composting animal carcasses

12 Jul 2022

[WATTPoultry.com](#) and [National Hog Farmer](#) reported that Oklahoma State University hosted a carcass management training in mid-May to teach animal production industry and U.S. Department of Agriculture professionals the basics of composting. Mark Hutchinson, University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor for sustainable agriculture, is the head of the federally funded, multi-state program, Train-the-Trainer, which teaches attendees how to use composting to dispose of animal carcasses in the event of an animal disease outbreak. “When you have a disease outbreak, the USDA’s policy is to stamp that disease out. Those animals have to be disposed of, and through the composting process, we can do it in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way and end up with a product that can be recycled and put back into the earth,” Hutchinson said.

News Center Maine boosts Maine Summer Youth Music camp at UMaine

12 Jul 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported on the start of the annual Maine Summer Youth Music camp for middle and high schoolers at the University of Maine. The camp offers youths opportunities to learn and perform in jazz and string ensembles, concert and symphonic bands and musical theater and choir groups. Campers arrived on campus Sunday and will have eight rehearsals throughout the week before showcasing their skills Friday.

Media reports on new location for UMaine Extension Washington County office at UMaine Machias

12 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s Washington County Office will move to its new home at the University of Maine at Machias later this month. The new location in the heart of campus will facilitate collaborations and connections that will strengthen UMaine Extension’s 4-H, nutrition and gardening programs, and provide additional pathways for county residents to engage with the university.

Mech featured on Something Offbeat podcast discussing insects and climate change

12 Jul 2022

Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology at the University of Maine, was featured on the podcast [Something Offbeat by News Radio 1080 KRLD](#) in Dallas-Fort Worth discussing how climate change might impact the way human and insect worlds interact. “We’re seeing, you know, shifting of species being found where they typically weren’t before,” Mech says.

News Center Maine reports on Sorg presentation at Opioid Response Summit

12 Jul 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that Marcella Sorg, research professor at the Department of Anthropology, Climate Change Institute and Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine, presented at the fourth annual Opioid Response Summit at Cross Insurance Center in Bangor. Sorg discussed Maine's current strategies, from overdose surge tracking to forecasting Narcan needs to match overdose levels. According to an [earlier News Center Maine](#) report, the summit comes as a [new report](#) issued by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine shows drug overdoses for the first five months of this year are higher than in the same period last year.

WABI shares UMaine Extension participation in Alfond Youth Center Summer Retreat Program

12 Jul 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) shared information about the Alfond Center’s Second Annual Summer Retreat Program, a three-week program where participants were able to choose what activities they wanted to learn more about. The survey showed that students were interested in cooking activities such as the farm to table program provided. “We are going out to the garden and connecting people to their food systems and today we happen to be pickling,” said Alisha Targonski, 4-H youth development professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

Haedicke and MacRae pen op-ed for BDN about banning agricultural use of wastewater sludge

12 Jul 2022

Michael Haedicke, associate professor of sociology and faculty fellow at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, and Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine and a Mitchell Center faculty fellow, wrote an opinion piece for the [Bangor Daily News](#) about how Maine needs to do more than ban the agricultural use of wastewater sludge to limit people’s exposure to PFAS. Haedicke and MacRae explained that though Maine’s new law prohibiting agricultural use of wastewater sludge is a step in the right direction for public health and environmental quality, as diverting sludge to landfills will help to contain PFAS and limit exposures, there are new problems generated by the

practice. For example, it places the financial burden on municipalities, which may be passed on to residents in the form of higher sewage rates or property taxes. Making landfills responsible for wastewater sludge in addition to other materials will also use up their limited space more quickly. Instead, getting to a safe, circular food system should be a critical priority for Maine policymakers in order to limit people's exposure to PFAS. Haedicke is a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

New micro-credential to build capacity for behavioral supports in Maine schools

13 Jul 2022

The University of Maine will soon begin offering a micro-credential for educators to become Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) coaches and trainers in schools and school districts throughout the state. PBIS is a nationally recognized framework providing a multi-tiered continuum of supports to all students, promoting positive academic and socio-behavioral outcomes. The UMaine College of Education and Human Development has led several initiatives to implement the program at over 75 schools in Maine, with more being added each year. The Maine PBIS Tier 1 Trainer and Coach micro-credential will allow participants to work with teams of educators to support implementation of the framework. "The schools we've worked with so far have seen incredible benefits that will last for years," says Courtney Angelosante, PBIS initiative coordinator and faculty member in special education at the College of Education and Human Development. "Students are getting the support they need to thrive in the classroom, and teachers are able to focus on teaching and are better equipped to handle all types of behavioral issues." The PBIS micro-credential was created through a partnership between the University of Maine System (UMS) and the Maine Department of Education (DOE) to address a shortage of trainers and coaches in the state, Angelosante says. Learners who complete classes, workshops and other activities will receive digital badges that certify they have certain skills and competencies. Once a person gets three badges, they will earn a micro-credential endorsing them as a PBIS trainer/coach. To earn the micro-credential, participants must complete a series of three graduate-level courses in Response to Intervention for Behavior through the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. All of the classes are offered via UMaineOnline, and similar coursework from other institutions will be considered. Other requirements include attending state and national PBIS conferences, completing webinars and other trainings, and observing and practicing the skills discussed in the courses and workshops. Thanks to a Maine DOE state personnel preparation grant, there is no cost for participation other than the coursework. To ensure a personalized experience, only 10 participants will be accepted for the micro-credential each year. Applicants who currently work in a school or school district must submit a letter from a supervisor, and all applicants will need to fill out an [online application](#), which are due by July 31. Further details about the Maine PBIS Tier 1 Trainer and Coach micro-credential are [online](#). For more information about the University of Maine System Micro-Credential Initiative, the visit the [UMS website](#). Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

UMaine Extension Hancock County 4-H holds open house July 30

13 Jul 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H in Hancock County will hold an open house 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. July 30 at 63 Boggy Brook Road, Ellsworth. This family-friendly outdoor event with a variety of hands-on activities for youth on topics ranging from art to science, gardening to animal husbandry — with animals on site — is open to all in Hancock County. UMaine Extension 4-H staff will be available to answer questions and share information about program opportunities. Representatives of the Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, Eat Well and Extension Homemaker programs also will be available. The event is free; registration on the [event webpage](#) is preferred. Masks indoors will be optional. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.667.8212; carla.scocchi@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension offers ServSafe course and exam Aug. 3

13 Jul 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer the ServSafe Food Protection Manager course and certification exam 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Aug. 3 at the UMaine Extension office, 75 Clearwater Drive Suite 104, Falmouth. Registration closes July 22. The \$140 fee includes all materials. Register and find more details on the [program page](#). Participants will receive the "ServSafe Manager Book, 7th ed.," diagnostic exam and practice exam before the class. No refunds will be issued. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, call Eavan Sibole, 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine).

BDN highlights Howell talk at National Academy of Engineering

13 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Caitlin Howell, associate professor of biomedical engineering, will deliver a talk during the National Academy of Engineering's The Grainger Foundation Frontiers of Engineering 2022 U.S.-based symposium Sept. 21–23 in Seattle. For her talk, "Materials-based Approaches to Prevent Biofilm-associated Infections," Howell will discuss the growing problem of antibiotic resistance and how materials-based mechanisms that are inspired by nature can combat it. She also will describe her efforts in developing [a novel liquid surface coating for human catheters](#), inspired by the membrane of a pitcher plant used to trap insects, to help reduce protein deposition that leads to urinary tract and bloodstream infections.

Mount Desert Islander promotes Smart talk at Garland Farm

13 Jul 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) shared information about a Beatrix Farrand Society program where Alicyn Smart, plant pathologist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension and director of the Plant Diagnostic Lab, will discuss emerging plant disease issues in the state and preventative measures for gardeners. The program will take place at 4 p.m. July 18, Garland Farm in Bar Harbor, and online via Zoom. For more information and to register, visit the Beatrix Farrand Society [website](#).

The Westerly Sun notes UMaine role in Rhode Island community development

13 Jul 2022

[The Westerly Sun](#) noted that the University of Maine developed the concept of “conservation development” that town planners in Charlestown, Rhode Island, are attempting to implement in their community zoning laws. The article says that over the last 20 years, 17 communities in Rhode Island have adopted regulations using the conservation development concept, which requires towns to draft and implement a set of regulations to better position homes in a cluster subdivision to maximize open-space benefits, protect aquifers and reduce stormwater pollution.

Andrew Schanck: Alumnus continues his UMaine work in cutting-edge bridge technology

13 Jul 2022

Andrew Schanck from Pittsfield, Maine received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees, and his Ph.D in civil engineering from the University of Maine. He says he chose UMaine because of its renowned engineering program and stayed to pursue research as a graduate student in bridge engineering and advanced numerical modeling. He started working at UMaine’s world-class Advanced Structures and Composites Center as an undergraduate in 2013. Today, he is working full time as a research engineer at the center. “A global challenge that we face daily is the need for a qualified workforce to support the industries we’re literally creating. What makes Dr. Schanck invaluable is the fact that he is working to not only shape the future of infrastructure to be more efficient, economical and sustainable; but pioneering the next generation workforce needed to continue this work. It’s been a great pleasure to watch him grow as a student and I am excited for the lab, the State of Maine and the future of sustainable, durable infrastructure that he’s staying on to continue this important work,” Habib Dagher, founding Executive Director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center. The work that Schanck is involved in uses the UMaine developed G-Beam bridge technology which is environmentally conscious and low maintenance during a longer life cycle expectancy and requires faster and less disruptive installations. His team is currently working with the next generation of G-Beam technology, the double t girder. This new design allows for the replacement and design of bridges with a shorter clearance and simplifies the manufacturing process. The first installation of the double t girder G-Beam is planned for the fall of 2022 in Hampden, Maine. “Andrew has been instrumental to the success of several projects, in particular the bridge field load testing for the MaineDOT and subsequent development of computationally efficient, advanced nonlinear analysis methods for assessing bridge capacity Andrew has also been critical to the success of the ASCC-developed FRP composite GBeam bridge girder, leading successful field load tests of newly installed bridges and conducting experimental and computational research to further advance the design and efficiency of this system,” says Bill Davids, professor of civil and environmental engineering. The Advanced Structures and Composites Center and its green energy and materials mission spans numerous disciplines, industries and for the Schancks; it’s a family affair. Schanck’s brother, Aaron Schanck is a 2022 graduate of the University of Maine. Aaron earned his bachelor’s degree in computer science and has been instrumental on the ASCC communications team during his four years as a student. Aaron will continue at the center as a communications specialist supporting the Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center. **Can you think of a specific experience at UMaine that has led you to where you are today?** As an undergraduate student, I worked as a research assistant at the ASCC, involved in a variety of interesting projects. One summer, I was given the opportunity to assist in a series of bridge live-load tests out in the field. I was hooked. I enjoyed it so much that I volunteered to help the next summer as well. The summer after that, I was a first-year grad student and ran the bridge tests myself based on the experience I had gained. **Why did you decide to take your current job at the ASCC?** I decided to take this position because it allowed me to continue working with cutting-edge bridge technology, leading the charge and having a positive effect on the industry. **Describe the work you are doing at the Advanced Structures and Composites Center.** Although a small portion of my work is on proprietary projects, the majority of my work deals with development, numerical modeling and testing bridge structures using the UMaine-developed G-beam composite bridge girder system. **How did UMaine prepare you for the work you are doing now?** Without the training and experience I received at UMaine, I could not do my job. I know of no other program that provides both bridge engineering and composite mechanics courses, and certainly none where that knowledge can be put to work in a full-scale structural testing lab or in the field. **What is your long-term vision for the work you are doing?** My long-term vision is to continue working on development of composite bridge technology, as well as numerical modeling, both in general and specifically in bridge rehabilitation and capacity rating. In short, I want to be the guy people go to for anything bridge or finite element-method related. Contact: Hope Carroll, hope.carroll@maine.edu

Fran Woodworth: Boren Fellowship recipient to study Portuguese in Brazil

14 Jul 2022

UMaine graduate student Fran Woodworth of Rockport, Maine has been awarded the prestigious Boren Fellowship to study Portuguese in Salvador, Brazil. The Institute of International Education (IIE), on behalf of the National Security Education Program (NSEP), grants Boren Fellowships to graduate students in order to fund their research and language study proposals in world regions critical to U.S. interests. Each fellowship provides up to \$25,000 for up to 52 weeks of study, according to the Boren Awards website. Woodworth is one of the 121 fellowship recipients out of the 246 that applied, according to the institute. She is also the third UMaine graduate student in three years to receive this fellowship. Woodworth, who is enrolled in the 4+1 program in the School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA), is studying global policy with a concentration in climate policy. She says that SPIA has provided her with exposure to global issues that deepened her interest in climate policy and public service. The fellowship is geared toward public service with a yearlong service requirement. Woodworth says this will help her to start to pursue her career goals while also being given the opportunity to study Portuguese. Woodworth was also able to study abroad in her undergraduate studies and says that it is one of the most fulfilling and formative experiences she has experienced. She says she is looking forward to the cultural immersion, language skills and friendships that will come from her time in Brazil. “I am honored to have received this fellowship, and excited to go abroad,” Woodworth says. “I’m also immensely grateful for all the support I received from my professors and mentors at UMaine.” Woodworth says that she couldn’t have completed the application without the support she has received from the UMaine Office of Major Scholarships, the Office of International Programs (OIP) and her peers in SPIA. Several UMaine faculty added to her achievement of receiving the fellowship by writing recommendation letters and sharing their experiences with international politics and public service. “Fran’s outstanding intellect, passion for languages and intense work ethic make her an ideal candidate for the Boren Fellowship,” says Capt. Jim Settele, executive director of SPIA. “She has distinguished herself as an intelligent, inquisitive, mature and motivated student equipped both intellectually and temperamentally to handle the rigors of an immersion program studying Portuguese in Brazil. Fran is destined for an impactful career as a public servant.” **How will studying Portuguese in Brazil assist you with your academic or professional goals?** The language skills that I acquire through the fellowship will be useful for a future career in public service. Portuguese is a diplomatically important language, especially in the realm of climate policy. I also expect that cultivating adaptability, communication skills, and knowledge about Brazilian culture will serve my professional goals. **Why did you choose to come to UMaine?** I chose UMaine because it offered courses in political science and international affairs, it’s close to my family, and it’s affordable. **Describe any research, internships or scholarly pursuits that you have participated in at UMaine:** During undergrad, I was a finance intern for the Sara Gideon for Maine campaign and briefly a student senator. During grad school I was a grant writing intern for Welcoming Immigrant Neighbors. **Have you worked with a mentor, professor or role model who has made your time at UMaine better, and if so, how?** So many! Capt. Settele, Professor Kenneth Hillas, and Professor Nicholas Micinski in particular have been incredible mentors and have made SPIA a really rewarding experience. They have modeled commitment to public service and have gone above and

beyond to help their students succeed. The OIP staff have also been role models for embracing diversity and intercultural exchanges. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has shaped or changed how you see the world?** My experiences in SPIA and OIP have changed my perspective, as I’ve studied and worked with people from all over the world. It’s been challenging and fulfilling to consider global issues with people from very diverse backgrounds. **What are your plans for after you graduate? How has UMaine prepared you for them?** After graduation I’ll do the service requirement. I’m ultimately aiming to go into public service — I’m considering the Foreign Service and USAID. UMaine has equipped me with skills and a network of support to pursue these goals. For a complete list of scholarships and fellowships available to UMaine undergraduate and graduate students, visit [UMaine’s Office of Major Scholarships website](#). Students interested in learning more about the Boren Fellowship and other major merit scholarships also can reach out to the director of the Office of Major Scholarships, Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler nives.dalbowheeler@maine.edu. Contact: Hope Carroll, hope.carroll@maine.edu

Enhance research skills at Microbes and Social Equity symposium July 18–22

15 Jul 2022

The Microbes and Social Equity working group, an international coalition of researchers founded and led by University of Maine assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences Sue Ishaq, and the UMaine Institute of Medicine are hosting the virtual 2022 Microbes and Social Equity summer symposium July 18–22. The multi-day event will focus on developing research skills and feature sessions on a variety of topics that will include plenary-style talks and discussion periods. More information and registration details can be found [online](#).

News Center Maine cites UMaine Tick Lab in article about mysterious illness

15 Jul 2022

In an article about a 7 year old from Limington who was diagnosed with Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome, or PANS, after blood tests revealed the bacteria *Borrelia miyamotoi* found in deer ticks, [News Center Maine](#) reported that bacteria is now on the radar of researchers at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab. "We have started testing for *Borrelia miyamotoi*, which is another pathogen that can be transmitted by the deer tick in Maine," said Griffin Dill, manager of the UMaine Extension Tick Lab. [Inside Edition](#) and [Central Recorder](#) shared the News Center Maine report.

Media reports that UMaine could receive \$18 million to combat PFAS

15 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) reported that the University of Maine could receive \$18 million in the next round of federal earmarks to establish a research center, a laboratory and research funding that center around per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS. Much of the money would go toward equipment needed to test PFAS and setting up lab spaces to allow research on water, fish, soil and more while avoiding cross-contamination. “Maine, whether we want to be or not, is going to be a leader in PFAS research,” said Hannah Carter, associate provost for online and continuing education, and dean of University of Maine Cooperative Extension. “Maine is really right now at the forefront. Certainly, other states have PFAS issues, but nothing like what we are dealing with here in the state of Maine.”

Media boosts UMaine Extension 4-H Hancock County open house

15 Jul 2022

[The Ellsworth American](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about an open house hosted by University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H in Hancock County from 10 a.m.– 12:30 p.m. on July 30 at 63 Boggy Brook Road, Ellsworth. This family-friendly outdoor event with a variety of hands-on activities for youth on topics ranging from art to science, gardening to animal husbandry — with animals on site — is open to all in Hancock County. The event is free; registration is preferred and can be done on the [event webpage](#).

Laatsch to be featured on ‘Maine Calling’ July 19 to discuss James Webb Space Telescope images

15 Jul 2022

Shawn Laatsch, director of the Versant Power Astronomy Center, will be featured on Maine Public radio’s show “Maine Calling” from 11 a.m.–noon on July 19 to discuss the first images taken by the James Webb Space Telescope. In response to the popularity of the Versant Power Astronomy Center event featuring the first images from the James Webb Space Telescope on July 16, an additional showing at 4:30 p.m. has been scheduled. To register, visit the Versant Power Astronomy Center [website](#).

News Center Maine reports on UMaine Extension wild blueberry field day in Jonesboro

15 Jul 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension hosted its annual Blueberry Hill Farm Field Day on Thursday. The all-day event was an opportunity for farmers to come together to learn best agricultural practices from researchers. “I think the best thing about [these] events is that farmers get to talk to other farmers because they learn the most from each other,” said Lily Calderwood, Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture.

BDN shares new UMaine microcredential in Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

15 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine will soon begin offering a micro-credential for educators to become Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) coaches and trainers in schools and school districts throughout the state. PBIS is a nationally recognized framework providing a multi-tiered continuum of support to all students, promoting positive academic and socio-behavioral outcomes. “The schools we’ve worked with

so far have seen incredible benefits that will last for years. Students are getting the support they need to thrive in the classroom, and teachers are able to focus on teaching and are better equipped to handle all types of behavioral issues,” said Courtney Angelosante, PBIS initiative coordinator and faculty member in special education at the College of Education and Human Development.

Media report on Boudreau Hall naming

15 Jul 2022

[News Center Maine](#), [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) and [WVII](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) reported that University of Maine’s North Stevens Hall has been renamed Boudreau Hall in honor of alumna Karen Boudreau after she and her husband, Tom Jensen, pledged a naming gift. “This is historic. We’re very, very grateful to Karen and to Tom for this generous gift and for the chance to signify with a name the importance of the French Canadian heritage on this campus and for our students,” said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy.

Dill speaks to News Center Maine about threat of ticks to moose calves

15 Jul 2022

In an article about the effect of winter ticks on moose calves in northwestern Maine, [News Center Maine](#) interviewed Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab. Dill said that unlike deer and dog ticks, winter tick larvae cluster in clumps on vegetation, including harvested trees. In early fall, winter ticks "hitch a ride" on a passing moose. "Winter ticks stay on that one animal, go through an entire life cycle, molt on that animal and then drop off. The moose can pull a chain of anywhere from a few dozen to a few thousand, in one swoop," Dill said.

Lee speaks to Times Record about the financial benefits of composting

15 Jul 2022

In an article about a Brunswick campaign to promote how food waste recycling could help residents save both dollars and the environment, the [Times Record](#) interviewed Susanne Lee, faculty fellow at the University of Maine Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, about the benefits of keeping food waste out of landfills. “There’s a tremendous win-win-win opportunity in food waste. There’s a huge economic benefit to both the community at large and residents of the community. There’s a huge social benefit in terms of food insecurity and in terms of health outcomes for communities that manage their food waste better, and there’s obviously a fantastic environmental impact,” Lee said.

Maine DOE highlights Ferrini-Mundy’s participation in panel about computer science education

15 Jul 2022

The [Maine Department of Education](#) shared that University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy participated in a panel discussion on how Maine is paving the way for students and teachers to be successful in the world of computer science. “The more we can engage with computer science at the Pre-K through 12 level, the more ready everyone is for whatever comes afterward. These students here tonight are getting a head start with these skills. It’s going to matter for your futures,” said Ferrini-Mundy.

Bishop delivers remarks at “Changing by the Minute” documentary premiere

15 Jul 2022

Penny Bishop, dean of the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, delivered pre-screening remarks at the premiere of the documentary “[Changing By The Minute](#)” on June 16. Bishop served as an advisor on the film, which follows the students, staff and administrators at a public middle school in New York City, where fifth–eighth graders are mixed in almost all classes. Approximately 500 people attended the film’s opening in Manhattan.

Office of International Programs hosted Maine Central Institute and partners from Taiwan

15 Jul 2022

The Office of International Programs hosted Maine Central Institute, an independent high school based in Pittsfield, and their partner institutions from Taiwan for a full day of tours on the University of Maine campus. The group was made up of over 70 students and nearly 30 adults, including principals, teachers and the director general of the Taoyuan City Government Department of Education in Taiwan. The group toured the Advanced Structures and Composites Center – including the world’s largest 3-D polymer printer – and learned about the Pulp and Paper Foundation and labs within the Chemical Engineering department. They received a personal guided tour of the new, nearly-completed Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center led by Dana Humphrey, dean of the College of Engineering. The tour also included an experience for the students at the Maine Bound ropes course, where they worked in teams to complete each activity. The UMaine and Taiwan delegation exchanged gifts in a formal ceremony following the tour.

UMaine Children’s Center celebrates Knowles retirement

18 Jul 2022

The University of Maine Children’s Center is celebrating the retirement of Terri Knowles, who dedicated 42 years of her career to caring for children and their families in the university community. Please send along well-wishes by mail to the Children’s Center at 113 College Ave, Orono, ME 04473, or via email to laurie.petrie@maine.edu. All cards and emails will be presented to Knowles as a surprise on July 27.

Educators invited to behavioral supports retreat in August

18 Jul 2022

With the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to impact students, families and teachers in Maine, the University of Maine System (UMS) and the Maine Department of Education (DOE) are teaming up to offer a training Aug. 8 for educators on the use of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) in schools. PBIS is an evidence-based framework for supporting positive student behavior and academic achievement that has been implemented in schools nationwide, including more than 75 in Maine. The Maine PBIS collaboration between UMS and Maine DOE is coordinated by Courtney Angelosante, faculty member in special education with the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. The event, PBIS+: Integrating School, Community and Family Supports for Positive Student Outcomes, will be held from 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m at Maple Hill Farm in Hallowell. It's designed to grow awareness of community and family support available statewide and locally, and to give participants an opportunity to network with agencies and community partners. Agencies and programs working in areas such as mental health, parenting support, food insecurity, counseling services, youth peer networks, suicide prevention, homelessness and LGBTQ+ will be on hand. In addition, educators will have an opportunity to do a self-assessment of their school-family partnerships and develop an action plan for one or more family-centered activities. School- and district-based teams can attend the retreat at no cost. However, due to limited space, each team member should complete an online [registration form](#). For more information, contact Angelosante, courtney.pacholoski@maine.edu.

Gill speaks to The Scientist about sixth mass extinction**18 Jul 2022**

Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology at the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, was interviewed by [The Scientist](#) about the current sixth mass extinction. "We're in this really unusual position, where, for the first time, we are trying to put our finger on a geologically superlative event while it's happening," Gill said.

Media highlights Allan keynote address at Ohio Anti-Hazing Summit**18 Jul 2022**

[The Sentinel Tribute](#) (Bowling Green, Ohio) and [WTVG Action News](#) (ABC 13 in Toledo, Ohio) reported that Elizabeth Allan, a professor of higher education at the University of Maine, will be the keynote speaker at the first-ever Ohio Anti-Hazing Summit at Bowling Green State University. Allan will present her research on campus cultures and climates, including classroom teaching, campus diversity, equity and student hazing and its prevention.

PPH, Maine Public report on 3D printing affordable housing at UMaine ASCC**18 Jul 2022**

The [Portland Press Herald](#) and [Maine Public](#) reported on the effort at the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center to 3D print small homes made with wood fiber. Home to the world's largest polymer 3D printer, ASCC is developing robotic and artificial intelligence technology to automate construction, which they predict will be faster and less costly than traditional stick-built construction. "We're looking for a radical solution, a different solution, which isn't going to happen overnight. We're not looking for a quick fix, because there is none," said Habib Dagher, founding executive director of ASCC. The [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the PPH report. The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared the Maine Public report.

Laatsch featured in BDN editorial about James Webb Space Telescope**18 Jul 2022**

Shawn Laatsch, director of the Versant Power Astronomy Center, was quoted in a [Bangor Daily News](#) editorial about the first images released from the James Webb Space Telescope. "In my nearly four decades in the astronomy education and outreach profession I've never seen such stunning images as were released today by the James Webb Space Telescope. These five exceptionally stunning images cover all areas of the cosmos and reveal new and unexpected details about the birth and death of stars, composition of exoplanet atmospheres, [and] the ways galaxies interact and the sheer number of them in our universe," Laatsch said.

University of Maine researcher to testify Tuesday at Congressional hearing on supporting sustainable agriculture**18 Jul 2022**

A University of Maine researcher will serve as an expert witness at a Congressional hearing Tuesday afternoon examining the role of farmers and ranchers in solving climate change and increasing food production. Rachel E. Schattman will virtually participate in [a hearing](#) of the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Reform Subcommittee on Environment that begins at 2 p.m. and can be [viewed live here](#). Other witnesses include the president of the Association of American Indian Farmers and two farmers from the Midwest. A former commercial farmer herself, Schattman is an assistant professor of sustainable agriculture in the School of Food and Agriculture at the R1 University of Maine, where she leads the Agroecology Lab that supports research to help farms be more resilient in a changing climate while protecting natural resources. Her testimony will focus on findings from her research about what farmers need to adopt sustainable practices, and highlight an innovative UMaine pilot program that is helping vegetable and small fruit growers in the Northeast put climate adaptation approaches in place. This is the second time in as many months UMaine experts have been invited to inform the work of Congress as expert hearing witnesses. In May, the university's liaison to the forest products industry, Shane O'Neill, [testified about workforce development and innovation](#) in that sector at the invitation of the U.S. House Agriculture Committee's Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee. "The University of Maine is a world-class, R1 research university where faculty and students work together to create new knowledge and innovations to solve our state's and the world's most pressing problems — including adapting to and mitigating climate change," said President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, who is also vice chancellor for research and innovation for the University of Maine System. "UMaine researchers are called upon by policymakers from the State House to the U.S. Capitol and by communities and companies in between, and that is a testament to their terrific work and decades of public and private partnership and investment. We are proud that our university is such a vital public asset, and look forward to only increasing our impact on Maine and beyond in the years to come."

Center on Aging and UMaine Institute of Medicine host Geriatrics Thought Leaders Conversation July 26

19 Jul 2022

The Center on Aging and University of Maine Institute of Medicine are hosting a free virtual event, A Geriatrics Thought Leaders Conversation — Clinical Perspectives on the Predictors of Progression from Mild Cognitive Impairment to Dementia, from 4–5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 26. Speakers include Ross Andel, professor and director at the School of Aging Studies and director of the Ph.D. in Aging Studies Program at the College of Community and Behavioral Sciences at the University of South Florida; and Cliff Singer, chief of the Center for Geriatric Cognitive and Mental Health, director at Mood and Memory Clinic and director of the Robert C. Strauss Neurocognitive Research Program at Northern Light Acadia Hospital. The discussion will be facilitated by Lenard Kaye, director at the UMaine Center on Aging and professor at the UMaine School of Social Work. Join the presentation on Zoom [here](#).

The Examiner News cites UMaine archive photo of Fannie Hardy Eckstrom

19 Jul 2022

In a column about naturalist Fannie Hardy Eckstrom, [The Examiner News](#) cited a University of Maine archival photo that shows Eckstrom proudly posing with a passel of freshly shot grouse. Eckstrom was born and died in Brewer, Maine. She even founded its public library and seemed to live a dozen lifetimes — ornithologist, folklorist, mother, scholar, anthropologist — between 1865 and 1946.

Media boosts 4-H dog training clinic

19 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Morning Sentinel](#) shared information about an upcoming Maine 4-H Dog Clinic from 8 a.m.–noon on Aug. 13. Anyone between ages 9–18 interested in learning more about training dogs in the skills of Canine Good Citizenship is welcome to sign up. For more information and to register, visit the program [webpage](#).

Mary Christie Institute features UMaine Black Bear Exchange

19 Jul 2022

In an article about student food insecurity, the [Mary Christie Institute](#) highlighted the University of Maine Black Bear Exchange, a community food pantry and clothing swap that remains accessible during summer break, as their primary population is off-campus students. Lisa Morin, the program coordinator, says she hasn't noticed the usual decrease in students using the program over the summer this year. However, most of the program's staff members are graduate students, many of whom are unavailable in the summer, leaving the program short-staffed in these months. "It's a commitment to make sure that the food pantry is going to stay open to support all those people, but it's definitely one we want to make," Morin said. Frank Wertheim, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension associate Extension professor, told the Mary Christie Institute that the students facing food insecurity are also more likely to experience homelessness. Furthermore, students of color and LGBTQ+ students experience higher levels of food insecurity than white or non-LGBTQ+ students. "Those stressors, plus the fact that they're not eating regularly, obviously impacts their mental health and ability to stay engaged in school," Wertheim said.

Ippolito interviewed by Observer about NFTs and technology in art

19 Jul 2022

John Ippolito, professor of new media, spoke to the [Observer](#) about famed art auction house Christie's launching a venture fund to improve technology in the arts despite a downturn in NFTs. Ippolito told the Observer that he believes once the hype surrounding cryptocurrency is no longer profitable, the incentive for money to flow into the NFT ecosystem will dry up. "Some people used art to validate the cryptocurrency they owned. It's not that I think NFTs will definitely disappear, but this is a low point in the morale." He added that the downturn has led to companies pulling out from blockchain investments and Christie's Ventures was launched at a strategic time. "They've made a lot of money with (NFTs), and the people who are true believers should stick with the program," he said. [Cryptosaurus](#) shared the Observer report.

UMaine students completed medical mission trip with Partners for World Health in May

19 Jul 2022

In May, four members of the University of Maine's Partners for World Health (PWH) Chapter traveled to Africa to volunteer on a Medical Mission Trip in Senegal. The work was funded through a Projects for Peace grant awarded by Middlebury College and offered by UMaine's Cohen Institute. Over nearly two weeks, the team — which included Michael Delorge '24, Meredith Mitchell '24, Jette Fox '22 and Eric Desbois '23 — provided primary care, health education and medical supplies to citizens all around Senegal as part of "Project 10,000," a PWH initiative to educate 10,000 pregnant women around the world about the complications of childbirth while providing them with their own birthing kit to aid in the successful birth of their expected baby. The students, who plan to pursue careers in nursing, medicine and public health, were able to broaden their perspectives on healthcare and practice through many real-world medical challenges in Senegal.

Undiscovered Maine students take on a consulting project

19 Jul 2022

Undergraduates in the Undiscovered Maine student research project took up a new task this spring semester: consulting with a Montessori school in Franklin County. This project perfectly demonstrated the mission of Undiscovered Maine, which is to provide valuable educational opportunities for students to learn web and social media strategies as well as organizational, management and marketing skills to help small businesses in economically-disadvantaged areas of Maine. The full story can be found on the Maine Business School [website](#).

University of Maine researcher serves as expert witness at Congressional hearing on supporting farmers adapting for the future

20 Jul 2022

Rachel Schattman's testimony about how farmers can mitigate and plan for climate change comes just days after a federal report showed more than half of Maine is currently experiencing moderate drought conditions that may impact this year's harvest of key crops like wild blueberries. Washington, D.C. — A University of Maine researcher told a Congressional committee yesterday about successful efforts led by the state's flagship to understand and support farmers to adopt sustainable practices that will make their small businesses and our nation's food supply more resilient for the future. Rachel E. Schattman, an assistant professor of sustainable agriculture in the School of Food and Agriculture at UMaine, testified July 19 as an expert witness at a hearing of the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Reform Subcommittee on Environment examining the role of farmers and ranchers in solving climate change and increasing food production. A former commercial farmer herself, Schattman conducts interdisciplinary research and provides technical assistance to help farms be more resilient in a changing climate while protecting natural resources. She has studied farmers in the Northeast and Midwest to better understand what support they need to adopt environmentally friendly practices that protect natural resources and their bottom line. Informed by that research, last year she helped pilot a program with regional partners, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), that paired vegetable and small fruit growers and agricultural advisors to learn climate science and develop personalized farm adaptation plans and outreach materials to share with their peers. "Though there are many uncertainties associated with what the future holds, because of research that has already been conducted, we know enough right now to support farmers as they adapt to a changing climate, build resilience into their farms and anchor thriving U.S. agricultural industries that can provide essential rural jobs and feed our population and the world," Schattman said in her prepared testimony. She urged Congress to support investment in sustainable agriculture and climate research and region-specific outreach like that happening at UMaine, and to consider incentivizing the transition to proven practices that enhance soil and water quality like nutrient management and rotating cover and cash crops to mitigate farmers' risk. "More and more often, farmers are taking note of drought, heat and shifts in seasonal temperatures, and all of these changes are leading these communities to realize that they cannot continue to farm in the same way as their predecessors," Schattman explained, just days after a federal report showed more than half of Maine is currently experiencing moderate drought conditions. She highlighted recent investment by Wyman's, the largest retailer of wild blueberries in the United States, [to establish the first-of-its-kind wild blueberry research and innovation center at UMaine](#) to investigate the impact of increasing temperatures and changing precipitation on small fruit crop performance and health. Schattman's written testimony is [available here](#) and [the full hearing can be viewed here](#). This is the second time in as many months that experts from Maine's R1 research university have been invited to inform the work of Congress as expert hearing witnesses. In May, the university's liaison to the forest products industry, Shane O'Neill, [testified about workforce development and innovation](#) in that sector at the invitation of the U.S. House Agriculture Committee's Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee. "The University of Maine is a world-class, R1 research university where faculty and students work together to create new knowledge and innovations to solve our state's and the world's most pressing problems — including adapting to and mitigating climate change," said President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, who is also vice chancellor for research and innovation for the University of Maine System. "UMaine researchers are called upon by policymakers from the State House to the U.S. Capitol and by communities and companies in between, and that is a testament to their terrific work and decades of public and private partnership and investment. We are proud that our university is such a vital public asset, and look forward to only increasing our impact on Maine and beyond in the years to come." Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Putnam, Hall and Allen awarded \$600K NSF grant for glacier research

20 Jul 2022

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded \$601,729 to Aaron Putnam, associate professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences; Brenda Hall, professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences and Climate Change Institute; and Katherine Allen, assistant professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, for research looking at how glaciers' seasonal fluctuations may have caused drastic climate changes. The period of rapid transition from full-glacial conditions to warmer interglacial conditions at the end of the last ice age featured drastic climate changes in the North Atlantic region, the origins of which are still a matter of debate. It is generally thought that these climate changes involved large fluxes of glacial icebergs and meltwater interfering with the circulation of the North Atlantic Ocean. However, the North Atlantic region paradoxically appears to have been at its coldest during periods of increased glacial melt. One hypothesis, developed by UMaine professor George Denton, suggests that these rapid transitions were highly seasonal in nature, with summertime warming driving glacial melt that formed a freshwater lid over the North Atlantic that could freeze over every winter and lead to dramatic coolings during the winter season. Understanding how winters and summers evolved is therefore important for diagnosing the causes of abrupt climate change — and understanding how the North Atlantic seasonal cycle responds to enhanced summer warming and glacial melt today. "Glaciers are incredibly sensitive, purely physical monitors of the temperature of the atmosphere. By studying their history imprinted on the landscape and captured in offshore sediments in the Gulf of Maine, we can gain unique insights into the abrupt climate events that punctuated the last great global warming that ended the ice age" Putnam says. The team's project, entitled "P2C2: Collaborative Research: The Role of Seasonality in Abrupt Climate Change — a Test by Reconstructing Fluctuations of a Late-Glacial Ice Mass in Eastern North America," will look at whether the summertime warming that caused glaciers to recede and melt into the Atlantic Ocean set in motion a chain of events that led to bitterly cold winters soon after. To do so, Putnam and his team of researchers will track the retreat of a glacial ice mass that was once in northwestern Maine through geological dating of glacial landforms, called moraines, that formed alongside the receding ice front. Together with collaborator Thomas Lowell from the University of Cincinnati they will employ isotopic methods, known as beryllium-10 surface-exposure dating and radiocarbon dating, to develop a chronology of ice retreat in north-central Maine. They will also use marine geochemistry to understand when and how glacial melt impacted the Gulf of Maine. With this two-pronged approach, the scientists hope to determine whether the ice cap melted and introduced freshwater into the Gulf of Maine during the iconic winter-centric cold snaps of the last termination. If the team's observations align with predictions, it would dovetail with the pattern of surface-freshening previously found in North Atlantic ocean sediments — and support the seasonality hypothesis of abrupt climate change. "Microfossils preserved on the seafloor are the key to unlocking ocean history during this pivotal event. Our team will explore land-sea connections by comparing clues from the Gulf of Maine and clues from the land, providing a new view that synthesizes both terrestrial and marine perspectives," Allen says. Ultimately, in collaboration with climate scientist Joellen Russell at the University of Arizona, the study aims to provide a data-model test of the seasonality hypothesis for abrupt climate change, and to further the understanding of the history of global glacial patterns. The project will provide field-based training and education for emerging scientists. The researchers will also work closely with the Baxter Park Authority on informing the public about the glacial and climatic history of the region and its greater global context by developing a 3D-printed educational landscape model and an informative smartphone app that can be used throughout the park. "The landscape of Maine tells a fascinating tale of how glacial ice behaved as the last ice age was coming to an end. We hope to work with our colleagues at Baxter State Park to make this remarkable glacial history accessible to the general public," Putnam says. The award starts Sept. 1, 2022. The full award for the project, including funds awarded to collaborators — Lowell at the University of Cincinnati and Russell at the University of Arizona, totals nearly \$1 million. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine installs four more Level 2 vehicle charging stations for public use

20 Jul 2022

The University of Maine installed four new Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations for public use at the Stevens Hall parking lot, increasing its total number of chargers for UMaine community and public use to 35. Members of the public can charge their electric vehicles at these stations for \$1.50 per hour. More information is on the [Office of Sustainability website](#). With a 208-volt, 40-amp power system, the Level 2 stations can provide enough electricity for 20–30 miles of travel after an hour of charging. This exceeds the output from Level 1 stations, which provide enough electricity for three–five miles of travel after an hour of charging. Counting the charger in the Advanced Structures and Composites Center parking lot, the campus now offers five Level 2 stations for public use. Additional electric vehicle charging infrastructure on campus includes two Level 2 stations for students who live in the dorms and 28 Level 1 chargers for faculty and staff. Stations for residential students are free and accessible with a MaineCard; faculty and staff buy electric vehicle parking permits to use in their designated spaces. The UMaine Office of Sustainability spearheaded the \$25,000 charger installation project, and financed the four stations with a \$16,000 grant from Efficiency Maine, \$1,500 from the Professional Employees Advisory Council, and its own funds. UMaine Sustainability Director Daniel Dixon says the new stations will provide commuters and campus visitors ample opportunity to recharge their vehicles. According to the [U.S. Department of Energy](#), UMaine is the only location in the Town of Orono that offers electric vehicle charging stations for the public, with the closest alternatives located in Bangor. Dixon says the university is one of the largest providers of public charging stations in the Greater Bangor area. “These new Level 2 charging stations represent a big step towards the future for UMaine’s transportation infrastructure,” says Dixon, also a research assistant professor with the Climate Change Institute. “What we are essentially doing with these EV charging stations is promoting electric vehicle ownership.” Increasing the number of charging stations on campus is one of several sustainability initiatives at UMaine. As a charter signatory of the American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment, now known as the Carbon Commitment, UMaine has pledged to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions over time and become carbon neutral by 2040. In particular, the university aims to achieve net-zero Scope 1 emissions by 2030, and net-zero Scope 2 and 3 emissions by 2040. Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from sources that are directly owned or controlled by UMaine, such as natural gas, #6 oil, #2 oil, propane, gasoline, diesel and kerosene. Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from purchased sources that are not owned or controlled by the university, such as electricity. Scope 3 emissions are from sources not directly owned or controlled by UMaine, but are directly related to university activities, including faculty, staff, and student commuting and department travel. Scope 3 emissions are the hardest to curb because they are not directly controlled by the university, Dixon says. UMaine hopes to reduce them by encouraging people to make more sustainable choices, such as using electric vehicles. By offering resources like affordable access to EV charging stations, these choices become more realistic, Dixon says. Other UMaine sustainability efforts pertaining to transportation include offering free parking permits for carpoolers and free bus transportation throughout Orono in the form of the Black Bear Orono Express. The university has also partnered with the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System to offer MaineCard holders free access to all its bus routes, Dixon says. As more consumers purchase electric vehicles, particularly those with larger batteries, Dixon says he hopes to eventually install Level 3 fast-charging stations, which can provide enough electricity for 50 miles of travel or more in 20 minutes. “Once we see that our current charging stations are no longer supplying enough for what’s needed, then we’ll install more,” he says. UMaine is a leader in sustainability research led by the Climate Change Institute, Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, Advanced Structures and Composites Center, Forest Bioproducts Research Institute and many other units. More than 25% of faculty from over 75% of departments conduct sustainability-related research. Other achievements in sustainability include [purchasing more than 25% of its food and beverage from local sources](#) nearly three years ahead of schedule, recycling and composting nearly half of its waste, constructing new buildings to LEED Silver certification standards and using on-site-generated compost rather than fertilizers to maintain campus grounds. In 2021 and 2020, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) ranked UMaine among the top performing higher education institutions worldwide for sustainability, particularly in its grounds category. The university also has Silver Rating in AASHE’s Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) program, a self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Longcore earns Distinguished Mycologist Award from national organization

20 Jul 2022

World-renowned University of Maine scientist Joyce Longcore received the 2022 Distinguished Mycologist Award, one of the highest honors granted by the Mycological Society of America. The annual award recognizes scientists with distinguished careers in mycology research or service in the field, according to the national organization. Longcore has spent decades studying various species of microscopic, aquatic fungi from a group called Chytridiomycota, also known as chytrids. She isolates them into pure culture, examines their developmental morphology with a light microscope, collaborates with colleagues to identify their molecular characteristics and characterizes their taxonomy. In 1997, Longcore investigated infected tissue from a blue poison dart frog sent by pathologists from the Smithsonian National Zoo in Washington, D.C. and was able to isolate a chytrid pathogen from that tissue into pure culture. This work led Longcore and her colleagues to describe the chytrid that is responsible for widespread amphibian die-offs worldwide. Longcore previously maintained a frozen culture collection of hundreds of chytrids, which is now housed at the Collection of Zoospore Eufungi at the University of Michigan, where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology. For her research, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) elected Longcore as an AAAS Fellow in 2012 and in 2017, awarded her, as well as her colleagues from the Smithsonian National Museum, the [Golden Goose Award](#), which recognizes people doing federally funded research who have made unexpected and incredible scientific breakthroughs. In 2003, Longcore received the Maryann Hartman Award, presented by what is now the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program to honor Maine women who made inspirational achievements. Learn more about Longcore’s background and accomplishments [online](#). Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension 4-H dog clinic in Old Town Aug. 13

20 Jul 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a dog training clinic 8 a.m.–noon Saturday, Aug. 13 at the UMaine J. Franklin Witter Teaching & Research Center, 160 University Farm Road, Old Town. The [Maine 4-H Dog Clinic](#) is open to all youth ages 9–18; owning a dog is not required. Participants will learn how to teach behaviors based on the American Kennel Club’s Canine Good Citizen program, including accepting a friendly stranger, sitting politely for petting and more. Members of the UMaine Extension 4-H dog animal science committee will lead the clinic. The clinic is free; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#) by Aug. 4. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.942.7396 or

sheila.norman@maine.edu.

Original Irregular highlights UMaine engineering capstone project at Carrabassett skating rink

20 Jul 2022

In an article about the Carrabassett Valley Select Board reviewing the town work plan, the [Original Irregular](#) highlighted that the University of Maine College of Engineering has agreed to include the skating rink roof work and refrigeration as an option for a capstone project that engineering students need to complete to graduate. If a group of students select this project, they will develop cost estimates and designs for consideration for the town.

Media acknowledges UMaine soil scientist Schattman at congressional subcommittee

20 Jul 2022

In writing about the House Committee on Oversight and Reform environment subcommittee hearing from farmers about how to better incentivize regenerative agriculture practices, [Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Star Tribune](#), [Agri-Pulse](#), [Potato Grower](#) and [Sugar Producer](#) noted that Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine, served as a panelist. Schattman and other witnesses acknowledged the appetite for progressive agricultural practices isn't immune from market forces.

BDN cites UMaine role in Old Town bridge project

20 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the Maine Department of Transportation will use the University of Maine's bridge composite technology to replace the Llewellyn Estes Memorial Bridge after rejecting all the bids it received for being too expensive. A bridge that carried Route 1A over Souadabscook Stream in Hampden that opened in late 2020 was the first of its kind to make use of a composite girder system developed by researchers at UMaine in partnership with the Brewer company Advanced Infrastructure Technologies. The Department of Transportation expects the construction phase for the Old Town bridge under this new process to begin in 2024.

Cammen speaks to Sport Fishing about great white shark sightings in the Northeast

20 Jul 2022

Kristina Cammen, assistant professor at the School of Marine Sciences at the University of Maine, was interviewed by [Sport Fishing](#) for an article about the increase in great white shark sightings in the Northeastern U.S. Cammen said that the 20th century seal population in New England was reduced so dramatically that sharks as the apex predators stayed far offshore. However, Cammen said that the 1972 Marine Mammal Protection Act resurrected seal, dolphin and whale populations. Since seal populations have climbed quickly, barely a day goes by when a shark isn't spotted near shore from late June through Thanksgiving.

Sorg featured on 'Maine Calling' discussing the rise in fentanyl use and drug overdoses

20 Jul 2022

Marcella Sorg, research professor at the University of Maine Department of Anthropology, Climate Change Institute and Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, was a VIP caller on the [Maine Public](#) radio show "Maine Calling," discussing the rise of fentanyl use and drug overdoses, and what's being done to stem the epidemic.

BDN writes about UMaine location on Marsh Island

20 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) wrote a feature story explaining how the University of Maine came to be located on Marsh Island. According to the article, the island itself is named for John Marsh, a surveyor and settler who in the 1760s became friendly with the local Penobscot people, who at the time had their main settlement on Marsh Island. "This is a time where there aren't many settlers around, and Marsh developed a relationship with the Penobscot — he learned the language, he worked with them," said Darren Ranco, chair of Native American programs at UMaine and a member of the Penobscot Nation. Marsh and his descendants kept expanding their development of the island as the decades passed and pushed the Native people onto nearby Indian Island, today the reservation for the Penobscot people. Marsh Island was entirely out of Native hands by the middle of the 19th century and belonged to both private landowners and the state of Maine. When the Morrill Act was signed in 1862, 660 acres of Marsh Island eventually became what is today known as the UMaine in 1865.

New York Times uses UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data for mapping heat waves in Europe

20 Jul 2022

In an article about the heat waves throughout Europe this week, the [New York Times](#) used data from Climate Reanalyzer developed by Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and a research assistant professor with the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, to map the maximum forecasted temperatures and the temperature difference from the historical mean. [Washington Latest](#) shared the New York Times report.

Darling Marine Center annual science seminars continue July 29 and August 12

21 Jul 2022

The Darling Marine Center will host its second and final annual science seminars from 10:30–11:15 a.m. on July 29 and Aug. 12. On July 29, Damian Brady, professor of oceanography and associate director for research and graduate studies at the School of Marine Sciences, will discuss the development and future of scallop aquaculture in the Gulf of Maine. On Aug. 12, Keith Kanoti, manager of university forests at the School of Forest Resources, will discuss the University of Maine Forest Office that manages 14,500 acres of forestland owned by the University of Maine and the University of Maine Foundation across the state. The discussion will include a review of the Darling Marine Center forest management plan, prepared in 2017 by School of Forest Resources graduate student Todd Douglass. For more information about the talks and how to obtain free tickets to attend in person or register to join virtually via Zoom, please visit the Darling Marine Center's [Science Seminar Series website](#).

Campus Technology highlights UMaine data literacy program

21 Jul 2022

In an article about higher education institutions that are building data literacy to support student success, [Campus Technology](#) reported that the University of Maine is part of a new cohort of higher education institutions delving into the use of data to improve retention and completion through the Data Literacy Institute, a program developed by the Association for Institutional Research and offered by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities as part of its Powered by Public initiative. This fall, UMaine will convene cross-departmental teams of up to 20 participants who will learn and apply data literacy skills to a unique student success challenge at their institution, according to a news announcement.

Dill speaks to BDN about the effectiveness of human urine to keep garden pests away

21 Jul 2022

Griffin Dill, integrated pest management professional at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was interviewed by the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the effectiveness of human urine as a pest deterrent. "The olfactory ones that are among the commercially available [deterrents] tend not to work particularly well. When it comes to human urine you hear anecdotal things from people who say they have tried it and it worked, but in most cases it's not terribly effective," Dill said.

BDN reports on new Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations at UMaine

21 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine installed four new Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations for public use at the Stevens Hall parking lot, increasing the total number of chargers for UMaine community and public use to 35. Members of the public can charge their electric vehicles at these stations for \$1.50 per hour. More information is on the [Office of Sustainability website](#).

Garland discusses gardening with native Maine plants on WMTW

21 Jul 2022

Kate Garland, horticultural specialist at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was featured on [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland) discussing how gardeners can incorporate Maine's native plants into their gardens. Garland explained that gardeners should look closely at what's thriving naturally around them. For example, gardeners on the coast or one of Maine's granite-topped summits are going to spot plants that grow well in windy and exposed sites with poor, rocky soils, like bearberry, lowbush blueberry and juniper.

Community invited to participate in shellfish discussion at Darling Marine Center

22 Jul 2022

Interested community members are invited to join researchers and local students at the University of Maine Darling Marine Center for a conversation about emerging results of an ongoing community science program in the Damariscotta River estuary. The conversation will focus on the results from the first full year of the community science program studying shellfish resources of the upper Damariscotta River estuary, which was a collaboration among UMaine, shellfish harvesters and Lincoln Academy. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 2 at the Louise Dean Library on the upper campus of the Darling Marine Center, located at 193 Clarks Cove Road, Walpole. Refreshments will be provided. All are welcome; harvesters, harbor and shellfish committee members, and other municipal leaders are particularly encouraged to attend. Visit the Darling Marine Center's [event web page](#) for information. Contact Sarah Risley with questions, sarah.risley1@maine.edu; 207.558.3195.

Maine Outing Club fundraising for Sugarloaf cabin renovations by Magnolia Network's Maine Cabin Masters

22 Jul 2022

The Maine Outing Club's cabin in Carrabassett Valley near Sugarloaf Mountain has been selected for renovation by the Magnolia Network's Maine Cabin Masters. Now, the University of Maine club is fundraising for the \$20,000 needed to complete the renovation before Sept. 1. Maine Cabin Masters is a docu-follow television show on the Magnolia Network (formerly known as DIY Network) documenting the restoration and renovation of cabins in Maine by the Kennebec Cabin Company, led by contractor Chase Morrill, his designer sister Ashley Morrill and her carpenter husband Ryan Eldridge, along with carpenters Jared Baker and Matthew Dix rounding out the team. The show debuted on Jan. 2, 2017, and completed its seventh season earlier this year. The Maine Cabin Masters receive thousands of applications each year from cabin owners who want to participate in the show. Orion-Bay Tucker, treasurer of the Maine Outing Club, said that the student group entered their cabin for consideration as "a shot in the dark" when a former member's father suggested they apply. Tucker says he and the other club leaders figured that, on the off chance that they were chosen, the renovations would be a great way to celebrate the upcoming 100th anniversary of the club in 2023. The club members were shocked — and thrilled — when they learned their cabin had been selected. The Maine Outing Club's cabin is an important part of the university club's history. The original 1926 cabin at Chemo Pond was used as an off-campus trip destination for teaching basic camp skills before the building moved to Orono in 1938. The club's cabin went through several rounds of demolishing and rebuilding on campus until 1958, when the club leased land near Sugarloaf Mountain from the Scott Paper Company to build a cabin that would serve as a

central hub for club ski trips. Tucker says the cabin hosts dozens of students every winter. “We as a club just want to get more people to experience outdoor recreation and we do a really great job with that in the fall and in the spring, but it's difficult in the winter,” he explains. “One of the highlights of the club has been the cabin and the access to Sugarloaf Mountain and the camaraderie it brings.” Tucker says that the cabin has always been bare-bones, but the club applied to Maine Cabin Masters with the goal of addressing basic structural issues to ensure a safe and fun student bonding experience — for example, replacing the sagging foundation, swapping propane lights with electricity, improving the insulation and ensuring the fire escapes work on the top floor. Still, Tucker says the Maine Outing Club told the Maine Cabin Masters that they hope to keep the simple charm that makes the cabin special. “It's special because it's this rustic four-walled wood structure that, while it's degraded over the years, the memories that people have there really haven't,” Tucker says. “When we talked to them, we said we wanted to keep that culture, so we advised them to keep as much as you can in tact but just make it structurally sound. They are doing some extra things but they didn't tell us because they want it to be a surprise.” The Maine Cabin Masters began renovations on June 21 and are expected to finish on Sept. 1. The episode featuring the cabin will air next season. “Maine has a long tradition of outdoor sports and recreation, many members of our team are University of Maine graduates. We are proud to be involved in the preservation of such a unique cabin that is a part of so many Mainers past and future,” says Chase Morrill. The agreed upon budget for the build was set at \$20,000 for the labor, materials and other costs of renovations. Tucker hopes that area businesses will chip in, as well as UMaine alumni who have enjoyed the cabin in the past. Any additional money raised before the end of the build will go to “wish-list” items requested by the students that fall outside the necessary structural upgrades. “When we posted about this on the Maine Outing Club on Facebook, there were so many comments like, ‘Oh, I practically lived there in the eighties,’ ‘I remember splitting wood,’ ‘I remember meeting the love of my life here,’” Tucker laughs. “It's cool to scroll through the comments and see how the cabin has changed so little.” To donate, visit the Our UMaine campaign [webpage](#). Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Professor emeritus Acheson passes away

22 Jul 2022

A memorial service will be held this fall for University of Maine professor emeritus James Acheson, who held a joint appointment in the Anthropology Department and the School of Marine Sciences. Acheson passed away June 28 at the age of 84. He joined the UMaine anthropology faculty in 1968 and retired in 2013. Acheson was a quintessential teacher and researcher, and was internationally known for his work with the Maine lobster industry. As noted in his [obituary](#), Acheson was integral in the establishment of a co-management system in Maine between the government and the fishing industry that has become a national and international model. His five books included the seminal “The Lobster Gangs of Maine” (1988) and “Capturing the Commons: Devising Institutions to Manage the Maine Lobster Industry” (2004). Acheson received UMaine's 2005 Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award and was named the 2009 Distinguished Maine Professor. He is survived by his wife Ann Acheson, seven children, 17 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and other family members.

BDN announces UMaine junior Rozzi wins journalism scholarship

22 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Bethany Rozzi, a junior majoring in journalism at the University of Maine, has been named the Richard K. Warren & Susan A. Warren Journalism Scholarship recipient for the 2021-22 academic year.

Martha's Vineyard Times highlights UMaine role in New England Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases

22 Jul 2022

The [Martha's Vineyard Times](#) reported that the University of Massachusetts Amherst launched the New England Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases on July 1 in partnership with universities from around the New England Area, including the University of Maine.

Media boosts Maine Outing Club fundraiser for cabin renovation by Maine Cabin Masters

22 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) reported that the Maine Outing Club's cabin in Carrabassett Valley near Sugarloaf Mountain has been selected for renovation by the Magnolia Network's “Maine Cabin Masters.” The University of Maine club is fundraising for the \$20,000 needed to complete the renovation before Sept. 1. To donate, visit the Our UMaine campaign [webpage](#).

UMaine graduate student featured on WGME, BDN for swimming fundraiser

22 Jul 2022

Alyssa Simonds, graduate student in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, was featured on [WGME \(Channel 13 in Portland\)](#) and in the [Bangor Daily News](#) for her ambitious goal to swim 31 lakes in the 31 days of August as part of a fundraiser for LifeLight of Maine. Simonds has already swam 100 lakes in Maine and was approached by LifeFlight for the fundraiser. “I'm so glad they reached out and that we hooked up together and I can promote this awesome fundraiser,” Simonds said. To donate and learn more, visit the [Cross for LifeLight website](#), or Simonds [fundraising page](#).

Maine Public cites UMaine study in article about Exeter farm converting food waste into electricity

22 Jul 2022

In an article about Stonyvale Farm collecting food waste to create electricity using anaerobic digestion, [Maine Public](#) cited a 2018 University of Maine study that found Maine generates more than 200,000 tons of food scraps each year, and the statewide capacity for recycling all that material grew by about four times between 2014 and 2017, reaching almost 90,000 tons per year. Even though the Exeter farm has rapidly expanded the capacity for Maine to recycle its food waste, it's still an underused resource in the state. The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [The Piscataquis Observer](#) shared the Maine Public report.

Isenhour featured on 1010 WINS In Depth episode about thrifting

22 Jul 2022

Cindy Isenhour, assistant professor of anthropology and climate change at the University of Maine, was featured on the [1010 WINS In Depth podcast](#) discussing whether thrifting is contributing to fashion's culture of excess. Isenhour discussed the resource loops of thrifting, particularly with respect to the growing resale market. "Some people that are looking at this from a lifecycle perspective and particularly thinking about issues like shipping, I think people are concerned that we might see rebound effects in the resale market. If you're moving a lot of things through these resale platforms very quickly ... there could be some rebound effects where maybe the benefits aren't as strong as if people for example were keeping things in their wardrobe longer," Isenhour said.

Camire interviewed by CNN about eating seaweed

22 Jul 2022

Mary Ellen Camire, professor of food science and human nutrition at the University of Maine, spoke to [CNN](#) about the nutritional benefits of eating seaweed. Camire told CNN that seaweed is "an excellent source of dietary fiber and minerals." Though nutritional profiles vary slightly between green, brown and red varieties, across the board seaweed contains a number of vitamins, including B, C, E and K, omega-3 fatty acids, protein, amino acids, polyphenols and 10 times more minerals like calcium, iron and iodine than land-based plants. Camire also discussed seaweed's ecological benefits, including carbon capture, regenerative aquaculture and habitat building. "Seaweed also provides a place for smaller sea creatures to hide from predators," Camire said, and establishing such refuge environments that can help restore diverse marine life in overfished habitats. [KVIA-TV](#) (El Paso, Texas), [KMIZ-TV](#) (Columbia, Missouri), [KYMA-TV](#) (Yuma, Arizona) and other national outlets shared the CNN report.

Ashley participates in CEIA Internship Program Development Training

22 Jul 2022

Taylor Ashley, Maine Business School internship coordinator, was among 40 professionals from the U.S. and Canada who participated in the Cooperative Education and Internship Association (CEIA) Internship Program Development Training in Vail, Colorado in June 2022. The CEIA Academy training focused on topics ranging from the history of co-ops and internships, program structure, strategic approaches to foster stakeholder buy-in, curriculum development and employer relations. "This training allowed me to network and learn best practices from my peers and seasoned professionals," Ashley says. "I was able to share the success we've seen in MBS in engaging our business students during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite restrictions, we were able to launch programming like resume workshops, Career Ready Games, and lunch and learns with Maine employers." The training is intended for professionals with one to three years of experience in the academic internship/co-op field. Ashley's takeaways include the importance of stakeholder buy-in, developing a strategic plan that implements proven and innovative practices, and the necessity to adapt to the ever-changing landscape. "This network is extremely supportive," Ashley says. "It was extremely valuable to spend time intentionally exploring the value of work-integrated learning for student success and job placement with colleagues from various institutions across North America."

Levesque quoted on CBC's Quirks and Quarks

25 Jul 2022

Danielle Levesque, assistant professor of mammalogy and mammalian health at the School of Biology and Ecology, was featured on [CBC's Quirks and Quarks](#) answering listener questions about animal body temperatures. Levesque said mammals' normal body temperature ranges from 30 to 41 degrees Celsius because outside of that range, mammalian proteins and enzymes either don't function or they unfold and become permanently damaged.

BDN reports on Longore's Distinguished Mycologist Award

25 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Joyce Longcore, associate research professor at the School of Biology and Ecology, received the 2022 Distinguished Mycologist Award, one of the highest honors granted by the Mycological Society of America. The annual award recognizes scientists with distinguished careers in mycology research or service in the field, according to the national organization. Longcore has spent decades studying various species of microscopic, aquatic fungi from a group called Chytridiomycota, also known as chytrids.

Brewer featured on Halifax City News' 'Todd Veinotte Show'

25 Jul 2022

Mark Brewer, political science professor at the University of Maine, was a featured guest on the Halifax City News' podcast ["The Todd Veinotte Show"](#) about the state of U.S. politics. Brewer discussed the Jan. 6 committee hearings and related topics.

DVIDS reported on Maine Summer Technology Institute visiting MAINEiacs

25 Jul 2022

The [Defense Visual Information Distribution Service](#) reported that young scholars from the Maine Summer Transportation Institute at the University of Maine visited airmen from the 101st Air Refueling Wing at the Maine Air National Guard base. "It's great because it's an awareness opportunity for the students who may not know about the Maine Air National Guard and what the Airmen of the 101st do here. It's my understanding that these tankers not only can conduct mid-air refueling, but also act as cargo transport, and that's pretty cool. The fact of the matter is, these kids haven't seen this craft up close like this, and I know they're just in awe," said Phil Dunn, professor of construction engineering technology.

Media shares Darling Marine Center shellfish event

25 Jul 2022

The [Boothbay Register](#) and [Wiscasset Newspaper](#) shared information about an event where community members are invited to join researchers and local students at the University of Maine Darling Marine Center for a conversation about emerging results of an ongoing community science program in the Damariscotta River estuary. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 2 at the Louise Dean Library on the upper campus of the Darling Marine Center, located at 193 Clarks Cove Road, Walpole. Refreshments will be provided, and all are welcome to attend.

BDN reports on former UMaine president Kennedy's death**25 Jul 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Robert Kennedy, who served as president of the University of Maine from 2005 to 2011, died in his home state of Minnesota on Friday. Kennedy worked at UMaine in Orono for 11 years, first serving as vice president and provost for four years. He then served as interim president before he was named the university's president. Under Kennedy, UMaine saw a wave of development, including the construction of the New Balance Student Recreation Center and the Foster Center for Innovation, the growth of the university's offshore wind energy research program, and the establishment of the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data highlighted in Conversation article about polar bears eating garbage**25 Jul 2022**

In an article about polar bears eating garbage, the [Conversation](#) used data from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's Climate Reanalyzer to illustrate the extent of Arctic sea ice retreat between 1980 and 2020. Polar bears entering human settlements to feed on garbage is a direct result of reduced sea ice and the loss of hunting opportunities that come with it. The Climate Reanalyzer was developed by Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and faculty member with the Climate Change Institute and University of Maine Cooperative extension. The [Alaska Beacon](#), [Salon](#), [Ask By Geeks](#) and [News from the States](#) shared the Conversation's report.

BDN interviews Noblet about Camden tannery redevelopment**25 Jul 2022**

In an article about the proposed redevelopment of the site of a former Camden tannery, the [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Caroline Noblet, associate professor at the School of Economics at the University of Maine, about the prevalence of local opposition to developments in Maine. "We keep seeing it over and over again. There's a pattern. But it's not a uniquely Maine thing to say that something's proposed and we don't like it," Noblet said. Reasons include 'status quo bias,' which is when people prefer things to remain the same, and the 'drawbridge theory,' a term to describe when people retire or move to Maine because they like the scenery and other idyllic aspects, and don't want that to change." [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

UMaine once again featured in Fiske Guide to Colleges**26 Jul 2022**

The University of Maine has once again been featured in the annual Fiske Guide to Colleges. The publication, authored by former New York Times education editor Edward Fiske and updated annually for nearly 40 years, highlights more than 300 of the "best and most interesting" schools in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain and Ireland, according to publisher Sourcebooks. The 2023 edition includes facts, statistics and demographic information about the university, and highlights various academic programs, experiential learning opportunities; facilities and activities. This year's UMaine profile spotlights the Research Learning Experiences (RLEs) offered to first- and second-year students. Made possible by a \$240 million investment into the University of Maine System by the Harold Alfond Foundation, these courses, launched in 2021, allow students to engage in research and other forms of hands-on learning at the start of their college careers. UMaine's profile also features the new Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center, opening in August; the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center (IMRC), the Versant Power Astronomy Center and the internationally recognized Climate Change Institute. Additionally, the publication cited the Marine Sciences Program that "attracts top students," the engineering programs that are "some of the strongest and most demanding on campus," and the business, forestry, Earth and climate sciences, nursing, management, marketing, psychology, finance and various accelerated programs. UMaine is a global leader in the development of offshore wind power, Fiske Guide noted, with a solid honors program. "UMaine's undergraduate experience in and out of the classroom is enriched by the breadth and depth of an R1 research university, and the other distinctive engagement opportunities at the state's flagship institution — from hands-on learning opportunities to visual and performing arts offerings, and Division I athletics events," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. When describing the academic atmosphere, the guide reported that students defined it as "cooperative and usually relaxed," and referenced how 41% of all classes have fewer than 20 students. One biology major told the publication, "I didn't know professors could be so attentive, intelligent and dedicated to building their students' knowledge." For athletics, the guide referenced that UMaine is the only Division I school in the state. It highlighted the hockey, football, women's basketball, and men's and women's track and field teams, as well as the intramural clubs and sports programs that represent more than 35 sports. The publication also noted the more than 200 student clubs and organizations and numerous events that contribute to campus life. One UMaine senior told the guide that "The common thread among UMaine students is their kindness." Another said "campus feels incredibly safe to me." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Mainebiz features UMaine construction engineering graduate Stickney**26 Jul 2022**

In an article about Maine women working in construction, [Mainebiz](#) interviewed Kayla Stickney, project resident engineer at the Maine Department of Transportation who graduated with a degree in construction management technology from the University of Maine. "I am still one of the only women in the room, if not the only one. I have met a lot of people in the industry, so I am much more familiar with the people at the meetings, and I know what to expect. ... I think that more women would be interested in pursuing a career in construction if it wasn't stereotyped as a male industry. I want women to know that there are a lot of opportunities for them in this industry, and if they have any interest at all, to go for it," Stickney said.

Knight and Johnson speak to BDN about protecting livestock and crops from extreme weather

26 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Colt Knight, state livestock specialist, and Brett Johnson, sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional, about keeping livestock and plants safe in extreme weather. "It's always good to have a secure location to put your livestock in like a barn. For the most part, if you provide a good shelter, they are smart enough to utilize it," Knight said. Johnson said that shelter is also important for crops, and some of the best protection can come from low tunnels, which Johnson predicts will become increasingly common in Maine as gardeners and homesteaders look to lengthen the typical short growing season in the state.

UMaine Extension offers talks, demos at Northern Maine Fair Aug. 4-7

26 Jul 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer several free educational talks and demonstrations Aug. 4-7 at the Northern Maine Fair Exhibition Hall, 84 Mechanic St., Presque Isle. "[Extension Talks](#)" begin at 6 p.m. Aug. 4-5 and 2 p.m. Aug. 6-7. Topics include pest control for the home garden, composting and soil testing, UMaine Extension 4-H and AgrAbility programs, and making and canning chocolate raspberry sauce. The full schedule is on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sharon Paradis, 207.834.3905; sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

VEMI Lab researchers earn federal prize, invite to White House for software that makes self-driving cars more accessible

26 Jul 2022

The VEMI lab at the University of Maine earned third place in a national competition and an invitation to the White House for developing an inclusive smartphone software platform that will provide navigational assistance to people with visual impairment and seniors who want to use self-driving cars for ride-sharing and hailing services. VEMI will receive \$300,000 for winning the prize in the second phase of the U.S. Department of Transportation's [Inclusive Design Challenge](#) for its Autonomous Vehicle Assistant (AVA) smartphone technology. VEMI leads the group designing the AVA platform, known as the Autonomous Vehicle Research Group (AVRG), which also includes collaborators from Northeastern University and Colby College. For its challenge, the DOT sought proposals for accessible and inclusive design solutions that would help people with disabilities use autonomous vehicles for employment and essential services. VEMI was invited to participate in Stage II of the challenge after being named [a semifinalist in the first phase](#). First- and second-place winners in the competition were Purdue University and AbleLink Smart Living Technologies, respectively. The prizes in the Inclusive Design Challenge were announced July 26 as part of the DOT's celebration for the 32nd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, known as the ADA. VEMI director Richard Corey and chief research scientist Nicholas Giudice are participating in a ceremony at the department's headquarters in Washington, D.C., followed by a policy session hosted by the Office of Public Engagement and Office of Science and Technology Policy July 27 at the White House. "This is exciting national recognition of one of the outstanding, ongoing research and development initiatives from our VEMI Lab," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "Such innovation addressing needs, including those for equity and inclusion, and providing critical advancements in technology are among our R1 research university achievements." "The whole VEMI Lab team is ecstatic to receive the support and national recognition for our innovation," Corey says. "This prize will help support our students who are leading the charge in human vehicle collaboration research and accessible technology at VEMI. Working with the IDC team at the U.S. DOT has been a delight and we are deeply honored to have been selected as top tier winners." Designing the project and earning the prize for it was a collaborative effort from VEMI staff, students and external partners, specifically Grant Beals, Paul Fink, Aubree Nygaard, and Raymond Perry from VEMI; Xue (Shelley) Lin, Pu Zhao and Yushu Wu from Northeastern University; and Stacy Doore and Matthew Maring from Colby College. AVA will help users request a vehicle, find it, enter it, exit it and travel to their chosen destination. It provides a multisensory interface that offers users guidance through audio and haptic, or touch-based, feedback and high-contrast visual cues. To provide the functionality, researchers utilized GPS, LiDAR, Gyroscope and Accelerometer technology; real-time computer vision via the smartphone camera; machine learning; artificial intelligence and other software. Users will create a profile in AVA that reflects their accessibility needs and existing methods of navigation so the software can find suitable transportation for them. When the vehicle arrives, AVA will guide the user to it using the camera and augmented reality (AR), which provides an overlay of the environment by superimposing high-contrast lines over the image on the smartphone screen to highlight the path, and verbal guidance such as compass directions, street names, addresses, nearby landmarks and other indicators. The software also will pinpoint environmental hazards, including low-contrast curbs, traffic cones and overhanging obstructions like branches and guy wires, by emphasizing them with contrasting lines and vibrations when users approach them. It will then help users find the door handle to enter the vehicle awaiting them. It also uses the same functions to help the user when exiting their vehicle to find their destination. AVA will offer accessible modules with simulations that train users not only how to use the application, but also training on how to interact with ride sharing and hailing services with self-driving vehicles when a person is no longer available to provide assistance. For future projects, researchers plan to develop additional software that will allow riders to use the technology to connect with the vehicle control systems while riding. These tools will include multisensory maps, context-aware gesture interactions and application programming interfaces, all of which will support in-cabin accessibility. Watch the [video presentation](#) about AVA prepared by VEMI Lab researchers for the DOT's Inclusive Design Challenge to learn more. "Autonomous vehicles have the potential to be a truly game changing, disruptive technology for improving accessible, inclusive transportation for people with visual impairments and older adults," says Giudice, also a UMaine professor of spatial computing and congenitally blind. "However, to succeed, there are a lot of challenges to overcome first. Our initial research and development of AVA in the first IDC semi-finalist round has made significant progress in addressing current limitations, but I am most excited about our future development made possible by this finalist IDC prize, which will lead to a robust, end-to-end inclusive travel solution that integrates with other accessible apps and platforms." The AVA project builds on a National Science Foundation grant led by Giudice and Corey on trust building and human-vehicle collaboration with autonomous vehicles, as well as a seed grant-funded, joint effort between UMaine and Northeastern University to improve accessibility, safety and situational awareness within self-driving vehicles. Research on both projects aims to develop a new model of human-AI vehicle interaction to ensure people with visual impairments and seniors can better understand what their autonomous vehicle does during their travels, and so the vehicles can effectively communicate with them — work that will be instrumental for informing future AVA development on this Inclusive Design Challenge prize. AVA serves as one example of the broad AI, computing and information systems research VEMI scientists and others are conducting at UMaine. Their work exemplifies the research and public service missions of the top-tier R1 university, a designation UMaine earned earlier this year from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. VEMI, co-founded by Corey and Giudice in 2008, explores different solutions for solving unmet challenges with technology. Prime areas of research and development pertain to self-driving vehicles, the design of bio-inspired tools to improve human-machine interaction and functionality, and new information-access technology to improve inclusive environmental awareness, spatial learning and wayfinding for both sighted and visually impaired navigators. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721;

marcus.wolf@maine.edu

MBS alumni: Bangor Savings management trainees

26 Jul 2022

Four Maine Business School alumni recently started as management trainees at Bangor Savings Bank. In this program, they will spend the first six months rotating through all BSB departments, implementing bank projects, working on creating a professional brand and leadership and developing leadership skills. Management trainees also work with David Pease, senior vice president and director of talent, diversity and inclusion, to determine roles in the bank that best match their strengths, interests and passions. Starting in January, these individuals begin technical training in their chosen field. Between March and June, they will be promoted as a professional manager or individual contributor at Bangor Savings Bank. We asked each of them why they chose to study business and why they chose UMaine as the springboard for their career goals:

Allison Treat

UMaine Class of 2022 Hometown: Carmel, Maine Majors: accounting and marketing “I took a business course in high school and realized it was something I wanted to learn more about and pursue. Business is an essential part of our everyday lives. I decided to double major at the Maine Business School to learn more about the business environment. “The University of Maine has a reputable business school, and I found that Maine Business School alumni ran many businesses in the local area. UMaine is also close to home for me. It has been the school my family has attended for many generations.”

Sierra Dorney

UMaine Class of 2020; G’22 Hometown: Kennebunk, Maine Major: management; MaineMBA with a concentration in business analytics “I wasn't entirely sure what I wanted to study as an undergrad. Pressured to choose a major, I picked nutrition. After a few weeks, I realized this was not my path. I had always wanted to start a business, so I quickly changed my major and joined the Maine Business School. I immediately knew I had made the right decision. “I didn't want to be too far from home. I knew other individuals who had attended UMaine and had great things to say about their experiences. Once I was accepted to be part of the UMaine community, I knew this was where I wanted to go. It was the best decision I've ever made!”

Braden Soule

UMaine Class of 2022 Hometown: Fairfield, Maine Majors: finance and management “I've always loved leading and mentoring and knew business was my calling. One of my goals was to lead and manage a team, and the Maine Business School gave me the best opportunity to do that. There are so many jobs that I can obtain with a business degree, and I like the flexibility of being able to choose a career that aligns with my mindset and values. “I grew up in central Maine and liked the idea of going away from home, but I didn't want it to be too far. When I first toured the campus, I fell in love. I've been invested in sports all my life, and I liked the idea of attending a university with a Division I athletics program. When I toured the Maine Business School, I was intrigued that the program didn't have huge class sizes. I knew that I'd have the opportunity to connect with my professors. My dad is also a UMaine alum, so the chance to attend was too good to pass up.”

Emily Colter

UMaine Class of 2022 Hometown: Hampden, Maine Majors: management and marketing Minor: leadership “As an undergraduate who was indecisive about exactly what I wanted to do, the career flexibility of a business degree was right for me. “I wanted to go to a school where I could quickly get involved and create a community for myself. The University of Maine was an obvious choice. During my senior year of high school, I took classes at UMaine. Through this experience, I knew the University of Maine was right for me. By the time I started college as a first-year, I had already completed a semester of courses.”

Sen. Collins cites Sorg at HELP committee hearing about fighting the fentanyl crisis

27 Jul 2022

At a [hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions](#) about the federal response to the fentanyl epidemic, Maine Senator Susan Collins cited the work of Marcella Sorg, research professor in the Department of Anthropology, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and Climate Change Institute. Collins noted that Sorg called Maine's overdose epidemic “the worst it's ever been,” as a record high 627 Mainers died of fentanyl overdoses in 2021, a 9% increase over a comparable period of last year. Kemp Chester, a senior policy advisor for the White House’s Office of National Drug Control Policy, responded that Sorg is “an incredible professional and understands this issue better than just about anybody,” to which Collins agreed. Collins also noted Sorg’s work in a [press release](#) about the hearing.

Gazette-Virginian cites UMaine Extension information about deer flies

27 Jul 2022

In a column about managing deer flies in the garden, the [Gazette-Virginian](#) cited [information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension](#) stating that the “natural predators of deer flies include frogs, toads, spiders, wasps and hornets, dragonflies and birds such as the killdeer.” To manage deer fly populations, the column says gardeners should limit or eliminate their use of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers to keep these predators around. The [News Progress](#) (South Hill, Virginia) shared the Gazette-Virginian column.

BDN reports that UMaine featured in Fiske Guide to Colleges

27 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine has once again been featured in the annual Fiske Guide to Colleges. The publication, authored

by former New York Times education editor Edward Fiske and updated annually for nearly 40 years, highlights more than 300 of the “best and most interesting” schools in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain and Ireland, according to publisher Sourcebooks. This year’s UMaine profile spotlights the Research Learning Experiences offered to first- and second-year students; the new Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center, opening in August; the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center, the Versant Power Astronomy Center and the internationally recognized Climate Change Institute.

Zipe Education boosts Hutchinson Center events

27 Jul 2022

[Zipe Education](#) promoted University of Maine Hutchinson Center’s diverse range of in-person and online opportunities summer and fall 2022, all open to the public. For more information, visit the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

Morano speaks to News Center Maine about managing deer populations

27 Jul 2022

In an article about keeping Maine’s deer population healthy and under control, [News Center Maine](#) interviewed Sabrina Morano, assistant professor in the University of Maine’s Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology about deer habitats. Morano said deer prefer more open habitats, woodland openings or meadows during summer. Denser forests tend to result in lower densities of deer. Most deer tend to be in an area where people and farming exist.

Media features VEMI Lab’s federal prize for self-driving car software

27 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [News Center Maine](#), [WVIL \(Fox 22 Bangor\)](#), [Wired Focus](#), [Zipe Education](#) and the [Times of Northwest Indiana](#) reported that the Virtual Environments and Multimodal Interaction (VEMI) Laboratory at the University of Maine earned third place in a national competition and an invitation to the White House for developing an inclusive smartphone software platform that will provide navigational assistance to people with visual impairment and seniors who want to use self-driving cars for ride-sharing and hailing services. VEMI will receive \$300,000 for winning the prize in the second phase of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Inclusive Design Challenge for its Autonomous Vehicle Assistant (AVA) smartphone technology. VEMI leads the group designing the AVA platform, known as the Autonomous Vehicle Research Group (AVRG), which also includes collaborators from Northeastern University and Colby College.

UMaine Educational Leadership program to offer courses leading to Maine DOE athletic director certification

28 Jul 2022

The Maine Department of Education (Maine DOE) recently changed its requirements for professional certification to become an athletic director for K–12 schools in the state. Athletic directors are now expected to have building administrator certification as well as coursework in athletic administration. To meet the anticipated demand, the University of Maine’s Educational Leadership program, part of the College of Education and Human Development, will begin offering a sequence of courses this fall that fulfills the Maine DOE requirements for athletic director certification. The course sequence includes:

- EAD 656: Social and Ethical Foundations of Leadership (offered in the fall).
- EAD 698: Interscholastic Athletics: Philosophy, Organization and Programs (spring).
- EAD 698: Athletic Administration: Principles, Strategies and Methods (summer).
- EAD 698: Athletic Administration: Legal Issues (fall).

For educators who need to earn their building-level administrator certification, the UMaine Educational Leadership program offers the [Try on Leadership](#) graduate certificate, a four-course, 12-graduate credit program that can lead to a conditional Assistant Building Administrator certification through Maine DOE. The Try on Leadership certificate includes:

- EAD 615: The Principalship (fall).
- EAD 651: Organizational Behavior in Education (spring).
- EAD 531: School Law for Administrators (summer).
- SED 520: Law and Policy Affecting Individuals with Disabilities (fall and summer).

The Try on Leadership courses can be taken concurrently or sequentially with the athletic administration coursework. All classes meet virtually via UMaineOnline, and are taught by instructors with years of experience with Maine schools and school districts. For more information, contact Maria Frankland, Lecturer and Program Coordinator in Educational Leadership, at maria.frankland@maine.edu.

Horton receives 2022 annual SWE award

28 Jul 2022

Karen Horton, professor and coordinator of mechanical engineering technology at the University of Maine, has been awarded a Fellow Grade award from the Society of Women Engineers (SWE). Horton is a SWE senior life member and has been a part of the organization since 1981. SWE is a nonprofit educational and service organization that empowers women to succeed and advance in engineering and be recognized for their life-changing contributions as engineers and leaders, according to the SWE website. Each year, SWE recognizes those who have made significant contributions to the STEM community and the advancement of women in engineering, according to the SWE blog, All Together. This year, there were 21 different awards given to a total of 267 recipients. Out of the 267, seven, including Horton, were awarded the Fellow Grade. A Fellow Grade award honors SWE members who show continuous service to the advancement of women in the engineering profession. Horton, who has been a member of the mechanical engineering technology faculty at UMaine since 1997, has also been the advisor of the award-winning UMaine SWE chapter since 2003. Horton has also served as the SWE counselor and was awarded the

outstanding SWE Counselor award in 2010 for her achievements with the group. The chapter provides UMaine students of any gender the opportunity to volunteer and attend different events, including the regional and national SWE conferences. Under Horton’s leadership, the UMaine section has received both outstanding section and mission awards. Throughout her professional career, Horton has made it her mission to embody exactly what it means to be a Fellow Grade recipient. “She has been an active leader in community organizations wherever she has lived and she has served as a role model for girls and women in engineering. Her leadership activities over many years have furthered the mission, objectives, and goals of the SWE,” noted the nomination for the award. Horton will be recognized at WE22, the world’s largest conference and career fair for women engineers and technologists on Oct. 20-22 in Houston, Texas. Horton, along with all other recipients, will also be celebrated in the WE22 Virtual Awards Hall.

Maine Business School and College of Engineering launch concentration in Engineering Management

28 Jul 2022

The University of Maine Graduate School of Business and the College of Engineering have partnered on a new MaineMBA concentration in engineering management. “The University of Maine’s College of Engineering is world-class and is known to be one of the strengths of our great institution,” says Norm O’Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business. “The globally ranked MaineMBA was the driver of the first phase of the UMS Transforms initiative and has been in a period of strong growth. Bringing the faculty of these two colleges together in this new concentration is very exciting and something we believe will lead to great outcomes for students and the state of Maine.” The idea for the MaineMBA concentration was sparked by the Graduate Certificate in Engineering Management, which includes several MBA courses in the curriculum. An official concentration in the MaineMBA program made perfect sense. “The two fields are perfect complements as many engineers reach a point in their career where they need the business acumen to progress,” says Faye Gilbert, former executive dean of the Maine Business School and professor of marketing. “The partnership between these two colleges will benefit both the students and the Maine economy,” says Dana Humphrey, dean of the College of Engineering. “Engineers are taught to solve incredibly complex problems and make those solutions happen. This skill set is just as important to the business world as it is to engineering. This partnership will allow graduates to not only accelerate their careers in engineering but also give them the business acumen to be successful in a wide range of fields.” [Watch](#) Humphrey discuss the new concentration in Engineering Management.

Akono discusses certified public accountant shortage with Times Record

28 Jul 2022

Henri Akono, associate professor of accounting at Maine Business School, spoke with the [Times Record](#) about the shortage of certified public accountants in Maine. Akono said improving job prospects in corporate accounting and other business fields have contributed to the shortage, among other factors. “In prior days, everybody would go into public accounting,” he said. “It was a no-brainer. In today’s world, people don’t operate this way.”

Science media notes UMaine role in study about early hunting in North America

28 Jul 2022

[Science Daily](#), [Scienmag](#) and [Bioengineer.org](#) noted that Brian McGill, professor of biological sciences in the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology, was co-author of a study led by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln about how early hunting homogenized mammal communities in North America. The researchers conducted an analysis of 8,831 fossils representing 365 mammal species from 366 sites across North America, using these fossil records to determine the degree to which the specific mammal species in one ecological community resembled the species composition of its surrounding communities. Homo sapiens, the team found, are probably most responsible for the unprecedented rates and levels of homogenization seen in North American mammal communities, flattening their distinctive character by escalating the similarity among many of them, first through hunting and then by settling into dependence on agriculture.

UMaine awarded \$35,000 from U.S. State Department for study abroad program in Portugal

28 Jul 2022

The University of Maine has been awarded a [\\$35,000 grant from the U.S. State Department](#) to fund the development of an ongoing faculty-led study abroad program focused on political science and criminal justice in partnership with the Universidade Catolica Portuguesa (UCP) in Lisbon, Portugal. Students in this immersive, experiential program will study Portugal’s innovative and path-defining approach to their 1990s opioid and overdose crisis in contrast to the path followed in the U.S. Rather than strictly punitive approaches, since 2001, the Portuguese state’s response to possession of illicit substances for personal use has prioritized opening pathways to treatment, reduction in use and harm reduction, ensuring the safety and well-being of people who continue to use drugs. The innovative approach has become a model for countries seeking an evidence-based, public health approach to confronting substance use disorder. This three-week summer course will examine the opioid crisis in comparative perspective. Students will learn firsthand from those involved in this alternative approach, including federal law enforcement; public health, public policy and social workers; mobile outreach teams and more. Rob Glover, a UMaine associate professor of political science, and Karyn Sporer, UMaine associate professor of sociology, will create and lead the program in close consultation with partners at the UMaine Study Abroad Office and UCP. “Like many communities in the U.S., Maine has faced the devastating impacts of the opioid crisis, which have only been exacerbated by COVID-19,” says Glover. “Maine is experiencing an overdose crisis that claimed at least 627 lives in 2021, a 21% increase over the prior year. [Initial data](#) suggest that 2022 will be even more deadly. Portugal’s innovative approach to treating substance use disorder as a public health crisis as opposed to a criminal issue presents a compelling model to research, understand and emulate.” Beyond its substantive merits, this faculty-led program presents an affordable alternative to semester-long study abroad opportunities in more expensive destinations. Portugal remains significantly less expensive than other popular European study abroad destinations like Ireland, France or Italy. Financially, the experience is within reach of students who would find the costs of living abroad for several months prohibitive. “This program will engage with an innovative and critically important topic, while simultaneously expanding study abroad options to those otherwise unable to participate,” says Glover. “Research has [consistently shown](#) that financial circumstances can be an impediment to studying abroad. Schools with greater proportions of lower-income and first-generation college students, such as UMaine, often see lower rates of participation than other types of institutions. However, this program will create a lower-cost opportunity for a shorter duration than a full semester abroad, opening up the transformative benefits of study abroad to more UMaine students.” Contact: Rob Glover, robert.glover@maine.edu

University of Maine System leaders applaud advancement of FY23 appropriations for critical projects championed by Maine's congressional delegation

28 Jul 2022

If passed by the full Congress and signed by the President, the FY23 federal budget will provide \$53.3 million to the System in one-time funding to advance key university workforce development and innovation projects, many of them led by the R1 University of Maine, to address state needs Orono, Maine — Leaders across the University of Maine System (UMS) are praising the Maine congressional delegation led by Sen. Susan Collins for securing critical investments in draft fiscal year 23 Senate and House appropriations bills for university infrastructure that directly supports workforce development and innovation. Sen. Collins announced today the Senate Appropriations Committee, on which she serves as a senior member, was including \$45.6 million in its proposed FY23 appropriations bills for UMS projects for which she and Sen. Angus King had requested funding. An additional \$63 million was included in support of the University of Maine's (UMaine) request to increase programmatic funding that will flow through federal agencies. Earlier in the month, Rep. Jared Golden also announced the House Appropriations Committee had included \$7.75 million he had requested to advance two UMS requests for UMaine projects, including to establish manufacturing training innovation centers in Orono, South Portland and Brunswick, and a sawmill operations training facility in Old Town to upskill the forest workforce. "Maine's congressional delegation rightfully recognizes that the University of Maine System is a vital statewide educational and economic asset that uniquely drives growth and opportunity here and in the region. On behalf of our entire System, I want to thank the delegation led by Sen. Collins for championing this significant federal funding that will strengthen our ability to collaborate to better serve the state and world through cutting-edge education and research that will further attract more talent, innovation and investment to Maine," said Chancellor Dannel Malloy. Together, the \$53.3 million in one-time federal investments, often referred to as earmarks, would expand current capacity across Maine's public universities to address critical state needs, and leverage other public and private dollars. For example, if the full Senate and House ultimately vote to pass the FY23 appropriations bills, funds would establish a new per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) research and outreach center at UMaine, support the construction of a world-leading Green Engineering and Materials Factory of the Future connected to UMaine's Advanced Structure and Composites Center, and grow university workforce training programs across the state, including in nursing, dental assisting, entrepreneurship, advanced manufacturing and aviation maintenance. All of the UMS proposals were backed by strong support letters from relevant industry, nonprofit and municipal partners that noted the high-impact community benefit of the project. "We are incredibly grateful to Sens. Collins and King and Reps. Pingree and Golden for their efforts in helping secure such significant federal funding for our universities," said UMS Vice Chancellor for Research & Innovation and UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "These projects leverage our System's signature strengths and community connections, especially the world-class research capacity of the University of Maine, the only R1 institution in our state. "Sen. Collins' leadership, along with that of the entire delegation, reflects a deep commitment to the students of Maine, ensuring that they have access to world-class educational opportunities, are trained in state-of-the-art facilities, and are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to address the challenges of our modern world." Many of the projects will have a statewide impact and put Maine on the forefront in research and innovation to solve growing global problems like managing the threat of disease from pests like ticks and climate change adaptation for natural resource industries — including Maine's iconic wild blueberries. "The University of Maine's Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro is the only dedicated wild blueberry research facility in the country. This facility, and the university's incredible team of wild blueberry research and Extension faculty and staff have helped this industry grow from producing 20 million pounds of fruit per year, to today, when crops frequently exceed 100 million pounds," said Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine Executive Director Eric Venturini. "This critical investment requested by Sens. Collins and King would modernize Blueberry Hill Farm and bring it to the next level — a hub of innovation and problem solving that will help Maine's wild blueberry farms and businesses diversify into value-added production, explore efficiencies in harvesting and processing, and increase resilience to climate change threats like drought. It is strategic investments like these that will grow this industry's impact on Maine's economy beyond the current estimate of \$250 million per year, and that will sustain and grow Maine's iconic wild blueberry industry and the thousands of jobs that it supports well into the future." Other federally funded projects would uniquely serve regional needs, but could likely not be supported within existing UMS resources. For example, the FY23 appropriations bills include \$4 million to improve Fox Auditorium on the campus of the System's northernmost university. "On behalf of all of us at the University of Maine at Fort Kent and the entire St. John Valley, I want to thank Sens. Collins and King for their tireless work to secure funding to make badly needed renovations to Fox Auditorium, which was built in 1969," said UMFK President Deb Heeden. "Whether hosting a town meeting or a drama production put on by the local high school, this facility is a cornerstone of the community that provides opportunities for connection, celebration and culture so important to preserving the quality of life and heritage of our rural region. This investment will ensure Fox Auditorium can continue to play a leading role in bringing our community together for generations to come." Meanwhile, \$750,000 would expand dental workforce training and care, also in Northern Maine. "Aroostook County leads Maine in the percentage of its older residents who have lost all of their permanent teeth to dental diseases. The federal funds Sens. Collins and King are working to secure will allow the University of Maine at Augusta to expand its growing dental workforce degree programs, currently offered in Bangor and Lewiston, to the University of Maine at Presque Isle, preparing more in-demand dental assistants and expanded functions dental assistants for this underserved rural area," said UMPI President Ray Rice and UMA President Joe Szakas. "In addition to academic program start-up costs, these funds will allow us to launch a new dental lab on the Presque Isle campus where our students will get high-impact, hands-on training providing free and reduced community dental services, including to area veterans. We think this partnership will be a real game-changer in improving the oral, public and economic health of the County." A complete list of the UMS projects for which at least one member of Maine's congressional delegation has advanced FY23 appropriations is below. All projects are in the Senate appropriations bills, with the exception of those marked House. **UMaine Green Engineering and Materials Factory of the Future Advanced-Manufacturing Materials Research** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount Requested: \$8,000,000 Project Purpose: For construction of the digital research Factory of the Future at the University of Maine to advance large-scale, bio-based additive manufacturing using advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence, high-performance computing, and collaborative arrays of large 3D printers and subtractive systems. Funding leverages past federal funds secured by the congressional delegation, as well as funding from the Mills Administration's Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, and will also support a second manufacturing bay and immersive workforce training facilities. **Composites Materials for Transportation Infrastructure and Resilience** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount Requested: \$1,975,000 Project Purpose: To support University of Maine research to develop composite materials that reduce the cost and improve resilience of vital transportation assets including bridges and coastal structures. **PFAS PFAS Research Center at the University of Maine** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount Requested: \$5,000,000 Project Purpose: To purchase the equipment needed to set up a PFAS analytical laboratory at the University of Maine, which would serve the monitoring needs of the entire State. **University of Maine PFAS Research Center: Informing Farm Management Decisions** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount Requested: \$3,000,000 Project Purpose: To fund research at the University of Maine to help inform short-term management decisions for farms experiencing PFAS contamination. **Ticks Tick-Borne Disease Prevention in Northern New England** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount Requested: \$2,500,000 Project Purpose: To support the University of Maine Tick Lab's establishment of a coordinated system of tick and tick-borne pathogen surveillance and risk communication in northern New England to address the staggering growth of the tick population in the region. **Tick-Borne Disease Management Strategies** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount Requested: \$2,021,000 Project Purpose: For the University of Maine to identify alternatives to conventional pesticides designed to kill ticks and examine the intersection between climate and alternative tick management

interventions. **Tick-Borne Disease Rural Public Health Outreach** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount: \$1,653,000 Purpose: To support targeted public health outreach and education to rural communities led by the University of Maine in order to prevent tick-borne diseases. **Workforce/Business Development Industry 4.0 Readiness System (House)** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Brunswick and South Portland Amount: \$7,000,000 Purpose: To support establishment of Manufacturing Training Innovation Centers that will coordinate efforts and leverage existing University of Maine Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) and Southern Maine Community College resources to serve industry, including Maine-based defense industry prime suppliers. **University of Maine System Nursing Education Simulation** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Augusta, Maine Amount: \$4,500,000 Purpose: To support facility expansion and simulation equipment to increase nursing enrollment and program quality at nursing schools throughout the University of Maine System. **University of Maine Sawing Operations Training Facility (House)** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Old Town, Maine Amount: \$775,000 Purpose: To support construction of a sawing operations training facility at the University of Maine for that would support hands-on training of a minimum of 200 students and forest professionals annually with programming spanning across log grading and scaling training and value-added conversion of merchantable timber, creating additional value in Maine's forest economy. **Dental Workforce Training and Care Expansion to Northern Maine** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Presque Isle, Maine Amount: \$750,000 Purpose: To support the facility construction and equipment needs of a new dental lab at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, with the goal of training an additional 20 dental assistants annually through a partnership with the University of Maine at Augusta. **University of Maine at Augusta Cybersecurity Professional Training** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Augusta, Maine Amount: \$500,000 Purpose: To support a cybersecurity training certification program offered by the University of Maine at Augusta for Maine municipalities and other public organizations that uses adjustable simulation models. **University of Maine at Augusta Aviation Maintenance Technician School** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Brunswick, Maine Amount: \$400,000 Purpose: To launch a higher education degree program at Brunswick Landing in aviation maintenance where University of Maine at Augusta students will learn how to repair and maintain certified aircraft, expanding the pipeline of aviation professionals to fill in-demand jobs. **Maine Entrepreneurship Fellowship and Incubator** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount Requested: \$300,000 Project Purpose: To fund a University of Maine small business education fellowship program that will provide incubator support, technical assistance, and training to accelerate startup businesses and create jobs in Maine. **Maine Law School Legal Aid Clinic** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Portland, Maine Amount: \$17,000 Purpose: To expand Maine Law's public service legal aid clinic to prepare students for professional practice, including by acquiring essential technology items for the clinic. **Seafood/Agriculture Research Seawater Supply Lines for UMaine's Coldwater Aquaculture Center** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Franklin, Maine Amount Requested: \$3,500,000 Project Purpose: Improvements to operations and security at USDA National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture Center and University of Maine Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research. **Advancing Small Business Development** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Washington County, Maine Amount Requested: \$2,997,000 Project Purpose: To provide training and technical assistance to small wild blueberry growers and to support research and new technologies for sustainability and efficiency at the University of Maine's Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro. **University of Maine Food Innovation Center** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount Requested: \$2,500,000 Project Purpose: To grow Maine's land- and water-based food economy by providing workforce development and services for small agriculture and aquaculture producers, including through food processing services, production scale-up, food safety consulting and testing at the University of Maine. Leverages funding from the Mills Administration's Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan. **Maine Agriculture Industry Innovation and Growth** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount Requested: \$1,000,000 Project Purpose: To develop a strategic plan led by the University of Maine to support Maine's small-scale agricultural workforce and business growth. **Downeast Institute Marine Research** Recipient: Downeast Institute Project Location: Beals, Maine Amount Requested: \$670,000 Project Purpose: To support shellfish research and hatchery activities at the facility that serves as the marine research campus for the University of Maine at Machias. **Facility Improvements University of Maine at Fort Kent Facility Renovation** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Fort Kent, Maine Amount Requested: \$4,000,000 Project Purpose: To renovate an antiquated campus facility that is widely utilized by both the university and broader local community for essential education and cultural and community programming. **Cohen Institute University of Maine Cohen Institute Public Service Education Partnership** Recipient: University of Maine System Project Location: Orono, Maine Amount: \$464,000 Purpose: To support a partnership between the University of Maine Cohen Institute and Maine high schools to train the next generation of public service-minded leaders. Participating students will earn college credits while still in high school, engage in a residential leadership program on the UMaine campus, and receive active mentoring and support in post-graduation career placement. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Blueberry Hill Farm participating in Wild Blueberry Weekend

29 Jul 2022

Blueberry Hill Farm, a University of Maine research facility in Jonesboro, will offer tours of its facility from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Aug. 6 as part of Wild Blueberry Weekend. Visitors will learn how wild blueberries are grown and harvested at the farm and witness various active research projects focused on climate change, nutrition, water retention and pest management. Fact sheets also will be available. Blueberry Hill Farm is one of 14 wild blueberry farms participating in Wild Blueberry Weekend, hosted by the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine, alongside numerous restaurants, inns, bars, wineries, breweries, and distilleries. Learn more on the [event website](#).

BDN reports on new MaineMBA concentration in engineering management

29 Jul 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine Graduate School of Business and the College of Engineering have partnered on a new MaineMBA concentration in Engineering Management. The idea for the MaineMBA concentration was sparked by the graduate certificate in engineering management, which includes several MBA courses in the curriculum.

Composites World notes UMaine partnership with Oak Ridge National Laboratory

29 Jul 2022

In an article about advances in 3D composites printing at Oak Ridge National Laboratory [Composites World](#) noted that Oak Ridge National Laboratory partners closely with the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center on the development of cellulose nanofibrils (CNF) and applications of these materials using a variety of manufacturing processes. The article reported that in one pilot project with UMaine, two molds for seven-piece, 100-foot offshore wind blades were built on UMaine's 60- by 22-foot 3D printer using CNF materials.

News Center Maine highlights upcoming ‘Giselle’ performance at Collins Center

29 Jul 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that Maine Central Institute’s (MCI) Bossov Ballet Theatre is set to perform “Giselle” at the Collins Center for the Arts at the University of Maine. Show times are Friday, July 29 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, July 30 at 2 p.m. Tickets range from \$23 to \$33 and can be bought at the door or on the [Collins Center for the Arts website](#).

Ippolito quoted in Observer discussing NFTs

29 Jul 2022

John Ippolito, professor of new media, was quoted in an [Observer](#) article about digital art like NFTs and how shifts within the collecting community have paved the way for companies to approach art as a financial investment. According to the article, discussing art and money has been “taboo” at art auction houses like Christie’s. Ippolito said that this is because wealthy collectors gained social standing based on their taste for artwork, not necessarily the price attached to it, and many continue to consider the impact of artwork on people’s lives as far more important than its monetary value. Ippolito credits the rise of NFTs for bringing questions of money to the forefront, shining transparency on how much artists truly make and how difficult it is to financially succeed in the art world. “It made the conversation possible. And if we want artists, we need to support them,” he said.

Brewer speaks to U.S. News and World Report abortion and the Maine governor election

29 Jul 2022

Mark Brewer, professor of political science, was interviewed by [U.S. News and World Report](#) about how the Supreme Court overturning Roe v. Wade will impact the upcoming gubernatorial election in Maine. “Democrats are certainly making the overturning of Roe a big issue across the board, starting with Mills. Republicans are trying to avoid the issue altogether,” Brewer said. Brewer added that, while polls haven’t documented the scale of abortion’s impact on the political environment, “I strongly suspect the Democrats are benefitting.”

UMaine part of New England Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases

29 Jul 2022

The University of Maine has joined a consortium of seven universities in the region to form the New England Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases (NEWVEC). The project received a \$10 million five-year award starting in July from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), \$694,363 of which was awarded to the University of Maine. NEWVEC, which is based at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, is one of four regional centers of excellence designated by the CDC to reduce the risk of vector-borne diseases spread by ticks, mosquitos and other blood-sucking arthropods in the United States, like Lyme disease and West Nile virus. In addition to UMaine and UMass Amherst, NEWVEC includes partners at University of Rhode Island, Northern Vermont University, Western Connecticut State University, University of New Hampshire and Dartmouth College. “NEWVEC provides a unique opportunity to bring together talented research scientists, public health practitioners, and Extension outreach personnel in a concerted effort to address this public health challenge,” says Stephen Rich, executive director of NEWVEC and professor in the Department of Microbiology at UMass Amherst. Allison Gardner, assistant professor of arthropod vector biology at the School of Biology and Ecology, is a co-principal investigator of the project and the lead investigator for Maine. Gardner was involved in writing the proposal for NEWVEC, along with colleagues at the partner universities across the region. “As we all know well from the COVID-19 pandemic, pathogens ignore borders so there is a need for coordination of research and vector control throughout the region,” Gardner says. “The six New England states have among the highest Lyme disease human case rates per capita in the country, and several new pathogens and invasive tick and mosquito species are on the rise. The center will be the first multistate effort with a New England focus to develop new strategies and tools to manage the growing vector-borne disease burden in the region.” Gardner says that as part of NEWVEC, researchers at UMaine will participate in several of the core research areas of the center, especially those focused on landscape management strategies to inhibit tick-borne disease transmission in forest and residential settings. Through NEWVEC, she hopes to deepen the university’s engagement with other vector-borne disease researchers and organizations in the state, including MaineHealth Institute for Research, the University of Southern Maine and the Maine CDC. “Another major goal of the center is to develop a community of practice that will engage academic researchers, public health organizations and other stakeholder groups in integrated vector management,” Gardner says. NEWVEC will also offer opportunities for UMaine graduate students to participate in specialized training in medical entomology and public health and interact with other undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral trainees throughout the New England region. “UMaine is a great campus to train the next generation of vector-borne disease researchers,” Gardner says. “We have a strong entomology program with diverse course offerings for undergraduate and graduate students; a growing cohort of students and faculty working in the One Health and the Environment research area; a successful tick and tick-borne pathogen passive surveillance, research and outreach program led through the UMaine Extension Diagnostic and Research Laboratory; and a record of community engagement in vector-borne disease issues through the Maine Forest Tick Survey citizen science program. We hope that students in the center will benefit from all these resources and opportunities offered at UMaine.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu; Stephen Rich, smrich@umass.edu

Loss of UMaine’s scientifically, historically significant Campana elm a springboard for reinvigorating Campus Natural Heritage Endowment Fund

29 Jul 2022

Editor’s note: Story updated Aug. 1. A more than 150-year-old American elm tree at the University of Maine that was saved by pioneering research on Dutch elm disease and that inspired the establishment of a campus natural heritage fund has succumbed to rot in its trunk and will be removed from the Hitchner Hall landscape in early August. Seeds and cuttings from the tree, known as the Campana elm, have been collected, ensuring the tree lives on, and wood that can be salvaged from the tree will be saved for possible use on campus and potential fundraising efforts for the [Campus Natural Heritage Endowment Fund](#) through the University of Maine Foundation. Arborists have closely monitored the tree in recent years to ensure its health and the safety of the campus community. For decades, its massive limbs have been cabled together overhead to ensure stability. Through the years, historians have noted that the elm may have predated the establishment of the University of Maine in 1865. This spring, arborists determined that the main trunk of the tree was nearly fully rotted — degradation that created compromised structural conditions and safety concerns. The assessment concluded that the tree would not survive a major wind storm

and that there were no other options to sustain it. The UMaine campus has several elms remaining, but the Campana elm is the most prominent and oldest. “The natural beauty of our campus landscape is one of the university’s many distinctive features,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “It is a community loss when one of our stately heritage trees is lost to natural causes, but the legacy of the Campana elm — both its scientific and historic significance — will live on and our commitment to a sustainable natural campus landscape remains steadfast.” Native American elms once dominated the landscape and were a popular shade tree lining city and town streets. A 1922 tree survey at UMaine noted that most of the campus streets were predominantly lined with elms and maples. The Mall was originally planted with two rows of American elms, according to the [University of Maine Historic Preservation Master Plan](#). In 1987, the last nine elms on the Mall, 60-year-old trees that had been transplanted as seedlings and grown on campus, died from Dutch elm disease and were removed to make way for young ash trees planted a decade earlier. Dutch elm disease, a non-native, invasive fungal pathogen, was introduced in Ohio in the 1930s and spread nationwide, killing millions of trees in communities and in forests. Internationally recognized plant pathologist Richard Campana began his pioneering work on Dutch elm disease in the Midwest in the 1950s. He joined the UMaine community in 1958 as head of the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology. For more than four decades, Campana conducted research and was a sought-after expert on the disease that was decimating the iconic shade trees across the American landscape. At UMaine, he trialed different fungus-killing compounds to inject into the elm trees on campus and at different locations in Maine in an attempt to curb the rate of disease infection. In the 1970s, he and his students were attempting to save the remaining elms on campus. In 1977, an estimated 60% of them were infected with Dutch elm disease, but Campana’s team was able to keep some of them alive with the chemical injections. One of the successful treatments was against an early infection of Dutch elm disease in the oldest stately elm near Hitchner Hall in 1978, which was injected again in 2004. UMaine continued the elm’s treatments every three years. The elm was named in honor of Campana in 2000, a year after initial building plans for the Hitchner Hall addition were revised to accommodate the tree following community concern that it not be lost to construction. Campana passed away in 2005. In his obituary, his family noted that “Dick was a strong supporter of the health of the trees on the University of Maine campus,” and support of the cause in his memory could be made to the Campus Natural Heritage Endowment Fund. The fund was established in 1999 with a \$10,300 donation by UMaine professor Susan Brawley to help support the long-term care and beautification on campus, and related planning, educational and outreach programs. The Campus Beautification and Arboretum Committee administers the funds from the endowment, which now totals \$53,000 with the contributions of 77 donors. The spirit of the fund is to help support the care and enhancement of the natural environment on campus, says Brawley, a UMaine professor of plant biology in the School of Marine Sciences and cooperating professor of biological sciences in the School of Biology and Ecology. Goals include preservation of the campus landscape as a sustainable natural heritage while providing a setting for teaching and research — a living classroom and reflection of Maine. UMaine’s campus was designated as an arboretum in 2002 with the help of then UMaine Provost [Robert Kennedy](#), who went on to serve as university president. The loss of the Campana elm is a springboard for renewing interest in the Campus Natural Heritage Endowment Fund and the importance of the natural landscape at UMaine. UMaine’s natural landscape has been a focus since the inception of the state’s land grant university. Indeed, famous landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, who designed Central Park in New York City, was hired to design the campus of the then Maine State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts in 1866. This year is the [200th anniversary of Olmsted’s birth](#). Olmsted walked over the designated land adjacent to the Stillwater River, and even in his first report to the Maine State College trustees, he reflected his appreciation of the varied natural landscape and how it should affect building placement. The college trustees did not fully accept his campus plan, but Olmsted’s vision for landscape design carried forward in the way the campus developed, particularly in the early years. “The love and fame of this tree in Maine and elsewhere provide a pivotal opportunity to convert sadness into securing care of our campus for the ages,” says Brawley. To donate to the Campus Natural Heritage Endowment Fund, [go online](#) or contact the University of Maine Foundation, umainefoundation@maine.edu. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

NSF award to advance hyperspectral ice core imaging and analysis

29 Jul 2022

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded a \$249,851 grant to Andrei Kurbatov, associate professor at the Climate Change Institute and the School of Earth and Climate Sciences at the University of Maine, for developing new hyperspectral imaging techniques for analyzing ice cores. UMaine is part of an interdisciplinary collaborative proposal led by University of Washington researcher T.J. Fudge. Ice cores are cylindrical samples of glacial ice drilled by scientists to study the record of the past climate. Each layer of ice can provide valuable information about the timing, magnitude and pace of major climate events — for example, by looking at concentrations of greenhouse gasses and other chemical impurities at different strata of the column that have accumulated over time. Until now, layers of ice cores could only be measured at a resolution of about 1 centimeter, limiting the accuracy and length of the timescales of the data they can provide to researchers. Layers of ice further down the column, which date further back in time, are often compressed to only a fraction of their original thickness, making them difficult if not impossible to study at current resolutions. Scientists are increasingly interested in studying these thin layers, too, in order to understand abrupt historical climate changes in very old ice. The ice core laser ablation method, developed a decade ago at UMaine by the [Keck laser Ice core facility team](#), improves the depth of resolution in studying ice. In this research project Kurbatov and his collaborators aim to integrate a variety of technologies and techniques — electrical conductivity, hyperspectral imaging and laser ablation — to analyze and understand paleoclimate signals in highly compressed sections of ice. In analyzing selected sections of Antarctic and Greenland ice, Kurbatov will develop new data processing and image analyzing algorithms to use a hyperspectral line scan imaging camera — which looks at light in more details than the cameras previously used for this type of research — on ice cores. “The hyperspectral imaging system was only tested before on a single ice core. We aim to learn a wealth of new information that will help us to better capture volcanic, dust and seasonal layers or post-depositional changes in ice cores,” Kurbatov says. The ultimate goal of the work is to develop a state-of-the-art instrumentation package that guides a real time data collection workflow at the NSF Ice Core Facility. The system will be openly available for scientists to use in future ice core projects. “We hope that new hyperspectral ice core images will serve the global ice core paleoclimate community the same way the Hubble space telescope has served astronomy,” Kurbatov says. The award starts on Aug. 1, 2022. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

President Ferrini-Mundy to host Annual Maine Wild Blueberry Pancake Breakfast August 5

01 Aug 2022

The Annual Maine Wild Blueberry Pancake Breakfast for the UMaine community, hosted by President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, will take place Aug. 5, 8–9 a.m. on the Mall, with a rain location at Wells Conference Center. Maine’s second annual [Wild Blueberry Weekend](#) will take place Aug. 6–7.

UMaine Extension 4-H program staff win two national awards

01 Aug 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H recently received two national awards for excellence in programming and for research and evaluation from

the [National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals](#) (NAE4HYDP). In early 2021, UMaine Extension 4-H partnered with [Greenheart Exchange](#) to launch “4-H Passport Around the World,” a virtual special interest club connecting Maine teens with peers from across the globe to foster relationships and spark interest in a variety of cultures. Over eight months, Extension 4-H professional Sara King and former Extension 4-H professional Sara Conant developed three, six-week sessions for youth ages 9–18. Each session included a presentation from a Greenheart Exchange student, a hands-on activity related to their culture, and a question-and-answer discussion session. Some of the countries visited include Bangladesh, Georgia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kosovo and Ukraine. Their work is the national winner of the NAE4HYDP Excellence in Global Citizenship Programming award. Extension 4-H professor Kristy Ouellette won the Susan Barkman Research and Evaluation Award for her 2021 case study, “Understanding the Perspectives of First Generation 4-H Members.” Ouellette’s study involved 12 first-generation Maine 4-H members, ages 14–19, whose demographics were similar to state 4-H enrollment figures. Results of the study suggest that the 4-H program model provides connections and opportunities for young people that they would otherwise not typically access. In addition, because 4-H staff and volunteers play critical roles in creating connections and relationships with young people, adults must come to understand each individual and suggest experiences that support each young person’s goals and potential. Ouellette’s study promotes including 4-H and other positive youth development frameworks in influencing policy to foster social and emotional learning skills, stating “policymakers at all levels should look to form stronger youth-adult partnerships when creating policy.” Lisa Phelps, Extension 4-H program administrator, said, “Dr. Kristy Ouellette’s research is significant and the results of her research will help strengthen the Maine 4-H program. This award is well deserved and she should be commended for this scholarly research.” Recipients will receive their awards at the NAE4HYDP national conference in October. More information about the Maine 4-H program is available on the [Extension 4-H website](#) or by contacting 207.581.3877, 800.287.0274 (in Maine).

Townsend receives Gulf of Maine Council Visionary Award

01 Aug 2022

The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment [awarded](#) David Townsend, a University of Maine professor of oceanography, one of its 2022 Visionary Awards. The awards recognize individuals, businesses and organizations from each state and province bordering the Gulf of Maine for their innovation, creativity and commitment to protecting the marine environment. The organization honored Townsend during a ceremony held Thursday, July 28 in Portland. For more than 40 years, Townsend has studied the biological oceanography of the Gulf of Maine and other coastal seas, particularly the physical-biological coupling of phytoplankton, zooplankton and larval fishes. During his career, Townsend has authored a college textbook, “Oceanography and Marine Biology: An Introduction to Marine Science,” and more than 100 research articles, reviews and other publications. He has also earned more than 50 research grants and contracts from various agencies and organizations, including the National Science Foundation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Office of Naval Research. In 2006, Townsend earned the Distinguished Maine Professor Award, UMaine’s most prestigious faculty award. He also earned the College Outstanding Teacher Award from the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture in 2001. In addition to teaching and conducting research, Townsend has served as the director of the School of Marine Sciences from 2001–07 and again from 2019–21, as its associate director from 2015–18 and on numerous state, regional and national committees. He served two terms as president of the University of Maine Faculty Senate, from 2018–20.

BDN features former UMaine Extension crops specialist work with potato growers around the world

01 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) wrote a feature about Steve Johnson, retired crops specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Presque Isle who ensured the continued success of potato farming around the world and made potatoes possible as a staple food even in poorer countries. He has shared his expertise throughout Maine and in such places as Australia, Guatemala and Macedonia. After retiring June 30, Johnson plans to return to Australia this winter to work with the seed industry there, and he plans other projects to help people learn more about the science of agriculture. [The County](#) and [Potato News Today](#) shared the BDN report. [The County](#), [Potato News Today](#) and [Potato Review](#) shared the BDN report.

Media promotes UMaine Extension workshop for farmer injury prevention and wellness

01 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [Turner Publishing Incorporated](#) boosted the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s two free, in-person workshops in August for farmers, farm workers, fishermen and foresters with a focus on body mechanics, injury prevention, movement, health and wellness. The [Safe Labor–Movement workshops](#) are from 5–7 p.m. on Aug. 16, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, 294 Crosby Brook Road, Unity; and Aug. 30, Alan Day Community Garden, 26 Whitman St., Norway. The workshops are free; registration is required. Find details and how to register on the [workshop webpage](#).

Mount Desert Islander highlights Mech and Gardener’s role in Naturalist Notebook exhibit

01 Aug 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) reported that the Naturalist’s Notebook in Seal Harbor is hosting Mount Desert Island Historical Society and its new traveling exhibit, “We Change With Them,” from 2–4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4, for a drop-in program called “Naturalist’s Nightmares: Browntail Moths and Deer Ticks.” Angela Mech, assistant professor of forest entomology, and Allison Gardener, assistant professor of arthropod vector biology, both at the University of Maine, will be available on the back porch of The Naturalist’s Notebook to answer questions and share the work being done to document the impacts these species have on human health and the natural environment.

BDN reports on former UMaine police chief’s new role as on-campus coordinator of veterans affairs

01 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine’s police chief and top security official Roland LaCroix is leaving the role after more than a decade in the position to start a new position as the on-campus coordinator of veterans affairs in the university’s Veterans Education and Transition Services office. The office connects student veterans with resources to help their transition from combat to classroom. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

BDN, Morning Ag Clips report on UMaine Extension 4-H program staff winning national awards

01 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) reported that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H recently received two national awards for excellence in programming and for research and evaluation from the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals (NAE4HYDP). Extension 4-H professional Sara King and former Extension 4-H professional Sara Conant developed three, six-week sessions for youth ages 9–18. Each session included a presentation from an exchange student, a hands-on activity related to their culture, and a question-and-answer discussion session. Some of the countries visited include Bangladesh, Georgia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kosovo and Ukraine. Their work is the national winner of the NAE4HYDP Excellence in Global Citizenship Programming award. Extension 4-H professor Kristy Ouellette also won the Susan Barkman Research and Evaluation Award for her 2021 case study, “Understanding the Perspectives of First Generation 4-H Members.”

Erwin interviewed by KTNA about Alaskan glaciers

01 Aug 2022

Emma Erwin, graduate research assistant at the Climate Change Institute, spoke to [KTNA \(88.9FM in Talkeetna, Alaska\)](#) about her research studying ice core samples in Denali to learn more about climate change through the stratigraphy of the ice. “It provides a lot of really exciting opportunity to take information from what’s happening right now with climate change, and also work to extract information about what’s been happening on scales of tens of thousands of years and to try to use that information to put current climate change into better context so that we can understand and hopefully develop better predictions for what might happen in the future,” Erwin said.

3 Quarks Daily cites UMaine Extension information about apple blights

01 Aug 2022

In a column about growing heritage apple varieties in Maine, [3 Quarks Daily](#) cited information from [University of Maine Cooperative Extension](#) stating that 2021 was probably “the worst fire blight year for noncommercial apple plantings in Maine history.”

Cammen speaks to ABC News about seal population growth

01 Aug 2022

Kristina Cammen, assistant professor at the School of Marine Sciences, was interviewed by [ABC News](#) about the threat to fish stocks posed by the rebound in gray seal populations. Fishing groups contend the seals could threaten cod stocks that regulators are struggling to rebuild after decades of overfishing. “Gray seals are certainly this case where recovery has both been cause for celebration and cause for concern,” said Cammen. However, she added that seals are less of a hazard to fish populations than humans are.

UMaine, UNH researchers to study how foraging adaptations affect Arctic charr resilience or vulnerability to climate change

02 Aug 2022

University of Maine and [University of New Hampshire](#) researchers will investigate how the diversity and evolution of feeding habits among Arctic charr populations in Maine affect their resilience or vulnerability to climate change. The National Science Foundation’s Organismal Responses to Climate Change Program awarded almost \$1.5 million for the study, spearheaded by Nathan Furey, an assistant professor of biological sciences at UNH, in collaboration with Michael Kinnison, a UMaine professor of evolutionary applications, and Christina Murphy, an assistant professor with the UMaine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology, and assistant unit leader of Maine’s U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit. Kinnison’s lab has collected more than 20 years of Arctic charr genetic samples, trait data and mark-recapture population size estimates from Floods Pond in Otis, Maine, all of which will support the new study. Arctic charr colonized some lakes in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont after glaciers receded more than 10,000 years ago. Populations in New Hampshire and Vermont went extinct in the last century and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) reports that Maine is home to the only living native populations of Arctic charr in the United States, outside of Alaska. This unique natural resource, sometimes called “blueback” or “Sunapee” trout, is highly valued among anglers and conservationists, but Maine’s remnant populations also represent the most-southern populations of this Arctic species, putting them at particular risk from climate change. Prior research by Kinnison’s team has found that these populations currently differ in what and where they eat, how large they get, when they reproduce and in which habitats. The UMaine and UNH researchers suggest these differences are associated with lake differences in food resource availability. They also say that there is evidence from an introduced population that Arctic charr feeding habits and traits can change over years to decades when food and other resource availability changes. Climate change threatens food webs worldwide. Yet many predictive models for species responses fail to account for the differentiation and evolution of feeding habits among populations of certain animals that are at the edge of their ecological ranges, like Arctic charr in Maine, according to the researchers. To address the gap, the UMaine and UNH scientists say they will develop a framework that links the genetic and malleable components of feeding trait diversity among Arctic charr in Maine to “population demography, habitat, community contexts and ultimately eco-evolutionary potential for persistence” against climate change. Their work could help scientists better predict the viability of Maine Arctic charr and other species with populations that are at the edge of their ecological ranges based on the combined factors of climate change, inter- and intraspecies interactions like competition, and different phenotypes like eating habits. “Maine’s woods and waters are the front lines for climate change. Many of Maine’s iconic species, from moose, to loons, to salmon and Arctic charr are literally living on the edge — their warm range edge,” says Kinnison, who directs the Maine Center for Genetics in the Environment. “We think the winners and losers will often come down to which populations can adapt or otherwise match climate-related resource changes. Maine’s Arctic charr are a good system to study this theory and a possibly unique one given our 20-year dataset of fish captures, traits and genetic samples.” To conduct their study, researchers plan to collect non-lethal tissue samples from Arctic charr and other fishes from Floods Pond, and a few Maine lakes to analyze genetically and for naturally occurring isotopes that trace food webs. They also will conduct high-resolution fish tracking to understand the minute-to-minute behavior of fish in Floods Pond and these new data will be analyzed alongside more than two decades of fish abundance and trait data from the pond obtained by Kinnison’s students in collaboration with the Bangor Water District and MDIFW. They will use their data to develop models that will simulate Arctic charr with a variety of feeding habits, eating, growing and enduring through various changing temperatures, communities and ecosystems. A postdoctoral researcher, two graduate students, multiple

undergraduate students and technical staff will work with Furey, Kinnison and Murphy on the project. The team also will partner with Laura Wilson, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H science youth development professional, to create science tool kits based on their Arctic charr research that will teach grade school students about how aquatic species endure, or perish from, different effects of climate change. “We are really excited about this project because of the multifaceted expertise of the group,” Furey says. “Our interdisciplinary approach will not only advance the science, but also be a benefit to the involved students and early career researchers who will gain skills and experience across a breadth of biological disciplines. Combining our unique team with engaged collaborators outside of academia, our work will not only aid the conservation and management of the iconic Arctic charr, but also provide frameworks for identifying resilient populations of other coldwater fishes at their warm range edge as we continue to experience climate change.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

BDN reports U.S. State Department awards UMaine \$35,000 for study abroad program in Portugal

02 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine has been awarded a [\\$35,000 grant from the U.S. State Department](#) to fund the development of an ongoing faculty-led study abroad program focused on political science and criminal justice in partnership with the Universidade Catolica Portuguesa (UCP) in Lisbon, Portugal. Students in this immersive, experiential program will study Portugal’s innovative and path-defining approach to their 1990s opioid and overdose crisis in contrast to the path followed in the U.S. Rob Glover, a UMaine associate professor of political science, and Karyn Sporer, UMaine associate professor of sociology, will create and lead the program in close consultation with partners at the UMaine Study Abroad Office and UCP. “Like many communities in the U.S., Maine has faced the devastating impacts of the opioid crisis, which have only been exacerbated by COVID-19,” Glover said, “Maine is experiencing an overdose crisis that claimed at least 627 lives in 2021, a 21 percent increase over the prior year. Initial data suggest that 2022 will be even more deadly. Portugal’s innovative approach to treating substance use disorder as a public health crisis as opposed to a criminal issue presents a compelling model to research, understand and emulate.”

Machias Valley News Observer notes Hardy talk at UMaine Machias Performing Arts Center

02 Aug 2022

The [Machias Valley News Observer](#) shared information about a presentation by Kelly Hardy, author of “Notes on a Lost Flute: A Field Guide to the Wabanaki” which took place at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 29, at the University of Maine at Machias Performing Arts Center.

BDN reprints UMaine Extension guide to harvesting and storing garlic

02 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reprinted the sections about harvesting and storing garlic from University of Maine Cooperative Extension Bulletin #2063, Growing Garlic in Maine. Read the full bulletin [here](#).

Composites Manufacturing Magazine reports on UMaine prototype of 3D printed housing

02 Aug 2022

[Composites Manufacturing Magazine](#) reported that the University of Maine’s Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) is working with researchers in the U.S. Department of Energy’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory to construct a prototype weatherproof and insect-proof single housing unit in collaboration with the Maine State Housing Authority (MaineHousing). ASCC’s “Factory of the Future” is made from wood residuals such as sawdust and construction debris, which forms a wood flour bound into pellets by biopolymers for use in the 3D printing process. The prototype should be ready for outdoor testing by the end of 2022. “We need to ... not only develop the technology, but train the workforce that’s going to be able to operate this equipment. What we’re trying to do is develop fundamental solutions to the problems,” says Habib Dagher, founding executive director of ASCC.

Ippolito quoted in Right Click Save article about internet art

02 Aug 2022

Jon Ippolito, professor of new media, was quoted in a [Right Click Save](#) article about the legacy of internet art for the NFT space. Ippolito said that net art was a new generation’s collective needling at accomplishments in fine art and technology. “Artists are good at pulling back the veneer to reveal reality, and the reality of the Internet in the ’90s was that websites often didn’t work. This was not just due to faulty code, but also because the infrastructure was still rickety. Sometimes you would just type in a [correct] URL and the browser couldn’t find it. So artists made lemonade from lemons by exploiting these glitches to create original and surprising experiences,” Ippolito said.

SEA Fellows Science Symposium scheduled for Aug. 9

02 Aug 2022

Twenty-seven undergraduate and recent post-baccalaureate students from the University of Maine, University of Maine at Machias, University of Southern Maine, College of the Atlantic and 12 other institutions across the state and nation will share the results of their summer marine research at the [2022 SEA \(Science for Economic Impact and Application\) Fellows Symposium](#) on Tuesday, Aug. 9. The SEA Fellows program is coordinated by UMaine’s Darling Marine Center and Downeast Institute, which serves as the UMaine Machias marine field station. Student fellows from across Maine collaborate with world-class scientists to conduct marine research. This year, the program focused on taking climate-relevant science and action; meeting other undergraduate students statewide who share their interests in solutions-oriented research and public engagement; and honing fellows’ skills in communication and collaboration. This event is relevant to researchers and students interested in applied marine research and public-private research partnerships, as well as to aquaculturists, fishermen and other marine industry professionals. The symposium, which is open to the public, begins at 1 p.m. at the Downeast Institute in Beals, Maine. [Register online](#) to join the symposium. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact heather.leslie@maine.edu.

Bangor Band to perform last concert conducted by professor emeritus Farnham Aug. 9

02 Aug 2022

The Bangor Band will host its final concert of the season at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 9 at the Waterfront Concerts Maine Savings Amphitheater in Bangor. The free concert will be the last led by longtime conductor Curvin “Chip” Farnham, professor emeritus of music at the University of Maine. Seats will be available in the amphitheater pit area. For more information, email Claude Junkins at junkins@maine.edu or call 207.949.3873.

TIDC hosts in-person Transportation Infrastructure Conference Aug. 9–11

02 Aug 2022

The Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center (TIDC) at the University of Maine’s Advanced Structures and Composites Center will host the 4th Annual Transportation Infrastructure Conference in person from Aug. 9–11. The 2022 conference, with the theme “Implementing Transportation Innovation,” will feature several panels of innovators, researchers, industry leaders, and other professionals discussing advancements and applications in the transportation industry. Allie Kelly, the executive director of The Ray, and New Hampshire Department of Transportation Commissioner Victoria Sheehan will deliver the keynote addresses. The conference, the first TIDC has held in person since 2019, will conclude with a tour of the Composites Center. Visit [the webpage](#) for the 2022 Transportation Infrastructure Conference for more information and to register.

UMaine study examines readiness for hazing prevention on college campuses

02 Aug 2022

After nearly two decades of research and several high-profile incidents in recent years, hazing has become a major public health concern in higher education. Yet much work remains for those seeking to prevent hazing from happening in the first place. A new study from two University of Maine researchers examined readiness to implement a comprehensive hazing prevention plan among a small cohort of U.S. universities. The institutions were already involved in a group working to curb hazing, and the assessment showed that their campuses and key staff were in preplanning stages of readiness, meaning there’s an acknowledgment and concern that something should be done about the issue. The study, published in *Health Education & Behavior*, was conducted by Stephanie Swan, a 2018 graduate of UMaine’s doctoral program in higher education, and Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education. They interviewed participants in the Hazing Prevention Consortium (HPC), a research-to-practice collaborative founded by Allan in 2013 to bring together officials from colleges and universities nationwide that are committed to a comprehensive approach to prevention. “To date, little is known about campus readiness for hazing prevention with few published empirical studies,” Swan and Allan say. “Given this backdrop, this investigation was designed to explore levels of university readiness and perceptions of readiness among campus professionals engaged in hazing prevention.” Five institutions with enrollments ranging from 7,000 to 64,000 participated in the study, including public and private research universities in the Northeast, mid-Atlantic, South and Western U.S. All were historically white and three were designated as Hispanic-Serving Institutions. Key staff from each campus, including the primary contact for the HPC, a frontline prevention specialist and a high-ranking administrator took part. The interview questions were based on the Community Readiness Model (CRM), a tool designed to assess resources and culture to help communities and organizations determine how ready they are to engage in a process of change. The CRM was chosen because it can help identify successful practices for implementing effective prevention programs. Based on the interview data, the model produces scores that measure different dimensions of readiness as well as an overall readiness score. While the overall score showed the universities that participated in the study were in the preplanning stages of readiness, scores for two dimensions — knowledge of hazing prevention efforts and hazing prevention resources — were higher. Those two dimensions scored in the preparation phase, meaning there was basic knowledge of the causes, consequences, signs, symptoms and action. In addition, the scores for two dimensions — leadership and knowledge of hazing issues — scored at a high level of preplanning. The community climate dimension scored in the vague awareness stage, meaning knowledge of an issue within a community has reached the stage where people have heard about local efforts, but know little about them. Using the data from the CRM interviews, the researchers identified factors connecting capacity and readiness to a comprehensive hazing prevention approach. “For example, campus communities ready for prevention had fully functioning coalitions with campus-wide representation that trained key representatives in hazing prevention for 3 or more years,” Swan and Allan write. “In addition, other factors that might strengthen a comprehensive approach to hazing prevention included financial support alongside sharing of hazing information and clear anti-hazing policies.” Other takeaways included lack of involvement from key constituencies, including faculty, parents and some students in anti-hazing activities. Swan and Allan also conclude that the CRM can be a helpful tool for campuses looking to take a more comprehensive approach to hazing prevention. “When there is a visible, high-level commitment from leadership and the community at large, the CRM can help assure that intervention strategies are culturally congruent and sustainable,” they say. The research article, “Assessing Readiness for Campus Hazing Prevention,” is available [online](#). Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Rafa Tasnim: Safeguarding Maine wild blueberries from climate change

02 Aug 2022

Like many crops across the world, wild blueberries face several threats posed by climate change, including rising temperatures. Rafa Tasnim from Dhaka, Bangladesh, is trying to pinpoint new ways growers can protect one of Maine’s most iconic crops by using resources from the state’s backyard. Since joining the University of Maine in 2019, Tasnim, a Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences, has led studies that revealed that [wild blueberry fields in Down East Maine are warming faster](#) than the state as a whole, and that fields [experience warming differently](#), depending on their location, the season and the time of day, among other factors. Her work has garnered state and national media attention. These studies, however, are only the beginning of what Tasnim hopes to accomplish while at UMaine. [Another recent study](#) that Tasnim co-authored found that wild blueberries are more sensitive to dry conditions over a long period of time, meaning proper soil moisture management is more essential than previously expected. Tasnim is evaluating materials that may improve water retention in the soil that would protect the plants during dry periods at blueberry fields, particularly those once considered waste products like compost and biochar to help create more sustainable food systems. She also has been assessing soil amendments, foliar fertilizers — those applied directly to leaves, and nanocellulose. “I’m trying to study materials that are available here,” she says. “My idea is to use whatever recyclable waste we have around us so that we don’t pressurize the landfills anymore.” Tasnim conducts her research in the lab of YongJiang Zhang, her adviser and an assistant professor of applied plant physiology, and at UMaine’s Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro. The equipment she uses includes remote sensing tools and ArcGIS software, portable leaf photosynthesis measurement system, leaf chlorophyll content meter, leaf area meter, soil moisture meter, real time soil water stress monitoring sensors and pressure chamber that can measure plant water stress and other plant attributes. Ecology and environmental sciences was not always Tasnim’s field of

study. She began her academic career in civil engineering, earning her bachelor's from the Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST) in her hometown and a master's degree from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), with a specialization in geo-environmental engineering. Her passion for safeguarding food systems from a warming planet ignited while she was working on a slope stability project during her postgraduate studies in Hong Kong. In particular, she was investigating the effects of increased carbon dioxide levels on vegetation that grows along slopes, which helps stabilize them by removing excess moisture through transpiration. Tasnim found that rising carbon dioxide levels reduce transpiration of those plants, which she says can lead to more water pressure in those slopes during rainfall further decreasing soil stability and put slopes at greater risk of landslides. While conducting her project, Tasnim says she realized she enjoyed researching plants, and how greenhouse gasses and climate affect the plant-soil interaction more than traditional civil engineering research areas, and she resolved to shift gears and pursue a new field. "That's how things changed for me," she says. "That was the time in my master's program that really sparked and helped me to understand what I really wanted." While studying at UMaine, Tasnim has mentored undergraduate students for their own research projects, taught courses, presented and judged at the 2019 and 2021 UMaine Student Symposium, presented her research at the 12th International Vaccinium Symposium last year, and served as a technical reviewer for multiple journals. She also has earned several fellowships, grants and other awards from the university and outside organizations, all of which have fully funded her studies. This year, she received the Doctoral Student Graduate Research Excellence Award from the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture; the Janet Waldron Doctoral Research Fellowship from the Graduate School; and the BioME Seed Grant from the Bioscience Association of Maine. Tasnim was still searching for Ph.D. programs when she moved to Maine with her husband, SK Belal Hossen, so he could pursue his doctoral degree in geotechnical engineering at UMaine. She became interested in the university's program offerings after seeing the research conducted in the greenhouses on campus. Meeting with Zhang, learning about his research and witnessing the top-of-the-line tools in his lab, however, sealed the deal, Tasnim says. Zhang has provided guidance on which courses would help her to execute her research and connected her with other experts like Lily Calderwood, wild blueberry specialist of UMaine Extension and assistant professor of horticulture, and Francis Drummond, professor emeritus of insect ecology and pest management. "He is the best," Tasnim says about Zhang. "Without my adviser's guidance and directions — he actually showed me how to move forward with this kind of research — nothing would have been possible." While Tasnim's studies have been significant and garnered widespread acclaim, she says they mean little unless growers apply her findings to their management strategies. That is why she relies on and greatly admires the professionals at UMaine Extension, who make her research and others more accessible to producers and the general public. UMaine Extension experts like Calderwood facilitate access to complex academic research conducted in the university by creating annual reports that compile researchers' findings, and host conferences and field days where growers can literally meet and discuss the research findings with UMaine faculty and researchers. Tasnim has been assisting Calderwood and others in drafting the reports for the blueberry growers since joining UMaine in 2019. "That's the thing I feel good about, is that my publications are not just some papers that are published and cited. They are actually getting to actual audiences: the growers from Maine and potentially growers from other states, other regions too," Tasnim says. "If (my work) is not going to help anybody change anything, then it doesn't matter how many publications I have or how many citations that I get." Tasnim plans to graduate from UMaine in fall 2023. After receiving her doctoral degree, she hopes to continue helping growers, conducting soil and plant science research under changing climate and supporting more sustainable food systems by working as a faculty researcher, an employee of a federal agency or in research and development. "Whether you believe it or not, climate change is happening. Food insecurity is happening. Agricultural crop systems are devastated in different regions of the world," Tasnim says. "I really want my research to have implications on the real world, even if it's a tiny bit, in terms of crop systems and food insecurity problems." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension Penobscot Livestock 4-H Club show and sale Aug. 5–6

03 Aug 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Penobscot livestock club will host a livestock show and sale from 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 5, to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, at Casa Cattle Company, 145 Nokomis Road, Corinna. The Penobscot Livestock 4-H Club Showdown and Sale includes a youth lamb show Friday at 6 p.m., a youth steer show Saturday at 11 a.m. and the youth livestock auction at 2 p.m. UMaine Extension 4-H members will be available to discuss their livestock projects. Food and beverages will be provided starting at noon Aug. 6. The event is free and open to the public; no registration is required. Auction bidding by phone will be available at 207.249.2191. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Emily Mott, 207.942.7396; emily.j.mott@maine.edu.

Media shares upcoming UMaine Extension Penobscot Livestock 4-H Club show and sale

03 Aug 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#) and [Piscataquis Observer](#) shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Penobscot Livestock Club will host a livestock show and sale from 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 5 to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6 at Casa Cattle Company, 145 Nokomis Road, Corinna. The event is free and open to the public; no registration is required. For more information, visit the Cooperative Extension in Penobscot County [website](#).

Boston Globe reports on Climate Adaptation Fellowship

03 Aug 2022

[The Boston Globe](#) reported on the Climate Adaptation Fellowship, a peer-to-peer learning program that paired 37 fruit and vegetable farmers and agricultural advisers from eight states across the Northeast, developed by the University of Maine, the USDA Northeast Climate Hub and the Rutgers Climate Institute. Through the fellowship, farmers and their advisers follow a climate adaptation curriculum and take workshops on climate science, adaptation, mitigation and communication. Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine and one of the program's three co-leads, said that the community organizing element of the fellowship is particularly critical. "Climate change has often been a polarizing conversation in the United States, yet our group believes it's an important topic to think about, talk about, and organize around. None of those things is fully possible without making the climate dialogue that we have with friends, family, and peers as inclusive as possible," Schattman says. The fellowship provided participants with a team of specialists with climate science training to answer questions and connect fellows to outside sources, including Jason Lilley, sustainable agriculture and maple professional at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension whose expertise includes reduced tillage and cover cropping. The [Atlanta Business Journal](#) shared the Boston Globe report.

The Business Download reports on funds earmarked to UMaine for green technology

03 Aug 2022

[The Business Download](#) reported that, with new government spending legislation supporting novel sustainability-focused projects across the country, the University of Maine will use \$10 million for green engineering and materials research programs that could help sequester carbon using wood products.

Birkel speaks to Maine Public about drought

03 Aug 2022

Sean Birkel, research assistant professor at the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, assistant professor in UMaine Extension and state climatologist, was interviewed by [Maine Public](#) about the current drought in the state. Birkel said there have been reports of wells going dry, particularly in the southwestern part of Maine, and more heat is in the forecast for the next 10 days. Birkel said that the best opportunity for rain comes in the form of afternoon thunderstorms that have a limited impact on a small number of areas at this time of year, but the storm a few weeks ago across much of Maine was an exception. “We really need several of those events. But the precipitation deficits, again, they’re now, in some areas, several inches. And this time of year it’s very difficult to make that up,” Birkel said.

Media reports on Allan keynote at Ohio Anti-Hazing Summit

03 Aug 2022

The [Toledo City Paper](#), [Toledo Blade](#), [Sentinel-Tribute](#), [WTOL](#) (Channel 11 in Toledo, Ohio), [WTVG](#) (ABC 13 in Toledo, Ohio), [WAGM](#) (Channel 8 in Presque Isle), [BG Falcon Media](#), the Columbus Dispatch and Akron Beacon Journal reported that Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education at the University of Maine, delivered the keynote address at the first Ohio Anti-Hazing Summit at Bowling Green State University. Allan presented her research on campus cultures and climates, including classroom teaching, campus diversity, equity and student hazing and its prevention. [MSN](#) shared the WTVG report.

Minimum wage increases positively impacts women’s health, negatively impact men’s health

03 Aug 2022

Increasing the minimum wage generally harms low-educated, low-income men’s health and improves women’s health in the same demographic categories, according to a University of Maine [study](#). Income-based health disparities have worsened over the last few decades in the United States, according to a [sweeping 2019 study](#) using data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. People with lower levels of income generally experience higher rates of mortality, morbidity and risky health behaviors, as well as reduced access to health care. Past studies have found that social and economic policies — like increasing the minimum wage, which has seen a surge in public and legislative attention in the United States — may improve health, especially among low-income populations. In 2019, 25 states and the District of Columbia increased their minimum wage, compared to just eight states in 2011. Several states have enacted laws to phase-in a \$15 minimum wage over the next few years. Although economists studying the minimum wage have historically focused on outcomes like employment and hours worked, a growing body of literature explores the relationship between the minimum wage and health. However, previous studies generally used data from the 1990s to 2014. As a result, little is known about the impact of minimum wages on health in the post-Great Recession era, even though a number of trends have intensified since the 2010s that may impact the relationship between income and health. For example, the Affordable Care Act expanded health coverage among low-income individuals and the “digital divide” narrowed (thus expanding access to health information), but economic mobility worsened and affordable housing grew scarcer. A team of researchers from the University of Maine used 2011–19 data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, a large annual telephone survey in which respondents rate their general health on a five-point scale and report the number of days in the past month they experienced poor physical or mental health. The researchers compared those measures to changes in the minimum wage. Using data from the University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research and the U.S. Department of Labor, the study pinpointed 152 nominal increases to the effective minimum wage across the United States during the sample period. The study found that a 10% increase in the minimum wage — approximately \$0.72, based on the mean minimum wage level during the sample period — improved women’s general health and reduced their physical and mental health burdens. However, the results for men were more complicated. While higher minimum wages increased men’s physical and mental health burdens, the effect on men’s general health was ambiguous. “We’re excited to contribute to this important and fast-growing area of research. With so much interest in minimum wage policy at all levels of government, we hope our work can inform decision-making in a positive way. By using more recent data that better captures the current state of the economy, our study is a strong complement to the existing literature on this topic,” says Liam Sigaud, a recent graduate of the University of Maine’s master’s program in economics and lead author of the study. The researchers put forward several explanations for the disparities between the health impacts of minimum wage increases on men and women. Women are more likely to be affected by changes in the minimum wage; they make up 65% of “low-wage” workers. Men and women in low-wage jobs also often have different stressors and hazards in the workplace. Among workers in jobs with median weekly earnings under \$600, 4% of men and 11% of women work in health care support occupations, while 16% of men and 8% of women work in natural resources, construction and maintenance occupations. Moreover, to the extent that higher minimum wages induce job losses for men, the increase in men’s mental health burden is consistent with research that they are more likely than women to experience poor mental health during spells of unemployment. Men are also more likely to engage in substance use than women, so the increase in men’s mental health burden may be linked to increased alcohol or drug consumption. “Although our study hints at possible pathways, there’s still a lot we don’t know about why higher minimum wages affect the health of men and women differently. It’s probably a complicated mix of factors related to family roles, occupational choices and behaviors that differ across genders. We hope future work can elucidate these mechanisms. As the data and quantitative tools to explore these questions constantly improve, we’re going to have better and better insights,” says Sigaud. Though further studies are needed to tease out these nuances, this study contributes to a more up-to-date and holistic understanding of minimum wage policy. Comparisons with past studies reveal a shift in the relationship between the minimum wage and health over time. The results illustrate the need for policymakers to consider outcomes beyond employment when deciding whether a change in the minimum wage is appropriate. It’s also clear that minimum wage increases don’t affect everyone the same, which has important consequences for health and gender differences in society. “As applied economists, examining the real-world impact of public policies is central to our work. The COVID-19 pandemic highlights the need to better understand income-based health disparities and how government policies can help mitigate them. Our results demonstrate that raising the minimum wage implies tradeoffs between the health of men and women. Finding an appropriate balance requires a value judgment; there is no definitive correct answer. We hope that our work will inform policymakers’ thinking as they consider changes to the minimum wage,” says Sigaud. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers injury-prevention and wellness workshops for land, sea farmers in August

04 Aug 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer two free, in-person workshops in August for farmers, farm workers, fishermen and foresters with a focus on body mechanics, injury prevention, movement, health and wellness. The Safe Labor–Movement workshops are from 5–7 p.m. on Aug. 16, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, 294 Crosby Brook Road, Unity; and Aug. 30, Alan Day Community Garden, 26 Whitman St., Norway. Cynthia Flores, Labor–Movement founder, will lead both sessions that include time for questions and answers. Participants also have access to one month’s coaching via text and email. The workshops are free; registration is required. Find details and how to register on the workshop [webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Izzy Ruffin, 207.570.8308; mainefrsan@maine.edu. Workshops are a project of the Maine Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network, funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, awarded to the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, and managed by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The funds are part of a national and regional effort to increase awareness and amplify existing resources around mental health and farm stress, in addition to fostering connections for farmers and land stewards in Maine to access wellness support.

BDN features Tasnim wild blueberry research

04 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) featured Rafa Tasnim, University of Maine Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences, and her research showing that [wild blueberry fields in Down East Maine are warming faster](#) than the state as a whole, and that fields [experience warming differently](#), depending on their location, the season and the time of day, among other factors. [Another recent study](#) that Tasnim co-authored found that wild blueberries are more sensitive to dry conditions over a long period of time, meaning proper soil moisture management is more essential than previously expected. Tasnim is evaluating materials that may improve water retention in the soil that would protect the plants during dry periods at blueberry fields, particularly those once considered waste products like compost and biochar to help create more sustainable food systems.

Wertheim speaks to BDN about tomatoes rotting on the vine

04 Aug 2022

Frank Wertheim, agriculture and horticulture educator with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was interviewed by the [Bangor Daily News](#) for an article about why tomatoes are experiencing blossom end rot in Maine’s gardens. Wertheim said that blossom end rot is a result of calcium deficiency in the plant. “It happens in the development of the fruit in the flowering stage. It’s a problem when the soil is going through an extreme wet-dry cycle, which we all know it has been this summer...There is often adequate calcium in the soil, but in a dry cycle the flower is not getting that soluble calcium because the water is cut off just when the plant needs it the most because the calcium is there, but it can’t get to the plant,” Wertheim said.

Media reports on Townsend receiving Gulf of Maine Council Visionary Award

04 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment [awarded](#) David Townsend, professor of oceanography in the School of Marine Sciences, one of its 2022 Visionary Awards. The awards recognize individuals, businesses and organizations from each state and province bordering the Gulf of Maine for their innovation, creativity and commitment to protecting the marine environment. For more than 40 years, Townsend has studied the biological oceanography of the Gulf of Maine and other coastal seas, particularly the physical-biological coupling of phytoplankton, zooplankton and larval fishes. [Yahoo News](#) shared the Portland Press Herald report.

NSF awards \$6 million for UMaine-led effort to establish new lab to study AI in advanced manufacturing

04 Aug 2022

A new lab to study how the latest artificial intelligence tools and techniques could bolster advanced manufacturing in northern New England will be launched with a \$6 million award from the National Science Foundation to the University of Maine. UMaine will collaborate with the University of New Hampshire, University of Vermont, Southern Maine Community College, Dartmouth College and Vermont Technical College to create the Northeast Integrated Intelligent Manufacturing Lab (NIIM), funded by a [Research Infrastructure Improvement Track-2 Focused EPSCoR Collaboration award](#). The lab, based at UMaine, will be used to investigate new technologies to increase advanced manufacturing efficiency, scalability, capability and safety by incorporating AI, robotics and 3D metal printing. The research team behind the lab will explore the efficacy of various AI techniques for advanced manufacturing, including interpretable machine learning models, physics-guided and multitask learning, and unsupervised domain adaptation. In collaboration with industry partners, researchers plan to develop new AI models for advanced manufacturing that are more interpretable and adaptable, AI-guided design for additive metal manufacturing that reduces unnecessary trial-and-error, self-aware computer numerical control machines for subtractive manufacturing and industrial robots to support cellular manufacturing. Through these studies, the lab and its scientists aim to help northern New England manufacturers evolve their businesses by providing research, education and workforce development. For example, researchers could devise learning techniques that factory workers could use to teach their robots new skills. “This is an example of the interdisciplinary innovation and partnership that an R1 research university provides,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “UMaine has long led advanced manufacturing research and development that helps to impact economic development. This award builds on those efforts to support a manufacturing industry in transition for the future and continues UMaine’s nationally recognized leadership in innovation.” Yifeng Zhu, UMaine Libbey Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is leading the project alongside co-principal investigators Chaofan Chen, UMaine assistant professor of computer science; Brett Ellis, UMaine associate professor of mechanical engineering technology; Se Young Yoon, UNH associate professor of electrical and computer engineering; and Nick Cheney, UVM assistant professor of computer science. Other UMaine researchers involved in the project include Liping Yu, assistant professor of physics; Vikas Dhiman, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering; John Belding, director of the Advanced Manufacturing Center; Bruce Segee, professor of electrical and computer engineering; Todd Gabe, professor of economics; Andrew Crawley, assistant professor of regional economic development; Rebecca Colannino, director of Upward Bound; and Matthew Dube, an aspirations instructor and research mentor for UMaine’s Upward Bound and an assistant professor of computer information systems appointed at the University of Maine at Augusta. “The brilliant faculty and students at the University of Maine are conducting cutting-edge research and making promising discoveries in a wide variety of fields,” said Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King in a joint statement. “This funding will help UMaine continue to build on its groundbreaking achievements that are powering our economy today and into the future. We welcome this investment that will support

Maine businesses, help create good jobs in our state, and solidify UMaine's leadership in advanced manufacturing research." Infusing artificial intelligence into manufacturing can bring a lot of benefits to business, says Zhu. "We will actively work with local manufacturers to build prototype test beds to evaluate and deploy our AI-powered technologies." Maine industry is extremely eager to be able to use advanced Industry 4.0 technologies to improve manufacturing productivity, says Belding. "All of the work AMC is completing with Maine companies involve automation, robotics, multi-axis machining, laser machining and metal additive manufacturing. Having AI as another tool in the toolbox allows us to cover even more of Maine industry needs," he says. John Murray, director of business development for Progress Engineering, says his Manchester, Maine-based company "is excited at the prospect of working with the University of Maine on using AI programs on several known applications in the forest products industry here in our state. "We congratulate UMaine on receiving this AI development grant," Murray says. "Progress Engineering envisions this being a huge benefit to the wood products industry as it applies to development of cost-effective, automatic wood grading systems for our smaller companies." "Yale Cordage needs to continuously ensure the top quality we are known for in each rope we produce," says Glenn Jameson, director of design and development for Yale Cordage in Saco, Maine. "We would like to make this inspection process more robust. We believe advanced technologies such as AI and cameras can help us achieve this goal to add leading-edge production and jobs to our growth in the state of Maine." NIIM will utilize research infrastructure, community partnerships, faculty expertise and other existing investments across the participating institutions to support the project, including the UMaine Advanced Research Computing, Security, and Information Management (ARCSIM). The team at ARCSIM will work with Segee to launch federated supercomputing resources in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. "For this project, UMaine ARCSIM is enabling senior research personnel by ensuring adequate access to high-performance computational resources," says Shane Moeykens, director of ARCSIM and Maine EPSCoR. ARCSIM supports the research computing needs of the university research community and its collaborators, and is associated with Coordinated Operating Research Entities (CORE), which is overseen by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. To ensure the lab provides tools and knowledge that are relevant to the priorities of the northern New England manufacturing sector, the team will collaborate with manufacturing extension partnership programs (MEPs) in the three states, an industrial advisory board, industry partners, and the U.S. Economic Development Administration University Center for Economic Development. Funding from the award will allow the team to recruit a postdoctoral associate and other professionals, graduate and undergraduate student researchers; and purchase a collaborative robot, 3D metal printing and other advanced manufacturing materials. The lab and the research it generates also will yield new educational materials for UMaine's Upward Bound program, which provides opportunities to low-income high school students that help prepare them for college; UNH's Northeast Passage, which supports disabled students and workers at community and technical colleges; and community colleges across the three northern New England states. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Lucia Liet: Using eDNA to save the Atlantic cod

04 Aug 2022

Lucia Liet was working as an ocean rescue lifeguard on the Jersey Shore when she decided that she wanted to study ecology. Now, she has moved up the East Coast to become a marine protector of a different sort: a researcher at the forefront of using eDNA to try and save the Atlantic cod. After Liet graduated from high school in her native New Jersey, she attended community college for a few years before applying to the University of Maine. She was attracted to the ample natural spaces that were perfect for a budding ecologist to study and explore, as well as the interdisciplinary nature of the Ecology and Environmental Sciences Program. "It is very easy to collaborate with other departments," Liet says. "I'm able to take molecular biology and environmental courses, and philosophy and anthropology courses. I feel like you get those interdepartmental connections." Liet was first introduced to the concept of eDNA, where DNA in the environment is used to study the organisms living there, through a Research Learning Experience (RLE) course. The cutting-edge scientific technique immediately piqued her interest. "It's a field in its infancy. It's really only been around for 10 years, and for more specific fields of study like marine biology, it's only been used for like five years. It's a frontier field in the sciences right now," Liet says. At the end of the course, she asked her professor Peter Avis if he had research opportunities to study eDNA. Avis said he didn't, but his wife Erin Grey, assistant professor of aquatic genetics and manager of the Grey Aquatics Lab, did. Liet formally met Grey at a university job fair, and she hired her to work in the lab in October 2021. Grey says that Liet's strong background in both ecology and molecular biology — that interdisciplinary blend that brought Liet to UMaine in the first place — made her a great fit for the eDNA project. "You need to be able to understand both," Grey says. "She had that unique combination." Liet is working on a project that uses eDNA to determine cod spawning locations in the Gulf of Maine. Atlantic cod have been functionally extinct since the late 19th century due to overfishing and ocean warming. The loss of cod was devastating economically and ecologically for the Gulf of Maine, and the populations haven't been able to rebound like some other over harvested species in the region once regulations were put in place. Marine scientists aren't sure why, but one theory is that something is going wrong with their spawning. The exact locations and times of cod spawning are not well known in the Gulf of Maine, but may be easier to find with the help of eDNA. "We don't really know where they spawn," Grey says. "We know a couple of areas, but it's a big gulf and they spawn near the bottom. Since it can be easier to collect eDNA from water samples it might be easier for us to detect it." Liet takes water samples from spawning cod in a controlled lab environment and uses a process called qPCR, or quantitative polymerase chain reaction, to pick out specific genes only found in cod. Through the process, primers and probes act like "selective magnets" for the tiny gene sequence, which are multiplied until they are plentiful enough to be detected. Depending on how long the DNA takes to amplify, Liet can figure out whether the sequence of DNA she is looking at is "background noise" or significant enough to be related to spawning. Cod release great quantities of DNA into the water when they're spawning, after all. "She's really sort of taken ownership of the project," Grey says. "The PCR assay in the beginning had a few kinks we had to work out and she really hunkered down and troubleshooted all that stuff." Grey says that Liet's work with eDNA is promising to detect cod in an area in general, but she also hopes to be able to involve eRNA into the project at some point. RNA are smaller subsets of DNA with specific instructions for, as Grey says, "doing something in the moment." A cod makes RNAs in eye cells for making eye proteins, for example, or scale cell RNAs for making scale proteins. In the same vein, the cod material collected in water samples where the fish are releasing their eggs and sperm will exhibit specific RNA related to spawning. "If we can find RNAs that are related to spawning, that would be game changing for the field," Grey says. Eventually, researchers aim to be able to give fishermen the ability to collect samples on and send them to a lab to conduct eDNA assays to find cod in the field. Liet even had the opportunity to go out with the Gulf of Maine Research Institute to see if they could catch any spawning cod in order to collect field samples for testing. They didn't catch any spawning cod that day — Liet said that future researchers will have to see if what she finds in the lab can apply to the field — but she had a great day fishing regardless. Liet hopes to continue using her eDNA skills to solve complex environmental and ecological problems. Her eventual goal is to use what she has learned in the Grey Aquatics Lab about eDNA to study fungi in soils, specifically how fungal communities have shifted in response to applications of synthetic fertilizer and the natural recovery that has occurred since fertilizer application has ceased. She is conducting an internship as an aquatic and wetland ecosystem technician for a Ph.D. student studying groundwater seepage, which she says has "definitely reinforced" her interest in soil. "I've always been passionate about growing things and gardening and I want to have a farm some day. I took soil science [with Ivan Fernandez] last semester and I really fell in love." But first, she says, "We've got to save the cod." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Mount Desert Island tourism can use participatory planning to address climate change impacts, UMaine research shows

04 Aug 2022

A study from the University of Maine shows that bringing together academics and tourism developers on Mount Desert Island (MDI) is an effective way to identify climate change impacts and determine what can be done to address them given a community's strengths, limitations and resources. Now, thanks to the work of a transdisciplinary group of UMaine graduate researchers and community stakeholders, MDI might have further information on a path forward to keeping the destination sustainable. Nature-based tourism destinations, like so many throughout Maine, face unique challenges resulting from the impacts of climate change. Climate and weather determine the timing, length and quality of tourism seasons, as well as the risks associated with recreational activities. Participatory planning — bringing together a variety of stakeholders to analyze complex issues by applying local knowledge — is an approach communities can use to anticipate climate change impacts and prepare suitable solutions. For nature-based tourism destinations, this could mean diversifying recreational opportunities, for example, or developing sustainable transportation plans focused on tourist movements. The participatory planning approach to addressing climate change impacts has been successful in several international case studies. For example, a [2014 participatory planning study](#) that engaged municipal officials, tourism developers, business owners and researchers was able to successfully identify climate change impacts and adaptation measures for two tourism-centric areas of Northern Finland. "MDI tourism professionals are very aware of climate change impacts to their businesses and the resources they manage. A participatory approach allows researchers to center that expertise and experience to help develop locally relevant solutions that consider existing resources, including existing partnerships and ongoing adaptation and mitigation projects," says Lydia Horne, lead author of the study who completed the research as a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine. In a new [study published](#) in the journal *Tourism and Hospitality Research*, UMaine researchers worked with tourism partners on Mount Desert Island to identify climate change impacts in the area's tourism system and develop planning priorities for the area. The approach brought together diverse tourism suppliers who do not often collaborate, alongside climate change planners, natural resource managers and other academic researchers. "As students studying climate change, yet working and living outside of MDI, we knew it was critical to co-develop the workshops with community partners who could contribute their lived experiences to the project," says Alyssa Soucy, a Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences and co-author of the study. "Because we live outside of the area, we don't have the best picture of local conditions in comparison to the partners who live and work on the island. Their input is important because they're impacted directly by local climate conditions, whereas we are viewing the situation from the outside-in," says Gabriela Wolf-Gonzalez, another study co-author who participated in the research as a master's degree in ecology and environmental sciences. The study involved a series of planning workshops conducted over Zoom in spring 2021 that allowed participants to share their observations and experiences related to climate change. Tourism stakeholders identified impacts like the increasing heat and temperature, decrease in snowpack, changes to flora and fauna, increase in ticks and the unpredictability of extreme weather events on Mount Desert Island. While the providers recognized that, in the short term, the coastal Maine tourist destination might benefit from increased temperatures, it may reach a "tipping point" where the climate becomes too warm and less attractive to visitors seeking a cooler destination. The participants then worked in groups to create planning priorities based on the impacts they observed. Based on the existing strengths, barriers and resources in the community, two items rose to the top: addressing increased visitation and making Mount Desert Island a more sustainable tourist destination by reducing greenhouse gas emissions through more sustainable energy systems and transportation strategies. The participants then identified actions they could take to work toward these goals, such as shifting the timing of activities and product offerings to adapt to shifting visitation patterns as well as improving winter safety messaging and tourism infrastructure in response to increased winter visitation. "These findings highlight the value of bringing people with many different backgrounds and investments together to discuss the emerging impacts that climate change is having on many facets of a nature-based tourism community; they can bolster community resilience by providing a springboard for focusing in on climate change actions that are relevant and obtainable," says Asha DiMatteo-LePape, co-author of the study who conducted the research for her master's degree in forest resources. "It was an incredibly valuable experience as students to be able to have important and meaningful conversations with local communities in regards to climate change and tourism, and that is a connection often lacking in academia. It was apparent these conversations with coastal communities need to happen more regularly to find both short and long term feasible solutions. Many climate projections are on a 50 to 100 year time scale, which are important for long-term planning, but may not necessarily address the immediate concerns and rapid changes that impact the tourism industry face from year to year," says Valeria Briones, a study co-author who also conducted the research for her master's degree in forest resources. The researchers found engaging tourism providers was an effective way to identify climate change impacts and potential adaptations for Mount Desert Island. Similar approaches may benefit other natural resource dependent tourism destinations in Maine and beyond. "Our research demonstrated the importance of collaboration and dialogue to create relevant solutions for communities dealing with the impacts of climate change. The passion in the workshop room was clear as everyone sought to work together towards joint solutions," Soucy says. The project was also unique in that it was graduate student-driven, led by Horne, Soucy, Briones, DiMatteo-LePape and Wolf-Gonzalez. All five co-authors were students of and advised by Sandra De Urioste-Stone, associate professor of nature-based tourism in the School of Forest Resources, and are part of the National Science Foundation Research Traineeship program that seeks to train the next generation of transdisciplinary conservation leaders. Partial funding to support this research was received from the [Senator George J. Mitchell Center's Sustainability Grants Program](#). "Although we started this project with different backgrounds, we were brought together by our interest in serving our communities and empowering community-members to develop locally-driven plans. This project allowed us to learn from those outside of the traditional research community and from each other," says Wolf-Gonzalez. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine undergraduates participate in NOAA's Diadromous Ecosystem Research Program

05 Aug 2022

This summer, five undergraduate students are gaining experience in sea-run fish research and management as participants in Maine Sea Grant and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association's (NOAA) Northeast Fisheries Science Center's Undergraduate Internships in Diadromous Ecosystem Research Program. The program, which launched in 2020, pairs student interns with mentors who are practitioners in the field. The 2022 cohort will be working with scientists and resources managers at Penobscot Nation, Maine Department of Marine Resources and Maine Sea Grant. Students will be participating in 13 weeks of fieldwork, lab work, and other hands-on learning experiences, as well as professional development activities focused on science communication and diversity, equity and inclusion. At the end of their internship, program participants will present their findings at a student symposium. A story about the program is on the Maine Sea Grant [website](#).

Media reports on UMaine minimum wage study

05 Aug 2022

[Tech and Science Post](#), [Medical XPress](#) and [African News Herald](#) reported on a University of Maine study that found increasing the minimum wage generally harms low-educated, low-income men's health and improves women's health in the same demographic categories. The study found that a 10% increase in the minimum wage — approximately \$0.72, based on the mean minimum wage level during the sample period — improved women's general health and reduced their physical and mental health burdens. However, the results for men were more complicated. While higher minimum wages increased men's physical and

mental health burdens, the effect on men's general health was ambiguous. “Our results demonstrate that raising the minimum wage implies tradeoffs between the [health](#) of men and women. Finding an appropriate balance requires a value judgment; there is no definitive correct answer. We hope that our work will inform policymakers’ thinking as they consider changes to the minimum [wage](#),” says Liam Sigaud, a recent graduate of UMaine’s master’s program in economics and lead author of the study.

Media promotes UMaine Extension Master Gardener training

05 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [Ellsworth American](#), [Daily Bulldog](#) and [Sun Journal](#) shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension is accepting applications for its Master Gardener Volunteers training program that begins Oct. 24. The [2022 Master Gardener Volunteer training](#) includes self-paced online learning modules along with live virtual sessions with horticultural experts from across the state. [Applications for the 2022 program](#) are due Sept. 1. In addition, two new training programs are available to access in-depth horticulture knowledge. The [Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training](#) is designed to supply learners with a foundational horticulture education suitable for skilled entry-level positions in the horticulture industry and requires completion of a 200-hour industry apprenticeship. The [Maine Gardener Training](#) is designed to supply learners with a horticulture education and skills for use in their personal garden without the volunteer component in the Master Gardener Volunteer training program. Enrollment for these courses opens Sept. 28.

Bishop speaks to Times-Record about school administrator shortage

05 Aug 2022

The [Times-Record](#) interviewed Penny Bishop, dean of the College of Education and Human Development, about the dearth of school administrators in Maine, which is part of a larger nationwide shortage. “I get calls and emails regularly from administrators across the state looking for teachers. It is a huge issue. I would even say it’s reached crisis proportions,” Bishop said.

UMaine Extension offers Master Gardener Volunteer training, plus two new programs

08 Aug 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is accepting applications for its Master Gardener Volunteers training program that begins Oct. 24. The [2022 Master Gardener Volunteer training](#) includes self-paced online learning modules along with live virtual sessions with horticultural experts from across the state. Designed to train volunteers for horticulture and food system-related community service projects, topics include vegetable and fruit production, plants for the Maine landscape, soil health and composting, pesticide safety and food security. Participants will be expected to volunteer on a community project for at least 40 hours to complete their certification. [Applications for the 2022 program](#) are due Sept. 1. In addition, two new training programs are available to access in-depth horticulture knowledge. The [Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training](#) is designed to supply learners with a foundational horticulture education suitable for skilled entry-level positions in the horticulture industry and requires completion of a 200-hour industry apprenticeship. The [Maine Gardener Training](#) is designed to supply learners with a horticulture education and skills for use in their personal garden without the volunteer component in the Master Gardener Volunteer training program. Enrollment for these courses opens Sept. 28. All course fees have sliding scale options. Program schedules and more details are available on the [program webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.3188; extension.mastergardeners@maine.edu.

Media reports on UMaine student winning Beach to Beacon

08 Aug 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#), [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) and [News Center Maine](#) reported that Sam Mills, a University of Maine junior who runs for the men’s track and field team, was the top Mainer in the TD Beach to Beacon 10K Road Race, which was held at Cape Elizabeth on Aug. 6, for the first time since 2019. “It means so much to me because it’s been such a long journey and the path to get here is so deeply entwined with the Maine running community. Standing on that start line, there’s the elite (runners), of course, ahead of us, but everyone I’m standing next to feels like my teammate,” Mills told the Portland Press Herald. [Yahoo! News](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the Portland Press Herald report.

BDN, News Center reports on loss of UMaine’s Campana elm

08 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [News Center Maine](#) reported that a more than 150-year-old American elm tree at the University of Maine that was saved by pioneering research on Dutch elm disease and inspired the establishment of a campus natural heritage fund has succumbed to rot in its trunk and will be removed from the Hitchner Hall landscape in early August. Seeds and cuttings from the tree, known as the Campana elm, have been collected, ensuring the tree lives on. Wood that can be salvaged from the tree will be saved for possible use on campus and potential fundraising efforts for the [Campus Natural Heritage Endowment Fund](#) through the University of Maine Foundation.

Billings’ lobster industry book highlighted on WCVB

08 Aug 2022

[WCVB](#) (ABC 5 in Boston) highlighted the book "[The Maine Lobster Industry: A History of Culture, Conservation & Commerce](#)" by Cathy Billings, formerly with the University of Maine Lobster Institute, in an article about the history of Maine’s lobster industry.

Media share UMaine study about participatory planning for climate change in MDI tourism

08 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Mount Desert Islander](#) and [Travel and Tour World](#) shared a [study](#) from the University of Maine that shows bringing together academics and tourism developers on Mount Desert Island (MDI) is an effective way to identify climate change impacts and determine what can be done to address them given a community's strengths, limitations and resources. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

WCVB features UMaine Lobster Institute

08 Aug 2022

[WCVB](#) (Channel 5 in Boston) reported on how researchers at the University of Maine Lobster Institute work to keep the lobster industry sustainable and profitable.

Zipe Education notes UMaine role in collaborative research into artificial intelligence

08 Aug 2022

In an article about research grants in New Hampshire, [Zipe Education](#) noted a \$6 million collaborative effort with the University of Maine, University of New Hampshire, University of Vermont, Dartmouth College, Southern Maine Community College and Vermont Technical College to investigate how artificial intelligence drives innovation in the future of advanced manufacturing. The project will also address the unique manufacturing needs of these states through a large-scale economic development assessment.

O'Neill speaks to BDN about Old Town bridge impacting timber routes

08 Aug 2022

Shane O'Neill, the forest industry business development manager at the University of Maine's School of Forest Resources, was interviewed by the [Bangor Daily News](#) about how the new 30-ton weight limit on the Llewellyn G. Estes Memorial Bridge in Old Town impacts the transportation of forest products. O'Neill told the BDN that the bridge over the Stillwater River is likely one of the most significant thoroughfares for timber products in all of Maine. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

Fernandez featured on Maine Public discussing carbon sequestration

08 Aug 2022

Ivan Fernandez, distinguished Maine professor at the School of Forest Resources, Climate Change Institute and School of Food and Agriculture, was a panelist on the [Maine Public](#) radio show "Maine On Point" for an episode about how carbon sequestration in Maine can help slow climate change.

Wertheim speaks to BDN about striped cucumber beetles

08 Aug 2022

Frank Wertheim, agriculture and horticulture educator with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was interviewed by the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the damage caused to crops by the striped cucumber beetle. Wertheim told the BDN that the beetle harbors a bacterium in its digestive tract that it passes along to plants when it defecates. "There are a lot of different diseases that cause wilting. But the one we see a lot is bacteria wilt from the striped cucumber beetle," Wertheim said. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

UMaine's Renee Kelly named 'Woman to Watch' by MaineBiz

09 Aug 2022

University of Maine assistant vice president of innovation and economic development Renee Kelly has been [named a 2022 Woman to Watch](#) by MaineBiz. The designation recognizes top-notch women executives, women whose daily work strengthens their organizations, and by extension, Maine's economy. Kelly, who joined UMaine in 1997 and assumed her current role in 2016, develops strategic partnerships and initiatives that promote economic growth and talent development in Maine. She also leads the innovation and entrepreneurship support activities of the Office of Innovation and Economic Development (OIED), including the [Foster Center for Innovation](#), [MIRTA Accelerator program](#), UMaine's [I-Corps site](#) and business incubation programs. As a founding member of the leadership team for Blackstone Accelerates Growth (now Maine Accelerates Growth or MxG), an initiative to create a thriving ecosystem for entrepreneurship and innovation in Maine, Kelly led the creation of the award-winning [Innovate for Maine Fellows program](#). Now in its 11th year, Innovate for Maine connects college students with high-growth companies in Maine for internship experiences. Since its inception, the program has matched more than 225 students from 37 different colleges and universities with internships and project work at more than 220 companies. These internships have led many participants to permanent roles with their host companies and fueled the growth of entrepreneurship in Maine. A recent survey of Innovate for Maine alumni revealed that 70% of respondents were living in Maine and another 10% currently live outside of Maine but plan to return as their careers progress. Nearly 20% of program alumni have started their own companies. Kelly is an active member of Maine's broader innovation ecosystem, serving as a member of the State of Maine's Economic Development Strategy Team's Innovation Subcommittee, a member of the MxG leadership team, and a member of the Big Gig steering committee. She serves on the board of First National Bank and previously served as chair of the board of the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce. Her interests include the importance of networks in innovation and the history of innovation in Maine. Prior to joining the university, she developed new training products for Manpower of Connecticut, worked for a financial services startup in San Diego and served as an aide to then U.S. Rep. Olympia Snowe. Kelly is one of [five 2022 Women to Watch](#). Also honored are Mufalo Chitam, executive director, Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition; Laurie Lachance, president, Thomas College; Kristine Logan, executive director, Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority; and Kate McAleer, founder, owner and CEO, Bixby Chocolate. The group will be celebrated at an awards ceremony and networking reception at the Westin Portland Harborview Hotel on Sept. 15.

Camden International Film Festival course offered this fall

09 Aug 2022

The University of Maine will offer its annual documentary film course this fall that includes participation in the Camden International Film Festival (CIFF), Sept. 15–18. The CIFF documentary film course is a unique opportunity to network with both award-winning and emerging filmmakers. In addition to attending CIFF screenings, the pass students receive will provide opportunities to discuss the films in public forums, and meet for further dialogues in seminar conferences with documentary professionals. In addition to CIFF attendance, five required classes will engage students in the critical language, history and potentials of documentary filmmaking. These Saturday classes will take place on the Orono campus Sept. 10, Sept. 24, Oct. 15 and Dec. 3. This course can be taken as either ARH 369 (fulfills Artistic & Creative Expression, Cultural Diversity & International Perspective, and Writing Intensive gen. ed. requirements) or NMD 358. More information about this year's Camden International Film Festival is [online](#). Students interested in the CIFF course should register on MaineStreet or call the Division of Lifelong Learning, 207.581.3143.

MaineBiz names Kelly one of five 2022 Women to Watch**09 Aug 2022**

MaineBiz named University of Maine assistant vice president of innovation and economic development Renee Kelly one of five [2022 Women to Watch](#). Kelly, who joined UMaine in 1997 and assumed her current role in 2016, develops strategic partnerships and initiatives that promote economic growth and talent development in Maine. She also leads the innovation and entrepreneurship support activities of the Office of Innovation and Economic Development (OIED), including the [Foster Center for Innovation](#), [MIRTA Accelerator program](#), UMaine's [I-Corps site](#) and business incubation programs.

Media reports on research showing climate change has reversed 900 years of cooling in the Gulf of Maine**09 Aug 2022**

[Maine Public](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), the [Machias Valley News Observer](#), [Fishing Wire](#), [Scienmag](#), [Bioengineer.org](#), [Newswise](#), the [Penobscot Bay Press](#), [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland), [AZoCleantech](#) and [Futurity](#) reported on a study co-authored by the University of Maine showing that climate change has reversed nearly a millennium of cooling in the Gulf of Maine over the past century. "Combining precisely dated geochemical data from the clam shells with state-of-the-art climate models provides a powerful method for understanding climate change in the Gulf of Maine. We can see how local conditions are influenced by large-scale patterns through time," said Karl Kreutz, co-author of the study, director of the School of Earth and Climate Sciences and professor in the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine.

Maine Public interviews Knight for article about hay shortages**09 Aug 2022**

Colt Knight, state livestock specialist and associate extension professor at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to [Maine Public](#) about how livestock farmers in Maine are beginning to think differently about how they feed and care for their animals after the state's third consecutive year of drought. Knight told Maine Public that higher temperatures increase the risk of heat stress in animals, and dry conditions often diminish hay production. Livestock producers in the southwest traditionally prepare for drought every year. "Some folks in the Northeast aren't used to that mentality. I think they're beginning to understand they probably need to plan for drought more often than they have in the past," Knight said. [The Bangor Daily News](#) shared the Maine Public report.

Klimis-Zacas co-edits new book**09 Aug 2022**

Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, professor of clinical nutrition in the School of Food and Agriculture, co-edited with Ana Rodriguez-Mateos the book "Berries and Berry Bioactive Compounds in Promoting Health." More information is on the Royal Society of Chemistry [website](#).

Isabelle Hallagan: Gaining valuable experience at Best Buddies Maine**09 Aug 2022**

Isabelle Hallagan, a rising senior from Falmouth, Maine, has only been a part of the Best Buddies program at UMaine since her junior year but fell in love with it quickly. Her experience through the program has led her to be elected president for the upcoming school year as well as land her a summer internship with Best Buddies Maine. Hallagan says the supportive and welcoming environment that UMaine has given her to learn and grow as an individual has prepared her for her internship at Best Buddies Maine. Hallagan's experience within the UMaine Best Buddies has been nothing but positive. She says that she looks forward to the friendships that blossom among the Best Buddies members at their meetings and events. "I can't wait to work with the other executive members and create some new ideas to take Best Buddies to another level. The classmates at Best Buddies here at UMaine all work as a team and we would not be able to thrive without everyone's time and amazing ideas," she says about her upcoming role as president. Her responsibilities within her internship at Best Buddies Maine include educating and spreading the word about Best Buddies and finding people to join their citizens program. To achieve this, Hallagan's role is to reach out to local businesses to ask if they are willing to display the Best Buddies information sheets. She also tables at Portland's First Friday art walk and creates digital posters, flyers and postcards to spread the word of the program. "I have enjoyed every minute of contributing to this wonderful organization. My goal in life is to teach others about the importance of including and advocating for children and adults who deserve these simple life attributes. After college, it would be a dream to work alongside Best Buddies' phenomenal organization and help atypical individuals find jobs, inclusive living, friendships and so much more," Hallagan says. Hallagan hopes to take the experience she is learning this summer and apply it to her role as president of the UMaine Best Buddies chapter. She wants to bring back motivation and drive to the club members that they can put toward something that brings them joy. Her overall goals for the club are to increase the members at the university by hosting more events, increasing the amount of marketing and amping up their social media. "I hope to gain as much knowledge and experience as I possibly can in this short period of time. Alongside this, I am looking forward to making new friendships and connections with Buddies in the community," she says. Contact: Hope Carroll, hope.carroll@maine.edu

Hunter Praul: Tracking turtles

09 Aug 2022

Growing up in China, Maine, Hunter Praul said he always had an interest in exploring the outdoors, especially for reptiles and amphibians. He became an Eagle Scout, but even outside of his troop outings, he would find himself in forests, lakes and stream banks looking for frogs, toads, turtles and anything else he could find. As a student researcher at the University of Maine, Praul has taken his love for nature's slimy and scaly creatures and applied it to the mission of conservation in Maine. When Praul graduated from high school, he was named to the [Maine Top Scholars](#) program, which provides full tuition and research opportunities for the highest achieving high schoolers in the state to attend the University of Maine. Since early spring 2022, Praul has worked on a variety of turtle conservation research projects in the lab of Matthew Chatfield, assistant professor at the School of Biology and Ecology. Praul's primary project aims to record the musk turtle population on the nearby Pushaw Lake, which is thought to be one of most northern (if not the northernmost) parts of the species' habitat range. "It would be interesting to get data and information on the most northern population to see if there are differences from the southern ones or even just more southern in the state, although there hasn't been much research on them, especially in Maine," Praul says. Every month for the past couple months, Chatfield and Praul have headed out to three different plots near Gould's Landing to lay six sardine-baited traps at each, strategically placing them at different levels of vegetation and depths along the shore. For that week, they return every morning to check the traps, repair any damage wrought by hungry raccoons or snapping turtles, and record their observations. "I have worked with thousands of students in the classroom and dozens in a field or mentoring capacity and I have to say Hunter [Praul] is probably the most meticulous student I have ever met," Chatfield says. "Every word and number on the data sheet gets recorded exactly right. He's definitely one of the strongest undergraduate researchers I have come across." Praul admits, though, that he hasn't had much luck finding musk turtles this summer. He has only found one, though he has seen plenty of the common painted turtles throughout the course of his study. "We might be in the wrong spot in the lake, but there also might not be as many in the lake as we originally thought," Praul says. "We're taking a little break and we're going to try again at the end of this summer to see if there's a seasonal change in numbers." Praul is still hoping to use the musk turtle project for his senior capstone project, but if doesn't find enough musk turtles to draw any substantive conclusions about the Pushaw Lake population, he will use data from a graduate project in Chatfield's lab about wood turtles. Praul has been assisting graduate students with fieldwork using radiotelemetry to observe and record the nesting behavior of wood turtles, a heavily trafficked and internationally listed endangered species that purportedly has a stronghold in Maine. Almost every week, Praul will join a graduate student researcher at their streamside site; the exact location is confidential, to protect the highly-trafficked turtles. They use a receiver to find the turtles observed for that study, which are tagged with radio telemeters, and record environmental and behavioral data about their subjects. Turtles aren't the only animal that Praul interacts with for this research, either. "To help with finding wood turtles, there is a dog that has been trained to find them," Praul says. "Sometimes her handler [Lindsay Ware of [Science Dogs of New England](#)] and I take her out to go sniffing through the grass and stream. If she finds a different species, she'll pass on it, and if she finds a wood turtle, she'll just stand over until we get there." The dog's name is Chili Bean, Chili for short. Some of the wood turtles have names, too, like Crowley, Outlaw and Jennifer Lawrence — to make them easier to identify in the field, of course. Outside of his herpetology projects, Praul also works at the UMaine Environmental DNA Laboratory conducting lab procedures. He said it's "very interesting" and "cool to do," but he prefers studying the natural world on a larger scale. Praul plans to graduate this spring after his third year at the University of Maine. He isn't exactly sure what he will do after that, but one thing is for sure: he wants to work with animals. "I definitely still say herpetology is my main interest, but I also basically have an interest in all animals," Praul says. "It makes it a little bit harder to choose something if there are so many options." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine collaborates to create standards for volcanic tephra collection, measurements and reporting

09 Aug 2022

The scientific community now has a standard set of protocols for collecting data about volcanic ash known as tephra, thanks to an international team of researchers from the U.S. Geological Survey, the University of Maine and various institutions across the country. Tephra is any airborne material produced by an explosive volcanic eruption that plays an essential role in understanding past volcanism and its impact on climate and the environment. Tephra deposits also provide spatially widespread, high-resolution time-stratigraphic markers across a range of sedimentary settings and thus are used in numerous disciplines, from climate science to archaeology. However, the study of tephra deposits is challenged by a lack of standardization that inhibits data integration across geographic regions and disciplines. In a [study](#) published in July 2022 in the journal Nature Scientific Data, researchers designed a framework for tephra data gathering and reporting to guide future investigators. Andrei Kurbatov, co-author of the study and associate professor at the Climate Change Institute and the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, said that the team was inspired by the work of geologists George Patrick Leonard Walker and Ron Croasdale, whose tephra dataset published in 1971 is still usable today because of its comprehensive nature. The researchers developed six workbooks, which together comprise the best-practice recommendations. The workbooks are carefully constructed to ensure collection of at least the most essential data as well as to outlining optimal, ideal or best-practice data collection. Each workbook targets a different research area, from collecting and documenting data and samples in the field, to processing and preparing samples for multiple types of laboratory analysis and reporting the data, methods and results. Kristi Wallace, first author of the study and U.S. Geological Survey geologist, says the team was motivated to establish these standards "at the bequest of the global tephra community who needs a solution for making tephra data interoperable amongst the myriad of research disciplines who collect tephra as part of their work." No single dataset is expected to incorporate all the best-practice recommendations because of the varied nature of real-world tephra studies, but the standardized framework aims to promote consistent documentation and archiving while fostering interdisciplinary communication and effectiveness of data sharing. "We hope that new guidelines and data sharing approaches will foster a future generation of research that needs access to global and properly documented tephra data," Kurbatov says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Apul leads NASA-backed research using nanobubbles for water treatment to support space exploration

10 Aug 2022

Onur Apul, an assistant professor of environmental engineering at University of Maine, will lead a \$1.1 million multi-institutional investigation backed by NASA to explore whether nanobubbles can support space exploration, including water treatment on spaceships. Through the Maine Space Grant Consortium, NASA Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) awarded the project \$753,750 grant. It was matched with a \$350,000 cost share contribution provided by participating institutions, which included UMaine, the University of Southern Maine and Arizona State University. Nanobubbles are ultrafine pockets of oxygen, carbon dioxide, hydrogen and other gasses in liquids that have diameters smaller than 100 nanometers. Apul, says nanobubbles can be generated in liquids with simple instruments that oscillate liquids and through other hydraulic, physicochemical and electrochemical methods. This results in mixtures known as biphasic liquids — those that take the forms of both a liquid and gas. Apul says due to their size, nanobubbles possess unique physicochemical properties that he believes may improve the efficiency of life support functions on spaceships, particularly water treatment and growing algae to provide oxygen and nutrition for astronauts. Unlike regular bubbles that float to the surface of a liquid, nanobubbles can suspend in it for

hours, days or even months. Apul says they also possess a high surface area and high reactivity, but are also malleable, making them ideal for chemical reactions. All of these aspects allow nanobubbles to provide reliable and accessible storage for various gasses, which Apul says supports and reduces the energy cost of water treatment and other systems on earth and possibly in space. To determine whether nanobubbles can benefit life support systems beyond Earth's atmosphere, Apul and his team must ensure they can withstand micro- and zero gravity, as well as the conditions of fluids in those environments. Their research will focus on nanobubbles of oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, ozone and other atmospheric gasses. Additionally, they will evaluate how well nanobubbles enhance mass gas transport, which would increase the efficiency of water treatment systems, and produce reactive oxygen species that could fuel algae growth. Researchers will first generate their own nanobubbles in biphasic liquids with existing and new equipment at UMaine. They will then test their stability in a high altitude balloon, which can travel up to 118,000 feet or more, through UMaine's High Altitude Ballooning Program; a small research satellite called a CubeSat, and in two rocket launches. The company blueShift Aerospace Inc. in Brunswick, Maine will work with researchers on the launches for the CubeSat, which will be called PINESAT2 and be built at the WiSe-Net lab in the UMaine Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, as well as the two rocket launches, Apul says. One rocket will travel 62 miles and another will ascend 186 miles. Eventually, researchers hope to test their biphasic liquids with nanobubbles by sending them to the International Space Station, Apul says. "It's very theoretical now, but we believe this could shift the paradigms of using gasses in unconventional situations," Apul says. "This is a novel research area that is only 10 years old, and the potential it has is exciting. My slogan for them is 'tiny bubbles, massive potential.'" The project team includes Apul, Ali Abedi, UMaine associate vice president for research and professor of electrical and computer engineering; Sergi Garcia-Segura; assistant professor of environmental engineering at Arizona State; and Ashanthi Maxworth, an assistant professor of environmental engineering at USM. They will collaborate on the project with researchers from NASA's Johnson Space Center. Apul has been studying nanobubbles for two years and worked with various stakeholders interested in their development, including a distillery in Texas. Some of his students also are involved in nanobubble research. One of them, Zach Doherty, a graduate student of civil and environmental engineering, received the Susan J. Hunter Presidential Research Impact Award in the 2022 UMaine Student Symposium as a fourth-year undergraduate for his investigation of the use of nanobubbles to remove drinking water pollutants. Joseph Patton, a Ph.D. student with the UMaine Electrical and Computer Engineering Department who worked with Abedi to develop MESAT1, Maine's first CubeSat, also is involved in this project and is leading CubeSat development for it. The new study will help answer fundamental questions about nanobubbles, after which researchers can springboard into investigating other possible applications for them on Earth and beyond, Apul says. Nanobubbles might even serve industries important to Maine, such as aquaculture and pulp and paper manufacturing. Three Ph.D. students, two in Maine and one in Arizona, and three-to-five undergraduate researchers are expected to work on the study. New equipment purchased through this research will complement existing tools and expand the capacity for scientists at both UMaine and USM to investigate nanobubble production, characterization and application, Apul says. "We are creating the infrastructure, the backbone, for nanobubble research in Maine," he says. "This is only the beginning of it." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension launches online Maine farmers market price report

10 Aug 2022

Maine farmers can now access a new online tool to search for current market-specific price data to help refine their business plans, apply for financing or manage day-to-day operations. The [Maine Farmers Market Price Report](#) provides updated price data by commodity, commercial or organic, and is searchable by region or statewide using an interactive map tool. Reports can be customized and downloaded. The project is made possible with funding through the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, and support of the Maine Federation of Farmers Markets, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, Maine Farmland Trust, University of Maine and University of Maine Cooperative Extension. For more information contact Tori Jackson, 207.581.8201; tori.jackson@maine.edu.

Fiekowsky to discuss 'Climate Restoration' book on Aug. 15

10 Aug 2022

Peter Fiekowsky will discuss his recently published book "Climate Restoration: The Only Future That Will Sustain the Human Race" on Aug. 15, at 2 p.m. in 107 Norman Smith Hall. The discussion will also be available [via Zoom](#). Fiekowsky is an MIT-educated physicist and engineer, a serial entrepreneur, a philanthropist and a social innovator. He has worked at NASA and the Fairchild/Schlumberger Artificial Intelligence Lab in Palo Alto; taught at MIT; and developed his own machine vision company, Automated Visual Inspection LLC. He holds 27 patents and is on the board of Climate Capex, a fintech company designed to help complete the global transition to 100% clean energy by 2040 by tripling the rate of investment in solar projects. Fiekowsky's mission in life is "to leave a world we're proud of to our children." In that mission, Fiekowsky has a 30-year record as a citizen lobbyist for global poverty reduction and climate policy. The event is hosted by University of Maine Department of Physics and Astronomy, and Climate Change Institute. For questions or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact David Batuski, batuski@maine.edu; 207.991.1190.

Newsweek cites Lobster Institute in article about rare colored lobster

10 Aug 2022

In an article about a rare orange lobster rescued from a Red Lobster restaurant in Mississippi, [Newsweek](#) cited information from the UMaine Lobster Institute stating that though most lobsters are a brownish color, some can be different colors, like yellow or white. [MSN](#) and [DNYUZ](#) shared the Newsweek report.

Miner listed on Green Queen's female scientists making the world more sustainable

10 Aug 2022

Kimberly Miner, alumna and research assistant professor at the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, was listed as one of [Green Queen](#)'s six female scientists making the world more sustainable. The article cited Miner's support of rewilding as a potential climate solution and her work to generate more nature preserves and reintroduce native plants across a variety of ecosystems is ongoing, in addition to her Arctic research highlighting the increasing risk of thawing permafrost as a result of climate change. Miner was listed alongside Jane Gooddall, Sylvia Earle, Katherine Hayhoe, Paola Arias and Sunita Narain.

Talty mentions upcoming UMaine assistant professor position on NHPR

10 Aug 2022

In an interview with [New Hampshire Public Radio](#), author Morgan Talty, whose debut novel “Night of the Living Rez” has been named one of five finalists for the New England Book Awards, noted that he recently accepted an offer to teach as an assistant professor at the University of Maine.

BDN cites Versant Power Astronomy Center in article about Perseid Meteor Shower

10 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) cited information from the [University of Maine’s Versant Power Astronomy Center](#) stating that this year’s last supermoon comes right in the middle of the Perseid shower. A supermoon occurs when the moon is as close as possible to the Earth, making it appear slightly larger. The end of this week marks the best time of summer to see the Perseid meteor shower.

Brawley cited in Real Daily article about Maine’s seaweed market

10 Aug 2022

In an article about Maine’s burgeoning market of edible seaweed, [Real Daily](#) cited an NBC interview with Susan Brawley, professor at the School of Marine Sciences at the University of Maine, where she said, “More people are interested in sea vegetables, and a lot more Americans are a lot more savvy about eating nutritious foods.” Still, Brawley noted that the U.S. is still decades behind the seaweed industries of Japan, China, and South Korea.

Fried speaks to Mother Jones about ranked choice voting

10 Aug 2022

In an article about Sarah Palin’s attacks on ranked choice voting, Amy Fried, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to [Mother Jones](#) about the use of the system in Maine. Maine has been doing ranked-choice voting since 2016 and several cities and municipalities around the country have also adopted the system. “There isn’t a higher rate of incomplete or spoiled ballots in ranked choice races compared to ballots in elections using plurality voting, nor is turnout lower,” Fried said.

Past century of climate warming reverses 900 years of cooling in the Gulf of Maine, study shows

10 Aug 2022

The rapid warming of the 20th century has reversed 900 years of cooling in the Gulf of Maine, according to a new [study](#) led by the [Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution](#), co-authored by the University of Maine and funded by the National Science Foundation. The Gulf of Maine has undergone recent, rapid ocean warming, but the lack of long-term instrument records has made it difficult for scientists to put this warming into historical context. The longest continuous instrumental record available for the Gulf of Maine is a sea surface temperature record from Boothbay Harbor that extends back to 1905, and little is known about the Gulf’s water properties before that station was installed. To gain greater insight about what warming and cooling patterns were like for the Gulf of Maine in the past, scientists developed a 300-year-long geochemical record from shells of a clam known as the ocean quahog, *Arctica islandica*, in the western Gulf of Maine. The shells have been proven in previous studies to be valuable proxies because they are long-lived and faithfully record environmental conditions as they precipitate their shells in annual increments, gathering isotopes with valuable data along the way. Each of the isotopes collected from the shells served as a proxy for a property of the water in the region at a given time. For example, oxygen isotopes can be used as a proxy for seawater temperature and salinity, while nitrogen isotopes can be used as a proxy for water mass source. The scientists compared the records from the shells with 1,000-year-long climate model simulations known as the Community Earth System Model-Last Millennium Ensemble, a global climate model developed by the National Center for Atmospheric Research, which considers orbital, solar, volcanic, greenhouse gas, aerosol and land use changes over the last millennium. “Combining precisely dated geochemical data from the clam shells with state-of-the-art climate models provides a powerful method for understanding climate change in the Gulf of Maine. We can see how local conditions are influenced by large-scale patterns through time,” says Karl Kreutz, co-author of the study, director of the School of Earth and Climate Sciences and professor in the Climate Change Institute. The results suggest that the Gulf of Maine underwent a long-term cooling over the last 1,000 years driven mainly by volcanic forcing. However, this trend was significantly reversed by warming that began in the late 1800s, around the time of the Industrial Revolution began adding greenhouse gasses to the atmosphere while the behavior and position of the Gulf Stream shifted. The simulations suggest that the warming in the most recent century has been more rapid than any other 100-year period in the region’s last 1,000 years. “The climate changes that ecosystems and coastal communities are now being forced to adapt to are different from what has occurred in the recent past. That’s important to know when developing policies and decision support tools,” Kreutz says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

ArtWorks! applications open for youth grades K–8

11 Aug 2022

Applications for this fall’s ArtWorks!, a series of art classes taught by University of Maine art education students for youth grades K–8, are due Sept. 30. The program starts Oct. 14 and continues every Friday, 3:30–5 p.m., until Nov. 4, with an exhibition and reception Nov. 11. Classes will take place in Lord Hall on campus. ArtWorks! provides future art teachers the opportunity to develop the skills necessary for success in their future classrooms. Student teachers are supervised by Constant Albertson, UMaine associate professor of art and art education. Class sections are organized by age and grade level. Spaces are limited; acceptance will be on a first-come, first-served basis. A \$30 course fee covers the costs of materials used in the classes. Application information is available on the Department of Art [website](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Constant Albertson, 207.581.3251; constant@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension hosts Rogers Farm lunch-and-learn event Aug. 17

11 Aug 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold a garden-to-table workshop 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Aug. 17 at the UMaine Extension Master Gardener Volunteers demonstration garden, University of Maine Rogers Farm, 914 Bennoch Road, Old Town. Registration closes Aug. 15. This [Garden-to-Table workshop](#) will begin in the garden with demonstrations and growing tips for some late-season crops, including tomatoes, herbs and onions. Next stop is the UMaine campus to help prepare and enjoy three different pasta dishes using the freshly harvested produce. Rob Dumas, UMaine food science innovation coordinator and certified executive chef, and Laurie Bowen, Extension community education assistant, will lead the workshop. The sliding scale \$0–\$45 fee includes all materials and a light meal. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.942.7396; katherine.garland@maine.edu.

Media boosts field day at Tidewater Farm on Aug. 18

11 Aug 2022

[CentralMaine.com](#) and the [Sun Journal](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's free Tidewater Farm field day at 5 p.m. Aug. 18 at the Tidewater Farm demonstration gardens on Presumpscot Point Road in Falmouth. The event, led by UMaine Extension staff and Master Gardener Volunteers, features hands-on demonstrations about deadheading and extending the season, including best practices for annuals and perennials, as well as late-season vegetables to plant and protections against frost.

Maine Public cites UMaine spending request for Blueberry Hill Farm

11 Aug 2022

In an article about the impact of drought on wild blueberry crops in the Blue Hill Peninsula, [Maine Public](#) reported that the University of Maine recently submitted a congressionally directed spending request of \$3 million for the the University of Maine's Blueberry Hill Farm research center to install an irrigation demo to show wild blueberry producers irrigation systems that are best suited for for their operations. The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared the Maine Public report.

Emily Filiberti: Making international bird connections

11 Aug 2022

University of Maine graduate student Emily Filiberti of Fairfax, Vermont has spent her summer in the woods of Wisconsin tracking forest songbirds. With the guidance of her adviser Amber Roth, assistant professor of forest wildlife management at UMaine, Filiberti is studying the survival rate of the birds using the Motus Wildlife Tracking System, an international network of stations that pick up signals from tagged wildlife. The morning of June 6, Filiberti noticed an American redstart was lingering near a monitoring location — a sign the bird could be nesting. She pulled up the bird's records and encountered a familiar name. The tag's contact was Bryant Dossman, a postdoctoral fellow at Georgetown University, who mentored Filiberti during an internship with professor Peter Marra, also of Georgetown. Filiberti reached out to Dossman, who confirmed he had tagged the redstart on April 5 at the Font Hill Nature Preserve in southwest Jamaica. Filiberti knew the site well; she had spent her internship tagging birds in the preserve. The quarter-ounce bird had migrated more than 2,000 miles from one forest Filiberti had studied to another. "She selected a location that was right next to a station I run — someone who once traveled the same paths that she flew over, touched the same trees that she perched on, and overwintered at the Font Hill Nature Preserve," Filiberti says. "This bird is a subtle reminder of how connected we are as a community, both with one another and with the organisms that surround us." A full account of Filiberti's encounter is on the [College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture's website](#). Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

New exhibit featuring 3D-printed replica of 19th-century helmet opens at Hudson Museum

11 Aug 2022

The University of Maine Hudson Museum has opened a new exhibit showcasing a [3D-printed replica of a 19th-century clan helmet](#) from the Northwest Coast and photography that documents its creation. The exhibit is located in the museum's Minsky Culture Lab. The original Tlingit Frog Clan Helmet, carved out of yellow cedar, painted in green and red pigments and inlaid with abalone shell discs that were previously attached to a textile, sits alongside its identical replica. The 3D printed model was created by engineers from UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center and graduate students from the Intermedia Programs. Both helmets are surrounded by photos depicting the stages in the process to create the replica and panels describing how the original helmet came to the museum, what sparked the efforts to recreate it, who worked on the project and their roles. The museum plans to incorporate time-lapse videos of engineers scanning the original and printing the replica and Intermedia Programs students' roles in the project. The exhibit will be at the museum through early November, after which the museum will publish a digital version on its website. The Frog Clan Helmet was part of a 1982 bequest to UMaine from the estate of William P. Palmer III, which included a gift of pre-Columbian objects that ranged from Olmec to Aztec, and an assemblage of Northwest Coast masks, potlatch bowls, Chilkat textiles and items made for sale outside the community. In 2018, the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska requested that the museum repatriate the helmet following a consultation visit to review its holdings as part of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. The piece is part of an ongoing request from the council. Museum director Gretchen Faulkner and her team sought to have a replica of the helmet made before beginning the formal process to repatriate the helmet. The replication project capitalizes on the Composites Center's world-class expertise in 3D printing and the Intermedia Programs students' skills in a museum setting. Harold Jacobs, cultural resources specialist for the council, granted permission for the recreation. "This allows us to retain the replica to continue to educate visitors about Tlingit culture at the Hudson Museum and the importance of these objects to their communities," Faulkner says. The museum, Composites Center and Intermedia Programs received a \$14,600 seed grant from the [UMaine Arts Initiative](#) for the project, "Technology and Tradition: Shaping Indigenous Collections for the Future." It was [one of five funded projects](#) to receive seed grants as part of the initiative, which was launched in 2021 by the UMaine Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. Composites Center research engineers Jonathan Roy and Alexander Cole led the scanning, digitizing and 3D printing of the prototype, created out of a durable thermoplastic that was sanded to a smooth finish. Intermedia graduate students Luke McKinney, Reed Hayden and Anna Martin also worked on the project. McKinney created the time lapses of the scanning and printing, while Hayden and Martin collaborated on the model finishing, painting and surface treatment to replicate the appearance of the original carving, including the helmet's wood grain, Faulkner says. Duane Shimmel photographically documented all aspects of the project and is creating the exhibit video. "This is an accurate reproduction of the piece," Faulkner says, "but it's not just about the ability to reproduce it. It's also about the artists being able to bring it to life, reproducing the grain of the wood and wear patterns from traditional use." The project allowed the museum to develop a proof of concept for collection replication projects, help create protocols for these efforts with Indigenous

communities and provide other collecting institutions with technical information about 3D scanning, printing and techniques for creating surfaces that resemble the original artifact or object. “3D-printing doesn’t work for everything. It works for 3D solid objects, but not textiles or baskets,” Faulkner says. “This project allowed the museum to utilize cutting edge technology at UMaine, while collaborating with arts based units on campus. This project opens the door for future interdisciplinary collaborations.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension holds Tidewater Farm field day Aug. 18

12 Aug 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold a free Tidewater Farm field day 5–6:30 p.m. Aug. 18. at the [Tidewater Farm demonstration gardens](#) in Falmouth. Hands-on demonstrations about [deadheading and extending the season](#) include best practices for annuals and perennials, as well as late-season vegetables to plant and protections against frost. UMaine Extension staff and Master Gardener Volunteers will lead the event. The event is free and open to the public. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524. More information also is available on the [events webpage](#).

UMaine Extension shows how to preserve meat, fish Aug. 18

12 Aug 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold a hands-on class to discuss and demonstrate how to safely preserve meat 6–9 p.m. Aug. 18 at the Extension office in Presque Isle, 57 Houlton Road. Whether working with venison, beef, chicken or seafood, preserving meat is a way to add food to the pantry or freezer for use year-round. The class includes best practices for canning, dehydrating and freezing moose, venison, poultry, pork, fish and seafood. Lisa Fishman, a UMaine Extension nutrition education and food safety professional, will lead the class. The \$15 fee includes all supplies, resources and recipes. Registration is required on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sharon Paradis, 207.834.3905 or 800.287.1421 (in Maine); sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

Study Abroad Fair scheduled for Sept. 15 on University Mall

12 Aug 2022

The University of Maine Office of International Programs will host the Study Abroad Fair from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 15 on the University Mall. Learn about over 100 study abroad programs offered for UMaine students, as well as available financial aid and scholarships, and connect with the Office of International Programs’ education abroad advisors, program representatives and peer advisors. Representatives from the Office of International Program also will be available to answer questions.

Media boost UMaine Extension online Maine farmers market price report

12 Aug 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), the [Sun Journal](#) and [Turner Publishing](#) shared University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s new online [Maine Farmers Market Price Report](#), where Maine farmers can search for current market-specific price data to help refine their business plans, apply for financing or manage day-to-day operations. The website provides updated price data by commodity, commercial or organic, and is searchable by region or statewide using an interactive map tool. Reports can be customized and downloaded.

Dill speaks to BDN about braconid wasp

12 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the braconid wasp. The parasitic insect mummifies and kills the tomato hornworm, making them essential in natural pest control. The adult female wasp will sting the hornworm and lay her eggs inside its body. The wasp larvae develop inside the caterpillar and eat their way out, killing the hornworm in the process. “While they are developing inside the caterpillar, the wasp larvae are slowly making it incapable of doing anything. They are basically turning it into a mummy,” Dill said. [Hortidaily](#) shared the BDN report.

Media report on Hudson Museum exhibit on Hudson Museum exhibit

15 Aug 2022

[News Center Maine](#), the [Morning Sentinel](#) and [3D Printing Media Network](#) reported that the University of Maine Hudson Museum has opened a new exhibit showcasing a 3D printed replica of a 19th-century clan helmet from the Northwest Coast, and photography that documents its creation. The original Tlingit Frog Clan Helmet, carved out of yellow cedar, painted in green and red pigments, and inlaid with abalone shell discs that were previously attached to a textile, sits alongside its replica. The 3D printed model was created by engineers from UMaine’s Advanced Structures and Composites Center and graduate students from the Intermedia Program.

Maine Public features Dill in ‘Maine Calling’ show about rat biology

15 Aug 2022

Griffin Dill, integrated pest management professional at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was featured as a panelist on the [Maine Public](#) show “Maine Calling” about understanding the biology and behavior of rats in Maine in order to reduce their population.

WQCB cites UMaine Extension information about cicadas

15 Aug 2022

In a story about finding a cicada in Maine, [WQCB-FM](#) (Q106.5) cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension that assisted in identifying the article's author in identifying the exoskeleton of the insect. According to UMaine Extension, these typically southern bugs are often found in Maine during the dog days of summer — late July and August. They can stay burrowed underground for up to five years but, each year, some of them will emerge.

Morning Ag Clips boosts UMaine Extension lunch-and-learn event at Rogers Farm**15 Aug 2022**

[Morning Ag Clips](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's garden-to-table workshop from 11 a.m.–1 p.m Aug. 17 at the UMaine Extension Master Gardener Volunteers demonstration garden, Rogers Farm, 914 Bennoch Road, Old Town. The event includes garden demonstrations and growing tips for some late-season crops, including tomatoes, herbs and onions, and then a pasta cooking demonstration on UMaine's campus. Rob Dumas, UMaine food science innovation coordinator and certified executive chef, and Laurie Bowen, Extension community education assistant, will lead the workshop. Register on the event [webpage](#); registration closes Aug. 15.

Bishop speaks to PPH about teacher shortages in Maine**15 Aug 2022**

Penny Bishop, dean of the College of Education and Human Development, spoke to the [Portland Press Herald](#) about the scramble to fill teaching positions due to a shortage of teachers in Maine. Bishop said that the state is going to have to significantly change the way it treats and supports its educators in order to attract and retain them. Bishop commended Gov. Janet Mills for raising the minimum teacher salary from \$30,000 to \$40,000, but noted that Maine on average pays its teachers less than surrounding states, making it harder to recruit teachers. Plus, Maine is particularly vulnerable because it is often harder to recruit and retain teachers in rural, remote and isolated places, and because the state's educator workforce is old, like its population in general, many educators are heading into their retirement years. "We don't value teachers to the extent that other countries do, salaries are low, there are tons of cases of teachers taking part-time jobs to make ends meet, teachers don't feel valued, We're going to have to make some fundamental shifts to right the ship," Bishop said. [Yahoo! News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Zipe Education](#) shared the PPH report.

UMaine, UMaine Extension hosts potato field day Aug. 17 in Presque Isle**16 Aug 2022**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture are hosting a [Potato Field Day](#) from 11 a.m.–6:30 p.m. on Aug. 17 at the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station Aroostook Research Farm, 59 Houlton Road, Presque Isle. Presentation topics include potato breeding and variety trials, integrated pest and disease management, the use of satellite imagery as an aid in pest control, and nutrient management. For more information before or on the day of the event, contact Bee Chim, 405.385.4558; bee.chim@maine.edu. This event is sponsored by Syngenta.

Three UMaine players among National Collegiate Rugby's 2021–22 Scholastic All Americans**16 Aug 2022**

National Collegiate Rugby named three athletes from the University of Maine Men's Rugby Team as 2021–22 Scholastic All Americans. Griffin McDevitt of Sandwich, Massachusetts; Nick Mills of Chelsea, Maine; and Matthew Sande from Shrewsbury, Massachusetts were among the 472 players from more than 140 schools selected for the annual program, created to recognize high academic performers in collegiate rugby. [According to the organization](#), these athletes have maintained a 3.5 GPA or higher during the academic year. Mills is a junior majoring in civil and environmental engineering. He plays as an eight man and has competed with the UMaine team for three years. McDevitt is a sophomore studying sustainable agriculture who has played prop for the UMaine team for one year. Sande is a sophomore studying chemistry, and has played for UMaine for one year as a wing. In May, the UMaine Men's Rugby Team placed fifth in the [2022 Collegiate Rugby Championship](#). Of the 25 UMaine team members, 16 competed in the national championship, including eight who were returning players for the team. It was the first 7s national championship, meaning seven players per team competing in a game, for which the Black Bears have qualified.

Climate Fact Check cites Climate Reanalyzer in article debunking climate denying tweet**16 Aug 2022**

In an article debunking a tweet that used an image from the University of Maine's Climate Reanalyzer, [Climate Fact Check](#) noted that the Data Sources & Additional Information section on the Climate Reanalyzer website clearly mentions that climate trends should be inferred from long-term data. Thus, using the global temperature record on a single day of a year to claim that human-driven global warming doesn't exist, as the viral tweet did, is baseless.

BDN highlights granite sculptures at UMaine**16 Aug 2022**

In an article about the Schoodic Sculpture Symposium artworks that have been placed in communities throughout eastern Maine, the [Bangor Daily News](#) featured such granite sculptures on the University of Maine campus. The sculptures include "New Dawn" created by New Zealand sculptor Johnny Turner on display at Buchanan Alumni House and Penobscot Nation artist Tim Shay's sculpture "Man and his Dog Walking Into the Forest" outside Nutting Hall.

News Center Maine reports on UMaine electric vehicle charging stations

16 Aug 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that the University of Maine has added four new Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations, bringing the total number of chargers at UMaine to 35. The charging stations were added in part due to increasing demand. "I constantly get emails from folks looking for a charging space. I get an email every time it's used, so I was getting a lot of emails," said Daniel Dixon, director of sustainability.

Rubin interviewed by Times Record about electric vehicles

16 Aug 2022

Jonathan Rubin, professor at the University of Maine School of Economics and director of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, was interviewed by the [Times Record](#) about the efforts by Maine to increase the number of electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids on the road from 7,000 to 219,000 by 2030. "No one's going to buy an electric vehicle unless it's convenient," Rubin said. The [Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Wired Focus](#) shared the Times Record article.

UMaine Extension wild blueberry course registration closes Aug. 26

17 Aug 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a five-week online course about wild blueberry production for beginning and established farmers starting Aug. 30 from 5:30–7:30 p.m. The class meets every Tuesday and Thursday for 10 sessions through Sept. 29. [Wild Blueberry Production: A Five-Week Course for Beginning Farmers](#) is an introduction to growing wild blueberries in Maine. It covers field selection, agronomics, integrated pest management, pollinators, climate change challenges, economics and an introduction to how the industry functions. One field trip during class time is planned to observe an established blueberry field. The sliding scale fee is \$50–\$150; registration is required by Aug. 26. Register on the [course webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Mary Michaud, 207.581.3175 or 800.287.1421 (in Maine); mary.j.michaud@maine.edu. More information about Maine wild blueberries is available on the [Extension wild blueberries website](#).

Fall 2022 COVID-19 testing guidance for UMaine and UMaine Machias communities

17 Aug 2022

This fall, there is no asymptomatic COVID-19 testing at the University of Maine, University of Maine at Machias or other University of Maine System universities. There is also no asymptomatic testing requirement for individuals with a vaccination-exemption. (Note: These requirements may be revised as the COVID-19 pandemic evolves or as public health best practices change or emerge.) Self-administered COVID-19 antigen tests are available on campus for students and employees when they have COVID-19 symptoms: headache with fever, sore throat, coughing, congestion, fatigue. UMaine students and employees can pick up COVID-19 antigen tests for symptomatic testing from 8–10 a.m. Monday; noon–2 p.m. Tuesday; and 3–5 p.m. Thursday in the second-floor ticket window across from the information desk in the Memorial Union. (Look for the sign in the lobby.) UMaine Machias students in need of a COVID-19 antigen test for symptomatic testing should contact Hope Shore, Director of Student Life, hope.shore@maine.edu; 207.255.1320. UMaine and UMaine Machias employees who are symptomatic should stay home and test for COVID-19, and/or contact their primary care providers. University community members on campus who are symptomatic are asked to wear a face covering, and get tested for COVID-19. Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should follow [CDC isolation guidelines](#), which currently recommend to isolate at home for five days and wear a face mask for an additional five days. Anyone who tests negative for COVID-19 but is symptomatic is encouraged to contact their primary care physician and symptomatic students testing negative for COVID-19 are encouraged to contact Cutler Health Center, and continue to wear a mask until cleared by medical personnel. Access free COVID-19 tests for those living in Maine is [online](#). More information about COVID-19 testing in Maine is [online](#). The site includes information about how MaineCare members and parents of children covered by Cub Care can obtain free at-home test kits at retail pharmacies that accept MaineCare.

On-campus COVID-19 vaccination clinic for students Aug. 26

17 Aug 2022

On-campus COVID-19 vaccination clinics for students will be held from 1–4 p.m. on Aug. 26 in the Lown Room, Memorial Union. Students who received the Moderna, Pfizer or J&J vaccines are encouraged to participate. You need to be 5 months out from your last Pfizer or Moderna vaccinations, and 2 months from your last J&J vaccinations to receive the booster. Interchanging the type of vaccine with the booster shot is an approved practice. This is a walk-in clinic; no appointments required. Bring to your appointment:

- A copy or the original insurance card used for prescriptions, or have a picture of it readily available on your phone.
- COVID vaccination card or a picture of it on your phone.

WAGM notes UMaine Extension's Agrability program

17 Aug 2022

The County AG Report on [WAGM](#) (Channel 8 in Presque Isle) featured AgrAbility, a project funded by the USDA Farm Bill that helps states work with farmers with disabilities or limitations of one type or another to continue to farm, that is a partnership between the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Alpha One and various contractors. For more information on AgrAbility, visit extension.umaine.edu/agrability.

Maine Calling features Bolton as VIP caller

17 Aug 2022

Jason Bolton, associate Extension professor and food safety specialist at the University of Maine, was featured as a VIP caller on [Maine Public](#)'s show Maine Calling for a segment about starting a food or beverage business in Maine.

New England Construction reported on UMaine composite girders winning awards

17 Aug 2022

[New England Construction](#) reported that the Grist Mill Bridge Replacement project in Hampden won a regional award in the 2022 America's Transportation Awards competition, sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, AAA and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The 75-foot-long, single-span bridge was the first in the nation to use fiber reinforced polymer tub-girders, which were developed by the University of Maine. This project won in the Best Use of Technology and Innovation category.

Maine Public features UMaine's Howland Research Forest

17 Aug 2022

As part of their series "[Climate Driven: A deep dive into Maine's response, one county at a time](#)," [Maine Public](#) featured the [University of Maine's Howland Research Forest](#), where scientists have undertaken groundbreaking studies on acid rain, forest ecology and soil health. At the research forest, carbon and other greenhouse gas measurements are continuously recorded from the top of several meteorological towers that soar above a lush canopy of spruce, hemlock and white pine. Research associate John Lee was interviewed for the story, and allowed the reporter to join him on a climb up the 88-foot-tall main tower. "We can calculate fluxes of anything we can measure in the atmosphere. Carbon, of course, is the constituent of most interest because it is the most common greenhouse gas," Lee said. The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared the Maine Public report.

Hegmann-Wary named UMaine interim AD

17 Aug 2022



[caption id="attachment_92378" align="alignright" width="223"] Samantha Hegmann-Wary[/caption] Samantha Hegmann-Wary, associate athletic director for compliance and senior woman administrator at the University of Maine, has been named UMaine interim athletic director, effective Sept. 1. She will serve through the national search to fill the permanent position held by [Ken Ralph, who has been named athletic director at Southwestern University](#). "I look forward to working with Samantha in the months ahead," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "I have appreciated the leadership and vision she has provided as senior woman administrator in UMaine Athletics and in our compliance office, and will rely on her experience, knowledge and perspective as we continue to advance the state's only Division I program during this exciting, transformative era made possible by the Harold Alfond Foundation's challenge grant." Hegmann-Wary has been a member of the UMaine community since 2019. As UMaine associate athletic director for compliance, she oversees the implementation of NCAA rules and regulations for 17 Division I sports. Hegmann-Wary also serves as sport supervisor for baseball and field hockey, and as co-supervisor for women's basketball. She came to UMaine from Hofstra University, where she served for two years as assistant director of athletics for NCAA education and compliance services. From 2012–17 at Monmouth University, she was assistant athletics director for compliance while also serving as the interim senior associate athletics director for student-athlete development, and as senior women's administrator. There, she oversaw compliance operations for 23 Division I teams. Hegmann-Wary serves on the Women Leaders in College Sports (WLCS) Mentorship Program and the Maine National Girls and Women in Sports Committee, and co-leads the WLCS Member Circle: Mental Health in Sports. She holds a master's degree in physical education and sport management from Adelphi University. "I appreciate the opportunity to be interim AD for this department," Hegmann-Wary says. "The coaches and people we have here at Maine are so special and they make our student-athletes experience so much better. I am so lucky to be a Black Bear and get to work with such amazing people." Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

New study cautions over-interpreting influence of climate on cultural change and catastrophe

17 Aug 2022

El Nino has been a major driver of societal collapse, various catastrophes and cultural change in coastal Peru for millennia, but it isn't the only culprit. In a new study, University of Maine researchers warn against over-interpreting the role climatic change, like an El Nino event, plays in societal and cultural transition. Dan Sandweiss, a professor in the Anthropology Department and Climate Change Institute, and Kirk Maasch, a professor in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences and the Climate Change Institute, investigated whether climate influenced the abandonment of three sites in the Lambayeque Valley in northern Peru: Pampa Grande not long after 750 A.D., Batán Grande in 1100 A.D. and Túcume, America's largest pyramid center, between 1532 and 1547 A.D. Sandweiss excavated Túcume in collaboration with Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl in the 1990s. All three sites were major centers of Andean society at their time, and large adobe and fill mounds in each site were burned when they were abandoned. Pampa Grande covered 600 acres and centered around the

mound Huaca Fortaleza. Batán Grande had eight large mounds. Túcume spanned 200 hectares with 13 major mounds and several dozen smaller structures, according to researchers. Sandweiss and Maasch analyzed data from three proxy records for climate change and El Niño activity to determine whether they occurred around the same time as the abandonment of these sites. Those records included an ice core from the Quelccaya ice cap in southern Peru, a marine sediment core from the coast and a lake sediment record from Pallacocha in highland Ecuador. The data showed that climate contributed to the abandonment of Pampa Grande and Batán Grande, but not Túcume, which resulted from the Spanish conquest. The new study also revealed associations between the abandonment of Pampa Grande and Batán Grande and El Niño, albeit at different degrees of intensity. “Our study shows that equifinality — similar outcomes from different causes — likely happened in Peruvian prehistory,” says Maasch. “This urges caution in seeing a single process such as climate change as the prime driver of all abrupt change.” Ice core and marine and lake sediment core records showed that the abandonment of Pampa Grande occurred during the onset of the Medieval Warm Period, a time of extreme drought and a strong peak in El Niño intensity, according to researchers. The abandonment of Batán Grande happened at the latter end of the Medieval Warm Period during a drought and when there was a small peak in El Niño intensity. After both sites were abandoned, El Niño intensity diminished and new mound centers were built, researchers say. Civilizations along the Peruvian Coast experience several different types of El Niño. Researchers theorize that the abandonment of Pampa Grande and Batán Grande occurred during a Central Pacific El Niño, which is known for causing drought in areas of the Andean Highlands like the Lambayeque Valley. Sandweiss and Maasch previously found connections between climate and cultural change in early Peruvian civilizations, particularly during initial monument construction in 5800 B.P., at the end of the Late Preceramic Period around 3800–3600 B.P., and at the conclusion of the Initial Period temple tradition at 2850 B.P. The climatic pattern has brought extreme weather conditions that decimate agricultural infrastructure, depress fisheries, usher in disease and damage archaeological resources in northern Peru, and it continues to threaten the region’s economy and culture. “When we began working on the Peruvian coast, we saw El Niño events as unmitigated disasters,” says Sandweiss. “Thanks to more recent work by many colleagues and studies like this one, we now have a better understanding of the resilience of ancient Peruvians in the face of climatic and other catastrophes. Along with technological responses, ideological changes such as site abandonment were part of the cultural repertoire for dealing with disaster.” Sandweiss has spent decades conducting pioneering research on the origins of El Niño and fluctuations of its frequency and intensity over time. He also is credited with discovering variation in the frequency of El Niño events during the Holocene (the last 11,400 years) and, in the process, demonstrating the value of archaeological remains as records of past climates and early maritime adaptations. His work on El Niño has provided seminal contributions to the field and provided a scientific foundation for exploring the impact of climatic disasters on cultural change in the Andes. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension program opens Maine farmer wellness fund applications

18 Aug 2022

Applications for the Maine Farmer Wellness Fund are now available online and by phone for Maine farmers and farm workers through Sept. 30. Made possible through the [Maine Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network](#) (FRSAN), individuals can apply for up to \$500 to support their wellness needs. Farmer wellness is broadly defined and covers a range of eligible uses including therapy, childcare, acupuncture, massage and traditional healers. Farm workers are defined as anyone involved with agricultural work, including forestry products and aquaculture. More information, including application options, is available on the University of Maine Cooperative Extension [Maine FRSAN website](#). Online and phone applications are available in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole. For more information contact Izzy Ruffin at 207.570.8308 or mainefrsan@maine.edu. This project is funded by the USDA National Institute for Food & Agriculture, awarded to the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry and managed by UMaine Extension. Funds are administered in partnership with the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, Maine Farmland Trust and Mano en Mano.

Media shares information about UMaine Extension wild blueberry course

18 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#), [Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [Lincoln County News](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension five-week online course about wild blueberry production for beginning and established farmers starting Aug. 30 from 5:30–7:30 p.m. The class meets every Tuesday and Thursday for 10 sessions through Sept. 29. Register on the [course webpage](#). [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

The Grand Island Independent cites UMaine research about canned food safety

18 Aug 2022

In an article about safely canning homemade salsa, the [Grand Island Independent](#) cited research from University of Maine Cooperative Extension that evaluated 56 home canning salsa recipes from 43 blogs and found 70% of the recipes did not include USDA food safety home canning standards.

Ability Magazine cites UMaine VEMI Lab grant for accessible ride share apps

18 Aug 2022

In an article featuring a Q&A with Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, [Ability Magazine](#) noted that the University of Maine took third place in the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Inclusive Design Challenge for its Autonomous Vehicle Assistant (AVA) that assists passengers with visual impairments and older adults with ride-hailing and trip planning.

McCarty, Savoie featured in Portland Monthly article about wild beach plums

18 Aug 2022

Kate McCarty, food system professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and Kathy Savoie, Extension educator, were quoted in the July/August issue of [Portland Monthly](#) about foraging for wild beach plums to use the home kitchen. “The best time to pick beach plums in Maine is August to September. You tell when they’re ripe based on the color. Depending on the variety, they’re either reddish or plum-colored, not green,” McCarty said. McCarty also noted that it is important to make sure you’re picking plums in an area that hasn’t been affected by environmental contaminants, especially in urban areas, and to wash the fruit well before preparing them. When making wild beach plum jam, McCarty recommended using Pomona’s Universal Pectin

along with maple syrup or local honey to make a less sugary final product.

WMTW features UMaine Extension's Harvest for Hunger

18 Aug 2022

[WMTW](#) (ABC 8 in Portland) featured Maine Harvest for Hunger, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension program that connects farmers and food producers to volunteers in order to provide local food to Mainers suffering from food insecurity. Since 2000, the Maine Harvest for Hunger program has used volunteers to harvest and distribute over 3.4 million pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to food pantries and services in Maine.

Bricknell co-edits, major contributor to 'Sea Lice Biology and Control'

18 Aug 2022

Ian Bricknell, professor of aquaculture biology at the University of Maine and internationally recognized researcher on sea lice, is a co-editor and major contributor to "[Sea Lice Biology and Control](#)," published by 5m Books and available in October 2022. The other co-editors are James Bron and Jim Treasurer. Bricknell is one of 69 authors who contributed to the 650-page volume on "one of the most important and costly health issues for Atlantic salmon aquaculture and for culture of many other marine fish species."

Diving into student research at the Summer 2022 SEA Fellows Symposium

18 Aug 2022

Beals, Maine — Twenty-five students from 15 universities nationwide presented their summer marine research at the sixth annual Science for Economic Impact and Application (SEA) [Fellows Symposium](#), held this year at the [Downeast Institute](#) (DEI) in Beals, Maine. More than 50 people, including students and their family members; researchers; local municipal leaders and other community members; and marine professionals, attended the Aug. 9 symposium. The SEA Fellows program encourages students in marine research to collaborate on climate-relevant science; network with other undergraduates; and develop science communication and presentation skills. The SEA Fellows' posters from the symposium are [online](#). "This is a celebration of marine science and young scientists. The reason we have SEA Fellows and this symposium is to connect these young scientists with one another and allow them to hear from like-minded individuals about the projects they're developing," noted Heather Leslie, director of the University of Maine Darling Marine Center and professor of marine conservation science in the UMaine School of Marine Sciences. Students from across the University of Maine System participated in the symposium. Their research related to a wide range of applied marine science themes. Lindsey Karwacki, a rising senior at the University of Maine at Machias, focused on the reproduction and culture of the moon jellyfish (*Aurelia aurita*). While observing the jellyfish larvae in an aquaculture setting over many months, Karwacki set a goal to understand the life history and culture of such invertebrates to create displays for public and private aquaria. With her project, Karwacki hopes that jellyfish aquaculture may be one possible solution to diversify coastal economies in Down East Maine. SEA Fellow Brady Kaelin, a rising junior at UMaine, is interested in how different types of fungal spores respond to saltwater immersion. He plans to conduct research on campus this fall to investigate how species of fungi fare in response to seawater. Kaelin hopes that his experiments will advance understanding of colonization and persistence dynamics of fungal populations on terrestrial islands. Students from institutions beyond Maine also shared their work, all of which was conducted with researchers based in the state. Among them was Florida State University rising senior Lena Kury, who worked with UMaine professor Damian Brady at the UMaine Darling Marine Center this summer. Her independent research focused on Atlantic cod and one of the most important habitats for juveniles of the species: eelgrass beds. Using baited remote underwater video (BRUV), Kury investigated how well this technology can help researchers identify juvenile cod in eelgrass habitats. University of New Hampshire 2021 graduate Owen Hamel worked in professor Robert Steneck's laboratory, also at the Darling Marine Center. Hamel investigated how American lobsters respond to low oxygen environments. "Understanding lobster behavior in response to hypoxic environments could help fisheries minimize lobster mortality in traps by changing fishery policies on trap placement in areas with higher oxygen levels," Hamel explained. The symposium was hosted by the Downeast Institute, which serves as the marine science field station for UMaine Machias. DEI Director of Research Brian Beal welcomed the Fellows to the facility in Beals, noting that they had arrived at the easternmost marine laboratory in the U.S. The SEA Fellows then toured the lab, learning about the variety of research and education activities underway from the Fellows who were based at DEI all summer. Before lunch, Leslie and one of the Fellows, Meghan Nadzam, led a communication workshop, helping to prepare the students for the afternoon symposium. During her poster presentations, Roger Williams University rising senior Emily Leonard reflected on her SEA Fellows experience: "Meeting so many different people and how they go about their projects was amazing. Everyone had different ideas when it came to presenting their projects. It's fun to talk to people around your age about topics we are all passionate about," Leonard said. For Evan Busch, a student at the University of Maine at Machias, SEA Fellows reinforced his interest in scientific research and his plans for the future. "I loved living here at DEI this summer. DEI was a place where I could conduct my own summer research, and as an undergraduate, that can be a very rare opportunity. I knew that research is something I want to pursue for a career, so I knew that working as a SEA Fellow was something that I wanted to jump on. I can now be more prepared for a job or graduate school," Busch said. DEI Executive Director Dianne Tilton closed the student symposium, emphasizing how important it is that such solutions-oriented science is shared with members of the public. As a former state legislator, Tilton spoke from experience about the value of such research and its effective communication. "It is important that policy makers and leaders know how to use different types of research, and understand how to discern its quality. These undergraduates are helping to make that happen," Tilton says. Contact: Matthew Norwood, matthew.norwood@maine.edu; Dianne Tilton, dtilton@downeastinstitute.org

Knowles developing website to tell the story of Holocaust victims through places

19 Aug 2022

Anne Knowles believes that places provide important information about historical events. The University of Maine professor and graduate coordinator in the History Department has made an academic career studying the relationship between geographical circumstances and major societal shifts, exploring topics from Welsh emigration to the United States to why American entrepreneurs struggled to match the productivity of the British iron industry. Now, Knowles is working with a team of historians and geographers to create a digital platform for students and educators to trace the geographies of the Holocaust and connect victims' stories to the places where they happened. The project was recently awarded a \$150,000 [National Endowment for the Humanities \(NEH\) Digital Humanities Advancement Grant](#), which supports innovative, experimental or computationally challenging digital projects that can scale to enhance scholarly research, teaching and public programming in the humanities. "I have been very fortunate to receive a number of NEH grants for my Holocaust research. This one will enable me to share the results of years of work with a global audience. Mapping history with GIS is now mainstream in the Digital

Humanities. It's exciting that the University of Maine can contribute to this important trend," Knowles says. While Nazi actions were often recorded and can be mapped with geographic coordinates, the places of Holocaust victim experiences are difficult to map because their locations are vague or unknown and can only be located relatively. Knowles is working with collaborators, including Paul Jaskot, professor of art, art history and visual studies at Duke University, to create a website that will share 14 years of data combining GIS analysis with corpus and computational linguistics to explore the geographical connections between 1,111 SS camps, 1,142 Jewish ghettos, and approximately 4,000 Holocaust survivor testimonies. Although there are now many websites about the Holocaust, none have provided detailed data on camps and ghettos that users can explore, as Knowles' project will. "Our project aims to teach spatial thinking while enabling students and scholars to do geographical research. By linking personal accounts to particular places, camps and ghettos will gain meaning and emotion," Knowles says. Knowles is a co-founder of the [Holocaust Geographies Collaborative](#). In 2014, this interdisciplinary group produced the first book showing how geographic methods could illuminate the places and spaces of the Holocaust. This website, though, will host the most comprehensive data and maps of SS-administered camps and ghettos in German-occupied Eastern Europe, as well as connecting perpetrator actions to testimony, providing pedagogical assistance and supporting online mapping capabilities. The website will enable users to toggle between close reading of personal accounts of the impact of changes to living spaces from transcripts of interviews and more distant regional and continental patterns of those changes as implemented by the Nazis and their collaborators. The goal of the website is to encourage users to think about the Holocaust in new ways by highlighting the shocking number, ubiquity, and variety of SS camps throughout the Reich beyond the well-known Auschwitz, and ghettoization across occupied Eastern Europe beyond large urban areas like Warsaw and Lodz. All data on the website will be publicly available and downloadable. The website will also include materials that suggest ways to use the website in class assignments and in research. "After years of writing and giving public lectures about the profound geographies of the Holocaust, I want to share the spatial insights I've gained with the digital generation. Maps are a great vehicle for visual learning. We also want the website to enhance geographic literacy. Americans can better understand current events in Europe — such as the current war in Ukraine — if they learn about previous struggles in the region," Knowles says. Knowles says that her Holocaust research at UMaine has involved more than a dozen undergraduate and graduate students. This project will further student involvement by employing two Ph.D. students and enabling Knowles to hire several new student team members. The final product will be on a public website hosted by the University of Maine. It will also be promoted on the websites of partner institutions such as the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the USC Shoah Foundation's Visual History Archive, Facing History and the Holocaust Education Foundation of Northwestern University. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

John Cyrus: At 69, finishing the undergraduate degree he always wanted

19 Aug 2022

John Cyrus always said that if he won the lottery, he would start his own research lab to study whatever scientific questions his mind latched onto. He never did land a winning ticket, but Cyrus is finally getting the chance to explore the wonderful world of academic research by returning to the University of Maine to finish his undergraduate degree in microbiology at the age of 69. Cyrus graduated from high school in 1971 with a scholarship to study biochemistry and organic chemistry at Rutgers University in New Jersey. A near-fatal car accident the night of his graduation delayed his enrollment; once he finally recovered, he was drafted to the Vietnam War. Cyrus joined the Air Force and was stationed in New Mexico. He and his friends soon figured out that if they volunteered for the night shift, they would be able to take classes at the local community college during the day. Cyrus was taking classes in microbiology when the dean of the school suggested he try a new program for medical laboratory technicians. Soon after, Cyrus was the program's first graduate. When he got out of the Air Force, Cyrus' family in Waterville suggested that he go back to school. He attended the University of Maine at Augusta starting in 1976 and worked nights as a lab supervisor at the Mid-Maine Medical Center. Only nine credits shy of a degree, he dropped out when a lab accident infected him with mono and kept him from completing his coursework. Instead, he completed a computer service technician certification at the Control Data Institute, worked briefly as a research and development director for Northeast Labs and then landed at the Jay paper mill, where he eventually worked as an instrument electrician for nearly three decades. "I used to joke, 'Yeah, I can draw your blood, do your lab work and wire and automate your house at the same time,'" Cyrus laughs. He never stopped learning, though — or teaching, for that matter. Throughout his career, he simultaneously served in the National Guard and the Reserves, taking classes about biological chemical warfare, serving as a construction engineer overseeing projects like building highways in Guatemala and training soldiers preparing for deployment. Cyrus retired in 2012. After six months of retirement, he was bored. He took temp jobs for several years, before he looked into finishing his undergraduate degree at the University of Maine. Once he committed to going back to school, he was delighted to learn that he could take classes for free because of the [University of Maine's senior citizen waiver program](#). When he started, he was worried about fitting in with the other undergraduates, but he was quickly embraced by his peers. He has grandchildren around their age, which he thinks has helped in his ability to bond with his classmates (though he says he has resisted their efforts to get him to join TikTok). "We actually developed a synergy, I think because of my leadership experience, plus my different ways of looking at things and my broad knowledge base," Cyrus says. "They're able to show me things that I never would have known about, like simple things on the computer. I'm very tech savvy — I can tear a computer apart and fix it — but there's just some things that you guys growing up take for granted, but I haven't seen." Cyrus made a connection with one of his classmates that led him to Josh Kelley's lab, where he now studies the G-alpha protein in yeast. G-alpha proteins drive much of cell communication and signaling in humans, but there remain many questions about how exactly they work in the cell. Cyrus is working to figure out how to attach fluorescent markers to the important protein so it can more easily be tracked and observed by microscopy. Previous attempts to attach a fluorescent marker to the yeast G-alpha were unsuccessful, or compromised the functionality of the protein (normally, such markers are stuck to either end of the protein, but the G-alpha uses both of its ends for its functionality). Through his research, Cyrus thinks he might have found a solution elsewhere on the protein. Kelley says that even beyond his age, Cyrus isn't like any other undergraduate student researcher he's ever had. "The wealth of experience he's had sets you up to engage with the lab in a way that maybe an 18 year old is not always ready to do," Kelley says. "Experience really helps in a lab where so much is the willingness to go and try something. What's really great about John [Cyrus] is that he's here because he's intellectually curious and really wants to engage. He doesn't have to be here, he could be at home. He comes in and he wants to push the project forward and learn about how all this stuff works and he's doing it because he's enjoying it and that's the best reason to do science." Cyrus' experiences also allow him to approach problems in ways that many traditional students do not. He remembers a presentation he created for a research methods class with Jennifer Newell-Caito that connected the way he has built on his knowledge for his research — learning different softwares and assay techniques, for example — to learning different knots and stitches for his embroidery hobby (which he has done for 40 years, primarily to stitch scenes with his nieces', nephews' and grandchildren's favorite cartoon characters). "They were both learning experiences, basically taking something I didn't know anything about and figuring out how to do these different procedures that I have only read about before," Cyrus says. "There were hurdles that had to be overcome in each case." Cyrus plans to finish his degree in spring 2023 — he wants to graduate college the same time his granddaughter graduates high school — and his only regret is that he didn't go back to school sooner. "I wish I had done it years earlier even if it had cost me," Cyrus says. "It's a great environment. Hopefully from this somebody older will see this and think, 'Hey, yeah, maybe I'll go back now.'" Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Fraver part of NSF-funded research on methane sinks in Maine forest

19 Aug 2022

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded \$1.65 million across a team of researchers at five institutions that includes Shawn Fraver, associate professor of forest ecology at the University of Maine School of Forest Resources, to study methane sinks in Northern Forests. The total award to UMaine is \$239,679. Methane is second only to carbon dioxide in terms of its overall contribution to climate change. Boreal and sub-boreal forests — the northernmost forests, which also make up the largest land-based biome — can shift between emitting methane to the atmosphere and removing it. The factors controlling these shifts in methane emissions or sinks, however, are poorly understood. This lack of understanding leads to inaccurate climate modeling, which is especially concerning given the fact that methane emissions are increasingly important to understanding the climate future. Previous studies have shown that whether methane is emitted or consumed depends primarily on soil moisture, which makes understanding changes in moisture essential to learning more about methane fluxes in these ecosystems. With the support of the NSF grant, a group of researchers led by Jennifer Watts, assistant scientist at the Woodwell Climate Research Center in Falmouth, Massachusetts, will explore the biophysical drivers of methane fluxes through an on-site moisture manipulation experiment in central Maine’s Howland Research Forest, which has already demonstrated methane source–sink transitions and has existing long-term methane flux data from 2012 to the present. The study site is also situated at the southern limit of what is considered to be boreal forests, which makes it especially vulnerable to climate change. “[Howland Research Forest](#) is the ideal location to conduct this research. Its location in a temperate-to-boreal transition, as well as its documented variation in methane fluxes, allows us to gauge how our northern forests might shift from methane sinks to sources given the projected changes in precipitation. As such Howland serves as a sentinel to broader changes resulting from a changing climate,” Fraver says. The researchers will examine the changes in net methane emissions across the landscape and soil profile gradient as the moisture is manipulated by rainwater collected in the area, which is representative of natural precipitation chemistry. The researchers will integrate the field observations with laboratory analyses and modeling to bolster their observations. The researchers hope the study will help to better predictions of methane source–sink transitions under future climate change scenarios. “Previous studies of methane fluxes have focused almost entirely on landscapes that are known methane sources, largely ignoring methane uptake and neglecting landscapes, like Howland Forest, that alternate between sources and sinks. By using an integrated combination of field experiments, lab studies and modeling, we expect to identify the mechanisms by which forests change from methane sources to sinks and vice versa,” Fraver says. Fraver is a co-principal investigator of the project along with Hinsby Cadillo-Quiroz, Associate Professor, Arizona State University; Kathleen Savage, Research Associate, Woodwell Climate Research Center; Xiaofeng Xu, Assistant Professor, San Diego State University; and Debjani Sihi, Assistant Professor, Emory University. The award begins Nov. 1, 2022. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Kimball joins College of Education and Human Development as associate dean

19 Aug 2022

Ezekiel “Zeke” Kimball has been named associate dean for undergraduate and teacher education at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development. He will work to grow the college’s existing undergraduate programs and lead development of new programs and initiatives; oversee undergraduate student services in the college; facilitate ongoing teacher education assessment and accreditation; and identify and facilitate external funding initiatives designed to amplify the impact of undergraduate and teacher education. “This is a critical time in education, where many longtime teachers are retiring or preparing to retire in the next few years,” Kimball says. “The College of Education and Human Development is in a good position to meet this moment, and I’m excited to work with our talented faculty and staff to support the education community in Maine and beyond.” The appointment marks a return to Maine for Kimball, who grew up in the state and earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Southern Maine, where he also taught early in his career. He earned his Ph.D. in higher education from Penn State. Most recently, Kimball served as associate dean for academic affairs at the College of Education at UMass Amherst. He also taught at Curry College in Milton, Massachusetts. Kimball’s research focuses on disability identity development and disabled student success; knowledge use and production in higher education; and the relationships between identity, identity development and postsecondary learning environments. He currently serves as co-executive editor of the Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disability as well as on the editorial board for the Journal of College Student Development. His research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, Spencer Foundation and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. “I’m delighted to have Zeke join the College of Education and Human Development,” dean Penny Bishop says. “With his scholarly expertise and rich experience as a leader in higher education, he has a tremendous amount to offer and I am confident he will find like-minded colleagues with shared interests across many of our programs.” In addition to the associate dean posting, Kimball has a faculty appointment in higher education.

Illinois Chronicle, Star Courier share UMaine Extension refrigerator pickles recipe

19 Aug 2022

[The Star Courier](#) (Kewanee, Illinois) and [Illinois Chronicle](#) shared a University of Maine Cooperative Extension [recipe](#) for refrigerator pickles.

Bellingham Herald shares UMaine Extension video about removing ticks

19 Aug 2022

The [Bellingham Herald](#) shared a University of Maine Cooperative Extension video about the proper way to remove ticks, featuring Jim Dill, pest management specialist.

Tasting Table cites UMaine Extension in article about fiddleheads

19 Aug 2022

In an article about how fiddlehead ferns got their unique name, [Tasting Table](#) cited information from a University of Maine Cooperative Extension [bulletin](#) explaining that they are named after the curled head of a violin or fiddle.

Windpower Monthly reports on Biden administration hailing UMaine role in Gulf of Maine wind energy development

19 Aug 2022

[Windpower Monthly](#) noted that Interior Secretary Deb Haaland praised the Gulf of Maine’s wind energy goals. Maine has a goal of 80% of its electricity coming from renewables by 2030. The 144MW Gulf of Maine Floating Offshore Wind Research Array, which is being developed in part by the University of

Maine, is in its early planning stages and slated to come online in 2028 to help meet these goals.

Times Record interviews Pawling in Smith obituary

19 Aug 2022

In an obituary for Nicholas Smith, a scholar and ethnographer who created the most extensive research on the Wabanaki tribe in existence, the [Times Record](#) interviewed Micah Pawling, associate professor of history and Native American studies, about his experience with Smith. Pawling said that his friend and former colleague would help translate treaties for the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribes in the 1950s and '60s. Pawling said Smith broke down barriers and built lasting friendships with tribal leaders through mutual trust and respect. He recalled a trip he took with Smith and Smith's late wife to Indian Township just before the pandemic, where they reconnected with the Passamaquoddy Tribe. Pawling said it was typical to hug female elders and shake hands with male elders, but the tribal elder that had known Smith since the 1950s drew his friend close so their foreheads could touch — an ancient greeting in many cultures to honor the heart and soul of another human being.

Horst speaks to Portsmouth Herald about lobster shell disease

19 Aug 2022

Michael Horst, visiting scientist at the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center, spoke to the [Portsmouth Herald](#) about epizootic shell disease in lobsters, which is on the rise in the Gulf of Maine. Horst said that the disease causes bacteria and fungi to grow on the lobster's carapace so that the lobster is unable to fight off the infection and secretes enzymes into the shell that dissolve chitin, one of the major constitutions of the lobster shell. Eventually, it creates a soft spot in the shell. Warm water is considered a significant factor, which means summer months often see the most disease. "Ambient water temperature seems to be a trigger for getting this stuff going," Horst said.

Media report on UMaine student winning gardening scholarship

19 Aug 2022

The [Ellsworth American](#) and [Mount Desert Islander](#) reported that Zoe Olson, a University of Maine junior studying earth and climate science with a minor in horticulture, was awarded the \$1,000 Peter H. Dolliver Legacy Scholarship presented in partnership with the Bar Harbor Garden Club. For the past two summers, Olson has worked as a landscaper on Mount Desert Island, which has piqued her interest in plant life and how it relates to Maine's changing climate.

WABI, Fishing Wire highlight Local Catch Network partnership for Find Your Seafood Week

19 Aug 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) and [Fishing Wire](#) reported that the Local Catch Network, based in the School of Marine Sciences at the University of Maine, is working with fisheries scientist and science communicator, Emily De Sousa, to facilitate the second annual Find Your Seafood Week. The social media campaign helps connect community members directly with fishers and seafood harvesters and to raise awareness of community-based fisheries across the United States and Canada. The initiative was inspired last year, after the pandemic exposed the importance of community-based fisheries in building resilient local and regional seafood systems. While global supply chains faltered, the direct-to-consumer businesses within the Local Catch Network saw an uptick in community support. During the last Find Your Seafood Week campaign, approximately 1,200 people visited the Local Catch Network's [Seafood Finder](#), an interactive directory of local seafood businesses, over the course of a week. This year, Local Catch Network will work with De Sousa to train fishers and seafood harvesters in developing social media and storytelling skills, so they can become self-sustaining, self-marketers. "It's a campaign to promote local and regional values-based small scale seafood businesses across North America," Paloma Henriques, a graduate assistant at the University of Maine, told WABI.

Times Record quotes Carter in an article about free yoga at L.L. Bean

19 Aug 2022

The [Times Record](#) interviewed Erin Percival Carter, assistant professor of marketing at Maine Business School, about why for-profit companies give away products and services that it could charge for, like L.L. Bean providing free yoga classes. "It's cultivating goodwill with exactly who they want their target customer to be — outdoorsy people in Maine. Where do outdoorsy people in Maine hang out? State parks. They're probably doing yoga. If I have goodwill for a brand, it means I'm going to be willing to pay more, or I'm going to think of L.L. Bean first when I'm thinking of buying a flannel shirt or wool socks," Percival Carter said.

Calderwood featured on Maine Calling

19 Aug 2022

Lily Calderwood, Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, was one of two panelists on Maine Public's show [Maine Calling](#) to talk about Maine's wild blueberries and the industry.

Brewer interviewed by the Economist about Democrats and rural America

19 Aug 2022

Mark Brewer, professor of political science, was interviewed by the [Economist](#) about Jared Golden, who despite being a Democrat has won his largely Republican congressional district twice and may serve as a model for how Democrats can recover rural districts. "If you were designing a Democratic prototype from the ground up to hold or win this kind of district, it'd look a lot like Jared Golden when you were done," Brewer said.

Media boosts UMaine Extension farmer wellness funds

22 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared that applications for the Maine Farmer Wellness Fund are now available online and by phone for Maine farmers and farm workers through Sept. 30. Farm workers can apply for up to \$500 to support their wellness needs, which is broadly defined and covers a range of eligible uses, including therapy, childcare, acupuncture, massage and traditional healers. More information can be found on the Extension [website](#).

Mount Desert Islander features Lee event about food waste

22 Aug 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) shared that Susanne Lee, faculty fellow of the University of Maine's Mitchell Center for Sustainability, will present about what can be done in the home to reduce food waste, what the necessary resources are to produce food and the impact of food waste on the environment. The event is at La Rochelle Mansion and Museum, 127 West St., 2 p.m. Sept. 8. This presentation is one of the monthly programs offered by the Bar Harbor Garden Club to the public, but nonmembers are requested to make a reservation by emailing president@barharborgardenclub.org or by calling 207.460.8496.

BDN shares information about ArtWorks!

22 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that applications are open for this fall's ArtWorks!, a series of art classes taught by University of Maine art education students for youth grades K–8. Applications are due September 30. More information is available on the Department of Art website at umaine.edu/art/artworks.

Birkel speaks to News Center Maine about the impact of climate change on dairy farms

22 Aug 2022

Sean Birkel, state climatologist and assistant professor at the Climate Change Institute and Cooperative Extension at the University of Maine, spoke to [News Center Maine](#) for an article about the impact of climate change on Maine dairy farmers. Birkel said that while more arid regions of the country will get drier with the increasing temperatures, the northeast will actually get wetter and hotter. The heavier rains combined with increased temperatures could bring intense weather on both ends of the spectrum, and dairy farmers will have to learn how to adapt to extreme conditions. "The climate of the northeast region will get wetter, because of a tendency to more extremes, there is research showing in this warmer climate there may be an increased likelihood of drought or heavy rain. As temperatures rise in an increasingly warm season. ... there's enhanced evaporations so any drought that does happen, the impacts can be intensified," Birkel said.

Ranco speaks to Atlas Obscura about the Indigenous origins of Maine clam bakes

22 Aug 2022

Darren Ranco, chair of Native American Programs and coordinator of Native American Research at the University of Maine, was interviewed by [Atlas Obscura](#) for an article about the Indigenous origins of the clam bake. "I think there is a popular conception that [clam bakes] are a European adoption of indigenous traditions, a tradition that, for coastal indigenous people, would have been part of a larger communal meal based on shellfish collecting, and cooking in a pit on the beach," Ranco said.

BDN features VEMI Lab

22 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) featured the University of Maine's Virtual Environment and Multimodal Interaction (VEMI) Lab. The BDN reported that VEMI Lab's biggest project is its groundbreaking research into autonomous vehicles, or self-driving cars, for which it has received a total of \$600,000 in two grant two U.S. Department of Transportation Inclusive Design Challenges, beating out proposals from the likes of Google's Waymo. The article also featured some of the other projects in the work at VEMI Lab, including one uses sensor technology to help older people living alone to live more safely, for which the lab set up a model of a senior living apartment so it could more accurately model how older people navigate their surroundings, and another partially funded by a NASA grant that uses a translucent iridescent material to detect surface contamination. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

Haëntjens returns from studying phytoplankton-sea ice interactions in North Pole

22 Aug 2022

Nils Haëntjens, research assistant professor in the University of Maine's School of Marine Sciences, has just returned from a two-week trip to the North Pole to study phytoplankton distributions in relation to sea ice properties on-board the cruise vessel Le Commandant Charcot. The vessel, which is also an ice breaker, was on its first voyage with passengers from Svalbard, Norway, to the North Pole. Ponant, the company running the vessel, allowed six scientists on its maiden voyage, providing them with the rare opportunity to obtain samples from the North Pole. Researchers from Canada, France, Germany and the United States sampled snow and ice properties; studied the mechanical properties of icebreakers; and observed the optical and biogeochemical variables in the water beneath the sea ice and in open leads. Haëntjens' research team included Lee Karp-Boss and Emmanuel Boss, professors at the School of Marine Sciences, as well as scientists from Laval University in Quebec City, Canada, and Oregon State University. With support from NASA, this team has been studying plankton distribution throughout the world's oceans. Haëntjens installed optical instruments and an automated microscope on board to look at the composition of phytoplankton and other particles at the North Pole. While at sea, Haëntjens also conducted tours of the ship's laboratories to the passengers and made two presentations about the team's research goals and planned sampling program. The researchers have three more trips lined up with on

Le Commandant Charcot: one more to the North Pole at the end of the month, and two into the ice around Antarctica later in the year and the start of next year to compare Arctic and Antarctic samples in order to shed new light on how changes in sea ice conditions impact the dynamics of phytoplankton. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine awarded NSF MRI grant to update instrumentation for climate, environment, ecosystem and engineering research

22 Aug 2022

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded a \$661,462 Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) grant to the University of Maine to upgrade a multiuser instrument in the Climate Change Institute. Over the last two decades, the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s ICP-MS facility has conducted valuable climate, environmental, ecosystem and engineering research and training across the state of Maine and beyond. The instrument that made that possible is the Thermo Scientific Element2 ICP-MS, an instrument for the analysis and quantification of trace elements that can be used for a variety of applications, from biological research to materials science. However, UMaine’s instrument has been heavily used and at the end of its operational lifetime. The NSF grant will be used to expand the capabilities of the ICP-MS Facility through the acquisition of a new and improved instrument: the Thermo Scientific Element XR extended dynamic range high resolution ICP-MS with a Jet Interface for analysis of aqueous samples, supplemented with a ESL NWR193UC laser ablation front end for ice, biological and other solid materials. “The state-of-the-art ElementXR will allow us to push much farther on research questions that many of us are already working on. Adding laser ablation to the system allows us to ask and pursue a whole new set of questions, which in many cases will be ones that we don’t even know yet,” says Karl Kreutz, director of the School of Earth and Climate Sciences, professor in the Climate Change Institute and the principal investigator on the project. The Element XR will allow major gains in elemental and isotopic analysis by providing lower elemental detection limits and concentrations, higher sensitivity and improved isotope ratio precision. It will be used by UMaine researchers at all levels — from undergraduate and graduate students to faculty — in three primary fields: glaciochemistry and climate/environmental reconstruction; paleoceanography and marine biogeochemistry; and environmental sensor development and material science engineering. The instrument will also help to facilitate existing national and international collaborations, including with the University of Venice, University of Cambridge/British Antarctic Survey and scientists in New Zealand, Switzerland, China, Canada and Brazil colleagues to analyze ice generally. The improved equipment will also aid in new collaborations between the Climate Change Institute and other departments at the University of Maine, such as the College of Natural Science, Forestry, and Agriculture, and the College of Engineering. “The proposal and grant have already created exciting new collaborations between CCI and Engineering in materials science. The new instrumentation has such a wide range of capabilities which we hope will continue to foster these new connections across UMaine and the state,” says Kreutz. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Intermedia students are creating art with nanocellulose

23 Aug 2022

Editor’s note: Intermedia students’ nanocellulose art will be on public display on Aug. 24 from 4:30–6:30 p.m. at the Wells Conference Center.

Nanocellulose is a malleable material. In a mixture that is 97% water, nanocellulose looks like yogurt or paste. When freeze-dried, it has the consistency of Styrofoam. Fully dried, it’s like a plastic tile. The University of Maine is on the cutting edge of developing and using nanocellulose for scientific applications at the Process Development Center. Now, thanks to a partnership with Intermedia Programs, UMaine is forging a new frontier of using nanocellulose in art. Graduate students in Intermedia Programs have partnered with the Process Development Center to use nanocellulose as material for art and creative projects. The collaboration not only gives artists a nontoxic and innovative material to experiment with — one that may be used by even more artists in the future — but also may help scientists learn more about this cutting-edge material. Colleen Walker, director of the Process Development Center, says it all started when artists began calling her lab asking if they could buy nanocellulose. It wasn’t an extraordinary ask; the center regularly distributes samples like this for research purposes. Walker says that because of its production capabilities, the facility is one of the only ones in the world that distributes nanocellulose by the pound (usually at a rate of \$75 for a pound’s worth in a 5-gallon bucket). “There are companies on the commercial side that sell technology so organizations can produce their own material. This, however, is a multimillion dollar investment,” Walker says. “We bridge that gap. We typically make 300 pounds of dry material in a batch, but will be able to produce two to four tons a day with our new system.” Still, Walker started noticing a pattern of artists asking for nanocellulose. Even the research manager at the Process Development Center, Donna Johnson, had experimented with the material in her own artistic pursuits in jewelry, fabric art and dyes. Then, one fateful day, in walked Augusta Sparks Farnum, a graduate student in Intermedia Studies, looking for nanocellulose to use in her assignments. Farnum had been making art for decades before she joined the Intermedia Studies program, but said she had recently felt jaded about the art world, in particular the lack of sustainability of art materials and practices. When she learned about nanocellulose in all its biodegradable, nontoxic glory, she snapped out of that feeling. “I could make something and if it didn’t work and instead of hauling it around for the rest of my life I could put it back in the forest and it would decompose,” Farnum says. “Coming from the art world, that’s not true of most things. You’re dealing with plastics and chemicals. Nanocellulose is a wonderful gift.” Instead of simply sending Farnum on her way with her bucket of nanocellulose, Walker started asking questions about using nanocellulose in art — and how the Process Development Center could continue to help the partnership grow. Soon, the Intermedia department was rustling with talks of this new material. Around the same time, School of Forest Resources professor Aaron Weiskittel had featured nanocellulose in a presentation he made for class in the program. “I think what really drew us to it was the idea of the history of Maine and its link to forestry,” says Susan Smith, director of Intermedia Programs at UMaine. “We still have this huge potential for a green economy for forest products. The idea of possibility was really what attracted us, as well as the fact that it was a brand new material. Artists naturally want to play with materials and experiment.” Smith formalized the partnership between the Intermedia Program and the Process Development Center, which donated buckets of nanocellulose to the artists to use. Smith thinks that the Intermedia Program is the perfect place for such experimentation, as its mission is to pursue “research-based art.” “The focus has really been on moving out of our silos and working collaboratively across campus,” Smith says. “Often the role of art is to visualize science, but that can be reciprocal. We can learn from each other. If we’re going to solve problems we’re going to have to work together. It’s great that people now have been open to those collaborations.” Smith coordinated a tour of the Process Development Center for Intermedia students in order to learn more about nanocellulose from the scientists who are studying it, like those UMaine researchers who are [creating recyclable food containers from the material](#). The artists were enthralled — and couldn’t wait to get their hands on some nanocellulose for their own creative projects. “This provides a possibility for art that is sustainable, but also local,” Smith says. “Our dependence on unsustainable processes must change, and with this research, we are able to support the Process Development Center research, but also think in terms of innovations with our own processes.” The Process Development Center donated buckets of nanocellulose to the artists, who all had different ideas of what they would use it for. Smith says that she uses it as a nontoxic binder for natural pigment for her printmaking, which is preferable to those that are petroleum-based or made of acrylic polymers. Farnum experiments with cellulose armatures. Using tools of her art practice, she applied paint, as well as silver, gold and aluminum leaf. Furthering the material’s innate luminosity, she has been adding a bi-product of seaweed to the nanocellulose which dries into ethereal shapes that catch the light just-so when hung on the wall. “If you look at it closely, the nanocellulose looks like skin or bone,” Farnum marvels. “We have this collaborative relationship. Sometimes it says, ‘Oh, you thought I was done drying? Well, I’m not, and now I’m

going to do this.’ I am still in the experimenting stage.” Alex Rose, another intermedia graduate student, has been using nanocellulose as a coating for textiles and fibers. The dried nanocellulose gives recycled T-shirt strips a sense of gravity, and makes naturally-dyed material look foggy and contorts it into a crispy wafer. “It’s really interesting because it’s very mysterious in how the end product will be,” Rose says. “There’s a sense of childlike surprise. It’s kind of stepping back throughout the process and seeing what the material is saying it wants to do. It feels like a discovery every time you try something new.” The artists have been able to learn things about nanocellulose that they can share with the researchers, too. For example, though nanocellulose itself doesn’t mold on its own, if it is contaminated in any way, mold can grow. Farnum learned this firsthand when experimenting with the material in a barn at her house with a black mold infestation. “An artist is a researcher with a different set of rules,” Farnum laughs. The artists will display their works at the PDC Cellulose Nanomaterials Forum Aug. 23–25. Walker sees this as a potential debut for using nanocellulose in art more broadly. “We hope that one day soon Maine will be providing this material to artists all around the world,” Walker says. “This collaboration is an excellent way to broaden the research community working with this unique material.” As for the artists — whether they’re sculpting, experimenting with dyes or mixing media — their exploration with nanocellulose has just begun. “I’m so in it,” Farnum says. “I’m excited about the opportunity to show the work at the end of the summer, but come on — I need five more years! The work keeps changing. Just last night I was researching new recipes and processes. A lot of them fail and a lot of them show me something else. I have so many more directions I want to go with it. This is just the beginning.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine earns honorable mention at 2022 UCDA Design Awards

23 Aug 2022

The University of Maine was awarded an honorable mention in the digital category at the 2022 University & College Designers Association (UCDA) Design Awards for the video [“UMaine Virtual Tour: This is UMaine.”](#) The UCDA Design Awards recognize the best of the exceptional design and creative work done by communication professionals to promote educational institutions. These annual awards honor work in educational design in print, digital, illustration, photography and student competitions. The awards are judged by a panel of peer jurors composed of designers, design educators, photographers and illustrators working in or doing a significant portion of their work for educational institutions. This year, 18 judges across the four competitions evaluated 775 print and digital entries to make 151 awards — 13 Gold, 27 Silver and 111 Awards of Excellence. UMaine’s winning entry was directed and filmed by Patrick Wine, photographer/videographer with the UMaine Division of Marketing and Communications. Winning entries will be part of the UCDA Design Show on display during the 52nd annual [UCDA Design Conference](#) scheduled for Oct. 15–18 in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico.

The County features UMaine senior’s summer internship with Sen. Susan Collins

23 Aug 2022

[The County](#) reported that Jillian Haggerty, a Houlton native, has completed a summer internship in Sen. Susan Collins’ Washington, D.C. office. Haggerty is a Houlton native and rising senior at the University of Maine, where she is studying political science and philosophy. She has served as vice president of both her sorority, Tri Delta, and the National Panhellenic Council. Upon graduating, she plans to pursue a job in politics and public service either in Maine or Washington, D.C.

News Center Maine reports on UMaine Extension online pricing tool for farmers

23 Aug 2022

[News Center Maine](#) featured the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s new resource to help farmers keep track of product pricing, the [Maine Farmers Market Price Report](#). The online tool samples prices at 10 different farmer’s markets across the state from Kittery to Bangor for 11 products, including broccoli, eggs and cucumbers. “It can help people decide if a product can be profitable for them if they decide to go to market in a certain part of the state or if they are going to retail versus wholesale, it’s also incredibly valuable for new or beginning farmers who are writing up their business plans, looking at what the market might look like for them if they were to enter into the farmers market arena,” said Tori Jackson, a professor of agriculture and natural resources and member of UMaine Extension.

Camire speaks to Washington Post about organic food

23 Aug 2022

Mary Ellen Camire, professor of food science and human nutrition in the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture, was interviewed by the [Washington Post](#) about the nutritional value of organic foods. Camire said that bringing produce from a distance can have a bad effect on nutrients, whether it is conventional or organic.

UMaine study finds connection between partisan politics and effective face mask production during pandemic

23 Aug 2022

Face masks have been an indelible part of the COVID-19 pandemic. Examining how, where and of what face masks were made can provide insight to how the personal protective equipment impacted — or was impacted by — the society around it. A study published by new faculty Matthew and Natalia Magnani in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Maine found that specifics of homemade face mask production were different depending on a state’s political affiliation and changed throughout the country with increased political polarization. To study these connections, they used an innovative anthropological tool: big data. Anthropologists, archaeologists and other researchers interested in studying material objects and their roles in reflecting or shaping the world around them have long excavated, collected or physically observed materials. However, such scholars have yet to take full advantage of large, complex digital datasets afforded by the internet, which can provide an even more complete picture of the material world with more samples than physical collections. To show the potential of online data sets and how they could transform the understanding of the material world, a group of researchers led by Matthew Magnani studied the production of face masks across the United States in 2020 and 2021, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. “Significant interest in the social meanings of mask use was apparent early on in the pandemic. Our team — including Jon Clindaniel from University of Chicago, and Natalia Magnani also starting at UMaine — wondered how we could develop new anthropological tools to consider the significance of their production. We wanted to hone an approach that would allow us to look across the entire United States, and capture changes in mask making over time,”

Matthew Magnani says. The researchers used Alura, a market analysis application specifically designed to analyze craft sales from the website Etsy. The software gathered data about the characteristics of the face masks sold by Etsy users, like where the sellers were located, what material the masks were made of and what other tags the seller included to describe the product. The researchers looked at this information at multimonth intervals to analyze the production of face masks across the country. They coupled these data with an analysis of state mask policies and how mask wearing became politicized over time. The results showed clear linkages between the changing nature of the production of face masks and partisan politics, particularly when it comes to materials that decrease the face masks disease mitigation effectiveness. For example, masks made in states where electoral votes were counted in favor of Democrat Joseph Biden in the presidential election were more likely to boast characteristics and tags that touted their safety, while states that went for Republican Donald Trump did so at a lower rate. The study is careful to highlight that periods of increased polarization reduced apparent mask efficacy across the board, independent of political leaning. Low rates of effective mask making sometimes co-occurred with more relaxed public health measures. For example, just 38% of masks made in South Dakota were found to be associated with disease-mitigating attributes; South Dakota, notably, was one of the few states without a mask mandate throughout the pandemic. In other cases, there were outliers — Nebraska had no mask mandate, and yet followed only Colorado in masks produced evoking functional vocabulary — but in general, politics had implications for how well a state’s personal protective equipment was produced. Unlike the rates of overall mask efficacy, however, the researchers found no correlation between political affiliation and the production of intentionally ineffective masks — for example, those that were made of only a single layer or mesh, lace or other breathable fabric. Production of such masks were more associated with political events of the time. For example, Republican states where the data showed no intentionally ineffective masks were produced — Alaska, Missouri, Nebraska and North Dakota — didn’t implement statewide mask mandates, suggesting that intentionally ineffective masks could not be used as an effective form of political dissent in these places. In a similar vein, “antimasks,” those that complied with mask mandates but contained protest messages, showed no clear political affiliation in the 15 states with sellers that produced them. They also represented a relatively small portion of the total masks produced, but the number of states producing them did increase over time as masking became more politically polarized. Nationally, increasing political polarization led to an overall decrease in the effectiveness of masks produced. As the election cycle was in full swing, the data revealed plummeting efficacy in masks produced across the country into November 2020, going as low as 51%. However, that efficacy bounced back to 68% by May 2021 after a few months of the Biden administration. The differences in red and blue states were nuanced, and the researchers found that looking at these changes on a fine temporal scale was important to understanding them. For example, while Republican states tended to produce less effective masks on average over the course of the study, the analysis of changes over time in Democrat-held regions revealed that the politicization also negatively impacted effective mask production across the country. Time-averaged assemblages of this data would have drowned out the meaning. “Our study demonstrates the deleterious effects of political polarization for public health as they manifest through the production of personal protective equipment, suggesting that divisive partisan rhetoric led to the manufacture of physically less effective masks across the country,” Magnani says. The results demonstrate how effective mining internet data can be in understanding the changing distribution and social significance of material culture. Going forward, the researchers hope that the tools used for this method will be refined to make them more efficient and precise. “We are contributing to a new trend in the study of material culture — all the stuff that surrounds us — using big data. These studies have the potential to condense years, or even lifetimes of fieldwork and data collection into months of research and a few clicks of a mouse. Moving forward, we will apply these methods to rethink the way we look at the things that surround us on an unprecedented scale, from the hundreds of millions of objects sitting in museum collections, to the Amazon delivery boxes at the front door,” Magnani says. A FirstView of the [study](#) is available on the Cambridge University Press website. The full study will be published in October 2022 in the journal American Antiquity. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center opens at UMaine to address student demand, employer needs

24 Aug 2022

With the grand opening of the E. James and Eileen P. Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center (Ferland EEDC) at the University of Maine, a new chapter begins in engineering education to better meet the needs of students and employers, including the innovation to advance research and economic development. Upward of 500 people from throughout the state attended the grand opening ceremony for Ferland EEDC on Aug. 24. The late-morning program was followed by a ribbon-cutting and an open house with students and faculty greeting guests on the three floors of the \$78 million facility — the largest project of its kind in UMaine history, made possible with the support from more than 500 donors and a \$50 million investment from the state of Maine. A recording of the event livestream is [online](#). Ferland EEDC is home to the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Biomedical Engineering Program, and includes teaching laboratories for the Mechanical Engineering Technology Program.



The Student Project Design Suite is the best of its kind in the Northeast, with 44 workbenches that will be assigned to students; and shops for biomedical engineering, electronics, 3D printing, vehicles, metals, wood and composites. The building also houses the Campus Welcome and STEM Outreach Center, which will be the starting point for

campus tours and five collaborative classrooms that will serve the entire campus. The facility will have the capacity to increase engineering enrollment by a third — 600 additional students a year — to meet the demand of students and employers in the state. Approval of \$50 million in public investment over 10 years by the Maine Legislature and then-Gov. Paul LePage in 2017 helped to catalyze the campaign. Since then, a record \$25 million in private support was raised from more than 500 alumni, friends, foundations and corporate donors for this capital priority of UMaine's \$200 million Vision for Tomorrow comprehensive campaign, led by the University of Maine Foundation. In the years since, subsequent state Legislatures and Gov. Janet Mills have sustained this support and in May, appropriated additional debt service that will help modernize other engineering and related facilities at UMaine and across the University of Maine System to advance a goal to double the output of engineers and computing and information science professionals to meet the demands of Maine employers for world-class talent and innovation. Construction of the 115,000-square-foot facility began in May 2020. A virtual groundbreaking was held in April 2020; a virtual topping off ceremony was held in February 2021. WBRC Architects Engineers, based in Bangor, and Ellenzweig of Boston designed Ferland EEDC; Consigli Construction of Milford, Massachusetts and Portland, Maine led its construction. Over the two years of the design and two years of the construction of Ferland EEDC, more than 70 UMaine alumni are estimated to have worked on the project. "This state-of-the-art center at our R1 university will allow us to produce more engineering and computing and information science professionals that Maine needs to grow its economy and be competitive in the world," said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "This facility is a tribute to the forward thinking and leadership of three Legislatures and two Governors on behalf of the people of Maine and stakeholders who know the value of a UMaine education and hands-on research learning and the difference it makes in the success of its students, alumni and the state." This is an exciting, pivotal time for engineering education in — and for — Maine, said UMaine College of Engineering Dean Dana Humphrey. "The Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center is a capital investment in the future of engineering education that will impact Maine and beyond, made possible by the vision and leadership of hundreds of donors and corporate partners who know the difference that this facility will make in workforce and economic development. Coupled with the transformational investment in the [Maine College of Engineering, Computing and Information Science](#) by the Harold Alfond Foundation, we are positioned to provide the critical industries, communities, and employers with the skilled workers and innovation needed to meet demand and move Maine forward." The building's \$10 million naming gift, the largest capital gift in UMaine history, came from Skowhegan natives E. James "Jim" Ferland '64 and Eileen P. Ferland. Five additional major naming gifts to the project came from the Abbagadasset Foundation; Gustavus and Louise Pfeiffer Research Foundation; Harold Alfond Foundation; Packaging Corporation of America; and Pratt & Whitney. "We'd like to acknowledge Dean Dana Humphrey's leadership, as well as the dedicated design and construction team," said the Ferlands. "It's an honor to have the Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center bear our family name. It's what we expected — a place that will inspire and prepare the next generation of UMaine engineers." The Ferland's gift in 2018 was an important catalyst for the center funding, said University of Maine Foundation President Jeff Mills. "Their generosity and vision inspired others which led us to the finish line for completing this state-of-the-art center," Jeff Mills said. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

2022 UMaine and UMaine Machias Convocation scheduled for Aug. 26

24 Aug 2022

Editor's note: The location of Convocation has been changed to Harold Alfond Sports Arena The University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias Convocation 2022 will be held Friday, August 26, at 5:30 p.m. at the Harold Alfond Sports Arena. The event, themed "Define Tomorrow," will recognize the achievements of the incoming Class of 2026 and celebrate the beginning of their UMaine experience. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, call 207.581.1512.

UMaine Machias to screen 'Voices from the Barrens' Sept. 30 as premiere of Right to Food film series

24 Aug 2022

The documentary "Voices from the Barrens: Native People, Blueberries and Sovereignty" will screen at the University of Maine at Machias Performing Arts Center on Friday, Sept. 30 at 7 p.m. to kick off a Maine-focused film series called The Right to Food. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with a panel, including representatives from Passamaquoddy Wild Blueberry Company, indigenous blueberry raking families, and Passamaquoddy individuals with expertise in indigenous food systems and culture. The second film "Hungry Now," will premiere Nov. 13 at 3 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts at the University of Maine. "Voices from the Barrens" documents the wild blueberry harvest of the Wabanaki People from the United States and Canada. Each August, First People of the Canadian Wabanaki, the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet tribes cross the U.S.-Canada border into Maine to take part in the tradition of hand raking blueberries with their Passamaquoddy brothers and sisters. The film focuses on the Passamaquoddy Tribe's challenge to balance blueberry hand raking traditions with the economic realities of the world market, which favor mechanical harvesting. Nancy Ghertner, the film's director, was introduced to the Passamaquoddy at Sipayik while she was a student at Colby College, where she was involved in a research project related to the tribal communities of Maine. "Voices from the Barrens" was inspired by Ghertner's research into agriculture labor across the international border. The film was recorded between 2014 and 2019 on the barrens of Washington County, in the communities of Motahkomikuk (Indian Township); Sipayik (Pleasant Point); and the First Nations of Elsipogtog, New Brunswick and Eskasoni, Nova Scotia. The documentary premiered in 2020 on Indigenous Peoples' Day at the Camden International Film Festival. It was featured in nine film festivals around the world, receiving Best Documentary award at the Montreal International Wreath Awards Festival and award nominations at the American Indian Film Festival. In Maine, the documentary has been broadcast on Maine Public Television and has reached audiences at colleges, universities, public libraries, conservation organizations and land trusts, as well as the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA). The documentary has also been included in the curriculum of Maine Indian Education and schools in the First Nations in New Brunswick. "Maine Indian Education's schools are so pleased to share "Voices from the Barrens" with our students," says Beth Clifford, curriculum coordinator at Maine Indian Education. "This documentary provides many entry points for students as it honors their experiences, those of their families and their communities." The second film in The Right to Food series is director and UMaine Machias lecturer Alan Kryszak's 2022 documentary "Hungry Now." Filmed in coastal and Down East Maine over two years, "Hungry Now" explores the twisted path from a child in food insecurity to a homeless adult, along with the "helpers" who intercede at all stages of a human life. This documentary will premiere Nov. 13 at 3 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts; Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at UMaine Machias; and on PBS/Maine Public Television soon after. Contact: Jennifer Isherwood, jishio@maine.edu

News Center Maine reports on UMaine Greek life efforts to prevent hazing

24 Aug 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported on the efforts of University of Maine's Fraternity and Sorority Life to prevent hazing. Jennifer Desmond, assistant director for community life, said that they teach students in fraternities and sororities to identify what hazing is and how to stop it. "We view hazing as, even if somebody is forcing you to wear a pin, and asking you about that pin, and you have to have a required response, that's hazing. Even though it might not seem [like it],

you know. It doesn't involve alcohol, or it doesn't involve some of the really harmful things we think about in hazing. It's still hazing, and that behavior can lead to more harmful versions of hazing," Desmond said. [MSN](#) shared the News Center Maine report.

Media reports on the unveiling of Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center

24 Aug 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5), [WVHI](#) (Channel 7), [News Center Maine](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Zipe Education](#) reported on the unveiling of the \$78 million Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center at the University of Maine. The space, which has everything from biomedical electronics to 3D printing and a student project design suite, is the product of three state legislatures, two governors, and over 500 donors. "We want to be sure that the University of Maine provides an education for future engineers, computer scientists, data scientists that will enable them to be the leaders in these fields where there's so much change happening, and we want to be a place that is known for preparing people for the future," said President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. [WAFB](#) (Channel 9 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana) shared the WABI report.

Talty pens essay for The Guardian

24 Aug 2022

Morgan Talty, author of "Night of the Living Rez" who will serve as an assistant professor at the University of Maine this fall, wrote an essay for the [Guardian](#) about regretting not having a traditional Indigenous hair style, the long braid, when his mother died last year.

President Ferrini-Mundy interviewed by WVOM-FM

24 Aug 2022

[WVOM-FM](#) interviewed University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy on the George Hale Ric Tyler show. Ferrini-Mundy spoke about the economic root of declining enrollment, disruptions caused by the pandemic, current COVID-19 policies at UMaine and the university's R1 designation.

International collaboration probes personalized learning in the U.S., Australia and beyond

24 Aug 2022

A little over a year ago, University of Maine College of Education and Human Development dean Penny Bishop got an email from Maya Gunawardena, an assistant professor of teacher education at the University of Canberra in Australia. Gunawardena was diving into her latest research passion — personalized learning — exploring how teachers can use lessons and curriculum tailored to individual students' skills, curiosities and needs to improve educational outcomes. In the course of her research, she came across a book, "Personalized Learning in the Middle Grades," co-authored by Bishop, who was at University of Vermont at the time. The two like-minded scholars made a connection, and started discussing ways they could partner on research. This summer, Gunawardena arrived in the U.S. as a visiting scholar at UVM, where she'll be working with schools that Bishop studied for her book. Shortly after that initial email, Bishop came to UMaine, but their correspondence and collaboration kept going. Gunawardena recently came to Maine to meet faculty and staff at the college and university. She'll give a virtual talk about personalized learning for the college during the first week of fall classes, and she and Bishop hope to build additional partnerships both during her stay in the U.S. and after she returns to Australia. "There's growing interest in student-centered learning among educators and those of us who study education, but we often find that it's defined and operationalized quite differently across settings," says Bishop. "That's why this collaboration is so exciting. The goal is to build a knowledge base to show how personalized learning works and how schools can successfully implement it." Bishop adds that the international nature of the collaboration will allow researchers to test different theories and examine cases across different locations and contexts. In addition to personalized learning, Gunawardena has published research on social-emotional learning, TESOL education, cultivation of critical thinking, literacy and Indigenous education. She has more than 30 years of experience teaching at the K-12 and university levels, has taught teacher education courses in Sri Lanka and Australia, and worked as an educational consultant in south Asia. She notes that personalized learning and other approaches that give students more autonomy and voice in terms of their own education are not new. However, the overall culture of education across much of the globe is still very much based on a top-down model. Gunawardena says she's hoping to build on the work outlined by Bishop and her team in their book, where teachers are taught how to bring personalized learning plans into their classrooms. "Rather than change the entire approach, we want to give teachers the tools to use these culturally responsive pedagogies in multiple contexts," she says. Studying in the U.S. and seeing how personalized learning has been implemented here is helping Gunawardena understand what might work in Australia and some of the other areas where she has worked. "We don't have to start from scratch," she says. "At the same time, what one country is doing may not work or be appropriate in another. But when we collaborate internationally, we get a better picture of what will work in different contexts." Besides their research collaboration, Bishop and Gunawardena see other opportunities for UMaine and University of Canberra to work together. UMaine has long-standing partnerships with other institutions in Australia, including student exchange programs with Griffith University and Edith Cowan University. Those programs were suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic, but will resume this year according to Orlina Boteva, UMaine's director of international programs. Boteva, who met with Gunawardena on her recent trip to Maine, says the partnership opens the door to some exciting opportunities. "There are student and faculty exchange possibilities, further scholarship and research, virtual trainings for local teachers in both locations, collaboration and training for teaching multi-language learners, such as with our Intensive English Institute," she says. Gunawardena will give a virtual talk as part of the College of Education and Human Development's School of Learning and Teaching Research Brown Bag series from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2. The talk is titled "Insights into personalized learning: Co-creating a practical guide to enhance teacher cognition and professional development." For connection information, email coehd@maine.edu. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Research Learning Experiences return to UMaine this fall

24 Aug 2022

The University of Maine is once again offering Research Learning Experiences — courses that allow first- and second-year students to engage in research and other forms of hands-on learning at the start of their college careers — this fall. About 400 students signed up to participate in UMaine's 24 distinct RLEs, 21 for first-year students and three for sophomores. This year's course lineup includes a Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction course for health care

professionals, understanding the chemistry behind inventing new foods, an Intro to Blockchain class and a rafting trip that explores the science behind land-sea connections. First-year students are kicking off their RLEs with a Bridge Week that began Aug. 22. They have been working on research and other hands-on learning for their courses independently and with their instructors and classmates throughout the week. They will showcase what they have learned during an academic poster presentation from 11–11:30 a.m. Friday at the Collins Center of the Arts. UMaine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, piloted RLEs for the University of Maine System in fall 2021, during which 250 students participated. The RLE initiative is supported by a generous donation from the [Harold Alfond Foundation](#) as part of [UMS TRANSFORMS](#), as well as a \$50,000 grant from the Coalition of Life Transformative Education (CLTE). This year, more public universities across the state are offering their own RLEs. Read the [UMS story](#) about the effort to learn more. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Gosse leads NIH-funded study into how CPC inhibits immune cell function

24 Aug 2022

Investigating how a common antibacterial ingredient in many foods, personal care, and cleaning products inhibits immune cell function that is harmful to human health is the focus of a National Institutes of Health-funded study at the University of Maine. In a recent study co-authored by toxicologist Julie Gosse, a UMaine associate professor of biochemistry, her team found that low doses of cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC) hinder the functionality of mast cells, which assist with immunity and other physiological functions. Personal care and janitorial products with CPC typically contain high doses of the agent. Conversely, she and her colleagues say CPC could help fight influenza, and discovered that the agent reduces zebrafish mortality by the illness, particularly through disrupting hemagglutinin clusters linked to it. The study, co-led by physics Ph.D. student Prakash Raut and biochemistry student Sasha Weller, is one of the first to investigate the effects of CPC on immune cell operations. It was published in the journal [Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology](#). In her latest investigation, funded by a \$426,405 NIH award, Gosse aims to pinpoint the mechanisms CPC uses to influence immune cell function using various biochemical, biophysical and molecular tools, including super-resolution fluorescence microscopy. Other researchers involved in the project include Samuel Hess, a UMaine professor of physics, and Juyoung Shim, an assistant professor biology at the University of Maine at Augusta. Gosse will also enlist Ph.D. student Bright Obeng, undergraduates Emily Ledue and Patrick Fleming, and other students. “Very little is known about CPC’s effects on eukaryotes and human health, despite widespread exposure,” Gosse says. “The results of this study will fulfill an urgent need by providing insights into the impact of CPC on public health, and will point to either pharmacological uses for or toxic impacts of this ubiquitous chemical.” In 2020, Gosse capped a decade of research into the medical harm caused by another germ-fighting agent: triclosan (TCS). The agent was previously found in a variety of household products — at one point 75% of Americans were exposed to it. Studies from Gosse and other scientists, however, revealed that TCS weakens disease resistance and interferes with various bodily functions, and it inspired a public outcry that caused its removal from almost all products. Gosse, in particular, discovered that TCS inhibits T and mast cells, and damages mitochondria. “This NIH grant will provide funds for toxicology research in support of public health, to strengthen undergraduate and graduate research training at UMaine and to prepare workers for the scientific workforce,” Gosse says. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Native American Programs, UMaine Extension hire Sutton as assistant professor of Native American food systems

24 Aug 2022

The University of Maine Native American Programs and UMaine Extension have hired Tony Sutton as assistant professor of Native American Food Systems. Sutton’s position will focus on Native American food systems and sovereignty, building on relationships established with the Tribes and grants and programs developed in Native American Programs. Sutton moved to Maine from Oregon in 2008. His mother is a member of the Passamaquoddy Nation, so even though he grew up on the West Coast, moving to Maine felt like a homecoming. Plus, after studying history for his undergraduate degree, Sutton felt like he had a mission to represent Wabanaki stories and knowledge, which were so often excluded from historical narratives. “My return to my homeland was part of that journey,” Sutton says. “The broader culture tends to pick and choose what stories they tell, and I wanted to tell our story.” Sutton worked a variety of jobs around the state, from an environmental educator at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection to the lead instructor at a CrossFit gym. No matter where he went, though, he kept coming back to the importance of food, particularly to tribal communities and their history. “When I went down a path of changing how I was eating and exercising, I just felt really empowered with the changes I was making, and I felt compelled to share that with other people too,” Sutton says. “People’s relationships to food are really complex and the way that I wanted to continue supporting that change was through the university. I felt like my calling in this place was coming into the picture to rebuild and retell the stories of the Wabanaki food systems.” In 2010, Sutton began pursuing his graduate studies at UMaine, eventually earning his master’s degree in communication and doctorate in ecology and environmental sciences. During his graduate studies, he worked at Micmac Farms and Fish Hatchery in Caribou, which is run by the Mi’kmaq Nation. There, Sutton says he found a true community — and learned a lot about food sovereignty in Maine and how Wabanaki people are excluded from the narrative along the way. “Our food system is often in balance between land-based food, saltwater and freshwater,” Sutton says. “The broader culture tends to divide these into different agencies and it makes it hard for us to connect a foodway as we know it. We see that play out in access to fisheries. Even things like how pollution is regulated, how many fish people can eat — those rates tend to be established for an American diet and not necessarily a Wabanaki diet. A lot of regulations have been developed for industrial uses of waterways not sustenance uses of waterways. What’s happening is really complex, but when you see those pieces coming together, it makes sense.” After completing his Ph.D., Sutton delved deeper into his work studying and rebuilding Native foodways in Maine. He worked as a community food facilitator at the Maine Shellfish Learning Network, where he is proud of creating a role “that was not dictating the course of the work but supporting the development of that coming from the community.” When Sutton came across the listing for a joint position in Native American Programs and University of Maine Cooperative Extension, it seemed like the perfect opportunity to continue his life’s work with Wabanaki foodways. “When I saw this position it to me felt like a natural fit,” Sutton says. “It was a lot of things that I was already doing but it gave me the concrete foundation and stability to continue doing it in the future. I think one of the things that’s unique is that they designed a really strong community-oriented position with a large percentage of my time to be devoted to that. That’s not always common in positions like this.” Darren Ranco, chair of Native American Programs, says that filling the position has been “one of the top priorities for university collaboration by the Tribal Nations over the last several years.” When Sutton applied, the choice was clear. “Tony Sutton is an amazing and important addition to Native American Programs, Cooperative Extension, and the University of Maine community,” Ranco says. “As a Passamaquoddy, he has deep ties to the Wabanaki Tribal Nations here in Maine, and has unparalleled, cooperative research and service experience on food sovereignty projects with the Tribes here in Maine. As a graduate student and lecturer over the last couple of years, he has distinguished himself as a gifted instructor.” Hannah Carter, dean of UMaine Extension, agrees. “Cooperative Extension has been working within the Maine food system for over 100 years and to have an opportunity for this joint position with Native American Programs to provide programming and increase our opportunities to collaborate with the Tribes is exciting and we look forward to the impacts Dr. Sutton will certainly have on the University and the state of Maine,” Carter says. Sutton says he is excited to continue building relationships with people in Wabanaki communities through his position while also having the opportunity to teach and mentor students along the way. “This position is really important and has a really important potential for a big impact. The best way to maximize that is

through working with students so they can take on projects themselves and I can mentor students in the way I was mentored and teach them the way that they look at their role in the community as well,” Sutton says. Sutton begins his position on Sept. 1, 2022. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Makaila Bailey: Continuing the legacy of the Campana elm with cutting propagation

25 Aug 2022

Makaila Bailey of Pittsfield, Maine, a student in the University of Maine Environmental Horticulture Program, is working alongside Bradley Libby, superintendent of the Roger Clapp Greenhouses, Littlefield Garden and the Fay Hyland Botanical Garden, to grow rooted stem cuttings from the historical Campana elm. The elm, which was over 150 years old and sited next to Hitchner Hall on campus, was named after internationally recognized plant pathologist Richard Campana who saved the tree with pioneering Dutch Elm disease research. The tree’s significance also inspired the establishment of a [Campus Natural Heritage Endowment Fund](#) in the University of Maine Foundation. The Campana elm was taken down earlier this month after arborists determined the main trunk of the tree was nearly fully rotted and it would not survive a major wind storm. Bailey and Libby have been working throughout summer to collect and root cuttings from the elm that will hopefully bring back the legacy of a tree that is said to have predated the establishment of the university. Libby met Bailey in fall 2021 when she was a student in his Woody Landscaping Plants class. “Makaila was an outstanding student in class, not only was she smart but she was involved and engaged, and I had been thinking to myself how great it would be to have her work for me,” says Libby. So when Bailey approached Libby at the end of the semester and asked what he thought she should do for her required field experience, Libby’s response was “you could work for me.” When Bailey started, she says she had no idea she was going to be involved with saving a UMaine historical landmark. But when Libby happened to mention to her that he had been collecting cuttings from the Campana elm, Bailey’s interest peaked and she offered to help. “There were other students involved early on, but as time went on it became Makaila’s project, frankly because she was familiar with it, she’s a very good anticipator and can see the big picture. It was really easy for me to just collect the cuttings and Makaila knew what to do with them,” says Libby. Bailey and Libby had been collecting around 30 cuttings about every two weeks from May to when the elm was cut down in August. They had originally hoped to gather seeds as well, but there were no viable options, which made the cutting propagation even more important. As the cuttings root, Makaila has begun to pot them. “This is really exciting because it’s not a guarantee just because you go through the procedure that you will see the roots grow. But this is just the first step, now we have to keep the deer off them and get them through the winter,” says Libby. The goal for Bailey and Libby is to have the cuttings eventually ready to be replanted on campus, as other elm cuttings have been through the decades at UMaine. Libby says locations have not yet been determined, but it will need to be areas with good soil and somewhere people can enjoy them. In order for a tree to be replanted it needs to be the ideal size. The campus is a high-traffic area and they will need to wait to replant when the trunks are at least 2 inches in diameter to ensure the safety of the trees. “As a student, it’s really cool to be involved in something that was so important to the campus. I didn’t know anything about sticking cuttings or propagating trees before working for Brad so this whole process has been a learning experience for me and it’s really been a lot of fun,” says Bailey. Before coming to UMaine, Bailey visited the Surry Gardens in Surry, Maine and from this trip realized that was what she wanted to do in her future. “I Googled what I could do with greenhouses and business; and horticulture came up. From there, I looked up schools that offer horticulture programs and UMaine was the best option for me. There are so many opportunities here and it’s been amazing to connect with the people in my major and the professors have helped me a lot,” she says. Bailey plans to continue working with Libby throughout her upcoming senior year at UMaine. They hope that everything will go smoothly as they transition to keep the cuttings alive when it gets colder. In the winter, Libby says there are many options they will have to explore in order to ensure the survival of the elm. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Tan speaks to Maine Science Podcast about plant genetics

25 Aug 2022

Ek Han Tan, assistant professor of plant genetics in the University of Maine’s School of Biology and Ecology, was featured on the Maine Science Podcast’s [latest episode](#). Tan discussed his research about the plant genetics of potatoes. He described how he uses CRISPR for his research and how potato research is different from the similar work that has been done in corn. The [podcast](#), a production of the Maine Science Festival, has featured other experts from the UMaine community in previous episodes.

Two UMaine grads among the finalists for 2023 Maine Teacher of the Year

25 Aug 2022

University of Maine College of Education and Human Development alumnae Heather Anderson (’99) and Emily Albee (’06, ’09G, ’12G) have been named finalists for 2023 Maine Teacher of the Year. Read more on the College of Education and Human Development [website](#).

Smith quoted by WMTW in article about Maine student debt relief program

25 Aug 2022

In an article about the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) offering student debt relief to Mainers in certain public service careers, [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland) quoted Connie Smith, director of financial aid at the University of Maine, stating that 72% of UMaine undergraduates borrow, with two-thirds of their debt in federal loans, while 32% of UMaine graduate students leave in debt, too.

Media feature 2022 SEA Fellows Symposium

25 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Boothbay Register](#), [Wiscasset Newspaper](#) and [Lincoln County News](#) reported on the sixth annual Science for Economic Impact and Application Fellows Symposium, held this year on Aug. 9 at the Downeast Institute in Beals. The SEA Fellows program encourages students in marine research to collaborate on climate-relevant science; network with other undergraduates; and develop science communication and presentation skills. “This is a celebration of marine science and young scientists. The reason we have SEA Fellows and this symposium is to connect these young scientists with one another and allow them to hear from like-minded individuals about the projects they’re developing,” noted Heather Leslie, director of the University of Maine Darling Marine Center and professor of marine conservation science in the UMaine School of Marine Sciences. The SEA Fellows’ posters from the

symposium are [online](#).

Smith speaks to News Center Maine about Biden’s student loan forgiveness plan

25 Aug 2022

Connie Smith, director of financial aid at the University of Maine, was interviewed by [News Center Maine](#) about President Joe Biden’s plan to relieve student debt, whereby people who attended a college or university will receive \$10,000 in federal loan relief if they make less than \$125,000 a year. Smith said that though it will help students struggling to pay off debt, more should be done to address the larger issue of college affordability. “I do think it’s a bit of a Band-Aid. My hope is that after we get through this particular phase that there’s a lot of work done around maybe reconstructing the loan programs,” Smith said.

NRCM features ASCC

25 Aug 2022

The [Natural Resources Council of Maine](#) (NRCM) wrote about a tour that its staff took of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) at the University of Maine. NRCM highlighted the ASCC’s work to bring green energy and sustainable materials to Maine and beyond, from offshore wind energy projects to wood composite materials.

Borderless and Beyond highlights Sutton hiring

25 Aug 2022

[Borderless and Beyond](#) shared that the University of Maine Native American Programs and UMaine Cooperative Extension have hired Tony Sutton as an assistant professor of Native American food systems. Sutton’s position will focus on Native American food systems and sovereignty, building on established relationships with tribes and grants and programs developed in Native American programs.

Annis interviewed by BDN for article about ‘zombie fly fungus’

25 Aug 2022

Seanna Annis, associate professor of mycology and plant pathology specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about a parasitic fungus that survives by infecting houseflies called *entomophthora muscae*, also known as the “zombie fly fungus.” The fungus is attacking flies in homes and gardens around the state of Maine. After about six days of feasting on an infected, living fly, the fungus takes over its behavior and forces it to climb to the highest available location where the female finally dies, leaving only a hollowed-out corpse. “They direct the fly to this high location and to put its head down, abdomen sticking up in the air and the wings spread out. Then it dies in that position. The idea is the spores will fly high and far enough that a new fly will come in contact with them,” Annis said. [WGME-TV](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) and [WPFO-TV](#) (Fox 22 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

Yarborough speaks to Ellsworth American about drought shrinking blueberry crop

25 Aug 2022

David Yarborough, professor emeritus of horticulture and emeritus wild blueberry specialist at the University of Maine, was interviewed by the [Ellsworth American](#) about the negative impact of this year’s drought on the wild blueberry crop. This season will see a decrease in yields due to the dry weather, with variations across regions depending on the severity of drought in the area. “It’s going to be less than last year. We’ll be lucky if we get 80 million pounds this year,” Yarborough said.

BDN notes UMaine alumnus being named state’s history teacher of the year

26 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine alumnus Geoffrey Wingard has been named Maine’s 2022 State History Teacher of the Year. Wingard, who teaches at Bangor High School, earned a bachelor’s degree in anthropology and a master’s degree in history from UMaine. The [Maine Department of Education](#) also highlighted Wingard’s accolade.

Media highlight Knowles developing website for Holocaust victims’ stories

26 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) highlighted an effort led by Anne Knowles, a University of Maine professor and graduate coordinator in the History Department, to create a digital platform for students and educators to trace the geographies of the Holocaust and connect victims’ stories to the places where they happened.

Media features Intermedia students creating art with nanocellulose

26 Aug 2022

[Mainebiz](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) featured graduate students from the University of Maine Intermedia Programs creating art from nanocellulose generated at the Process Development Center on campus.

Glatter discusses lifelong learning on ‘Maine Calling’ segment

26 Aug 2022

[Maine Public](#) interviewed Mari Glatter, an instructional designer for University of Maine Cooperative Extension, on a “Maine Calling” segment about lifelong learning resources and the release of a new one called Bendable Maine.

Reuters interviews Birkel about tweets sharing inaccurate conclusions drawn from Climate Reanalyzer images

26 Aug 2022

[Reuters](#) interviewed Maine state climatologist and University of Maine faculty member Sean Birkel about tweets sharing inaccurate conclusions drawn from images from the Climate Reanalyzer, a platform for visualizing climate and weather datasets that he developed. Birkel, a research assistant professor at the Climate Change Institute and climate services specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, explained how images from the reanalyzer do not support false claims that the global temperatures have only risen by 0.1 degrees Celsius between 1979 and 2000. “The 1-day global mean temperature anomaly can fluctuate on the order of 0.1°C day-to-day depending on weather patterns,” Birkel explained. “The CR temperature anomaly map for Friday, Aug 19, 2022 shows the Arctic at +1.1°C and the Northern Hemisphere at +0.7°C — these values are well above the 1979-2000 climate mean. On that same day there are pronounced cold anomalies over the Antarctic (-2.7°C), implying that the global average temperature anomaly on that day was heavily influenced by the particular weather pattern over the Antarctic. But to determine a climate trend it is necessary to examine many decades of temperature data.” [Climate Fact Check](#) also reported on the issue.

PBS interviews Eddy, Bouchard about aquaculture sustainability

26 Aug 2022

[PBS](#) interviewed Steve Eddy, director of the University of Maine Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research, and Deborah Bouchard, director of the university’s Aquaculture Research Institute, about new ways to make the industry more sustainable. Eddy discussed using lumpfish to remove sea lice from farmed salmon, as opposed to expensive showers to wash fish from boats. He said “as the salmon swim by and the sea lice start becoming a problem, they will dart out and pluck that sea louse right off of the salmon’s back and eat it.” Bouchard spoke about creating more sustainable fish food. “Fish meal is more complicated than just the protein you're putting in it,” she said.

UMaine testing natural control for berry-eating pest

29 Aug 2022

A natural control for an invasive fly that has plagued soft-fruit crops like Maine’s wild blueberries is being tested by scientists at the University of Maine. Spotted wing drosophila (SWD) infest healthy, ripening fruit with their eggs and larvae, impacting their marketability. Without control measures, the flies can destroy [nearly 80%](#) of late-season berry crops. Crop loss from SWD exceeds an [estimated \\$1.275 billion](#) nationwide. In response, Phillip Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology at UMaine, and his collaborators looked to nature for a solution. *Ganaspis brasiliensis*, commonly referred to as the samba wasps, parasitize SWD in its native range of Southeast Asia. The insects, which do not have stingers, are about the size of a grain of rice. Fanning released up to 1,000 samba wasps on wild blueberry fields in Hancock, Knox, Waldo and Washington counties this month after more than a decade of preparation. “The threat of crop damage that SWD annually brings has been a great source of stress to our farming operation, and caused us to shorten our planned harvest window and hasten through our marketing season of fresh-pack berries,” says Nicolas Lindholm, a farmer at Blue Hill Berry Co. who is hosting one of Fanning’s wasp colonies. “As certified organic growers for 25 years, we are especially interested in biological controls and really value the efforts and rigorous research that Dr. Fanning and the UMaine wild blueberry team have done in prioritizing this pest threat.” Fanning’s lab, which is part of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station that is run by the state’s R1 public research university, will assess the success of the introduction this fall and spring, including the wasps’ ability to overwinter in Maine. He reared the wasps in his lab, and hopes to eventually establish a naturalized population in the state. Small populations of the wasps were previously detected in Washington and Canada, the product of accidental introduction just like SWD, indicating they may be viable in Maine. The release is preceded by 12 years of research and permitting with the [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#) (USDA) and Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Scientists studied the dynamics between SWD and samba wasps in their native range. They were also the focus of extensive laboratory study where the wasps were paired with every native species of drosophila, a genus of flies, in North America to ensure their release would not cause collateral damage. Findings confirmed that samba wasps are SWD specialists. Rather than a stinger, the parasitic wasps wield an ovipositor to lay eggs inside SWD larvae. When the wasp larvae hatch, they consume their host, breaking SWD’s life cycle. Preliminary data on the wasps show they can reduce SWD by 20% to 65%. “Samba wasps have the potential to be a new tool in growers’ fight against spotted wing drosophila. This release finally brings biological control options for a true, integrated pest management approach to this pest,” says Fanning, who specializes in insect behavior and population dynamics on farms. “This will reduce the need to spray insecticides to control it, which is great for pollinators and lowers operating costs for farmers.” The releases led by Fanning’s lab are part of a national response to SWD. The funding for the research comes from a number of national sources including a grant from the USDA Crop Protection and Pest Management program (Award No. 2021-70006-35312) that Fanning is leading in collaboration with researchers at Cornell and Rutgers universities. The project is also part of a USDA Specialty Crop Research Initiative (Award No. 2020-51181-32140) led by the University of Georgia that includes scientists from 10 states. The Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine also provides support for Fanning’s research. “The wild blueberry research team at the University of Maine has dedicated their impressive talents and resources to combatting the invasive pest, the spotted wing drosophila for 10 years now. Ten years ago, Dr. Frank Drummond developed the research program to monitor and sustainably manage this pest. With his retirement, Dr. Phil Fanning took the reins and continues to build upon what Dr. Drummond started,” says Eric Venturini, executive director of the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine. “On behalf of the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine, I am incredibly grateful for the dedication the university has demonstrated as they develop sustainable solutions to manage this pest. We are hopeful that the release of this SWD parasitoid could be a game changer for many wild blueberry farmers. If successful, It could help to decrease both spotted wing drosophila populations and the costs of management.” Farmers, eager to ensure consumers don’t encounter SWD larvae in their fruit, invest heavily in preventing the pest. The interventions are expensive, the USDA estimates the nationwide cost to be \$129–\$172 million each year. Treatments are also limited to farmlands. SWD readily invade the raspberries and other native fruit that grow in Maine’s widespread woodlands. These noncrop habitats act as reservoirs where the pests can stage their reinvasions of croplands. Fanning hopes the wasps will reduce the populations in noncrop environments, turning the tide on this ongoing battle for Maine’s berry growers. “Our hope is that the species will be able to establish and proliferate across Maine, building up its populations on all the wild fruits that spotted wing drosophila attack in the forests surrounding our farms. This will reduce their impact on our crops and help cultivate a more resilient food system,” Fanning says. Fanning’s releases coincide with the introduction of a bipartisan bill in Congress that would further efforts to contain the pest. Last week, Sen. Susan Collins [announced](#)

that she was introducing the bipartisan Spotted Wing Abatement Trust (SWAT) Act with Michigan Sen. Gary Peters to establish a federal fund managed by USDA to support spotted wing drosophila research and mitigation. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

UMaine Counseling Center offering fall 2022 training about working with students in distress

29 Aug 2022

The University of Maine Counseling Center is offering a two-part fall 2022 semester training in working with students in distress for staff and student workers. This presentation and training is intended to help participants become more aware and prepared to deal effectively with students who are struggling and in distress. Part I of the training covers the basics of Psychological First Aid, developed by Johns Hopkins Center for Public Health Preparedness. This session usually goes for 60 minutes with an additional 20 minutes for extended consultation and discussion. Part II focuses on roleplay to strengthen skills learned in Part I. Part II usually runs for 60 minutes. The upcoming dates and times of the trainings are listed below:

- Part I, Sept. 23 at 10 a.m. (In person)
- Part I, Oct. 6 at 3 p.m. (In person)
- Online Q&A, Oct. 13 at 11 a.m.
- Part II, Oct. 26 at 3 p.m. (In person)
- Part II, Nov. 1 at 1 p.m. (In person)
- Part II, Nov. 14 at 10 a.m. (In person)

Sign up [here](#). Attendees should request accommodations a week in advance.

BDN reports on CCI's NSF MRI grant

29 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded a \$661,462 Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) grant to the University of Maine to upgrade a multiuser instrument in the Climate Change Institute (CCI). The \$661,462 grant will be used to expand the capabilities of the ICP-MS Facility through the acquisition of a new and improved instrument: the Thermo Scientific Element XR extended dynamic range high-resolution ICP-MS with a Jet Interface for analysis of aqueous samples, supplemented with a ESL NWR193UC laser ablation front end for ice, biological and other solid materials.

Media feature Talty talk at Left Bank Books

29 Aug 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Republican Journal](#) and [Maine Art Scene](#) shared that Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, will give a free public talk and book signing for his debut collection of stories "Night of the Living Rez" at Left Bank Books in Belfast on Sept. 7, at 6 p.m.

WABI covers UMaine move-in day

29 Aug 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) featured the University of Maine Class of 2026's move-in day on Aug. 26, 2022.

Mental Floss cites LaBouff in article about churches as polling places

29 Aug 2022

In an article about why many polling places are at churches, [Mental Floss](#) quoted an article written Jordan LaBouff, associate professor of psychology at the University of Maine, in which he [observed that](#) people tend to take social cues from stereotypes about the space they're occupying, a phenomenon known as the priming effect. LaBouff conducted a survey of 100 people and asked them questions about their political leanings and found that those standing near a cathedral tended to have stronger opinions about conservative topics like immigration and drug policies than those who were standing near a government building. LaBouff's examination of 2016 election data for Virginia supported this observation, noting that voting in churches tends to lead to greater conservative support.

Media cite Allan study in coverage of hazing case in Washington

29 Aug 2022

In covering a former student suing Seattle Public Schools for the hazing he enduring in high school, [KING-TV](#) (Seattle, Washington), [KGW-TV](#) (Portland, Oregon) and [KREM-TV](#) (Spokane, Washington) cited research from Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education at the University of Maine, showing that 47% of college students reported being hazed in high school. "It's important, when you're thinking of prevention, to realize that students are coming into college very often having experienced hazing, and they may be expecting this kind of behavior in order to be accepted in a club, team or organization," Allan said.

BDN, Maine Monitor note UMaine role in country's only commercial eel farm

29 Aug 2022

In articles about the company American Unagi, which is opening the country's first commercial eel aquaculture production facility in midcoast Maine, the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Maine Monitor](#) noted that the company has been operating out of the University of Maine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture

Research in Franklin since 2018. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

BDN quotes MacRae in article about Maine's bottled water companies not testing for PFAS

29 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, in an article revealing that most Maine bottled water companies aren't testing for PFAS. "The bottled water you buy from the store is badly under-regulated for drinking water," MacRae said. [Egreenews](#) shared the BDN report.

Maine Monitor, Hechinger Report feature UMaine student enrollment successes

29 Aug 2022

The [Hechinger Report](#) and [Maine Monitor](#) highlighted the successful efforts by the University of Maine to combat the trend of declining college enrollment experienced across the country. For example, the university reworked its financial aid to charge many applicants from out of state, at most, the equivalent of the same tuition they would pay to attend the least expensive programs of their home-state flagship universities. UMaine also enlisted everyone on campus, and not just admissions officers, in the job of recruiting students. The athletics department hosts prospective students at away games; the alumni association produced a report showing the [much higher incomes](#) graduates earn compared to people without degrees and invites high school seniors to tour the campus during the spirited homecoming weekend; and dining hall workers are even instructed to overlook the instances when visiting applicants misplace their meal vouchers. [USA Today](#) and [Voice of America](#) shared the report.

NSF funds Apul's research into novel approach for eliminating PFAS

29 Aug 2022

Investigating a possible method for eliminating the toxic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, is the objective of a new National Science Foundation-funded study led by Onur Apul from the University of Maine. NSF awarded \$250,000 for Apul, an assistant professor of environmental engineering, to research how to remove PFAS, also known as "forever chemicals", from spent granular activated carbons (GACs). Many municipalities across the U.S. use GACs, porous substances typically made with coal, charcoal, wood or coconut shells, to adsorb PFAS from their drinking water, since destroying the chemicals is a significant challenge, Apul says. Once the GACs can no longer intake PFAS, they are thrown out or incinerated. Apul says PFAS can then leach from the discarded GACs in landfills into ground or surface water. Burning GACs will release PFAS into the atmosphere. Rather than discarding them, PFAS-laden GACs can be reused through thermal regeneration, which early research indicates may cause the PFAS in them to decompose, Apul says. For their NSF-funded study, he and David Hanigan, an associate professor with the University of Nevada Reno Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and two Ph.D. students will try to determine what properties of GACs, particularly charcoal, and PFAS cause the toxic chemicals to decompose, and which conditions of regeneration can enhance the process without inhibiting GAC recovery. Their findings could help identify ideal GAC regeneration conditions for eliminating PFAS, and could support efforts to destroy the toxic chemicals in other waste, including biosolids, landfill leachate and consumer products, through incineration and other heat-based treatments, Apul says. "200 million people in the U.S. are exposed to PFAS via drinking water," he says. "We can resolve this overwhelming PFAS crisis rapidly, safely and sustainably if we explore the use of available technologies and processes." Apul also will conduct another study to better understand how much PFAS can leach from used GACs in landfills. Environmental Research and Education foundation awarded \$150,000 for the project, which Apul will execute with Arjun Venkatesan, associate director for drinking water initiatives for New York State Center for Clean Water Technology at Stony Brook University, and Navid Saleh, an associate professor with the Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. The team will identify which properties of GACs and PFAS influence the leaching process and which types of PFAS are more prone to seeping from GACs. Their research could help landfill operators, lawmakers and other stakeholders devise practices and regulations to prevent PFAS from leaching from discarded GACs and other waste and entering nearby lakes, rivers and streams. "Landfills are our last line of defense to stop PFAS leaching back into the natural environment," Apul says. Apul is one of many faculty members at UMaine, the state's R1 top-tier research university, studying PFAS and ways to mitigate them and providing technical assistance to Maine farmers and other stakeholders. Maine's [congressional delegation](#), led by Sen. Susan Collins, recently secured funding to bolster PFAS research at UMaine in draft fiscal year 23 Senate appropriations bills. If passed by Congress and signed by President Biden, the university would receive \$5 million to establish a PFAS analytical laboratory and \$3 million for research at that facility that will help inform short-term management decisions for farms experiencing contamination from the toxic chemicals. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Zachary Beaton: Learning ins and outs of management at Sherwin-Williams

29 Aug 2022

Zachary Beaton spent his summer learning the ins and outs of management and sales at Sherwin-Williams. The rising senior from Hermon, Maine, did more than sell paint. Through job shadowing his managers and sales representatives, Beaton learned what is needed to successfully operate a business. Read Beaton's full story on the Maine Business School [website](#). Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

Sparks named vice president for finance and administration, chief business officer

30 Aug 2022

Kelly Sparks, associate vice president of finance and strategic planning at Oregon State University Cascades, has been named vice president for finance and administration, and chief business officer at the University of Maine, with a dual report to the University of Maine System, effective Oct. 11. She fills the position of Joanne Yestramski, who had a two-year term at UMaine beginning in 2020. "Kelly's depth of experience will be invaluable in advancing our R1 university and its regional campus," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "Higher education is facing fiscal challenges related to the pandemic and demographics, but at UMaine we also have exceptional opportunities for growth and innovation with the transformative investment by the Harold Alfond Foundation. Kelly will have a critical role in these initiatives and in partnering with the University of Maine System." Sparks' nearly 30-year career in financial management and business strategic planning includes work in international retail with Nordstrom and Coach, and in higher education. She also

helped launch a nonprofit organization to create an early childhood development center in Washington state. She served as associate dean of finance and operations for the University of Oregon School of Law from 2011–13 before joining the Oregon State University community. As the finance and operations leader at OSU-Cascades, Sparks has helped lead the expansion of the new and first university branch campus in the OSU system. Sparks has an MBA and a master’s degree in East Asian studies from Washington University in St. Louis. “I am thrilled to be joining the University of Maine and System,” Sparks says. “I look forward to continuing a legacy of strong financial management and bringing creative ideas to support growth in years to come.”

Guidoboni named dean of the UMaine College of Engineering

30 Aug 2022



[caption id="attachment_92619" align="alignright" width="223"] Giovanna Guidoboni

Giovanna Guidoboni, associate dean for research and professor in the College of Engineering at the University of Missouri, has been named dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Maine, effective Jan. 16, 2023. She will fill the dean position left by Dana Humphrey, who is retiring Aug. 31 after a 36-year career at UMaine. Mohamad Musavi, UMaine College of Engineering associate dean and professor, will serve as interim dean, effective Sept. 1. “We look forward to welcoming Dr. Guidoboni to the University of Maine community in the new year,” says John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. “Her depth of experience includes internationally recognized research and innovation, undergraduate and graduate teaching and research, and stakeholder collaborations. With her leadership and vision, she will make important contributions that will help advance UMaine’s mission to benefit Maine and beyond. “I also extend my deepest appreciation to Dr. Dana Humphrey for his tireless efforts that have put UMaine engineering on the map,” Volin says. “He has left a legacy in the college focused on student-centered, experiential learning, and nationally and internationally recognized research and outreach to industry leaders, many of whom are alumni.” Guidoboni is a professor with joint appointments in electrical engineering and computer science, and mathematics. Her research focuses on mathematical modeling and data science applied to engineering and life sciences. She collaborates nationally and internationally in areas such as ocular blood flow and risk factors associated with ocular diseases; cardiovascular function and noninvasive health monitoring; and physiology of the lower urinary tract. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the European Commission. Before joining the University of Missouri in 2017, Guidoboni served on the faculty of the University of Houston, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, and the Université de Strasbourg. Since January 2021, she has served as associate dean for research in the University of Missouri College of Engineering. Guidoboni is the founder and manager of the consulting company Gspace LLC, which provides modeling and computational solutions for complex problems in engineering and life sciences. She also is co-founder and co-editor-in-chief of the journal Modeling and Artificial Intelligence in Ophthalmology. Her international awards include a Fulbright Scholarship and a Chair Gutenberg. Guidoboni serves on the editorial boards of Scientific Reports (Nature), Frontiers in Neuroscience (Frontiers), and Mathematical Biosciences and Engineering (AIMS Press). In 2022, she was elected a member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. Guidoboni has a Ph.D. in mathematics, and master’s and bachelor’s degrees in materials engineering from the University of Ferrara. “Innovations stemming from academic research and education can truly change our world,” Guidoboni says. “I have personally experienced it many times while working at the crossroads of engineering, science, and medicine. “An interdisciplinary, entrepreneurial, ambitious, inclusive, diverse, and passionate mindset is needed to make such innovations impactful and real for everyone, along with an engaged community and a supportive infrastructure such as that of UMaine,” she says. “I am thrilled to have the opportunity to make the world a better place together with you.”

Tholia Hallett: Second summer with Tyler Technologies provides insight into future career

30 Aug 2022

Tholia Hallett, an accounting and finance student from Falmouth, Maine, has always enjoyed working with numbers and knew she wanted to study business. Hallett’s summer internship at Tyler Technologies, her second one with the company, gave her a peek at what her future career could look like. Read the full story about Hallett’s internship on the Maine Business School [website](#). Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

UMaine Department of Art to host Art & Creative Ecologies Series

30 Aug 2022

The University of Maine Department of Art will host the Art & Creative Ecologies Series of talks, panels and workshops during the 2022–23 academic year. Funded by a University of Maine Arts Initiative Seed Grant, the series features presentations, panels and workshops by visiting scholars and artists addressing the ways that contemporary art and creative practices engage ecological processes and crises. Learn more about the Arts Initiative on the Department of Art [website](#). The first event is a keynote with T.J. Demos, professor of art history and visual culture and director of the Center for Creative Ecologies at UC Santa Cruz, on Monday, Sept. 12 at 3 p.m. at 107 Normal Smith Hall and via Zoom. Demos’ research focuses on the intersections of contemporary art, radical politics and ecology. More information and registration is available on the event [webpage](#).

Fergusson and VonTorne named Outstanding Research Administrators for 2022

30 Aug 2022



[caption id="attachment_92668" align="alignright" width="223"] Christina VonTorne[/caption]



id="attachment_92667" align="alignright" width="223"] Meg Fergusson[/caption] Meg Fergusson and Christina VonTorne have been named University of Maine Outstanding Research Administrators for 2022. This award, which is sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, recognizes distinguished service by staff who support advancement of the university’s research enterprise. Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School Kody Varahramyan says, “Meg [Fergusson] and Christina [VonTorne] have been nominated by their center or institute director for their dedication, professionalism, customer service, commitment and work ethic. The University of Maine research enterprise would not have been able to achieve its lofty goals without the highly dedicated work of those who manage our operations, accounting, communications, grant management and partnership coordination.” Fergusson joined the [Center for Research on Sustainable Forests](#) (CRSF) in 2014. She currently serves as the communications and outreach specialist, a position she has held since 2018. One nominator noted, “Meg [Fergusson] compiles, edits, and completes layout for five separate annual reports each year. In the last four years, CRSF has grown significantly and has become one of the larger research centers on campus in terms of external funding generated. She has handled these changes with grace and ease, which I am extremely grateful for.” Fergusson organizes outreach efforts such as webinars and field tours, manages marketing and social media, and supports proposal writing and program management. She is described as highly professional and cheerful. “She exemplifies a hard-working and dedicated professional employee,” wrote a colleague. VonTorne serves as the financial and administrative manager for the [Forest Bioproducts Research Institute](#) (FBRI), a position she has held since 2018. VonTorne handles day-to-day administration and finances at FBRI, including budget analysis and reporting, purchasing needs, and assisting with both pre- and post-award grant management. She accomplishes her job without any other administrative support staff in the FBRI office, serving 20 faculty, 20 staff and 10 students, serving operations both on and off campus. “She learns quickly and steps forward beyond the call of duty to pitch in at the time of need, even with very short notice. She has shown flexibility and ingenuity in providing both on-site and remote support as needed during the pandemic,” noted one nominator. Earlier this year, UMaine was designated an R1 research university by the prestigious Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

WABI covers Mills’ tour of UMaine Extension Diagnostic and Research Laboratory

30 Aug 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on Maine Gov. Janet Mills’ tour of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Diagnostic and Research Laboratory. “We’re right on the cutting-edge of research management strategies and also looking at the different types of diseases, and new diseases coming online, like Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever in Connecticut,” said Jim Dill, pest management specialist and director of the lab. “This is an example of some world class research and world class education going on right here in Orono, Maine. This is all very current research and current data on current issues,” Mills said.

Miami Herald cites UMaine data in article about upcoming hurricane season

30 Aug 2022

In an article about the upcoming hurricane season, the [Miami Herald](#) cited calculations from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer showing that Sunday marked the highest sea surface temperature on record for the North Atlantic. Despite the warm water temperatures, which usually lead to more hurricane activity, this hurricane season has been relatively mild due to a mid-level layer of unusually dry air in the Atlantic, as well as a

steady stream of Saharan dust blowing off the coast of Africa. [Aol.com](#), the [Charlotte Observer](#) (Charlotte, North Carolina), [News and Observer](#) (Raleigh, North Carolina), [Sun Herald](#) (Biloxi, Mississippi), [Sun News](#) (Myrtle Beach, South Carolina) and other national outlets shared the Miami Herald report.

Media share UMaine research to control spotted wing drosophila

30 Aug 2022

[News Center Maine](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [Portland Press Herald](#) and [WVFX](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7) reported that Phillip Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology at UMaine, and his collaborators are studying whether *Gnaspis brasiliensis*, commonly referred to as the samba wasps, can naturally control populations of the spotted wing drosophila, an invasive fly that has plagued soft-fruit crops like Maine's wild blueberries. "Samba wasps have the potential to be a new tool in growers' fight against spotted wing drosophila. This release finally brings biological control options for a true, integrated pest management approach to this pest," Fanning said.

Organizations need a clearer understanding of trauma in order to effectively address it, UMaine study says

30 Aug 2022

Organizations attempting to address trauma in order to care for those experiencing both intimate partner violence, substance use disorders or both need more support and clearer definitions of "trauma" in order to implement effective frameworks, according to a University of Maine study. Intimate partner violence and substance use disorder frequently co-occur, but are rarely addressed together despite evidence indicating the benefits of doing so. Both are linked to trauma, whether that trauma is from adverse childhood experiences, trauma in adulthood or historical trauma, and whether it results in post-traumatic stress disorder or another diagnosis. Scholars have theorized addressing trauma through trauma-informed care — a holistic framework that reshapes organizational culture, including administrative practices, policies and services to reflect core values of safety, trust, choice, collaboration and empowerment — may better facilitate attention to both intimate partner violence and substance use disorders. However, whether this potential is achieved has not been studied empirically. New research from the University of Maine looks at whether attention to trauma leads to greater attention to both intimate partner violence and substance use disorders. Elizabeth Armstrong, assistant professor at the School of Social Work and principal investigator of the study, used data from 281 organizations focused on intimate partner violence and substance use disorders in one midwestern city in the United States and semi-structured interviews with 27 policymakers, funders and practitioners. The data suggested that addressing trauma is associated with services for both intimate partner violence and substance use disorder in the organizations studied. However, analysis of the qualitative interview data shows that the relationship is more complex than it seems. While interviewees largely agreed on trauma-informed care's potential, there are competing understandings of trauma; differing opinions as to when trauma occurs in relation to intimate partner violence and substance use disorders; liabilities associated with addressing that trauma and varied intervention approaches. Because of this, organizations that address both intimate partner violence and substance use disorder are more likely to service trauma selectively — such as through individual or group counseling — rather than taking the holistic approach required by a framework like trauma-informed care. "It is much easier for a substance use treatment organization to offer a specialized group for survivors of trauma than to reconsider penalizing participants for screening positive for substances or push back against the larger systems requiring this," says Armstrong. "Yet making those kinds of changes is what trauma-informed care requires." The [findings](#), published in the *Journal of Family Violence* in August 2022, show that there is a need for a greater consensus about what it means to address trauma at the intersection between intimate partner violence and substance use disorders. Organizations also require increased investments in practitioner education and training as well as additional support to incentivize the movement towards more meaningful implementation of trauma-informed care instead of the piecemeal approach currently in place. "Supporting implementation of trauma-informed care will require additional research demonstrating its effectiveness over more selective approaches to trauma and recognition on the part of funder sources that positive participant outcomes may well depend on first changing organizational cultures," Armstrong says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Shafagh Rezaei: Helping Maine Grains grow through marketing internship

31 Aug 2022

Shafagh Rezaei, a MaineMBA student, participated in a summer internship with Maine Grains, which she received through the Innovate for Maine Fellows Program. Emphasizing innovation and entrepreneurship, the Innovate for Maine Fellows Program prepares students to collaborate with companies on projects that accelerate company growth. Maine Grains was looking for a marketing intern, and Shafagh's interest in the field made her a great fit. Read Renzaei's full story on the Maine Business School [website](#). Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

New UMaine study pinpoints annual migration of red-throated loons in the eastern U.S.

31 Aug 2022

Red-throated loons are known for their superior fishing skills, but little has been known about the migratory patterns of this aquatic bird in eastern North America. A University of Maine study is the first to pinpoint four migration routes of the red-throated loon along the Atlantic coast of North America and their breeding grounds in the High Arctic, giving conservationists a clearer picture of how to conserve the bird. Understanding the migratory patterns of a species is essential to understanding its population dynamics, as impacts that occur during migration can trickle down to each local population. As such, effective conservation of a species also requires an understanding of these migratory dynamics to determine key areas for supporting the animal and the potential threats to the ecosystems there. "If you want to keep loons at a lake you have to understand all of the other waters that those loons rely on," says Brian Olsen, professor of ornithology in the UMaine School of Biology and Ecology and one of the authors of the study. "Each bird is supported by its own swath of the continent — from its summer lake, to its winter ocean grounds, to the off-shore bank where it stops for a few weeks each migration to rest and fish. If something goes wrong anywhere in that swath, the loon could disappear from all of the swath." By tagging the birds with satellite transmitters, researchers at the University of Maine tracked red-throated loons for a year along their migratory routes from the U.S. mid-Atlantic coast to their breeding grounds in the Arctic. The red-throated loon is listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a species of conservation concern in both its Arctic breeding range and wintering areas of the Atlantic Flyway. The goals of the study were to provide more accurate information about the spatial use during the species' annual cycle in this sensitive area. The researchers also examined the strength of what is called "migratory connectivity" in the species, or how likely it is that birds who breed near each other also winter near each other and use similar migration routes to get there. Species with high migratory connectivity can be particularly impacted by changes along migratory paths because any disruption that impacts one bird is likely to impact many of them. Finally, the researchers used existing theories of migration to construct a movement network of the species in order to better understand the areas the birds frequent along the route

and how they use them. The UMaine researchers found four discrete migratory pathways for the red-throated loons that winter on the Atlantic coast; some ended in Canada and others in Greenland, some went straight up the Atlantic coast and others looped around the Great Lakes. There were key stopover over areas that served as hubs for the birds along these routes, like James Bay and lower Hudson Bay, the southern Great Lakes, the Gulf of St Lawrence, Nantucket Shoals and the major bays of the mid-Atlantic region like the Delaware Bay, Chesapeake Bay and Pamlico Sound. Despite sampling just 5% of the North American Atlantic coast non-breeding range, an area equivalent to just 0.001% of the presumed Atlantic flyway breeding range, the birds studied spread out across 65% of that breeding range, suggesting that the mid-Atlantic region constitutes the core of the non-breeding range for red-throated loons that winter. The scattered migration also suggests that migratory connectivity is low, but anthropogenic disturbance or changing environmental conditions in a relatively small area of either the wintering range could have consequences across much of the North American breeding range. Carrie Gray is a boreal research scientist for the National Audubon Society and the principal author of the study, which she conducted while earning her Ph.D. at UMaine. Gray explains that when the size of the wintering area is small relative to the size of the breeding range, it means a higher proportion of the population may experience the effects associated with environmental change in that wintering area. “This can result in a positive outcome, for example, if regional forage fish abundance is above average one winter and birds experience a boom in productivity the following summer. On the other hand, as climate change causes ocean temperatures to rise and forage fish distributions shift northward to track the colder waters that they are adapted to, it means the birds that rely on those fish must also shift northward,” Gray says. “Tracking studies that follow individual red-throated loons over multiple years are needed to assess how ‘hard-wired’ they are to migrate to specific wintering areas, or whether their movements during the non-breeding season are flexible and allow them to respond to local conditions to track their resources.” There were also a few migration stopping points that appeared critically important for the species. For example, 90% of birds tracked in the spring and 61% tracked in the autumn relied on a small number of core use areas along the Atlantic coast of the Northeastern U.S. and Canadian Maritimes. Factors that could impact the loons in these areas could include exposure to contaminants and oil spills, risk of collision mortality and habitat displacement from offshore wind farms, the threat of bycatch mortality associated with fishing nets and inclement weather. “A fishing vessel off the Nantucket Shoals is likely there for the same reasons the birds are,” says Olsen. “The productive currents benefit fishing for both. But while the vessel operator may notice a handful of loons working the same waters they are, our study suggests that if they go out there every day for a few weeks, they could see a large proportion of all of the birds from the Atlantic coast of North America as they move through the region. There are just a handful of hotspots like this, and this study is the first to describe where they are.” Future, multiyear studies are needed to determine if the same birds take the same migratory route every year, which is also important to understand how easily ecological disturbances could impact the red-throated loon population. Still, the results of this [study](#) — published in the Journal of Ornithology in August 2022 — will not only inform protection efforts for the red-throated loon, but underscores the importance of looking at the large-scale migratory patterns for conservation in general. “Tracking studies allow us to follow birds along their incredible migration journeys and discover the places they rely on throughout the year. We need this information to identify the habitats that need to be protected to conserve bird populations. I’m thrilled we were able to expand on some of this knowledge in regards to red-throated loons and I’m encouraged to see, more and more in our field, a greater emphasis on bird conservation at the hemispheric scale,” Gray says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Jennifer Dean wins \$5,000 scholarship from The Council Foundation

31 Aug 2022

Jennifer Dean, a senior at the Maine Business School, is the recipient of a \$5,000 scholarship awarded by The Council Foundation after participating in Cross Insurance’s 2022 Emerging Risk Manager’s Training Program this summer. The Council Foundation’s competitive annual scholarship program is offered to college students throughout the country interning with an employer who is a member of The Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers. “We are honored to have Jenny [Dean] receive this prestigious academic scholarship from The Council Foundation,” says Michelle Ibarguen, director of corporate relations at Cross Insurance. “These scholarships are presented to 75 college students each year who exhibit a strong interest in insurance brokerage as a career. It also assists us in our recruiting efforts as we look to the next generation of insurance professionals.” Dean, who is studying finance and management information systems, is from Madison, Maine.

UMaine a site for 'Raising Indigenous Voices in Academia and Society' on Oct. 24

31 Aug 2022

The University of Maine is one of five international sites of the 2022 Raising Indigenous Voices in Academia & Society (RIVAS) conference, acknowledging the contributions of Indigenous Peoples globally, Oct. 20–25. RIVAS supports the scholarship of Indigenous academics and speakers whose cultures help shape linguistics, archeology, cultural anthropology and other academic disciplines, and also acknowledges the contributions of Indigenous Peoples globally to society. Organized by host institution the University of Montana, the conference is in hybrid format, featuring speakers and presentations in person and online. UMaine’s Wells Conference Center is an in-person site of the conference on Oct. 24. Other sites worldwide are Al-Quds Open University, Palestine; Bularri Muurlay Nyanggan Aboriginal Corporation, Australia; The Centre for the Anthropology of Sustainability, University College London, U.K. Among the invited keynote speakers is Darren Ranco, UMaine professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Studies, and a member of the Penobscot Nation. Ranco’s presentation, entitled “Decolonizing Land Relations in the Dawnland: Landback and Rematriation Across Wabanakik” will be featured in a livestream Oct. 22, and he also will chair a live panel Oct. 24 in Wells on Wabanaki voices. UMaine instructor and member of the Penobscot Nation Sherri Mitchell (Weh’na Ha’mu Kwasset) will deliver a keynote live at UMaine on Oct. 24 entitled “Sacred Instructions: Indigenous Wisdom for Living Spirit-Based Change.” UMaine faculty are encouraged to let their students know about the in-person conference at Wells on Oct. 24. The conference is free and open to the public. Faculty may also want to consider incorporating the conference livestream into their classes this fall. For more information about either in-person or livestream participation, contact Lisa Neuman, lisa.neuman@maine.edu. RIVAS 2022 is designed for rising Indigenous scholars to share their work and connect with a wider scholarly network, and for speakers to exchange ideas and constructive debate within the field of global Indigenous studies. Speakers will explore past, present and future Indigenous experiences in both academic and nonacademic contexts, including Indigenous scholars and communities, who will present their viewpoints on local and global phenomena, histories, and issues. Speakers will discuss and raise awareness about positive trends as well as the obstacles that still hamper the participation of Indigenous scholars within an arena of global academic discourse, according to the conference [website](#).

BDN reports on Guidoboni being named dean of the UMaine College of Engineering

31 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Giovanna Guidoboni, associate dean for research and professor in the College of Engineering at the University of Missouri, has been named dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Maine, effective Jan. 16, 2023. She will fill the dean position left by Dana

Humphrey, who is retiring Aug. 31 after a 36-year career at UMaine. Mohamad Musavi, UMaine College of Engineering associate dean and professor, will serve as interim dean, effective Sept. 1.

Calderwood speaks to News Center Maine about wild blueberry irrigation

31 Aug 2022

Lily Calderwood, wild blueberry specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to [News Center Maine](#) for an article about Brodis Blueberries in Hope using irrigation to combat recent drought. Calderwood said there has been a renewed focus on irrigation among farmers in Maine. “Large producers already have irrigation in place in the form of sprinklers and large irrigation guns for a few different purposes. The sprinklers are used in the early spring to mitigate frost damage to flowers during bloom when temperatures dip below freezing, while both the sprinklers and big guns are used to irrigate throughout the season,” Calderwood said.

Media feature Apul research about destroying forever chemicals

31 Aug 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), the [Courier-Gazette](#), [WFVX](#) (Fox22/Channel 7 in Bangor) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) featured the research of Onur Apul, an assistant professor of environmental engineering. Apul will investigate how to destroy the forever chemicals, or PFAS, that accumulate in a common water filtration technology, granular-activated carbons. Apul’s work will be funded by a recently announced \$250,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. WCSH in Portland also reported this research award.

Gardner presents at American Chemical Society meeting in Chicago

31 Aug 2022

Douglas Gardner, researcher at the Advanced Structures and Composites Center and professor of sustainable materials and technology in the School of Forest Resources recently presented at the American Chemical Society’s fall meeting in Chicago. Gardner presided over the session “The wide world of adhesion: Symposium in honor of Kash Mittal at 75” and presented a paper entitled “Theories and Mechanisms of Adhesion: Current Status,” which provided an overview of the current status of adhesion theories and mechanisms. Gardner recently surpassed 9,000 journal citations in his career at UMaine in sustainable materials.

Michael Delorge: Researching recovery

31 Aug 2022

Michael Delorge may only be in his third year at the University of Maine, but he is already making waves in the world of public health. Delorge will present research about substance use disorder recovery in Maine that he conducted with his peers through a UMaine political science class at the Maine Public Health Association’s annual conference in October — and he’s just getting started. Delorge was born and raised in Biddeford, Maine. While he was in high school, he was sure that he wanted to pursue a career in medicine, but once he got to college and started his major in biology, he realized that going to medical school wasn’t his dream. It wasn’t that Delorge didn’t find biology interesting. He simply found a new passion: political science. Delorge recalled participating in Maine Youth in Government in high school, and the thrill of playing legislature and passing mock legislation with his peers. He took professor Rob Ballingall’s class in political theory his freshman year as “filler” between his biology courses and unintentionally fell in love. He also joined the UMaine Student Voting Ambassadors program during his first year to make friends while trying to navigate college during the pandemic, but wound up developing a mentorship relationship with Rob Glover, associate professor of political science, whose work studying policy fascinated Delorge. At the end of his freshman year, Delorge received an email about an upcoming practicum Glover was teaching in engaged policy research. “I changed my whole schedule around to take that course because I was so excited about it,” Delorge says. The yearlong class involved a group research project grounded in helping the community, including by partnering with a local organization. His group decided that they were going to look at drug policy and teamed up with Courtney Allen, policy director at the Maine Recovery Advocacy Project (ME-RAP). With Allen’s guidance, the group of undergraduates created a 75 question survey that they distributed to people in long-term substance use recovery statewide. Allen was able to leverage her network to distribute the survey, but the students also got creative with recruitment; Delorge even appeared on a radio show to try and recruit more participants from a key demographic group that they were missing. Delorge says that “around two-thirds” of their survey replicated a [2013 survey](#) conducted by the organization Faces and Voices of Recovery looking at the experiences of long-term recovery, asking questions about demographics and how being in recovery versus actively using impacted an individual’s lifestyle. The final portion of the survey, though, asked for participants’ opinions about Maine’s proposed drug policies — for example, establishing safe injection sites, permitting involuntary commitment of loved ones to treatment centers or even creating a recovery ally license plate for the state. Delorge says that the research was enlightening. For example, it showed that Mainers were three-and-a-half times less likely to be arrested in recovery than during active addiction. Seventy-four percent of Mainers in recovery described themselves as “steadily employed” whereas only 49% said the same during their period of active addiction. Only 53% of those surveyed agreed that a process should exist for involuntarily committing a loved one to a treatment program. Meanwhile, 87% agreed that Maine should expand its Good Samaritan law to include everyone at the scene of an overdose; the students’ research informed efforts to educate lawmakers about the recovery community’s support for the bill, and it passed in April 2022. Delorge has been able to forge a path for himself in public health even beyond his research. In May 2022, he [participated in a Partners for World Health](#) medical mission trip to Senegal. Delorge also joined the Maine Public Health Association (MPHA) as a student member through the advice of UMaine alumnus Jay Knowlton, who he met through Crisanne Blackie at the UMaine Career Center. Delorge jumped into his MPHA membership, participating in the MPHA mentor program and the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs member section. When the MPHA asked for research presentation proposals for their annual conference, which will be themed “The Role of Public Health in Strengthening Maine’s Communities,” Delorge applied using the research he conducted with his peers through Glover’s class. It was accepted and he will be presenting at the MPHA annual conference this October. “I’m hoping for some practical experience in preparing myself for public speaking,” Delorge says. “I presented at the UMaine Student Symposium this past year but this will get me out of my comfort zone a little bit and will hopefully help me make more connections in public health.” This summer, Delorge also has been working as a policy intern at the Maine Medical Association with its director of communications and government affairs, which has opened his eyes to different aspects of the public health world. “I’ve been assisting in a lot of their government affairs work in health care, so maybe getting into lobbying is something that I’m interested in, but continuing advocacy work is also exciting,” Delorge says. For this upcoming year, Delorge has received funding from the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center to continue his own research with the data

set collected through Glover’s engaged policy practicum. Delorge plans to study the demographic factors that most notably contribute to success in recovery. He hopes to present his early findings from this research at the MPHA conference in October, too. “Michael [Delorge] is a truly exceptional student and researcher,” Glover says. “The work he is currently doing as an extension of [his] project will enrich our understanding of what facilitates individuals with substance use disorder on their road to recovery. More importantly, it will help us better understand how to support those in recovery via targeted public policy interventions.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Artificial intelligence can be used to better monitor Maine’s forests, UMaine study finds

01 Sep 2022

Monitoring and measuring forest ecosystems is a complex challenge because of an existing combination of softwares, collection systems and computing environments that require increasing amounts of energy to power. The University of Maine’s Wireless Sensor Networks (WiSe-Net) laboratory has developed a novel method of using artificial intelligence and machine learning to make monitoring soil moisture more energy and cost efficient — one that could be used to make measuring more efficient across the broad forest ecosystems of Maine and beyond. Soil moisture is an important variable in forested and agricultural ecosystems alike, particularly under the recent drought conditions of past Maine summers. Despite the robust soil moisture monitoring networks and large, freely available databases, the cost of commercial soil moisture sensors and the power that they use to run can be prohibitive for researchers, foresters, farmers and others tracking the health of the land. Along with researchers at the University of New Hampshire and University of Vermont, UMaine’s WiSe-Net designed a wireless sensor network that uses artificial intelligence to learn how to be more power efficient in monitoring soil moisture and processing the data. The research was funded by a [grant from the National Science Foundation](#). “AI can learn from the environment, predict the wireless link quality and incoming solar energy to efficiently use limited energy and make a robust low cost network run longer and more reliably,” says Ali Abedi, principal investigator of the recent study and professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Maine. The software learns over time how to make the best use of available network resources, which helps produce power efficient systems at a lower cost for large scale monitoring compared to the existing industry standards. WiSe-Net also collaborated with Aaron Weiskittel, director of the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests, to ensure that all hardware and software research is informed by the science and tailored to the research needs. “Soil moisture is a primary driver of tree growth, but it changes rapidly, both daily as well as seasonally,” Weiskittel says. “We have lacked the ability to monitor effectively at scale. Historically, we used expensive sensors that collected at fixed intervals — every minute, for example — but were not very reliable. A cheaper and more robust sensor with wireless capabilities like this really opens the door for future applications for researchers and practitioners alike.” The [study](#) was published Aug. 9, 2022, in the Springer’s International Journal of Wireless Information Networks. Although the system designed by the researchers focuses on soil moisture, the same methodology could be extended to other types of sensors, like ambient temperature, snow depth and more, as well as scaling up the networks with more sensor nodes. “Real-time monitoring of different variables requires different sampling rates and power levels. An AI agent can learn these and adjust the data collection and transmission frequency accordingly rather than sampling and sending every single data point, which is not as efficient,” Abedi says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Intermedia Programs launches annual faculty exhibit

01 Sep 2022

Intermedia Programs has launched its annual faculty exhibition “ARTworkers,” which will be on display through Sept. 16 at the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center (IMRC). The exhibit features a mobile research lab by Susan Smith, director of Intermedia Programs, and advised by Ali Abedi, professor of electrical and computer engineering and cooperating professor of computing and information sciences, that displays forever chemicals, contaminated soils, waters and plants. The mobile lab will be featured at the New York City Soil and Water Conservation Department in November. A galley talk will be held at the IMRC Center on Sept. 13 at 7 p.m. hosted by Smith and other Intermedia faculty with work in the exhibit, including N.B. Aldrich, Sheridan Kelley, Bethany Engstrom and Arturo Camacho.

UMaine McGillicuddy Humanities Center to celebrate first decade with ‘The Future of the Humanities’ discussion Oct. 14

01 Sep 2022

The University of Maine Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, Alumni Association and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will host a free public discussion about “The Future of Humanities” on Oct. 14 at 3 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts. The event, which will take place during Homecoming 2022, will celebrate the McGillicuddy Humanities Center’s first decade of operation. The discussion about the role of the humanities in the current social, cultural and political moment will feature Heather Cox Richardson, professor of history at Boston College, and Brian Naylor, veteran National Public Radio correspondent. Richardson teaches nineteenth-century American history at Boston College. Among her award-winning books examining political ideology are her history of the Republican Party, “To Make Men Free” and “How the South Won the Civil War: Oligarchy, Democracy, and the Continuing Fight for the Soul of America.” Richardson is president of The Historical Society, an organization designed to bring academic history to general readers, and her expertise has been widely utilized by such journalistic organizations as the New York Times, Bloomberg, CNN.com, BBC, The Washington Post and Chicago Tribune. Richardson also is the proprietor of the most-subscribed Substack newsletter, “Letters From an American,” which is read by millions daily through both subscriptions and social media sharing. In recognition of her prominent role as a public intellectual, on Feb. 25, 2022, Richardson was [invited to interview President Biden](#) “in the China Room of the White House to talk about American democracy and the struggles we face.” Naylor is a 1978 graduate of the University of Maine and recently retired from National Public Radio where he worked for nearly 40 years as a Washington, D.C.-based reporter covering politics, Congress and federal agencies such as transportation and homeland security. Naylor worked as a newscaster on “All Things Considered” and filled in as host on many NPR programs during his career, including “Morning Edition,” “Weekend Edition” and “Talk of the Nation.” During his NPR career, Naylor has covered many major world events. Naylor reported from Tokyo in the aftermath of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, from New Orleans following the BP oil spill and from West Virginia after the deadly explosion at the Upper Big Branch coal mine. While covering the U.S. Congress in the mid-1990s, Naylor’s reporting contributed to NPR’s 1996 Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Journalism award for political reporting. Naylor currently serves on the Advisory Board of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center, and in 2013 he was the Alan Miller Fund Visiting Journalist in the Department of Communication and Journalism at the University of Maine. The Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center supports excellent teaching, research and public engagement in the humanities to deepen understanding of the human condition. The MHC supports programs that foster intellectual curiosity, critical reflection and creative innovation. Central to the Center’s work is the belief that study of the humanities inspires compassion across differences, develops empathy, strengthens critical thinking skills, and cultivates the emotional and intellectual agility needed to navigate an increasingly interconnected and complex global landscape.

UMaine to host international offshore wind conference Sept. 12–13 in Portland and virtually

01 Sep 2022

The University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) will welcome industry leaders from around the world for the American Floating Offshore Wind Technical Summit (AFloat) in the wake of President Joe Biden’s attention on floating wind in the Gulf of Maine. The ASCC will host the 2022 AFloat Conference from Sept. 12–13 at the Westin Harborview in Portland, Maine, with a virtual option for remote attendees. AFloat will bring together developers, policymakers, financiers, academics and other stakeholders to discuss the future of floating offshore wind in the Gulf of Maine and globally. The conference will address the [Bureau of Ocean Energy Management’s \(BOEM\) Request for Interest and a Request for Competitive Interest](#) for offshore wind development in the Gulf of Maine, which were published Aug. 18, 2022. U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said that the announcement “represents one of the many milestones that this Administration has achieved to advance offshore wind development, create good-paying jobs and lower consumer energy costs while collaborating with our government partners.” The conference will feature presentations from University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy; Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King; and Gov. Janet Mills. Other speakers and sessions at the conference include:

- “Preparing the U.S. for Floating Wind” by Jocelyn Brown-Saracino, offshore wind energy lead for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
- “Floating Offshore Wind Status in the U.S. and the World Status of floating offshore wind globally including technology advances and market outlook” by Walt Musial, offshore wind leader at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- “Floating Developers Forum” moderated by Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the ASCC and lead of the Aqua Ventus project
- “Design Codes and Standards for Floating Wind” moderated by Lars Samuelsson, manager, Global Offshore Renewables at American Bureau of Shipping (ABS)
- “What’s Next in Leasing and Policy Activities for U.S. Floating Wind” panel moderated by James Bennett, chief of the BOEM Office of Renewable Energy Programs
- “Financing U.S. Floating Wind Projects” moderated by Randy Male, director of the Boston office of Green Giraffe
- “Emerging Research and Innovation Opportunities: ARPA-E ATLANTIS Program Update: Lessons Learned in Phase I and Phase II” moderator by Michael Olson, technology-to-market advisor at the Advanced Research Projects Agency — Energy (ARPA-E)
- “Research Needs: Technology and Infrastructure” moderated by Nathan McKenzie, technology manager for offshore wind R&D at the U.S. DOE
- “Scaling-up Challenges: Ports, Assembly and Installation Requirements” moderated by Dan Kennedy, senior project manager — offshore wind at Diamond Generating Corporation

For information and to register, visit the AFloat 2022 conference [website](#). Discounted rates are available for University of Maine students, researchers and employees looking to attend in person.

Four UMaine students complete Bath Iron Works internships

01 Sep 2022

Four University of Maine students recently completed the General Dynamics Bath Iron Works (BIW) summer internship program. Katie Arsenault, Parker Swanson, Max Moore and George Bradbury worked across the yard in various departments. [Arsenault](#) is a senior majoring in management with concentrations in business information systems and international business. She interned with BIW’s Human Resources Department and focused on application and investigation interviews while analyzing the reasons why employees leave BIW. She also job shadowed in the Information Technology department. “BIW taught me a lot this summer and gave me insight to what my future could look like in the maritime business world and in IT,” Arsenault says. “I enjoyed seeing what it takes behind the scenes to run a shipyard. BIW has given me the experience I needed to get ahead in my education.” Swanson was an intern in the Hull Outfit Design Department, using the 3D and 2D modeling software CATIA while analyzing drawings. He is currently a senior majoring in engineering physics with a concentration in mechanical engineering and minoring in mathematics. “This internship is a great introduction to the shipbuilding industry and I have had the opportunity to observe many parts in that long, complex, and in some cases, confidential process,” Swanson says. “In any given day, it isn’t abnormal for me to go from loading up a 3D model of the whole ship on my computer to walking through Hull 521 which is getting ready for sea trials.” Moore is a junior majoring in mechanical engineering. He interned with the Operations Department helping to identify potential changes in the design and drawings for the ship’s deckhouse. He then worked with the Planning and Fabrication groups to realign fabrication work orders to be more cost effective. Bradbury, a double major in finance and accounting, interned in the Estimating Department and spent his time assisting with providing estimates for different work in the shipyard using vendor quotes and Excel models. The estimates allow BIW to determine how much work can be taken on at a given time and provide prices to give the U.S. Navy. Interns also completed group projects exploring process improvements within the company. Arsenault and Bradbury worked on updating the Temporary Service Plan used during ship’s completion by figuring out what shipbuilders need, like venting and power, and when and where they need it, streamlining the installation process for the future. Swanson and his group worked on creating a digital forum to enable employees to share information about events and personal activities. Moore and his group focused on displaying digital slides around the shipyard providing key safety information to help prevent on-site injuries and accidents. General Dynamics is a global aerospace and defense company that offers a broad portfolio of products and services in business aviation; ship construction and repair; land combat vehicles, weapons systems and munitions; and technology products and services. More information about General Dynamics Bath Iron Works can be found at [gdbiw.com](#) along with information about the internship program and other career development opportunities.

BDN, Compsmag feature Sparks hiring

01 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Compsmag](#) reported that Kelly Sparks, associate vice president of finance and strategic planning at Oregon State University Cascades, has been named vice president for finance and administration, and chief business officer at the University of Maine, with a dual report to the University of Maine System, effective Oct. 11. “Kelly’s depth of experience will be invaluable in advancing our R1 university and its regional campus. Higher education is facing fiscal challenges related to the pandemic and demographics, but at UMaine we also have exceptional opportunities for growth and innovation with the transformative investment by the Harold Alfond Foundation. Kelly will have a critical role in these initiatives and in partnering with the University of Maine System,” said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy.

Construction Review Online features Ferland EEDC

01 Sep 2022

[Construction Review Online](#) highlighted the features and amenities of the recently opened Ferland Engineering Education Design Center at the University of Maine.

Zipe Education features UMaine role in Blueberry Harvest School

01 Sep 2022

In an article about Blueberry Harvest School, a summer school program for migrant children ages 3–13 in Washington County designed to provide students with the opportunity to attend school while they are in Maine and may be missing school days and credits in their home states, [Zipe Education](#) noted that the oldest age group had the opportunity to visit the University of Maine’s Virtual Reality Center. During their visit, they were able to create and explore their own virtual reality rooms.

Media reports on UMaine study about trauma informed care

01 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Medical Xpress](#) and [Public News Time](#) reported on a University of Maine study that shows organizations attempting to address trauma in order to care for those experiencing both intimate partner violence, substance use disorders or both need more support and clearer definitions of “trauma” in order to implement effective frameworks. “It is much easier for a substance use treatment organization to offer a specialized group for survivors of trauma than to reconsider penalizing participants for screening positive for substances or push back against the larger systems requiring this. Yet making those kinds of changes is what trauma-informed care requires,” said Elizabeth Armstrong, assistant professor at the School of Social Work and principal investigator of the study.

The Beacon cites UMaine addiction study

01 Sep 2022

In an article about destigmatizing addiction, the [Beacon](#) cited a study from Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine that [found](#) the rate of overdose fatalities in Maine has risen to 53 deaths per month during the first five months of 2022, compared to 49 deaths per month during the same period last year. [Patch](#) shared the Beacon report.

Fox News features Allan hazing research

01 Sep 2022

In an article about the impacts of hazing on colleges and universities, [Fox News](#) interviewed Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education, about her research about hazing. Allan found in a 2008 study that about 55% of college students involved in campus clubs and organizations reported some form of hazing. By 2018, Allan found that number had dropped to about 26% at seven schools that are a part of the Hazing Prevention Consortium, a group of schools that have committed to stopping hazing. “We looked at a wide range of clubs, teams and organizations. The students were reporting hazing in performing arts groups, marching bands, a cappella groups, honor societies. It really varied,” Allan said. [Yahoo News](#), [WGMD-FM](#) (Rehoboth Beach, Delaware), [WCSI-AM](#) (Columbus, Indiana) and other national outlets shared the Fox News report.

Media highlight UMaine research about using solar panels in wild blueberry fields

01 Sep 2022

[Energy News Network](#) and [Axios](#), featured University of Maine research about how mounting solar panels in wild blueberry patches will affect income and production. “Our goal is to understand the impact of construction — how will blueberries react to being driven over? Anecdotally, the careful treatment definitely recovered faster in terms of blueberry cover. But they all recovered quite well,” said Lily Calderwood, assistant professor of horticulture and wild blueberry specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. [The Maine Monitor](#), [Renewable Energy World](#), [Canary Media](#) and the [Good Men Project](#) shared the report.

College of Education and Human Development holds inaugural Legacy Tea

01 Sep 2022

Current and former faculty, staff and students from the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development gathered at Buchanan Alumni House on Wednesday, Aug. 31, for the college’s inaugural Legacy Tea. The event celebrated the contributions of retired colleagues toward the college’s pursuit of excellence. It also served as an opportunity to showcase some recent priorities and accomplishments with members of the college community. Two former faculty members of the college received Glass Apple Awards at the event. Read more on the College of Education and Human Development [website](#).

First-year UMaine students dive into marine sciences at Darling Marine Center

01 Sep 2022

The University of Maine Darling Marine Center (DMC) hosted a three-day orientation program last week for 30 first-year students in the School of Marine Sciences (SMS). William “Wge” Ellis, associate director of UMaine SMS, leads the annual boot camp, in cooperation with DMC director Heather Leslie and the other seven UMaine faculty based at the Walpole campus. “We have an amazing facility on the midcoast, the Darling Marine Center, and I just love to bring students to Walpole as part of their introduction to UMaine,” says Ellis, who also is an associate professor of oceanography. The marine sciences boot

camp provides an opportunity for students to become acquainted with facilities and faculty based at UMaine’s marine laboratory in Walpole. It also introduces students to the methods that marine scientists use to study the biology, chemistry, physics and human dimensions of coastal and ocean ecosystems. The program begins in Orono, where students move into their residence hall rooms and meet some of the faculty and students with whom they will work over the next four years. They also get a chance to try SCUBA gear (Discover SCUBA) in the UMaine pool under the supervision of Chris Rigaud, UMaine’s Diving Safety Officer, and his staff. They then head to the DMC, where they’re introduced to some of the more than 45 faculty, staff, and graduate students based in Walpole through activities in and around the Damariscotta River Estuary. Students learn about the ecology of the estuary, including mudflats and rocky shores. They hear from scientists engaged in aquaculture, fisheries and coastal ecology research at UMaine’s 180-acre campus in Walpole. They also learn about summer internship opportunities and the Semester by the Sea program, during which they can spend a fall, immersed in hands-on marine science projects. “Undergraduate students are at the heart of what we do at the DMC — they conduct research with us, they learn with us, and they are core partners in the work we do in collaboration with community and industry partners,” noted Leslie. “It’s so exciting to welcome a new group of students to marine sciences and the DMC. The orientation helps students chart the course of their academic careers and develop connections with other students that can last throughout their time at UMaine and beyond. The marine sciences boot camp is a keystone strategy of the SMS to recruit, retain and support students throughout their time at the university. This year, the boot camp was one of 24 Research Learning Experiences (RLEs) offered to UMaine first- and second-year students. RLEs are classes that challenge students across all disciplines to discover new knowledge, express their creativity and solve problems through coursework that is typically not available in their initial years of study. Details are available at umaine.edu/research-experiences. Contact: Heather Leslie, 207.563.8299, heather.leslie@maine.edu; Matthew Norwood, 207.563.8220, matthew.norwood@maine.edu

Domínguez Singh named dean of libraries at UMaine

02 Sep 2022



[caption id="attachment_92713" align="alignright" width="223"] Daisy Domínguez Singh[/caption] Daisy Domínguez Singh, formerly interim associate dean and chief librarian at the City College of New York Libraries, has been named dean of libraries at the University of Maine, effective Oct. 11. Domínguez Singh fills the position left by dean Joyce Rumery, who retired earlier this year after 36 years at UMaine. “Daisy’s experience in libraries in the public university system of New York City and her leadership in its largest, the City College Libraries system, will serve Maine’s research library well,” says John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. “Fogler Library has a critical role in our R1, student-centered university, with a dedicated staff that makes it an important resource in this state and region. We look forward to its next chapter. “We thank Joyce Rumery for her decades of service to UMaine community members and the people of Maine, and to the state’s system of libraries that are stronger because of her advocacy and efforts,” he says. Domínguez Singh has worked in libraries of The City University of New York (CUNY), the public university system of New York City, since 2005. She joined The City College of New York Libraries in 2006 as a reference librarian, and has served as interim associate dean and chief librarian from 2020–21. During her tenure at the City College of New York Libraries, she served as exhibits coordinator, creating opportunities for diverse and inclusive film programming, and as an information literacy librarian, leading all library instruction and keeping librarians informed of pedagogical best practices. As interim associate dean and chief librarian, Domínguez Singh steered a yearlong strategic plan initiative, and advocated for open educational resources (OER) and streaming film for remote instruction. At the City College of New York and Pace University, she also taught history as an adjunct associate professor. Her research focuses on animal studies, and Latin American and indigenous film and music collection development. She served as president of the Seminar of the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) from 2017–18, and as editor of the SALALM Papers, published in 2020. Domínguez Singh received a master’s degree in library science from Long Island University and a master’s degree in history from The City College of New York. “I’m so pleased to be joining the University of Maine community,” Domínguez Singh says. “I look forward to working with the talented library staff to further foster the library’s place as the nucleus of the campus.”

Retired science historian to deliver 2022 Geddes W. Simpson Lecture

02 Sep 2022

Stephen Bocking, professor emeritus from the Trent School of Environment at Trent University, will deliver the 2022 Geddes W. Simpson Lecture, titled “How the Arctic Became Global,” at 1 p.m. Oct. 13 in the McIntire Room at the University of Maine Buchanan Alumni House. Bocking taught at the Trent School of the Environment from 1994–2022, and also served as its chair and director for a time. Originally trained in biology and science history, his research encompassed the historical and contemporary roles of knowledge in environmental affairs. He has authored about 60 articles and book chapters, and wrote and edited a few books. The Geddes W. Simpson Lecture is an annual event supported by the Geddes W. Simpson Lecture Fund, which was endowed by his family in 2001 to support a series that highlights speakers who have provided significant insight into the area where science and history intersect. Simpson was a distinguished faculty member who began his 55-year career at UMaine with the College of Life Sciences and the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station in 1931. His research program, which focused on aphids in potato plants, was renowned. He served as the chair of the Entomology Department from 1954 until his retirement in 1974. Awarded emeritus status upon retirement, he continued to work part-time as an editor with the station. UMaine professor emeritus David C. Smith dedicated his history of the station to Simpson, noting that Simpson was “one of three men whose work I admire.”

UMaine Extension hosts field day, fun run Sept. 10 at Rogers Farm

02 Sep 2022

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteers program will host its annual field day 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Sept. 10 at Rogers Farm demonstration garden, 914 Bennoch Road, Old Town. All activities will be held outdoors. Workshops and demonstrations for the “Let’s Eat!” field day include “Farm Flatbreads” with Rob Dumas, University of Maine food science innovation coordinator and certified executive chef, and Nick Rimsa of The Good Crust, a Maine-based company using only Maine-grown grains in its pizza dough. Laurie Bowen, a UMaine Extension community education assistant, will share food preservation tips and answer questions about certifying home gardens as pollinator-friendly with Extension. Youths up to 12 years old can register for a 1K Harvest Fun Run, the route for which travels through farm fields next to the demonstration garden. This family-friendly event also includes other activities for children, food samples and information on sustainable gardening, soil testing and backyard wildlife. This program is free and open to the public. Registration is required for the fun run only and opens on the [program website](#) Sept. 1. In the event of inclement weather, check the website for updates. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Kate Garland, katherine.garland@maine.edu; 207.942.7396.

BDN boosts UMaine Extension field day, fun run at Rogers Farm Sept. 10

02 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteers program will host its annual field day 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 10 at Rogers Farm demonstration garden, 914 Bennoch Road, Old Town. The program is free and open to the public. Registration is required for the fun run only and opens on the [program website](#) Sept. 1.

Media share Mitchell Center creative ecologies talk on Sept. 12

02 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) reported that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host the talk “Creative Ecologies and the Aesthetics of Climate Justice” from 3–4 p.m. on Sept. 12. The speaker will be T.J. Demos, director of the Center for Creative Ecologies at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

WABI reports on Pride of Maine Black Bear Marching Band show

02 Sep 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the Pride of Maine Black Bear Marching Band will perform an ’80s themed show at the football home opener on Sept. 10 against Colgate.

Media highlight UMaine research using artificial intelligence to monitor forests

02 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Boothbay Register](#), [Science Daily](#), [Scienmag](#), [Bioengineer](#), [Verve Times](#), [Earth.com](#), [Phys.org](#) and other outlets reported on a study by researchers at the University of Maine suggesting that artificial intelligence could be a cost-effective and energy-efficient tool to monitor and manage Maine’s forests. “AI can learn from the environment, predict the wireless link quality and incoming solar energy to efficiently use limited energy and make a robust low cost network run longer and more reliably,” said Ali Abedi, principal investigator of the recent study and professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Maine.

BDN features Filiberti bird research

02 Sep 2022

A [Bangor Daily News](#) column featured [Emily Filiberti](#), master’s student in wildlife ecology at the University of Maine, and her work using Nano Tags and the Motus Wildlife Tracking System to research bird migration. The column noted that while traditional bird-banding remains valuable, technological advancements like the methods Filiberti uses make it possible to track some birds via satellite, using GPS transmitters. With enough receiving stations set up along migration routes through the Motus Wildlife Tracking System, the exact route taken by tagged birds becomes clearer.

Friess receives \$750,000 from NSF to support low-income engineering students

02 Sep 2022

During his tenure, Wilhelm Friess, associate professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Maine, has seen a pattern of talented first-generation, low-income engineering students leaving the program — or dropping out of college altogether. Often, their leaving the program has less to do with their potential talent as engineers than the socioeconomic odds that were stacked against them before they even arrived. Friess aims to change that by providing these students with the support they need. He was awarded \$749,999 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for a project called Building Bridges for Engineering Students (BBEST) that supports talented, low-income engineering students. “This program presents a unique opportunity to support these talented students from some of Maine’s poorest counties. The aim is not only to provide students with the support needed to stay in college, but also to raise high school students’ awareness that they should consider college. We want to build bridges between UMaine and the K–12 system that will move a college education within reach for students who may otherwise not consider it,” Friess says. BBEST recruits and supports students from four of Maine’s poorest rural counties — Aroostook, Washington, Oxford and Piscataquis — that have both high poverty rates and low student enrollment rates in the College of Engineering. The program will award scholarships to 23 students over the course of the program’s six years while also providing institutional support in the form of cohort building, faculty and staff mentoring, career support and other universitywide services. For example, scholars in the program will be assigned a Scholar Success Coordinator to be their primary point of contact, attend monthly workshops to connect with other students in the program and receive help

preparing resumes, professional presentations and interview skills for job fairs. “There is a wealth of research that demonstrates that while financial support is fundamental for students to have access to college, creating an inclusive and supportive environment is essential for student persistence and success while in college. BBEST aims to address both points by awarding scholarships and creating the corresponding support network for low-income students with high academic potential,” Friess says. The program is modeled in part on the success of programs like the E. James and Eileen Ferland Engineering Excellence Scholarship Fund, which was launched in fall 2012 to recruit students from Skowhegan High School in Somerset County, one of the poorest in Maine. Since its initiation, student enrollment from Somerset County has increased 250%. Approximately 50% of the 36 scholars graduated in 4 years as engineers and are now employed in the field. The project will be evaluated through end-of-year surveys, focus group interviews and a final evaluation report at the end of the six-year program. Annually collected data will assist in program improvement, gauge project success and disseminate lessons learned. The award begins Feb. 15, 2023. Friess hopes that his program will result in more successful graduates of the College of Engineering joining the workforce in Maine. “This program will entice and support talented engineering students to enter, persist, and graduate from UMaine. This will directly support the UMS TRANSFORMS objectives to strengthen Maine’s workforce and economy by increasing the number of graduating engineers from UMaine,” Friess says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Institute of Medicine hosts Inaugural Distinguished Science Lecture Sept. 6

02 Sep 2022

The University of Maine Institute of Medicine will host its First Annual Distinguished Science Lecture at 12:30 p.m. Sept. 6 at the Buchanan Alumni House. UMaine alumnus D. Allan Butterfield, associate vice president for research for centers and institutes and for research priority areas at the University of Kentucky, will deliver the lecture and discuss his research into Alzheimer’s disease. Butterfield, also the UK Alumni Association Endowed Professor of Biological Chemistry, is a native of Piscataquis County, Maine who earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry with high distinction from UMaine in 1968. He is credited with discovering that small oligomers of amyloid beta-peptide (Abeta), which accumulate in the Alzheimer’s disease brain, are associated with free radical production that leads to lipid peroxidation and protein oxidation causing death to neurons. His research changed the paradigm for understanding the pathogenesis and progression of Alzheimer’s disease to include oxidative damage as a key factor. Learn more about the distinguished lecture, which kicks off the institute’s fall 2022 seminar series, [online](#).

UMaine community will welcome Senior Alumni Reunion participants, Sept. 8–10

06 Sep 2022

This week, the University of Maine Alumni Association will host over 200 alumni and friends on campus at Senior Alumni Reunion events. Senior alums are those celebrating 50 years or more since graduation. The three-day event features an All-Alumni Dinner on Thursday evening at the Black Bear Inn, followed by the annual Senior Alumni Luncheon on Friday at Wells Conference Center. Alums also will be visiting various buildings on campus for scheduled tours and activities. UMaine community members are encouraged to give them a "Hearty Maine Hello" as the alumni connect with their alma mater and their UMaine memories.

Call for proposals for the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series

06 Sep 2022

The Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series (CA/DLS) committee is accepting grant applications from the University of Maine to enhance the artistic, cultural and intellectual life of the campus of the University of Maine and to support speaking engagements or lectures at the University of Maine at Machias. Grants support up to 50% of expenses associated with cultural events and speaking engagements and lectures. The CA/DLS committee accepts applications four times a year. The next application deadline is Sept. 27, 2022. Grant applications submitted by the above deadline are for projects starting on or after Oct. 25, 2022. Proposals must be submitted online using the [CA/DLS grant application form](#). Past awards have supported lectures and lecture series; Culturefest, the International Dance Festival; exhibits, performances and guest artists.

Fall food safety training for volunteers cooking for crowds

06 Sep 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer several opportunities for volunteer cooks to receive important food safety training in September and October. “Cooking for Crowds” will be available through both in-person workshops in multiple locations and via Zoom. This popular course offers up-to-date information on how to handle, transport, store and prepare foods safely for large group functions such as soup kitchens, church suppers, food pantries and community fundraisers. Participants receive a manual specifically designed for volunteer cooks, certificate of attendance, posters, a magnet and thermometers. This class meets the Good Shepherd Food Bank food safety training requirements. The \$15 per person fee includes all materials. Register and find more details [online](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, call 207.781.6099 or 800.287.1471 (in Maine).

University of Maine System awards print services contract to Xerox

06 Sep 2022

The University of Maine System has awarded a contract for Managed Print Services to Xerox Business Solutions. The contract marks a transition from a long-standing relationship with Canon Solutions America, as well as other vendor equipment. One of the overarching goals of the contract is to ensure printing is environmentally and fiscally sustainable while meeting the needs of the university community. This will include consolidating redundant and costly devices in favor of more efficient and environmentally friendly equipment and processes. As a first step, IT and Xerox will be conducting a full inventory and assessment of current devices that are installed across UMS campuses. Over the course of the next six to eight weeks, Xerox will be conducting on-site assessments to map locations with an IT representative to develop a recommendation of equipment. A campus team will review these recommendations and make adjustments in collaboration with Xerox and key stakeholders to ensure the campus investment in equipment is maximized.

Media highlight UMaine Extension food safety training

06 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Delicious Food](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's food safety training workshop "Cooking for Crowds," which will be available through both in-person workshops in multiple locations and via Zoom. This course offers up-to-date information on how to handle, transport, store and prepare foods safely for large group functions such as soup kitchens, church suppers, food pantries and community fundraisers. This class meets the Good Shepherd Food Bank food safety training requirements. For more information, visit the program [webpage](#).

BDN features Art and Creative Ecologies series**06 Sep 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine Department of Art will host the Art & Creative Ecologies Series of talks, panels and workshops during the 2022–23 academic year. The series features presentations, panels and workshops by visiting scholars and artists addressing the ways that contemporary art and creative practices engage ecological processes and crises. The first event, hosted in collaboration with Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, is a keynote with T.J. Demos, professor of art history and visual culture and director of the Center for Creative Ecologies at the University of California, Santa Cruz, at 3 p.m. Sept. 12, 107 Norman Smith Hall and via Zoom. More information and registration is available on the event [webpage](#).

Media share Hutchinson Center professional development trainings**06 Sep 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Zipe Education](#) and the [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) reported that funding for professional development programs taken at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center is available, up to \$1,200 per worker through December 2022, with additional funding in subsequent years, through a new partnership with the Harold Alfond Center for the Advancement of Maine's Workforce. For more information about upcoming professional development programs or to register, visit the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

Bloomberg notes role of UMaine food scientists in Mumbai to Maine development**06 Sep 2022**

In an article about 50 innovative startups across the country, [Bloomberg](#) noted that University of Maine food scientists worked with Cherie Scott, founder of Mumbai to Maine, to develop a shelf-stable version of her curry sauces.

Bluefield Daily Telegraph notes Kurbatov role in tephra study**06 Sep 2022**

The [Bluefield Daily Telegraph](#) (Bluefield, West Virginia) noted University of Maine associate professor at the Climate Change Institute and the School of Earth and Climate Sciences Andrei Kurbatov's role in a study to improve data practices and digital systems for researchers who work with material produced by explosive volcanic eruptions.

Spectrum News cites UMaine report in article about substance use disorder treatment funding**06 Sep 2022**

In an article about Gov. Janet Mills announcing \$1.9 million in new funding to expand substance use disorder treatment in rural Maine, [Spectrum News](#) cited data from the annual reports conducted the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine, which found that opioids are blamed for more than 80% of drug-induced deaths in York county from 2016–2020. York County, according to the center, went from six drug-induced deaths in 1997 to 74 in 2020.

Apul speaks to BDN about company working to remove PFAS**06 Sep 2022**

Onur Apul, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, was interviewed by the [Bangor Daily News](#) for an article about ECT2 (Emerging Compounds Treatment Technologies), a Portland-based company conducting pioneering work in the removal of toxic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as forever chemicals. "As a Maine-based researcher it makes me proud to see Maine on the forefront of R&D in such a critical field. I work on fundamental aspects of PFAS remediation and think about sustainability, and ECT2 is working in the field to deploy novel ideas," Apul said.

Mette speaks to Times Record about Brunswick superintendent's new podcast**06 Sep 2022**

Ian Mette, director of the University of Maine's School of Educational Leadership, Higher Education and Human Development, spoke to the [Times Record](#) about the efforts of school superintendents to reach out to the community in creative ways, like Brunswick superintendent Phil Potenziano's new podcast "Brunswick Buzz." UMaine's School of Educational Leadership, Higher Education and Human Development requires students seeking a Doctorate in Education to experiment with communication tools like podcasts, videos and social media, so Mette praised school leaders working to transform their districts into "open systems," meaning they invite engagement and interaction from the community. "I think it's really smart for school districts to think along this line. Parents, community members, students, all want to have a voice in their education. I think when you are willing to consider yourself an open system as a

school district, you're able to get input and eventually buy-in from the community," Mette said.

News Center Maine features Intermedia students making art with nanocellulose

06 Sep 2022

[News Center Maine](#) interviewed Alex Rose and Augusta Sparks Farnum, graduate students in the University of Maine's Intermedia program, about their work using nanocellulose as a material for their art projects. Rose said that one of the things that she likes most about using the material is that it's environmentally friendly and non-toxic, while Farnum noted that she hopes their art also helps scientists to learn more about what this substance can be used for. "It's about... reframing that work, right? It is investigation, it is understanding, it is exploring, it is poking, and who's to say what kind of discovery is going to come from that?" Farnum told News Center Maine.

New device paves way for technology to ease daily food, beverage tracking for seniors, chronically ill

06 Sep 2022

University of Maine researchers invented a device that could serve as a launchpad for new technology to ease daily tracking of food and beverage consumption for seniors and people with chronic health conditions. SipBit, created by Nimesha Ranasinghe, an assistant professor of spatial computing, and Chamath Amarasinghe, a Ph.D. student of spatial information science and engineering, can pinpoint beverage type, volume and sugar content once submerged in liquid. The device, trained to recognize these traits through a series of deep learning algorithms, can identify them by using electrical impedance measurements over a range of frequencies of a drink. Electrical impedance is the opposition offered to the electric current — moving charged particles like electrons — by an object. A given set of measurements of an electrical impedance correlates with a particular beverage trait, such as whether it's tea, coffee or soda. SipBit applies a known electric pulse across thousands of frequencies and then measures the impedances through the drink, a method called electrical impedance spectroscopy. After collecting multiple sets of measurements, SipBit analyzes them to identify the physical and chemical properties of a beverage, particularly what type of drink it is and its volume and sugar content. Many seniors and people with strict diets, including those who have cancer, heart and kidney diseases, diabetes and other conditions, have to manually record daily what they eat and drink in detail to help preserve their health, which Ranasinghe says can be tedious, time consuming and open to miscalculation. He and Amarasinghe hope to enhance the technology in SipBit to identify even more traits, such as sodium (i.e., salt), carbohydrates, protein, and spice content, and record it on devices like computers and smartphones to alleviate their burden. They then hope to develop cutlery and drinkware that are equipped with SipBit. [Watch the video](#) about SipBit produced by the Multisensory Interactive Media Lab to learn more. "We're starting from this foundation," Ranasinghe says. "Our next step is to explore different applications and create a smart cup or tumbler where people can automatically record their calorie intake in detail and real time." SipBit differs from other technology designed to identify various aspects of food and beverages by using electrical impedance spectroscopy instead of analyzing pictures of what people eat and drink before and after meals. Amarasinghe and Ranasinghe say other devices have problems accurately distinguishing beverages of the same color and identifying their volume and other internal attributes. For example, they may struggle to determine whether a coffee was a dark or medium roast or how much is the sugar content of the drink. "Through electrical impedance, we can recognize different beverage types and traits based on different signatures; for example, a cup of Pepsi versus a cup of Coca Cola," Amarasinghe says. Ranasinghe's research primarily focuses on replicating culinary experiences by simulating tastes, smells and other senses through multisensory augmented reality and other technologies. His inventions have earned awards and national acclaim. Some of his popular devices include the [Virtual Cocktail](#), or Vocktail, Digital Lollipop and Virtual Lemonade. Ranasinghe says SipBit builds on his previous research because having sensory technology that can detect and collect data on different food or beverage traits will help invent new devices to simulate those experiences. He says he eventually hopes to develop a virtual space where people can share simulated foods and beverages around the world. "We can provide new opportunities for human-food interactions," Ranasinghe says. "One drive I have is figuring out how we can add these unexplored senses — smell and taste — into our technologies. SipBit is part of a bigger puzzle of future human-food digital interactions because if you want to incorporate new senses, you have to invent technology that can simulate them, sense them and collect data on them." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine study finds Antarctic deep-sea coral larvae may be resistant to climate change

07 Sep 2022

The larval health of an Antarctic cold-water coral species may be resistant to warming water temperatures, a University of Maine study finds, bringing new hope for the climate change resilience of deep-sea ecosystems in the Western Antarctic Peninsula. The past few decades have shown unprecedented levels of warming, particularly in the Earth's polar regions. The West Antarctic Peninsula in particular has shown the most dramatic warming in the Southern Hemisphere, with expected water temperature increases between 0.5 and 1.9 degrees Celsius by 2100. Because they are long-lived and slow-growing, scientists have long thought that deep-sea corals in these Antarctic waters will not adapt well to changing temperatures, particularly in the sensitive larval stage. "Even though their habitat is now changing faster than other places around the world, most marine animals in the Southern Ocean are thought to have a limited capacity to adapt to environmental shifts. Especially during the larval stage, when developmental processes are organizing and laying the foundations for key life-long functions like prey capture and growth, those environmental changes can have an outsized impact," says Julia Johnstone, principal author of the study who conducted the research for her Ph.D. in marine sciences at the University of Maine Darling Marine Center before moving on to a position with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association in Charleston, South Carolina. To test this hypothesis, researchers at the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center along with Temple University, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences and Haverford College looked at the larval development of the coral *Flabellum impensum* in a series of laboratory experiments that mimicked the increased seawater temperatures predicted for the 21st-century. The larvae were put in four temperature conditions — 1.5, 2.5 and 4 degrees Celsius above ambient conditions, plus the control — and were observed for settlement, mortality, larval size, development, deformity and cellular health over the course of 44 days. The results showed that while temperature did not impact the larvae settlement, mortality or larval stress, the warmer temperatures did have a significant impact on the developmental rate. Larvae in warmer temperatures developed faster than those in colder conditions. The increased rate of development did not negatively impact the specimens, though, as it was not accompanied by deformity, mortality or cell death. "These results were a real surprise, as it's easy to imagine these small tiny larvae are fragile, but this study has shown otherwise, they are more robust than we imagined," says Rhian Waller, co-author of the study and former associate professor at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, now at Gothenburg University in Sweden. The results suggest that the larvae of this particular coral species are tolerant of warming temperatures during their most sensitive stages, which is significant for the rapidly changing deep-sea ecosystem of the West Antarctic Peninsula. "In places like the Western Antarctic Peninsula, the need for these studies is urgent because we don't yet know how most of the resident organisms will cope with warming, and the clock is ticking. As we face that reality, the fact that these coral larvae were tougher than we expected lets us know that, at least for some animals, there could be more to the story," Johnstone says. The [study](#) was published August 2022 in the journal Coral Reefs. The research was [funded](#)

through the National Science Foundation. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Hutchinson Center to host Going Green: Sustainability in Business workshop Oct. 21

07 Sep 2022

Registration is open for an in-person professional development program, Going Green: Sustainability in Business. The online workshop, part of the University of Maine Hutchinson Center's professional development program, will be held from 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on Oct. 21 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. This workshop will help participants understand current business sustainability strategies and how to put them into practice. The program is designed not just for environmental businesses, but also for large or small businesses or nonprofits providing goods, experiences or services. Participants will have an opportunity to step away from the day-to-day action, review their strategic plans and refocus them in light of emerging sustainability opportunities. The program will be facilitated by Terry Porter, associate professor emerita of the Maine Business School. Porter received her Ph.D. degree from the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts, where her research focused on dynamic capabilities and strategic change in the case of corporate environmentalism. Porter taught business strategy and sustainability for 13 years at the Maine Business School. She also initiated a sustainability track in the MaineMBA program and advised the student chapter of Net Impact, a leadership development program in sustainable business. Porter holds a master's degree in clinical psychology, is a certified mental health counselor and a 2014 Fulbright Scholar. She has over 30 years of experience as a teacher, counselor, coach, guide and facilitator. This program is scheduled to be offered in-person. Participants will receive a certificate of completion, and 0.8 CEUs/8 contact hours are available. The cost of the program is \$215 per person. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available for people who live or work in Knox or Waldo County. Early registration is recommended as spots are limited. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Michelle Patten, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002. For more information or to register, visit on the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

Morning Ag Clips, Sun Journal boost UMaine Extension bison farming workshop

07 Sep 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) and the [Sun Journal](#) shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District will offer a tour of a bison farm from 1–3 p.m. Sept. 28. Registration is required and a sliding scale program fee of \$15 per family is optional. Registration and payment information are available on the [event webpage](#).

Media report on SipBit

07 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [WFVX](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7), [Trendeeepro](#), [News Update](#), [Tech and Science Post](#), [Tech Xplore](#) and other outlets reported that the University of Maine's Nimesha Ranasinghe, assistant professor of spatial computing, and Chamath Amarasinghe, Ph.D. student of spatial information science and engineering, have invented a device that could launch new technology to facilitate daily tracking of food and drink consumption for the elderly and those with chronic conditions. The device, known as SipBit, can identify drink type, volume and sugar content when immersed in liquid using electrical impedance measurements across a range of frequencies in a drink.

BDN, Phys.org share UMaine red-throated loon study

07 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Phys.org](#) reported that a University of Maine study is the first to pinpoint four migration routes of the red-throated loon along the Atlantic coast of North America and their breeding grounds in the High Arctic, giving conservationists a clearer picture of how to conserve the bird.

Media boost UMaine Extension Fall in the Garden series

07 Sep 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared information about the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's six-part in-person workshop series Fall in the Garden, which will be held from 4–5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 20–Oct. 11. More information and the registration form can be found on the Fall in the Garden [webpage](#).

Popular Science cites UMaine research about West Antarctic Ice Sheet

07 Sep 2022

In an article about the retreat of the Thwaites glacier, [Popular Science](#) cited a 1973 paper by Terry Hughes, professor emeritus at the University of Maine School of Earth and Climate Sciences and Climate Change Institute, where he famously asked the question that scientists are still asking today: [“Is The West Antarctic Ice Sheet Disintegrating?”](#)

Robidoux serves as panelist for ‘Maine Calling’ segment about state’s seaweed industry

07 Sep 2022

Jaclyn Robidoux, marine extension associate with Maine Sea Grant at the University of Maine, was featured as a panelist on [Maine Public's](#) show “Maine Calling” for a segment about the state's role in the future of the global seaweed industry.

Corey speaks to Grid about autonomous vehicles

07 Sep 2022

Richard Corey, director of the Virtual Environment and Multimodal Interaction (VEMI) Lab at the University of Maine, spoke to [Grid](#) about whether autonomous vehicles will be able to push gas-powered cars off the market. Corey discussed the issue of how people will interact with autonomous vehicles once they become more prevalent, and discussed VEMI Lab's Autonomous Vehicle Assistant (AVA) software, which is meant to address accessibility challenges for autonomous vehicles. "There has been a realization over the last few years that without human input, it's going to be very difficult for these cars or other apparatuses to work. Without human input, there's going to be some really interesting problems," Corey said. [Wired Focus](#) shared the Grid article.

Cammen speaks to UPI about facial recognition for seals

07 Sep 2022

[UPI](#) interviewed Kristina Cammen, assistant professor of marine mammal science at the University of Maine, for an article about a new machine learning software designed to recognize the faces of individual seals that could help scientists answer questions about the social behavior, site fidelity and movement of harbor seals. Cammen commented on the recovery of harbor seal populations in Maine, which may have even surpassed historical populations. "We don't have a good sense of how many seals there were in the Gulf of Maine historically," Cammen said. "We know they were here in significant numbers, but we really don't know what that baseline before exploitation was. ... I think [facial recognition software] will give us a better sense of seals as individuals, and that can offer us a better sense of their ecologies and behavioral patterns."

Canadian-American Center earns \$1.55 million to preserve, add programs as National Resource Center on Canada

07 Sep 2022

The Canadian-American Center at the University of Maine received two grants from the Department of Education totaling \$1.55 million to continue offering programs, and incorporate new ones, as a National Resource Center on Canada. The Canadian-American Center is the lead institution for the Northeast National Resource Center on Canada, which also includes the State University of New York (SUNY) at Plattsburgh's Center for the Study of Canada. The designation, and DOE funding that comes with it, allows the UMaine's center to offer a wide range of resources and initiatives in Canadian Studies, including courses and programs for undergraduate and graduate students, lectures, cross-border research and various texts, photographs and similar materials for Fogler Library and other archives. The DOE awarded the the Canadian-American Center a \$1.05 million National Resource Center Title VI Grant to maintain its activities for four years, and a \$502,668 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grant to provide stipends and tuition assistance for students who wish to improve their knowledge of French, the Abenaki-Penobscot language or the Maliseet-Passamaquoddy language. The funding also will support new research, education and faculty professional development opportunities offered by the center that will focus on four key areas: environmental challenges; equity, inclusion, and reconciliation; French and Indigenous languages; and national security issues involving border policies, energy and diplomacy. Examples include student field trips to New Brunswick, Montréal and Québec city, a map project titled "Arctic cooling and the balance of the earth: mapping climate action at Inuit Nunangat" by world-renowned cartographer Margaret Pearce, four book projects and outreach initiatives for K-12 teachers in the U.S. Additionally, funds will be provided for holdings at the Fogler Library and Garbrecht Law library at the University of Maine School of Law, course development on cross-border issues, guest lecturers, a scholar-in-residence at the Hudson Museum, a sustainable tourism workshop and an initiative titled "Building a Canadian-American Research Network to Support Small-Scale Fisheries and Community-Based Seafood Systems." "Maine and Canada share a long history of transnational dialogue, partnership and commerce," says Frédéric Rondeau, center director and associate professor of French. "The role of the Canadian-American Center aims to better understand Canadian differences and our relation to our neighbor, to develop a vast network of courses offering Canadian content, to encourage high-caliber research on Canada and to create a broad range of useful resources for students and K-12 educators in the U.S. Obtaining the Title VI grant makes us one of the two National Resource Centers on Canada in the U.S. and it is an incredible opportunity for faculty and students to participate in transborder projects." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Holden student to enter UMaine with 64 Early College credits

07 Sep 2022

"It's not going to be easy, but it's going to be worth it." This is the best advice 17-year-old Brady Barker of Holden has ever received and he stands by it, especially as it applies to his experience in the University of Maine's Early College program. Barker started taking Early College classes as a first-year student at Brewer High School. Since then, he's completed 64 college credits through UMaine and earned 17 AP/concurrent class credits. That's 81 college credits — more than half the credits needed for a bachelor's degree. As Barker sees it, there were all kinds of benefits to participating in Early College, not just the credit hours. First, Early College courses allowed him to hone his interests. He completed two [Early College pathways](#): economics and engineering. Early College career pathways are gateways to exploring career paths while earning college credits, giving students a jump start on some programs when they enroll in college. Up to 12 credits a year are free thanks to investment by the Maine Legislature and UMaine. Barker started out with engineering in his first year, his mother driving him up to the UMaine campus in Orono every day, waiting for him until he was out of class, then driving him back to Holden. He discovered his interest in computer engineering and found he really enjoys physics because it can be applied to anything you do in the world. He enjoys coding because he likes problem solving and finds it satisfying to see how coding can change things right in front of your eyes on a screen. His final project for his computer engineering class was coding a game of Blackjack using C++ , one of the world's most popular programming languages. Barker participated in online and in-person classes at UMaine. He says he appreciates the vigor and structure the Early College program offers, noting that it prevented him from getting bored and prepared him for college coursework. The due dates were real, helping him to learn about consequences, self-discipline and time management. In addition, the caliber of learning was high, and he appreciated having such a high bar to strive for. In high school, Barker played ice hockey and golf, and volunteered at a local food bank and at the Brewer ice rink, teaching kids to skate. He was also Brewer High School's class of 2022 valedictorian. Participating in Early College gave Barker a feel for UMaine. With classmates he could depend on if he had questions and professors who were always very helpful, he says he always felt very comfortable. Barker is enrolled at UMaine this fall majoring in engineering physics, with the intention of completing his bachelor's degree in just three semesters. At UMaine, he hopes to try out for club hockey. He'd then like to go on to get a master's degree. If all goes according to plan, Barker will be graduating from college at 19. Rather than heading straight into the workforce, he says he knows he'll benefit from further exploration through a master's program. Barker is inspired by his dad, who also graduated from UMaine with an engineering physics degree and worked at Baker Hughes, an energy technology company. While Barker is intrigued by the idea of working on power plants that need to be upgraded or that are out of service, he'd also like to experiment more before deciding what to do. To learn more about UMaine's Early College program, visit umaine.edu/earlycollege. Contact: Lindsey McMorrow, lindsey.h.mcmorrow@maine.edu

UMaine SPIA, CCI to co-host panel on Maine’s model for mitigating climate change and enhancing national security Sept. 14

08 Sep 2022

The University of Maine’s School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA) and the Climate Change Institute (CCI) will partner with the American Security Project (ASP) and Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM) for an in-person public panel “Consistent and Compelling: Maine’s Model for Mitigating Climate Change” 4–5 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14, at Buchanan Alumni House. Despite facing a range of climate hazards from sea level rise to warming sub-Arctic waters, Maine has adopted bold action on climate that can serve as an example for other states. The discussion will address the climate actions underway and explore the key role Maine plays in enhancing climate and national security. The panel includes:

- Capt. James Settele, USN (Ret.), Executive Director of the Graduate School of Policy & International Affairs at UMaine
- RDML Jamie Barnett, USN (Ret.), ASP Consensus for American Security
- Hannah Pingree, Director of the Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

Jessica Olcott Yllemo, ASP Senior Fellow for Climate Security, and Anya Fetcher, Federal Policy Advocate for the NRCM, will co-moderate the event. [Register online](#) for the free public event.

Ellsworth American advances Riordan history lecture

08 Sep 2022

[The Ellsworth American](#) noted that the Bucksport Historical Society will present a free lecture by University of Maine history professor Liam Riordan titled “History and Commemoration of the Statehood Era” at 7 p.m. Sept. 15 at the Elm Street Congregational Church’s Brown Hall, 31 Elm St. in Bucksport.

Allan, Dana comment on anti-hazing bill to media

08 Sep 2022

Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education at the University of Maine, and Robert Dana, vice president for student life and inclusive excellence and dean of students, were quoted in [WEVX](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) and the [Sierra Sun Times](#) commenting on Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King co-sponsoring a bill to address hazing on college campuses, known as the Report and Educate About Campus Hazing (REACH) Act. “This legislation will leverage the nationally recognized, evidence-based hazing prevention education we offer at the University of Maine and our transparent reporting about any hazing incidents that unfortunately occur at postsecondary institutions,” Dana said. “Policy initiatives are a vital part of a comprehensive approach to prevention and the REACH Act combines both evidence-informed education as well as a reporting mechanism for all institutions to standardize hazing incident tracking in a transparent way. Together, these policy components will support hazing prevention while bolstering campus safety, student belonging and well-being,” Allen said.

BDN highlights Intermedia faculty exhibit

08 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine Intermedia Programs’ annual faculty exhibition “ARTworkers” will be on display through Sept. 16 at the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center. The exhibit features a mobile research lab by Susan Smith, director of Intermedia Programs, and advised by Associate Vice President of Research Ali Abedi, also a professor of electrical and computer engineering and cooperating professor of computing and information sciences, that displays forever chemicals, contaminated soils, waters and plants. A galley talk will be held at the IMRC Center at 7 p.m. Sept. 13 hosted by Smith and other Intermedia faculty with work in the exhibit, including N.B. Aldrich, Sheridan Kelley, Bethany Engstrom and Arturo Camacho.

Science publishes Sandweiss, Maasch perspective on how El Niño influences fauna presence, human predation

08 Sep 2022

The journal [Science](#) published a perspective paper by University of Maine researchers Daniel Sandweiss and Kirk Maasch about how El Niño influences the presence of fauna and human predation of it. In their piece, Sandweiss, a professor in the Anthropology Department and Climate Change Institute, and Maasch, a professor in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences and the Climate Change Institute, review and expound on [a research report](#) also published in the latest edition of *Science* that evaluates the effects of El Niño on vertebrate marine fauna and human exploitation of it over 12,000 years. The lead author of the paper Jack Broughton, chair of the University of Utah Anthropology Department, and his colleagues analyzed faunal remains from Abrigo de los Escorpiones in Baja California, Mexico, and compared them with a proxy record for past El Niño events. They found that human activity increased and fauna was highly variable when El Niño events were infrequent 5,000 to 7,000 years ago, but fauna became stable and human activity declined when the area experienced five El Niño events in a century. Sandweiss and Maasch compared the study with earlier research into the influence of El Niño on marine life in areas along the Pacific Ocean, including a previous study they conducted that revealed that the reorganization of molluscan and fish fauna in coastal Peru occurred during increased El Niño events 5,800 and 2,900 years ago. The new report, they said, helps expand scientists’ understanding of how fauna respond to El Niño activity and inspires the need for further research into how these events influence other resources deemed vital to human civilization. “El Niño is sometimes called ‘the naughty child’ because of the climate-driven disaster it often brings,” Sandweiss and Maasch wrote. “If the past is the key to the future, studies such as that of Broughton et al. offer tools for better predicting what this naughty child may do in the coming centuries.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Fileccia named director of UMaine Counseling Center

09 Sep 2022

Angela Fileccia has taken on the role of director at the University of Maine Counseling Center. Her position began on Aug. 8. Fileccia has 20 years of

experience in the field of behavioral health with extensive expertise and knowledge of mental, behavioral and social health needs of community members and clients. She began her career working with children with serious emotional disturbance and then transitioned to working with adults. She worked with adults and elders in both a psychiatric and medical hospital, providing inpatient, acute psychotherapy and care transition planning to individuals with serious and persistent mental illness and substance use disorders. “I am really interested in prevention and de-stigmatization of mental health conditions. The university setting is a perfect place to do that,” Fileccia says. “I also want to make sure that we are engaging with the campus community so we’re really out and about and seen as part of the campus community and as a resource, not just when folks are having difficulty, but also to keep folks from having mental health challenges. I want folks to feel welcome, feel like it’s a safe space and feel like we can chat with each other and be as helpful and welcoming as possible.” “We are thrilled to have Angela join the University of Maine community. She has a positive health orientation, and her sense of compassion and care fits perfectly in a student-centered university. The Counseling Center is a critically important campus resource and Angela is perfectly suited to lead us in the next phases of the Counseling Center’s growth and change,” says Robert Dana, Vice President for Student Life and Inclusive Excellence and Dean of Students at UMaine. Fileccia comes to UMaine from Northern Light Acadia Hospital, where she worked as director of the holistic mental health and wellness program, Healthy Life Resources. This program works directly with employers to provide mental wellness services to employees, reducing stigma associated with mental health services, educating employees on mental wellness and assisting at-risk employees. Prior to that position, Fileccia served as the chief care management officer at Penobscot Community Healthcare, Maine’s largest Federally Qualified Healthcare Center, where she oversaw a multi-disciplinary care management department of 40 professionals. During her tenure, she helped found Unlimited Solutions Clubhouse, a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) evidence-based psycho-social rehabilitation model for people with severe and persistent mental illness. “Right now, the healthcare field in general has really started to move toward a community model, a collaborative integrated model where you have many professionals working together to address health in a holistic way,” Fileccia says. “I’m hoping to bring that perspective to the Counseling Center as well.” In 2013, Fileccia received the Behavioral Health Excellence Award from the Maine Primary Care Association and won the Unsung Hero Award in 2016. She received the 2021 Outstanding Alumni Award from the UMaine School of Social Work, where she graduated with her master’s degree in 2001. “I have tried to stay connected to the School of Social Work throughout the years,” says Fileccia. “I really value the university and what it brings to the state, and also what the School of Social Work brings to the state.” Fileccia has also been a registered yoga teacher since 2006 and is currently the director of education at Om Land Yoga’s teacher training and advanced studies program, which is returning this fall for its tenth year of training after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. “One of the things that melds nicely with mental health and yoga is the mindfulness aspect,” Fileccia says. “I try to infuse that sense of mindfulness, being present, being kind and respectful with yoga, but also in the mental health field.”

Media share Mitchell Center event

09 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) reported that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host the talk “How can we be honest brokers in an honestly broken system?” at 3 p.m. Sept. 19. The speaker will be Sonja Birthisel, director of Wilson Center. Visit the [event webpage](#) to register and receive connection information.

Camden-Herald features Woodworth’s Boren Scholarship

09 Sep 2022

[The Camden Herald](#) reported that Rockport’s Fran Woodworth, who is enrolled in the 4+1 program in the School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA) at the University of Maine, was awarded the Boren Fellowship to study Portuguese in Salvador, Brazil.

Maine Public reports on Dragonfly Mercury Project

09 Sep 2022

[Maine Public](#) featured the Dragonfly Mercury Project, a research project to measure toxic methylmercury levels in dragonfly larvae in Acadia National Park that was started by Sarah Nelson while she was a student at the University of Maine. “We’ve just started to look at some of the sites that we have a decade of data and tease out some of those patterns,” Nelson said. The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared the Maine Public report.

BDN cites UMaine study about breweries

09 Sep 2022

In an article about Allagash Brewing building a new tasting room on a former horse racing track in Scarborough, the [Bangor Daily News](#) cited a 2020 report by the University of Maine and the Maine Brewers’ Guild showing that craft brewers are a significant contributor to Maine’s economy, with \$260.7 million in economic impact to the state in 2020 and employing nearly 2,400 people. The report also found that there were 165 active licensed brewers in the state this year, some with multiple licenses or locations, up from 155 in 2020.

PPH features Pierce’s eDNA research

09 Sep 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) featured the research of University of Maine Ph.D. candidate Emily Pierce, who studies eDNA in water samples. “Environmental DNA (eDNA) is really cool because every organism is shedding it into the environment ... Using different techniques, we can discover through this DNA what kind of animals are out there, what kind of algae, plankton, sharks, fish. We can identify all sorts of different species with just a single water sample,” Pierce said.

Lyon speaks to the Guardian about September heat waves in California

09 Sep 2022

Bradfield Lyon, a research professor at the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, spoke to the [Guardian](#) about this September’s record-breaking heat

waves in California. “By mid-century, the [spatial] size of heatwaves in the US are expected to increase between about 50% to 80% from what they are in the current climate. The frequency will increase, the duration will increase, as well as the intensity,” Lyon said.

WESA-FM features Mayewski’s new book

09 Sep 2022

[WESA-FM](#) (90.5 in Pittsburgh) featured Paul Mayewski, director and professor of the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine and Distinguished Professor in the Schools of Earth and Climate Sciences, Marine Sciences, Policy and International Affairs, Business School and University of Maine School of Law. The segment featured Mayewski’s new book, “The Ice Chronicles: The Quest to Understand Global Climate Change,” in which he and co-author Frank White detail the expeditions Mayewski led for the National Science Foundation’s Greenland Ice Sheet Project 2, which involved extracting ice cores chronicling 100,000 years of climate history.

Media highlight Friess’ NSF grant to support low-income engineering students

09 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#) and [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) reported that Wilhelm Friess, associate professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Maine, was awarded \$749,999 from the National Science Foundation for a project that supports talented, low-income engineering students called Building Bridges for Engineering Students (BBEST). “This program presents a unique opportunity to support these talented students from some of Maine’s poorest counties. The aim is not only to provide students with the support needed to stay in college, but also to raise high school students’ awareness that they should consider college. We want to build bridges between UMaine and the K–12 system that will move a college education within reach for students who may otherwise not consider it,” Friess said.

Socolow speaks to The Hill about CNN’s changes in corporate ownership

09 Sep 2022

Michael Socolow, associate professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism and former assignment editor at CNN, spoke to [The Hill](#) about the major changes at CNN in recent weeks that have sparked chatter in media and political circles about the network’s new corporate ownership pulling it to the political right. “A lot of people on the outside are seeing this as some sort of gambit for audience and viewership. There are much bigger economic and regulatory benefits for the political positioning than any kind of viewership gains,” Socolow said. [Yahoo! News](#), the [Miami Herald](#), [The Sacramento Bee](#), [The Kansas City Star](#), the [Idaho Statesman](#) and other outlets shared the Hill report.

Dog training clinic for youth scheduled for October

12 Sep 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a dog training clinic 8 a.m.–noon Saturday, Oct. 8 at the University of Maine J. Franklin Witter Teaching & Research Center, 160 University Farm Road, Old Town. The [Maine 4-H Dog Clinic](#) is open to all youth ages 9–18; owning a dog is not required. Participants will learn how to teach behaviors based on the American Kennel Club’s Canine Good Citizen program, including accepting a friendly stranger, sitting politely for petting and more. Members of the UMaine Extension 4-H dog animal science committee will lead the clinic. The clinic is free; registration is required. Register on the [event webpage](#) by Sept. 29. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.942.7396; sheila.norman@maine.edu.

UMaine researchers look into how to make kelp aquaculture a better carbon sink

12 Sep 2022

Cost-effective carbon dioxide removal technologies play a key role in combating climate change. A team of researchers at the University of Maine in collaboration with Conscience Bay Research have developed a kelp aquaculture model for the Gulf of Maine that maximizes carbon sequestration and cost effectiveness of this natural carbon sink. Wild macroalgae is one of the most extensive and productive vegetative biomass stocks, but it primarily grows in rocky nearshore areas not conducive to localized long-term sequestration, which only occurs when macroalgae is incorporated within deep ocean sediments at over 1,000 meters of depth or remineralized at depths below the permanent thermocline in areas of the ocean where carbon is blocked from returning to the atmosphere. Macroalgae aquaculture, like farming kelp in the Gulf of Maine, could potentially be leveraged to replicate this carbon sequestration process by farming large quantities of kelp at an offshore site, transporting the kelp to a deep water “sink site” and then depositing it deep in the ocean where the carbon can be sequestered. “Farming kelp for the purposes of large-scale carbon dioxide removal is an idea that has recently gained significant attention from the research community, private sector and aquaculture industry. The goal of our analysis was to assign some realism to the conversation regarding the costs and environmental impact of this emerging technology. Many are looking to the Gulf of Maine as not only a national leader in sustainable seafood production, but also a potential carbon sink. More information is critically required to help guide potential ocean carbon dioxide removal development,” says Struan Coleman, principal author of the study and research associate at UMaine. A team of researchers led by UMaine aimed to figure out how kelp aquaculture can optimize carbon sequestration and cost effectiveness. “Kelp cultivation for carbon sequestration is not cost competitive right now, but there are important pathways to reducing the cost of producing kelp, which is good for everyone,” says Damian Brady, co-author of the study and UMaine associate professor of oceanography. “We focused on the cost of production, because if it is not cost competitive with other carbon sequestration approaches, like direct air capture, then that can dictate where future research funding gets committed.” The researchers created a detailed model for kelp aquaculture in the region. By tinkering with 18 different variables — including the assumptions for harvest labor requirements, where electricity was sourced from and the size of PVC spools within the nursery where the kelp spores or gametophytes attach and grow — they were able to reduce the cost of carbon sequestration through kelp aquaculture from \$17,048 per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent to \$1,257. The findings represent a significant cost decrease for carbon dioxide removal in kelp aquaculture; however, the industry cost target for such technologies is around \$100 per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent in order to be economically viable. “This means the industry will need to innovate beyond the way farms are run now if macroalgae carbon dioxide removal is to be economically viable,” says Adam St. Gelais, co-author of the study and aquaculture innovation specialist at the UMaine Aquaculture Research Institute. “Additionally —and equally

important with regards to scaling— this model provides pathways to reduce production costs and reduce production-related emissions for kelp farming regardless of its ultimate use. Insights from the model can be applied now to help producers increase yield and expand margins through optimization as they look to grow.” Even if it is not possible to optimize all the parameters outlined, the scientists pinpointed six steps that will have the most impact on production costs, energy usage and monitoring in kelp aquaculture. First, farms should have the ability to move into larger, contiguous offshore sites in order to make more efficient use of ocean space and decrease the risk farmers assume when taking on a lease for a kelp aquaculture farm. Farmers should also automate the seeding and harvest process, leverage selective breeding to increase yields and assess the cost-benefit of gametophyte nursery cultures as opposed to spores, as they are less expensive and allow for better selective breeding. “Our findings are in line with many of the research and development needs that the kelp aquaculture industry has been working on for decades. I think the real value of our approach was looking at the ways in which variables such as yield, energy usage within the nursery and farm design impact the cost structure of kelp farms at a relatively large scale. If this industry is going to continue to expand, whether contributing to food or carbon dioxide removal supply chains, we’ll need to tackle these issues” says Coleman. Kelp farms in the Gulf of Maine can also decarbonize by sourcing electricity from renewable sources and employing low greenhouse gas impact materials with long lifespans. Finally, they need to develop low-cost and accurate monitoring techniques for ocean-based carbon dioxide removal to reduce the uncertainty of carbon budgeting. “Our team is excited to continue this work over the next two years and hope to accelerate kelp farming along the technology cost curve. We leaned heavily on our initial analysis to identify the most impactful levers that we could pull to answer pressing research and development questions. Through a combination of field and modeling studies, we hope to de-risk promising designs and technologies,” says Coleman. The [study](#) was published August 2022 in *Frontiers of Marine Science*. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Institute of Medicine hosts webinar about partnerships for health equity Down East

12 Sep 2022

The University of Maine Institute of Medicine will host a webinar, “Building Community — University Partnerships for Health Equity in Downeast Maine,” from noon–1 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 16. The talk explores the lessons learned and emerging findings from the Downeast Health Research Collaborative (DHRC), a informal network of students, faculty and community organizations based at the University of Maine at Machias that is working to address rural health inequities through community-engaged research, systems-level interventions and workforce development. Webinar speakers include Tora Johnson, director of the Geographic Information Systems Service Center at UMaine Machias; Katherine Weatherford Darling, an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Maine at Augusta; and Oliver Gray Jones, a UMaine Ph.D. student. The event is part of the institute’s fall 2022 seminar series. Registration for the webinar is required, and can be done [online](#).

BDN boosts 2022 Geddes W. Simpson lecture by Bocking

12 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Stephen Bocking, professor emeritus from the Trent School of Environment at Trent University, will deliver the 2022 Geddes W. Simpson Lecture, titled “How the Arctic Became Global,” at 1 p.m. Oct. 13 in the McIntire Room, Buchanan Alumni House at the University of Maine.

Media note Kelly’s recognition at 2022 MaineBiz Women to Watch reception

12 Sep 2022

[CentralMaine.com](#) and the [Times Record](#) noted that Renee Kelly, assistant vice president for Innovation and Economic Development at the University of Maine, will be one of five inspirational female leaders recognized in-person on Sept. 15, at the 2022 MaineBiz Women to Watch reception.

Turner Publishing highlights Carter talk at Androscoggin-Sagadahoc Extension annual meeting

12 Sep 2022

[Turner Publishing](#) noted that Hannah Carter, University of Maine Cooperative Extension dean, will be the featured speaker at the Androscoggin-Sagadahoc Counties Extension Association annual meeting and election of officers from 5:30–7 p.m. Oct. 3 at 24 Main St., Lisbon Falls. The meeting is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided.

Livingston County News gardening column notes UMaine Extension information on red lily beetles

12 Sep 2022

A gardening column in the [Livingston County News](#) (Geneseo, New York) cited research from [University of Maine Cooperative Extension](#) about plant resistance to red lily beetles. They have found that the early-blooming Asiatic lilies receive the most damage, and the later-blooming Oriental lilies are damaged less. Three lilies are least likely to be damaged: *Lilium henryi* “Madame Butterfly,” *Lilium speciosum* “Uchida,” and *Lilium* “Black Beauty.” These lilies bloom later in the season, from August into September.

Maine Monitor speaks to MacRae about upcoming Juniper Ridge Landfill leachate study

12 Sep 2022

[The Maine Monitor](#) spoke to Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, about LD 1911, a bill that would redirect much of the state’s PFAS-contaminated sludge to the state-owned Juniper Ridge Landfill, located in Old Town near the Penobscot Reservation. Sevee & Maher Engineering has been hired to conduct a study of the leachate treatment options and costs, but some bill proponents worry that the company’s ties to the landfill will prevent the review from being objective, according to the report. “In general, the consulting industry doesn’t publicize their knowledge ... because they can’t bill for that time, and it doesn’t help them competitively. So as in many situations where specialized knowledge is involved, it is difficult (and more costly) to get a really independent view on the matter,” MacRae said. The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Maine Public](#) shared the Maine Monitor report.

BDN shares UMaine Extension dog training clinic

12 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a dog training clinic from 8 a.m.–noon on Oct. 8 at the University of Maine J. Franklin Witter Teaching & Research Center, 160 University Farm Road. The clinic is open to all youth ages 9–18; owning a dog is not required. Register on the [event webpage](#).

Maine Monitor interviews MacRae to answer common PFAS questions

12 Sep 2022

[The Maine Monitor](#) interviewed Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, to answer questions about PFAS. Maine has some of the highest levels of PFAS water contamination she has seen in her work with communities around the country, possibly because this state is at the forefront of testing. “The more we look, the fewer places we’ll find without contamination,” MacRae said.

Boteva speaks to U.S. News and World Report about high schools preparing international students for college

12 Sep 2022

Orlina Boteva, director of the Office of International Programs at the University of Maine, spoke to [U.S. News and World Report](#) about how high schools can help international students transition to college in the U.S. Boteva said she has noticed that students who spend a year or two at a U.S. high school adjust more quickly to college-level academics and tend to seek more academic support. Boteva also said AP and early college offerings can set students up for success and speed up their time to college graduation. For example, the UMaine offers reduced rates for international students in U.S. high schools to take college courses through the school’s [Early College program](#) at the rate of \$138.25 per credit hour. “These are significant savings for students’ families,” Boteva said.

Ranco interviewed by Maine Monitor about PFAS

12 Sep 2022

[The Maine Monitor](#) quoted Darren Ranco, professor of anthropology at the University of Maine, in an article about toxic PFAS compounds concentrating over time in landfills near the Penobscot Indian Reservation, which threaten both the health of tribal members and traditions that bound them through millennia to the waterway they know as “panawhpskek.” “Our holy place is not in the Middle East but right here in our watershed. The river is a relation that is in many ways sacred; it’s not an ‘other,’ a resource. We will take care of it to the extent we can. It’s not about ownership; it’s our responsibility.” Ranco said that toxic pollution is “another legacy of harm from colonization,” with the potential risk of PFAS “particularly damaging because it is so difficult to address.” The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared the Maine Monitor report.

PPH interviews Brewer, Glover about politicians supporting lobster industry in light of ‘red list’ designation

12 Sep 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) interviewed Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, and Rob Glover, a UMaine associate professor of political science, about Maine politicians showing their support for the lobster industry after Seafood Watch put American lobster on its “red list” of seafood to be avoided because it claims the fishery poses a risk to the endangered North Atlantic right whale. “The lobster industry is seen as very important in Maine, and thus it is useful to candidates to be seen as supportive of lobstering. In Maine, a candidate wants to win the lobster vote for sure,” Brewer said. [Yahoo! News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), the [Sun Journal](#) and the [Courier-Gazette](#) shared the PPH report.

UMaine research program to increase retention, success of computing students receives \$1.5M NSF award

12 Sep 2022

Computers run modern life, and the need for workers who understand how they function is more important now than ever. Penny Rheingans, professor and director of the School of Computing and Information Science at the University of Maine, has made it her mission to make computer science degrees achievable for students no matter where they come from. Socioeconomic factors such as income and family educational background have been shown by previous research to affect student persistence in STEM fields like computer science, but there is a lack of research about how programs combining academic support, mentoring, professional skill development and service learning can help students overcome those barriers. Rheingans leads a team of UMaine faculty and staff committed to finding the barriers to computing students’ success and tackling them head-on, including Roy Turner, associate professor of computer science; Terry Yoo, associate professor of computer science; Chris Dufour, lecturer in computer science; Sarah Saeed, program coordinator at the Department of Computer Science; and Vanessa Klein, assistant professor of education and assistant Extension professor. This team was recently awarded nearly \$1.5 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for a six-year project that will fund scholarships and support programming for 30 full-time UMaine high-achieving, low-income students pursuing bachelor’s degrees in computer science. The resulting program will be named the Computing Community for Good (CCG). In the CCG program, first-year scholarship recipients will receive up to four years of scholarship support and transfer students will receive up to three years of support. In addition to providing support for tuition, the program will include a summer bridge program; faculty, peer and industry mentorship; academic and professional development activities; a living-learning community; and seminars of first-year success, professional skills, and leadership. The project will support curriculum changes that aim to improve the career-readiness of UMaine computing students in the program. As part of the program, the students will also use their developing computing skills to improve local communities and beyond. “Computer science has become important to solving problems in a wide range of areas, from sustainability to health care to scientific discovery. CCG Scholars will engage in STEM outreach to rural students through 4-H and work on sustainability challenges as part of efforts of the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions. These service learning elements help students understand the potential impact of their field and to develop leadership skills,” says Rheingans. Meanwhile, researchers will look at the perceptions of barriers that students in the program have to pursuing computing in higher education, whether participants think project activities can mitigate those barriers and how support services and community support impact the success of the student. Through administrative data, focus groups, interviews with

institutional players and surveys with students, graduates and institutional partners, this project aims to advance the understanding of how post-secondary computing programs can alleviate the pressures impacting these students to improve their educational outcomes. “Computer science students in Maine are more likely than students in most places to come from a low-income background, to come from a rural high school, or to be the first in their family to attend college. As a first-generation student myself, I am particularly aware of some of the extra challenges for such students. Through this program, we aim to ensure that those students are as likely to succeed as those from more privileged backgrounds,” says Rheingans. Rheingans also co-leads the [UMS TRANSFORMS](#) Maine College of Engineering, Computer and Information Science initiative, which aims to develop the technical workforce and innovations that are critical to moving Maine’s economy forward through engineering and computer science education. The initiative has been made possible by a \$75 million donation from the Harold Alfond Foundation and a \$75 million matching donation for a total of \$150 million. “Increasing the number and diversity of computing graduates is critically important for Maine’s economy and communities. Last year, there were over 1,000 postings for computing jobs, but fewer than 300 computing graduates statewide. This project will allow us to address that need for more computing professionals while also providing great opportunities for students from Maine to earn a good living and improve their world,” says Rheingans. The award begins Oct. 15, 2022. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Swineweb shares UMaine Extension winter watering tips for swine

13 Sep 2022

[Swineweb](#) shared a presentation by Colt Knight, University of Maine Cooperative Extension state livestock specialist, about tips and tricks for watering pigs during Maine’s winter months.

Spectrum News, Phys.org report on UMaine kelp carbon sequestration study

13 Sep 2022

[Phys.org](#) and [Spectrum News](#) reported that a new study from the University of Maine shows how to reduce the costs associated with a proposed new method of using kelp farming to remove excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

BDN shares ‘Voices from the Barrens’ screening at UMaine Machias

13 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that the documentary “Voices from the Barrens: Native People, Blueberries and Sovereignty” will screen at the University of Maine at Machias Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 30 to kick off a Maine-focused film series called The Right to Food.

Kaye speaks to Maine Monitor about Homeward Bound

13 Sep 2022

Lenard Kaye, director of the University of Maine’s Center on Aging and professor at the School of Social Work, spoke to [The Maine Monitor](#) about Homeward Bound, a program which helps seniors and adults with disabilities transition from nursing homes and hospitals back to community-based care settings. Kaye said that programs like Homeward Bound offer an avenue for them to return to their homes and communities where they have support systems. “We know that 80-90% of older adults want to take their last breath in the familiar setting of their home in the neighborhood that they know all too well. ... Isolation is a threat to one’s health and well-being. It’s been equated with smoking 15 cigarettes a day. It shortens your life,” Kaye said. The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the Maine Monitor report.

Media report on UMaine, Bangor School Department diversity partnership

13 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [News Center Maine](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the Bangor School Department launched a new partnership with the University of Maine that aims to make Bangor schools more inclusive and welcoming for students and educators from all backgrounds. Through the partnership, members of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development will lead three courses for Bangor teachers that will center around implicit bias and how schools can be more inclusive for students from all backgrounds. The courses, the first of which began Monday, will be held throughout the academic year.

Media share UMaine Extension 4-H volunteer training

14 Sep 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Piscataquis Observer](#) shared University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s two-part online training for adults interested in becoming 4-H volunteers from 6–7 p.m. Oct. 19 and Oct. 26. The training is free; registration is required by Oct. 12. Register on the [event webpage](#).

Tasting Table cites UMaine Extension information about infused olive oils

14 Sep 2022

[Tasting Table](#) cited information from [University of Maine Cooperative Extension](#) that explained how storing infused olive oil at room temperature could be so dangerous that it could cause botulism poisoning.

BDN, News Center Maine feature Smith’s PFAS-themed art installation

14 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [News Center Maine](#) featured Susan Smith, director of Intermedia Programs at the University of Maine, and her piece “Radical Gardening,” which features PFAS-contaminated water; skeins of yarn and fabric colored with PFAS-contaminated dye; and dried plants and flowers that grew in PFAS-laden soil, preserved in beeswax. The piece is presently on display at the IMRC through Saturday. After its exhibition at the IMRC, “Radical Gardening” will go on display at the New York City Soil and Water Conservation District for the month of November. [The Piscataquis Observer](#) shared the BDN report.

Annual college guides place UMaine, UMaine Machias among top performers nationwide

14 Sep 2022

Multiple college guides have once again placed the University of Maine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, among the best higher education institutions nationwide in their latest editions. The U.S. News & World Report 2023 Best Colleges rankings featured UMaine in its list for top [National Universities](#) — those producing groundbreaking research and offering a full range of undergraduate, master’s and doctoral programs. UMaine was also named a [Top Performer in Social Mobility](#) — an institution that enrolls and graduates large proportions of disadvantaged students awarded with Pell Grants — by the publication, and included in its [Top Public Schools](#) list. Its undergraduate programs for business, computer science, engineering and nursing also were ranked among the best in the nation by U.S. News and World Report. UMaine Machias was included in U.S. News and World Report’s 2023 list of top [National Liberal Arts Colleges](#) — those that emphasize undergraduate education and award at least half of their degrees in the liberal arts fields of study. As a National Liberal Arts College, it also is ranked in the Top Performers on Social Mobility and Top Public Schools lists. UMaine was featured in Princeton Review’s “[Best 388 Colleges for 2023](#)”, and also was named one of its [Best Northeastern colleges](#). “Seeing our university and regional campus in these top college listings once again reaffirms our efforts to provide a meaningful and affordable education for all of our learners,” says UMaine and UMaine Machias President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “I am proud of the world-class faculty and staff whose excellent efforts to meet students where they are continually garners widespread recognition for our institutions, whether it be through these guides, our designation as an R1 top-tier research university, features in local and national media or grants and investments awarded by state and federal agencies.” The Princeton Review [profile for UMaine](#) includes multiple “Students Say” reflections on academics, campus life and the student body. Students who responded to the guide’s survey highlighted the university’s broad course selection, hands-on learning experiences, affordability, friendly atmosphere, supportive peers, Black Bear pride in athletics and recreational opportunities across all four seasons. “There is a unique sense of Maine here, and we are quite united under the Black Bear banner,” one student told the publication. Washington Monthly’s 2022 College Guide and Rankings included UMaine in its list of top [National Universities](#) — institutions that award a significant number of doctoral degrees — based on contributions to the public good in three broad categories: social mobility, research and providing opportunities for public service. UMaine also was included in the publication’s [Best Colleges for Student Voting list](#). The magazine ranked UMaine Machias among its top [Liberal Arts Colleges](#) — four-year institutions that award almost exclusively bachelor’s degrees and that focus on arts and sciences rather than professional programs — also based on its contributions to social mobility, research and public service opportunities. This summer, Fiske Guide to Colleges 2023 also [featured UMaine](#). Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine researchers aim to help decarbonize plastic chemicals industry with new reactor that relies on solar energy

15 Sep 2022

Helping decarbonize the plastic chemicals industry by developing a new reactor that relies on solar energy will be the focus of a Department of Energy (DOE)-funded project led by the University of Maine. Justin Lapp, a UMaine assistant professor of mechanical engineering, is spearheading the effort to create the novel thermochemical reactor that could eliminate almost all greenhouse gas emissions from the process used to make light olefins, chemicals like ethylene and propylene that serve as precursors to plastic. [The DOE awarded \\$400,000](#) for the project. Other researchers involved in the project include Thomas Schwartz, a UMaine associate professor of chemical engineering, and David Hibbitts, an associate professor of chemical engineering at the University of Florida. Manufacturers burn fossil fuels to heat up catalyst particles used for conducting a chemical process called dehydrogenation that converts paraffins, gaseous compounds like propane derived from natural gas and petroleum, into olefins. The catalyst particles cool from the reaction and need to be reheated to maintain the process, resulting in manufacturers burning fossil fuels for energy to do so. Rather than keeping particles static, Lapp and his team will develop a novel, lab-scale adiabatic moving bed reactor that can be connected to a falling particle receiver. This will allow the particles, dark ceramic pellets that are a few millimeters in diameter, to be heated and reheated with concentrated solar energy, as opposed to fossil fuels, throughout the conversion process. The new reactor will be able to operate at higher temperatures than existing converters on the market, 600–900 degrees Celsius, and be able to work with existing solar falling particle receivers, Lapp says. Additionally, researchers will modify the catalyst particles to improve the balance between the solar absorption of the particles in the receiver and the chemical reactivity in the reactor, which should optimize energy consumption. The project may nearly decarbonize the dehydrogenation process used to create light olefins, an industry that generates more than \$325 billion in sales worldwide, and possibly eliminate the need for fossil fuels in other catalytic chemical processes used across the entire chemicals industry, Lapp says. “This project is just one piece of a big DOE push to convert industries that burn huge amounts of fossil fuels toward using renewables,” Lapp says. “Industry is responsible for [30% of carbon emissions](#) in the U.S., and much of that is burning fossil fuels for processes that just need high temperatures.” The endeavor also calls for testing multiple existing catalysts to find suitable ones for the reactor, making it more accessible to industry stakeholders. Schwartz may explore modifying available catalysts to meet the needs of the reactor, altering their size, element composition and ratio. “Catalytic technologies have been used in the petrochemical industry for more than 100 years to enable reactions that would otherwise be infeasible, such as selective dehydrogenation,” Schwartz says. “For this reason, continuing catalyst development will play a crucial role in decarbonization projects.” The team plans to recruit three graduate students — two from UMaine, one from the University of Florida — and at least one undergraduate to assist with the project. Lapp directs the Solar Thermal Energy Lab at UMaine, which explores new methods for harnessing solar power for thermal applications and optimizing heat transfer processes for energy conservation. After a two-year slowdown of his research due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Lapp says the DOE-funded project provides him an opportunity to revitalize and reorient his lab to focus primarily on decarbonizing industries using solar power. “My hope is that this topic will be a keystone of my research going forward,” Lapp says. “I feel climate change is the current issue that in the long term will have the greatest negative effects on our world. This is what I can do to help as an engineer.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

CRSF launches third adaptive forest management webinar, field tour series

15 Sep 2022

The Center for Research on Sustainable Forests (CRSF) is launching the third year of its webinar and field tour series focused on adaptive forest management in Maine under the changing climate. The series' first event will focus on the Howland Research Forest, with a webinar held Oct. 26 and a field tour Oct. 28. Series details and registration information is on the CRSF [website](#).

Labas writes reflection on CCIDS work creating credentials for technical assistance professionals

15 Sep 2022

Linda Labas, who recently retired as early childhood coordinator for the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS), wrote a reflection on a multi-year collaboration with three state partners that created a set of competencies and a credential for technical assistance (TA) professionals who support Maine's early childhood workforce. The CCIDS, Maine Roads to Quality Professional Development Network (MRTQ PDN) and Kennebec Valley Community Action Program — Educare Central Maine (KVCAP — ECM) collaborated to develop the [Technical Assistance Competencies for Maine's Early Childhood Workforce](#), a new professional pathway to support TA professionals. Maine is one of only a handful of states that offers this professional pathway to transform the TA professional role from one without any formal or intentional support to a recognized professional role that requires specific knowledge, skills, dispositions and experience in evidence-based technical assistance. Read the full post on the CCIDS [website](#).

Digital Journal cites UMaine listing in Nanocellulose Technology Market 2022 report

15 Sep 2022

In an article covering the 2022 Nanocellulose Technology Market report, [Digital Journal](#) noted that the University of Maine was listed as one of the best key players alongside the U.S. Forest Service, Celluforce, American Process and others.

PPH notes UMaine junior receiving inaugural Voyagers Scholarship from Obama Foundation

15 Sep 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that Neily Raymond, a junior at the University of Maine majoring in English and political science, has been named to the inaugural Obama Foundation Voyagers Scholarship cohort. The scholarships, which include up to \$50,000 in financial aid and travel stipends, were awarded Tuesday to 100 recipients who plan to pursue a career in public service. She intends to use the scholarship to investigate the effects of a changing climate on rural agronomy and social welfare. "As a descendant of Franco-American farmers and loggers, I believe it is important to question if, and how, environmentalism can uphold respect for the land traditions of different cultures," she said.

BDN cites UMaine Extension information, interviews Calderwood, Zhang in story about wild blueberry irrigation

15 Sep 2022

In an article about the costs the wild blueberry producers will have to incur for irrigation in light of hotter and drier summers, the [Bangor Daily News](#) cited [information](#) from University of Maine Cooperative Extension showing that long-term weather trends suggest that blueberry fields will get sufficient water in August in only one year out of five. The BDN also interviewed Lily Calderwood, UMaine Extension wild blueberry specialist and School of Food and Agriculture professor, and Yongjiang Zhang, assistant professor of applied plant physiology, about research the university is conducting into how wild blueberry crops respond to climate change. Zhang's team has observed how climate change impacts wild blueberry fields differently depending on location. They also study the effectiveness of biochar, a charcoal-like material made from burning organic material from agricultural and forestry wastes, in mitigating drought effects; it has been found to be more effective than regular mulching for wild blueberry crops.

News Center Maine, WABI feature freshman starting at UMaine with 81 credits

15 Sep 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) and [News Center Maine](#) featured Brady Baker, a University of Maine freshman who completed 81 credits through the UMaine Early College program and AP classes before his first semester began. "It kind of just fell on me. I just kept taking classes that would challenge me," Barker told News Center. Early College Director Kari Suderley said classes are often tailored to students' interests and desired career paths and can be a great way to test out higher-level learning. "It gives students a sense of self-confidence that maybe they didn't have before. They're able to see what the rigor is like of a college course while they're still in high school," Suderley told News Center.

Back to School with RiSE Center Resources

15 Sep 2022

During August, Beth Muncey, professional development coordinator at the University of Maine Research in Stem Education (RiSE) Center, packed 326 bins of supplies for 94 teachers across the state of Maine, who will use them to support learning by 4,646 students in their classes. As part of the Maine STEM Partnership, the RiSE Center provides additional kits as teachers and students move through their curricula during the school year, and professional learning for teachers who are new to the lessons and equipment. The program is supported by school district partners and private donations. Read more about the RiSE Center's work in the fall/winter 2018 issue of [UMaine Today magazine](#).

Neily Raymond selected as Inaugural Obama-Chesky Scholarship for Public Service recipient

15 Sep 2022

The Obama Foundation and Airbnb announced that Neily Raymond of Hermon, Maine, a junior at the University of Maine, was selected as part of the [inaugural Voyager Scholarship cohort](#) of 100 rising college juniors nationwide who plan to pursue a career in public service. Funded by a \$100 million personal contribution from Brian Chesky, co-founder and CEO of Airbnb, to the Obama Foundation, the Voyager Scholarship is a two-year program for

students in their junior and senior years of college from across the U.S. who are committed to pursuing careers that serve the public and their communities. At UMaine, Raymond majors in English and philosophy. She is on the editorial team of *Spire: The Maine Journal of Conservation and Sustainability*, and has been a staff writer for the *Maine Edge*. She is also a proud member of UMaine's Franco-American Resource Opportunity Group and a teaching assistant in Franco-American Studies. She spent the first half of 2022 abroad at the University of Oxford, where she studied literature and the environment. With the support of the Voyager Scholarship, Raymond will pursue travel opportunities to advance her career as a science writer. She is passionate about documenting the human dimensions of environmental change in vulnerable communities. "As a descendant of Franco-American farmers and loggers, I believe it is important to question if, and how, conservation initiatives can respect the land traditions of diverse cultures," she said. The inaugural cohort of Voyagers represent 35 states and territories, and 70 colleges and universities. These "Voyagers" share a curiosity about the world and the conviction to want to make positive change — just like the scholarship's founders. "Michelle and I know that change only happens when ordinary people get involved, get engaged and come together to create it," said President Obama. "These young Voyagers believe in a fairer and more inclusive world, and they're ready to help us address important challenges in new ways. I can't wait to see what they accomplish through public service." "Through their stories, it's clear that each of these Voyagers has a commitment to serving their communities, a deep curiosity about the world and big plans for the future," said Chesky. "Traveling to new places and connecting with new people will help them turn those plans into reality and I can't wait to see where they go from here." For more information about the Voyager Scholarship visit obama.org/voyager-scholarship.

'The Maine Question' explores the state of K–12 education

15 Sep 2022

The average school day today looks different than in years past. K–12 educators face a myriad of challenges this year, including teacher and other staffing shortages, distance learning, the politicization of curricula, calls for book bans and the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic. In the first episode of Season 7 of "[The Maine Question](#)," host Ron Lisnet speaks with Penny Bishop, dean of the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development; Jim Artesani, associate dean of graduate studies, research and outreach for the college; and Courtney Angelosante, coordinate of the Positive Behavior Supports & Interventions (PBIS) Initiative, to discuss the latest issues in the field of education, as well as opportunities for new and improved learning. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [Youtube](#) or "The Maine Question" [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center re-launches 'Maine Policy Matters' podcast

16 Sep 2022

The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine re-launched their podcast "Maine Policy Matters" on Sept. 6. This season of Maine Policy Matters will feature essays, research and interviews on timely topics relevant to Maine to make public policy information more accessible to policymakers; government, business and nonprofit leaders; and the general public. The [first episode](#) is an interview with Maine State Economist Amanda Rector on the economic impact of COVID-19. Early episodes will also feature a reading by Gail Dana-Sacco, the first known Passamaquoddy to earn a Ph.D, on the history of Maine's Indigenous peoples and their interactions with the state of Maine; the perspective of William D. Adams, former chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities, on the urgency of democracy; and a conversation with researchers Jonathan Malacarne and Jason Lilley on the Maine food system's response to the pandemic. The episode is available now on [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), [Soundcloud](#), [iHeart Radio](#) and [Stitcher](#). Each 10– to 20-minute episode of Maine Policy Matters will be released on a biweekly basis. Subscribe to the podcast on [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), [Soundcloud](#), [iHeart Radio](#) and [Stitcher](#).

UMaine alum, Broadway star brings 'Broadway Rocks' to Collins Center

16 Sep 2022

Broadway star and University of Maine alum Merritt David Janes is returning to his alma mater to present the show "Broadway Rocks" at 8 p.m. Sept. 24 for the Collins Center for the Arts Gala. Janes co-created the show with his classmates while studying at UMaine. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in vocal and instrumental education, he went on to study at Circle in the Square Theatre School in New York City. Since then, he has performed in the original Broadway cast and first national tour of "School of Rock" as the character Dewey Finn. He also has played major roles in many other popular Broadway tours, including "The Wedding Singer," "Sweeney Todd," "Beauty and the Beast," "Shrek," "Catch Me If You Can" and "Phantom of the Opera." The "Broadway Rocks" performance will feature Janes and several friends and colleagues from Broadway who will sing songs from roles they have performed on Broadway or on Broadway tours. They also will share stories that offer perspective into life on and off the Broadway stage. The performers include Amanda Jane Cooper, who starred for several seasons as Glinda in "Wicked;" Matt Cusack, a Broadway musician and actor, songwriter, arranger and producer; Kevin Faraci, who performed in the national tour of "The Wedding Singer" and in several Cirque Du Soleil shows; Elysia Jordan, who opened the First National Tour of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "School of Rock The Musical;" and Andy Peterson, whose credits include "Tootsie," "Kiss Me," "Kate," "Pippin" and more. The show follows the [Gala Dinner](#), which begins at 5 p.m. and includes the presentation of the center's top annual arts awards. The dinner is optional and can be purchased separately. Tickets and details are available at [Collins Center website](#).

Media share Mitchell Center talk about unexpected consequences of conservation

16 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Sun Journal](#) boosted a talk hosted by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine about the unanticipated consequences of successful seal conservation in the Gulf of Maine at 3 p.m. on Sept. 26. Kristina Cammen, an assistant professor with the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, will discuss the complicated conservation case study of seals in the Gulf of Maine, whose populations have returned to the area in force after decades of environmental protection. Visit the [event webpage](#) to register and receive connection information.

UMaine Tick Lab cited in News Center Maine article about Alpha-gal

16 Sep 2022

In an article about a Maine woman spreading the word about Alpha-gal, a lifelong allergy to red meat spread through the bite of a lone star tick, [News Center Maine](#) cited the [University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab](#), noting that the number of Lone Star ticks found in Maine is still very small. [WTIC-TV \(Hartford, CT\)](#), [WTHR-TV \(Indianapolis, IN\)](#), [WLTX-TV \(Columbia, SC\)](#) and [Trendeeepro](#) shared the News Center Maine report.

Media report on UMaine campus hotel project

16 Sep 2022

[MaineBiz](#), [News Center Maine](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Delco.Today](#) reported that the University of Maine has formed a partnership to renovate Coburn and Holmes Halls into a campus hotel. The renovation would turn the halls into a 95-room hotel with a bistro cafe. The project will break ground this fall, and is expected to be completed in 2024.

AP notes UMaine role in USDA forest carbon storage project

16 Sep 2022

The [Associated Press](#) reported that the University of Maine will partner with the U.S. Department of Agriculture for their New England Climate-Smart Forest Partnership Project, which will build markets for climate-smart forest products to store carbon in wood products and substitute wood products for fossil fuel-based materials. The project could receive as much as \$30 million. [U.S. News and World Report](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [Connecticut Post](#), [San Francisco Chronicle](#), [Houston Chronicle](#) and other national outlets shared the AP report.

UMaine research cited in PBS ‘Hazing’ documentary

16 Sep 2022

A film that began airing on PBS stations this week cites a 2008 University of Maine study on the prevalence of hazing among college students. According to the [National Study of Student Hazing](#) led by professor of higher education Elizabeth Allan, 55% of college students who participate in clubs, teams and organizations experience hazing, but only 5% of college students admit to being hazed. Hazing is any activity expected of someone joining or participating in a group that humiliates, degrades, abuses or endangers them, regardless of their willingness to participate. Former UMaine faculty member Mary Madden, who worked on the study with Allan, is featured in the documentary. “[Hazing](#)” was written and directed by filmmaker Byron Hurt for the PBS series Independent Lens.

Howell catheter research receives funding from philanthropic organization for next steps

16 Sep 2022

Caitlin Howell, associate professor of chemical and biomedical engineering at the University of Maine, researches how to design catheters that are less likely to cause infections. News of her research caught the eye of a philanthropic organization, and now, her research has the backing it needs to potentially enter the medical market. Howell leads a team of researchers at the UMaine Biointerface and Biomimetics Lab studying different coatings that can help prevent protein deposition that could lead to urinary tract and blood infections. Together with Ana Flores-Mireles, assistant professor at the University of Notre Dame, they have shown that liquid-infused silicone (LIS) catheters can significantly reduce the deposition of the protein fibrinogen and decrease the risk of major pathogens in the urinary tract. Open Philanthropy, a grantmaking organization that supports research through philanthropic donations, contacted Howell directly after learning about her research in multiple news outlets and on the University of Maine [website](#). On Sept. 7, Howell received news that she was awarded \$350,000 in support from the organization. “We were very happy to learn that organizations like Open Philanthropy exist to identify and support research that has the potential to improve millions of lives. Having their support means that we can begin to focus on what needs to be done to move this technology to the market where it can begin to help people,” Howell says. The funding will support the next steps of Howell’s research, which is translating the technology to the market. The team will be working on intellectual property protection and licensing; customer discovery and market analysis; and beginning the FDA approval process. “Our goal is to get this technology to the point where it can help all those who rely on catheters. It will be a long process to get this into the hands of doctors and patients, as it is with nearly all new medical technologies, but we are motivated to get it done,” Howell says. Media contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu Intellectual property contact: Christopher Fasel, christopher.fasel@maine.edu

MBS’ Percival Carter, Welcomer awarded \$292K Small Business Administration grant for BARD program

16 Sep 2022

Editors note: story updated Sept. 22, 2022. The Business, Agriculture, and Rural Development (BARD) technical assistance training program in the Maine Business School at the University of Maine has received a \$292,000 award from the Small Business Administration that was requested by Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King through the FY22 Congressionally Directed Spending process, known as earmarks. The BARD program was founded by Maine Business School’s Stephanie Welcomer, professor of management, and Erin Percival Carter, assistant professor of marketing, to fill a gap between contemporary business education and agriculture in the region. The program begins by recruiting students interested in business and sustainable agriculture through a competitive application process, and provides them with training to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to begin careers working with agricultural producers and processors. Students complete a semester-long training and research program centered on working directly with small-scale, sustainable, agricultural businesses to provide business consulting services tailored to the sector, including data-management, price-setting, financial and strategic forecasting, market segmentation, product development, market intelligence and consumer research. The first round of the BARD program, completed in 2020, worked directly with Maine’s artisan cheese industry in partnership with the Maine Cheese Guild and the Maine Farmland Trust. “Despite the fact that COVID hit in the middle of the semester, the results were really incredible,” Percival Carter says. “Those students worked closely with their farmer clients and with the incredible assistance of our industry advisors developed and presented full analyses and proposals at the end of the semester that were pretty exceptional. The need for that kind of advising exists across a number of agricultural industries in Maine and students are hungry for opportunities to work on something tangible and meaningful.” This year, the program will focus on the fiber industry — including wool, alpaca, linen, hemp, and other plant and animal derived fibers — and the producers and value-added processors of fiber in the state and region. Fiber producers and processors in Maine recognize the general market and interest for their products, but struggle with a lack of information and guidance about how to manage production, price products to ensure

profitability and position products to differentiate offerings in the minds of consumers effectively. The BARD program will bring eager students together with fiber farmers, mills, dyehouses, retailers, designers and artists — along with experts in climate sustainability, business and sustainable agriculture — to ensure that Maine's fiber industry is optimally situated to take advantage of market trends towards more sustainable textile production. The SBA funding secured for UMaine by Sens. Collins and King will help the BARD program extend and scale processes for developing a sustainable pipeline of agricultural service providers in the state with the education and experience necessary to effectively support the agricultural sector and foster rural development with quality business advising services, particularly for agricultural producers operating at a smaller scale or focused on producing more niche products. “There’s a romance to farming that I know draws students in but over the course of the semester, they begin to appreciate not only the less-romantic side but the critical need for help managing the complexities of a business in an incredibly challenging industry,” says Percival Carter. “At the end of the experience, we certainly hope that we have more students who consider future career opportunities in agriculture, and specifically agriculture in Maine. But even if they decide to work on something else, we know they’ll have had this experience where they used what they’ve learned to help reinforce something that really matters,” she said. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Libby Lecture to focus on sustainable forest and climate solutions

16 Sep 2022

Peter Ellis will present the University of Maine’s fourth annual Libby Lecture in Natural Resource Policy at 3 p.m. on Sept. 21 at the Buchanan Alumni House. Ellis’ talk, “Smarter logging for good: Sustainable, low-impact forestry as a natural climate solution,” will discuss the role of forest management in achieving global environmental, economic and social goals. He will also elaborate on how the forest sector can help meet more local climate change policy objectives. Ellis is the global director of climate science for The Nature Conservancy. He leads a global team of scientists that conduct research to motivate and inform the design and implementation of natural climate solutions. Ellis currently investigates the climate and biodiversity impacts of forest management. He works with field programs throughout the world to measure the climate performance of reduced impact logging. The annual Libby Lecture in Natural Resource Policy was established with a gift from Lawrence W. Libby ‘62 and Lois Murdock Libby ‘63. The annual lecture is a collaborative event coordinated by the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The event is free and open to the public. A reception with refreshments will follow the lecture. More information about the lecture and speaker is available [online](#). To request an accessibility accommodation, call 207.581.1212 or email libby-lecture-group@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host talk on unanticipated consequences of conservation Sept. 26

19 Sep 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk about the unanticipated consequences of successful seal conservation in the Gulf of Maine at 3 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 26. In this talk, “[Out of Our Depth: Interdisciplinary science for marine mammal conservation](#),” Kristina Cammen, an assistant professor with the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, will discuss the complicated conservation case study of seals in the Gulf of Maine, whose populations have returned to the area in force after decades of environmental protection. Cammen will describe how she has used her training as a geneticist and ecologist to approach the issues of such conservation successes, such as increased human-wildlife conflict. She also will share how this work has been strengthened through interdisciplinary collaborations with diverse research and stakeholder groups. Cammen’s research focuses on expanding knowledge of marine mammal ecology and ocean health and advancing the use of genomic techniques in conservation biology. She currently has active research projects investigating gray and harbor seals in the Gulf of Maine. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall on the UMaine campus in Orono. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom. Visit the [event webpage](#) to register and receive connection information. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension boosts programs focused on farmer wellness and resilience

19 Sep 2022

Using federal funds aimed at helping farm owners and workers manage stress, University of Maine Cooperative Extension bolstered its efforts to improve mental health awareness and outcomes for agricultural producers, workers and their families. In 2021, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) began distributing \$28 million in funding to expand and sustain state-based stress assistance programs. Through the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF), UMaine Extension received \$500,000 to establish the Maine Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (ME-FRSAN), a statewide program that cultivates wellness and resilience among farmers, farmworkers and agricultural service providers. The heart of the project is an online information hub featuring resources, training and workshops on topics such as crisis support, adaptability and farmer well-being. The project boasts a diverse and engaged advisory group representing 15 organizations and provides funding for organizations and programs that support growers and producers across Maine’s food system. Currently, applications are being accepted for the Maine Farmer Wellness Fund, which offers up to \$500 for individuals for wellness expenses and is intended to holistically support farmers, farm workers and Indigenous food and medicine producers. The Wellness Fund has online and phone application options in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole. “Even in the best of times, farmers in Maine have to work incredibly hard to build successful and sustainable businesses,” says Nancy McBrady, director of the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources at Maine DACF. “DACF is grateful for the effort that Maine producers put in every day to grow healthy communities. We greatly appreciate programs like the Maine Farmer Wellness Fund that support farmers and farm workers to focus on their health and wellness. ME-FRSAN staff and partner organizations take great care to ensure these funds are accessible and meaningful to all, and we encourage agricultural community members to take advantage of these opportunities to prioritize their own well-being.” To date, the ME-FRSAN project has awarded \$182,000 to nine organizations for programs that support diverse communities and a wide range of wellness aspects. Some of the programs include:

- The Eastern Woodlands Rematriation Collective for a tool-sharing program and a Community Care series for community-led food and medicine projects across tribal communities.
- The Maine Farm to Institution to bolster existing workshops with training and materials focused on farmers accessing institutional markets.
- The Maine Farmer Resource Network Farm Coaching program to help farmers enhance communication, planning and collaboration skills.
- The Maine Farmland Trust’s business planning assistantship to address financial stress.
- The Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association to continue a monthly statewide forum open to agricultural service providers to act on making programs more equitable.

- Mano en Mano to increase access to housing, education, childcare, health, transportation and other essential services.
- Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust to develop a fellowship program
- Somali Bantu Community Association and Cultivating Community for new infrastructure to increase farm efficiency and reduce farmer stress.

In addition, the ME-FRSAN project has awarded \$12,000 for several agencies and practitioners to offer wellness activities and workshops to farmers, farmworkers and Indigenous landworkers. This included offerings for farmers to attend in-person or online therapy services and in-person workshops focused on injury prevention, movement, health and wellness. Visit the [ME-FRSAN program website](#) to learn more about future workshops and training opportunities, or contact 207.570.8308; mainefrsan@maine.edu. ME-FRSAN is funded by the USDA NIFA, awarded to the Maine DACF and managed by UMaine Extension. The funds are part of a national and regional effort to increase awareness and amplify existing resources around mental health and farm stress, in addition to fostering connections for farmers and land stewards in Maine to access wellness support. By strengthening the capacity of organizations and building a service provider network focused on farmer resilience and stress reduction, ME-FRSAN and partnering organizations are supporting a cultural shift to assist and meet the unique mental health needs of those who work in Maine agriculture.

Bell, Ippolito present at 2022 iPres

19 Sep 2022

John Bell, assistant professor of digital communication, and Jon Ippolito, professor of new media and director of the digital curation program, presented a talk entitled “Right-click To Preserve” at the 18th International Conference on Digital Preservation (iPres) remotely to the Technology & Innovation Centre in Glasgow, Scotland, on Sept. 13.

Northern Light Cutler Health Center is offering a drive-thru flu clinic on Saturday, Sept. 24

19 Sep 2022

Northern Light Cutler Health Center is offering the first University of Maine employee flu clinic of the 2022 season on Saturday, Sept. 24. Access the drive-thru clinic via Hilltop Road to Gannett Road. The clinic will be staged in the Gannett Road parking lot. To schedule your visit, follow this link: <https://um-cutler-health-center.appointlet.com/>. Complete the consent form found at the link below and bring it and your Cigna insurance card to your appointment. Those age 65 and older seeking the high-dose flu vaccine are encouraged to contact their PCP or a local pharmacy. Students should call 207.581.4000 to schedule their flu shot. Dependent children covered under the Cigna insurance plan, retirees and employees who do not participate with the Cigna insurance plan should contact their PCP for flu shot availability. To register online and obtain a fillable consent form, visit <https://umaine.edu/flushot>.

BDN reports on Maine Campus ending print edition

19 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Maine Campus, the student-run newspaper at the University of Maine, has not only rebranded itself as Maine Campus Media, it’s also permanently ceased publication of its print edition. “We’re a student newspaper, and our demographic just doesn’t read print. It hasn’t read print for years, actually. We’re not reaching our target audience. So this will help us to do exactly that,” said Maine Campus business manager and senior new media major Griffin Lord.

CentralMaine.com features Hargest and Gardens at Tidewater Farm

19 Sep 2022

[CentralMaine.com](#) featured Pamela Hargest, a horticulturist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and her role overseeing the Gardens at Tidewater Farm in Falmouth, which grows food and flowers for donations to food pantries and other charities. Hargest has managed the project since the start of the 2018 growing season with the help of 40 regular volunteers who do much of the planting, weeding and harvesting.

BDN reports on Percival Carter, Welcomer BARD grant

19 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the Business, Agriculture, and Rural Development (BARD) technical assistance training program in the Maine Business School at the University of Maine has received a \$292,000 award from the Small Business Administration. The BARD program was founded by the Maine Business School’s Stephanie Welcomer, professor of management, and Erin Percival Carter, assistant professor of marketing.

Mills speaks to Times Record about substitute teacher shortage

19 Sep 2022

Tammy Mills, assistant professor of curriculum, assessment and instruction at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, was interviewed by the [Times Record](#) about the substitute teacher shortage in Maine. Mills explained that the substitute shortage is just one facet of larger workforce issues in education, and though they often fly under the radar, substitutes play a unique role in schools. “What do you do with your middle schoolers or your class of first-graders for an entire day if you’re the human being in the classroom and you’re not going to be there that day? There’s no other industry, really, that has this kind of issue,” Mills said.

Brewer speaks to AP about Maine 2nd Congressional District race

19 Sep 2022

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about the 2022 race for the House of Representatives

seat for Maine's 2nd Congressional District between incumbent Democratic Rep. Jared Golden, Republican former Rep. Bruce Poliquin and independent candidate Tiffany Bond. Brewer said that the race is likely to be much closer than Golden's 2020 reelection victory, when Golden won that election over Republican Dale Crafts. The [Portland Press Herald](#), [U.S. News and World Report](#), [National Post](#), [WKNY-TV \(Bowling Green, KY\)](#) and [KTAR-FM \(Phoenix, AZ\)](#) shared the AP report.

McGillicuddy Humanities Center welcomes four new undergraduate fellows for fall 2022

19 Sep 2022

This semester, the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) welcomes four new undergraduate research fellows for the next two semesters: Bell Gellis Morais, Brenna Jones, Paige McHatten and Donald Patten. This new cohort will join current fellows Benjamin Allen, April Messier, Tom Pinette and Sherralyn Robbins, who are finalizing their research in fall 2022. MHC undergraduate fellows receive an award of \$8,000 over the course of two semesters to pursue an independent research or creative project in the humanities in collaboration with a faculty member. Incoming fellow Gellis Morais, a psychology, theatre and women's, gender, and sexuality studies triple major from São Paulo, Brazil will work on a project that asks, "Is Our Perception of Transphobia Blurred When We Are Confronted With It in a Familiar Context?" Supervised by Rosalie Purvis, assistant professor of theatre and English, Gellis Morais is planning to both direct and conduct a psychological study about a production of the play "Blurred: A Modern Fairy Tale," by Makena Metz, which uses the world of the classic fairy tale Little Red Riding Hood to explore anti-trans-bias, as well as other prejudices and biases, to explore perceptions of transphobia across generations, gender, political affiliation and religion. The MHC's inaugural Peters Fellow, Jones of Winterport, Maine is a mathematics major with a double minor in women's, gender, and sexuality studies and criminal justice. Jones's project, "Understanding Socioeconomic Barriers of Precariously Housed People," undertaken under the supervision of assistant professor of sociology Brian Pitman, will see her researching the constraints placed on precariously housed and unhoused people (such as wages, work hours, benefits, rental costs, and credit scores); Jones is interested in moving beyond thinking merely about counting and managing unhoused populations to consider the broader effects that cause the problem in the first place. McHatten, an English and journalism double major and media studies minor from Mapleton, Maine is undertaking a creative writing project tentatively titled "Female Relationships and Representation." Working with her adviser Hollie Adams, assistant professor in the Department of English, McHatten will conduct research into and compose a series of short stories that asks how media both contributes to and dismantles ideas of heteronormativity, with particular interest in how depictions of female friendships describe and shape reality. The final member of the 2022 fellows cohort will be Patten, a senior majoring in studio art from Belfast, Maine will work on his project "Past Trauma in Modernity: Impressions of COVID-19." Supervised by Samantha Jones, adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Art, Patten — some of whose work will be on exhibition at the Rock & Art Shop in downtown Bangor in October — plans to explore how the body experiences trauma and how humor can be a coping mechanism by recreating the works of past masters of the visual arts adapted to contemporary life during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to honing their research skills and building their academic networks, MHC Fellows serve as humanities ambassadors to their peers, the campus, and the broader community. For students interested in becoming a McGillicuddy Humanities Center undergraduate fellow, and faculty who might like to nominate a fellow, the next deadline to apply for a fellowship is Oct. 17, 2022. Research and creative work of all types across the humanities will be considered, from academic papers and art gallery shows, to community workshops or films. Applicants do not need to be humanities majors or minors to be eligible. More information, including application instructions, proposal guidelines and a rubric, is available at umaine.edu/mhc/research/for-students/undergraduate-fellowship. For more information, contact MHC Humanities Specialist Brian Jansen at brian.jansen@umaine.edu.

UMaine recognizing National Hazing Prevention Week

19 Sep 2022

The University of Maine Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life is recognizing National Hazing Prevention Week with several events to support and bring awareness to students. A banner signing will be held 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 20 in Room 143 of the Memorial Union. Also on Sept. 20, the office will host Die Up for Hazing Prevention from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. along the Mall. A social media pledge against hazing event will be held from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 21 on the Mall; the Memorial Union in case of rain. It will include free food provided by Sherwin-Williams. Throughout the day Thursday, Sept. 22, members of the campus community can participate in a Habitat for Humanity Project; sign up for a time slot by contacting Thomas Heniff, thomas.heniff@umaine.edu. The week will conclude with a group picture with the banner at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23 on the Mall. For questions or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Heniff.

Maine cattlemen's college features forage nutrition, pasture health

20 Sep 2022

For the fifth year, University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Beef Producers Association will host the [Maine Cattlemen's College](#) on Saturday, Oct. 15, beginning at 9 a.m., at the J. F. Witter Teaching and Research Center, 160 University Farm Road, Old Town. This year's event will focus on forage and include topics such as grazing ecology and nutrition; pasture management and finishing; and research updates on silage and PFAS chemicals. Guest speakers Jeff Lehmkuhler, associate Extension professor and beef cattle specialist, and Gregg Rentfrow, associate Extension professor and state meat specialist, University of Kentucky, will discuss nutrition and demonstrate new alternative marketing cuts on beef, which also will be served with lunch. Other speakers scheduled are Glenda Pereira, UMaine Extension dairy specialist and UMaine School of Food and Agriculture assistant professor; Juan Romero, UMaine School of Food and Agriculture associate professor of animal nutrition; Donna Coffin, Extension professor; and Colt Knight, associate Extension professor and state livestock specialist. The \$40 fee (\$25 for students) includes lunch and a silent auction to benefit the Maine Beef Producers Scholarship Fund. Limited financial assistance is available. Register on the [event website](#). For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.2788; melissa.libby1@umaine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host talk on training leaders to solve complex societal problems Oct. 3

20 Sep 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk about the internship program it launched this summer to train students to address challenges related to sustainability, conservation, climate change, public health and other complex societal issues at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 3. During the talk, titled "[Training the next generation of leaders to solve complex societal problems: The important role of internships](#),"

Jessica Jansujwicz, project coordinator for the Mitchell Center’s Internship Program for Sustainability Leaders, will share stories and lessons learned from its inaugural year. She will be joined by interns from the program. The Internship Program for Sustainability Leaders provided students with hands-on experiences tackling real-world problems in Maine, such as building GIS tools to help strengthen community resilience, tackling a town’s unsustainable solid waste stream and assessing training priorities for new fishermen and aquaculture farmers. Key components included co-mentorship of students by internship partners and UMaine faculty, and training in leadership, collaboration and communication. Students gained new skills collaborating with diverse partners and learned the value of connecting different kinds of knowledge and know-how in solving complex problems. Emerging outcomes from this new effort highlight the value of internships in supporting the professional development of future leaders. Jansujwicz also is the assistant director of research at Maine Sea Grant. As an applied social scientist with a focus on the human dimensions of natural resources, she works at the interface between science and policy focusing on the connection between humans and natural resources. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall on the UMaine campus in Orono. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom. Visit the [event webpage](#) to register and receive connection information. Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. For the latest UMaine health and safety guidance, please see umaine.edu/return. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Media share UMaine Extension series for parents and caregivers

20 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#) and [Sun Journal](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will start a free six-session online educational series for parents and caregivers on Oct. 4 from 1–2:30 p.m. “[Back to Basics: Building Routines for Success](#)” will focus on managing daily household tasks; meal planning and budgeting; learning to live with others; finding work and managing money; and coping with everyday stress. Additional sessions are scheduled Oct. 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1. Register on the [program webpage](#).

Piscataquis Observer highlights UMaine Extension role at Marr Pond Farm

20 Sep 2022

In an article about the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) honoring Marr Pond Farm as its 2022 Outstanding Cooperator of the Year, the [Piscataquis Observer](#) noted that Marr Pond Farm participated in and offered their farm as a learning site for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s Maine Climate Adaptations Practices course. Tom Molloy, research associate from University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will speak at the PCSWCD’s event honoring Marr Pond Farm on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

MaineBiz highlights health care startups coming out of UMaine

20 Sep 2022

[MaineBiz](#) featured health care startups and spin-offs coming out of the University of Maine, like WAVED Medical, Neuright and MedRhythms. “UMaine is seeing an increase in innovations and startups in biomedical technology. Some of that stems from our growing support of research commercialization, but it also is the fruit of seeds planted over the last several years with the creation of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Engineering and the Biomedical Engineering program. The faculty in that area work closely with students to develop innovations and incorporate engagement with a variety of external collaborators, making it a popular major,” said Renee Kelly, vice president for innovation and economic development.

Media boost Maine cattleman’s college

20 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Beef Producers Association will host the [Maine Cattleman’s College](#) on Oct. 15, beginning at 9 a.m., at the J. F. Witter Teaching & Research Center, 160 University Farm Road, Old Town. This year’s event will focus on forage and include topics such as grazing ecology and nutrition; pasture management and finishing; and research updates on silage and PFAS chemicals. Register on the [event website](#).

ASME highlights ASCC efforts to 3D print affordable housing

20 Sep 2022

The [American Society of Mechanical Engineers](#) (ASME) highlighted that the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) is using its 3D printer to make good, cheap, and fast economical housing from wood that would otherwise go to waste. According to Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the University of Maine’s Advanced Structures and Composites Center, the hope is the lifespan of the homes it creates will rival and even surpass the quality, durability, and reliability of conventional housing.

MaineBiz highlights Batchelder, Khalil work on WAVED Medical

20 Sep 2022

[MaineBiz](#) featured Kendra Batchelder, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine, and her collaboration with UMaine bioengineering professor Andre Khalil to launch a business called WAVED Medical, which uses a patented algorithm to help detect breast cancer at an earlier stage. Batchelder and Khalil launched WAVED Medical weeks after finishing second in the latest season of the “Green Light Maine Collegiate Edition” business-pitch TV series, using their \$7,500 prize money to cover legal fees related to forming a company. Batchelder says she learned a lot from the experience. “Being able to take such high-level research and science and explain it in two to three minute was probably the biggest take-away,” she says.

Dill speaks to WMTW about bed bugs

20 Sep 2022

[WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland) spoke to Jim Dill, pest management specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about bed bugs in light of Portland Housing Authority (PHA) working to address a bed bug infestation in Franklin Towers as residents from two other PHA properties, Solterra and Bayside Anchor, report ongoing bed bug and cockroach infestations. “They’ll run underneath your door, out of your apartment and across the hall into another one. They’ll travel along pipes, they’ll travel along electrical wires. If you don’t eliminate them from all the units, it’s just going to get re-infested,” Dill said.

McGreavy named 2022 J. Robert Cox Award winner**20 Sep 2022**

Bridie McGreavy, associate professor of environmental communication at the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, received the J. Robert Cox Award in Environmental Communication & Civic Engagement for 2022 from the Environmental Communication Division of the National Communication Association. Read the full story on the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences [website](#).

UMaine Extension series for parents, caregivers opens Oct. 4**21 Sep 2022**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension opens a free six-session online educational series for parents and caregivers Oct. 4 from 1–2:30 p.m. Additional sessions are scheduled Oct. 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1. “[Back to Basics: Building Routines for Success](#)” will focus on managing daily household tasks; meal planning and budgeting; learning to live with others; finding work and managing money; and coping with everyday stress. Each session includes time for questions. The series is free; registration is required. Register on the [program webpage](#) for one or more sessions to participate. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Melanie Bryan, 207.342.5971; melanie.l.bryan@maine.edu.

Jones named interim vice president of enrollment management**21 Sep 2022**

Norm Jones of Miramar Beach, Florida, a senior leader in enrollment management with more than 40 years of experience, has been named interim vice president of enrollment management at the University of Maine, effective Oct. 1. Jones will serve through the national search to fill the permanent position. As a member of the Associated Board of Governors Interim Search Service, Jones has served at McMurtry University and West Virginia State University as interim vice president for enrollment management in 2019–20 and 2021, respectively. In 2019, Jones retired from Newman University, where he was vice president for enrollment management. His career also includes senior leadership appointments to direct student recruitment and marketing initiatives, including branding and website development, at Delaware Valley University, Texas Lutheran University, Westminster College, Wesleyan College, University of Charleston, and Mercer University. Jones received an M.Ed. in counseling psychology from West Georgia University and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Business Administration from the University of Charleston. “We look forward to Norm joining our enrollment management team during the national search, and look forward to him sharing his experience in our 2024 recruitment cycle already underway,” says John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. “He will be collaborating with Chris Richards, who will be starting in his new role as director of undergraduate enrollment management,” Volin says. “We thank Chris for his vision and leadership, and appreciate his continued commitment to UMaine student recruitment efforts.”

BDN shares UMaine Hutchinson Center sustainability business workshop**21 Sep 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) boosted the University of Maine Hutchinson Center’s in-person professional development program, Going Green: Designing a Sustainability Plan for your Business or Nonprofit. This workshop will be held on Oct. 21 from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. The cost is \$215 per person. More information is available on the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

BDN reports on UMaine, UMaine Machias rankings in annual college guides**21 Sep 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that multiple college guides, including U.S. News and World Report, Princeton Review and Washington Monthly, have once again placed the University of Maine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, among the best higher education institutions nationwide in their latest editions.

Dill speaks to News Center Maine about deer tick season**21 Sep 2022**

Griffin Dill, director of the University of Maine Tick Lab, was interviewed by [News Center Maine](#) about precautions Mainers should take during the fall during peak tick season. Dill said the number of deer ticks will increase over the next several weeks and will continue until temperatures drop below freezing for an extended period of time, which in recent years has been mid-to-late December. “They are looking for that third and final host and get their last blood meal, lay eggs, and reproduce. The drought didn’t seem to alter their behavior too much. With those drought conditions, does it change the questing behavior with the ticks to make them more nocturnal?” Dill said.

BDN reports on Howell grant for catheter development**21 Sep 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Caitlin Howell, associate professor of chemical and biomedical engineering at the University of Maine, was awarded \$350,000 in support from the organization Open Philanthropy for her research on designing catheters that are less likely to cause infections. The funding will support the next steps of Howell’s research, which is translating the technology to the market. The team will be working on intellectual property protection and licensing; customer discovery and market analysis; and beginning the FDA approval process.

UMaine undergraduate pens op-ed for BDN about increasing state funding for UMaine

21 Sep 2022

Hope Carroll, an undergraduate communications student at the University of Maine, wrote an op-ed for the [Bangor Daily News](#) about how UMaine needs more state funding to attract prospective undergraduate students. “It is essential that high school students are provided better education surrounding student loan debt. In turn, the state of Maine must invest more in their college students and the University of Maine System should aggressively promote itself as the most affordable option,” wrote Carroll, a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

Doughty speaks to News Center Maine about earthquake in Oxford County

21 Sep 2022

In an article about a 2.3 magnitude earthquake in and around Greenwood, [News Center Maine](#) interviewed Alice Doughty, geology lecturer at the University of Maine School of Earth and Climate Sciences. Doughty said earthquakes like Greenwood’s shouldn’t raise alarm, and are instead a look into Maine’s geological history. “It gets us to think about Pangea. It gets to think about when the Appalachians were so much bigger than they are today — bigger than the Himalayas. It opens up all these questions about how much of the Earth’s surface has eroded,” Doughty said.

Andre Khalil’s research uses imaging techniques to transcend disciplines

21 Sep 2022

Andre Khalil’s Computational Modeling, Analysis of Imagery and Numerical Experiments (CompuMAINE) lab has used image analysis techniques to solve a range of problems at every scale, from cancer cells to galaxies. And he has only scratched the surface of its potential. Since 2008, over \$1 million in funding has supported CompuMAINE research using image analysis for early detection of breast cancer. In addition to the highly publicized and lauded cancer research that has led to two patents, Khalil’s lab has studied [mathematical fractal structures](#), [nuclear structure in developing embryos](#), the [genetic underpinnings of Huntington’s disease](#), [receding glaciers](#), the [relationship between chromosome size and position](#) and [indicators for seizures](#). The common thread through all this research, no matter the topic, is the innovative application of image analysis tools that Khalil has experimented with throughout his career. To Khalil, though, the tools themselves are less important than the way that scientists use them. “There are labs who dedicate their work to image analysis,” Khalil says. “I think in our lab, image analysis is the tool that we’re using to investigate science. That’s maybe a subtle but important difference for us. I find it more rewarding to make a bigger commitment to the underlying application.” Interdisciplinary science had always been a part of Khalil’s life. His father was trained as a chemist, but eventually worked as an oceanographer in the estuaries in their native Quebec. “He said, ‘Way back, there was only biology and chemistry and it was separate — somewhere along the way, we got biochemistry,’” Khalil says. “He used to tell me these things as a kid.” Despite his father’s teaching, Khalil studied math for his undergraduate and master’s degrees at Concordia University in Montreal — and, for him at that time, “the purer, the better.” “If there were no eventual applications to what we were doing that’s what I got a kick out of,” Khalil says. At the end of his master’s degree, though, he discovered fractal geometry, which is known in the field as “the geometry of nature” because the patterns appear across the natural world, from root systems to the rugged coastlines. As he delved further into the world of fractals, he read Stephen Hawking’s book “A Brief History of Time” and decided he wanted to use his math skills for real-world applications. [caption id="attachment_93091" align="aligncenter" width="1024"]



Andre Khalil and student researchers in Jenness Hall[/caption] Khalil completed an interdisciplinary Ph.D. in mathematics and astrophysics at Universite Laval in Quebec, where he studied images of the interstellar medium to look at the distribution of atomic hydrogen in the galactic plane. In a postdoctoral fellowship at The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, he transitioned from astrophysics to biophysics using similar image analysis tools and techniques at a completely different scale. “We can extract a lot of meaningful information from an image using these techniques,” Khalil says. “You move from light-years in ranges to microns but a lot of the physical processes are universal, no pun intended.” At The Jackson Laboratory, Khalil made connections with researchers at UMaine, and after a few months, he joined the math department in 2005. In 2008, he started a project with funding from the Maine Cancer Foundation to use image analysis to better predict breast cancer from mammograms. The research falls into the field of radiomics, a new area of medical study that aims to extract large amounts of quantitative features from medical images using data-characterization algorithms. Part of the reason he was interested in the research was personal. He had family members who had cancer. He also had a lot to offer to the study of breast cancer with his specific set of research skills. “Mammography is like a data analysis paradise,” Khalil says. “Women go in for their annual or biannual screenings — depending on what health insurance covers and what country you’re in — and you have tons and tons of data which is not the case for other cancers.” [caption id="attachment_93087"



align="alignright" width="223"][Read a profile about Kendra Batchelder](#)[/caption] By analyzing imaging done by scientists at University of California, Berkeley, Khalil realized that cancer cells are more dynamic than healthy cells, performing a disorganized sort of “drunken dance.” By looking out for patterns of disorganization in mammogram images, Khalil and [Kendra Batchelder](#), who is conducting an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in computational biomedicine, found that doctors can better predict a patient’s risk of developing breast cancer tumors. Not only that, because there is so much data related to mammography, Khalil and his team can look at the images over the years and see what the outcome was to test their hypothesis. “We have found more of this disrupted tissue in a mammogram of a tumorous breast,” Khalil says. “Not only can this eventually be used as a diagnostic, it could be a predetection. Is there a tumor and it disrupts the terrain, or is it that the terrain becomes disrupted and then the tumor comes in? We think it’s the latter.” In January 2018, Khalil joined the UMaine Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering. Though his research uses math and he loves teaching the subject, his research at CompuMAINE focused much more on applying that knowledge to chemical and biomedical engineering — exactly the kind of interdisciplinary research that, perhaps, he was always destined to do. Even now, he sees connections between his biomedical research and the star stuff he studied decades ago, like the way tumors exhibiting fractal structures are more likely to spread through the breast while galaxies with fractal structures are

better at forming stars. “The same way that cancer is efficient if it’s using a fractal structure, in the interstellar medium, the galaxy is going to be more efficient at forming new stars if it uses a physics that is similar to cancer,” Khalil says. “There’s a shiver down your back. This is really universal.” In September 2020, CompuMAINE was awarded a three-year \$423,000 grant from the National Cancer Institute to continue its work on the computational analyses of mammograms, and also extend the work to breast tissue analyses from biopsies, lumpectomies and mastectomies with the help from Karissa Tilbury, assistant professor of chemical and biomedical engineering. The grant awarded to Khalil and Tilbury was only the fourth awarded to UMaine from the National Cancer Institute, and the first to the College of Engineering. “Pathology is the clear answer, the final call,” Khalil says. “The eventual goal is to see, we have the data in different forms from the same patient, how can we integrate it in a single multivariate space.” Khalil and Batchelder are actively pursuing commercialization of their computational approach to breast cancer risk analysis. They have [received two patents](#) on the associated technology, and participated in UMaine commercialization programs designed to help them identify product-market fit and accelerate development. Two \$25,000 grants (one from the Maine Technology Institute and another from the [National Institute of General Medical Sciences](#)) have supported their commercialization efforts, and the pair recently completed [UMaine’s MIRT accelerator program](#). With the help of Jeremy Juybari, a Ph.D. student in computer engineering who is co-advised by Khalil, they are currently participating in a cohort of the National Science Foundation’s national I-Corps program as the next step toward developing a commercial product that could be used to identify the risk of breast cancer from mammography. The lab was awarded an additional \$50,000 from the National Science Foundation for their participation in this program. CompuMAINE’s work isn’t done, though. Khalil says his lab is also working on applying similar techniques to pancreatic cancer. There is potential to use their methods to study climate change, solar physics, muscular dystrophy, cosmology, artificial bone implants, protein modeling and more. “We’re all this generation of attention deficit, moving onto something as soon as we get bored, with the underlying commitment of finishing what we started,” Khalil laughed. “It’s been very rewarding to have this opportunity to work on projects from so very different disciplines. But perhaps what I value most of all is the successful integration of undergraduate and graduate students in all aspects of these research activities. That’s really what I love so much about my career so far.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Kendra Batchelder: An interdisciplinary Ph.D. that was meant to be

21 Sep 2022

Kendra Batchelder never expected that she would end up pursuing an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Computational Biomedicine, but in many ways it was the perfect culmination of her winding path through life so far. As Batchelder completes her final year researching mammogram image analysis with professor Andre Khalil, she is looking forward to the ways that she can continue to make math matter for medicine. When Batchelder graduated high school in Bangor, she thought she might want to work in medicine. An aunt she admired worked as a mammography technologist, so, following in her footsteps, Batchelder applied to a radiology technologist program. As part of the application, she had to complete a hospital rotation — and the experience made her think differently about her chosen path. “I quickly found out that I did not like blood,” Batchelder laughs. “I was not cut out to be in the hospital at that point in my life.” Batchelder changed course and enrolled as an undergraduate at the University of Maine studying math and education. Her father was a math teacher, so growing up, she says math was all around her. It seemed like a natural fit. Because of her interest in STEM education, Batchelder enrolled in NASA’s Pre-Service Teacher STEM Institute to learn more about how to incorporate the agency’s resources and research into classroom curricula. Her post-graduate plan seemed clear — until, in her final year as an undergraduate, she took an upper-level math class called Real Analysis with Khalil. Near the end of the course, Khalil told his students about the research he was doing that transcended disciplines by using image analysis techniques on mammograms to predict the onset of breast cancer. Batchelder felt a personal connection to the project. Her husband’s grandmother had just died of breast cancer. She discussed the project further with Khalil at Maine Day, spoke with some researchers and technicians in his lab before deciding to join the team herself. Batchelder had never done research before, but she figured that if she wanted to go into STEM education, having research experience would help her better teach middle and high school students. She started with simple tasks like entering data into spreadsheets and testing computer scripts written by her lab mates. Pretty soon, though, Batchelder was the one writing those computer scripts — and much more. She continued on the mammogram image analysis project through her master’s in math at the University of Maine over the next two years, and then decided she wanted to keep working with Khalil as a Ph.D. student. She applied in 2013 for an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Computational Biomedicine, and after she took a few undergraduate courses in biology, she was able to create a doctoral program that would best suit her continued research. Since then, Batchelder has worked on and off toward her Ph.D. — she took a few years off to take care of her young children — and is now entering her final year, polishing her dissertation on the work to which she has dedicated nearly a decade of her life. “People will ask me how did you get here and it’s not something that was planned,” Batchelder says. “It kind of just happened and I wouldn’t want it any other way.” After she graduates, Batchelder hopes to continue working on the project. She said that she and Khalil will be applying for a Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant to create a company based on their groundbreaking research into early detection of breast cancer through image analysis. “I would be on the company side running the company, Dr. Khalil would be on the university side, and we would collaborate together to work on the project to get some of the innovative research out of the university and into the world,” Batchelder says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

‘The Maine Question’ examines past, future of UMaine engineering with Dana Humphrey

22 Sep 2022

Dana Humphrey has hung up his hard hat after 36 years of serving the University of Maine as a faculty member and dean of the College of Engineering. During his tenure, the college has undergone tremendous growth, most recently with the opening of the Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center on Aug. 24. The \$78 million facility — the largest project of its kind in UMaine history — has the capacity to increase engineering enrollment by 600 additional students a year, and will help advance the university’s education and research to meet the needs of students, employers and the Maine economy. In this episode of [“The Maine Question,”](#) Humphrey reflects on his career at UMaine, Ferland EEDC, the changes he has seen in the profession, engineers’ role in a growing economy and what the future holds for him and the college. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Family and Friends Weekend Sept. 30–Oct. 2

22 Sep 2022

The University of Maine will hold Family and Friends Weekend from Sept. 30–Oct. 2. Many events will be held on campus throughout the weekend. These include Friday Night Socials; Chats by the Campfire; a Family Block Party on the Mall sponsored by Alpenglow featuring a petting zoo, ax throwing, a small business fair, food trucks and more; a free Orchard Trip, Paddle Fest, a family-friendly magician and open skate. Registration is \$25 per family, and can be done [online](#). Visit the [Student Life](#) website for more information and a full schedule of events.

BDN reports on Raymond receiving Voyager Scholarship**22 Sep 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Neily Raymond, junior at the University of Maine, was selected as part of the [inaugural Voyager Scholarship cohort](#) from the Obama Foundation and Airbnb. The scholarship is for 100 rising college juniors nationwide who plan to pursue a career in public service.

Penobscot Bay Pilot boosts Vekasi talk**22 Sep 2022**

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared that Kristin Vekasi, associate professor in the Department of Political Science and School of Policy and International Affairs at the University of Maine, will present at Rockland Public Library on Thursday, Oct. 6, at 6:30 p.m. In her talk Vekasi will compare the approaches and policies for “economic security” and “economic resiliency” in China, Japan, and the United States and how these strategies apply to rare earths and other critical minerals.

Roanoke Star highlights Biddle presentation at Rural Education Summit**22 Sep 2022**

The [Roanoke Star](#) noted that Catharine Biddle, associate professor of educational leadership at the University of Maine, presented at the Rural Education Summit held at The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center on Aug. 26, which officially launched the school’s new Center for Rural Education.

News Center Maine reports on free Cumberland County soil testing program from UMaine**22 Sep 2022**

[News Center Maine](#) reported that thanks to a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District and the University of Maine have a program where an environmental steward will come and get a soil sample from home gardens to test for lead contamination at the [UMaine soil lab](#).

Times Record promotes Dumas event at Lincoln Theater**22 Sep 2022**

The [Times Record](#) reported that Rob Dumas, food science innovation coordinator at the University of Maine, will sit down in conversation with Cherie Scott, founder of Mumbai to Maine, for a one-on-one conversation to kick off the Lincoln Theater’s third season of Talking Food in Maine: Intimate Conversations on Thursday Sept. 29 at 7 p.m.

Boothbay Register shares Darling Marine Center program for high school students**22 Sep 2022**

The [Boothbay Register](#) reported that Sarah Risley, a University of Maine graduate student based at the Darling Marine Center, will lead a team of high school students in green crab surveys this fall as part of an ongoing community science research program in the Damariscotta River estuary. The data that students collect will be used to help inform future management by the Damariscotta-Newcastle Shellfish Committee in coordination with the Maine Department of Marine Resources. Interested high school students can apply by completing the form found at tinyurl.com/5b7rjec3.

BDN, CentralMaine.com boost Mitchell Center event about summer internship program**22 Sep 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk about the internship program it launched this summer to train students to address challenges related to sustainability, conservation, climate change, public health and other complex societal issues at 3 p.m. on Oct. 3. During the talk, titled “Training the next generation of leaders to solve complex societal problems: The important role of internships,” Jessica Jansujwicz, project coordinator for the Mitchell Center’s Internship Program for Sustainability Leaders, will share stories and lessons learned from its inaugural year. Visit the [event webpage](#) to register and receive connection information.

UMaine provides expert witnesses for state gene-editing advisory panel**23 Sep 2022**

Andrew Holmes, the institutional biosafety officer for the R1 University of Maine, was an expert witness this week for a statewide advisory group created by the Maine Legislature to consider gene-editing. Holmes provided the panel an overview of the regulatory structure for gene-editing in the natural world. Holmes is just the latest UMaine technical expert that’s been called upon to inform the advisory panel’s work. At its previous meetings, Diane Rowland, dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture has spoken, as have Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences’ Benjamin King, assistant professor of bioinformatics, and Melody Neely, associate professor of molecular and biomedical sciences. Additionally, Dmitry Bam, who serves as the vice dean for the University of Maine School of Law, presented to the panel this week. The University of Maine System supported the creation of the advisory panel, with King testifying on the System’s behalf noting the opportunity it offers for the state to leverage UMaine’s national leadership in faculty and student research using genome-editing technologies with applications from potato breeding to disease diagnostics and treatment that will ultimately improve public and economic health and well-being. More information about the Advisory Panel to Better Understand and Make Recommendations

Regarding the Implications of Genome-editing Technology for the Citizens of the State is [available here](#). Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Keim honored for work on federal TRIO programs

23 Sep 2022

Karen Keim, director of the Maine Educational Opportunity Center and Maine Educational Talent Search at the University of Maine, will receive the Walter O. Mason Award from the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE). The award is the highest honor given by COE and recognizes outstanding contributions to federal [TRIO programs](#) and the advancement of educational opportunity for under-resourced and first-generation college students. The Maine Educational Opportunity Center (MEOC) and Maine Educational Talent Search (METS) are outreach and service programs designed to assist low-income and first-generation students work through the academic pipeline from middle school to postbaccalaureate programs. They are housed in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development. [MEOC](#) works with adults to assist them in going to college. Advisors work with students to assess academic readiness, provide career counseling and refer them to community resources. They also coordinate efforts with area schools, colleges and other service agencies to provide information and assistance in completing college admission and financial aid forms. [METS](#) works with middle and high school students in seven school districts throughout Maine, many in rural areas, to set high academic expectations, stay in school and take the courses needed to prepare them for college-level studies. Keim has worked on federal TRIO programs at UMaine for more than 20 years. In addition, she has served on numerous boards and commissions at the state, regional and national level, including the COE board of directors and the New England Educational Opportunity Association. She will receive the award on September 23 at COE's annual conference in San Diego.

BDN shares information about UMaine Extension's ME-FRANS

23 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Extension received \$500,000 from the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) to establish the Maine Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (ME-FRSAN), a statewide program that cultivates wellness and resilience among farmers, farmworkers and agricultural service providers. Currently, applications are being accepted for the Maine Farmer Wellness Fund, which offers up to \$500 for individuals for wellness expenses and is intended to holistically support farmers, farm workers and Indigenous food and medicine producers. Visit the [ME-FRSAN program website](#) to learn more about future workshops and training opportunities.

Courier Gazette, Republican Journal note UMaine undergraduate poetry reading

23 Sep 2022

[The Courier-Gazette](#) and [Republican Journal](#) noted that the Poets Corner, a platform created to foster community among writers and readers of poetry and short prose, will feature five young poets who are University of Maine students active in campus creative writing activities and the campus literary magazine, "The Open Field," on their Zoom event Oct. 9, from 4-5:30 p.m. To receive a Zoom link to participate in the readings, register at thepoetscorner.org/events.

BDN notes increased interest in life sciences at UMaine

23 Sep 2022

In an article about the pandemic boosting a growth in the life sciences job market in Maine, the [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that more than 6,500 life science degrees were awarded in Maine from 2012-20, with the University of Maine having the most in 2020 at 180 graduates. The University of Maine also received the most National Science Foundation funding in the state at almost \$5 million. [The Piscataquis Observer](#) shared the BDN report.

Mount Desert Islander reports on Jones winning scholarship

23 Sep 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) reported that Madison Jones, a junior at the University of Maine studying sustainable agriculture, has been awarded the \$1,000 Nell Goff Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship aids college students pursuing horticulture-related studies and honors Nell Goff who, in the 1970s and '80s, served as the president of the Garden Club Federation of Maine, the director of the club's St. Croix District and the president of the Bar Harbor Garden Club.

Dill speaks to BDN about ticks laying eggs in the fall

23 Sep 2022

Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about fall being the best time for ticks to lay eggs for spring. "By now the tick will be looking for her final host for that blood meal. She needs to have that blood protein and have found a mate when she drops off that host in November," Dill said. Typically the female ticks lay several hundred eggs in a small cluster or mass, but Dill said they can lay up to 2,000. Despite that large number, Dill said it is highly unlikely an individual will see a mass while walking in the Maine woods.

KING-TV cites UMaine hazing study

23 Sep 2022

In a story about an investigation revealing a hazing incident at an area public high school, [KING-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Seattle, Washington) cited a [study](#) led by University of Maine where researchers found 47% of students have experienced hazing before college.

BDN, Salmon Business feature UMaine work with lumpfish

23 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Salmon Business](#) featured research at the University of Maine Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research (CCAR) looking at using lumpfish to combat sea lice on salmon farms. Steve Eddy, director of CCAR and lead investigator on the project, said UMaine researchers have been learning to get lumpfish to spawn and then how to grow them relatively quickly. Lumpfish are smaller than a pea when they are young, but they can grow from weighing one gram to weighing two kilograms — roughly the size of a football — in less than two years. “Some of them seem to eat more sea lice than others. They get lazy when they get older,” Eddy said.

Patenaude recognized at International Gordon Conference on Streptococcal Biology

23 Sep 2022

Kathryn Patenaude, a Ph.D. candidate in biomedical sciences from Presque Isle, Maine, won an outstanding poster award at the International Gordon Conference on Streptococcal Biology this August. The poster, titled “Investigating the interaction of *Streptococcus agalactiae* and *Candida albicans* in vitro and in vivo,” featured research Patenaude is conducting in the lab of Melody Neely, associate professor and chair of the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences. Neely's lab explores how pathogens, specifically streptococcus, evades immune systems and causes disease.

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Sept. 26

26 Sep 2022

Initiatives on campus include:

- Softball field construction and upgrade, A UMS TRANSFORM project funded by the Harold Alfond Foundation.
- Construction and renovation work on Holmes and Coburn halls for the boutique hotel project, with an alert to the UMaine community to expect noise and vibration from hydraulic jack hammers on-site.
- Littlefield Garden gazebo roof work by Construction Engineering Technology senior capstone students.
- Removal of a hazardous tree near the ROTC entrance of Memorial Gym, weather permitting.
- Repair of Hauck Plaza retaining wall and west steps to Dunn Hall.
- Demolition of the Child Study Building and Aquaculture Research Center.

University of Maine named a top school for online education in health care

26 Sep 2022

The University of Maine has been named one of today's best schools for online higher education in health care by EduMed.org, a website that connects students to flexible education programs to fast-track careers in nursing and allied health. UMaine's [online interprofessional graduate certificate in gerontology](#) ranked No. 12 in best accredited online gerontology programs in 2023 from a four-year school. UMaine's online interprofessional graduate certificate in gerontology is designed to increase the knowledge, skills, and abilities of health and human service professionals who provide care to older adults in a variety of settings. The curriculum is designed to meet the needs of working professionals who, because of the rapidly aging population, find themselves caring for a growing number of older adults. The 9-credit certificate program, consisting of three courses, is offered fully online. EduMed.org researched and analyzed more than 7,700 accredited schools using data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and from the schools themselves. The website's data science team then applied a proprietary algorithm to rank all qualifying schools for each healthcare discipline that considered academic counseling services, career placement services, student-to-faculty ratio, tuition, percent of students receiving school-based financial aid, amount of school-based aid per student and other factors. “Our rankings showcase the schools giving future nurses and allied health professionals the best chance to succeed from day one in the classroom to day one on the job,” said Wes Harris, outreach coordinator for EduMed.org. “This starts with low-cost tuition, but also includes academic counseling, career placement and other key resources that students need to graduate and get hired.” To be eligible, a school had to hold active regional accreditation and have at least one partially online program in the ranking subject. Just 8% of U.S. postsecondary institutions earned a ranking position. Full rankings are available on the EduMed [website](#).

UMaine Extension 4-H to hold livestock auction at Cumberland Fair Sept. 28

26 Sep 2022

The [4-H Livestock Auction at the Cumberland Fair](#) will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 4:30 p.m. in the show arena at the Cumberland Fairgrounds, 197 Blanchard Road. Baby beef, market lambs and market hogs raised by local 4-H members will be auctioned off. All money goes directly to the 4-H student who raised the animal. Many 4-H students use the profits from the sales to help with college expenses while others buy additional animals to raise for next year's auction. All 4-H market animals are 100% grain fed and raised with care under the supervision of watchful adults. Youth who raise a market animal learn livestock care, as well as financial management, record keeping, time management and marketing skills. The public is invited to attend the auction and bid on the animals (in-person only). Immediately after the sale, buyers must pay the cashier onsite with cash or check only. For more information about the 4-H Livestock Auction, visit [umaine.edu/cumberland/4h/events/cumberland-fair/4-h-livestock-auction](#). If you cannot attend the auction but want to support local 4-H youth raising livestock, consider donating to the Gray and New Gloucester (GNG) 4-H Food Pantry Project. Through the GNG 4-H Food Pantry Project, local 4-H members raise funds to purchase livestock from the Cumberland 4-H auction. The meat is then donated to the Gray and New Gloucester food pantries. Donations of any amount may be sent to GNG 4-H Food Pantry Project, PO Box 1012, Gray, ME 04039. Checks can be made payable to: GNG 4-H Food Pantry Project. For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, call 207.781.6099 or email eavan.sibolelittle@maine.edu.

University Bookstore, Bear Necessities Fan Shop to hold Family and Friends weekend sales

26 Sep 2022

University Bookstore will host its annual Family and Friends sale with select items on sale and the store will have extended hours: Friday, Sept. 30, 8 a.m.—6

p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Bear Necessities Fan Shop will also have hours on Family and Friends weekend. Friday, Sept. 30, noon–4 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. until the end of the home games for the day. Both stores will also debut their new collection of breast cancer awareness apparel during Family and Friends Weekend. This apparel is available in store and online at umaine.edu/bookstore or goblackbears.com/shop.

Morning Ag Clips notes UMaine Extension 4-H livestock auction

26 Sep 2022

Morning Ag Clips reported that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's [4-H Livestock Auction at the Cumberland Fair](#) will be held on Sept. 28 at 4:30 p.m. in the show arena at the Cumberland Fairgrounds, 197 Blanchard Road. Baby beef, market lambs and market hogs raised by local 4-H members will be auctioned off. All money goes directly to the 4-H student who raised the animal.

BDN boosts 'Future of Humanities' talk

26 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that University of Maine Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, Alumni Association and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will host a free public discussion about "The Future of Humanities" on Oct. 14 at 3 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts. The event, which will take place during Homecoming 2022, will celebrate the McGillicuddy Humanities Center's first decade of operation. The discussion about the role of the humanities in the current social, cultural and political moment will feature Heather Cox Richardson, professor of history at Boston College, and Brian Naylor, veteran National Public Radio correspondent.

BDN features Rheingans program, NSF award

26 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Penny Rheingans, professor and director of the School of Computing and Information Science at the University of Maine, leads a team of UMaine faculty and staff committed to finding the barriers to computing students' success and tackling them head-on. This team was recently awarded nearly \$1.5 million from the National Science Foundation for a six-year project that will fund scholarships and support programming for 30 full-time UMaine high-achieving, low-income students pursuing bachelor's degrees in computer science. The resulting program will be named the Computing Community for Good.

Fanning awarded \$3M from USDA for spotted-wing drosophila research

26 Sep 2022

With its appetite for berry flesh, the spotted-wing drosophila has drastically impacted the wild blueberry crop in Maine, and other berry industries throughout the country. Currently, the pest is controlled primarily through the use of insecticides, of which there are few effective organic options, leaving organic blueberry farmers with few options to manage the economic impact of the pest on their harvest. Philip Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology at the University of Maine, leads a team of scientists across the country looking to develop solutions for organic fruit farmers to control the pest in an environmentally and economically sustainable manner. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) [awarded](#) Fanning and his team nearly \$3 million for their research on the organic management of spotted-wing drosophila in fruit crops. "Organic farmers generally focus on the use of natural or biological methods to control pests in the fields, and that is a focus of this project," Fanning says. "Our team's aim is to integrate more biological control options into existing practices and develop more decision-aid tools to ensure that they are economically feasible." Fanning's team will carefully collaborate with stakeholders to develop and expand monitoring for spotted-wing drosophila, promote beneficial insects in the fields that can combat the pest like the wasp, *Ganaspis brasiliensis*, which is a [newly released biological control agent](#), and develop a training program to implement the organic management strategies. The project will also host undergraduate students throughout the summer to develop knowledge of pest management research and learn about careers in organic agriculture-related fields. "Higher education in STEM plays a critical role in training the next generation of professionals, and experiential learning experiences can have a key role in getting students interested in research and outreach," Fanning says. "Another exciting part of this project is that it will include a Research and Learning Experience (RLE) for undergraduate students. Through this, students will develop knowledge of scientific research, outreach and analytical skills while learning about careers in organic agriculture-related fields," Fanning says. Fanning's project is one of 18 awarded grants by NIFA's [Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative \(OREI\)](#), which funds research, education and Extension projects to improve yields, quality and profitability for producers and processors who have adopted organic standards. The award started Sept. 1, 2022, and will run through Aug. 31, 2025. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Crispin Kamundala: Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship recipient to study abroad in Lyon France

27 Sep 2022

Crispin Kamundala from the Democratic Republic of Congo is one of the 2022 recipients of the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. The scholarship will help to fund Kamundala's fall semester abroad at l'Université Catholique de Lyon in Lyon, France. The Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship Program encourages students from all academic backgrounds to participate in study abroad programs, gain professional skills, and immerse themselves in a new culture. Since the inception of the scholarship in 2001, more than 34,000 scholarships have been awarded to students participating in study abroad programs and internships around the world. Kamundala is one of two UMaine students to be awarded this scholarship in the spring 2022 application cycle. "Receiving this scholarship is not only helping me fund my study abroad program; it shows me that I am doing much more," Kamundala says. "It has shown me that I am worthy of being at the top because five years ago, when I came to this country, I did not know English. I did not envision myself at this level; thus, I consider this to be a success for me." Kamundala, a political science major with a minor in legal studies, chose the French study program to expand upon his knowledge of the language. He hopes that studying in Lyon will allow him to develop his French speaking and writing skills as well as gain more knowledge about the history and culture of Europe. After completing his undergraduate studies at the University of Maine, Kamundala intends to pursue a master's degree in international affairs, with the ultimate goal of working for the U.S. Department of State Foreign Service as a consular officer, and then return to grad school to get a law degree, and finally return to his home country of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and either become an

immigration lawyer or work as a consular officer for an embassy in his home country. He believes that studying in a foreign country would better equip him to understand how other societies function and the rules that control them. Kamaundala has expressed his excitement at the possibility of working on issues related to human rights and meeting with people from a variety of locations and cultural backgrounds. Kamundala says that the support of Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler and the Office of Major Scholarships helped him to receive the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship. He says that Dal Bo-Wheeler has been incredibly helpful throughout his career and he is very grateful to her for taking the time to assist him with his application. **How will studying abroad assist you with your academic or professional goals** Through studying in another country, I will be able to enrich my experience of living in a different culture, learning how to speak a different language, and figuring out how to thrive in a different environment. In addition, in order to work as a consular officer and provide assistance to people, I need to have a strong command of the French language. Knowing that I am fluent in both French and English gives me a solid set of linguistic abilities that I can put to good use and assist others with. I was selected to represent the U.S. on the fall 2022 Gilman Scholars Brussels Belgium Study Tour. This study tour will provide me with an understanding of the EU's political and administrative structures, which will be useful in working on U.S.-EU relations. **How do you feel UMaine has prepared you for this opportunity?** I am thankful to UMaine for every resource they have provided me for my academic success. A lot of professors have invested their time in helping me through everything I do. I like it here. It's home for me. It has been a long journey getting to where I am today and UMaine has played a big role in my life. **Have you worked with a mentor, professor or role model who has made your time at UMaine better, and if so, how?** I worked with professor Mark Brewer and Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler throughout my entire application process for the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship as well as for the Harry S. Truman Scholarship. They have devoted their time to helping me and being there for me if I need anything. They have made me feel very comfortable and I am very happy I have gotten to know them. At this point in my life, I see them as being more than simply professors; to me, they are more like parents, to whom I can turn for personal guidance and support. TRIO Student Support Services' Matthew Biddle and Cassandra Belka have been helpful to me since I arrived at UMaine. They have looked over my essays, proofread my work, and just helped me with my schoolwork. Being a part of the TRIO program was really beneficial to my education because English is my second language, so having them read my work and provide feedback was invaluable. Lastly UMaine's Writing Center also has been helpful for me. Paul England from the Writing Center always had a lot of useful feedback for my essays and I really appreciate working with him. **What are your plans for after you graduate? How has UMaine prepared you for them?** I want to go to graduate school and get my master's degree in foreign affairs. Right now I am interested in the Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Graduate Fellowship Program, which is a U.S. Department of State-funded program operated by Howard University that recruits and develops excellent young people for foreign service jobs in the U.S. Department of State. I am interested in this program because working in foreign services is very purposeful as well as working on behalf of the American people and on behalf of my new country, a country which gave me a home. Relocating to three different countries, starting my life over again from scratch, and adapting to a new culture has become an integral part of who I am and one that I appreciate and cherish. For me, working as a foreign service officer would be the culmination of my personal experience, educational background, and passion. The fall deadline for the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship is Oct. 6 for studying abroad spring 2023 and later. For a complete list of scholarships and fellowships available to UMaine undergraduate and graduate students, visit [UMaine's Office of Major Scholarships website](#). Students interested in learning more about the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship and other major merit scholarships also can reach out to the director of the Office of Major Scholarships, Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler nives.dalbowheeler@maine.edu. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers 4-H volunteer training starting Oct. 19

27 Sep 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a two-part online training for adults interested in becoming 4-H volunteers from 6–7 p.m. Oct. 19 and Oct. 26. “[Start Your 4-H Volunteer Journey](#)” will explore the ways volunteers can become involved with UMaine Extension 4-H, what the 4-H youth development program is about and requirements for becoming a volunteer. Participants will also hear from youth and volunteers currently active in Extension 4-H and do a hands-on activity together. The training is free; registration is required by Oct. 12. Register on the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jennifer Loble, 207.255.3345; jennifer.lobley@maine.edu.

Turner Publishing shares Johnson event at Auburn Public Library

27 Sep 2022

[Turner Publishing](#) shared that Tora Johnson, chair of environmental and biological sciences at the University of Maine at Machias, will present a talk entitled “Dignity in Public Discourse” at 1 p.m. Oct. 11, at Auburn Public Library, 49 Spring St. Johnson will talk about dignity theory, explore the role it plays in public debates over controversial issues, and best practices for supporting dignity and moving forward together.

BDN reports on timeline for new UMaine basketball facility

27 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine projects that it will complete its new basketball facility, one of the largest in a series of projects made possible by a \$90 million gift from the Harold Alfond Foundation, within the next five years. “We want to start construction as soon as we can. We want to make sure we have a great place to show recruits. We also want to provide a better experience for visiting teams,” said Seth Woodcock, the newly named UMaine senior associate athletic director for development and capital planning.

Media report on Fanning's \$3M USDA grant for spotted-wing drosophila research

27 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) reported that Philip Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology at the University of Maine, was awarded nearly \$3 million for research on the organic management of spotted-wing drosophila in fruit crops by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Knight featured on Maine Public discussing pigs

27 Sep 2022

Colt Knight, assistant extension professor and state livestock specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was a featured caller on [Maine](#)

Public’s show “Maine Calling” discussing the shared history of humans and pigs and the role of pigs in Maine. The show is tied to a film airing on Maine Public Television (Sept. 29), *Magnificent Beast*, exploring the shared history between humans and pigs.

UMaine & UMaine Machias to host Open Forum with President Ferrini-Mundy Sept. 29

28 Sep 2022

The University of Maine and University of Maine Machias will host an open forum discussion Thursday, Sept. 29, 9:30–10:30 a.m. via Zoom featuring President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and other university leaders. The forum will address the upcoming New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) visit, the University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias FY23 budgets and the University of Maine System’s strategic planning process. This event will be held in collaboration with the UMaine Faculty Senate and UMaine Machias Faculty Assembly. Watch online via the [event Zoom link](#).

ISLS honors Reagan with lifetime achievement award

28 Sep 2022

Timothy Reagan, University of Maine professor of foreign language education and former dean of the College of Education and Human Development, has received a Distinguished Scholar and Lifetime Achievement in Language Studies award from the International Society of Language Studies (ISLS). Reagan is the author or co-author of 20 books and more than 150 refereed journal articles and book chapters. He also served twice as president of the ISLS.

Energy Monitor cites UMaine agrovoltaic project

28 Sep 2022

In an article about agrivoltaic projects around the world, [Energy Monitor](#) cited research by the University of Maine studying the impact of solar panels installed over 11 acres of blueberry farmland.

Fox 22 interviews Hutchins about monarch research

28 Sep 2022

[Fox 22 Bangor](#) interviewed Wesley Hutchins, a junior in UMaine's wildlife ecology program from Swanville, Maine, about monarch butterfly research he is conducting in the lab of assistant professor Amber Roth. Hutchins is comparing migration behavior of captive-raised and wild monarch butterflies. “I’m placing tiny little tracking devices on monarch butterflies and then it will actually track their movements across the country on my laptop,” he said. The project utilizes the Motus Wildlife Tracking System, an international network of stations that pick up signals from tagged wildlife within eight miles of each station.

Media reports on UMaine survey on decriminalizing drug offenses

28 Sep 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#), [Spectrum News](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Maine Beacon](#), [Maine Public](#), [Marijuana Moment](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on a survey conducted by the University of Maine in 2021 that asked 417 registered voters a series of questions on drug policies. The survey showed that 73% of respondents supported decriminalization of “non-violent, low-level” drug offenses. More than 84% of survey respondents supported establishing detox services in all Maine counties, and a nearly identical percentage supported reducing barriers to substance use treatment. Robert Glover, associate professor of political science and honors, and Karyn Sporer, associate professor of sociology, were the lead researchers of the study. [Yahoo News](#) and [Sun Journal](#) shared the Portland Press Herald report. [KWCH](#), (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas), [WBRC](#) (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama), [WLOX](#) (Channel 13 in Biloxi, Mississippi) and [KSNB](#) (Channel 4 in Hastings, Nebraska) shared the WABI report.

Abedi to present at MIT URTC Oct. 1

28 Sep 2022

Ali Abedi, professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Maine, will present a keynote speech on digital twins and parallel intelligence at MIT Undergraduate Research Technology Conference (URTC) on Oct 1, 2022 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Abedi’s presentation will discuss this new concept combining wireless sensing, artificial intelligence and computational modeling to change how future systems are designed. More information about the MIT URTC can be found on their [website](#).

Groundbreaking ceremony Oct. 1 for \$28M hotel project at UMaine

28 Sep 2022

Editor's note: story updated Oct. 7, 2022. A groundbreaking ceremony will be held Oct. 1 at the University of Maine for a \$28 million project to renovate Coburn and Holmes halls, two of the oldest buildings on campus, both of which have been unoccupied for more than a decade, and develop them into boutique hotels. With the construction of a new 24,800-square-foot building adjacent to Holmes Hall, the three buildings will provide 95 hotel rooms and suites, and a bistro cafe. In addition to preserving the historic structures, the rehabilitation project will provide UMaine and the surrounding communities with high-quality campus-based hospitality services to support events, outreach and community collaboration. The hotel project is a joint venture of Radnor Property Group LLC, a real estate development company, and Harrison Street, an investment management firm. The public private partnership (P3) agreement, which includes a ground and building lease, was approved by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees in 2021. It is the first P3 for the University of Maine System. Archetype Architects will design the hotels; Wright-Ryan Construction is construction manager. The buildings are Certified Historic Structures and the redevelopment plan will meet the National Park Service standards for rehabilitation. Construction began Sept. 6 with the installation of construction fencing and the start of interior renovation; the hotels are projected to open in 2024. The property will be operated by Portland-

based Olympia Hotel Management. Designated hotel parking will be located between Fogler Library and Holmes Hall. There also will be a small parking lot next to Coburn Hall. The groundbreaking ceremony beginning at 9:45 a.m. will be held near the entrance to Holmes Hall, led by UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy and University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy. “This is an opportunity to invest in two of our distinct historical buildings that are so much a part of the heritage of Maine’s land grant university,” says President Ferrini-Mundy. “This public private partnership for the adaptive reuse of Holmes and Coburn halls will provide high-quality hospitality as a resource for the university and the community.” The two buildings are in UMaine’s Historic District; both were constructed in 1887–88. Coburn Hall was built to house the university library, the Department of Agriculture and Natural History, and a natural history museum. It also is considered to be the place where Phi Kappa Phi honor society got its start. Holmes Hall was built with Hatch Act funds earmarked for agricultural experiment stations at land grant universities. It also was home to the Department of Chemistry. Two wings were added to the building between 1899–1904. UMaine’s decision to seek requests for qualification (RFQs) for the public private partnership in historic building redevelopment, followed by requests for proposals (RFPs), came a year after a 2020 assessment of the strategic importance and long-term value of continued investment in the two structures. The report by Brailsford & Dunlavey also provided options for adaptive reuse of the historic buildings that would be in keeping with UMaine’s strategic vision. Radnor Property Group, one of four companies nationwide submitting RFPs, was awarded the P3 in 2021. Radnor’s experience with similar P3 historic redevelopment projects includes collaborations with Bucknell University and King’s College. Radnor specializes in the development of student housing, multifamily apartments, and mixed-use projects in growing and dynamic communities. It is headquartered in suburban Philadelphia with regional offices in Atlanta and Hanover, New Hampshire. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Patty Andersen: Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship recipient to study abroad in Quebec City

29 Sep 2022

Patty Andersen of Durham, New Hampshire is one of the 2022 recipients of the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. The scholarship will help fund Andersen’s study abroad experience this fall semester at the Laval University in Quebec City. The Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship Program encourages students from all academic backgrounds to participate in study abroad programs, gain professional skills, and immerse themselves in a new culture. Since the inception of the scholarship in 2001, more than 34,000 scholarships have been awarded to students participating in study abroad programs and internships around the world. “I applied to the Benjamin A. Gilman scholarship because Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler, the director of the Office of Major Scholarships on campus, recommended it to me,” Andersen says. “I honestly didn’t think I would get it because it’s pretty prestigious, but I was lucky enough to get an email one day saying that they had chosen me, it was a huge confidence boost.” Andersen is participating in the Killam fellowship, part of the Fulbright Canada organization, which allows for a direct exchange between a university in the U.S. and a university in Canada. Andersen is majoring in secondary education and French, with a minor in Spanish. She says studying abroad will help improve her proficiency in French. She also hopes to gain the knowledge and skills to navigate an unfamiliar place, culture and language. “It’s been a really interesting, difficult, fun first couple weeks. At the end of each day, my brain is exhausted from speaking in French all day, but I’ve been having a wonderful time sightseeing and navigating a new city. In fact, I can already tell that my French has improved, as well as my cultural awareness. This is the first time that I’ve been so out of my element, and it’s really given me some insight into how immigrants feel. I don’t think I fully understood how hard it was before,” Andersen says. **How will studying abroad assist you with your academic or professional goals?** It will help improve my French, and I do believe that putting myself into this challenging position will force me to learn a lot about myself and a lot about respecting other cultures. This is really important to me because, as a future educator, I want to respect my students as much as humanly possible. **Why did you choose to come to UMaine?** I came to UMaine because it was one of my cheaper options, because of the location (I love that it’s rural and there are so many opportunities to get outside) and because of the friendly atmosphere. **How do you feel UMaine has prepared you for this opportunity?** There were several people that were, and still are invaluable in the process of applying to study abroad programs and in figuring out everything that I have to do before I go. Some of them being Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler, Betsy Arntzen, Frédéric Rondeau and Erika Clement. **Have you worked with a mentor, professor or role model who has made your time at UMaine better, and if so, how?** Frédéric Rondeau and Dominic Varney are two of my advisors and they are truly wonderful people as well as being incredibly helpful in dealing with the nitty gritty of paperwork and whatnot as well as helping me get through my time at UMaine by playing a general support role. **Have you had an experience at UMaine that has shaped or changed how you see the world?** Simply being at UMaine, surrounded by people that are in pursuit of something, like their major or some calling unrelated to school has been really cool. It’s just exciting to be part of a community that is working toward bettering the world. **What are your plans for after you graduate? How has UMaine prepared you for them?** After I graduate I plan on teaching English abroad for a few years before I return to the States to become a French and Spanish teacher. UMaine is providing me with the credentials required and the space to grow up a little bit in an environment that keeps me busy and passionate about changing the world. The fall deadline for the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship is Oct. 6, for studying abroad spring 2023 and later. For a complete list of scholarships and fellowships available to UMaine undergraduate and graduate students, visit [UMaine’s Office of Major Scholarships website](#). Students interested in learning more about the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship and other major merit scholarships also can reach out to the director of the Office of Major Scholarships, Nives Dal Bo-Wheeler nives.dalbowheeler@maine.edu. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

UMaine now the hub for Rural Schools Collaborative in New England

29 Sep 2022

A new partnership between the University of Maine and the Rural Schools Collaborative will seek to strengthen the K–12 education workforce across six New England states and provide other opportunities to raise the profile of rural schools and teachers in the region. The RSC’s New England hub, which includes Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, will now be based at UMaine. Regional hubs allow the RSC and its partners to share stories and information; work together on programs and projects; explore funding opportunities to support rural schools; and network and collaborate with other organizations and schools both within specific regions and at other hubs across the country. Catharine Biddle, associate professor of educational leadership at the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, is the RSC New England hub contact. She will aim to advance the work of the hub, which includes programs focused on [school-community engagement](#), [support for rural educators](#) and [place-based education](#). One of Biddle’s first priorities will be to map the regional landscape for rural education workforce development by connecting with leaders who are working on these issues. She also is working to form an advisory board with representatives from each of the New England states to guide the work of the hub. “I’m looking forward to the opportunity to collaborate with other RSC hubs and sharing the incredible work that teachers and leaders across the region are doing to support rural students in New England,” Biddle says. UMaine’s [College of Education and Human Development](#) has a strong rural focus with a goal of cultivating educational partnerships and practices that sustain healthy and equitable developmental ecologies for rural youth. The college has a number of projects and programs that support this focus, including [STEM-focused rural education projects](#), an initiative to train early childhood special educators and other professionals in Maine to serve preschool aged children with [intensive communication needs](#), a Rural Leadership Program in partnership with the [University of Maine at Presque Isle](#), a growing program in [Outdoor Leadership](#), literacy and social-emotional support programs, accessible hybrid and online [graduate programs](#) for educators, and a teacher education program dedicated to geographically diverse placements. “Every student, regardless of place, deserves outstanding teachers

and administrators. Likewise, all educators deserve access to the resources, supports, and working conditions needed to deliver exceptional instruction and social-emotional support to every child," says Scott Harrison, director of human resources at the RSU 21 school district in Kennebunk, Maine. Harrison studied with Biddle while earning his Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree at UMaine, graduating in May 2022. For his dissertation, he researched human resource practices at school districts in Maine, seeking to identify ways that rural districts can leverage their unique opportunities and minimize challenges by investing in more strategic approaches to workforce development and management. "I'm excited to see how the rural school hub at UMaine addresses some of the place-based issues we face as educators in Maine and throughout New England," Harrison says. "The University of Maine has long been a pillar of rural collaboration and leadership," says Taylor McCabe-Juhnke, Rural Schools Collaborative executive director. "Our network will benefit greatly from their expertise, and we're looking forward to supporting their work, both regionally and nationally, to strengthen rural communities." The RSC is a national nonprofit launched in 2015 to build sustainable rural communities. With a focus on place, teachers and philanthropy, the collaborative's signature efforts include [The Place Network](#), [Rural Teacher Corps](#), [Grants in Place](#) and [Impact Philanthropy](#). More information about the New England Rural Education Hub is [online](#). Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Maine Science Podcast features Dagher in latest episode

29 Sep 2022

The [latest episode](#) in the Maine Science Podcast series features Habib Dagher, professor and founding executive director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center at the University of Maine. The [podcast](#), a production of the Maine Science Festival, also has featured other experts from the UMaine community.

Tasting Table highlights UMaine Extension study about efficacy of commercial produce washes

29 Sep 2022

In an article describing food safety tips for home cooks, [Tasting Table](#) highlighted a [University of Maine Cooperative Extension study](#) that found that distilled water is equally as effective in removing mold and bacteria from fruits and vegetables as three commercially available produce washes.

McGlynn discusses offshore wind research with Engineering News-Record

29 Sep 2022

[Engineering News-Record](#) interviewed Alyssa McGlynn, a University of Maine graduate student studying mechanical engineering, about her offshore wind energy research. McGlynn's work focuses on scale model testing of synthetic floating wind turbine mooring systems to validate design performance before full scale structures are deployed at sea. "If Americans want to maintain their energy-rich lifestyles and have a habitable planet, we need clean energy," she said. The publication also highlighted UMaine's graduate offshore wind program.

Daily Meal shares UMaine Extension resources for tomato shopping article

29 Sep 2022

In an article detailing tips for tomato shopping, the [Daily Meal](#) shared University of Maine Cooperative Extension's [video](#) about the difference between bush and vine tomato plants. The media outlet also shared a UMaine Extension publication titled "[The Role of Ethylene in Fruit Ripening](#)."

Boston Globe notes Talty's New England Book Award

29 Sep 2022

[The Boston Globe](#) reported that Morgan Talty, an assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, won a New England Book Award for fiction for his short story collection "Night of the Living Rez."

Steneck, Kaczor discuss environmentalism in oyster farming with BDN

29 Sep 2022

Robert Steneck, a professor in the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, and Keri Kaczor, the environmental literacy and workforce development program manager at Maine Sea Grant, spoke with the [Bangor Daily News](#) for an article titled "The environmentalists at the heart of Maine's booming oyster business." Steneck said oysters sequester carbon when they capture particles such as plankton, algae, sediments and other contaminants that they then digest and filter. Kaczor talked about oyster farmers in Maine. "There are real trailblazers in our oyster industry in Maine," Kaczor said. "You don't always see such a marriage between science and industry."

Times Record interviews Wheeler about COVID-19 wastewater testing

29 Sep 2022

Robert Wheeler, an associate professor of microbiology at the University of Maine, spoke with the [Times Record](#) about how wastewater testing helps the presence of COVID-19 in a community. "It's something that I look at every day," said Wheeler, who coordinates UMaine's COVID-19 wastewater testing. "It's a really important surveillance tool."

'The Maine Question' asks what it's like being an archaeologist

29 Sep 2022

Daniel Sandweiss’s archaeology career doesn’t mirror depictions of those in movies like “Indiana Jones,” but for him, it’s been equally as exciting. Over the years, Sandweiss, a University of Maine professor in the Anthropology Department and Climate Change Institute, has uncovered extensive evidence into how ancient civilization dealt with natural disasters, such as climate change, and how they adapted to living in a desert environment next to a rich fishery. His passion, coupled with a commitment to student success, inspired many who took his classes to advance their studies and pursue careers in archaeology. In Episode 3 of Season 4 of “[The Maine Question](#),” Sandweiss shares his many experiences as an archaeologist, and describes what the field work really entails. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Steve Legge: Back after 40 years to finish his UMaine degree

30 Sep 2022

Steve Legge, director of communication at St. Johnsbury Academy, was photographing a student signing a letter of intent to run cross country at the University of Maine when he was hit with an epiphany. Legge attended UMaine between 1982 and 1985, leaving after his junior year with a GPA “just under 2.” He loved UMaine, but admits that he didn’t have “any real goals when [he] got there and no real reason to stay.” Nearly four decades had passed since he left UMaine, and yet, seeing this future Black Bear and his family decked out in UMaine gear, he says he felt something akin to “homesickness” or “nostalgia.” “Whatever it was, I went back to my office and emailed Maine to ask about re-applying,” Legge said. Now, at nearly 58 years old, Legge is back at UMaine — albeit remotely — and is set to graduate with his degree nearly 40 years after he first started it. After leaving UMaine in the mid-’80s, Legge took a variety of odd jobs. He cut Christmas trees, drove a truck, worked as a bartender and managed a mini mart. In 1991, he settled into photography for a weekly newspaper, the Lyndon Independent. Legge’s photography work gained momentum and pretty soon, he started photographing for more prominent news outlets, including the Associated Press. He started his own photography labs and freelanced taking wedding photographs and portraits for high school seniors. He eventually landed at Vermont’s St. Johnsbury Academy, an independent high school with day and boarding students, in August 2016, where he still works as director of communication. Coincidentally, three of his coworkers there are UMaine graduates, one of whom was on campus at the same time that Legge was in the ’80s. Legge said even before that fateful day photographing the UMaine cross country recruit, he had a nagging sense of unfinished business when it came to his education, even after earning an associate degree in graphic design. He looked into finishing his undergraduate degree at Northern Vermont University-Lyndon, just up the road from where he lives, or Southern New Hampshire University, but chose not to because his UMaine credits wouldn’t transfer and the cost became prohibitive. Turns out, he had to go back to the source. When Legge reached out to the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning (DLL), they set up a Zoom call with director of the bachelor of university studies Barbara Howard, who worked with him to make sure he could use as many of his previous credits as possible. “Most of the classes I took so long ago have new numbers now, and she had to go through and convert everything to make sure I had everything I needed,” Legge says. “Everyone was super helpful. It just made it so much better to come back to Maine.” DLL also helped Legge to figure out how to finish his UMaine degree remotely from his home in Vermont. Legge says he misses being in a classroom, but as a working adult, the online option is perfect for him — though it is a big change from his experience in the ’80s, when there were no personal computers, to say nothing about the internet. Once he reenrolled, Legge needed four courses to complete a degree in University Studies, a program that allowed him to use his wide range of credits, from his associate’s in graphic design to his various classes at UMaine. He is currently taking his Core Course in University Studies, and is excited about finishing up with his major’s capstone in the spring. “For the University Studies capstone, we have to identify eight classes that will form the basis of our topic,” Legge says. “For me, that includes classes from my associates degree in graphic design, and those I took at UMaine in the ’80s — some social studies, military sciences (believe it or not) and English. I’m looking forward to the challenge of it.” This time around, too, Legge is getting much better grades — “straight A’s so far.” “The perspective of age is huge,” Legge says. “My study habits are much better. I don’t have the radio on, I’m not watching TV. It’s much easier the second time around. You have to balance your time better, but still, I’ve enjoyed it.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension continues injury-prevention and wellness workshops for land, sea farmers in October

30 Sep 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer two free, in-person workshops in October for farmers, farm workers, fishers and foresters with a focus on body mechanics, injury prevention, movement, health and wellness. The [Safe Labor–Movement](#) workshops are from 9–11 a.m. Oct. 9 at Triple Chick Farm, 1142 Maine Route 102, Bar Harbor; and Oct. 16 at Pine Root Farm, 1000 Pequawket Trail, Steep Falls. Cynthia Flores, Labor–Movement founder, will lead both sessions that include time for questions and answers. Participants also have access to one month’s coaching via text and email. The workshops are free; registration is required. Details and how to register are on the [workshop webpage](#). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Izzy Ruffin, 207.570.8308; mainefrsan@maine.edu. Workshops are a project of the Maine Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network, funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, awarded to the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, and managed by UMaine Extension. The funds are part of a national and regional effort to increase awareness and amplify existing resources around mental health and farm stress, in addition to fostering connections for farmers and land stewards in Maine to access wellness support.

UMaine to conduct annual emergency communications system test Oct. 4

30 Sep 2022

The University of Maine will conduct its annual emergency communications system test between 3–4 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 4, complete with the outdoor sirens sounding for several minutes. The sirens are part of UMaine’s multifaceted emergency communications system established in 2007 that allows university safety and communications professionals to use several mechanisms to quickly communicate vital information to the community during emergency situations. In preparation for the full-scale test on Tuesday, the campus siren system will be serviced on Monday. Starting mid-morning on Oct. 3, the campus community may hear several short “growls” from the sirens as part of the service testing. When UMaine’s emergency communication system is activated, several notifications occur: A text message is sent to subscribers of UMaine’s [umaine.alerts](#) system; UMaine Police Department sounds the sirens; information is posted on the university’s homepage and social media, and the UMaine portal; and a recorded telephone message may be heard by dialing 207.581.INFO. Members of the University of Maine community are reminded to register to receive UMaine’s emergency notifications. The emergency notification service alerts the UMaine community to public safety issues, including inclement weather conditions causing class cancellations. Those registered for UMaine alerts will receive a message about the emergency notification system on Oct. 4, as well as on the 15th of every month. Registration for texts and/or email alerts is [online](#).

BDN boosts Orono Energy Efficiency Fair at Wells Conference Center

30 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that the Orono Energy Efficiency Fair will take place on Oct. 22 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Wells Conference Center at the University of Maine. The fair is funded by the State of Maine's Community Resilience Partnership Climate Action Grant and the University of Maine's Office of Sustainability. It is free for the public to attend and each attendee will be entered into a free raffle for great prizes from local businesses. To register for the event and for more information visit orono.org.

News Center Maine cites UMaine Extension Tick Lab in article about avoiding tick bites

30 Sep 2022

In an article about steps people in Maine can take to avoid tick bites this fall, [News Center Maine](#) cited the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab website as a resource. Visit ticks.umaine.edu for more information about tick identification and testing through the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab.

News & Citizen cites UMaine study about food insecurity

30 Sep 2022

In an article about the Lamoille County Food Sharing needing help to keep shelves stocked in light of increased demand, the [News & Citizen](#) (Morrisville, Vermont) cited a study conducted by researchers at the University of Maine and University of Vermont that interviewed roughly 1,000 people and found that the prevalence of food insecurity this past spring "remains similarly high to early points in the pandemic (35 percent overall), likely driven by inflation and food prices, and long-term impacts from the pandemic."

Engineering News-Record highlights UMaine Engineering programs

30 Sep 2022

In an article about efforts to expand the clean energy workforce, the [Engineering News-Record](#) featured the graduate offshore wind programs at the University of Maine which focuses on developing floating turbine structures for deep water and aim to produce the next generation of technical and project management talent in addition to clean energy research. Alyssa McGlynn, a second-year University of Maine mechanical engineering grad student concentrating in offshore wind energy, told the Engineering News-Record that her research has focused on scale model testing of synthetic floating wind turbine mooring systems to validate design performance before full scale structures are deployed at sea. "If Americans want to maintain their energy-rich lifestyles and have a habitable planet, we need clean energy," McGlynn said.

Media share Tanglewood 4-H camp festival

30 Sep 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) noted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center is hosting a public festival and dinner to celebrate its 40th anniversary on Oct. 8 in Lincolnville. Events will be held throughout the day, beginning at 8 a.m. For more details and to register for the dinner and live music, visit the [event website](#).

Media highlight Finding Our Voices event at UMaine Hutchinson Center

30 Sep 2022

The [Courier-Gazette](#) and [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) noted that the University of Maine Hutchinson Center will host the Finding Our Voices exhibit highlighting the experiences of domestic violence survivors through Oct. 26. This exhibit includes Patrisha McLean's 43 photo portraits of survivors, aged 18 to 81 and including many Midcoast women as well as Gov. Janet Mills. The exhibit also includes documentation of some of what the women transcended. Hours of the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Gallery are 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday.

Sun Journal interviews Dill about tick-borne diseases rising

30 Sep 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) interviewed Griffin Dill, manager of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab, about the rising prevalence of tick-borne diseases in Maine. Dill said that there are a number of factors contributing to the rise of tick-borne diseases in Maine, such as increased awareness; milder, shorter winters; and the fact that Maine is a highly forested state. "And then we kind of mix in human development into those forested areas and we create this really nice edge habitat where our yard meets the forest. And it's really great for mice, for chipmunks, for deer, for birds. And some of those hosts are really important to the ticks and then tick-borne pathogens and so we kind of create this perfect habitat for the ticks and their wildlife hosts," Dill said. [Yahoo News](#) shared the Sun Journal report.

Mayewski, Beals co-author op-ed for The Hill about the urgency of addressing climate change

30 Sep 2022

Paul Mayewski, director and professor at the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, and Anders Beal, associate in the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and former UMaine graduate student of Global Policy, co-authored an opinion piece for [The Hill](#) about how critical this

decade is in terms of addressing the climate crisis before certain “tipping points” are surpassed. “There is also a certain level of hubris emerging within some policy and scientific circles, assuming humanity can stave off the worst effects of the climate crisis by betting on carbon-capture technologies or risking unknown consequences from geoengineering. Policymakers should begin talking about the here and now, with concrete reductions in emissions each year,” Mayewski and Anders wrote.

Spectrum News features Fanning in article about Maine’s efforts to combat spotted-wing drosophila

30 Sep 2022

In an article about efforts to combat the pest spotted-wing drosophila, [Spectrum News](#) highlighted the research of Philip Fanning, assistant professor of agricultural entomology at the University of Maine, who is studying whether the parasite *Ganaspis brasiliensis* can be used to control the berry-eating pest without using chemicals. Fanning was recently awarded \$3 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for his research about organic control methods for the pest. Fanning said work with the parasite has already begun, but the \$3 million grant will allow the study to expand to include organic farmers.

MaineBiz features UMaine Nursing WellNurse program

30 Sep 2022

[MaineBiz](#) featured the University of Maine School of Nursing’s WellNurse program aimed at reducing stress and burnout and building resilience among nursing students, faculty and staff. WellNurse was made possible by a \$1.5 million award from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The award was made possible by \$103 million in American Rescue Plan funding to help health and public safety professionals, particularly those in rural and medically underserved communities, reduce burnout and promote mental health. “We’ve seen unprecedented levels of stress, anxiety and burnout across the nursing profession related to working and learning in a high-stakes environment, while we continue to manage the additional demands generated from the pandemic,” said Kelley Strout, the School of Nursing’s director and the principal investigator on the award.

Modern Farmer features UMaine Extension’s Maine Harvest for Hunger

30 Sep 2022

In an article about gleanings, an age-old practice that involves collecting leftover crops from farmers’ fields after a harvest, [Modern Farmer](#) highlighted that in 2000, the University of Maine Cooperative Extension launched Maine Harvest for Hunger, an organization focused on expanding access to food and reducing food waste from farms. Since its start over two decades ago, the program has donated more than two million pounds of food to those in need. “Every farmer, no matter how big or how small, gets to the point where they have more than they can use,” said Lynne Holland, horticulture and social media professional at the UMaine Extension.

NSF features UMaine research using AI to monitor forests

30 Sep 2022

The National Science Foundation (NSF) featured research from the University of Maine that shows how artificial intelligence could be a cost-effective and energy-efficient tool to monitor and manage Maine’s forests as part of their [NSF Science Now](#) video series. Ali Abedi, principal investigator of the recent study and professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Maine, and Aaron Weiskittel, one of the study’s collaborators and professor of forest biometrics and modeling at the University of Maine’s School of Forest Resources, were featured in the video.

UMaine Extension’s McCarty, Lindley honored at national conference for food preservation program

30 Sep 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension food systems professionals Kate McCarty, Cumberland County, and Viña Lindley, Waldo County, were recently honored at the National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences 88th annual session held Sept. 12–15 in Raleigh, North Carolina. McCarty and Lindley received the first place Eastern Region NEAFCS Mary W. Wells Memorial Diversity Award. They were recognized for a home food preservation education program offered to incarcerated individuals at Maine State Prison with the goal of building personal sustainability through food safety and food preservation skills. The Mary W. Wells Memorial Diversity Award is presented in support of the Cooperative Extension System’s emphasis on diversity and pluralism — a national program to respond to the changing workforce, population and Extension audience. The award is named to honor the contributions to diversity for the association and profession by Mary Wells, NEAFCS past president. The commitment of McCarty and Lindley to meeting the needs of individuals, families and communities was cited as exemplary. For more information, contact Kate McCarty, 207.781.6099; kate.mccarty@maine.edu. More information about the program also is available on the [UMaine Extension Maine Food Systems website](#).

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Oct. 3

03 Oct 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update as follows:

- Softball field construction and upgrade continue.
- Construction and renovation work on Holmes and Coburn halls continue; ledge removal ongoing through the week.
- Hauck Plaza renovations continue; granite is being laid this week.
- Work on the west steps of Dunn Hall expected to be completed this week.
- Later this week, expect removal of the Child Study Building and Aquaculture Research Center (ARC) foundations and remaining demolition materials.

AD search committee named**03 Oct 2022**

A 15-member committee has been named to conduct a national search for the next permanent University of Maine athletics director. The search committee is chaired by John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost, and will be assisted by search firm Collegiate Sports Associates. Finalists are expected to visit campus by mid-November, with a decision on the next UMaine athletics director anticipated in early December. The committee members are: Faculty Senate president MJ Sedlock; co-leads of the Harold Alfond Foundation athletics initiative — professor Judith Rosenbaum-Andre and senior associate athletic director Seth Woodcock; UMaine coaches Josette Babineau, Ben Barr and Amy Vachon; assistant professor Muralee Das; Academic Support Services director Ann Maxim; former dean Anne Pooler; student-athletes Fofa Adetogun and Tiana Bucknor; and Hall of Fame athletes Emily Ellis, Chris Keating and Jack Leggett.

Fall 2022 Undergraduate Responsible Conduct of Research training opens Oct. 12**03 Oct 2022**

The [Office of Research Compliance](#) will be offering online Responsible Conduct of Research training for undergraduate students on Brightspace from Wednesday, Oct. 12 to Friday, Nov. 18, 2022. Completion of this training is required for students participating in research sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and/or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA). Students who complete the training will receive a certificate of completion valid for four years. More information and a link to enroll is available at [Undergraduate Responsible Conduct of Research \(RCR\) Training](#).

Media report on UMaine hotel groundbreaking**03 Oct 2022**

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor), [WVII](#) (ABC 7/Fox 22 in Bangor) and [News Center Maine](#) reported that the University of Maine held a groundbreaking ceremony Saturday for their new campus hotel. The \$28 million project involves renovating Coburn and Holmes halls and constructing a third building to form a boutique hotel complex. Funding for the project comes from a U.S. Historic Preservation Grant, as well as investment funds from Harrison Street Real Estate Capitol.

News Center Maine notes UMaine role in PFAS working group**03 Oct 2022**

In an article about a federal bill that could help Maine farmers impacted by PFAS chemicals, [News Center Maine](#) noted recent [legislation](#) co-sponsored by Sen. Susan Collins that would establish a PFAS contamination working group that could leverage more research by academic institutions, including the University of Maine.

BDN shares information about UMaine homecoming**03 Oct 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the University of Maine will kick off Homecoming 2022 from Oct. 14–16. The three-day gathering features a wide variety of formal and informal activities, including class reunions, tailgating, campus tours, concerts, lectures, presentations and NCAA women's soccer, football, and women's ice hockey games. Alumni and their guests who preregister for Homecoming [online](#) by 4 p.m. Oct. 7 will receive complimentary gifts and discounts on certain purchases.

PenBay Pilot boosts public Knox-Lincoln Counties Extension Association annual meeting**03 Oct 2022**

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared that Knox-Lincoln Counties Extension Association will hold their annual meeting Thursday, Oct. 27, from 4:30–6:30 p.m., at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Blueberry Cove Camp, 22 Blueberry Cove Road, St. George. The meeting is open to the public. Attendees can learn about the community-focused work of UMaine Extension and the K-LCEA in this family-friendly evening event. Activities include decorating pumpkins, planting garlic, visiting goats, and a tour of the gardens at Blueberry Cove led by Ryan LeShane, Extension 4-H Blueberry Cove Camp director.

Media boosts UMaine Extension October injury-prevention workshops**03 Oct 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) shared that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer two free, in-person workshops in October for farmers, farm workers, fishers and foresters with a focus on body mechanics, injury prevention, movement, health and wellness. The [Safe Labor–Movement](#) workshops are from 9–11 a.m. Oct. 9 at Triple Chick Farm, 1142 Maine Route 102 Bar Harbor; and Oct. 16 at Pine Root Farm, 1000 Pequawket Trail Steep Falls.

BDN reports on McCarty, Lindley award**03 Oct 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension food systems professionals Kate McCarty, Cumberland County, and Viña Lindley, Waldo County, were recently honored at the National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences 88th annual session held Sept. 12–15 in Raleigh, North Carolina. McCarty and Lindley received the first place Eastern Region NEAFCS Mary W. Wells Memorial Diversity Award. They were recognized for a home food preservation education program offered to incarcerated individuals at Maine State Prison with the goal of building personal sustainability through food safety and food preservation skills.

Moran speaks to BDN about how to use Maine apple varieties

03 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Renee Moran, tree fruit specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the best way to prepare different varieties of Maine apples. Moran said that Cortlands are the best apple for baking. “There are certainly some varieties more suitable for fresh eating and unsuitable for baking, like the Honeycrisp apple,” Moran said. “Of course, everyone has their own opinion on what makes the best apple.”

UPI reports on UMaine wild blueberry research

03 Oct 2022

[UPI](#) featured research from the University of Maine focused on understanding the ways wild blueberry fields will be impacted by climate change, as well as seeking to identify methods for safeguarding wild blueberries. UPI interviewed Rafa Tasnim, UMaine doctoral candidate in ecology and environmental sciences, and Lily Calderwood, wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture. “When the soil gets too dry, that’s when rising temperatures become a big problem,” Tasnim told UPI. “The group we are trying hardest to work with and help now are the folks who are not yet irrigating,” Calderwood said.

Garland speaks to PPH about preparing gardens for the winter

03 Oct 2022

Kate Garland, horticultural specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the [Portland Press Herald](#) about preparing gardens for the winter. Garland said that ideally, gardens should include natives that should survive naturally, as well as hardy non-natives. “I am of the mindset that people should create a resilient landscape that does not require a lot of maintenance or protection,” she said.

Brewer speaks to Washington Examiner about LePage distancing himself from Trump

03 Oct 2022

The [Washington Examiner](#) interviewed Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about former governor Paul LePage distancing himself from former President Donald Trump for this year’s election.

Maine Monitor interviews Calderwood about drought impact on wild blueberries

03 Oct 2022

Lily Calderwood, the University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture, spoke to the [Maine Monitor](#) about the impact of this year’s drought on Maine’s wild blueberry harvest. Calderwood said that climate change, which can cause extreme fluctuations in temperatures and precipitation, including snowfall, can affect yields over as many as four growing seasons, meaning that even in years without a drought, the plants being harvested might fail to thrive. [News Center Maine](#) shared the Maine Monitor report.

Quick Byte opens in Ferland EEDC

04 Oct 2022

Quick Byte, a kiosk managed by UMaine Dining, is open in the Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center. This space is located near the building’s Cloke Plaza entrance and available for all community members from 7:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Monday–Friday. Guests will find three varieties of Maine-roasted Carrabassett Coffee, tea and Pepsi beverages, as well as to-go snacks and housemade foods, including yogurt parfaits, wraps, salads, snacks and a selection of Sushi with Gusto. Quick Byte accepts credit and debit cards, Black Bear Bucks and Dining Funds. For questions or suggestions, email um.dining@maine.edu.

School of Forest Resources to honor 2020–22 Distinguished Alumni on Oct. 14

04 Oct 2022

The School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine will present Patrick “Pat” Strauch, Ken Lausten and Mike Dann with Distinguished Alumni Awards in Nutting Hall on Oct. 14 at 5 p.m. The awards event will be followed by a barbecue and bonfire in the field adjacent to Nutting Hall. The event, which coincides with UMaine’s Homecoming, is free and open to the public; registration is required. Additional information is available [online](#). The award recognizes graduates of the school’s programs who have made significant contributions to the forest resource professions and society. Typically, one alum is recognized each year, but public presentations of the award were canceled in 2020 and 2021. Strauch ’81, ’90G, the 2022 honoree, is currently the executive director of the Maine Forest Products Council, where he leads a diverse membership involving all aspects of the industry — loggers, truckers, lawyers, bankers, landowners, forest management firms, land trusts, and forest product companies. He develops a consensus that is used to influence legislation and policies in Augusta to support the forest products community in the state. In 2014, he received the W.D. Hagenstein Communicators Award from the Society of American Foresters in 2014. He was a key partner in developing the Forest Opportunity Roadmap/Maine (FOR/Maine), a blueprint for future development and support of Maine’s forest products industry. He previously worked for the Maine Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), St. Regis Paper, U.S. Gypsum

Company, Casella Waste Systems and Sawyer Companies. He graduated from UMaine with a B.S. in forestry in 1981, and a M.S. in silviculture in 1990. Lausten '74, the 2021 honoree, worked as Maine's Forest Biometrician for the Maine Forest Service for more than 20 years until he retired in 2021. He guided the state into modern use of inventory sampling and analysis to estimate the wood supply and utilization. An active member of the Society of American Foresters (SAF) since 1974, Lausten served at the state, New England and national levels. He was named an SAF Fellow in 2008 in recognition of his contribution to the forestry profession. He also received the United States Forest Service Director's Award for Excellence in 2001, and the Maine Forest Products Council President's Award in 2018. Lausten is both a SAF Certified Forester and a Maine Licensed Professional Forester. He previously worked for Great Northern Paper and Asplundh. He graduated from UMaine with a B.S. in forestry in 1974. Dann '68, the 2020 honoree, has represented the forestry profession on numerous advisory boards, including the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands, the Maine Forest Service, the Maine Forest Products Council and the Forest Resources Association. He was also part of the group that developed the Maine Forest Practices Act. Dann is an active member of the SAF, which awarded him the New England Distinguished Service Award and named him an SAF Fellow. He currently stewards his 150-acre tree farm in Dixmont. He previously was lead auditor for the Forest Stewardship Council, and a forester for the [Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine Land Trust](#). He spent more than 35 years at Seven Islands Land Company, the last 16 years as woodlands manager. Dann also served as an officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He graduated from UMaine with a B.S. in forest management in 1968. To request an accessibility accommodation for the School of Forest Resources alumni and friends event, call 207.581.2887 or email sfr@maine.edu.

Media reports on search for new UMaine athletic director

04 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Portland Press Herald](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [WGME](#) (Fox 23 in Portland), [HOT Radio Maine](#) reported that the University of Maine has named a 15-member committee to conduct the search for its new athletic director. Finalists are expected to visit campus by mid-November, with a decision on the next athletic director in early December.

Schattman speaks to Sustainable Brands about regenerative agriculture

04 Oct 2022

Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine, spoke to [Sustainable Brands](#) about farms transitioning to regenerative, holistic practices with an eye toward equity in the system. "This means heavily investing in agricultural research, especially at land grant universities — including historically black colleges and universities and tribal colleges; and expanding education programs, technical assistance and financial assistance for farmers. ... In addition to climate change being a matter of science, it's also invariably a racial, gender and economic justice issue — as the negative effects of climate change will fall disproportionately on those who can least afford it. We must ensure that federal agriculture programs are available to all who steward the land," Schattman said.

BDN speaks to Dill about bedstraw hawk moth

04 Oct 2022

Jim Dill, pest management specialist with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the bedstraw hawk moth. Unlike its relatives in the Sphingidae family like the tomato or tobacco hornworms, the bedstraw caterpillars pose no threat to gardens or crops, but will feed on fireweed. "As a moth they are flying most of the summer and they are a good sized moth with a couple of an inch wingspread with reddish underwings and black or brown colorations on the bodies. Like the name implies, the caterpillars feed mostly on bedstraw, which is a very low growing weed, so it's not really a pest," Dill said.

News Center Maine cites UMaine Extension composting resources

04 Oct 2022

In its Gardening with Gutner segment about getting started with composting, [News Center Maine](#) cited the University of Maine Cooperative Extension as a great resource for more information about composting. Home composting information can be found on the UMaine Extension [website](#).

Mallory presentation featured in Country Folks

04 Oct 2022

[Country Folks](#) reported that Ellen Mallory, professor of sustainable agriculture and Extension specialist at the University of Maine, presented a talk entitled "Organic Grain Research Mashup" earlier this year at the New York Certified Organic meeting to share findings from her research about organic growing practices for local grains.

BDN reports that Rural Schools Collaborative will locate regional hub at UMaine

04 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the national group Rural Schools Collaborative will locate its New England regional hub at the University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development. "We have a faculty who are really passionate about rural education issues and that are really knowledgeable about both the opportunities, the strengths that are there and the challenges," said Catharine Biddle, associate professor of educational leadership at UMaine and the New England hub's new point person.

Ouellette and Mason write op-ed for BDN about value of UMaine Extension 4-H

04 Oct 2022

In honor of National 4-H Week, Kristy Ouellette and Mitch Mason, University of Maine Cooperative Extension professors, wrote an opinion piece for the [Bangor Daily News](#) about how 4-H and other groups help young Mainers find purpose. Ouellette and Mason outlined what Maine needs to do to support the state's young talent through investment of time, money and energy.

Ippolito featured on Art and Obsolescence podcast

04 Oct 2022

Jon Ippolito, professor of new media and the director of the digital curation program at the University of Maine, was featured on the [Art and Obsolescence](#) podcast, a nonprofit podcast, sponsored by the New York Foundation for the Arts. Ippolito discussed his career and his work developing UMaine's online Graduate Certificate in Digital Curation.

Alyokhin co-edits potato pest textbook

04 Oct 2022

Andrei Alyokhin, professor at the School of Biology and Ecology at the University of Maine, co-edited the second edition of "Insect Pests of Potato: Global Perspectives on Biology and Management," published March 17, 2022, by Elsevier Inc. This second edition was published to update the first edition to include new chapters and information, including a review of potato production, as well as problems caused by insect pests and solutions to these problems, in all major potato-growing regions of the world; a discussion of theoretical foundations of potato pest management and includes chapters on ecological theory, evolutionary theory, and a case study on their applications to elucidate differences between Eastern and Western populations of Colorado potato beetle in North America; a chapter on the foundations of integrated pest management and their applications in controlling insect pests; and sections on the biology of main pests and on control methods now feature the latest information, including emphasis on recent advances in molecular biology and genomics. Information on the use of dsRNA technology for pest control is also included, as are new chapters on potato ladybirds and on hemipterous pests other than aphids and psyllids. This second edition provides improved integration and logical connections among chapters and expanded geographic scope of coverage making it the ideal reference on the topic. The co-editors of the book were Silvia Rondon of Oregon State University and Yulin Gao of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

UMaine hosting Homecoming Oct. 14-16

05 Oct 2022

The University of Maine's largest and most activity-filled event of the year begins on Friday, Oct. 14 when the UMaine Alumni Association kicks off Homecoming 2022. The three-day gathering features a wide variety of formal and informal social, recreational and educational activities. They include class reunions, tailgating, campus tours, concerts, lectures, presentations and women's soccer, football, and women's ice hockey games. Sponsors for the Alumni Association's Homecoming events include University of Maine Cooperative Extension, University Credit Union and the University of Maine Foundation. Alumni and their guests who preregister for Homecoming [online](#) by 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7 will receive complimentary gifts and discounts on certain purchases. Friday events include a "Welcome Home" reception for alumni and their guests at 4:30 p.m. at the Buchanan Alumni House, a presentation by author and Boston College American history professor Heather Cox Richardson and National Public Radio correspondent and alumnus Brian Naylor at 3 p.m. in the Collins Center for the Arts, and a women's ice hockey game against Long Island University at 3 p.m. in Harold Alfond Sports Arena. Tours of UMaine's newest building, the Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center, as well as the Advanced Structures and Composites Center and performing arts facilities also will take place. On Saturday, a full day of activities starts in the morning with the annual M Club Silver & Gold Breakfast at 8 a.m. in the Wells Conference Center and multiple receptions and class gatherings across campus. Pre-game tailgating opens in the parking lots near Alfond Stadium at 10 a.m., with the UMaine vs. Monmouth University football game starting at 1 p.m. Alumni Village, a large catered pre-game party for alumni and guests, precedes the game from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Corbett tailgating lot. Several alumni classes will host their own tailgating tents in the same lot in conjunction with the Alumni Association's reunion programming. Shuttle buses will run to the tailgating areas and the Collins Center for the Arts from various parking lots on campus on Saturday only. Also on Saturday, the School of Performing Arts will hold its annual alumni concert at 6:30 p.m. at the Minsky Recital Hall, preceded by an alumni reception in the Class of 1944 Hall. On Sunday, the women's soccer team plays Binghamton University at noon at the Mahaney Diamond. The symphonic band and jazz ensemble's annual Homecoming concert will take place at 2 p.m. at the Collins Center. More information, including a full schedule of events, tickets and preregistration can be found at [UMaineHomecoming.com](#).

Patriot-News highlights UMaine's Stop Hazing organization involvement in school district anti-hazing efforts

05 Oct 2022

In an article about efforts to combat hazing in the Middletown Area School District, the [Patriot-News](#) (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania) noted a proposal in which Stop Hazing, an organization run by researchers at the University of Maine, will conduct a three-year process that would first involve collecting and assessing data on Middletown's school culture through surveys and focus groups, then work with the district on a "culture shift process for hazing prevention" that would involve bystander intervention training, community outreach and other methods. Middletown school board members will vote on the proposal at their next meeting.

Tasting Table cites UMaine potato research

05 Oct 2022

In an article about the impact of global high temperatures and water scarcity impacting the size of potatoes, [Tasting Table](#) cited research from the University of Maine looking to develop a potato variety that can withstand warming temperatures and all the risks associated with a fickle growing season.

Media share Mitchell Center climate justice talk with EPA administrator

05 Oct 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk about initiatives by the federal government to address climate change and environmental justice featuring David Cash, the New England regional administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), on Oct. 17 at 3 p.m. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#).

Lopez-Anido presents about 3D printing at XXVII JAIE conference in Argentina

05 Oct 2022

Roberto Lopez-Anido, professor of civil and environmental engineering and Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) research lead at the University of Maine, was featured as a keynote speaker at the 27th Argentine Conference on Structural Engineering (XXVII JAIE), located in Rosario, Argentina on Sept. 28, 2022. Lopez-Anido's presentation titled "Opportunities and Challenges in Structural Engineering due to the Disruption of 3D Printing in Construction" discussed the possibilities and limitations presented when utilizing thermoplastic composite materials in additive manufacturing and 3D printing. Lopez-Anido gave updates on the research and development efforts toward large-scale additive manufacturing happening at ASCC. To see more information about Lopez-Anido's presentation, or any other presentations featured at XXVII JAIE, [visit their website](#).

MBS alumni and students connect at Accounting Firm Night

05 Oct 2022

More than 20 representatives from eight accounting firms across the state joined the Maine Business School's 2022 Accounting Firm Night in September. Seven of those representatives are graduates of the Maine Business School: Spencer Hathaway, '13; Connor Smart, '16; and Ian Lichtenberg, '18 from Baker Newman Noyes; Ryan King, '14 and Katherine Orne, '20 from BerryDunn; Ryan Dawson, '10 from Dawson and Souter, LLC; and Gage Palmer, '21 from One River CPAs. Read more about the event on the Maine Business School [website](#).

Walsh named UMaine Machias dean and campus director

05 Oct 2022



[caption id="attachment_93367" align="alignright" width="223"] Megan Walsh[/caption] Megan Walsh, a professor of English and administrative leader at St. Bonaventure University, has been named dean and campus director of the University of Maine at Machias, effective Dec. 19, and will join the University of Maine President's Cabinet. "The University of Maine welcomes Dr. Walsh as the dean and director of our regional campus," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "She is joining us at a particularly exciting time for UMaine Machias, with the excellent work of faculty, staff and students, and ongoing advances in unified accreditation. I look forward to working with her." Walsh has been a member of the St. Bonaventure community for more than a decade. In addition to being a professor, she has served in several administrative roles, most recently as director of St. Bonaventure's Honors Program. In 2021–22, Walsh was acting dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. She helped secure external funding to support computer science and cybersecurity technology upgrades, and to build a technological literacy learning module into the first-year general education curriculum. As chair of the Department of English, Walsh led multiple curricular revisions, including the development of a new Literary Publishing and Editing B.A. Program. Walsh's research focuses on early U.S. literary culture. She earned a Ph.D. from Temple University. "UMaine Machias will benefit from her administrative leadership and depth of experience in the liberal arts and the humanities," says John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. "Dr. Walsh will build on the excellent work of Heather Ball and Dan Qualls to advance UMaine Machias as a critical partner and resource in the Down East region." "I believe deeply that universities have an opportunity and a responsibility to be active members in their communities," Walsh says. "I am absolutely thrilled to be moving to the Down East region to serve UMaine Machias and look forward to building many new relationships there." Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Renowned UMaine alum Bernard Lown may be featured on a dollar coin

06 Oct 2022

University of Maine alumnus Bernard Lown — a pioneering cardiologist, author and peace activist who invented the direct-current heart-defibrillator — may be featured on a U.S. dollar coin in 2024. Officials from the U.S. Mint have presented a design featuring the [2024 American Innovation \\$1 coin for Maine](#). The design must ultimately be approved by U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen. As part of its [American Innovation \\$1 Coin program](#), the U.S. Mint is releasing new \$1 dollar coin designs that honor innovation and innovators from each of the 50 states by 2032. "We are proud to see a distinguished UMaine alum honored in such a prestigious manner," says Thomas Peaco, president and CEO of the University of Maine Alumni Association. "His work continues to inspire current and future UMaine students." Lown, who immigrated to Lewiston from Lithuania when he was 14, [earned a bachelor's degree in zoology from](#)

UMaine in 1942. He co-founded the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, an effort that earned him the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize. He also co-founded Physicians for Social Responsibility in 1960. His invention of the direct-current heart-defibrillator in 1962 made open heart surgery possible and led to advances in cardiovascular health. He died on Feb. 16, 2021 at the age of 99. In recognition of Lown's career and his life's work, the UMaine Alumni Association annually presents the [Bernard Lown '42 Humanitarian Award](#) to graduates who distinguish themselves in humanitarian service. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine pilots affordable well design for farms

06 Oct 2022

New England's droughts in 2016, 2020 and 2022 offer a preview of farming amid a changing climate. This has caused farmers who rely on rainfall to seek more reliable water sources. Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine, is leading the study of a novel shallow well design that is 50% to 75% cheaper to dig than drilled wells. Collaborators on the project include Joe Ayotte, who developed the well's design, and Marcel Belaval, both of the U.S. Geological Survey's New England Water Science Center, as well as the [USDA Northeast Climate Hub](#). The novel shallow wells are dug into glacial till, which is common throughout the Northeast. They offer lower operating costs than current alternatives. The team hopes to dig the wells across the region to test their ability to provide supplemental water to farms. "If successful, this novel design will provide smaller farms and livestock operations an affordable water source that they can count on. Many wild blueberry farms would benefit from using irrigation, across all scales of operation," Schattman says. Schattman's Agroecology Lab, which is part of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, advances research to improve farm resilience in a changing climate while protecting natural resources. The latest milestone in Schattman's ongoing partnership with the Climate Hub will be to test the design at UMaine's forthcoming [Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center](#) in Old Town. The shallow well at the center will be the second in the study. The first was established in 2021 at Hart Farm, a mixed vegetable and livestock farm in Holden, Maine. "The novel shallow well has given us a reliable high volume water source with an impressive recharge rate to hang our hat on even through a drought year," says Andrew Toothaker of Hart Farm. The well at the Wyman's Center will irrigate three acres of wild blueberries. The research plots will offer control of moisture, temperature and genotype of the wild crop. This will help UMaine scientists study crop-environment interactions with precision. The detailed and controlled research at the Wyman's Center will complement commercial-level study at Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro, the only dedicated wild blueberry research facility in the country. A request from Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King for \$3 million in federal FY23 funding to modernize Blueberry Hill Farm is pending in Congress, and would support irrigation demonstrations at the farm, as well as help Maine's wild blueberry farms and businesses diversify into value-added production and explore efficiencies in harvesting and processing. Farmers interested in digging a shallow well and sharing data should contact Schattman at rachel.schattman@maine.edu. Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

Lukens to deliver 2022 Maine Heritage Lecture

06 Oct 2022

The University of Maine's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will present the 2022 Maine Heritage Lecture on Oct. 13 at 3 p.m. The event takes place at the Bodwell Lounge at the Collins Center for the Arts (CCA), with a reception to follow at 4 p.m. at the CCA's Hudson Museum. This year's lecture, "Gluskabe in the 21st Century: How Newell Lyon's Stories Carry the Penobscot Language," will be delivered by Margo Lukens, professor of English. Lukens will tell the story of the theatrical collaboration with Penobscot language carrier Carol Dana that resulted in the publication of the first bilingual volume of Penobscot stories, "[Still They Remember Me.](#)" The book was co-authored by Lukens, Dana and University of Southern Maine adjunct assistant professor of linguistics Conor Quinn, and published by University of Massachusetts Press. The stories — traditional tales about the culture hero Gluskabe — are intended to invite Penobscot language learning while also exploring the deeper meaning behind Gluskabe's heroic endeavors. They teach readers and listeners about how the land was transformed and balanced to create sustainable life for humans while also illustrating how to live well in this place, a foundational tenet of Penobscot morality. Ultimately, Lukens hopes to inspire listeners to work in ways that improve the conditions for justice in Maine's relationship with Wabanaki people and communities. The Maine Heritage Lecture is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Kelly Gilks, 581.1954; kelly.gilks@maine.edu.

Ellsworth American features Moxley workshop

06 Oct 2022

The [Ellsworth American](#) noted that Jennifer Moxley, professor of poetry and poetics at the University of Maine, will teach a poetry workshop at Word, the Blue Hill Literary Arts Festival. The workshop, "How Old Are We?" is from 10 a.m.–noon, Oct. 22, and open to all levels of experience and all ages. [Pre-registration](#) is required.

Business Insider quotes Brewer about inflation relief

06 Oct 2022

[Business Insider](#) quoted an Associated Press March interview with Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about Maine's inflation relief and the upcoming November election. [Yahoo News](#) shared the Business Insider report.

Down East features Talty debut book 'Night of the Living Rez'

06 Oct 2022

[Down East Magazine](#) interviewed Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, about his debut novel "Night of the Living Rez." "Ultimately, this book is a small fragment of the stories I hope come out of the Penobscot Indian Nation — just a sliver of a larger narrative that hopefully will emerge," Talty told Down East.

Sezen-Barrie named co-lead of NSF program focused on funding STEM education research

06 Oct 2022

University of Maine Associate Professor of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction Asli Sezen-Barrie has been appointed co-lead of the National Science Foundation's [Discovery Research PreK–12](#) (DRK–12) program. DRK–12 is one of the largest funders of education research on preK–12 STEM teaching, learning and assessment, including funding for studies on broadening participation in STEM fields. Sezen-Barrie will work with co-lead Joan Walker to head up efforts to improve the program's agenda by leading outreach efforts and solicitation revision. NSF anticipates having more than \$60 million to fund between 50 and 60 projects through the program this year.

Olsen to study effects of mineral weathering on tropical forest productivity

06 Oct 2022

Tropical forests can mitigate climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and turning it into plant biomass through photosynthesis. But as carbon dioxide levels continue to rise, some forests may not be able to sequester more of it because their habitats lack sufficient supplies of nutrients. Amanda Olsen, a University of Maine associate professor of Earth science, says one way plants receive nutrients is through weathering, a process in which bedrock breaks down due to physical, chemical and biological forces and releases nutrients to soils. Determining if weathering releases minerals from bedrock fast enough to support tropical forest productivity, particularly in nutrient-poor areas, is the focus of her latest study in collaboration with Bill McDowell, a professor of natural resources and the environment with the University of New Hampshire. The National Science Foundation awarded more than \$311,000 for the project, which will examine chemical weathering — the process by which rocks break down and become soils — in forested areas in southwestern Puerto Rico. Their vegetation grows on serpentinite bedrock, which is known for containing low concentrations of essential plant nutrients such as calcium, potassium, nitrogen and phosphorus. For their study, Olsen, the lead researcher, and McDowell will travel to tropical forests in the Rio Cupeyes and Rio Guilarte watersheds that have been designated NSF National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) sites. Part of their research will involve determining the effects of increasing temperature and rainfall on chemical weathering and nutrient acquisition by plants. The two scientists plan to measure the chemistry of bedrock, soils, stream and soil water, leaves, leaf litter and atmospheric deposition at three locations in the Rio Cupeyes watershed and one in the one Rio Guilarte watershed. The Rio Cupeyes testing locations are at different elevations, meaning they will have varying temperature and precipitation levels. This will provide a natural laboratory for testing the effects of changing climate on weathering. The Rio Guilarte site will serve as a control for the study, allowing researchers to also test the effect of Rio Cupeyes' unusual bedrock on plant chemistry. Using the samples they collect and existing data from NEON, Olsen and McDowell will quantify the chemical weathering rates at all four testing sites. They will then model aboveground biomass at each site using remote sensing imagery, which will allow them to assess the effects of mineral weathering on forest productivity, as well as the influence of temperature and precipitation on the process. "Climate models assume that a certain percentage of carbon dioxide will be taken in by plants as carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere continue to rise," Olsen says. "However, if other nutrients limit ecosystems' abilities to grow more or larger plants, the ability of plants to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will be less than we are currently predicting. This is why understanding whether rocks can provide some of those nutrients is key to understanding how much carbon dioxide tropical forests can take up in the future." Tropical forests hold almost half of the world's terrestrial carbon dioxide, despite only covering 13% of its ice-free land mass. An escalation in atmospheric carbon dioxide over the years has increased photosynthesis in plants, resulting in more biomass, but only when those plants obtain enough nutrients. Atmospheric deposition, in which gases and particles move from the atmosphere to the Earth's surface either through precipitation or as dust, can supply some nutrients, but not all the necessary ones for plants in certain areas. Therefore, some tropical forest vegetation relies on chemical weathering for nutrient acquisition, but it is unclear whether chemical weathering can supply nutrients fast enough to keep up with demand over short timescales. Olsen's and McDowell's study will help determine how important the process is for forest productivity, particularly as carbon dioxide levels continue rising and the planet becomes warmer. The project builds on Olsen's almost 20 years of expertise in mineral reactivity. McDowell brings extensive knowledge of the ecology and geomorphology of the Rio Cupeyes watershed to the project, due in part to his participation in its selection as a NEON site, she says. They will use technology from UMaine's Climate Change Institute and UNH's Water Quality Analysis Laboratory, which McDowell directs, for the study. "Collaborations between ecologists and Earth scientists are crucial to understanding the complicated interactions between rocks, soils, plants, and water in ecosystems, and this becomes even more important as we try to sort out how a changing climate affects these systems," Olsen says. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

NOAA Sea Grant announces \$2.1M to support aquaculture research and Extension in Maine

07 Oct 2022

NOAA Sea Grant has announced \$2.1 million to fund four projects that advance aquaculture research and extension to support sustainable aquaculture in Maine. The projects are part of a larger [\\$14 million NOAA Sea Grant investment](#) to strengthen aquaculture across the United States. Investigators from the University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, UMaine Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research, and Maine Sea Grant will lead projects to develop feed for finfish, improve Atlantic sea scallop hatchery techniques, diversify lumpfish broodstock, and advance the work of the Maine Aquaculture Hub, respectively. "Innovation and diversification in Maine's aquaculture industry have created new jobs and economic opportunities in our state. We welcome this investment from NOAA, which will support the ongoing, cutting-edge research by UMaine scientists and students. These projects will help to increase the sustainability and economic viability of aquaculture in coastal communities here in Maine and across the country," said Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King in a joint statement. "Year after year, the Sea Grant program protects thousands of acres of coastal ecosystems, generates hundreds of millions of dollars in economic development, and creates thousands of jobs across the country," said Rep. Chellie Pingree in a [press release](#). "As a longtime supporter of the Sea Grant program and an advocate for it through my role on the House Appropriations Committee, I'm thrilled aquaculture projects in Maine are being invested in. This funding is yet another example of how Sea Grant is fostering innovation and entrepreneurship to support Maine's working waterfront and coastal communities." Projects in Maine receiving NOAA Sea Grant funding are as follows: **Nutritional Strategies for Improved Larval Production of Marine Finfish with an Emphasis on *Seriola* sp.** PI: Matt Hawkyard, UMaine Aquaculture Research Institute One of the major challenges with growing marine finfish in captivity is associated with bottlenecks in the early life stages. Larval marine finfish are among the smallest vertebrates on Earth and therefore require microscopic feeds. In the wild, marine fish larvae eat living marine organisms (zooplankton) which can't be economically replicated in hatcheries. Moreover, formulated feeds are challenging to produce at the microscopic scale and present a suite of challenges given that they must pass through the water before they are, hopefully, consumed by the fish larvae. Researchers will be working with industry partners to produce and refine microparticulate larval feeds and evaluate the effects of diets on the growth and survival of California yellowtail and yellowtail amberjack. "We are trying to get away from living organisms as feeds and move toward formulated diets, as we do in other fields of agriculture. This project will allow us to develop feeding technologies that are practical and adaptable to industry use," said Hawkyard. **"Cracking the Shell": A Collaborative Approach to Developing Hatchery Production of the Atlantic Sea Scallop, *Placopecten magellanicus*** PI: Chris Davis, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center This project will establish reliable best practices for larval rearing and settlement protocols for sea scallops, identify sea scallop hatchery microbiomes as they relate to health status, examine the immune systems of sea scallops larvae, establish reliable best practices for sea

scallop broodstock conditioning and spawning, evaluate the economics of commercial scale hatchery production, and engage with stakeholders to create a community of practice. “This Sea Grant funded project is an exciting opportunity to bring together academic, NGO, industry and federal researchers with the goal of developing reliable best practices in hatchery and nursery culture of Atlantic sea scallops,” said Davis. “The team of investigators are from the Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, the University of Maine, Mook Sea Farms, the Downeast Institute and the NOAA Fisheries Milford Laboratory and represent a wide range of scientific disciplines including aquaculturists, shellfish biologists, microbiologists, aquatic immunologists and economists. We hope that this research will help the Maine aquaculture industry continue to lead the nation in development of innovative approaches in sustainable seafood systems.”

Domestication and Breeding of Lumpfish to Accelerate Successful Commercialization and use for Sea Lice Biocontrol in the Northeast U.S. PI: Stephen Eddy, UMaine Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research Lumpfish are widely used in farmed salmon pens in Europe and Eastern Canada as cleaner fish for biological control of parasitic sea lice, and Northeast U.S. salmon growers are eager to implement the approach here. The project’s main objective is to establish a geographically diverse, self-sustaining lumpfish breeding colony using wild juveniles collected from the U.S. Gulf of Maine. During the project, researchers will capture young lumpfish, acclimate them in captivity for breeding, and then grow hatchery juveniles for stocking into commercial salmon pens. “This project is a great example of how the University of Maine can partner with organizations such as Sea Grant, USDA, University of New Hampshire, and the private sector to conduct applied research that is relevant to industry while making aquaculture more sustainable,” said Eddy. “We are excited and grateful that Sea Grant is helping us expand our efforts to develop a U.S. lumpfish program.” **Supporting Industry Needs Through Maine Aquaculture Hub PI:** Dana Morse, Maine Sea Grant This funding will continue support for the Maine Aquaculture Hub, a collaboration between Coastal Enterprises, Inc., the Maine Aquaculture Association, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, UMaine’s Aquaculture Research Institute, UMaine School of Marine Sciences, Maine Sea Grant, and UMaine Cooperative Extension. Through this project, the Hub team will continue to coordinate the [Aquaculture in Shared Waters](#) (AQSW) program and support efforts to implement the recommendations of the [2022 Maine Aquaculture Roadmap](#). The collaborative will continue to expand with new partnerships, as a functional way to meet the growing and increasingly diverse needs for education, research, outreach and industry in the state. The project also includes specific activities to address Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), starting with needs assessments of underrepresented communities, groups and individuals. The needs assessments will articulate challenges to accessing educational and technical training programs and will guide future programming efforts. The Hub team will also centralize all materials for the AQSW program into one web platform, with the goal of making them more easily accessible and organized. “Aquaculture in Shared Waters has proven to be a valuable and important resource, and we’re excited to continue that work,” said Morse. “The needs assessment will allow us to better understand the different challenges, expertise, and experiences of various people working in this space. Sharing expertise, approaches, networks and ideas will make the whole aquaculture sector more creative, inventive, and ultimately more successful.” Contact: Hannah Robbins, hannah.robbs@maine.edu

Reminder: UMaine a site for ‘Raising Indigenous Voices in Academia and Society’ on Oct. 24

11 Oct 2022

The University of Maine is one of five international sites of the 2022 Raising Indigenous Voices in Academia & Society (RIVAS) conference, acknowledging the contributions of Indigenous Peoples globally, Oct. 20–25. RIVAS supports the scholarship of Indigenous academics and speakers whose cultures help shape linguistics, archeology, cultural anthropology and other academic disciplines, and also acknowledges the contributions of Indigenous Peoples globally to society. Organized by host institution the University of Montana, the conference is in hybrid format, featuring speakers and presentations in person and online. UMaine’s Wells Conference Center is an in-person site of the conference on Oct. 24. Other sites worldwide are Al-Quds Open University, Palestine; Bularri Muurlay Nyanggan Aboriginal Corporation, Australia; The Centre for the Anthropology of Sustainability, University College London, U.K. Among the invited keynote speakers is Darren Ranco, UMaine professor of anthropology and chair of Native American Studies, and a member of the Penobscot Nation. Ranco’s presentation, entitled “Decolonizing Land Relations in the Dawnland: Landback and Rematriation Across Wabanakik” will be featured in a livestream Oct. 22, and he also will chair a live panel Oct. 24 in Wells on Wabanaki voices. UMaine instructor and member of the Penobscot Nation Sherri Mitchell (Weh’na Ha’mu Kwasset) will deliver a keynote live at UMaine on Oct. 24 entitled “Sacred Instructions: Indigenous Wisdom for Living Spirit-Based Change.” UMaine faculty are encouraged to let their students know about the in-person conference at Wells on Oct. 24. The conference is free and open to the public. Faculty may also want to consider incorporating the conference livestream into their classes this fall. For more information about either in-person or livestream participation, contact Lisa Neuman, lisa.neuman@maine.edu. RIVAS 2022 is designed for rising Indigenous scholars to share their work and connect with a wider scholarly network, and for speakers to exchange ideas and constructive debate within the field of global Indigenous studies. Speakers will explore past, present and future Indigenous experiences in both academic and nonacademic contexts, including Indigenous scholars and communities, who will present their viewpoints on local and global phenomena, histories, and issues. Speakers will discuss and raise awareness about positive trends as well as the obstacles that still hamper the participation of Indigenous scholars within an arena of global academic discourse, according to the conference [website](#). **RIVAS 2022 Conference** Wells Conference Center 9 a.m.–5 p.m. EDT, Oct. 24

- 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. — On-site registration (no charge for F2F attendees)
- 9 a.m. — Opening remarks
- 9:10 a.m. — Welcome from UMaine Native American Programs
- 9:30 a.m.–noon — Morning Paper Session (Papers are 20 minutes, with extra time for discussion/speaker transition)
 - 9:30 a.m. — Stanislav “Saas” Ksenofontov “Russian Energy Megaprojects: Infrastructural Violence against Arctic Social-Ecological Systems”
 - 10 a.m. — Remi Bahr “Indigenous-Led Game Management of Alaska’s Whale Population”
 - 10:30 a.m. — Jason Brough “Critical Analysis of Indigenous Foodstuffs and Lifeways in the Face of Climate Change: Illusions of Food Sovereignty”
 - 11 a.m. — Matthew Magnani, Jelena Porsanger, Sami-Ásllat Laiti, Natalia Magnani, Anne May Olli, Paula Rauhala and Samuel Valkeapää “Raising Indigenous Voices through Small Museum Collections: Community Reconnections from Sápmi to the Smithsonian Institution”
 - 11:30 a.m. — Madison Brown “Who Tells Our Stories? Strategic Amplification of Indigenous Voices: an Exercise in Rhetorical Sovereignty”
- 12:50–2 p.m. — Afternoon Paper Session
 - 12:50 p.m. — Sarah Augustine and Katerina Gea “De-colonizing the Master’s Tools: Organizing to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery within Faith Institutions”
 - 1:20 p.m. — Desiree (Anakoniwa) Vargas “Indigenous Women’s Leadership”
- 1:50 p.m. — Audience Discussion
- 2–4:50 p.m. — Keynote Address and Roundtables
 - 2 p.m. — Keynote Address, Sherri Mitchell “Sacred Instructions: Indigenous Wisdom for Living Spirit-Based Change”
 - 3:10 p.m. — Decolonizing UMaine Roundtable
 - 4 p.m. — Wabanaki Center & Programs Roundtable
- 4:50–5 p.m. — Closing

UMaine alumni more likely to have a job that requires a college degree in populated areas, study finds

11 Oct 2022

Research from the University of Maine surveying over 1,000 UMaine alumni shows that individuals living in more populated areas are more likely to have a job that requires a college degree. The researchers examined the relationship between a region's population size and the match of college-educated workers to jobs that require a degree through surveys of alumni from the University of Maine across the country. The survey respondents covered 47 of the 50 states and lived in areas that vary widely in population size from small counties in Alaska to very large regions such as Los Angeles. In addition to the impacts of population size on working in a job that requires a degree, the researchers also considered the influence of the type of business (e.g., nonprofit, government job) where the UMaine graduate works, whether the person has an advanced degree and indicators of individual skill. The results showed that UMaine alumni were more likely to work in a job that requires a college degree as the population size of the area where they lived grew. A 100,000-person increase in population size resulted in a 1.3% increase in the likelihood of a match between the person's degree and job. Moreover, UMaine graduates with advanced degrees and people working for nonprofits and the government were more likely to have jobs that require a college degree. "Overall, we found that 84% of the UMaine graduates surveyed are in jobs that require a college degree and, as found in other research, degree match is very much influenced by where you live," says Todd Gabe, co-author of the study and professor of economics UMaine. Gabe conducted the study with Mariya Pominova while she was a UMaine graduate student. Pominova now works at the Federal Reserve Board. "What makes our study different from past research of U.S. college graduates was our ability to match our survey responses to the survey respondent's GPAs during their time at the University of Maine," says Pominova. "We find that, while GPA does have a large and significant effect on your likelihood of working a job that uses your college degree, the pervasive effect of the population size of where you live remains largely unchanged. You are more likely to work a job that uses your degree in a bigger place." The findings contribute to a growing body of research about the impacts of urbanization on the workforce. The researchers note that future studies could survey workers beyond a single university, consider the match between jobs and a person's specific major and examine the differences in job match between rural and urban areas in finer detail. The [study](#) was published in August 2022 in the journal Applied Economics Letters. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Oct. 11

11 Oct 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update as follows:

- Softball field construction and upgrade continues.
- Construction/renovation work on Holmes and Coburn halls continues, ledge removal will continue throughout the week. Ledge removal is taking longer than expected; Facilities Management has requested an updated timeline to complete ledge removal.
- Bangor Gas continues gas line installation/trenching on Munson Road, possible single lane closure with flaggers if needed.
- Hauck Plaza is ongoing all week.
- Alumni Hall sewer line has been replaced, paving will be today.
- Lab hood testing in Hitchner and Aubert halls being completed this week.
- Memorial Union Marketplace southeast entrance repairs underway.
- New Balance walkway repairs completed.
- Dunn Hall west steps completed.
- No additional paving for this week.

Engineering and Computing Job Fair to be held Oct. 19

11 Oct 2022

More than 165 companies and organizations are expected to be represented at the University of Maine's 2022 Engineering and Computing Job Fair on Oct. 19. The event, which is expected to attract more than 1,000 students, will be held from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. at the New Balance Student Recreation Center. The Career Center, in conjunction with the College of Engineering, provides this opportunity for students to learn about some of the engineering and computing firms in Maine, New England and throughout the country; meet company representatives; and possibly find a job after graduation or on-the-job experience through a co-op or internship. Students are advised to bring resumes, prepare a 30-second introductory pitch and research the companies they plan to speak with before attending. More career fair tips are [online](#). They also are encouraged to RSVP in advance and bring their MaineCard to streamline registration, as well as download the "Symplicity Jobs and Careers" mobile app for a fair map, links to employer websites and live updates. Employers will have an opportunity to tour the new Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center after the fair at 2:30 p.m. More information, including a [list](#) of the companies scheduled to attend, is on the Career Center [website](#).

Media boost 'Hungry Now' documentary premiere at UMaine

11 Oct 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) and Penobscot Bay Pilot featured filmmaker Alan Kryszak's new documentary "Hungry Now," which is showing as part of the Maine-based film series The Right to Food on Nov. 13 at the University of Maine's Collins Center for the Arts. Kryszak is a filmmaking instructor in the Interdisciplinary Fine Arts Department at the University of Maine at Machias.

Lancaster Farming cites UMaine Extension bulletin about storing carrots

11 Oct 2022

In an article about preserving carrots for long-term storage, [Lancaster Farming](#) cited a University of Maine Cooperative Extension [bulletin](#) by Jason Lilley, assistant Extension professor, that says root vegetables left in the garden maintain freshness better than most that are harvested and stored because they are able to take up water from the soil as needed.

Media report on \$2.1M funding to Maine Sea Grant for aquaculture research

11 Oct 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#), [Fish Site](#) and [Undercurrent News](#) reported that the Maine Sea Grant has received \$2.1 million from the NOAA Sea Grant to fund four projects that advance aquaculture research and extension to support sustainable aquaculture in Maine. Investigators from the University of Maine Aquaculture Research Institute, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, UMaine Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research and Maine Sea Grant will lead projects to develop feed for finfish, improve Atlantic sea scallop hatchery techniques, diversify lumpfish broodstock and advance the work of the Maine Aquaculture Hub, respectively.

BDN shares Wieck performance

11 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that Anatole Wieck, professor of upper strings at the University of Maine, performed Oct. 10 as part of the St. John's Organ Society's three evenings of organ and chamber music in honor of the 200th Anniversary of the birth of Belgian-born French composer, pianist, organist, and teacher César Franck. The recitals will be held at St. John Church, located on 207 York St., in Bangor, through Oct. 12. All recitals begin at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free, and donations appreciated.

CentralMaine.com, Morning Ag Clips note Koehler presentation at Great Maine Apple Day

11 Oct 2022

[CentralMaine.com](#) and [Morning Ag Clips](#) noted that Glen Koehler, associate scientist of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will host an apple growing Q&A at the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association's Great Maine Apple Day, noon-4 p.m. Oct. 16. Koehler will share some observations on dates, weather, disease and insect pests from the 2022 orcharding season.

BDN, News Center Maine report on UMaine affordable well pilot project

11 Oct 2022

[News Center Maine](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine, is leading the study of a novel shallow well design that is up to 75% cheaper to dig than drilled wells. "If successful, this novel design will provide smaller farms and livestock operations an affordable water source that they can count on. Many wild blueberry farms would benefit from using irrigation, across all scales of operation," Schattman said. "If successful, this novel design will provide smaller farms and livestock operations an affordable water source that they can count on. Many wild blueberry farms would benefit from using irrigation, across all scales of operation," Schattman said.

PNAS cites Sandweiss research in article about climate change impacting El Ninos

11 Oct 2022

In an article about how more frequent and intense El Nino events may be changing West Coast habitat, [PNAS](#) cited a [2001](#) study led by Dan Sandweiss, professor of anthropology at the University of Maine, that found mollusk declines in Peru coinciding with a period of frequent El Nino events about 2,900 years ago. Before this research, archaeologists hadn't derived the precise number of events; now that researchers have confirmed that there is a tipping point, the next step is to refine it with more analyses of animal remains from more sites, Sandweiss wrote in an accompanying [perspective](#).

Media report on Azevedo-Schmidt study

11 Oct 2022

[Science Alert](#), [Science Daily](#), [Nature World News](#), [Phys.org](#), [Earth.com](#), [SciTech Daily](#) and other international outlets reported on a study led by University of Maine Climate Change Institute postdoctoral research associate Lauren Azevedo-Schmidt that suggests that insects are feasting on plants more so now than in the past 66.8 million years. The study from Azevedo-Schmidt and colleagues found that leaves carbon-dated from 1955 to present had twice the average amount of insect damage than in any of the 64 fossil assemblages dating back tens of millions of years. "The difference in insect damage between the modern era and the fossilized record is striking," Azevedo-Schmidt said. [MSN Australia](#) shared the Science Alert report.

Porter named one of the 2022 Mainers of the Year by Maine Magazine

11 Oct 2022

Gregory Porter, professor of crop ecology and management at the University of Maine, was recognized as one of the 2022 Mainers of the Year by [Maine magazine](#). Porter has been a professor at UMaine for 38 years. This year, he received an Honorary Life Membership from the Potato Association of America (PAA), the organization's highest honor that recognizes individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the potato industry.

Insects cause more damage to leaves in recent history than millions of years ago, study finds

12 Oct 2022

Insect herbivores have caused more damage to plant matter from leaves in recent history than millions of years ago, according to a new study led by a University of Maine postdoctoral researcher. Despite global insect decline and biodiversity loss fueled by human activity, the frequency of leaf damage by insects among forest plants in recent history, post-1955, is more than twice that of vegetation from the Pleistocene, 2.06 million years ago, and the Late Cretaceous period, 66.8 million years ago. The unprecedented increase in insect damage on leaf matter could pose negative effects on plant productivity and forest health. To conduct their study, Lauren Azevedo-Schmidt, a postdoctoral researcher with UMaine's Climate Change Institute, and her colleagues collected leaf samples deposited within sediment across three modern forest ecosystems — Harvard Forest in Massachusetts, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Maryland, and La Selva in Costa Rica — and compared them to previously published leaf litter and fossil data. The research team, which also includes Emily Meineke of University of California, Davis and Ellen Currano of the University of Wyoming, used radiocarbon dates to verify the ages of modern leaves along with quantifying the frequency and diversity of insect damage in each sample. The causes of this increase in leaf damage due to insect herbivores and the specific consequences of it remain unknown. However, researchers believe widespread change influenced by human activity, such as the rate of global warming, urbanization and the introduction of invasive plants and insects, could be driving the uptick. Human activity may have drastically changed how insect herbivores are interacting with their food source, the researchers say. The research team published their findings in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America. "Humans understand that climate is always changing and that the Earth has previously been hotter, but we often can't grasp the 'oddity' of modern climate change," Azevedo-Schmidt says. "The geologic record reported here should have supported comparable levels of insect herbivory, but it didn't because humans weren't present in our post-industrial revolution capacity. This shows the heartbreaking reality that humans have a much higher impact on forest ecosystems than increased atmospheric CO₂ alone. However, we can work to minimize our impacts on forest ecosystems by considering the intersection of these findings." The researchers also found that the damage caused by insects in leaf samples from recent history is slightly more diverse than that in fossilized leaves. The increase in leaf damage diversity, however, is not as drastic as the spike in damage frequency. Researchers examined total damage frequency and diversity along with various types of damage including specialized, piercing and sucking, surface feeding, hole feeding, galling, mining, skeletonization, margin feeding and specialized damage. In addition to discovering an overall uptick in total damage frequency, the team also found an increase across all groupings of damage. "Increased insect feeding can't be explained by one group of insects but rather, all groups of feeding damage analyzed here," Azevedo-Schmidt says. "This suggests that all insect herbivores within these three modern forests are increasing their feeding damage; complicating the story as we can't simply blame one species or group." No correlation was identified between damage diversity and frequency, according to researchers. The drivers behind the uptick in damage diversity are also unknown. "This is interesting because it suggests that insect diversity isn't influencing insect feeding frequency and that other drivers are responsible for the drastic increase we are seeing," Azevedo-Schmidt says. According to researchers, insects and plants possess the most diverse lineages on the planet, and how they interact has evolved over millennia in response to natural and unnatural causes. How plant-insect relationships change over time, including the extent to which the latter feeds on the former, has implications for biodiversity, plant functionality and mortality, and carbon balance in forests — the loss of plant life can decrease the ability for a forest to absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide through photosynthesis. "This study is the first to compare similar records of plant-insect interactions across modern and fossil datasets," Azevedo-Schmidt says. "These findings highlight the importance of humans interacting with landscapes and although climate change influences ecosystem processes, it is not the only factor we need to consider. Humans are agents of disturbance and dispersal, greatly influencing the natural world around us." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Self-Care Is a Verb workshop offered in November through Hutchinson Center

12 Oct 2022

Registration is open for an online professional development program, Self-Care Is a Verb. This workshop, part of the University of Maine Hutchinson Center's professional development program, will be held on Nov. 15–16 from 1–3 p.m. The cost is \$140 per person. More information is available on the Hutchinson Center [website](#). This self-care program is designed to support anyone who is facing burnout and could use help integrating self-care routines into their lives, including but not limited to: administrators in health care and education, clinicians, dietitians, doctors, nurses, surgeons and anyone in the medical arena, educators, ed techs and teachers, human resource professionals, lawyers, midwives, doulas and birth workers, and social workers. Participants will receive a certificate of completion, and 0.4 CEUs/4 contact hours are available. Early registration is recommended as spots are limited. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available for people who live or work in Knox or Waldo counties. Qualified participants may be eligible for funding from the Harold Alfond Center for Workforce Development to cover the cost of professional development programs. [Click here to learn more](#). For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Abby Spooner, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002. For more information about upcoming professional development programs or to register, go [online](#).

Gov. Mills names Rowland to PFAS advisory committee

12 Oct 2022

The Mills Administration announced that Diane Rowland, dean of the University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, and Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, is one of 15 individuals who will serve as members of the PFAS Fund Advisory Committee. The PFAS Fund Advisory Committee was assembled following the representation requirements described in [LD 2013](#). The PFAS Fund Advisory Committee will meet for orientation in October 2022 and begin holding regular working meetings in November.

BDN, Zipe Education share UMaine study about job matching

12 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Zipe Education](#) reported on research from the University of Maine surveying over 1,000 UMaine alumni shows that individuals living in more populated areas are more likely to have a job that requires a college degree. The results showed that UMaine alumni were more likely to work in a job that requires a college degree as the population size of the area where they lived and grew. The findings contribute to a growing body of research about the impacts of urbanization on the workforce.

WABI notes FocusMaine visit to UMaine campus

12 Oct 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the president of FocusMaine, a private-led workforce development organization focused on agriculture,

aquaculture and biopharma, toured the University of Maine as part of the organization's Together Tour through the Downeast Region to better understand the economic development needs of the region and identify opportunities for collaboration. In his meeting with leaders of Innovation and Economic Development at UMaine, president Dana O'Brien was given insight into the college's program, Innovate for Maine Fellows, which gives students the chance to work with companies throughout the state on innovation projects, giving students real world experience while also building up local businesses.

Savoie speaks to PPH about shopping more cheaply for groceries

12 Oct 2022

Kathy Savoie, Extension educator with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to the [Portland Press Herald](#) about how to buy groceries and prepare meals economically in inflationary times. Savoie recommended scanning store fliers, making a meal plan and preparing a grocery list before you go shopping. Find out what's on sale, she said, then build seven days of breakfasts, lunches and dinners around those items. Before you head to the store, check your refrigerator and pantry to see what you already have and make a list of what you need. "When you show up and wing it, particularly if you are hungry, you are going to buy a lot more than you need, which ends up as food waste. That is just like dumping your piggy bank down the drain," Savoie said.

BDN shares Olsen study about tropical forests mitigating climate change

12 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on a study led by Amanda Olsen, associate professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences at the University of Maine, that showed tropical forests can mitigate climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and turning it into plant biomass through photosynthesis. The study also showed that as carbon dioxide levels continue to rise, some forests may not be able to sequester more of it because their habitats lack sufficient supplies of nutrients. "Climate models assume that a certain percentage of carbon dioxide will be taken in by plants as carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere continue to rise. However, if other nutrients limit ecosystems' abilities to grow more or larger plants, the ability of plants to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will be less than we are currently predicting. This is why understanding whether rocks can provide some of those nutrients is key to understanding how much carbon dioxide tropical forests can take up in the future," Olsen said.

WABI covers 2022 Northern Maine Children's Water Festival at UMaine

12 Oct 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine welcomed about 600 students from middle and elementary schools across the state on Tuesday as part of the 2022 Northern Maine Children's Water Festival. Students got the opportunity to learn about different areas of science dealing with water in Maine through presentations and interactive activities from professionals and UMaine students.

Armstrong speaks to BDN about multicolored Asian lady beetles

12 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) spoke to Charles Armstrong, insect diagnostician with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the increased numbers of multicolored Asian lady beetles this year due to Maine's ongoing drought conditions. While the insects look like harmless ladybugs, multicolored Asian lady beetles are pests that gather in great numbers, especially around warm, reflective areas such as inside windows. When threatened or startled, they will deposit a foul smelling, yellowish fluid that can stain fabric, furniture or walls. "The liquid is basically part of their blood, and they can ooze it out from between the joints of their legs as a defense mechanism. It's kind of disturbing when you think about it," Armstrong said. The [Western Journal](#), [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland), [WMME-FM](#) (Augusta, Maine), [WTVL-AM](#) (Augusta, Maine) and the [New Hampshire Union Leader](#) shared the BDN report. [WBLM-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [WCYY-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [WJBQ-FM](#) (Portland, Maine) and [WHOM-FM](#) (Portland, Maine) shared the WGME report.

Sandweiss interviewed by New York Times about archaeology in Peru

12 Oct 2022

Daniel Sandweiss, professor of anthropology at the University of Maine, spoke to the [New York Times](#) about the impact of looting and development on archaeological sites in coastal Peru. "It's a victory every time archaeologists can recover something responsibly and put it into the record. Peru has the most fascinating pre-European records of any place in the Americas," Sandweiss said.

Allan featured on 1A show about hazing

12 Oct 2022

Elizabeth Allan, professor of higher education at the University of Maine, was featured on the WAMU/National Public Radio show [1A](#) for a segment about why hazing happens and how to stop it. Allan discussed the progress that has been made when it comes to addressing hazing since she was last on 1A in 2017, but noted that there is still more work to be done.

UMaine researchers find inconsistencies in studies evaluating small hydropower projects

12 Oct 2022

Hydropower can move beyond enormous, Earth-altering infrastructure. Despite a growing trend of dam removals to preserve and restore ecology and indigenous ways of life, small hydropower projects have the potential to contribute more to a renewable energy future because they can be reliable, flexible and cost-effective, according to a review from the University of Maine. Small hydropower projects are defined by the U.S. Department of Energy as any that produce less than 60 MW, though the exact classification of subclasses within the "small" range can be debatable. UMaine [researchers](#) Sharon Klein, associate professor at the School of Economics, and Emma Fox, Klein's former graduate student, categorized the cost and performance metrics used to

evaluate the different types of small hydropower projects and compared the results of these metrics across 13 different studies of small hydropower projects conducted in multiple countries across four continents. “This literature review was an important first step in the research we conducted for the National Science Foundation-funded [Future of Dams](#) project. We were creating a benefit-cost model of small hydropower in New England and wanted to know what results other researchers had found. It turned out, no one had yet published a full review of the metrics we were seeking to calculate, and it was a lot of work to harmonize data from multiple studies to be comparable,” Klein says. Klein and Fox pinpointed four major types of small hydropower design: reservoir-based dams, which block the flow of water downstream and release it through turbines; run-of-river, which can involve a dam but channels the water from the stream to the turbines in a way that ensures downstream flow equals upstream flow; pumped storage dams, which draw water from a lower reservoir to an uphill holding tank and release it through turbines to meet peak demand; and in-stream turbines, which are placed directly in the flow of water and require no diversion or impoundment of the river. Each style has its advantages and disadvantages. Some styles of small hydropower projects, like the run-of-river and in-stream turbines, can be less disturbing to habitats and fish passage, but more conventional styles like reservoir-based dams are generally more reliable. “There are so many different styles of small-scale hydropower dam and so little consistency in the literature on benefit-cost assessment for these generating assets,” Fox said. “It was difficult to find points of comparison.” Still, the data showed promising general trends in small hydropower projects, like decreasing cost of energy and increasing benefits-cost ratio with increasing power capacity. However, the researchers also found a lack of consistency in the reported detail, assumptions, definitions and data inputs across the studies that makes it difficult to effectively compare them. The researchers conclude that although small hydropower projects may still contribute to the renewable energy marketplace, scientists will need more publicly available, user-friendly cost estimation tools with site-specific input data in order to effectively implement them. “Because small hydropower impacts are so site-specific, our study really highlights a need for more investigations of small hydropower costs and benefits — not only financial, but also cultural and ecological — in more locations that use consistent and comparable metrics, assumptions, and inputs,” Klein says. The research was supported by the National Science Foundation Research Infrastructure Improvement, U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the U.S. Geological Survey. The [study](#) is now available online and will be published in the journal *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews* in November 2022. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

‘The Maine Question’ asks how PFAS can be eliminated

13 Oct 2022

In recent years, communities across Maine and the U.S. have discovered the presence of toxic chemicals called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, in their land and water. Also known as forever chemicals because they are difficult to destroy, PFAS have been incorporated in various products, including food containers, clothing, rugs, teflon pans, fabrics and dental floss, for decades. Emerging research, however, has linked PFAS to several health issues, including weakened immune systems, increased risk of obesity and multiple cancers, developmental problems in children and harm to negative effects on reproduction. Onur Apul, assistant professor of environmental engineering at the University of Maine, is researching how to eliminate PFAS. He is one of many UMaine faculty members studying these forever chemicals and ways to mitigate them, and providing technical assistance to Maine farmers and other stakeholders. In Episode 4 of Season 7 of “[The Maine Question](#),” Apul elaborates on the origins of PFAS, the threats they pose and efforts to stop their widespread contamination. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center hosting talk on climate, justice with EPA’s New England administrator Oct. 17

13 Oct 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk about initiatives by the federal government to address climate change and environmental justice featuring David Cash, the New England regional administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), at 3 p.m. on Oct. 17. During his talk, titled “The Biden-Harris Agenda for Climate and Justice: Huge Challenges, Endless Opportunities,” Cash will discuss various aspects of the administration’s climate justice agenda, including the recent Inflation Reduction Act, which will enable his agency and others to invest billions of dollars in deploying zero-emission technologies. Prior to joining EPA, Cash was the dean of the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston. He also spent a decade in the Massachusetts state government where he held a range of senior positions working to transform environmental and energy policy. In all these senior roles, he collaborated across government and with communities and the private sector to craft and implement innovative science-based policies around climate, environmental justice, energy, job creation, water, land use, waste management and grid modernization. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall on campus. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

MBS Corps to host March Against Domestic Violence on Oct. 14

13 Oct 2022

The Maine Business School (MBS) Corps at the University of Maine will host its ninth annual March Against Domestic Violence at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14 beginning at Stewart Quad. The march will occur along Long Road and the Mall and conclude at the Memorial Union. Also during the event, names of people killed in 2022 in Maine as a result of domestic violence will be read and flowers in remembrance of their lives will be placed in the North Pod at the Union. Amanda Cost, executive director of Partners for Peace, UMaine alumna and member of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, will deliver the keynote address. Other scheduled speakers include Robert Dana, vice president for student life and inclusive excellence and dean of students; Casey Faulkingham, director of development and engagement for Partners for Peace; MBS Corps President Shelby Philips and Eli White of Male Athletes Against Violence (MAAV) and Lt. Col. Steven Veves from the UMaine Army ROTC. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Nory Jones, the John M. Murphy Professor of Business Information Systems and the MBS Corps faculty adviser, at njones@maine.edu. Event partners include Title IX Student Services, Student Life, UMaine Athletics, UMaine Army ROTC, the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program and Partners for Peace.

Machias Valley News-Observer reports on Walsh hiring as dean and campus director

13 Oct 2022

The [Machias Valley News-Observer](#) reported that Megan Walsh, a professor of English and administrative leader at St. Bonaventure University, has been named dean and campus director of the University of Maine at Machias, effective Dec. 19, and will join the University of Maine President's Cabinet.

Fried comments on election deniers running for Congress in The Hill

13 Oct 2022

Amy Fried, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to [The Hill](#) about Congressional candidates running for office this year who openly deny the results of the 2020 Presidential election. "Obviously, it could be extremely dangerous," Fried said. [Yahoo News](#) shared the Hill report.

Media advance UMaine Hutchinson Center self-care workshop

13 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) and [Trendeeopro](#) noted that registration is open for an online professional development program, Self-Care Is a Verb, as part of the University of Maine Hutchinson Center's professional development program. The workshop will be held on Nov. 15–16 from 1–3 p.m. The cost is \$140 per person. More information is available on the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

Hayes featured by DOE Office of Science

13 Oct 2022

Daniel Hayes, associate professor of geospatial analysis and remote sensing at the School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine, was [featured by the U.S. Department of Energy's \(DOE\) Office of Science](#) discussing the impact of his 2012 Early Career Award. "The award allowed me to collaborate with scientists around the world to work on several studies that gave us a better understanding of these processes. The studies also provided our first global estimates of how deep the soils were thawing, how much previously frozen carbon was vulnerable, how fast it could be released, and the factors influencing the resulting emissions as carbon dioxide or methane," Hayes said.

Maeverde selected for Daniel Hanley Center's Health Leadership Development course

13 Oct 2022

Through a competitive application process, Jennifer Maeverde, research associate at the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS), has been selected for the 2022–2023 Health Leadership Development (HLD) course, sponsored by the Daniel Hanley Center for Health Leadership in Portland, Maine. Maeverde specializes in infant and early childhood mental health. She is one of 35 members of this year's HLD class. "I have a strong interest in collaborating with healthcare leaders in Maine in the areas of adverse childhood experiences, early childhood mental health and disability," Maeverde said. The HLD course takes place over an eight-month period and is designed for emerging and evolving leaders from throughout Maine and across the entire spectrum of health and healthcare related organizations.

William Procter Scientific Innovation Fund \$100,000 Grant to Support Sustainable Kelp Aquaculture

13 Oct 2022

University of Maine Darling Marine Center is launching a project to enhance the sustainability of kelp aquaculture. With support from the William Procter Scientific Innovation Fund, the two-year research and commercialization project will be based at the Walpole campus and leverage the UMaine Aquaculture Experimental Station sea farm adjacent to DMC. "Farmers need farm designs that make efficient use of ocean space; designs that shorten the grow-out cycle of kelp and also are decarbonized. And, finally, they need to increase on-farm yields," said Damian Brady, lead investigator and associate professor in the UMaine School of Marine Sciences. Read the full story on the [Darling Marine Center's website](#).

Gill earns an inaugural Excellence in Science Communication award from National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

13 Oct 2022

University of Maine paleoecologist Jacquelyn Gill is one of the inaugural recipients of the Eric and Wendy Schmidt Awards for Excellence in Science Communication from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. The awards recognize researchers and science journalists "who have developed creative, original work that addresses issues and advances in science, engineering and/or medicine for the general public," according to the [National Academies](#). Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology with the UMaine School of Biology and Ecology and Climate Change Institute, received an award for the mid- to later career scientist category, which includes a \$20,000 cash prize and additional networking and support for her science communication efforts. In her profile on the [awards website](#), the organization highlighted Gill's outreach and advocacy on Twitter, her profile for which has garnered more than 100,000 followers; her columns in national publications such as The Washington Post and Nature; and her work on the Warm Regards podcast, which she co-created and co-hosted from March 2016 to March 2021. That podcast was one of five nominees for "Best Green Podcast" at the iHeartRadio Podcast Awards 2020 in Los Angeles. "Gill is an engaging presenter who brings both passion and honesty to her communication," the National Academies wrote about Gill on its website for the awards. "As a scientist, she has made a clear commitment to public outreach with a very effective and important voice in major social issues related to climate change." Gill studies past ecosystems, the impacts of climate change and extinction and the geographical distribution of living things through space and time. She has worked at UMaine since 2013, before which she was a postdoctoral fellow at Brown University. Over the years, she has spoken about her research and several issues surrounding science, climate change and other relevant topics with media outlets worldwide. The National Center for Science Education named Gill a [2020 Friend of the Planet](#) in recognition of her efforts to advance people's understanding of climate change through outreach and research. In 2018, she was a member of an international research team that took part in an [expedition](#) to Siberia to film "Lost Beasts of the Ice Age," featured on Science Channel. Gill also was a finalist for the [Portland Press Herald's 2017 Mainers of the Year](#), particularly for helping start a conversation on Twitter that evolved into the March for Science on Earth Day at that time. "We are at a critical moment in

Earth’s history, where our choices today will decide the future of our climate, of millions of species and of humanity itself,” Gill says. “Scientists are on the front lines of these crises, as we work to understand our changing planet in real time. I believe scientists have a duty to use our voices to bear witness, to educate, to shape policy and to inspire action. That commitment underlies everything I do as a scientist, an educator and a science communicator. I’m honored to have that work recognized, and to be a part of such an inspiring cohort of amazing communicators.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

For some UMaine students and alumni, Black Bear Marching Band is a family affair

13 Oct 2022

The Pride of Maine Black Bear Marching Band’s Alumni Band is a University of Maine Homecoming tradition that brings together current musicians with alumni for a few rousing numbers before the big game. The Alumni Band brings together more than just old friends, though — sometimes, it brings together families. Jeff and Sylvia Ferrell of Bucksport, class of ’93 and ’92, respectively, met in the Black Bear Marching Band, where Jeff played the tuba and Sylvia played the clarinet. Their daughter, Hannah, is now a senior studying music education. Even before Hannah started at UMaine, she and her sibling attended Homecoming with her parents. When she was small, she would carry a banner in the front row of the Alumni Band, but as she grew older, she started playing alongside her parents. Hannah remembers those experiences fondly — and now that she’s a student, she gets even more out of them. Aside from getting to play with her parents, Hannah says that Alumni Band is a great networking opportunity, particularly for aspiring music professionals like her. “It was just a cool experience to get and go meet people, play my instrument and read something different. It was cool to get a different environment to play in,” Hannah Ferrell says. “The band gets really excited to play with alumni and there are quite a few parents of band members. It’s always fun when your parents are rather outgoing and so are their friends.” Jeff and Sylvia have attended Homecoming and played in Alumni Band almost every year since graduating, but they say those moments have been even more special now that Hannah is a student at UMaine. “The last four years with Hannah up at school have been so much fun. We watch everything that she’s doing and we’ve been able to relive the entire process through her again,” Jeff Ferrell says. David Walker, class of ’94, and his son, Andrew, who is currently a sophomore at UMaine, have had many crossovers in the UMaine experiences beyond their time in the Black Bear Marching Band, too. David, who lives in Gardiner and has taught music at Gardiner High School since he graduated from UMaine, received a degree in music education, which is the same degree that Andrew is currently pursuing. “He’s very talented in many areas of music and UMaine has so many different opportunities for him to foster that love and that interest. It’s been cool to stand back as a parent and watch him go through some of the same experiences that I went through many years ago,” David Walker says. “Thirty years ago, if you told me that’s what I’d be experiencing, I wouldn’t have believed you, but to be able to see and experience it now has been pretty special.” Andrew remembers David bringing him to Alumni Band performances at past Homecomings and credits it with some of his earliest exposure to how great music can be, particularly when he was able to play himself. “Having the experience to play in that bigger ensemble when I was just a middle schooler was a really cool experience,” Andrew Walker says. “If I wanted to pursue music as a profession I knew I wanted to do it at UMaine.” Of course, they are not following exactly the same path: David plays trumpet and Andrew plays trombone. Plus, David says, the ensemble is a bit bigger, and the uniforms have been updated in the decades since he was a student. “What’s the same is the still the enthusiasm that the band members seem to have for the marching band and the experience their energy at the games how they bring energy bring life to the games I think is the same even though their ensemble is bigger than ours used to be I think we brought just as much energy and excitement to the games,” David Walker says. This year will be freshman Mikaela Spooner’s first time actually playing her tenor saxophone in the Alumni Band, along with her parents, Laurie and David Spooner, class of ’96 and ’94, respectively, who now live in New Sweden. Laurie and David met in marching band — they said that with intense rehearsal schedules and bonding opportunities, it’s no wonder that so many marriages come out of the marching band — and Mikaela’s godparents are also Black Bear Marching Band alumni. Mikaela says that even more than the music itself, her parents’ stories about the Black Bear Marching Band made her want to join. “I grew up listening to my parents talk about it. It was a big deciding factor in the choice to go to UMaine,” Mikaela says. “I hope that I can look back on it as fondly as my parents do. I’ve found that most of the friends I’ve made so far have been in band with me.” Many of the Spooners’ stories included director and conductor Chris White, who started at the university in 1992 and also directs the UMaine Symphonic Band and Screamin’ Black Bears Pep Band. David Spooner admits that there was some adjustment when White first joined the marching band, which used to be more run by students and less structured, but ultimately the players grew to love him and continue to have a relationship with him today. David Spooner says that some of his best memories involve traveling and playing with White as he directed the pep band at the UMaine hockey team’s first national championship win in Milwaukee. The current students love and respect White, too. Mikaela says she laughs every time she hears White start a story that her parents have told her a million times before. Andrew says that White has also been inspirational for his future career aspirations in music education. “He’s very passionate about what he does. He’s a relationship that I would like to have later in life, whether working on a piece with my students or looking for advice on what to do. Seeing him interact with both the alumni and current student population, it’s really cool to see how he works,” says Andrew. White says that conducting the children of players he taught in his earliest years at UMaine is an “honor.” “Each year when the marching band gets together for the first time, I tell students to look around the room and I tell them, ‘Your best friends for your college years are likely sitting in this room right now. Maybe even your life partner is here right now.’ These families certainly show that there is truth behind that statement,” White says. “To know that during my time as director of the program, people continue to see the value and want their kids to be a part of it is humbling. It is great to know that the support for the marching band spans generations and it is my hope that that continues long after I am the caretaker of the program.” These Black Bear Marching Band legacy families are all excited for the Alumni Band at this weekend’s Homecoming. The alumni will get together and practice early in the morning to prepare a few songs to perform themselves before joining in with the current marching band for a song or two — one of which, of course, will include the “Stein Song.” David Spooner says that for the parents playing alongside their kids — whether for the first time or the fourth — the overwhelming feeling is, fittingly, one of pride. “We’re proud of the band, but we’ve never been more proud than we are this year.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine installs Motus receiving station on Nutting Hall to track migratory species

13 Oct 2022

The Motus Wildlife Tracking System, or Motus for short, is an international collaborative research network that uses radio receiving stations to track tagged animals as they travel along their migratory paths. The network has more than 1,200 receiving stations in 31 countries — and now, one of them is at the University of Maine. Oct. 5, UMaine finished installing the antennas for its Motus receiving station on the roof of Nutting Hall, thanks to funding from a UMaine Art Initiative Seed Grant. The apparatus will not only provide more research opportunities for UMaine students, but will also help bolster international efforts to track migratory species. With Motus, flying animals — as big as birds and bats and small as butterflies and dragonflies — are tagged with a transmitter called a NanoTag. For birds, the transmitter is attached with a harness that wraps around their legs, with a weak point made from a rubber band that biodegrades in a year. NanoTags are glued directly (but delicately) onto larger insects such as monarch butterflies. When the animal flies within about 15 kilometers of a Motus receiving station, the antenna will pick up the NanoTag’s radio signal and its location will be recorded. As the animal continues its journey and pings Motus stations along the way, researchers are able to map out its migratory pattern and compare it to other tagged animals in

that species. The new Motus receiving station at UMaine will add to the density of stations in the area, with the next nearest stations at Fields Pond Audubon Center and Hirundo Wildlife Refuge. Amber Roth, assistant professor of forest wildlife management, said that a number of factors can make it more difficult for stations to pick up on passing animals, from cloudy weather to obstruction from trees (or even the occasional false detection due to other radio interference). A cluster of stations in a heavily forested area like Maine improves NanoTag detections and the quality of the data. “That’s something we’re working on in the Northeast, to increase the number of stations so we have more detections of animals passing through,” Roth says. Roth has been using Motus data since around 2019 for her research about birds, like her [project](#) studying the health and habitat of the Bicknell’s thrush and the rusty blackbird, two species of migratory songbirds whose populations are declining and are the focus of conservation efforts. For this research, UMaine managed a Motus station in the mountains of western Maine, but the receiving station required a fair amount of upkeep that made the remote station difficult to manage. “It’s a tall mast with 10-foot-long antennas attached. If you have a station that’s not on a power source you have to have solar panels and giant batteries that weigh around 70 pounds. Imagine working on a high mountain where the only access is a trail and you have to tote this stuff over a mile straight uphill. Then you have to dismantle everything every winter due to the harsh weather,” Roth says. “When the project ended I was done.” The new station, Roth says, will be much more accessible. Most troubleshooting can be done from inside Nutting Hall instead of on top of a mountain hours away. “I decided we could make more use of it on campus and make it more available for education and local student projects, and hopefully more people would be able to use it then,” Roth says. Roth has already advised student researchers who are using Motus data, like [Emily Filiberti](#), Master’s of Science student in wildlife ecology, and her research looking at the migration of golden-winged warblers. Wesley Hutchins, an undergraduate researcher who uses Motus for his research about monarch butterflies, says that he sees the potential future use for the Motus station for researchers like him. “With every new one that goes up, there’s a greater chance of one of my monarchs getting picked up,” Hutchins says. “Maybe we can release some on campus and see if they get picked up at Fields Pond.” The Motus station won’t work for every kind of wildlife tracking project. Roth says she was recently asked if the NanoTags could be used on salamanders, but the radio transmissions can be blocked for terrestrial critters, particularly in forested areas. “It’s like any radio,” Roth says. “How well does your car radio work if you’re driving under things that block radio reception?” Still, Roth is excited to see what the station could do for UMaine researchers now that it is up and running. Even before it was fully functional, Roth was able to show the station to visiting high school students with the Cobscook Institute as part of an arts and science initiative with UMaine’s Zillman Art Museum, which was also funded through a UMaine Arts Initiative Seed Grant. They were then able to put NanoTags on two monarch butterflies and release them. “We tagged two monarch butterflies with the NanoTags and they got to work with data from Motus,” Roth says. “It’s creating opportunities for researchers and students to use these emerging technologies on projects.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine alumni Phillip and Susan Morse donate \$10M for new athletics arena

14 Oct 2022

University of Maine alumni donors Phillip and Susan Morse have committed \$10 million for naming rights to the multipurpose arena that is part of the UMaine Athletics Master Facilities Plan. The contribution is part of the private fundraising campaign underway to meet the [\\$90 million challenge grant for UMaine athletics](#) as part of UMS TRANSFORMS, funded by the Harold Alfond Foundation. With the Morse donation, \$13.2 million of the \$20 million goal has been raised by the University of Maine Foundation. “We are pleased to support UMaine athletics through The Alfond Fund and this landmark UMS TRANSFORMS project made possible by the Alfond Foundation,” says Phillip Morse. “Harold Alfond was an inspiration to me, and it’s an honor to contribute to initiatives that advance his vision for advancing Maine and the state’s Division I athletics program. He is an example of how one good, generous person can make a big difference for generations.” [caption id="attachment_93511" align="alignright" width="531"]



Morse Arena, one of the new signature projects of the UMaine Athletics Master Facilities Plan, a UMS TRANSFORMS initiative funded by the Harold Alfond Foundation, will be the home court of men’s and women’s basketball. The new 3,000-seat arena will provide a much-needed space on campus for large-scale events.[/caption] The University of Maine System Board of Trustees authorized the naming of [Morse Arena](#), one of the new signature projects of the master facilities plan. The 3,000-seat facility will be the home court of men’s and women’s basketball, and provide a venue for large-scale campus and community events. The arena will include a significant interior space that will be named for the Morses’ longtime friend Thomas “Skip” Chappelle, UMaine men’s basketball student-athlete and coach from 1959–62 and 1971–88, respectively. This is the second major naming gift by the Morses, members of the UMaine Class of 1964, to the UMaine athletics portion of the \$240 million UMS TRANSFORMS initiative, and the family’s fourth major gift to support athletics in the past 25 years. “The generous support of Phillip and Susan Morse has made a lasting difference on the UMaine student experience and what Maine’s only Division I athletics program offers communities and fans,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “We appreciate their leadership and vision that will impact generations at their alma mater.” Last December, Phillip and Susan Morse provided a [\\$1 million gift to support the Athletics Facilities Master Plan](#). The gift also is part of the private fundraising for the Alfond challenge grant match. Morse Field at Alfond Sports Stadium, a facility made possible by the generous donation of Harold Alfond and the Morses, opened in 1998. The Morse family pledged \$1 million in 2007 to provide a significant upgrade to UMaine’s Morse Field playing surface at Harold Alfond Sports Stadium. In 2013, the Morse family presented UMaine Athletics with an \$800,000 gift to be used to install the high-definition video scoreboard on Morse Field. “Phil and Sue have been loyal supporters of the University of Maine for a long time and their gifts have had a lasting impact,” says Jeffery Mills, president and CEO of the University of Maine Foundation. “Donors at this level are making a significant investment in UMaine’s future and their leading commitment will inspire others. We are grateful for their vision and desire to make a difference.” [caption id="attachment_93512" align="alignright"]



width="200"] Phillip and Susan Morse[/caption] Phillip, vice chairman of the Boston Red Sox since 2004 and a partner since 2002, and Susan met at UMaine. They live in Lake George, New York and Jupiter, Florida. At UMaine, Susan majored in education and Philip majored in sociology. Phillip also lettered in baseball and was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. Upon her graduation from UMaine, Susan taught school in Darien, Connecticut and in Sudbury, Massachusetts. After she and Phillip married in 1966, they settled in Glens Falls, New York. She put aside teaching to raise their three daughters, Katherine (UMaine '92), Shelley (Middlebury '95) and Lindsey (UVM '98). She served on the Glens Falls School District's Board of Education for several years, and has long been passionate about education. Phillip's career achievements include founding North American Instrument Corporation in 1969, a company focused on the development, manufacturing and sales of the first transparent fluid delivery system for coronary angiography, the Morse Manifold. By 1994, the firm had grown into NAMIC U.S.A. Corporation, an 800-employee designer and manufacturer of a wide array of medical devices for interventional cardiology and radiology. Morse served as NAMIC's chairman until its sale to Pfizer, Inc. in 1995. After more than 40 years, the Morse Manifold continues to be used in more than half of all cardiac catheterization procedures. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

‘Just a Kid from Maine’ book signing scheduled for Oct. 15 at Bear Necessities Fan Shop

14 Oct 2022

A book signing for "Just a Kid from Maine" will take place from 11 a.m.–noon Oct. 15 at the Bear Necessities Fan Shop. Authors Matt and Stephanie Mulligan will sign books and small football helmets.

UMaine Dining brings Luke’s Lobster to Black Bear football fans

14 Oct 2022

Continuing its dedication to providing local food to its visitors, University of Maine Dining announces that Portland-based Luke's Lobster will be available at the Homecoming Black Bear football game in the concessions area. Luke's Lobster will offer its Maine-style 4-ounce and 6-ounce lobster rolls, 8-ounce bowls of New England-style clam chowder along with chips and Pepsi beverages. Luke's Lobster co-founder Luke Holden and VP of Seafood Company Operations Ben McKinney are active members of the UMaine Lobster Institute. The business collaborated with University of Maine Cooperative Extension when the business opened its processing facility, Cape Seafood, in Saco, Maine in 2012, including educational resources and food safety guidance, noted Jason Bolton, food safety specialist and UMaine Extension professor. Since then, Luke's Lobster has provided internships for students, as well as opportunities for talks and lectures. There are several other local food options available to football fans at the game from Wild Cow Creamery of Bangor and Belfast, and local brews available from the 21+ beer garden, including Sea Dog Brewing and Orono Brewing Company, among others. Fans will also enjoy traditional concessions favorites — popcorn, chicken strip baskets, pretzels, fried dough, hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages — all near the stadium seating by the football field. Luke's Lobster will only accept cash for dining purchases. UMaine Dining's concessions area and beer garden accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover credit cards, debit cards and cash. ATMs are available at the Alford Arena near the ticket office. UMaine Dining has committed to sourcing 25% or more of its food and beverage from local producers. “Local” is defined as being 175 miles from a University of Maine System campus. Its most recent local percentage is 26.11% local food sourced and served from July–September 2022 at the UMaine.

Allen speaks to Maine Science Podcast about ocean research

14 Oct 2022

Katherine Allen, associate professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences and Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, was featured on the Maine Science Podcast's [latest episode](#). Allen discussed her research about the ocean, both in the geologic past and in the present. Allen was part of the introductory panel for the 2022 Maine Science Festival Headliner Event, [The Warming Sea](#). The [podcast](#), a production of the Maine Science Festival, has featured other experts from the UMaine community in previous episodes.

UMaine Extension holds High Tunnel Workshop Oct. 17 and 24

14 Oct 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold a two-part workshop on building a high tunnel from 4–5:30 p.m. Oct. 17 and Oct. 24 at the [Tidewater Farm demonstration gardens](#) in Falmouth. This hands-on workshop will cover how to build a structurally sound high tunnel, including techniques for squaring your site, installing bows and baseboards and framing end walls. UMaine Extension staff will lead the event. The event is free and open to the public. Registration is required. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Pamela Hargest, pamela.hargest@maine.edu; 207.949.4524. More information also is available on the [event webpage](#).

Town, UMaine hosting Orono Energy Efficiency Fair Oct. 22**14 Oct 2022**

Residents of the Bangor area and beyond can learn how to make their energy use more economical and renewable at the Orono Energy Efficiency Fair 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22 at Wells Conference Center. The fair, hosted by the Town of Orono and UMaine’s Sustainability Office, will feature several lectures about different tools and resources to help attendees reduce fossil fuel use consumption, prevent energy waste, and incorporate zero-carbon electricity and heating into homes and transportation. Topics include rebates, window inserts, heat pumps, solar panels, electric vehicles and local public transit. There also will be local contractors and vendors there to showcase their work and answer any questions attendees may have on projects. Register for the fair [online](#) for the chance to win a Trek Verve 2 hybrid bike door prize and other local business gift cards. Visit the [town’s website](#) for more information. The fair is funded by a Community Resilience Partnership Climate Action grant and UMaine's Sustainability Office.

Media report on UMaine Extension funds for agricultural well-being**14 Oct 2022**

The [Daily Bulldog](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) reported that Maine Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN), managed by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, is seeking applicants for Small Grants to Support Maine Agricultural Well-Being. The program has more than \$46,000 in available funding which it will distribute in individual grants ranging from \$1 to \$5,805. The deadline to apply is Nov. 15. For more information, [see this FAQ document](#).

Media shares Gill winning science communication award**14 Oct 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Trendeeepro](#) reported that Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology at the University of Maine, is one of the first recipients of the Eric and Wendy Schmidt Awards for Excellence in Science Communication from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. The organization highlighted Gill’s outreach and advocacy on Twitter, where her profile has gained more than 100,000 followers; her columns in national publications such as The Washington Post and Nature; and her work on the Warm Regards podcast, which she co-created and co-hosted from March 2016 to March 2021. This podcast was one of five nominees for “Best Green Podcast” at the 2020 iHeartRadio Podcast Awards in Los Angeles.

BDN, Tech Xplore share UMaine small hydropower study**14 Oct 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Tech Xplore](#) reported on a study from the University of Maine showing that although small hydropower projects may still contribute to the renewable energy marketplace, scientists will need more publicly available, user-friendly cost estimation tools with site-specific input data in order to effectively implement them. "Because small hydropower impacts are so site-specific, our study really highlights a need for more investigations of small [hydropower](#) costs and benefits — not only financial, but also cultural and ecological — in more locations that use consistent and comparable metrics, assumptions, and inputs," said Sharon Klein, associate professor at the School of Economics and co-author of the study.

BDN reports on College of Education dean emeritus Cobb’s passing**14 Oct 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Robert Cobb, the dean emeritus of the College of Education and Orono resident, died Sept. 29 at 80 years old after a battle with cancer. Cobb became the dean of the College of Education and Human Development in 1977 and served in the role for 30 years before retiring in 2007. When Cobb retired he was, at the time, the longest-serving dean of an education college in the country.

Lacy’s research featured on Journal of Athletic Training podcast**14 Oct 2022**

Alicia Lacy, University of Maine assistant professor of athletic training, was a recent guest on the Journal of Athletic Training podcast [JAT Chat](#). Lacy discussed the findings of a study she led looking at the perceptions and knowledge of the athletic training profession among parents of youth athletes. In addition to the podcast, a video of the conversation is available on [YouTube](#). The research article, “Youth Athletes’ Parents’ Perceptions and Knowledge of the Athletic Training Profession,” is available on the Journal of Athletic Training [website](#).

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Oct. 17**17 Oct 2022**

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update as follows:

- New Balance Student Recreation Center walkway repairs have been expanded and work resumes this week.
- Softball field construction and upgrade continue.
- Construction/renovation work on Holmes and Coburn halls continues, including removal of ledge.
- Hauck Plaza work will wrap up over the next few weeks.
- Memorial Union Marketplace southeast entrance repairs have been completed.
- Hitchner and Aubert lab hood testing is complete.

UMaine awarded Forest Service grant for National Wood Bank project

17 Oct 2022

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service awarded \$62,500 to the University of Maine for the National Wood Bank project, which has the goal of providing operating support for national research and outreach programming related to wood banks. Wood banks have been around for a long time, although not always recognized or called wood banks. In Maine, neighbors have given wood to their neighbors when needed, and community organizations have come together to organize volunteer events around firewood. This support from the USDA Forest Service will help wood banks to expand their efforts at the local level. Jessica Leahy, professor of forestry at UMaine with a research appointment in the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, will lead the projects with collaborators at University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The project is part of a national effort to promote wood banks involving the USDA Forest Service, University of Massachusetts Amherst and the Alliance for Green Heat, a nonprofit that promotes cleaner, more efficient and more affordable renewable heating. “UMaine has been a leader in research and outreach related to wood banks within New England, so it’s natural that we’d play a role in this expansion of support to wood banks throughout the United States,” says Leahy, who has been working with wood banks in Maine since 2014. UMaine and UMass Amherst will carry out research and outreach in support of wood banks nationally, by organizing regional listening sessions, hosting a national wood bank virtual summit and creating a yearlong educational webinar series for wood banks around the country that provides expert information about wood banks, from managing forests for firewood goals, to firewood processing, to the management of wood bank volunteers, to wood burning safety and woodstove considerations. “Ultimately, we will create a peer network of wood banks to support one another as they serve their communities and help those in need with heat through the winters,” Leahy says. “The University of Maine’s outreach efforts will bring wood banks across the country together to share challenges, resources and best practices,” said Steve Koehn, USDA Forest Service director of cooperative forestry. “This national collaboration will help wood banks better serve communities and people using a renewable heat source.” Additionally, the Alliance for Green Heat will distribute direct grants to wood banks using the USDA Forest Service funding. Grants between \$5,000–\$15,000 are available to existing wood banks this year, and in future years the program will be extended to new and newly forming wood banks. Applications are available at firewoodbanks.org starting Oct. 17, 2022. Contact: Jessica Leahy, jessica.leahy@maine.edu, 207.581.2980

Funding available for projects that support agricultural well-being

17 Oct 2022

The Maine Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) is seeking applicants for [Small Grants to Support Maine Agricultural Well-Being](#). The deadline to apply is Nov. 15. Applications are available online in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole. University of Maine Cooperative Extension manages the Maine FRSAN program, which is offered through the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) in collaboration with many other supporting agricultural organizations in the state. The program has more than \$46,000 in available funding that it will distribute in individual grants ranging from \$1 to \$5,805. To be eligible for funding, you must:

- Be an organization or entity that serves Maine agricultural populations, including farming, fishing, forestry or Indigenous food and medicine producers. Additional insurance requirements are listed on the [FAQ document](#).
- Explain how the project or program for which you are seeking funding contributes to direct wellness support (broadly defined) for agricultural populations in the state. Examples include: addressing lack of access to physical and/or mental health services; providing equipment or services to decrease daily work stress; or addressing social or ecological changes in the environment that create strain for the person.

Applications to the Small Grants Fund are expected to be competitive and to exceed the amount of funding available. Should this be the case, program administrators will rank applications based on a variety of criteria including projected impact, availability of requested services and potential to support farmers and farm communities categorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as historically socially disadvantaged or as Limited-Resource Farm Households. For more information, [see this FAQ document](#). To apply over the phone, call Izzy for English at 207.570.8308, Cynthia for Haitian Creole at 207.800.5112, and Maria for Spanish at 207.800.7605. The Small Grants Fund is a project of the Maine Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network funded by USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture, awarded to the Maine DACF and managed by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

Maine Hunger Dialogue, Climate Action Summit in Augusta Oct. 21

17 Oct 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Campus Compact will hold the two-day 2022 Maine Hunger Dialogue and Climate Action Summit starting at 9:30 a.m. Oct. 21–22 at the University of Maine at Augusta, Randall Student Center, 70 University Drive. The “[Maine Hunger Dialogue and Climate Action Summit: Safeguarding Food Systems from a Warming Planet](#)” is designed for high school and college students and their teachers with a focus on the intersection of food security and climate change in Maine. The event includes speakers, breakout sessions and the option to apply for mini-grants to address related issues on campus or in communities. Students can attend as individuals or in teams with a faculty mentor. Teams are eligible to participate in a cooking challenge and receive guidance on crafting a grant-funded project for their campus or school. Previous mini-grants have funded school or campus pantries, food security studies and campus community gardens. The conference is free and includes meals. Registration on the [event webpage](#) is required by Oct. 14. For more information, to sponsor school teams or mini-grants, or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.8211; lynn.holland@maine.edu. This event is made possible with support from the Maine 4-H Foundation and Sodexo.

UMaine RIBHPC hosts free, live webinar on trauma-informed primary care Oct. 21

17 Oct 2022

The University of Maine Rural Integrated Behavioral Health in Primary Care (RIBHPC) training program is hosting a free, live webinar “Fostering Resilience & Recovery: Advancing Trauma-Informed Primary Care” on Friday, Oct. 21, 9–10:30 a.m. Addressing trauma is now the expectation, not the exception, in primary care. Trauma-informed primary care settings can help establish more appropriate and effective care utilization patterns among individuals with trauma histories. The benefits of creating trauma-informed environments include creating safer spaces for staff, improving clinical decision-making by equipping providers to identify and respond to trauma and building collaborative care networks to increase providers’ capacity to address holistic needs. The

webinar will explore the principles of being trauma-informed and change concepts needed to implement in primary care settings. Participants will learn to identify resilience-oriented, trauma-informed ways to intervene with all patients served and understand the key strategies for implementing this approach. Amelia Roeschlein, consultant at the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, will lead the workshop. A certificate of attendance will be provided. Register [here](#). For more information, contact Dyan Walsh, dyan.walsh@maine.edu.

Hutchinson Center to host Going Green: Sustainability in Business workshop Oct. 21

17 Oct 2022

Registration is open for an in-person professional development program, Going Green: Sustainability in Business. This online workshop, part of the University of Maine Hutchinson Center’s professional development program, will be held from 8:30 a.m–4:30 p.m. Oct. 21 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. This workshop will help participants understand current business sustainability strategies and how to put them into practice. The program is designed not just for environmental businesses, but also for large or small businesses or nonprofits providing goods, experiences or services. Participants will have an opportunity to step away from the day-to-day action, review their strategic plans and refocus them in light of emerging sustainability opportunities. The program will be facilitated by Terry Porter, associate professor emerita of the Maine Business School. Porter received her Ph.D. degree from the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts, where her research focused on dynamic capabilities and strategic change in the case of corporate environmentalism. Porter taught business strategy and sustainability for 13 years at the Maine Business School. She also initiated a sustainability track in the MaineMBA program and advised the student chapter of Net Impact, a leadership development program in sustainable business. Porter holds a master’s degree in clinical psychology, is a certified mental health counselor and a 2014 Fulbright Scholar. She has over 30 years of experience as a teacher, counselor, coach, guide and facilitator. This program is scheduled to be offered in-person; participants will be notified if the modality shifts. Participants will receive a certificate of completion, and 0.8 CEUs/8 contact hours are available. The cost of the program is \$215 per person. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available for people who live or work in Knox or Waldo County. Early registration is recommended as spots are limited. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Michelle Patten, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002. For more information or to register, visit on the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

Energy News Network notes UMaine agrivoltaic research

17 Oct 2022

In an article about pairing agricultural production and solar energy generation, [Energy News Network](#) noted that University of Maine researchers are studying whether lower-impact “careful” or “mindful” construction practices can improve agrivoltaic blueberry yields.

Ethos quotes MacRae in story about the impact of trash on climate change

17 Oct 2022

In an article about the impact of trash on climate change, [Ethos](#) cited a quote that Jean MacRae, an associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, provided to the Seattle Times. MacRae told the Seattle Times that leachate is even more resistant to traditional treatment methods because of the potpourri nature of the chemical sludge. “There’s no good way to break these types of contaminants down. It’s a big concern,” MacRae said.

BDN promotes Orono Energy Efficiency Fair

17 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the Orono Energy Efficiency Fair will take place 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. on Oct. 22 at Wells Conference Center. The fair, hosted by the Town of Orono and UMaine’s Sustainability Office, will feature several lectures about different tools and resources to help attendees reduce fossil fuel use consumption, prevent energy waste and incorporate zero-carbon electricity and heating into homes and transportation. Register for the fair [online](#).

News Center Maine reports on UMaine Athletics and Orono Brewing Company partnership

17 Oct 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that Orono Brewing Company debuted its “Let’s Go Bears” IPA on homecoming weekend, which is the first beer partnering with the University of Maine Athletics. Justin Barnes, general manager - Van Wagner, said it’s a great way to support the Black Bears. “Knowing how proudly our fans will fill the steins with this, knowing that it helps UMaine Athletics ... we anticipate thousands of dollars coming back to the Alfond Fund with it,” Barnes said.

Penobscot Bay Press promotes Newsom event

17 Oct 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Press](#) shared that Bonnie Newsom, assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Maine, will host a virtual and in-person presentation featuring examples of pre-contact Wabanaki pottery in the Wilson Museum’s collection at the Hutchins Education Center, 112 Perkins St., Castine on Oct. 18, at 3 p.m. The public is invited to join the program in-person and virtually. To receive the Zoom link, email Haley at education@wilsonmuseum.org with the subject line “Pottery Zoom Link.”

The Guardian cites UMaine Machias study about green crab impact on clams

17 Oct 2022

In an article about how the climate crisis threatens clammers, the [Guardian](#) cited research from the Downeast Institute and the University of Maine at Machias

in 2018 that found that green crabs feast on clams to such an extent that more than 99% of juvenile clams died before reaching adulthood. [Honest Columnist](#) shared the Guardian report.

Fried speaks to the Guardian about LePage campaign

17 Oct 2022

Amy Fried, chair of the University of Maine's Political Science Department, spoke to the [Guardian](#) about former Maine Gov. Paul LePage's temperament on the campaign trail. [Yahoo News UK](#) and [Yahoo Canada Sports](#) shared the Guardian report.

Media report on UMaine athletic facility naming gift

17 Oct 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#), [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that University of Maine alumni Phillip and Susan Morse have committed \$10 million for naming rights to the new basketball arena planned for the campus in Orono. Phillip and Susan Morse, 1964 graduates of the school, have been significant donors to UMaine athletics over the last 25 years. "The generous support of Phillip and Susan Morse has made a lasting difference on the UMaine student experience and what Maine's only Division I athletics program offers communities and fans. We appreciate their leadership and vision that will impact generations at their alma mater," said President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. [Yahoo News](#) shared the PPH report.

BDN covers UMaine 'Future of Humanities' lecture

17 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) covered the "Future of Humanities" lecture hosted by the University of Maine's Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, Alumni Association and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences featuring prominent American historian Heather Cox Richardson and recently retired NPR reporter Brian Naylor, who gave a Collins Center for the Arts audience their take on the state of democracy and the country.

Moran speaks to News Center Maine about apple season

17 Oct 2022

Renee Moran, professor of pomology at the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture and University of Maine Cooperative Extension tree fruit specialist, spoke to [News Center Maine](#) about Maine's successful apple season despite summer droughts. Moran said that apples are a drought-tolerant crop, but the fruit texture and taste can be impacted if its water source is constricted. "My concern with the drought is that it came earlier this year, which could impact the calcium quantity in apples which could be impacted when we put them in cold storage. The trees are surviving the drought quite well, my [concern] is the apples going into storage, not the trees themselves," Moran said. If extreme drought episodes persist due to Maine's changing climate, Moran said farmers need to look at irrigation to ensure orchards get enough water.

Boston Globe speaks to Dagher about offshore wind

17 Oct 2022

[The Boston Globe](#) interviewed Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center at the University of Maine, about offshore floating wind turbines planned for a location a few miles off the coast of Monhegan Island in 2025. "This is a major opportunity. There's enough offshore wind to power the country four times over, all within 50 miles of shore," Dagher said.

International experts discuss land-based Atlantic Salmon aquaculture during conference held at UMaine

18 Oct 2022

Aquaculture experts from across the U.S., South Africa, Norway and Iceland met at the University of Maine for the third annual Recirculating Aquaculture Salmon Network (RAS-N) and first annual Sustainable Aquaculture Systems Supporting Atlantic Salmon (SAS2) conference. During the conference, which was held Sept. 27–29, scientists, communicators and educators shared information and explored current challenges for the land-based production of Atlantic Salmon in the U.S. They also learned about new technologies, outreach strategies and cutting-edge research through presentations, panel discussions and field trips. Industry members and researchers working in recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS) — a farming method for salmon and other species where water is pumped through treatment systems that clean and re-filter circulated water — discussed a wide range of topics, such as seedstock, health and welfare, off-flavor, feeds, workforce development, consumer education and marketing, community engagement and challenges experienced within the industry. The various panels showcased the expertise of different stakeholders who participated in the conference, which demonstrated collaboration and networking across several areas related to recirculating aquaculture systems. Key themes from their discussions included scalability, improving efficiencies and regulations, and enhancing general knowledge and understanding. "Using genomics and metabolomics, we learn more about the quality of eggs and develop non-invasive predictors for broodstock quality that is scalable, fast and inexpensive," Heather Hamlin, director of the UMaine School of Marine Sciences and joint faculty member with the Aquaculture Research Institute, said during a session about seedstock. Research and development of a domestic seed supply would be extremely beneficial for the U.S. as recirculating aquaculture systems gain more traction, because most of the current seedstock comes from abroad. Similarly, studies into combating off-flavor — created when bacteria-like streptomyces produce compounds such as geosmin through metabolism that are absorbed through the fish's gills — and more efficient feeds exemplifies the positive direction research into recirculating aquaculture systems is heading. John Davidson, a research scientist with the Freshwater Institute in West Virginia, discussed studies focusing on biological mechanisms for the characterization and control of microbiomes in recirculating aquaculture systems to reduce off-flavor, in addition to advanced chemical application and new advanced oxidation techniques. Sarah Cook from Skretting, the world's largest producer of fish feeds, discussed the physical aspects of feed impacts to recirculating aquaculture systems as a whole. "It's important to look at each individual system and work with farms to understand how best their system works, because all systems are so different," Cook said. The conference also focused on community engagement, understanding social license to operate and workforce development. "Developing standards or competencies is needed on a national level," said Scarlet Tudor, education and outreach coordinator at UMaine's Aquaculture

Research Institute. “We need people with different educations and backgrounds and we need to start them young.” Placing recirculating aquaculture systems in classrooms and developing modules for aquaculture curriculum with technology integration and hands-on science could increase science literacy and related skills among students, training them for future workforce needs. Conference sessions also emphasized that successful development of education programs and materials about recirculating aquaculture systems should integrate traditional ecological knowledge and engage with Indigenous knowledge sharers. Co-creating curriculum through the Wabanaki Youth in Science Program (WaYs) is one example of providing youth with education other than western science, enhancing and decolonizing their views. Through WaYs, Maine Native youth grades 6–12 have the opportunity to participate in science while engaging with their cultural heritage through summer camps, internships and after school programs. Additionally, sessions emphasized the need for a coordinated communications strategy to elevate and help with social capital, interest, technology transfer, advancing research and getting people from multiple disciplines involved in the workforce. The conference culminated with University of New Hampshire Ph.D candidate Emily Whitmore discussing the importance of community engagement. “Relational elements between a company and a host community are vital,” Whitmore said. “Consulting, trust building and building support instead of rebutting opposition will set you up for success.” King Fish USA, for example, faced opposition at first, but put in the social license work by gathering ongoing approval from the community, and it paid off. The town of Jonesport rejected an aquaculture moratorium earlier this summer. RAS-N started in 2019 with funding from the National Sea Grant Office for a three-year effort to build capacity and identify and address challenges. The multi-state consortium, led by partners in Maine, Maryland, and Wisconsin, is now transitioning into a new phase, the SAS2, with \$10 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. This new phase aims to increase public awareness, and boost the economical and environmental sustainability of the industry. “RAS (recirculating aquaculture systems) is the most viable path for growth in the U.S.,” said Erik Heim from Xcelerate Aqua. “Improving time to market, keeping revenue on schedule, costs on budget, and improving environment stewardship is key.” Contact: Corinne Noufi, corinne.noufi@maine.edu

Acheson memorial service Oct. 27

18 Oct 2022

A memorial service for University of Maine professor emeritus James Acheson, who held a joint appointment in the Anthropology Department and the School of Marine Sciences, will be held at 3 p.m., Oct. 27 in Buchanan Alumni House on campus. A reception will follow. [Acheson passed away June 28 at the age of 84.](#)

Third annual campuswide food drive to benefit Black Bear Exchange

18 Oct 2022

A campuswide nonperishable food drive to benefit the University of Maine Black Bear Exchange food pantry will be held Nov. 1–Dec. 16, sponsored by UMaine Auxiliary Enterprises and the Green Campus Initiative. Donation boxes will be located in the University Bookstore, Bear Necessities Fan Shop, Bear's Den, Hilltop Market, in the Hilltop and York dining halls and at the Children's Center locations. In addition, collection boxes will be in residence halls in conjunction with Clean Sweep, the residence hall donation campaign led by the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism and the Green Campus Initiative. Black Bear Exchange has specifically requested nonperishable food donations of boxed cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter or nut butter, jelly or jam, tuna fish, and macaroni and cheese. All food donations benefit the Black Bear Exchange, which provides support to students and other members of the UMaine community. Proceeds from Clean Sweep benefit the food pantry and other Bodwell Center volunteer initiatives. Donate three items in the University Bookstore or Bear Necessities Fan Shop collection boxes to receive a 30% discount coupon for the purchase of one regular-priced item through May 2023. Bookstore hours are 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. Bear Necessities Fan Shop is open noon–4 p.m., Tuesday–Friday, and during home ice hockey and football games. In 2021, the Black Bear Exchange distributed 57,000 pounds of food to 3,610 visitors, according to Lisa Morin, coordinator of the Black Bear Exchange. The 2021 food drive brought in 808 pounds of food for the food pantry. “We believe that by supporting the UMaine community, we make a difference through actions,” said Richard Young, executive director of Auxiliary Enterprises, which oversees all units participating in the Food Drive. “Every year, this food drive brings in more and more support for this important organization on campus. They support our UMaine community and we're proud to support them.” UMaine Dining, an Auxiliary Enterprises unit, contributes weekly to food recovery which also supports the Black Bear Food Exchange. Leftover food from the two dining halls as well as the Bear's Den is repurposed safely into meal-sized kits that people who use the exchange can pick up when they stop in for a food distribution. For more information about the food drive, contact Deb Bell, debra.bell@maine.edu. Information about the Black Bear Exchange food pantry, including instructions for requesting support, is available [online](#).

Media boosts UMaine Extension Recipe to Market workshop

18 Oct 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), [The Piscataquis Observer](#) and [Sun Journal](#) shared a University of Maine Cooperative Extension online workshop for entrepreneurs and farmers interested in starting a home-based, specialty food business in Maine from 9 a.m.–noon on Nov. 18. Recipe to Market is a multidisciplinary program with topics including business basics; an overview of the specialty food industry and product development; licensing and regulations; and food safety. Register and find more details on the event [registration page](#).

Media report on Forest Service grant for UMaine role in National Wood Bank project

18 Oct 2022

[News Center Maine](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Spectrum News](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) reported that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service awarded \$62,500 to the University of Maine for the National Wood Bank project, which has the goal of providing operating support for national research and outreach programming related to wood banks. Jessica Leahy, professor of forestry at UMaine with a research appointment in the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, will lead the projects with collaborators at University of Maine Cooperative Extension. “Ultimately, we will create a peer network of wood banks to support one another as they serve their communities and help those in need with heat through the winters,” Leahy says.

Kimball speaks to media about interdisciplinary STEM study

18 Oct 2022

[Scienmag](#), [Phys.org](#), [Science Daily](#), [Bioengineer.org](#) and other outlets featured a study on how undergraduate students engage with interdisciplinary learning throughout their college careers and beyond — and how universities should respond to support such learning. Ezekiel Kimball, senior author of the study and professor of higher education and associate dean for Undergraduate and Teacher Education at the University of Maine, was quoted discussing how the “navigating stage” can cause discord between disciplinary and interdisciplinary studies, including scheduling conflicts and cultural clashes. “The ‘navigating’ stage teaches us that strong advising is critical for the success of an interdisciplinary program. And the ‘integrating’ stage shows that these students realize the full benefits of interdisciplinary training only after they’ve left college, indicating that keeping in touch with alumni is critical for assessing the broad impacts of interdisciplinary programs.”

UMaine, Maine DOE inclusive education collaboration changing name, expanding focus

18 Oct 2022



Maine Access to Inclusive Education Resources

A project that has served individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families for nearly a decade at the University of Maine is getting a new name and taking on a broader mission. The Maine Autism Institute for Education and Research will now be Maine Access to Inclusive Education Resources (MAIER). Established in 2014 with financial support from the Maine Department of Education, MAIER has sought to improve outcomes for individuals with autism in Maine throughout the spectrum and lifecycle by building statewide capacity for leadership, training, professional development, technical assistance, collaborative consultation, technology and research. That work will continue as MAIER’s mission expands. The project will now serve as an information and resource clearinghouse that will assist professionals and families in accessing and navigating programs and services related to inclusive education of all students with disabilities. It will aim to ensure that educators and other service providers, as well as families and individuals with disabilities, receive information about practices to promote inclusion that are grounded in research. Maine DOE’s Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education is providing MAIER with grant funding of nearly \$632,000 over the next three years to carry out this mission. “We’re excited that our partnership with Maine DOE will continue, and that MAIER will be able to touch the lives of more people in Maine by improving inclusive education and services throughout the state,” says Sarah Howorth, MAIER director and assistant professor of special education at the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. “MAIER is one of many programs in our college that support positive inclusive outcomes for schools and students across Maine,” Howorth adds. “As part of the flagship university in the University of Maine System, we are continually looking to maximize the impact of our research, collaborations and engagement with educators, families and other service providers.” Howorth says MAIER’s service to the state will be guided by four aspects of [high-leverage practices](#) to promote inclusion and equity in education for people with disabilities: collaboration, assessment, social/emotional/behavioral, and instruction. Future MAIER training and professional development topics will include improving access to inclusive post-school opportunities and employment for individuals with disabilities, inclusive teaching practices, and multi-tiered behavioral supports to serve those who are at-risk or have identified disabilities. “Inclusion is vital to the development of all students from preschool through high school and beyond,” says Tracy Whitlock, special projects coordinator with the Maine Department of Education Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education. “We are proud to collaborate with the University of Maine on this work that will lead to stronger Maine communities.” Among MAIER’s accomplishments during its first eight years was the establishment of an Early Start Maine program that provided early intervention services to nearly 400 toddlers and preschoolers with autism throughout the state. Based on the [Early Start Denver Model](#), MAIER staff also trained 34 early intervention providers with Maine Child Development Services, which assumed oversight of the program in 2020. During the COVID-19 pandemic, MAIER saw an increase in the number of educators and other professionals utilizing its professional development offerings. In 2019–20, there were 354 total participants in MAIER’s online training modules. That number went up to more than 1,000 participants from around the country in 202–21. “As both a parent and an educator, I have been fortunate enough to utilize many of MAIER’s program offerings,” says Angela Lundy, a special education teacher at Mary Snow School in Bangor. “From professional development to PEERS social skills training with my son, MAIER is an invaluable resource for Maine families.” In addition to the name change, MAIER recently transitioned to new leadership. Howorth took over as director after Deborah Rooks-Ellis, who started the project and led it for eight years, accepted a position at Coastal Carolina University. Longtime MAIER research associate Donna Doherty retired last year as well. Anica Miller-Rushing is MAIER’s new research associate and family partnership director. Miller-Rushing, who earned her Ph.D. in STEM Education from UMaine in 2022, will lead collaborations, manage programming and professional development, and support MAIER’s research agenda. More information about MAIER can be found on the project website, umaine.edu/maier. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host talk on Maine Sustainability Hub Oct. 24

19 Oct 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled “[The Maine Sustainability Hub: Building a Sustainability Community at UMaine](#)” at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24. Starting in spring 2021, a group of UMaine faculty and students began imagining a sustainability hub that would organize the academic and extracurricular efforts that engage students in the work of sustainability. One goal of the initiative is to create a website to allow campus groups, researchers and community stakeholders easy access to the many sustainability activities at UMaine. In this talk, faculty and students involved in the project will discuss their progress and the next steps in building an active sustainability hub for the UMaine community. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a

reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Jazz musicians Bruce Barth, Steve Wilson to perform at UMaine and UMaine Machias

19 Oct 2022

Renowned jazz musicians Bruce Barth and Steve Wilson will perform at the University of Maine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias, on Oct. 27 and 28, respectively. The two musicians' UMaine concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 27 at the Minsky Recital Hall in Class of '44 Hall. The UMaine Machias show will be held at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 28 at the Performing Arts Center. Barth, a jazz pianist and composer, has been sharing his music with listeners worldwide for more than 35 years. In addition to traveling widely performing his own music, he also has played with revered jazz masters and has collaborated with leading musicians of his own generation. As a leader of his trio and larger ensembles, Barth has performed at major venues in the U.S., Europe and Japan; he has led bands at many major venues in New York and Washington, D.C., and major festivals in the United Kingdom, Spain, Sweden and Portugal. Wilson has attained ubiquitous status in the studio and on the stage with the greatest names in jazz. Jazz Times calls him "the consummate saxophonist-composer" and "one of the finest alto and soprano saxophonists of our time." He has brought his distinctive sound to more than 100 recordings and ensembles led by celebrated artists. Purchase tickets for either concert or learn more about the shows on the [Collins Center website](#).

Public input invited for Speech-Language Pathology program re-accreditation Oct. 27–28

19 Oct 2022

The University of Maine Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders will be undergoing re-accreditation for its Speech-Language Pathology program on Oct. 27–28. The public is invited to provide input on the program in one of two ways:

1. Submit written comments prior to the accreditation site visit. Comments must be received by the Accreditation Office no later than Oct. 13, 2022. Comments may be submitted by email (accreditation@asha.org), fax (301.296.8570) or mailed to Accreditation Public Comment, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA), 2200 Research Boulevard, #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850.
2. Provide comments to the site visit on Oct. 27, 2022, 4:30–5 p.m., 315 Dunn Hall.

BDN promotes UMaine Mitchell Center's Maine Sustainability Hub

19 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled "The Maine Sustainability Hub: Building a Sustainability Community at UMaine" at 3 p.m. on Oct. 24. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#).

Smith speaks to WMTW about flooding in Maine

19 Oct 2022

Sean Smith, associate professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences at the University of Maine, spoke to [WMTW](#) (ABC 8 in Portland) about Mainers recovering from flooding after heavy rainfall last week. "The frequency and magnitude of flooding is generally on an upward trend in the region. Both climate changes and land cover changes are the two drivers of the flooding magnitudes and frequency in the Maine landscape and both of those are changing," Smith said.

Maine Beacon cites UMaine study in article about Republican campaign strategy

19 Oct 2022

In an article about the Republican campaign strategy focusing on crime and drug use, the [Maine Beacon](#) cited a recent survey conducted by professors and University of Maine found the majority of Mainers across the political spectrum support prioritizing treatment for people who use drugs over punishment and incarceration.

Unilad cites UMaine study in article about impact of all ice melting on Earth

19 Oct 2022

In an article about a [video](#) from Science Insider illustrating what the Earth would look like if all the ice melted, [Unilad](#) cited a study from the University of Maine and the British Antarctic Survey that revealed Antarctica's Doomsday Glacier is melting at the quickest rate ever done over the last 5,500 years.

Scienmag cites Newsom research on furbearers in Maine

19 Oct 2022

[Scienmag](#) noted the University of Maine's involvement in a four-year study using ancient DNA samples derived from archaeological specimens housed at the Smithsonian Institute's Natural History Museum and among other museums, as well as samples from modern beaver, mink and muskrat provided by wildlife managers and fur-trappers, to better understand the relationship between people and these animals. Bonnie Newsom, a Penobscot Nation citizen and assistant professor at the University of Maine, will serve as senior personnel on the project. Newsom has done extensive work on Indigenous archaeological methods, utilizing language experts in her workshops to connect objects to the language.

Patton presents research at WiSEE 2022

19 Oct 2022

Joseph Patton, Ph.D. student in electrical and computer engineering at the University of Maine, presented his undergraduate research work at the 10th annual Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) International Conference on Wireless for Space and Extreme Environments (WiSEE 2022) in Winnipeg, Canada on Oct. 14, 2022. The title of his presentation was “CubeSat Power System Design and Simulation for Fault Detection and Failure Prevention,” which was based on his senior design project funded by NASA and Maine Space Grant Consortium. This is the first senior design project that is flying to space as part of the MESAT1 mission this coming December. Patton also co-authored another paper with his adviser Ali Abedi, professor of electrical and computer engineering at UMaine, and two other graduate students, Travis Russell (former master’s student in electrical engineering, now at Bose) and Ally Di Filippo titled “Adaptive Radio Design for Low Earth Orbit Small Satellites With Limited Bandwidth,” which was presented at the same conference. More information about the conference is [online](#).

Ippolito featured in online Twitter Space panel about impact of NFTs and metaverse on museums

19 Oct 2022

John Ippolito, professor of new media in the School of Computing and Information Science and director of the digital curation program at the University of Maine, was featured on an online panel dedicated to how NFTs and the metaverse are transforming museums. “Blockchain and Museums” on the Web 3.0 Culture Twitter Space hosted by Kate Vass Gallery in Zurich and remotely on Oct. 18, 2022. The recording of the event can be found on [Twitter](#).

UMaine photographer/videographer Patrick Wine wins a CASE Best of District I award

19 Oct 2022

The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District I, which represents the New England states, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces in Canada, has awarded Patrick Wine, a photographer/videographer with the University of Maine Division of Marketing and Communications, a Best in District I award in the Photography Category. Wine, who has worked for the division since 2021, received the award for his [photo](#) of a student studying in Fogler Library. The award is the first Wine earned from CASE. A video directed and edited by Wine, “[UMaine Virtual Tour: This is UMaine](#),” earned [an honorable mention](#) in the digital category at the 2022 University & College Designers Association (UCDA) Design Awards According to CASE, the Best in District awards “honor those whose impact at their institutions and passion for their work exemplify the best of the advancement profession in their district or region.” All 2022 Best of District I award recipients can be found [online](#).

Spire invites submissions for Issue 7

20 Oct 2022

Spire: the Maine Journal of Conservation and Sustainability invites submissions for the seventh issue of the online publication planned for spring 2023. [Issue 6](#), released April 2022, is online. Submissions should in some way concern the environment, conservation and/or sustainability — whether it’s current developments, ongoing issues, scientific findings or artistic insights on environmental themes. Visit the Spire [website](#) to explore past issues to see the range of work included in the journal, as well as submission [guidelines](#). Deadline for submissions is Feb. 1. Send submissions and questions, including about how to join the Spire team, to spire@maine.edu.

Mitchell Center to host talk on UMaine efforts to engage communities in teaching, research and outreach Oct. 31

20 Oct 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled “[Fulfilling our Land Grant Mission: Engaging Communities in Teaching, Research and Outreach](#)” at 3 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 31. The University of Maine is the state’s land grant institution with the tripartite mission of teaching, research and outreach. In this talk, Hannah Carter, associate provost for online & continuing education and dean of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will discuss how UMaine engages with communities across the state and what opportunities there are for increasing these efforts. She also will describe lessons learned from 108 years of outreach through UMaine Extension and ideas for increasing the university’s collective capacity to engage with more communities across the state. As dean of UMaine Extension, Carter provides leadership for its education programs, applied research and scholarship in service to the state and beyond. She is responsible for strategic, fiscal, staffing, personnel and public service matters; staff development; commitment to diversity and inclusion; and compliance with universitywide policies. She helps foster productive relationships with government, industry and public stakeholders in Maine; other units of UMaine and the University of Maine System; and other programs in the national Cooperative Extension System. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and will be offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the [event webpage](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

‘The Maine Question’ explores work of McGillicuddy Humanities Center

20 Oct 2022

For 10 years, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center has bolstered student and faculty creative works and research in history, geography, language, social sciences and the arts. It funds and supports fellowships, lectures, symposia, panels, performances and exhibitions. In this episode five of season seven of “[The Maine Question](#),” Center director Beth Wiemann, discusses her team’s work and the benefits humanities scholarship provides to society. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Fogler Library invites contributions to ‘Then and Now’ online exhibit

20 Oct 2022

[Maine Contemporary Archives](#) (MCA), which Fogler Library participates in, invites individuals, community groups and organizations to contribute to “Then and Now,” a collaborative online exhibit. This exhibit will showcase Maine communities and collections by pairing historical items with related contemporary items. To contribute, submit a “Then and Now” pair of items, one historical and one contemporary. The historical item could be from two years, 20 years or 200 years ago. Use this [form](#) to provide descriptive information about each item and to upload any associated files (text, image, audio and/or video). You can also email files to mca.collaborative@gmail.com. Some ideas:

- Pair a historical view of a neighborhood or natural landscape with a contemporary view of the same scene. Consider using photographs, postcards or artwork.
- Record a brief interview with a family member, friend or neighbor. Ask about one aspect of their life in the past. Then, ask about the present.
- Digitize a letter, journal entry, or scrapbook page. Pair this with a contemporary email, social media post or web page.
- Collect past and present ephemera from local businesses like menus, advertisements or event programs.
- Feel free to mix and match item types. For example, you could pair a photograph taken 50 years ago with a soundscape recorded in the same place today.

Need access to an audio recorder or digitization tools? MCA is piloting a program to lend technology kits to Maine libraries and community organizations. Visit [our tech kits page](#) to request a kit. Contributors agree to share items under the terms of a Creative Commons [Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International](#) license.

Media advance Mitchell Center event about engaging communities

20 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled “Fulfilling our Land Grant Mission: Engaging Communities in Teaching, Research and Outreach” at 3 p.m. on Oct. 31. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#).

Media share third annual Black Bear Exchange food drive

20 Oct 2022

[News Center Maine](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) noted that a campuswide nonperishable food drive to benefit the University of Maine Black Bear Exchange food pantry will be held Nov. 1–Dec. 16, sponsored by UMaine Auxiliary Enterprises and the Green Campus Initiative. WVII (Channel 7 in Bangor) also covered the story. Donation boxes will be located in the University Bookstore, Bear Necessities Fan Shop, Bear’s Den, Hilltop Market, in the Hilltop and York dining halls and at the Children’s Center locations. Black Bear Exchange has specifically requested nonperishable food donations of boxed cereal; oatmeal; peanut butter or nut butter; jelly or jam; tuna fish; and macaroni and cheese. [WBRC](#) (Channel 6 in Birmingham, Alabama) and [WLOX](#) (Biloxi, Mississippi) shared the WABI story.

Settele speaks to Newsweek about Putin

20 Oct 2022

Jim Settele, executive director of the School of Policy and International Affairs at the University of Maine, spoke to [Newsweek](#) about Vladimir Putin’s recent military moves in the Ukraine, like enacting martial law in annexed areas of Ukraine “These are the acts of a desperate country, a desperate government, a desperate president,” Settele, who was once military assistant to former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld from 2001–03, told Newsweek.

MBS’ Myrden invited to lead junior scholars at a global workshop

20 Oct 2022

Susan Myrden, associate professor of marketing at the Maine Business School, has been invited to the Let’s Talk About Service (LTAS) workshop at Hasselt University in Belgium in December. While this won’t be the first time she’s attended LTAS, her participation will include a different role: academic coach. Founded in 2012, LTAS was created for junior scholars to learn more about the world of service research. Each workshop focuses on a particular emerging topic. This year, it will be “Service agility: Moving the discipline forward.” Participants have the opportunity to learn something new regarding research and publications in the field of services. This workshop differentiates itself from others in its focus on teamwork and development. Participants work closely in small teams guided by two academic coaches to develop a research proposal based on a specific topic. At the end of the workshop, each team will present a research proposal to a group of top researchers in the services marketing field. Acceptance to this global program is selective, and scholars must apply. Myrden previously participated in two iterations of LTAS, the first in 2016, where she was one of 28 accepted participants, and the second in 2017, where she was one of 48. “LTAS not only taught me so much about how to approach my research, but it also allowed me to form some amazing connections,” Myrden says. “I’ve published three papers from the team I formed in 2016, and we have new papers in the works.” This time she will represent a small group of academic coaches invited to participate. “It’s such an honor to be invited back,” she says. “When I was a participant, the coaches had an incredible impact on me. I hope I can have the same influence on the participants this year.”

UMaine study reveals how proteins in yeast communicate to find mates

20 Oct 2022

Understanding the family of cellular on/off switches known as G-proteins is important because these proteins control a lot of the communication between cells in the human body and beyond. A new study from the University of Maine has revealed more details about how these essential proteins function in coordinating the cellular response to two contradictory signals in yeast, which could lead to greater understanding of signaling processes involved in human

health. A team of researchers led by Josh Kelley, associate professor of biochemistry at UMaine, study G-proteins in yeast in hopes that it can tell us how these proteins work in humans. A common way that human cells detect the outside world and receive signals from other parts of the body is through receptors that span the cell membrane called G-protein-coupled receptors (GPCR). GPCRs detect chemical signals outside the cell, and turn on a G-protein inside the cell to initiate an internal cell signal. Yeast use a GPCR to detect and grow toward potential mating partners. However, many proteins in the mating pathway are shared with the pathway that controls cell division. This means that when the cell is going through cell division and it gets a signal from a potential mate, it must choose which pathway to use. What the cell is supposed to do is complete cell division first, and then respond to the mating signal, but how this delay in response to the mating signal is mediated is not known. “Cell division is a critical process. When division is abnormal, the cell is no longer able to function properly and in humans, diseases such as cancer can arise,” says Cory Johnson, former Ph.D. student in the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering at the University of Maine who conducted the research for his thesis. During the mating response, an enzyme known as MAP Kinase (MAPK) modifies the regulator of G-protein signaling, or RGS. The RGS turns off the mating pathway, but the reason for the modification was not known. The researchers used strains of yeast with different RGS mutants to examine the effect of the MAPK signaling on where RGS goes during the mating response, and how signaling proteins were distributed through the cell. They found that MAPK modification of the RGS controls where the RGS can be found, but also where the MAPK itself is localized. Most surprisingly, the scientists found that phosphorylation of RGS promotes the completion of cytokinesis — the final division of cells at the end of mitosis — before pheromone-induced growth toward mating partners. They found that the RGS interacts with a protein known to control the end of mitosis, called Kell. RGS binding to Kell turned out to be controlled by the MAPK modification of the RGS, finally answering the long-standing question of why this modification was occurring. Failure to modify the RGS leads to failed cytokinesis, which can have catastrophic effects on the cell. “We were surprised to see such a striking result because until now there was no evidence that the RGS was involved in regulating cell division,” says Johnson. “Broadly, this research is exciting because it sheds light on a potential signaling nexus within cells, where two incoming messages are received and the cells interpret which signal has higher priority to be followed,” says William Simke, co-author of the study and former master’s student at UMaine. “We hope that our data can inform the scientific community of new potential mechanisms related to the development of disease,” says Johnson. The [study](#) was published in August 2022 in the journal *Life Science Alliance*. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Winter Session registration opens Oct. 24

21 Oct 2022

Registration begins Oct. 24 for University of Maine Winter Session. The three-week term runs from Dec. 27, 2022–Jan. 13, 2023. UMaine and University of Maine at Machias courses are now available to view on MaineStreet. The nearly 60 online course offerings include several general education requirements, as well as some upper-level courses. Winter Session courses are intensive in nature, with students earning one to three credits in three weeks. For more information, including a list of courses and how to register, visit the Winter Session [website](#).

Maine Supreme Court Justice Lawrence to speak on civil rights and the courts

21 Oct 2022

Maine Supreme Judicial Court associate justice Rick E. Lawrence will share his perspective on civil rights and the courts as part of the 2022 Robert Talbot Civil Rights Speaker Series, to be held Thursday, Nov. 17, at Wells Conference Center. Co-hosted by the University of Maine Alumni Association and Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP, the event is free and open to the public thanks to a grant from Bangor Savings Bank. The program will begin at 5:30 p.m., preceded by an informal reception beginning at 4:30 p.m. Due to space limitations, attendees should preregister at umainealumni.com/talbot to reserve a seat. Lawrence has been a member of Maine’s judiciary since 2000, when then-Gov. Angus King first appointed him to a seven-year term as a Maine District Court judge. He was subsequently reappointed for additional terms by governors John Baldacci, Paul LePage, and Janet Mills. Earlier this year, Mills appointed Lawrence to Maine’s Supreme Judicial Court. He is the first African American to serve in that role. Immediately following Lawrence’s remarks, he will be joined by Ukeme Awakessien Jeter and Angela Okafor for a conversation and Q&A about civil rights and the law. Jeter is a 2004 UMaine graduate, attorney, and city councilor in Upper Arlington, Ohio. Okafor is an attorney, businesswoman, and Bangor city councilor. Established in 2021 by the University of Maine Alumni Association and the Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP, the Robert Talbot Civil Rights Speaker Series promotes dialogue and engagement to advance equality and justice. The series is named in honor of Robert “Bob” Talbot, a UMaine alumnus and the first executive director of the Maine Human Rights Commission. For decades the Bangor native has been one of Maine’s foremost leaders in the pursuit of racial equality, justice, and non-discriminatory policies and practices. For more information or to register, visit umainealumni.com/talbot.

UMaine Extension 4-H offers expanded options for independent club members

21 Oct 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is piloting a new club specifically for independent 4-H members. The new Independent 4-H Clubs are an opportunity for individuals to come together, virtually or in-person, and build relationships with their peers. They will share interests, projects, goals, plans for the year and reflections at the end of the year. This will be a space for youth to foster friendships and collaborate on projects of similar interests. Independent 4-H’ers are registered with their county organizations, but they don’t belong to a specific club. Instead, they work on their own to develop a project around a topic of their choosing. The new Independent 4-H Clubs will be a way for these individuals to make connections with other youth in their counties or in the state, learn from other projects and gain additional support and guidance. The Independent 4-H Clubs will hold two to three meetings annually. Meetings will be held in Oxford, Franklin, Hancock, Waldo and Androscoggin/Sagadahoc counties. In addition, UMaine Extension 4-H will also host virtual statewide meetings. These meetings are open to all ages. For information about specific meeting dates and to register, visit the [event webpage](#). For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, contact Tara Marble, 207.778.4650; tara.marble@maine.edu.

Media boost UMaine Extension independent 4-H clubs

21 Oct 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [Turner Publishing Inc.](#) shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will be piloting a new club specifically for independent 4-H members. The new Independent 4-H Clubs are an opportunity for individuals to come together, virtually or in-person, and build relationships with their peers. For information about specific meeting dates and to register, visit the [event webpage](#).

Diverse: Issues in Higher Education notes Hegmann-Wary appointment to UMaine interim athletic director

21 Oct 2022

[Diverse: Issues in Higher Education](#) noted that Samantha Hegmann-Wary has been named interim athletic director at the University of Maine.

Gloucester Daily Times shares Birch performance

21 Oct 2022

The [Gloucester Daily Times](#) noted that Kevin Birch, instructor of organ and harpsichord at the University of Maine School of Performing Arts, will perform on Nov. 6, at 3 p.m. at the Annisquam Village Church.

Religion Unplugged features Markides book

21 Oct 2022

In a list of five books to read about Orthodox Christianity in honor of Orthodox Awareness Month, [Religion Unplugged](#) featured “The Mountain of Silence: A Search for Orthodox Spirituality” by Kyriacos Markides, professor emeritus of sociology at the University of Maine.

Chakraborty quoted by Inverse about electric vehicle batteries

21 Oct 2022

[Inverse](#) spoke to Prabuddha Chakraborty, assistant professor of electrical engineering at the University of Maine, about a new study featuring a battery for electric vehicles that can charge as fast as 11 minutes. Electric vehicles have historically been expensive and heavy thanks to their large lithium-ion batteries that require more battery replacements than a traditional combustion-powered car. Another challenge facing the electric vehicle market is “range anxiety,” or the fear of running out of charge in the middle of a trip. “If you look closely, all of these problems are related to the battery,” Chakraborty said.

News Center Maine features UMaine field hockey

21 Oct 2022

[News Center Maine](#) featured the University of Maine’s field hockey team, which is currently ranked 23rd in the country. With three games left in the regular season, the team is preparing for another postseason run after winning its first America East Conference title last year and competing in the NCAA tournament. “We’ve just always had that mentality of, ‘We have to play hard. We’re going to play till the end. We’re going to be a difficult team to beat,’” head coach Josette Babineau said.

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Oct. 24

24 Oct 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update as follows:

- The New Balance Student Fitness Center sidewalk is scheduled for rebuild.
- Building winterization activities are occurring campuswide. Reminder: this time of year can be challenging for building heating systems due to outside air temperature swings.
- Work continues on Holmes and Coburn halls.
- Work on Hauck patio is wrapping up.
- Facilities Management's assistance in planting tulips in the Collins Center for the Arts gardens as part of a mental health awareness campaign is complete.

Maine has a new outdoor math learning lab with unveiling of interactive sculpture at Orono’s Webster Park

24 Oct 2022

An interactive sculpture that harnesses the rays of the sun to help users explore multiplication and division was unveiled Friday in Orono’s Webster Park, the product of a unique partnership between the University of Maine and the Town of Orono. Friday’s event marked the first public installation of the SunRule, which was invented by UMaine associate professor of mathematics education and instructional technology Justin Dimmel and associate professor of mathematics education Eric Pandiscio. The prototype sculpture was designed and built by UMaine associate professor of art Greg Ondo and sculpture studio technician Sam Hoey. Recent UMaine graduate Emma Reedman ’21 also was a member of the development team. “Celebrating the installation of the first SunRule right here in Orono is only fitting,” says Dimmel. “Eric and I started this project in the first days of the pandemic, envisioning a handheld device made of cardboard that teachers could use outside. Through UMaine’s MIRT accelerator program, our idea broadened, and we pivoted to develop an interactive sculpture that can be installed in parks, schools and museums. The functional, beautiful statue in Webster Park is a true testament to interdisciplinary collaboration and a teaching innovation that we’re so excited to share with Maine and the world.” UMaine’s MIRT accelerator is designed to advance research along the path to commercialization, turning lab innovations into real-world products and services with public benefit. Dimmel and Pandiscio participated in the program in 2021, and the opportunity to install the first sculpture in Orono developed through the SunRule team’s collaboration with the town’s director of community and economic development Mitch Stone, who served as an external adviser. “Orono and UMaine work closely on a wide range of projects, but innovative and educational public art is certainly a first,” says Stone. “Locating the first SunRule in Webster Park means that students of all ages will have the opportunity to explore math outdoors and to help the SunRule team test their concept. We’re delighted that the university has

donated this sculpture to the town.” The SunRule presents multiplication and division in a new way and in a new environment, bringing learners outside and allowing them to visualize, using a scaling model, how these foundational mathematical concepts work. Sun shining through a series of slits in a ring that surrounds a circular bronze plate reflects onto a grid on the plate’s face. The angle of the plate can be adjusted by users, allowing them to manipulate the beam of light to multiply by different numbers. “The SunRule helps users see multiplication as a continuous, stretching concept, providing a strong foundation for the ideas of ratio, scaling and slope that are critical to help students build necessary math skills as they progress through school grades,” says Pandiscio. The SunRule is located in the west end of Webster Park, a short walk from the parking area. Designed to function best when the sun is high in the sky around midday, the SunRule is ready for use any time the sun is shining. “Bringing UMaine research to life for the benefit of Maine people is a key goal of MIRTa,” says UMaine assistant vice president of innovation and economic development and MIRTa program director Renee Kelly. “Partnering with the Town of Orono to showcase the SunRule project in the heart of the university community is an ideal outcome that encourages public engagement and beautifully demonstrates the SunRule concept for prospective partners.” Contact: Ashley Forbes, ashley.forbes@maine.edu

UMaine 2022 Veterans Week activities planned Nov. 7–11

24 Oct 2022

Editor's note: This announcement has been corrected to reflect the accurate dates for games hosted by UMaine Athletics as part of its Military Appreciation Series. The University of Maine will celebrate Veterans Week Nov. 7–11 with several events leading up to the holiday, organized by the office of Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) in the Division of Student Life. The weeklong celebration commences with a flag raising ceremony to honor the veteran community at noon Nov. 7 in front of Fogler Library, followed by a student veteran barbeque at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King Memorial Plaza. Nov. 9, author, former Green Beret and UMaine alum Ryan Stovall will read excerpts from and sign copies of his book “Black Snowflakes Smothering a Torch: How to Talk to Your Veteran — a Primer” from 10–11:30 a.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union. Nov. 10, the VETS Center will offer student veterans lunch vouchers at 11 a.m. Prior to Veterans Week, UMaine Army ROTC will face off against Navy ROTC in their annual flag football game at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 3 at Alford Stadium. UMaine Athletics is offering active duty military members and veterans, and their family members, complimentary tickets to multiple games as part of its Military Appreciation Series. The first happened Sept. 10, in which the UMaine football team faced off against Colgate University. The next game in the Military Appreciation Series will be Dec. 11, during which the women's basketball team will play against the U.S. Military Academy West Point. The UMaine hockey team also will play in a Military Appreciation game in spring 2023. For more information, contact Tony Llerena, tony.llerena@maine.edu.

WABI covers Orono Energy Efficiency Fair

24 Oct 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on the first Orono Energy Efficiency Fair, which was hosted by the University of Maine and the Town of Orono on Oct. 22. The project was funded by a Community Resilience Partnership Climate Action Grant, and UMaine’s Sustainability Office. Organizers say Orono’s goal is to comply with the document Maine Won’t Wait, which says it wants the state to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2030.

Phys.org covers UMaine yeast study

24 Oct 2022

[Phys.org](#) reported on a new study from the University of Maine that has revealed more details about how G-proteins function in coordinating the cellular response to two contradictory signals in yeast, which could lead to greater understanding of signaling processes involved in human health.

WABI covers Black Bear 5K

24 Oct 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported on the second annual Black Bear 5K at the University of Maine’s Harold Alford Sports Stadium. “The course is a pretty flat course, so it’s designed for somebody who really wants to have a good time, but also just wants to run,” said Thad Dwyer, assistant director of campus recreation.

BDN shares UMaine alum and former Green Beret’s book of poetry and fiction about war trauma

24 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) featured Ryan Stovall, University of Maine alum and former Green Beret, and his first book, “[Black Snowflakes Smothering a Torch](#)” which he hopes will help others with post-traumatic stress disorder know they’re not alone and inform readers of how nuanced the effects of trauma can be. The book will be released Nov. 1. Stovall will do a book reading and signing event in the Memorial Union at 10 a.m. on Nov. 9.

Media feature Long obituary

24 Oct 2022

The [New York Times](#), [Boston Globe](#), [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Yahoo News](#) featured an obituary for Ngo Vinh Long, former professor of history at the University of Maine, who died on Oct. 12 in Bangor at the age of 78. Long was the most prominent Vietnamese in the United States to campaign against the war, and his outspokenness during and after the Vietnam War drew threats and an attempt on his life.

PenBay Pilot, Courier-Gazette boost Socolow presentation at Union Historical Society

24 Oct 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) and [Courier-Gazette](#) shared that Michael Socolow, associate professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication

and Journalism, will present about the outsized role Maine played in national radio in the 1920s and '30s at Union Historical Society's meeting on Nov. 9 at 7 p.m.

Media report on UMaine alum Peña named American League Championship Series MVP

24 Oct 2022

The [Associated Press](#), [USA Today](#), [CBS Sports](#), [Portland Press Herald](#), [Houston Chronicle](#), [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor), [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland), [WLNE](#) (ABC 6 in Providence, Rhode Island), [WBLM-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [WCYY-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [WJBQ-FM](#) (Portland, Maine) and other outlets reported that Jeremy Peña, former baseball player for the University of Maine and current player for the Houston Astros, was named the American League Championship Series MVP. The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared the AP report. [Yahoo News](#) and the [Sun Journal](#) shared the PPH report.

BDN shares jazz performance at UMaine, UMaine Machias

24 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that renowned jazz musicians Bruce Barth and Steve Wilson will perform at the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias. The two musicians' UMaine concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 27 at the Minsky Recital Hall in Class of '44 Hall. The UMaine Machias show will be held at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 28 at the Performing Arts Center. Purchase tickets for either concert or learn more about the shows on the [Collins Center website](#).

Molloy speaks to Modern Farm about buckwheat revival

24 Oct 2022

Tom Molloy, research associate in sustainable agriculture with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to [Modern Farmer](#) about the rising popularity of buckwheat. "Farmers love it as a short-season, quick-growing cover crop. It's fairly fast growing and it's competitive with weeds," Molloy said.

Media report on SunRule

24 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [News Center Maine](#) and [WABI](#) reported on a new interactive math learning lab in Orono's Webster Park called SunRule, which combines math with art using rays of sunlight to explore multiplication and division. Eric Pandiscio and Justin Dimmel, associate professors of mathematics education at the University of Maine, developed the model with the help of Greg Ondo, associate professor of sculpture at UMaine.

Brewer speaks to PPH about top voter concerns this election

24 Oct 2022

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Portland Press Herald](#) in response to a poll about the top concerns for Maine voters this election season. Access to abortion, which has been a major focus of Democrats' campaign, was only named by 16% of respondents as one of the most important issues. "When Roe was overturned, it kind of threw a bunch of things into flux and abortion kind of sucked up all of the energy in the room and that gave a lot of Democrats some hope. But once we have gotten further away from that, the things that were concerning voters before Roe was overturned seems to have pushed their way back to the top of the list," Brewer said. [Yahoo News](#), [Maine Monitor](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the PPH report.

MacRae, Mallory speak to Maine Monitor about PFAS

24 Oct 2022

Jean MacRae, a professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, and Ellen Mallory, professor of sustainable agriculture and Extension specialist at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, were interviewed by the [Maine Monitor](#) for an article about how "forever chemicals" got into Maine's soils and food systems. MacRae said that PFOA and PFOS can form from other chemical precursors in settings like wastewater treatment plants. Mallory said the researchers have found that these two compounds are predominant among the PFAS compounds being found in Maine farm soils where sludge was applied.

Fogler Library resource on Millay cited on JSTOR Daily

24 Oct 2022

In an article about the Edna St. Vincent Millay 'Renascence,' [JSTOR Daily](#) cited Letter 1 from Millay to Gladys Niles in the Edna St. Vincent Millay Papers, 1912–1922, which are housed at the Fogler Library at the University of Maine.

Bicks featured on Financial Times podcast

24 Oct 2022

Caroline Bicks, professor of English at the University of Maine, was featured on [FT Weekend](#), a podcast from the Financial Times, discussing the enduring appeal of Jane Austen's novel "Pride and Prejudice." The conversation also featured Brooke Masters, U.S. investment and industries editor at the Financial Times.

Brewer speaks to Boston Globe about LePage

24 Oct 2022

The [Boston Globe](#) interviewed Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about former governor Paul LePage's election campaign. Brewer said that he does not think LePage benefits in 2022 from connecting himself with Trump, who has been besieged by lawsuits and damaging findings from the Jan. 6 investigative committee. "I don't think those comparisons hurt him, but I don't think they have helped him, either. There are very few people out there voting who don't have an opinion of him already. You're either for Paul LePage or you're not," Brewer said.

Klose publishes memoir about adopting Ukrainian orphan

24 Oct 2022

Robert Klose, professor in the University of Maine Honors College, has published a memoir about adopting a Ukrainian orphan as a single man called "Adopting Anton — A Single Man Seeks a Son in Ukraine."

Mayewski to deliver 2022 Judge Frank M. Coffin Lecture on Law and Public Service

24 Oct 2022

Paul Mayewski, director of the University of Maine Climate Institute, will deliver the [2022 Judge Frank M. Coffin Lecture on Law and Public Service](#) hosted by the University of Maine School of Law at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27 at Hannaford Hall on the University of Southern Maine's Portland campus. Mayewski's talk, titled "Climate Perspective in A Rapidly Changing World," will be the 30th annual Judge Frank M. Coffin Lecture. The lecture is free and open to the public. Visit the [Maine Law website](#) for more information and to register. Mayewski is an internationally acclaimed glaciologist, climate scientist and polar explorer who has led more than 60 expeditions to some of the remotest reaches of the planet. He has more than 475 scientific publications and has written two popular books, "The Ice Chronicles" and "Journey Into Climate."

UMaine-led delegation of students, faculty attending UN climate summit

25 Oct 2022

A University of Maine-led delegation of students and faculty will witness world leaders, diplomats and experts negotiate global policies to address climate change at a United Nations summit from Nov. 7–18 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. By attending the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27), graduate students and faculty from UMaine and the University of Maine School of Law will learn first-hand how delegates, scientists and other stakeholders devise initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions worldwide and help countries mitigate the effects of global warming. Delegation members also will have the opportunity to help write statements to present to country negotiators and network with high-level diplomats, fellow scientists and lawyers, and other stakeholders during the summit. Additionally, they will watch as research from UMaine and other institutions informs policy decisions on the world stage. For some faculty, observing negotiations will support their own climate change and global policy studies. The delegation is co-headed by Cindy Isenhour, an associate professor of anthropology and climate change, and Nicholas Micinski, an assistant professor of political science and international affairs. Other members from UMaine include Adam Daignault, E.L. Giddings Associate Professor of Forest Policy & Economics; Daniel Hayes, an associate professor of remote sensing and geospatial analysis; Gabrielle Hillyer, a Ph.D. student in ecology and environmental scientists; Julia Hiltonsmith, a Ph.D. student of anthropology and environmental policy; and Victoria Markiewicz, a master's student with the School of Policy and International Affairs. The members from Maine Law are Anthony Moffa, an associate professor of law, and Mikala Bolmer, a J.D. candidate. "This is an absolutely incredible opportunity for the University of Maine and for graduate students in particular," Isenhour says. "I think it's a real opportunity for higher education to take a leadership role in climate mitigation. Opportunities like this are also just priceless for students to learn about climate governance." During COP27, Isenhour will provide scientific expertise to negotiators participating in the technical workshops of the Global Stocktake. The Paris Agreement includes a provision to "take stock" of progress on global goals for emissions and adaptation every five years. Isenhour, who has studied the politics of carbon accounting for five years, says she plans to "share information during the technical dialogs about alternative carbon accounting systems that can help to raise ambition and contribute to climate justice for developing economies." The summit also will feature discussions surrounding other aspects of carbon monitoring, public and private financing of climate change mitigation efforts, research, water governance, land use, renewable energy and other technologies, migration and refugees, equity and justice, and resilience and sustainability, all of which UMaine and Maine Law delegation members can attend. Government and nongovernmental delegations will host their own workshops and booths about different climate change-related issues and policies to address them, and their work to help tackle the problem. "The importance of COP27 to the future of our planet and to the education of the next generation of climate policy leaders from UMaine and Maine Law cannot be understated," Moffa says. "Our environmental and oceans law program will join a select group from the U.S. legal academy whose research will directly contribute to, and benefit from, international climate negotiations." The UNFCCC [awarded UMaine observer status](#) last year during COP26. As a research and nongovernmental organization, UMaine will join the meetings as a member of the Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organizations (RINGO) constituency. Isenhour serves as the RINGO representative to the technical workshops on a key aspect of this year's negotiations, the Global Stocktake. This allows her to provide research-based guidance for global carbon accounting. Members of the group are not present to negotiate or advocate specific political positions, but to provide scientific information or to study the negotiation process. UMaine joins a list of RINGO organizations that include top-ranked universities and nonprofits from across the U.S. and the world. UMaine's application for observer status came after several UMaine faculty and students were given the opportunity to attend the UN Climate Negotiations in 2017 and 2018, made possible with assistance from Dan and Betty Churchill. Among the members of the UMaine-led delegation to COP27, however, Isenhour is the only one who previously attended a UN climate summit. "We appreciate the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has granted us observer status and recognized UMaine's leadership in climate change and global policy research and education," says President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "By attending COP27, graduate students from UMaine and Maine Law will gain knowledge and connections that will better equip them to help study and understand the effects of climate change and increase global sustainability as future scientists, policymakers and perhaps even world leaders." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Wesley Hutchins: Studying and advocating for migrating monarchs

25 Oct 2022

Wesley Hutchins knows how to handle butterflies. The third-year University of Maine undergraduate studying wildlife ecology has spent the past two summers carefully gluing radio transmitters the size of a grain of rice to the abdomen of monarch butterflies, where it won't get in the way of its wings or legs. "It is very delicate," Hutchins says. "I take a very, very small amount of super glue that you dip the tag in. I pinch the monarch in my fingers belly up, and I hold the tag there for about 30 seconds to be sure it's attached. Sometimes the butterfly is really wiggly and you have to set it aside and do it in a few minutes. If the butterfly isn't having it, it can't be done." For the past two summers, Hutchins has tracked monarch butterflies to learn more about how they behave — more specifically, how long they stay where they emerge from their chrysalises before starting the multi-thousand migration south for the winter. His undergraduate research has allowed him to cultivate a passion for insects — and share that passion with the local community. Hutchins grew up in Swanville, where he was interested in wildlife from an early age. He says some of his earliest memories involve watching the family bird feeder or flipping over rocks looking for critters. He found insects particularly fascinating; he remembers a book of magnified insects that enthralled him because "they seemed so alien and cool." Hutchins had an early knack for research, too. In high school, he applied for and was awarded a grant from the Coleopterists Society to conduct a study on the beetles in his backyard. "That was the earliest sort of serious research I conducted. I really enjoyed that. I thought it was really cool," Hutchins says. When he came to UMaine, Hutchins knew that he wanted to study wildlife ecology. "There was never a second option in my mind. I wanted to study wildlife in itself and how they relate to each other and other aspects of the ecosystem. I just find all of that so fascinating," Hutchins says. Coming out of high school, Hutchins was named a [Maine Top Scholar](#), which provided him with funding to conduct research during his undergraduate years. He scoured the university's faculty pages until he came across Amber Roth, assistant professor of forest wildlife management, and he reached out to see if she could help him develop a project. Roth works with data from the Motus Wildlife Tracking System, or Motus, for her research about birds. The collaborative research network uses radio receiving stations to track tagged animals as they travel along their migratory paths. Because Hutchins was interested in invertebrates, he and Roth began talking about using Motus to study monarch butterflies in Maine. Hutchins was interested in the behavior of monarchs that hatch in Maine before they begin their migration southward. With Roth, he devised a research project the summer after his freshman year to watch how long the tagged butterflies were picked up by area Motus stations before they started flying south. "That was a question that I don't believe has really been addressed before in other scientific literature that I've been able to find," Hutchins says. "I wanted to know how long does it take for them to fuel up before they move or are they mostly fueled up already from energy reserves. Last summer the average length of time they stuck around was about four days." This past summer, he was able to secure a grant to purchase more tags for the butterflies and expanded his research to look at the differences in how long it takes monarchs that are wild born versus those raised in captivity to start their migration. Hutchins captured monarch caterpillars from Fields Pond Audubon Center at his home in Swanville, feeding them milkweed from the roadside and waiting for them to form and emerge from their chrysalises before tagging them and bringing them back to where they were born. Roth has been impressed with Hutchins' commitment to the conservation of monarch butterflies — and the delicate methodology of his project. "It's not something everyone is comfortable with, handling a butterfly and gluing a tag on correctly and he was rearing all these caterpillars at his house," Roth says. "He's really gotten into caring for the caterpillars and the butterflies and figuring out how to make this project work." Hutchins' passion for his subject extends beyond his research. This past year, he volunteered at the Fields Pond Audubon Center's Butterfly Festival, even appearing on [Fox 22 Bangor](#) talking about the event and his research alongside David Lamon, manager of the center. He has also worked with Roth to talk about science with high school students as part of the Cobscook Institute's high school program when they visited the Orono campus. "I love it when undergraduates can fill those roles. For high school students, a college undergraduate is much closer in age to them so they can see that person as a role model," Roth says. "It's cooler if you have someone who's 20 talking to you about how awesome science is. They can picture themselves in that role." As far as his research goes, though, Hutchins said that it's a little too early to tell what he can learn from his past summer studying monarchs, but he hopes that what he is eventually able to reveal about the way these "charismatic," "fan favorite" insects behave in the Pine Tree State will be able to play a role in their protection. "They were just recently listed as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The more that we can know about these animals, the better we can work towards conserving them. Milkweed is the [only group of plants they'll feed on](#), so just knowing their lifespan, knowing not to mow your lawn because it's only been two days and the butterflies stick around for four, it can help protect them." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine awarded \$79K NOAA grant to study climate change resilience for mobile homes

25 Oct 2022

The University of Maine will partner with regional institutions to study climate change resilience of mobile home parks in the Northeast, thanks to funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA). The NOAA [Climate Adaptation Partnerships program](#), formerly the Regional Integrated Science and Assessments (RISA) program, awarded more than \$79,000 to Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, for a study of climate change resilience in mobile home park communities along with collaborators in New Hampshire and Vermont. Mobile home park communities are commonly found in rural and ex-urban areas in the northern New England states of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. Mobile homes in parks are an affordable housing option at a time when there is a regional housing crisis. However, these communities are especially vulnerable to climate-related extreme events. Most parks were developed before land use regulations were in place and are sited in low-cost, but often unsuitable and hazardous locations vulnerable to risks presented by climate change. For example, in Vermont, 6% of mobile home parks had land in floodways with more than 20% of parks at least partially located in FEMA-mapped floodplains, according to prior research from the University of Vermont. During Tropical Storm Irene, mobile homes accounted for 15% of homes damaged during the storm in Vermont, though mobile made up only 7% of the state's housing stock. "Mobile, or manufactured, homes are susceptible to damage from severe weather such as high winds and excessive rainfall, especially for structures that are not anchored," says Birkel. Birkel, along with colleagues at the Universities of New Hampshire and Vermont, will use the NOAA grant to develop a deeper understanding of how mobile home parks in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont are being impacted by climate change. They will create a database of mobile home park communities in the three states — Vermont is the only of the three that currently maintains a mobile home park registry — and convene meetings with representatives of the mobile home park communities to determine climate change impacts in different ecoregions across the Northeast. The meetings will also build relationships that will support climate resilience efforts with mobile home park frontline communities. "Mobile home communities are an important part of Vermont's affordable housing landscape, yet, as Tropical Storm Irene demonstrated, they face greater risks from climate change," says Kelly Hamshaw, co-principal investigator and senior lecturer in the Department of Community Development and Applied Economics at the University of Vermont. "This collaboration across northern New England will allow us to better understand the disproportionate risks posed by climate change, build partnerships across sectors and take a broader look at challenges and opportunities for supporting the resilience of these unique communities across the region." "Mobile home park management structures and practices vary from one community to the next and in many parks, residents may own their home but not the land," says Mary Stampone, co-principal investigator and associate professor of geography at the University of New Hampshire. "These factors present a different set of challenges, unique to mobile home park communities, that must also be considered when assessing the risks posed by climate change." The researchers will also identify key external agencies and connect local and nonlocal stakeholders like state agencies and nonprofits that can reduce the vulnerabilities of the communities to climate change. Then, they will hold a final cross-state virtual meeting of all key stakeholders to discuss commonalities across each state and to develop an action roadmap for future collaboration and information

sharing. “By reaching out to vulnerable communities we can learn their climate adaptation and resiliency needs, and help connect people to needed resources. Ultimately, this project contributes to the important work of [Maine’s Climate Action Plan](#),” says Birkel. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Maine Public to rebroadcast UMaine video about rising sea levels

25 Oct 2022

Maine Public will rebroadcast a University of Maine-produced video about rising sea levels in Maine on Nov. 3 and 5 as part of the station’s film series. “[Rising Tides: Changes in Sea Level along the Maine Coast](#),” produced by Ron Lisnet, manager of visual media for UMaine’s Division of Marketing and Communications, will be included in a [collection of short films](#) that begin airing at 9 p.m. on Nov. 3 and 2 p.m. on Nov. 5. The video, released in 2021, features Joseph Kelley, professor emeritus with the School of Earth and Climate Sciences. In the film, he explains how scientists know that ocean levels are rising, and explores evidence for past and present changes in sea level at Acadia National Park.

Media share Mitchell Center event about community resilience

25 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Sun Journal](#) noted that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled “How can community-engaged researchers contribute to coastal community resilience?” at 3 p.m. on Nov. 7. Heather Leslie, director of UMaine’s Darling Marine Center, will discuss how the emerging science of social-ecological systems has shaped the interdisciplinary research that she, her students and community partners conduct in Maine. To register and receive connection information, visit the [event webpage](#).

PPH highlights UMaine Extension Horticulture Apprentice Training Program

25 Oct 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) featured University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s Horticulture Apprentice Training Program, designed to produce entry-level workers who might stay in the profession for many years. The courses will be conducted online through March, taught by teachers from the participating high schools, and professionals from UMaine Extension; the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; the Maine Landscape and Nursery Association; and other lecturers. Two schools, Portland Arts and Technology High School and Skowhegan Area High School, are partnering with the program this year. Rebecca Long, an Oxford County-based sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional with the UMaine Extension, said that graduates of the Horticulture Apprentice Training Program could fill a big need. “It’s sort of going back to the days when high schools had shop class and auto-repair courses, so students had a leg up when they graduated,” Long said.

Volin pens op-ed for Hechinger Report

25 Oct 2022

John Volin, executive vice president for Academic Affairs and provost at the University of Maine, wrote an opinion piece for the [Hechinger Report](#) about how Maine is addressing the decline in higher education enrollment. “Making sure college remains affordable is vital, but so are keeping a deliberative focus on a students’ overall well-being and expanding the narrative that earning a college degree is essential for socioeconomic mobility,” Volin said.

NYT, New Scientist quote Ortega Jimenez in article about bee research

25 Oct 2022

The [New York Times](#) and [New Scientist](#) quoted Victor Ortega Jimenez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology and biomechanics in the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology, about new research from the University of Bristol that shows warming honeybees can produce a greater electric charge for their density than a thunderstorm cloud. The charge could serve an unknown purpose as bees use electric fields to forage for food, and Ortega Jimenez postulated that the same phenomenon may happen with other flying, swarming animals like birds and bats. “These are all interesting questions that this paper opens to investigate,” he said. [The Scientist](#), [Smithsonian](#) and [Upworthy](#) shared the New Scientist article.

Gårder featured on WalletHub discussing safe cities

25 Oct 2022

Per Gårder, professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, was featured as an expert answering questions in a [WalletHub](#) article about the Safest States in America. Gårder discussed the risks that people should weigh when choosing a place to live, including crime, weather, pollution and dangerous workplaces. The [Washington Examiner](#) and [The Street](#) quoted the WalletHub report, and the [Charlotte Observer](#), [Lexington Herald-Leader](#), [Kansas City Star](#), [Sacramento Bee](#), [Miami Herald](#), [Idaho Statesman](#), [Fresno Bee](#) [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#) and other national outlets shared The Street report.

News Center Maine features UMaine student Goldman’s eDNA research

25 Oct 2022

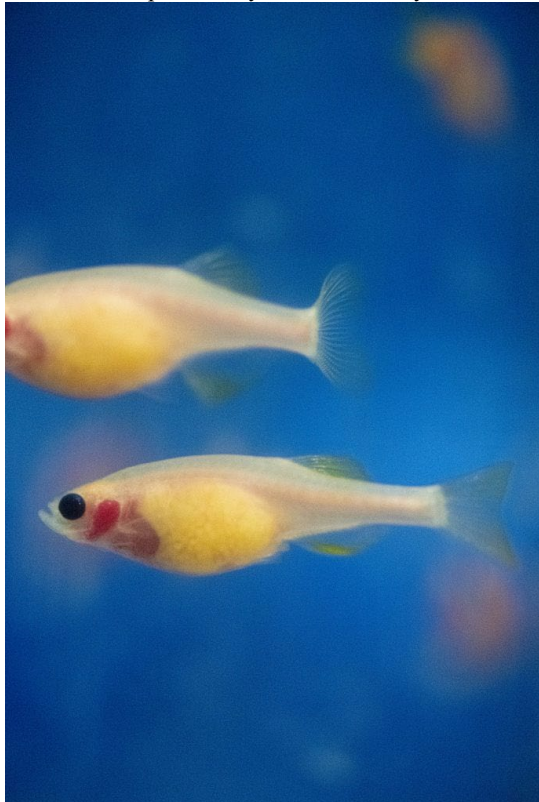
[News Center Maine](#) featured Luke Goldman, undergraduate researcher at the University of Maine, and his work using eDNA to study the rate of recovery from pollution in a forested area called Bear Brook in Washington County. Goldman said this research could help farmers understand how quickly their soil can recover after certain agricultural practices. “eDNA has only really become a field in the last 10 to 12 years, we’re really only scratching the surface of this new tool. “Hopefully the soil rebounds. ... If we ever do decide to rid away with synthetic fertilizer, we have the ability to do that today instead of waiting for the soil to recover,” Goldman said.

The University of Maine's zebrafish facility is a bastion of research

25 Oct 2022

Editor's note: Story updated Nov. 1.

In the two adjacent rooms, the air is thick with an almost tropical humidity and a quiet gurgling sound comes from a complex circulating water system. Inside, racks of tanks hold tens of thousands of tiny fish. They are all zebrafish — an inch-long relative of the minnow native to South Asia — but a close look reveals their variations: transparent “Casper” zebrafish; fish dyed with purple, red and green markers; and fish with spots instead of stripes, or long flowing fins in place of the stubbier standard set. The impressive set-up comprises the University of Maine's Zebrafish Facility, which was the first of its kind in Maine when it launched in 2003. Four years ago, it became a [Coordinated Operating Research Entities](#) (CORE) unit, providing research and development resources for Maine and beyond. UMaine was one of the first institutions in New England to use the zebrafish as a model organism for research looking at everything from muscular dystrophy to bacterial infections. Over the past two decades, researchers at the University of Maine have made groundbreaking discoveries with these tiny fish — and they are just getting started. Zebrafish have many advantages as a model organism. They have been used for over a century to study developing embryos because their fertilization and development are external, and the embryos are translucent and easy to manipulate. Zebrafish genomes are similar to humans, particularly their immune systems, but they mature quickly, mate in large batches and their genes are easy to tinker



with for genetic research.

Compared to other common model organisms like mice, zebrafish are also inexpensive and space efficient. UMaine's Zebrafish Facility is a testament to that, boasting 21 recirculating racks of tanks for genetics and development work in its main 20 by 30 foot room in Hitchner Hall, plus another room next door with seven racks of tanks and one isolated rack for disease and toxicology research. There are a total of 1,700 tanks 3- and 10-liter tanks throughout the system, with space for over 30,000 zebrafish. Before the facility was set up in its current iteration, former UMaine professor Carol Kim had managed several tanks for her own research on the innate immune response to pathogens and environmental toxicants starting in 1999. Kim, who eventually served as the director of the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering and university's Vice President for Research, spearheaded the effort to expand the facility to include more researchers. Mark Nilan, the facility's operations manager, worked with the UMaine Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research to set up the lab in 2003 while completing his undergraduate degree in aquaculture (a program that was eventually restructured into a certificate in 2007). “In the early days when they set up these labs they would just put people who had a fish tank and that was a disaster,” Nilan says. “UMaine set up for success with its certification in aquaculture.” Nilan said that current system is more analog than many modern zebrafish lab set ups — he balances the pH of the water himself instead of digitally, for example — but that hands-on approach is part of what he believes has kept the lab from having any major incidents of zebrafish mortality since he has managed it. He recruits students through the aquaculture minor at the School of Marine Sciences for daily “animal husbandry” tasks like cleaning tanks, performing maintenance and feeding the fish. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee regularly checks on the lab to ensure its animal subjects are treated ethically and humanely. Though the facility in and of itself is impressive, the research and education done there is perhaps even more so. Robert Wheeler, associate professor in the Department of Molecular & Biomedical Sciences and faculty liaison for Zebrafish Facility, said that there are currently five labs at the University of Maine that are “100% committed to working with zebrafish.” His lab uses zebrafish to study [fungal pathogens in hospital settings](#). Ben King uses zebrafish for genetics projects in his bioinformatics lab, while Melody Neely's lab studies host-pathogen interactions during bacterial infections. [Clarissa Henry](#) uses zebrafish to study [muscular dystrophy](#), and Jared Talbot's lab uses zebrafish for research on muscle development (he has just [won an award](#) for his efforts to share zebrafish with the scientific community). The facility also supports teaching at the School of Biology and Ecology, Molecular and Biomedical Sciences at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast by, for example, providing zebrafish embryos to classes studying early development. Researchers across the country can order zebrafish embryos from the facility, too. Since 2017, the UMaine zebrafish facility has earned over \$7.2 million in extramural funding from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation and Burroughs Wellcome Fund, as well as over \$104,000 in intramural funding from the University of Maine and University of Maine System. Over 90 undergraduates have been trained through the lab for highly skilled jobs and graduate school at prestigious institutions, as well as 35 graduate students and 1 post-doctoral fellow. The facility has produced 42 peer-reviewed publications in journals like Nature, Cell Reports, Cell Host & Microbe and eLife. The facility has conducted community outreach with over 120 high school students. Students who collaborated with Henry to use the facility's zebrafish won first place in eCYBERMISSION, a virtual STEM competition for grades 6-9. Wheeler expects the success of the

facility will only grow as zebrafish become an increasingly popular model organism. He says there are grants in the works to “significantly increase” the size of the UMaine Zebrafish Facility by adding more rooms for racks in Hitchner Hall. “One of the things that happens when the community keeps growing is that there are more and more tools that get developed, more and more foundational knowledge that gets discovered. The combination fuels a more rapid science that attracts more people, builds more tools and this feeds back again.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Samuel Weafer: Using student research to become a better scientist

25 Oct 2022

When Samuel Weafer decided he wanted to do research as an undergraduate, the perfect project and the right mentor seemed to find him. Weafer’s research experience in Benjamin King’s lab in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences has taught him invaluable scientific skills, but he says it has also shown him that it is OK to fail — and that, more than anything, has made him a better scientist. Weafer says that he started studying molecular and cellular biology “kind of accidentally.” He had always been interested in science, but was not an especially motivated student before arriving at UMaine. “I was just looking for a science major and I wanted to take something cool,” Weafer says. “I found molecular and cell biology, and the rest is history. It was the best decision I ever made.” Weafer says he “almost got destroyed” his first year in the major, but he was too interested in the subject to give up. As he started taking higher level courses — Immunology, Molecular Genetics and Advanced Biochemistry were a few of his favorites — he says his GPA has “skyrocketed.” “I learned a lot of things about myself as a student and my learning process,” Weafer says. “It just takes time and dedication, and you just have to work at it.” The summer after his sophomore year, Weafer did an internship at ElevateBio, a biotechnology company in Massachusetts. When he came back to school, he wanted to continue developing his research skills and started looking around at different labs in the department. He tagged along with a friend to the King lab, where he happened to meet his future mentor, [Ph.D. student Brandy Soos](#). He told her he was interested in gateway cloning, a process that uses bacteria to manipulate genetic material for use in experiments. “She kind of recruited me,” Weafer says. “We were a good match. I was interested in this project and had a goal, and she had a project ready for me.” Over the past year, Weafer has worked with Soos in the lab to help create new transgenic zebrafish needed to study genes that regulate the inflammatory response following viral infection. The goal is to have a zebrafish that will express a fluorescent protein when one of the inflammatory genes is turned on in a specific immune cell. Confocal microscopes can then be used to study where and when the gene is expressed in the zebrafish. Weafer is using a molecular biology method, called Gateway cloning, to arrange segments of DNA copied from the zebrafish gene next to DNA that codes for a fluorescent protein in bacteria. After many steps, the engineered DNA produced by the bacteria can then be inserted into the genome of the zebrafish. However — as often happens when on the cutting edge of science — Weafer has run into some challenges. “We had a lot of really bad samples,” Weafer says. “You can’t do anything unless your DNA is pure, uncontaminated and unaltered, and there’s a number of different things that can cause reactions to fail.” Weafer is confident that his experiment will eventually work, but he is feeling a time crunch, as he is set to graduate next year. “The reason people spend 10, 20, 30 years on projects is because science just takes time,” Weafer says. “Failure is part of the process and it’s how we optimize our protocols.” Weafer says that throughout the process, his mentorship from Soos has been invaluable. “She is always ready to problem-solve and she wants me involved in the process,” Weafer says. “We’ve figured out a lot of our research-related issues. I think we’ve made a lot of progress on that front.” While Weafer waited for a new gateway cloning kit to revamp his project next year, he worked at ElevateBio again this summer. The work he did there is different from what he does in King’s Lab. At ElevateBio, Weafer focused on cancer immunotherapies, specifically for blood cancers like leukemia, but what he learned in the lab still applied to his internship. “As far as being methodical and comfortable with learning new protocols, it will have an immediate effect,” Weafer says. “I am a much better scientist than I was a year ago.” After Weafer graduates next year, he plans to attend the Roux Institute at Northeastern University in Portland for the biotechnology program, pursuing a master’s degree in biotechnology with a concentration in business development with the goal of running his own biotechnology company. Even if he doesn’t pursue research professionally, Weafer says that King’s lab has been an invaluable learning experience. “It’s provided me with the raw skills and the resistance to failure,” Weafer says. “Those things are super important and I think everybody needs to have industry and academic experience.” Weafer thinks that all undergraduates who are interested in science should get involved with research, even if they find the coursework challenging. “It’s fun and you get to sit and do cool stuff that you care about,” Weafer says. “I think everybody needs to give it a try.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Brandy Soos: Mentorship and research go hand in hand

25 Oct 2022

Brandy Soos came to the University of Maine with years of lab experience, but the Ph.D. student’s research on influenza A virus in [Ben King’s lab](#) may be her most cutting-edge project yet — and she’s training the next generation of scientists while she does it. Soos says she “got bitten by the science bug” when she accidentally took a senior-level genetic engineering course as a sophomore at the Rochester Institute of Technology. By her senior year, she was presenting research on yeast prions, and was recruited to go to Japan to study the genetics underpinning retinitis pigmentosa, a disorder that causes blindness, using zebrafish as a model organism. After her research experience abroad, Soos returned stateside and spent some time studying testicular germ cell tumors in Boston. Then, she moved on to a lab in New Mexico to research HIV — her first research experience looking at viruses and how they hijack the genes in the immune system in order to reproduce. She was hooked. Soos wanted to keep studying viruses and thought that someday she might want to run her own lab, so she applied to Ph.D. programs throughout New England to be closer to family in her native Massachusetts. When UMaine researchers Carol Kim and Ben King reached out to directly admit her as a graduate research assistant — which meant that she wouldn’t have to do rotations as a teaching assistant and could focus on science — it was an offer she couldn’t refuse. Plus, King’s lab used [zebrafish](#), which, throughout her many years of research, had become Soos’ favorite model organism to study how viruses impact the innate immune system — that is, the body’s natural protection from outside invaders. Soos says that there is about 78% homology between human genes and zebrafish genes. “If you’re looking to study the innate immune system, they’re probably the best model to use,” Soos says. “There are many genetic tools that can be used in the zebrafish to study the function of a gene or label a type of cell. They’re transparent for the first seven days of their life so it is possible to watch how different immune cells move through different tissues, which is amazing.” Soos joined King’s lab in 2018. King and Soos made a great team: King’s focus on bioinformatics helped Soos learn to parse the enormous amount of data that comes with genetic research, and Soos’ extensive “wet lab” experience with genetic material meant that she could help manage the experimental side of the research. “It’s the best of both worlds,” Soos laughs. At the end of the first year of her Ph.D. program, Soos started investigating the impact of influenza A on the immune system. She first used her expertise in working with viruses to develop an improved protocol to infect zebrafish with influenza A. Both localized and systemic flu infections are studied in the zebrafish. Through her research, Soos has been studying how influenza damages muscles in zebrafish. She is comparing the extent of damage in zebrafish that have been engineered to have different defects in their immune responses. Though Soos is still investigating how the damage is caused, her findings could have far reaching implications. “It makes me wonder how the flu has impacted the genetics of human populations over time,” Soos says. “If we think of it from a historical standpoint, way back in 1918, it is estimated that 33% of the world’s population was infected with the flu during that pandemic. Outbreaks and pandemics of various pathogens over millions of years have provided the selective pressure needed to drive the evolution of our immune system so it can deal with these challenges.” Ever the innovator, Soos is also working to

apply fluorescently-labeled influenza with four color variations originally designed for mice to use in zebrafish. She has been able to visualize influenza infections and survey the damage in vivo using confocal microscopy. With the markers, her zebrafish models bloomed with color. “With a transparent model like zebrafish, being able to observe influenza was pretty cool,” Soos says. “We can see infections in real time.” Along with her research, Soos mentors six undergraduate students in King’s lab. Not only does she help them navigate the lab, but she connects them with opportunities, assists them with applications, checks over their homework and teaches them how to present their data. “Whether they go into graduate school or industry, learning how to present data is important and it’s something that’s not really taught,” Soos says. Soos tries to cater lab work to an undergraduate’s interests to help them get the most out of their experience. For example, she’ll teach student researchers who express interest in being physicians how to run genetic assays like those used for medical diagnostics, while others that express interest in genetic engineering are paired with projects to generate new zebrafish models. “In my eyes, my undergraduate students are all going to be junior scientists,” Soos says. “In our lab, we give undergraduates a project that becomes their own and they are responsible for it.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Ben King’s lab makes sense of genetic data

25 Oct 2022

Understanding genes requires understanding data. Ben King’s lab in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, which focuses on bioinformatics, aims to figure out how to best interpret that data to solve a variety of problems, from treating the flu to figuring out how sparrows adapt to harsh environments. The research done in King’s lab crosses disciplines to help scientists understand more about how genes work to control how cells function in both health and disease. King’s lab also trains UMaine student researchers in cutting-edge genetic research techniques that will propel them into their futures. King grew up in Orono, where his dad was a University of Maine faculty member in the College of Education and Human Development. He completed his undergraduate and master’s studies at Boston University, where he studied biomedical engineering. He enrolled as a mechanical engineering major, but as soon as he started student research focusing on protein structure and computer-aided drug design through the biomedical engineering department, he was hooked. “By the end of the first day in the biomedical research lab I knew that I wanted to change my major to biomedical engineering,” King says. “Being able to use different biophysical models on a computer to figure out how drugs may interact with a protein to inhibit it is something I found fascinating.” King completed his studies during what he describes as “the dawn of the era of genomics” in the late 1990s. The work he did analyzing the massive influx of genetic data that came from sequencing genomes would eventually become what is known today as “bioinformatics.” “It’s routine to do large studies where you’re sequencing many, many genomes — hundreds, thousands, even tens of thousands,” King says. “We’re in this era of very large data sets, and it’s good that we can generate the data, but it presents a lot of challenges in terms of how you interpret the data and how you analyze it.” After he received his master’s degree, King worked for two different biotechnology companies analyzing genes and genomes in Cambridge, Massachusetts — first, Genetics Institute, and later, AstraZeneca — before heading to the The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, where he worked for a decade and led a bioinformatics team. He then moved on to the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory where he led their bioinformatics team. That team supports biomedical researchers throughout Maine as part of the Maine INBRE Network, a group that King still co-directs. While at Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, he completed his Ph.D. through the the University of Maine’s Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering where he [researched](#) genes associated with limb regeneration in organisms like zebrafish, bichir and axolotls. King completed his doctorate and joined the UMaine faculty in January 2017, earning tenure in 2022. King’s lab now has a range of projects that use bioinformatics — essentially, using high-performance computing to parse and translate the masses of genomic data — to study and, hopefully, solve different biological problems. One project looks at how the innate immune system responds to clearing the Influenza A virus by studying the patterns by which genes in zebrafish express themselves over the course of the infection. His lab uses these patterns to pick the genes that they then experimentally test in the zebrafish at the [University of Maine’s zebrafish facility](#). [caption id="attachment_93808" align="aligncenter" width="1024"]



[Read more about UMaine's zebrafish facility](#)[/caption] “Different sets of genes that function together as groups to regulate different immune cells and their responses,” King says. “I think the work that we’re doing studying the influenza virus is really cutting edge. One thing I hope we can understand better is how a class of genes called noncoding RNAs function. They are these really important regulatory genes. There are more of these noncoding genes than protein coding genes so they’re probably there for a reason and have some important function but we don’t know what they are.” Another project in King’s lab, conducted in collaboration with Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center, seeks to understand the genetic risk factors of developing chronic kidney disease, which about a third of the U.S. population is at risk of developing and has been found to be a major risk factor for other diseases like diabetes and



hypertension. [caption id="attachment_93814" align="alignright" width="223"] [Read a profile about Brandy Soos](#)[/caption] “We’re recruiting patients that come into the clinical research center and if they decide to join the study, we collect clinical data as well as family medical history information, and then a blood sample to extract DNA and characterize the complete genome of these individuals,” King explains. “We use those data to try and find alleles of genes that may increase the risk for chronic kidney disease.” The lab’s work goes beyond medicine, too. King’s lab is collaborating with researchers at the School of Biology and Ecology, the School of Marine Science and the University of New Hampshire to figure out how certain phenotypes — the way in which genes are expressed — allow certain sparrows to thrive in harsh tidal marsh environments. There are many threads which connect King’s projects and can advance human health. “Some of the analyses are quite similar regardless of whether you’re studying a human or animal genome. One of our focus areas in the study with the sparrows is kidney function because the sparrows have to survive in a very harsh environment where they are exposed to a lot of salt water,” King says. “If we can understand how they have adapted to a harsh environment, we can figure out how those same mechanisms might work in humans.” In addition to the lab work, King is passionate about spreading the word of bioinformatics to other scientists. Since 2005, he has taught a two-day introduction to bioinformatics course a couple of times a year at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. King has also developed training materials for scientists to use cloud computing resources for bioinformatics, and partnered with [Northeastern’s Roux Institute in Portland](#) to establish a 4+1 accelerated graduate program in bioinformatics. [caption id="attachment_93815" align="alignright" width="223"]



[Read a profile about Samuel Weafer](#)[/caption] “I do think it’s essential for all biologists to have some experience doing computational work,” King says. “You really can’t do things in the lab anymore without it. All of biology now requires analyzing these large datasets. Even learning how to use cloud computing technologies are becoming quite necessary and are skills that are certainly in high demand.” King makes the effort to ensure that his, like graduate student [Brandy Soos](#) and undergraduate [Samuel Weafer](#), are exposed to both the experimental and computational side of biomedical research. No matter what they are studying, King says he also likes to match students to projects they are interested in to give them functional skills they can take with them no matter where they go. He has had students continue doctoral work in microbiology and computational biology at UMaine and a variety of other institutions, including Dartmouth and University of Rochester. Others have gone on to pursue medicine with prestigious post-baccalaureate programs. One talented student, [Grace Smith](#), was the salutatorian in 2020 and just completed a highly prestigious post-baccalaureate at the National Cancer Institute. This fall she will begin the M.D. program at Harvard Medical School. “I greatly enjoy working with the students at the University of Maine. It’s really rewarding to see what our students can accomplish when given meaningful research experiences” King says. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension offers Recipe to Market online workshop Nov. 18

26 Oct 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer an online workshop for entrepreneurs and farmers interested in starting a home-based, specialty food business in Maine from 9 a.m.–noon on Nov. 18. [Recipe to Market](#) is a multidisciplinary program with topics including business basics; an overview of the specialty food industry and product development; licensing and regulations; and food safety. Instructors include UMaine Extension professor emeritus Louis Bassano; School of Economics professor emeritus and Extension business specialist Jim McConnon; and Extension food science specialist, professor of food

science and director of UMaine Food Testing Services Beth Calder. The fee is \$35; registration is required. Financial assistance is available. [Register and find more details on the event registration page](#). For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, contact Melissa Libby Babcock, melissa.libby1@maine.edu; 207.581.2788 or 800.287.0274 (Maine only).

Horti Daily, Floral Daily highlight Hutton keynote at Iowa State Extension high tunnel class

26 Oct 2022

[Horti Daily](#) and [Floral Daily](#) noted that Mark Hutton, associate professor of vegetable crops and Extension vegetable specialist at the University of Maine, will be the keynote speaker at the Iowa State University Extension's high tunnel short course. The event will take place Nov. 9 from 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. and is free to attend. Registration is required.

Faculty and staff parking permits available Nov. 1

27 Oct 2022

University of Maine 2023 faculty and staff parking permits go on sale Nov. 1. To purchase your new parking permit, visit umaine.edu/parking or stop into the Parking and Transportation office, room 523 DTAV Community Building off Rangeley Road.

Winter parking ban goes into effect Nov. 1

27 Oct 2022

The annual winter parking ban on campus begins Nov. 1. All faculty/staff (blue), commuter (black) and visitor parking areas, and all roadways and driveways are closed to parking Nov. 1–May 1 annually between 12:01–6 a.m. Vehicles parked in these lots are subject to ticketing and towing at owners' expense. Permitted vehicles may park overnight at the commuter section of the Bridge Tennis Court lot or the College Avenue South lot. Visitors must adhere to university policy or risk being ticketed and towed. All vehicles present on campus must display an appropriate permit. Permits are available at Parking and Transportation Services, room 523 DTAV Community Building on Rangeley Road. Visitor permits can be obtained at the UMaine Police Department. Specifics on where to park, updates on lot closures and what to do during the winter are [online](#).

Chancellor Malloy to hold office hours and town hall Oct. 31

27 Oct 2022

As part of the fall campus tour to the University of Maine Oct. 31, Chancellor Malloy will be hosting office hours, where individuals and small groups of faculty, staff, and students are welcome to come by and share their thoughts, visions, struggles and successes. No appointment necessary. Drop-in office hours will take place 10:30–11 a.m. and 1–2 p.m. in the Lown Room at the Memorial Union Room 228. Additionally, Molloy will co-lead a Town Hall with President Ferrini-Mundy to provide another opportunity for interaction while the Chancellor is on campus. The Town Hall will take place 2:15–3:15 p.m. in the Wells Conference Center and by [Zoom via this link](#). Send questions in advance to umaine.alerts@maine.edu. As many questions as possible will be addressed during the Town Hall.

Culturefest is Nov. 5

27 Oct 2022

The University of Maine Office of International Programs and International Student Association will host its annual celebration of cultures from 11 a.m.–3:30 p.m. on Nov. 5 in the New Balance Student Recreation Center. The 35th Culturefest will feature international foods, cultural exhibits, children's activities and a style show. The family-friendly event, which is free and open to the public, is an opportunity for the university's international students to showcase their talents and traditions. This year, more than 30 countries will be represented by over 100 participants. Participating campus groups include the Asian Student Association, African Student Association, German Club and Spanish Language Club. Community organizations such as the Wilson Center, Nigerians in Maine Community Group, Catholic Charities Maine, Penobscot Theatre Company and CISV Maine will also participate. Visit the Office of International Programs [website](#) for more information.

'The Maine Question' explores campus life in 2022

27 Oct 2022

There are about 3,500 students living on the University of Maine campus, many of whom have spent much of their high school or early college years learning remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the transition to in-person learning and socializing has been daunting to some first-year and returning students. In recent years, the Division of Student Life has retooled and doubled down on their services to help students adjust to college life during the pandemic and preserve a sense of community on campus. According to the division, participation in on-campus activities has significantly increased this fall compared to years past, but so has the demand for mental health, socialization and other services. In episode six of season seven of "[The Maine Question](#)" podcast, Ben Evans, assistant director of campus activities at UMaine, and Lauri Sidelko, assistant dean in student life, discuss what life on campus is like for students in 2022. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or "The Maine Question" [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Phys.org, Technology Networks cite Longcore contribution to fungi research

27 Oct 2022

In an article about a study exploring the evolutionary history of the often-overlooked lineage of chytrid, [Phys.org](#) and [Technology Networks](#) cited the

contributions of Joyce Longcore, co-author of the study and associate research professor at the University of Maine. Longcore's research has previously shown that one infamous species of chytrids has caused massive amphibian die-offs and extinctions. Phys.org also reported that paper relied heavily on the University of Michigan's fungi culture collection that Simmons established before coming to Purdue earlier this year; about half of the 1,200 fungi isolates that the Michigan collection comprises came from Longcore's laboratory at the University of Maine.

Media share UMaine grant to study climate resilience in mobile home communities

27 Oct 2022

[News Center Maine](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [VTDigger](#) reported that Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, was awarded more than \$79,000 for a study of climate change resilience in mobile home park communities along with collaborators in New Hampshire and Vermont from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association [Climate Adaptation Partnerships program](#). "By reaching out to vulnerable communities we can learn their climate adaptation and resiliency needs, and help connect people to needed resources. Ultimately, this project contributes to the important work of [Maine's Climate Action Plan](#)," Birkel said.

UMaine among Princeton Review's Top 50 Green Colleges nationwide for 2023

27 Oct 2022

The Princeton Review ranked the University of Maine 34 out of its 50 most environmentally responsible higher education institutions in the nation for 2023. UMaine is featured in "[The Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges: 2023 Edition](#)," which includes 455 institutions with the strongest commitments to the environment demonstrated through their practices, policies and programs. The guide includes the [Top 50 Green Colleges](#). UMaine received a green rating of 97 out of 99, highlighting its environmentally responsible policies; the sustainable and healthy quality of campus life it provides students; and its efforts to prepare them for careers in a modern clean-energy economy. In its profile for UMaine, Princeton Review highlighted the percentage of the university's food budget spent on local and organic food (UMaine Dining purchased [more than 25% of its food and beverages](#) from local vendors from July 1, 2021–May 31, 2022); its public greenhouse gas inventory plan; its sustainability-focused academic offerings; its free parking permits for carpoolers; and its free bus transportation, the Black Bear Orono Express. Earlier this year, UMaine was featured in The Princeton Review's "Best 388 Colleges for 2023" and other annual top college guides, including the U.S. News & World Report 2023 Best Colleges, Washington Monthly's 2022 College Guide and Rankings and Fiske Guide to Colleges 2023. Additionally, UMaine installed [four new Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations](#) for public use at the Stevens Hall parking lot, increasing its total number of chargers for UMaine community and public use to 35. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Morning Ag Clips notes UMaine's Rogers Farm participation in 32nd Annual Farmer to Farmer Conference

27 Oct 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) noted that Rogers Farm Forage and Crop Research Facility, a University of Maine sustainable agriculture research facility, will be one of the farm tours included in the 32nd annual Farmer to Farmer conference Nov. 5-7. The conference will also take place primarily at the UMaine Hutchinson Center in Belfast.

Knight speaks to BDN about feeding pumpkins to livestock

27 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Colt Knight, assistant Extension professor and state livestock specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about giving Halloween pumpkins to livestock to reduce their impact on the waste stream. Knight said that pumpkins contain up to 14% crude protein, making them a nutritious treat for livestock and poultry. "Generally speaking, pigs and chickens love pumpkins. Ruminants like cattle, sheep and goats vary from farm to farm with their preference to eat pumpkins," Knight said. [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) shared the BDN report.

Mayewski speaks to Scientific American about Everest observatory

27 Oct 2022

Paul Mayewski, director and professor of the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, spoke to [Scientific American](#) about the disrepair of the Pyramid International Laboratory/Observatory, one of the world's oldest and most prolific high-altitude research facilities, which is located near the Mount Everest base camp in Nepal. Mayewski said that the research station is important to track the impacts of climate change. "High-mountain science stations are essential if we are to understand climate and ecosystem variability. They can help in carrying out several-week-long expeditions and research missions that need frequent sampling. These research stations can be a focal point not only for young scholars but also for local people to participate in scientific discovery close to their homes," Mayewski said.

UMaine faculty present research, Biddle honored at rural education forum

27 Oct 2022

University of Maine associate professor of educational leadership Catharine Biddle was honored with two awards at last week's National Forum to Advance Rural Education, hosted by the National Rural Education Association in Green Bay, WI. Biddle and colleagues Sara Hartman of Ohio University; J. Kessa Roberts of Southern Methodist University; Sarah Schmitt-Wilson of Montana State University; Erin McHenry-Sorber of West Virginia University; and Pamela Buffington of the Education Development Center received the Best Research Paper Award for the [2022–2027 Rural Education Research Agenda](#). They also received the Distinguished Service Award for their work developing the agenda. Biddle and lecturer in educational leadership Maria Frankland presented a research paper at the forum "All Hands on Deck? Superintendent Resource Utilization During Crisis Schooling," part of their [Beyond Crisis Schooling](#) project. UMaine assistant professor of higher education Kathleen Gillon, Biddle and Eklou Amendah, assistant professor of marketing at the University of Southern Maine, presented a paper, "Beyond Practicums: Undergraduate Research Experiences as Pathways to Rural Realities." Ryan Crane, a recent 2022 graduate of the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership Program at UMaine, presented research from his dissertation, "Adaptive

Leadership Practices for Rural Education.”

UMaine Outdoor Leadership to host discussion with runner, activist and alum Jordan Daniel Nov. 3

28 Oct 2022

The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development's Outdoor Leadership Program will host an evening discussion with runner and Indigenous activist Jordan Daniel ('11), "Running with Purpose," on Thursday, Nov. 3, 6:30-8 p.m., in the McIntire Room of the Buchanan Alumni House. Daniel will discuss her experience as a fourth-generation runner, professional athlete and activist for Indigenous communities. Daniel currently works with Rising Hearts, an Indigenous-led grassroots group focused on dismantling white supremacy and elevating diverse voices. She serves on the 2022 Runner's for Public Lands National Advisory Council, and is a member of 2022 PTM Foundation Advisory, the ReNew Earth Running Board and Intersectional Environmentalists Council. Additionally, Daniel has been named a 2021 Well+Good Changemaker, 2020 Runner's World Alliance Ambassador, 2020 Return to the Heart Foundation Society Fellow, 2018 National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development Native American 40 Under 40 and People's Climate Movement Millennials of Color to Support. The event is supported by Maine Bound Adventure Center, Office of Diversity and Inclusion and Native American Programs. Additionally, the event is funded in part through a grant from the Cultural Affairs Distinguished Lecture Series Fund.

Facilitation training offered through UMaine Hutchinson Center

28 Oct 2022

Registration is open for a facilitation training through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center's professional development program. Strengthening Your Facilitation Skills, an in-person program, will be held May 5, 19 and June 2 from 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. This training will help people who need to help a new group get started, guide a group to solve a problem, or help a group deal with conflict. Two Continuing Education Units (CEUs)/20 contact hours are available through this training. The cost is \$425 per person. More information is available on the [Hutchinson Center website](#). The program is designed to benefit analysts, community-based groups, consultants, educators/teachers, executives, managers, municipal officials, nonprofit organizations, trainers, sales professionals and others whose professional and/or community work involves working with groups to achieve results. Early registration is recommended as spots are limited. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available for people who live or work in Knox or Waldo counties. Qualified participants may be eligible for funding from the Harold Alfond Center for Workforce Development. [Click here to learn more](#). For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Abby Spooner, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002. For more information about upcoming professional development programs or to register, go [online](#).

Lt. William Flagg named UMaine police chief

28 Oct 2022

Lt. William Flagg, whose law enforcement career spans more than three decades, has been appointed director of police and security services/chief of police for the University of Maine. He will serve a two-year appointment. Since December 2021, Flagg has worked as a detective sergeant with the UMaine Police Department. He has been second in command to Noel March, UMaine's interim police chief, with the retirement of Roland LaCroix Aug. 1. "Bill has a long history in hands-on policing and has served in leadership roles in several agencies," says Robert Dana, vice president for student life and inclusive excellence, and dean of students. "He is wholly and solely focused on the safety of this campus and the well-being of UMaine community members." Flagg is a Lincoln, Maine, native and a U.S. Air Force veteran. His Maine law enforcement career began with the Milo Police Department. His first 14 years with the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office included work as a full-time D.A.R.E. officer and promotion to detective. Flagg served as Lincoln police chief for two years, followed by two years as a UMaine Police Department investigator before returning to the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office to serve as detective sergeant and crime scene specialist for 10 years. For the past 15 years, Flagg also has been an instructor at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and Eastern Maine Community College. "I look forward to serving the students, staff and faculty of the University of Maine with pride, professionalism, fairness and respect," Flagg says.

BDN shares information about Culturefest

28 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that the University of Maine Office of International Programs and International Student Association will host its annual celebration of cultures from 11 a.m.–3:30 p.m. on Nov. 5 in the New Balance Student Recreation Center. Visit the [Office of International Programs website](#) for more information.

Times Telegram shares UMaine Extension recipe for roasted pumpkin seeds

28 Oct 2022

In an article about the many uses for pumpkins, the [Times Telegram](#) (Utica, New York) shared a [recipe](#) from University of Maine Cooperative Extension for roasted pumpkin seeds.

Machias Valley News-Observer reports on UMaine Machias student winning John Lewis Youth Leadership Award

28 Oct 2022

The [Machias Valley News-Observer](#) reported that Kiesha Scott, a junior majoring in elementary education at the University of Maine at Machias, received a 2022 John Lewis Youth Leadership Award. The National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) established this award in February 2021 to recognize a gifted, civic-minded young person in their state each year. Through this award, the Maine Secretary of State's Office annually recognizes one Maine resident, age 25 or younger, who demonstrates leadership abilities, has passion for social justice, and is improving the quality of life in their community.

Media feature UMaine delegation to COP27 in Egypt

28 Oct 2022

[Maine Public](#), [News Center Maine](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that nine University of Maine and University of Maine School of Law faculty and graduate students will attend the proceedings of the United Nations climate summit known as the 27th Conference of the Parties, or COP27, in Egypt next month. Cindy Isenhour, associate professor of anthropology and climate change, is one of the representatives from UMaine. "They're framing it as the adaptation COP, so I think a lot of the emphasis this year will be on trying to make sure there's enough finance available, particularly for the less developed and really vulnerable countries to adapt to climate change. ... So I would imagine if Maine is specifically mentioned it will be in the context of a really positive example of committing to a target, and then really aggressively moving toward fulfilling that commitment," Isenhour told Maine Public.

Birkel featured in Reuters report on winter ticks threatening moose populations

28 Oct 2022

[Reuters](#) interviewed Sean Birkel, Maine state climatologist and assistant professor with a joint appointment in University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Climate Change Institute, about winter ticks that have thrived in Maine's warmer winters and last year killed 90% of the state's moose calves. Birkel explained that the warming climate has shortened the winter by between one to two weeks compared to a century ago, meaning a moose meandering in the brush can acquire tens of thousands of more ticks on its coat than it would otherwise. Those ticks will drain vast amounts of its blood at a time it is already contending with cold, deep snow and low seasonal food supplies. Yahoo News shared the Reuters report. [Yahoo News](#), [U.S. News and World Report](#), [International Business Times](#), [KRRO-FM](#) (Sioux Falls, SD), [KRWK-FM](#) (Fargo, ND), [WIMZ-FM](#) (Knoxville, TN), [WPBG-FM](#) (Peoria, IL), [KDWZ-FM](#) (Duluth, MN) and other outlets shared the Reuters report.

UMaine & Folger Library manager Lund presented Pro Patria Award from DOD

28 Oct 2022

The University of Maine and Fogler Library Circulation Manager Jerry Lund were honored by the Employer Support of the Guard Reserves (ESGR) and Department of Defense (DOD) for their exceptional support of National Guard and Reserve employees. Lund was nominated by Jonathan Smith, who served in the National Guard for over 400 days during his employment as a full-time library specialist at the Fogler Library. Smith has since resigned and accepted a full-time position at the Air National Guard. Lund and Library Financial Manager Susan Clement attended the Maine Committee ESGR Annual Awards Luncheon on Sept. 9 in Augusta to accept the award.

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Oct. 31

31 Oct 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update as follows:

- Pre-winter pothole patching on campus roadways begins this week.
- Jenness Hall walkway is ready for paving.
- Paving in the Satellite Parking Lot will begin in the next few weeks.
- Construction has started on experimental blueberry beds at Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center.
- Ledge removal is expected to continue for another week at the Holmes and Coburn halls construction site.
- Demolition continues at the Aquaculture Research Center and Child Study Center sites.
- The Hitchner Hall transformer was repaired and placed back online this past weekend.

Media highlight UMaine 2022 Veterans Week

31 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that the University of Maine will celebrate Veterans Week Nov. 7–11 with several events leading up to the holiday, organized by the office of Veterans Education and Transition Services in the Division of Student Life. [CentralMaine.com](#) also advanced Veterans Week events at UMaine while sharing those being held throughout Maine's public universities.

PPH notes Talty event

31 Oct 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that it is hosting an event where staff writer Eric Russell talks with Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, about his book "Night of the Living Rez."

BDN cites UMaine statistics about overdose deaths

31 Oct 2022

In an article about Bangor receiving a \$200,000 grant from the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to reduce overdose deaths, the [Bangor Daily News](#) cited statistics maintained by the state and the University of Maine showing that Penobscot County saw 71 overdose deaths in the first eight months of 2022.

MacRae answers PFAS FAQs for the BDN

31 Oct 2022

Jean MacRae, an associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, was featured on a panel hosted by the [Bangor Daily News](#) answering frequently asked questions about PFAS chemicals. MacRae recommended that homeowners only install water filters certified to work on PFAS by the National Sanitation Foundation. She also discussed the emergence of a new, cheaper test for PFAS in water made by the Illinois company Cyclopure.

Johnson speaks to Maine Public about plans for new Machias dike-bridge

31 Oct 2022

Tora Johnson, associate professor of GIS and chair of the Division of Environmental and Biological Sciences at the University of Maine at Machias, spoke to [Maine Public](#) about plans for a new dike-bridge on the Middle River. Johnson has been watching the dike for years, and mapping local sea level rise. And she witnessed firsthand the effects of a major storm in April 2020. “That dike will be removed by a storm if we don’t remove it soon, or change it drastically,” Johnson said.

The Scientist features Gill winning science communication award

31 Oct 2022

[The Scientist](#) spoke with Jacquelyn Gill, who won one of 24 inaugural Eric and Wendy Schmidt Awards for Excellence in Science Communication from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine recognizing efforts to communicate scientific issues to the general public. “As someone who is publicly funded and at a public institution, I feel very much a sense of responsibility to use my knowledge and experience and platform for the public good. There are lots of ways to do that, but for me, science communication is something that I feel called to do and also that revitalizes my science and gives it meaning,” Gill told The Scientist.

Ippolito quoted in PPH about “Hopeful” artist Hewitt launching NFTs

31 Oct 2022

John Ippolito, a professor of new media at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Portland Press Herald](#) about 76-year-old artist Charlie Hewitt launching a collection of NFTs, or nonfungible tokens, becoming one of the first major Maine artists to explore that market. Hewitt is best known for his “Hopeful” signs, which are on display in cities around Maine and beyond. “The whole NFT phenomenon relies on the belief that it doesn’t need anything to prop up the work. I think the guy who created ‘Hopeful’ is sort of perfect for that,” Ippolito said.

Harlan-Haughey shines new light on Chaucer’s lesser-known poem

31 Oct 2022

Many English students read Geoffrey Chaucer’s “Canterbury Tales” at some point in their education, but few have the opportunity to explore the lesser-known works of the medieval poet. Sarah Harlan-Haughey, associate professor and interim chair of the Department of English at the University of Maine, is not only shining new light on one of Chaucer’s lesser-known, controversial works — she is bringing that keen insight to the UMaine classroom. Harlan-Haughey says that Chaucer is an interesting poet to study even in modern times because his work is “super complex,” weaving in contextual references to other works as far back as ancient Greece, but funny and ironic enough to resonate with modern readers. “The Legend of Good Women” is Chaucer’s third longest work. The poem retells classic tales of women betrayed by men — from Dido and Aeneas to Cleopatra and Mark Antony — in Chaucer’s tongue-in-cheek voice. The poem has often been written off in the academic world as a derisive and misogynistic satire, poking fun at the women in the stories. “A lot of the scholarship up to this point is looking at Chaucer’s sources, seeing where Chaucer’s version changes the story or diverges from those received versions,” Harlan-Haughey says. “Source scholarship can be a big part of a medievalist’s job.” Harlan-Haughey, however, has found that there is more nuance to the work than a purely misogynistic tale. She has begun to unravel some of the serious critiques that Chaucer makes of the men in these tales, showing that a poem that once might have been considered by scholars as “straight parody” is a more complex exploration of contemporary attitudes about sex and gender. Harlan-Haughey so far has published two peer-reviewed articles on the “Legend of Good Women” in one of the field’s leading journals, the Chaucer Review. The first paper, published in 2017, looks at Chaucer’s retelling of the legend of Ariadne, who was abandoned by Theseus after helping him escape the minotaur in the labyrinth. The most recent study, released this year, explores Chaucer’s retelling of the story of Jason and Medea, another Greek tale where the magical Medea is abandoned by Jason. “In the two articles I have published so far, I take a hard look at the heroes and the way that Chaucer portrays them as predatory figures who ruin the lives of women around them. For Chaucer, legendary characters like Jason and Theseus are figures of waste and destruction, which is an against-the-grain reading of these classical heroes,” Harlan-Haughey says. Harlan-Haughey also explores the way that the social performance of these poems, which would have been common in Chaucer’s time, might have been important to understanding their import and significance. “We can’t know what a medieval audience member would make of these poems, but we can make some guesses based on the kinds of things that they like to consume and think about,” Harlan-Haughey says. “Chaucer’s critiquing Jason in a subtle way that makes the audience identify with Jason and then realize his behavior is problematic. As a result, they might have to do some self reflection—if Jason’s behavior towards women is monstrous, what does that mean for the audience? It might be a way to start a conversation about what we might call toxic masculinity now. And conversation generation was one of the main goals of much medieval poetry—the stories are provocative attempts to get a broader discussion going” Harlan-Haughey teaches courses on Chaucer at the University of Maine and said she often finds inspiration in class, workshopping new ideas with her students. She continues to work on her “Legend of Good Women” research year after year in between other larger research projects. Harlan-Haughey hopes before she retires, she will have published an article about each of the 10 legends in this Chaucerian anthology and changed the conversation about these poems in a meaningful way. Meanwhile, Harlan-Haughey’s larger focus as UMaine’s medievalist in the Department of English focuses on “outlaws, landscapes and memory”, and she is currently working on a book about the way that natural disasters are depicted in medieval literature. She sees her work — as both an academic and teacher — as an important way to “honor the human experience.” “In the humanities, we’re trying to connect on a really intense level with somebody from a different time or place which is always important work,” Harlan-Haughey says. “We are asking our students and readers to engage in a radical act of empathy and critical thinking. This kind of work stretches our own minds and horizons.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Miriam Talalay: Congressional Gold Medal winner and lifelong animal caretaker

31 Oct 2022

Like many first-year students at the University of Maine, Miriam Talalay has several passions — animals, drawing and playing violin, just to name a few. What sets her apart is a medal from Congress recognizing her excellence in all that she does. The Congressional Award encourages and recognizes youth for initiative, service and achievement, and the gold medal is the highest form of this accolade with the most demanding requirements. Earning the gold medal requires the completion of 800 activity hours over a two-year period, including 400 hours of voluntary public service; 200 hours of personal development; 200 hours of physical fitness; and a five-day, four-night expedition or exploration trip. Talalay, a first-year zoology student from Luterville, Maryland, was one of the 549 gold medal awardees from 41 states [recognized during the Gold Medal Celebration in August](#). To earn her award, Talalay, also a student with the Honors College, volunteered with a local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) providing foster care to animals; learned how to play Irish jigs and Scottish reels on her violin; maintained a workout regiment of cycling; yoga, pilates and weight training; and embarked on a multi-day hiking trip through Surry, Maine, while sketching and photographing flora and fauna for her online Nature Journaling and Biology of Birds courses with Cornell's Ornithology Lab. She began working toward her gold medal in September 2021, when she was a high school junior, and completed her tasks during the COVID-19 pandemic. "I was overjoyed, so grateful for receiving something I worked so hard toward," Talalay says about receiving the medal. "It's getting rewarded for doing the stuff I already love. I also thought it was a great learning experience and opportunity to kickstart projects I already wanted to start." Talalay also received the 2022 Baltimore County Young Woman of the Year Award before coming to UMaine. Talalay, a senior at Dulaney High School at the time, was recognized during the 40th Annual Woman of the Year Awards Ceremony in June. Dedication to volunteer comes easy for Talalay; she says it's part of her DNA. She has fostered animals with her mom since she was 10 years old, starting after they learned that she was too young to help out at her local SPCA at the time. Over the past eight years, Talalay has cared for more than 250 foster animals. In the beginning, she gave them food and water, groomed them, played with them, introduced them to other people for socialization and cleaned cat litter boxes. When she was older, she also was able to give animals their medications and vaccinations and take them to veterinarian appointments. Her mom continues to foster while Talalay is studying at UMaine. "I've always loved animals," Talalay says. "When I was 3 years old, I would carry around a 700-page encyclopedia and look at all of the animal pictures." Her interest in studying at UMaine first sparked from spending a part of her summers at her family's vacation home in Surry throughout her childhood. She says she loves Maine's wildlife and natural landscapes, which helped make studying at UMaine appealing. Programs that offered extensive lab and outdoor research also convinced her to enroll at the university. "I'm just enthralled by all of the opportunities here at UMaine," she says. At the university, Talalay has participated in several activities that appeal to her love of nature and animals. She explores the outdoors and records and draws the plants and animals she sees for her natural history course. She also has been participating in the university's chapter of the Wildlife Society, taking care of pigs at Witter Farm and birdwatching on campus. "It's been great. I'm really, really happy here," Talalay says. "All of the professors I've met so far are really, really interesting and are hopefully people I can consult with later on in life." When she graduates, Talalay hopes to pursue a career that harmonizes her passions for animals and art, such as an illustrator for scientific literature or a wildlife photographer like one of her idols, National Geographic Photographer Joel Sartore. Before coming to UMaine, Talalay interned with the Blue Hill Heritage Trust for a couple of years by teaching drawing classes, particularly through creating how-to videos, and conducting other programs for children. She also spends much of her free time creating pen and ink drawings and digital art. Talalay says she hopes that while studying at UMaine, she will learn how to more effectively use lab equipment, connect and collaborate with various members of the campus community and improve her analytical and observational skills. "I hope to get a lot of valuable skills, whether it be working in the lab or field or learning social skills I can use in my career or daily life," she says. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.5821.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Crittenden researching how to grow virtual volunteering among older adults

01 Nov 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic forced nonprofits to reinvent how they facilitated volunteer activities, especially for seniors, who are at higher risk of experiencing serious illness from the disease. Many implemented or increased their use of virtual volunteering, allowing older adults to continue assisting their favorite organizations. Jennifer Crittenden, a University of Maine assistant professor of social work, says virtual volunteering can make assisting nonprofits more accessible to older adults, particularly by alleviating the place and time constraints associated with volunteering. To support a broader integration of virtual volunteering, she will conduct a study to investigate its benefits, challenges and opportunities for growth and improvement. AmeriCorps awarded Crittenden \$381,671 for her three-year-long project. Crittenden, also associate director of the UMaine Center on Aging, will conduct interviews and surveys nationwide with volunteer program directors within all three AmeriCorps Seniors Programs, the older adults who volunteer for them and organizations supported by them. Gathering and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data will reveal how these groups are using virtual volunteering; the types of roles suited for it; their appeal to older adults; hurdles to their implementation; barriers to entry for some seniors, such as a lack of access to the necessary technology; and possible resources and solutions for eliminating them, according to Crittenden. They also will help organizations determine their efficacy in a post-pandemic world. In addition to this focus on virtual volunteerism, this research will consider other benefits programs offer to volunteers to make volunteering more accessible to older adults. Crittenden plans to disseminate her findings through a website containing reports and materials, tipsheets that can help seniors access virtual volunteer opportunities, conferences and manuscripts for academic journals. "The time is right for nonprofits and community organizations to engage an increasingly digitally savvy cohort of older adults who want to give back to their communities," Crittenden says. "This research will build our knowledge of how virtual volunteering can be used to complement and expand access to, rather than replace, traditional on-site volunteerism." Previous research has found that volunteering boosts health, well-being and social connection among seniors, Crittenden says. Older adults who found joy in the face of pandemic-related stress reported experiencing it through hobbies or using their skills, both of which can be achieved through volunteer work. Information and communication technology use is growing among older adults, Crittenden says, although some with lower incomes, health concerns, or residency in rural areas still struggle to access them. Greater use and access to technology can open doors to more virtual volunteering opportunities. Candy Eaton, coordinator for Age-Friendly Sullivan, has utilized virtual volunteer options for community-based programs. Its Bone Builders classes are led by older adult RSVP volunteers, and the program has recently shifted from fully remote during COVID-19 to a hybrid model of in-person and remote classes. "Technology has been enhancing the ability for Bone Builders participants to join our classes," Eaton says. "Especially with high gas prices right now, Zoom has offered our participants the opportunity to access programming. It helps to prevent social isolation and helps to cover the gaps for those who live alone or who have tested positive for COVID." This study on volunteer participation among older adults is not the first Crittenden conducted in collaboration with AmeriCorps. She has investigated the conflict older adults experience between their desire to volunteer and other social obligations, as well as opportunities for organizations to retain and recruit them in spite of this dilemma. The three-year project, which earned Crittenden multiple funding awards from the agency that oversees AmeriCorps, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), generated tip sheets and other literature for volunteers and volunteer program staff, as well as 21 presentations and several technical reports. That study also spurred another pilot project with the UMaine RSVP program in which older volunteers simulating patients participated in a virtual volunteer assignment in a nurse practitioner educational exercise. Crittenden and Kayla Thompson, who graduated from UMaine with a master's degree in social work in May, interviewed the participants to understand their experience with this unique virtual

volunteer program. The UMaine Center on Aging has long been supporting volunteerism among older adults, including management of the UMaine RSVP program, one of five in the state, which has offered service opportunities to adults in Penobscot, Piscataquis, Hancock and Washington counties since 2007. It also offers the Senior Companion program, which serves 11 of Maine’s 16 counties and provides older adult volunteers with the opportunity to build friendships with and provide companionship to homebound older adults. Both programs have used technology during the pandemic to help keep older adults connected with their volunteer roles. “UMaine’s Center on Aging is an invaluable resource for Maine seniors as well as for students and researchers working to improve quality of life for older adults in our state,” said U.S. Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King and U.S. Rep. Jared Golden in a joint statement. “This grant will go a long way towards addressing knowledge gaps and ensuring volunteer options continue to be accessible for older Mainers engaged with causes close to their hearts. Congratulations to UMaine for this award and for their continued work to support seniors looking to stay involved with their communities.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Call for proposals for the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series

01 Nov 2022

The Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Committee is accepting grant applications from the University of Maine to enhance the artistic, cultural, and intellectual life of the campus of the University of Maine and to support speaking engagements or lectures at the University of Maine at Machias. Grants support up to 50% of expenses associated with cultural events and speaking engagements and lectures. The CA/DLS committee accepts applications four times a year. The next application deadline is Nov. 28, 2022. Grant applications submitted by the above deadline are for projects starting on or after Dec. 27, 2022. Proposals must be submitted online using the CA/DLS Grant Application Form at umaine.edu/president/culturalaffairs/application. Past awards have supported lectures and lecture series; Culturefest, the International Dance Festival; exhibits, performances and guest artists.

MacDougall featured on Maine Calling

01 Nov 2022

Pauleena MacDougall, former director of the [Maine Folklife Center](#) and faculty associate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Maine, was a featured panelist on [Maine Public](#)’s show Maine Calling about the history and reasons for superstitions in Maine.

Pitman, Jones pen op-ed for BDN about affordable housing

01 Nov 2022

Brian Pitman, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Maine, and Brenna Jones, sociology and mathematics undergraduate at the University of Maine currently studying precarious housing through the McGillicuddy Humanities Center and Maine Policy Scholars Program, wrote an opinion piece for the [Bangor Daily News](#) about Bangor’s approach to affordable housing. “Tying rent control to minimum wage increases is a possible step. The elimination of application fees, security deposits, and background checks, as well as Airbnbs for those who do not live on the property of their unit are also steps. All of this can be tied to a Tenant’s Bill of Rights that goes beyond what Bangor has discussed,” they wrote.

WMTW shares UMaine data about fentanyl

01 Nov 2022

In an article about how concerns about “rainbow fentanyl” in Halloween candy distract from the bigger issue of overdose deaths in Maine, [WMTW \(Channel 8 in Portland\)](#) cited the August monthly data report published by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center University of Maine that showed nonpharmaceutical fentanyl has been linked to 338 drug deaths so far this year.

BDN, WABI report on new chief of UMaine’s campus police department

01 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that William Flagg was named the next chief of UMaine’s campus police department and director of security services. Flagg has been with the University of Maine’s police force as a detective sergeant since last December. His appointment as chief is for the next two years. [KWCH](#) (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kansas) shared the WABI story.

Moxley to present at Florida Writing Festival

01 Nov 2022

Jennifer Moxley, professor of English at the University of Maine, will conduct a reading at the 2022 Florida Writers Festival at the University of Florida on Nov. 5, 2022.

UMaine researchers studying whether broccoli sprouts can help prevent and treat inflammatory bowel disease

01 Nov 2022

University of Maine researchers and their colleagues are investigating whether broccoli sprouts can help prevent and treat inflammatory bowel disease in humans. Through multiple studies, Yanyan Li, assistant professor of human nutrition; Sue Ishaq, assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences; and researchers from other institutions will explore how human gut microbes could use a compound from broccoli sprouts to generate a new one that prevents and reduces inflammation. Previous research from Li and others found that when mice ate steamed broccoli sprouts, the microbes in their gastrointestinal tracts — in particular those in the colon — used the sprouts to create anti-inflammatory compounds that prevented and treated colitis, a type of inflammatory bowel disease, and an affliction similar to Crohn's disease in humans. In one study, Li and Ishaq will conduct diet trials over 18 months to determine if the microbes in healthy humans’ colons will produce more anti-inflammatory compounds — ones that could help prevent inflammatory bowel disease — when

fed steamed broccoli sprouts. The Allen Foundation provided a \$114,359 grant to support the research. Li also is participating in research led by University of Michigan Medical School researcher Grace Chen to determine if steamed broccoli sprouts can help people who already have ulcerative colitis, how that would change their gut microbes and inflammation status, and how many servings would be needed to produce positive results. For the study, supported by an \$800,000 award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Chen, Li and Duxin Sun, also a Michigan Medicine faculty member, will conduct clinical trials in which they incorporate broccoli sprouts in their participants' existing diets; measure the anti-inflammatory compounds and changes in their gut microbes; and evaluate the effects on peoples' conditions. "Broccoli sprouts contain a uniquely abundant group of compounds, and they can get activated into anti-inflammatory compounds by certain enzymes. Some recent studies have shown that mammalian gut microbes may be able to produce these enzymes to carry out the bioactivation," Li says. "We wanted to see if broccoli sprout feeding in humans can change gut microbes and result in production of more anti-inflammatory compounds. These studies will provide useful information for us to develop dietary approaches for prevention and management of inflammatory bowel disease." In addition to holding human trials, Ishaq and Li will conduct a study funded by a \$436,046 grant from the National Institute of Health/National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIH/NIDDK) to explore how different preparations and concentrations of broccoli sprouts affect the ability of gut microbes in mice to prevent and mitigate inflammatory bowel disease. This study will explore several research questions in depth, such as where along the gastrointestinal tract these microbes are located, if that location matters to the microbes and whether people can benefit from the impact of those microbes situated there. They will also look at whether the age of mice matters. The results from this study could help them and other scientists devise more effective diet- and microbe-based prevention measures in humans and treatment for those infected with the disease. Three graduate students from Ishaq's and Li's labs will assist in their NIH-backed study. They also plan to recruit more graduate students and undergraduates for their research. "As a graduate student at the University of Maine, my goal is to acquire a diverse background of skills in order to ensure the quality of my work as a researcher, and open as many opportunities as possible when I graduate," says Johanna Holman, a Ph.D. student of human nutrition. "This study will be a great opportunity to advance a number of skills both in the laboratory and in working with human subjects!" These studies build on years of individual and collaborative research into the correlation between nutrition, gut microbiota and inflammation by Li, Ishaq and their colleagues from the University of Michigan, Husson University, the University of Vermont and the State University of New York at Binghamton. The cause for inflammatory bowel disease remains unknown, but the prevailing theory involves a disruption of the connection between gut microbes and the immune system due to genetic and environmental forces. Li and Ishaq also say a growing body of evidence from them and other scientists indicate that "gut microbiota have significant impact on human health and thus impact susceptibility to disease, such as inflammatory bowel disease." "There is so much about nutrition, gut microbes and health that researchers are still trying to understand. Being able to run multiple projects together, and work with researchers in different specializations, is an enormous help to tease apart the complicated process by which these microbes could be used to promote health," Ishaq says. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

News Center Maine cites UMaine overdose study in article about recovery home in Bridgton

02 Nov 2022

In an article about a recovery home opening in Bridgton, [News Center Maine](#) cited a study from the University of Maine that found more than 5,000 total overdoses so far this year, an increase of 18% compared to the same period last year.

Sandweiss featured in American Scientist about grant that kick-started his research career

02 Nov 2022

Daniel Sandweiss, professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Maine, was featured in the November-December 2022 issue of *American Scientist*, the magazine, published by Sigma Xi Scientific Society, discussing a Grant in Aid of Research (GIAR) that he received almost 40 years ago as a graduate student at Cornell. "The GIAR award allowed me to hire a professional topographer to work with me to create a precision profile across the ridges. The results showed that the ridges did not rise sequentially from shore to interior. This, in turn, helped support my El Niño origin hypothesis. ... The GIAR-supported work led to a paper in the inaugural issue of the journal *Geoarchaeology* and helped launch one of my main streams of research on the prehistory of El Niño," Sandweiss said.

BDN shares UMaine's 2022 Princeton Review ranking of environmentally responsible colleges

02 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the Princeton Review ranked the University of Maine 34 out of its 50 most environmentally responsible higher education institutions in the nation for 2023. UMaine received a green rating of 97 out of 99, highlighting its environmentally responsible policies; the sustainable and healthy quality of campus life it provides students; and its efforts to prepare them for careers in a modern clean-energy economy.

The Atlantic, the Conversation cite Dym study about fandom communities online

02 Nov 2022

In an article about whether Elon Musk's acquisition of Twitter will lead to an exodus from the platform, [the Atlantic](#) and the [Conversation](#) cited [a study](#) co-authored by Brianna Dym, lecturer at the School of Computing and Information Science at the University of Maine, looking at why fandom communities migrated from platforms such as LiveJournal and FanFiction.Net to Tumblr in the early 2010s. The research highlighted that — as with real-world migration — there are both "push" and "pull" factors at play when people decide to leap from one platform to another. Dym spoke to the Atlantic to distinguish Twitter's current situation from what happened to LiveJournal. "The death knell for LiveJournal had been rung already. With Twitter, it's different in that, you know, this is the first major upset in Twitter's history," Dym said. For people to really start leaving on a large scale, she predicted, Musk would have to make significant changes that "erode trust in the platform." [Salon](#), [Yahoo News](#), [Fast Company](#), [JFL Science](#), the [Houston Chronicle](#) (Houston, Texas), [Plainview Herald](#) (Plainview, Texas), [Chronicle-Tribune](#) (Marion, Indiana), [Skagit Valley Herald](#) (Skagit, Washington) and other outlets shared the Conversation article.

Dill speaks to BDN about slugs

02 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about why it is important for gardeners to get rid of slug eggs at the end of autumn. “Most species of slugs lay eggs that overwinter, so if you are out there turning over boards or raking things up you may see a mass of up to 25 round, clear white eggs, each the size of a bird shot. ... Destroy them. All you need to do is just stomp on them and squish them,” Dill told the BDN.

UMaine researchers create blog for COP27 trip

03 Nov 2022

University of Maine researchers who are attending a United Nations climate summit Nov. 7–18 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt will share their experiences in a new blog on the Climate Change Institute [website](#). The blog will feature regular updates about the global climate change policy negotiations and other events happening during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27). [The delegation attending the conference](#), co-headed by Cindy Isenhour, an associate professor of anthropology and climate change, and Nicholas Micinski, an assistant professor of political science and international affairs, includes students and faculty from UMaine and the University of Maine School of Law. In addition to witnessing policy negotiations, delegation members will have the opportunity to help write statements based on their expertise to present to country negotiators and network with high-level diplomats, fellow scientists and lawyers, and other stakeholders. The UNFCCC [awarded UMaine observer status](#) last year during COP26.

‘The Maine Question’ asks how business savvy can help farmers succeed

03 Nov 2022

Like opening any business, starting a farm can be challenging without any entrepreneurial knowledge or skills. To help to fill a gap between contemporary business education and agriculture among some beginning farmers, University of Maine faculty members Erin Percival Carter and Stephanie Welcomer established the Business, Agriculture, and Rural Development (BARD) technical assistance training program in the Maine Business School. The BARD program trains UMaine students to serve as consultants for farmers and operators of other small-scale and sustainable agricultural businesses. These students can assist agribusinesses with various aspects of commerce, such as data-management, price-setting, marketing, financial and strategic forecasting, market segmentation, product development, market intelligence and consumer research. The BARD program recently received [a \\$292,000 award](#) from the Small Business Administration that was requested by U.S. Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King through the FY22 Congressionally Directed Spending process, known as earmarks. In episode seven of season seven of “[The Maine Question](#),” Carter, an assistant professor of marketing, discusses how business savvy can help farms succeed. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

BDN shares UMaine Hutchinson Center workshop about calming strong emotions

03 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that registration is open for a three-day online professional development program, “Helping to Calm Strong Emotions with Resonant Language,” through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center. The program will be held on Wednesdays, Nov. 30, and Dec. 7 and 14 from 1–3 p.m. via Zoom. The cost is \$175 per person. More information is available on the [Hutchinson Center](#) website.

Ippolito quoted in Magazine by Coin Telegraph article about Warhol and NFTs

03 Nov 2022

In an article speculating whether artist Andy Warhol would have embraced or abhorred NFTs if he were still alive, [Magazine by Coin Telegraph](#) quoted a [blog post](#) by Jon Ippolito, professor of new media at the University of Maine. “‘Good business is the best art,’ Warhol claimed. He once insisted that he wanted to sell shares of his company on Wall Street. While Warhol pushed the boundaries of what art is, he also said: ‘Don’t think about making art, just get it done,’” Ippolito wrote. Still, Ippolito asserted that NFTs might now be too mainstream for Warhol’s provocations; “I think most NFTs serve a dual purpose: overtly to support those who make art, and covertly to validate cryptocurrencies,” he argued.

Fogler Library recognized by Government Publishing Office

03 Nov 2022

The Government Publishing Office (GPO) [recognized](#) the University of Maine’s Raymond H. Fogler Library for adding materials to their Preservation Stewards collection. GPO established Preservation Stewards to support continued public access to U.S. Government documents in print format. Fogler Library will add material from STEM-related Congressional committees, as well as historic and present-day collections of the Foreign Relations of the United States.

UMaine SPIA students, alum help Ukrainians hold on to English skills amidst the war

03 Nov 2022

When war seems a world away, it can be challenging to figure out ways to help those in need. But if you keep an open mind and have a community of like-minded connections, like at the University of Maine’s School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA), the right opportunity can find you. Since summer, SPIA second years Ryan Kirkpatrick and Quil Kibak and recent graduate Janina Deisenrieder have been teaching Ukrainians English through online video chat. Their lessons are helping Ukrainians maintain their vital English speaking skills and providing an escape during the war. It all started when Gregory Holt bumped into SPIA graduate [Ryan Warner](#) while trying to join the Foreign Legion. Holt was born in the United States, but spent the past decade or so living in Ukraine after falling in love with the country during a vacation from the U.S. Army. Warner invited Holt to a SPIA alumni conference call — which takes

place once or twice a semester with dozens of SPIA alumni, hosted by Jim Settele, executive director of SPIA — to speak about the situation in Ukraine. Holt’s bid to join the Foreign Legion was unsuccessful — “they decided I was too old, and they were right,” he said — but he had another idea to help Ukrainians: free online English classes for Ukrainians. English is an essential skill for Ukrainians who want to communicate internationally, no matter what field of work they are in. “When the war started, the vast majority of native English speakers left the country understandably,” Holt says. “Communication skills are as important to a nation’s economy as steel and capital, and right now, they’re rapidly falling off.” Holt had already been teaching English “on and off for eight years” in Ukraine, and his long-term dream is to open an immersive English café and school in Ukraine. The pandemic and the war put the project on pause, but with the rise of video chat technologies, he saw an opportunity to help Ukrainians maintain their English skills even in wartime. He named the project Mosquito Language Lounge, a cheeky reference to the fact that one of Holt’s first projects during the war was to provide Ukrainian soldiers with repellent to ward off the exceptionally aggressive bloodsuckers in the country. The obvious next step was to recruit volunteer teachers, and the SPIA students that Holt met on the alumni call seemed like the ideal candidates for the job. Aside from their global mindsets and professionalism, the academic background of SPIA students would come in handy if students want to discuss current events in class. “I could tell it’s a high academic level with rigorous standards, so you know they’re going to be professional, intelligent and have the ability to take it up a notch as opposed to being just a person to talk to,” Holt says. Early this past summer, Holt reached out to Settele and asked if SPIA students would be interested in volunteering as English teachers. Settele agreed that the opportunity would resonate with his students. “The SPIA degree is a public service degree,” Settele says. “These are all graduate students who are trying to make the world a better place. It’s kind of an old cliché, but it’s a true cliché with these students.” Settele sent an email out to his students to see if anyone wanted to volunteer. Deisenrieder, Kibak and Kirkpatrick all stepped up to the plate — and they say it was an easy decision to do so. “We had obviously been following the developments in Ukraine and discussing them in classes,” Kibak says. “When I saw this opportunity, I thought, ‘This will be the greatest chance I have to influence what’s going on over there, so I might as well take advantage of it.’” The three new teachers were thrown right into the classroom. Deisenrieder and Kirkpatrick have been teaching assistants at UMaine, but the experience of teaching English to Ukrainians online was completely different than any other teaching experience. For example, Deisenrieder says there was no set syllabus for the class like in the university setting, so they had to prepare on the fly and be ready to adapt. Building rapport with students in the online classes was also challenging given the context. “There’s a language and cultural barrier, so it takes a while to get acquainted with each other,” Kirkpatrick says. “Depending on how the situation is in Ukraine at the moment, it affects class. The past few weeks, there have been so many missile strikes, the mood has decreased a little bit and attendance has gone down for my section. I have one student who’s only missed one single class and it’s because she simply did not have power to tune in. It’s pretty heartbreaking as an instructor.” Still, the SPIA-ers rose to the challenge. They say the students in each class have a range of English speaking skills because the classes are based on schedules rather than level. The topics discussed in class vary depending on the day, and the instructors all have different approaches to instruction. While Kibak and Kirkpatrick prefer to let the conversation evolve organically, Deisenrieder, who is native to Germany, says she usually determines what their students will discuss the week before so she can prepare vocabulary sheets for them in case they want to review outside of class. “I try to reflect my own experiences as a learner. For me it’s important to have structure and to know the ‘why’ of what we’re doing,” Deisenrieder says. “It’s important to ask the students what they want to get out of the class because it’s their learning experience.” Kirkpatrick and Kibak continued teaching the program into their busy fall semester. Deisenrieder continues to teach her class even though she has since graduated and now has a full-time job at AARP. “I’d like to keep going on as long as students are showing up,” Kirkpatrick says. “You actually cultivate deep relationships with the students, and I would hate to see that go.” Holt says the students have given “very positive feedback” about their SPIA teachers and their creative and productive lesson plans. There is a less tangible benefit to the program, too. “Imagine being either internally displaced or a refugee or at home in Ukraine and your whole life has been disrupted and you can’t go to school or work,” Holt says. “The program is a place where people can come together. It’s something to do that’s productive and interesting when tempted to fall into loneliness and despair. The SPIA students have done so well, I’d be happy if every additional teacher was from the University of Maine.” For more information about volunteer teaching, Holt says he can be reached via email at gregholt101@hotmail.com, on WhatsApp at +380634303721 or on the program’s Instagram page (which, he notes, he also is looking for volunteers to help manage, as “the number 1 business tool is instagram in Ukraine”) at [@mosquito_language_lounge](https://www.instagram.com/mosquito_language_lounge). Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

‘Hungry Now’ documentary to premiere Nov. 13 at the Collins Center, continuing Right to Food film series

04 Nov 2022

The film “Hungry Now,” which was created through a documentary filmmaking course at University of Maine at Machias, will premiere at the Collins Center for the Arts in Orono on Nov. 13 at 3 p.m. “Hungry Now” is an hour-long documentary that looks to answer the everyday questions of homelessness through a series of interviews with Mainers of all ages living in several rural and coastal towns, including Bangor, Milbridge, Jonesport, Machias and Eastport. The film is directed by Alan Kryszak, media faculty at the UMaine Machias Interdisciplinary Fine Arts Department, who teaches the Down East documentary filmmaking course. The documentary is the fifth feature-length production to come out of Kryszak’s course. The student crew members for “Hungry Now” included Sam LaRusse, Nicholas Sanborn, Amanda Sawyer, Robin Hadlock Seeley, Hannah Somers-Jones, Suzie Milkowich, Aiyla Petty, Amanda Quinn, Megan Racila and Beth Staples. “It was important to be able to walk right up to strangers. The script is in their heads, and they generously relay the most personal stories of failure, hard hits and how they keep helping the next one, no matter what,” says Kryszak in his director’s statement. Past student productions that have come out of Kryszak’s filmmaking class include the 2020 “Privacy & the Power of Secrets,” which was an official selection at The Hague Global Cinema Festival, as well as the 2018 “[Whatever Works: Exploring Opiate Addiction](#),” which premiered on Maine Public television in 2017 and received a 2018 Docs Without Borders award. The UMaine Machias Performing Arts Center will host a second screening in-person on Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. Admission to both screenings are free. Donations at the door will go to the Manna Food Pantry in Bangor for the premiere at the Collins Center and the Machias Food Pantry for the screening at UMaine Machias. “Hungry Now” will also broadcast on Maine Public Television on Nov. 24 and Dec. 15 at 9 p.m., and Dec. 17 at 2 p.m. The documentary will be distributed on PBS and online following the final televised airing.

Athletic Training Student Organization raising funds to attend EATA convention

04 Nov 2022

Members of the University of Maine’s Athletic Training Student Organization (ATSO) are selling raffle tickets throughout the month of November to raise money to help students attend the Eastern Athletic Trainers’ Association [annual convention](#) in Boston in January, as well as future conventions. Tickets are two for \$5 or five for \$10, and prizes include tickets to Maine Celtics and UMaine women’s and men’s basketball games, as well as UMaine men’s ice hockey tickets, a hockey stick signed by UMaine players, a UMaine Bookstore basket, and gift cards to various restaurants and retail establishments. Raffle drawings will be held Dec. 1–7, and participants can buy tickets for specific days to increase their chances of winning the prizes drawn on those days. ATSO will accept cash or Venmo (@UMaineATSO) payment for the raffle tickets. For more information about prizes or to buy tickets, contact ATSO adviser and assistant professor of athletic training Alicia Lacy, alicia.lacy@maine.edu.

Mount Desert Islander boosts Vekasi talk about mineral supply chains

04 Nov 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) noted that the Southwest Harbor Public Library will host an in-person talk on “The Politics of Critical Mineral Supply Chains in the Indo-Pacific,” with Camden Conference lecturer Kristin Vekasi, associate professor in the political science department and School of Policy and International Affairs, on Nov. 5, at 1:30 p.m. Registration is required to attend both in person, with masks required, and to receive an online link. Register at [swhplibrary.org](#).

Home for Harvest cites UMaine Extension cherry tree planting resources

04 Nov 2022

In an article about when and how to plant a cherry tree, [Home for Harvest](#) cited a [bulletin](#) from University of Maine Cooperative Extension about planting and early care of fruit trees.

Media share UMaine Mitchell Center event about restoring traditional sweetgrass harvesting

04 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Sun Journal](#) shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled “Wabanaki plant gathering in Acadia National Park: Mobilizing Indigenous Knowledge to restore traditional sweet grass harvesting” at 3 p.m. on Nov. 14. In this talk, Suzanne Greenlaw, a Ph.D. student with the UMaine School of Forest Resources, will discuss the Indigenous research methodology and participatory action research approach to facilitate sweetgrass gathering in Acadia National Park. To register and receive connection information, visit the [event webpage](#).

Courier-Gazette notes Vekasi presentation at Camden Conference

04 Nov 2022

[The Courier-Gazette](#) reported that Camden Conference, in cooperation with the Belfast Free Library, will present a talk on international supply chains by Kristin Vekasi, associate professor in the political science department and School of Policy and International Affairs, the University of Maine on Nov. 15, 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the library’s Abbott Room. Her presentation is titled “Global Supply Chains and Just in Time Production: What they are and how they influence international trade and relations.”

Higher Ed Dive features Howorth on UMaine’s Step Up to College program

04 Nov 2022

In an article about how colleges can better serve students with autism, [Higher Ed Dive](#) featured a Q&A with Sarah Howorth, professor of special education at the University of Maine who piloted the Step Up to College program for students with autism in 2019. Howorth shared some of the unique challenges students with autism face, how accessibility offices can help and why she believes colleges need to incorporate disability into their diversity, equity and inclusion plans. “If we can’t make our colleges welcoming places for diverse people of all abilities and backgrounds, that upholds the idea that education is exclusive and not everybody gets to go to university,” Howorth said. “Look at things from a Universal Design for Learning perspective. The things that you offer for students with autism on college campuses, like peer mentors, will help all students.”

Maine Public highlights UMaine wild blueberry research

04 Nov 2022

[Maine Public](#) spoke to YongJiang Zhang, assistant professor of plant physiology, and Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture, about the ways in which climate change may benefit Maine wild blueberry growers. Zhang, who studies how wild blueberries respond to warmer temperatures, said that warmer temperatures will extend the berries' growing season, and biochar can be used to retain moisture in the soil in dry conditions. “They have more time to accumulate carbohydrates or sugars, and they have more time to grow,” he said. Schattman is studying whether a new type of inexpensive shallow well can be used to irrigate wild blueberries. “There’s definitely a lot of room in the wild blueberry industry to invest in irrigation, but the other part of that that doesn’t get talked about nearly enough is water source development. So can people get the water to put it on their fields to begin with? It can be quite expensive. Most people dig deep wells, which can be very expensive to drill,” Schattman said. [The Lewiston Sentinel](#) shared the Maine Public report.

Media report on UMaine alum’s Milken Educator Award

04 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [WABI-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor), [News Center Maine](#) and [Maine Department of Education](#) shared the news that University of Maine College of Education and Human Development alumna Sarah Collins (’08, ’14G) received a 2022 Milken Educator Award. Collins, a fourth-grade science teacher at Patricia A. Duran School in Hermon, will get a \$25,000 unrestricted cash prize from the Milken Family Foundation, which hands out the awards — sometimes called the Oscars of Teaching — to educators who inspire and uplift, and make a profound difference for students, colleagues and communities. Collins secured a Maine Environmental Education Grant to develop an outdoor classroom and garden “lab” where children learn about soil quality and plant growth. She arranges virtual meetings for her students with scientists in a multitude of locations and occupations, including a wildlife ecologist studying coyote behavior in South Carolina, a Hawaiian volcanologist and a scientist performing experiments in Antarctica. Collins also works with the University of Maine’s Research in STEM Education (RISE) Center to bring research-based, hands-on learning experiences back to Duran. The Milken Family Foundation [posted a video on their Facebook](#) of her receiving the award.

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Nov. 7

07 Nov 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update as follows:

- A reminder that seasonal weather returns this week. UMaine community members should plan accordingly for colder temperatures and icing conditions when commuting and walking on campus. Facilities Management teams will be salting and sanding roads and sidewalks as weather conditions dictate.
- Fogler Library north elevator will be out of service for approximately four months for a jack replacement. The south elevator remains in service.
- The front entrance of The Maples is being painted.
- Preparations are underway to install a new east substation transformer on campus.
- Construction continues on experimental blueberry beds at Wyman's Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center.
- Demolition continues at the Aquaculture Research Center and Child Study Center sites.
- Construction continues on Holmes and Coburn halls.

Contest to be held to select Summer University 2023 poster art

07 Nov 2022

The University of Maine Division of Lifelong Learning will hold its second annual UMaine campuswide contest to determine next year's Summer University poster. The contest is now open to all current University of Maine students. Contestants should create a piece of original, digital art considering what summer at UMaine means to them. The winning entry will be printed and distributed throughout the state to promote UMaine Summer University 2023. The winner will also receive a \$500 gift card to the University Bookstore. All participants will be entered into a drawing to win a \$250 University Bookstore gift card. The Summer University poster has historically been used to promote summer learning opportunities and build a sense of pride in the university and all UMaine has to offer on campus and beyond. Interested students should read the contest [Terms and Conditions](#) and submit their entry using [this form](#). The deadline is Dec. 11, 2022. More information about UMaine Summer University can be found [online](#).

Sun Journal highlights Talty event at UMF

07 Nov 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) noted that Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, will read his work in the latest installment of the University of Maine at Farmington's Visiting Writers Series at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17, in The Landing in the UMF Olsen Student Center. In addition to speaking at UMF, Talty will participate in a virtual talk about his book "Night of the Living Rez" hosted by the [Portland Press Herald](#) at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

Maine Public interviews Johnson about how to discuss climate change

07 Nov 2022

[Maine Public](#) interviewed Tora Johnson, about how she discusses climate change with people who are skeptical of the science behind it, view it as not a priority or feel too powerless to help mitigate it. Johnson, associate professor of GIS and chair of the Division of Environmental and Biological Sciences at the University of Maine at Machias, said there are strategies for talking about climate change in ways that make it more engaging or make listeners feel supported, not blamed. She also focuses on learning what people are worried about or need. "When you're a municipal official, climate change manifests itself as things like increasing frequency of backups in your wastewater treatment plant, roads that flood repeatedly during a storm event," she said, "and more elders living in older homes, not really able to weather the storms." The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [New Hampshire Public Radio](#) shared the Maine Public story.

Culturefest featured in local media reports

07 Nov 2022

[News Center Maine](#), [WABI](#) (Channel 5) and [WVII](#) (Channel 7) reported on the 35th Culturefest, a celebration of cultures hosted by the University of Maine Office of International Programs and International Student Association that featured international foods, cultural exhibits, children's activities and a style show.

Media report on UMaine alum being first rookie to win World Series MVP

07 Nov 2022

The [Associated Press](#), [WMTW](#) (Channel 8 in Portland), [WCVB](#) (Channel 5 in Boston), [92.9 The Ticket](#), [WJBQ-FM](#), [WCYY-FM](#) and other outlets reported that Jeremy Peña, former baseball player for the University of Maine and current player for the Houston Astros, became the first rookie position player to win a World Series MVP award. The [Bangor Daily News](#), the [Portland Press Herald](#), [Boston.com](#) and [WABI](#) (Channel 5) and other news organizations shared the AP story.

Press Herald features Markwood, UMaine men's basketball coach and alum

07 Nov 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) featured Chris Markwood, University of Maine head men's basketball coach and alum. Markwood's appointment of head coach was announced back in March. He has an extensive coaching career, which includes a five-year stint at UMaine as an assistant coach from 2006–11.

Markwood graduated from UMaine in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Sociology. While at UMaine, he played two seasons for the Black Bears, serving as team captain as a senior in 2004–05.

Online grant writing program to be offered in 2023 through the Hutchinson Center

08 Nov 2022

Registration is now open for a five-week professional development program, Grant Writing Essentials, through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center. The fee for this online, instructor-led program is \$895. Need-based scholarships are available. Sessions are 9 a.m.–noon on Fridays. Three sessions of the program will be running in winter/spring 2023 — Session One: Jan. 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10; Session Two: March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14; and Session Three: May 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 2023. This program, taught by professional grant writer Elizabeth Haffey, is designed to benefit people across the grant-writing spectrum, including those new to the genre, those in the midst of writing grants, and successful grant writers who are looking to refine their skills and gain new insights. Participants will earn a badge in Grant Writing Level 1 and 2. For those interested in continuing education credits, 3 CEUs and 30 contact hours are available. Early registration is recommended as spots are limited. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available for people who live or work in Knox or Waldo counties. Qualified participants may be eligible for funding from the Harold Alfond Center for Workforce Development. [Click here to learn more](#). For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Abby Spooner, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002. For more information about upcoming professional development programs or to register, go [online](#).

Piscataquis Observer reports on UMaine student interning with Sen. Collins

08 Nov 2022

The [Piscataquis Observer](#) shared that Steffi Victoria, a junior at the University of Maine, has been awarded a fall internship in Sen. Susan Collins’ Bangor Constituent Services Center. Victoria is majoring in political science and minoring in leadership studies. Outside of academics, Victoria volunteers at the Bangor PCHC Hope House Health and Living Center. After graduation, she aspires to be a pro-bono immigration attorney to support Afghan allies, Ukrainians and future asylum seekers.

Handley speaks to BDN about the impact of record high fall temperatures on Maine fruit crops

08 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) spoke to David Handley, professor at the University of Maine fruit and vegetable research center at Highmoor Farm and cooperating professor of horticulture at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about the impact of record high November temperatures on Maine’s perennial crops. “We are seeing some buds starting to break out. Pretty much anything that is left out now that has not gone into dormancy will probably not go dormant and you may start to see some regrowth,” Handley said.

News Center Maine features UMaine research about virtual volunteering

08 Nov 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported on University of Maine associate professor Jennifer Crittenden’s three-year study through the University of Maine Center on Aging and School of Social Work to learn more about how virtual volunteering is changing today’s social landscape. Crittenden will work with a team of graduate students and others to learn why virtual volunteering is so appealing, especially to seniors, and how such agencies can grow their volunteer forces in the future. “I hope that the research that I do will expose that range and help us understand what are those opportunities that we can foster. And also, what are the challenges,” Crittenden said.

Broadway World promotes Wiemann’s ‘I Give You My Home’ at Guerilla Emergence Festival

08 Nov 2022

[Broadway World](#) promoted the premiere broadcast of the opera “I Give You My Home,” with music and libretto composed by Beth Wiemann, a professor in the University of Maine School of Performing Arts, at the [Guerilla Emergence Festival](#), a virtual festival of ground-breaking works commissioned by Guerilla Opera that runs Nov. 29–Dec. 2, streaming online and to all devices through [Stellar Tickets](#). “I Give You My Home” is supported in part by the University of Maine Arts Initiative.

Planet Forward cites UMaine research about seaweed

08 Nov 2022

In an article about sustainable food options, [Planet Forward](#) quoted Denise Skonberg, associate professor of food science in the Food and Agriculture School at the University of Maine, about her research looking at the benefits seaweed and algae can have on a human diet and the environment. “There are thousands of species of seaweeds, and they vary a lot in terms of their appearance, their color, their nutritional value, their texture, and their flavor,” Skonberg said.

BDN shares UMaine Machias ‘Hungry Now’ documentary premiere

08 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that the film “Hungry Now,” which was created through a documentary filmmaking course at University of Maine Machias, will premiere at the Collins Center for the Arts in Orono on Nov. 13 at 3 p.m. The UMaine Machias Performing Arts Center will host a second screening in-person on Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. Admission to both screenings are free. Donations at the door will go to the Manna Food Pantry in Bangor for the premiere at the Collins Center and the Machias Food Pantry for the screening at UMaine Machias. “Hungry Now” will also broadcast on Maine Public Television on Nov. 24 and Dec. 15 at 9 p.m., and Dec. 17 at 2 p.m. The documentary will be distributed on PBS and online following the final televised airing.

Glover speaks to Education Next about ‘Parents Bill of Rights’

08 Nov 2022

Robert Glover, professor political science at the University of Maine, spoke to [Education Next](#) about gubernatorial candidate Paul LePage’s “Parents Bill of Rights,” which would increase state control over curricular content. Glover said that the proposal attempts to “capitalize on people’s passionate sentiments that something is going fundamentally wrong in their local schools.” Glover also noted that, “the reason that this has filtered up ... in the state and around the country is because there is this sense, for some folks, that the curriculum is out of control and parents need to exert more control over those decisions ... and that the state needs to step up.”

Media feature Ortega Jiménez springtail research

08 Nov 2022

The [New York Times](#), [Science News](#), [Popular Mechanics](#), [Scienmag](#), [Smithsonian](#), [News Center Maine](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) featured research about the jumping skills of springtails led by Victor Ortega Jiménez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology and biomechanics at the University of Maine. The study found that springtails, animals about the size of a grain of sand, can hop away from predators and land smoothly on water using their colophore, a tube sticking out of their abdomens. The team created a robot that mimics springtail jumping action, which could lead to better robots that can land safely on water and provide insights into the origins of flight in organisms. [Aol](#) shared the Popular Mechanics report. [International Business Times](#) cited the ScienceNews report.

New study shows springtails jump, dive and land with unexpected precision — and can teach robots to do the same

08 Nov 2022

Editor’s note: This story was updated Nov. 9, 2022. Springtails look chaotic to the untrained eye. Whether on a balmy pond or melting snow, the miniscule creatures are, true to their name, constantly springing up from the surface in a cloud of microscopic mayhem. Despite appearances, a study led by Victor Ortega Jiménez, assistant professor of integrative avian biology and biomechanics at the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology, has found that the aquatic springtails’ pattern of jumping, soaring and landing is not a disorganized dance, but a perfectly choreographed aerial ballet that is fundamental to their survival. Springtails are the largest group of six-legged creatures that are not insects (they were once considered insects, but have since been categorized separately as Collembola because they have soft bodies, no wings and hidden mouthparts). They are known for the unique parts of their bodies used for jumping and adhering to landing surfaces, known as the furcula and colophore, respectively. Previously, biologists assumed that the critters couldn’t control their explosive takeoff, tumultuous midair spinning and landing. Turns out, those funny appendages make springtails into nature’s precision strike missiles. Springtails use the furcula to their body angle and the speed during takeoff, as well as the angle of the body posture in midair. Then, they use the water-loving properties of their colophore to achieve a near-perfect landing, touching down on their undersides nearly 85% of the time and anchoring to avoid bouncing. Jiménez, head of the [Ornithopter Lab](#), led the project while at Georgia Tech with researchers the [Bhamla Lab](#) and the Koh Lab at Ajou University in South Korea. They used mathematical modeling to show how the appendages influence the springtails’ launch, flight and landing. Through their models, they were also able to show that springtails can curve their bodies to form a U-shape pose that leverages aerodynamic forces to right themselves in less than 20 milliseconds — the fastest ever measured in animals. “Springtails were portrayed as uncontrollable jumpers. We discovered that these arthropods that have no wings and are smaller than a sand grain are able to control their jumping direction, skydive and land on their feet, in less than a blink of an eye,” says Ortega Jiménez. The researchers at the Koh Lab also designed a jumping robot inspired by the biophysical principles of the springtail. The robot was able to reduce in-flight rotation and land upright about 75% of the time. “This jumping robot, which uses drag enhancers and an extra weight, can right itself in midair and land ventrally most of the time, in a similar way as springtails. This simple mechanism can be used to enhance a safe and upright landing in any robot or device that catapults explosively in the air,” says Ortega Jiménez. The [study](#) was published Nov. 7, 2022, in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS). Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

New video showcases UMaine-led expedition to Greenland

09 Nov 2022

The University of Maine has [released a video](#) about a summer 2022 expedition by students and faculty to Greenland as part of a program funded by the National Science Foundation. https://youtu.be/D7bWA9TGx_g [Read transcript](#) In June 2022, Jasmine Saros, associate director of the Climate Change Institute and professor of paleolimnology and lake ecology with the School of Biology and Ecology, led a trip to south Greenland for Arctic research and field training. Her group, which consisted of researchers from UMaine, the University of Maine School of Law and other institutions, studied different socio-environmental Arctic systems during their trip — with research focused on water monitoring, freshwater security, tidewater glaciers and agritourism. The trip was part of the Systems Approaches to Understanding and Navigating the New Arctic (SAUNNA) program, which is supported by [a nearly \\$3 million award from NSF](#). Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Transcript

Jasmine Saros: In June, a group of faculty and student scientists traveled to South Greenland for Arctic research and field training. The 24 researchers were from the University of Maine, the University of Maine School of Law, and other universities, and included 15 undergraduate, graduate and law students. President Joan Ferrini-Mundy joined us for part of the trip. Our work focused on studying different socio-environmental Arctic Systems — with research focused on water monitoring, freshwater security, tidewater glaciers and agritourism. For the water monitoring and freshwater security studies, two research teams sampled lakes, streams and fjords, both on land and by boat. Another team of scientists worked in a fjord and its tributaries to sample and analyze glacier-marine interactions. The final team spoke with several sheep farmers around Qassarsuk to learn how climate change in Greenland has affected them. This trip is part of a program at UMaine to train graduate students to become the next generation of Arctic scientists. That program, called Systems

Approaches to Understanding and Navigating the New Arctic, or SAUNNA, is funded by the National Science Foundation. Through it, we're hoping to train nearly 60 master's and Ph.D. students from various fields, as Arctic systems science is interdisciplinary. The Arctic is the most rapidly changing environment in the world due to climate change. Mean annual temperatures have spiked, ice cover has declined and ecosystems have been altered. Part of this program's goal is to reinforce the idea that all of those changes don't happen in a vacuum. They're interconnected, and they affect Maine and the Northern Hemisphere broadly. Outside of conducting research, our team enjoyed hiking, touring icebergs and learning about Inuit and Nordic History at a nearby museum. Many students were able to experience the Arctic for the first time, after focusing their research on this location for the past year or more. Some built collaborations and memories that they will carry for the rest of their academic careers. UMaine has been an internationally recognized leader in polar science for more than four decades. Our faculty are well equipped to prepare these students to address the socio-environmental challenges of tomorrow. And I can't wait to see what they accomplish.

Media advances Mitchell Center event

09 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled "Becoming a Policy Entrepreneur: Learning to love the creative and sometimes surreal world of policy making" at 3 p.m. on Nov. 21. Lisa Margonelli, editor-in-chief at Issues in Science and Technology, a quarterly policy forum published by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and Arizona State University, will discuss her path to understanding and participating in policymaking and the kinds of active roles scientists can take to engage with policymakers and become policy entrepreneurs. To register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#).

Fried, Brewer speak to Maine Monitor about Gov. Janet Mills re-election

09 Nov 2022

[The Maine Monitor](#) interviewed Amy Fried and Mark Brewer, professors of political science at the University of Maine, about the re-election of governor Janet Mills. "She's seen positively by voters and viewed as having done a good job with managing the pandemic and working with the Legislature. Inflation is an issue in Maine but it's likely voters don't blame state officials for it. The abortion issue will play a role as well. Maine is a strongly pro-choice state ... voters exhausted by the last six years picked a calmer pragmatist who has built coalitions," Fried said. "Mills won because she was able to convince voters that she had done a pretty good job as governor. She reminded voters of her competent stewardship through COVID, the state's solid financial footing, and her overall steady, calming, no-drama performance. Maine's strong support of abortion rights and the \$850 stimulus checks Mills sent to most Mainers didn't hurt either," Brewer said.

UMaine club builds a rare plants garden at Murray Hall

09 Nov 2022

A Maine Rare Plants Garden at Murray Hall features over 30 rare and endangered species, selected and cultivated by members of the University of Maine Biology and Horticulture clubs. Some plants featured in the garden, established on 2022 Maine Day with funding from the Alton '38 and Adelaide Hamm Campus Activity Fund, include *Lupinus perennis*, *Trillium grandiflorum*, and Orono sedge. Most of the plants were selected from the National Plant Trust in Massachusetts, where they were propagated by nurseries or professional botanists. Inspiration for the garden came from Ann Dieffenbacher-Krall, associate director of the School of Biology and Ecology, who thought the planting beds in the Murray Hall courtyard could be used for a pollinator garden. She wanted to expose students and the public to plants that should be growing in Maine, but are either extinct or endangered. "One of the plants in the mix was *Lupinus perennis*, which is the native lupine and is only found in pine barrens," says Dieffenbacher-Krall. "When I volunteered for the Natural Areas program, I would visit sites where rare plants would occur. I drove all over Moosehead in the summer and never found *Lupinus perennis*, so I thought 'why don't we plant rare plants that belong here that people never see out in the wild?'" Club members say they hope the garden will raise awareness about plant conservation and peak interest in understanding the forces that endanger plants, including habitat destruction or degradation, over-collecting, and climate change. "Participating in the creation of the rare plants garden on Maine Day was an awesome experience!" says Aldous Hofmann, a senior majoring in biology. "Post COVID lock-downs, a sense of community connection is something that I feel was severely hampered. By helping plant the rare plants garden as a senior, I was able to meet some of the underclassmen in my department and learn about their experiences during the last few years. Having such interesting species and the sense of community that was garnered as a talking point when showing people around the campus is very fulfilling." Visit the Maine Rare Plants Garden [webpage](#) to learn about each species in it. The garden is an ongoing project; to volunteer, contact Dieffenbacher-Krall, annd@maine.edu. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Maine hospitals can do more to reduce food waste with the right support, UMaine study finds

09 Nov 2022

Though it is an important economic and environmental issue for all sectors, food waste is an element of the health care waste that often goes unnoticed. Hospitals in Maine could do more to reduce their contribution to the food waste stream, according to a study by the University of Maine. According to the United Nations Environmental Program, hospitals produce 71% of all health care-related solid waste, and up to 15% of that waste is food. A [2012 study](#) from VU University Medical Center in the Netherlands showed that 39% of the food served to patients in hospitals is returned to the kitchen to be disposed of. That can be a staggering amount of waste. A [2017 study](#) conducted by Wichita State University in Kansas showed that one hospital that serves 6,640 patient meals per week can generate more than 24 tons of food waste per year. The research team, led by Deborah Saber, associate professor at the University of Maine School of Nursing, used the EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy framework — developed in 2011 to prioritize reducing waste and promoting a circular food economy through methods like feeding animals, industrial uses and composting before food is brought to a landfill or incinerator — to look at how hospitals in Maine process food waste. They conducted semi-structured interviews with hospital nutrition services at seven facilities across the state about their food management procedures with the strategies of the framework in mind. The surveys revealed several potential areas of improvement in the food preparation systems in Maine hospitals to better manage food waste. For one, food is largely disposed of via sink disposals, making it hard to quantify how much food is actually wasted in the facilities. Still, the researchers found that six of the seven surveyed hospitals did not compost food waste due to barriers like cost, procedural considerations and the challenge of hiring the right personnel. The hospitals also rejected "ugly" vegetables, when they could accept imperfect

produce to use in meals like soups and sauces that would reduce waste and create cost savings for the hospitals. Food donations were recognized by the hospital nutrition services surveyed as a viable way to reduce waste, but were said to be not widely practiced because of legal concerns despite the protections offered through laws like the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, which protects nonprofits from liability when donating except for in cases of gross negligence. The researchers noted that a carefully defined contract between hospital management and a food bank organization could help overcome these concerns. The study’s results highlight the need for nurse leaders to lead sustainable initiatives and inform hospital policymakers about best practices in food waste management in order to positively impact the environment and reduce hospital expenditures. “The findings are important because they identify distinct barriers to food donation, which could help the community while reducing waste,” Saber says. “Programs to reduce all waste, including food waste, have become a priority for health care organizations. We hope that the findings in this study will provide information to increase efforts toward environmental sustainability.” Moreover, the researchers noted that culinary education programs at hospitals could be used to effectively promote food repurposing strategies in the locations surveyed. Culinary school programs require the completion of operations and management courses that include meal planning and budgetary strategies that would be applicable in a hospital setting. The [study](#) was published in the Online Journal of Issues in Nursing. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine leads extensive review of Arctic freshwater response to climate change

10 Nov 2022

Though freshwater systems are known to be important indicators for understanding climate change, little has been done to connect the existing science on freshwater bodies in the Arctic in order to determine patterns that will help better understand the region. A University of Maine-led review has tied together the existing research about Arctic freshwater systems’ “sentinel responses” — the physical, chemical and biological shifts caused by climate forcings — to help researchers and policymakers better incorporate these important systems into their work in the Arctic. Sentinel responses of freshwater systems have become essential for the policy and management of ecosystems around the world. Many of the first detectable ecosystem responses to changing atmospheric deposition across a landscape are found in freshwater systems. Jasmine Saros, professor of paleolimnology and lake ecology at the University of Maine Climate Change Institute and School of Biology and Ecology, led a team of 28 authors from six countries as part of the International Arctic Science Committee’s (IASC) pan-Arctic, land-based research program, [Terrestrial Multidisciplinary distributed Observatories for the Study of Arctic Connections](#) (T-MOSAIC). The team also included Vaclava Hazukova, a Ph.D. student in UMaine’s Ecology and Environmental Sciences Program, as well as the Systems Approaches to Understanding and Navigating the New Arctic (SAUNNA) National Research Traineeship (NRT) program. The researchers reviewed the existing scientific literature about sentinel responses of Arctic freshwater systems. The sentinel responses the team looked at included the changes in lake level as a consequence of shifting water balance and hydrology; the extent and timing of ice off as a consequence of air temperature anomalies; deoxygenation in response to lake warming and stratification; changes in river discharge and timing of spring freshet; solute changes as a consequence of extreme precipitation events and changing flowpaths; changes in species diversity of algae as a consequence of climate-driven changes in physical habitat structure; the prevalence of invasive species and more. The researchers used the literature review to clarify the linkages between these sentinel responses and climate forcings. For example, they showed that populations of Arctic char may be good indicators of climate warming due to their vulnerability; indirect and direct climate effects will considerably alter Arctic invertebrate community structure resulting in significant food web dynamics; and the mobilization and fate of organic carbon are important components of the permafrost carbon feedback and thus their release into and emission from freshwater ecosystems can be valuable sentinels of permafrost thaw. “This review synthesizes the current understanding of climate-driven changes in Arctic freshwater systems, and helps to clarify the sensitivity and drivers of different responses,” Saros says. The researchers also identified gaps in the existing scientific knowledge about the impact of climate change on freshwater Arctic ecosystems and provided suggestions for future research. For example, they noted that understanding of Arctic freshwater sentinel responses could be advanced by furthering the capabilities of sensors and implementing methods like eDNA, as well as engaging with local Indigenous communities in the Arctic to integrate their interests and co-produce knowledge. “This review provides a roadmap for future work and will ideally facilitate greater coordination and cooperation in future Arctic work,” Saros says. The [review](#) was published in the journal Arctic Science on Nov. 3, 2022. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Collins Center for the Arts wins Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce ‘Spirit of the Region’ Cultural Award

10 Nov 2022

The Collins Center for the Arts has been awarded the new “Spirit of the Region” Cultural Award from the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce. The award recognizes an individual, business or organization that has made significant contributions to the arts, entertainment and cultural opportunities in the Bangor region. The Collins Center will be recognized at the Chamber’s Annual Awards Dinner Friday, Jan. 27, 2023 at Cross Insurance Center in Bangor. The event, sponsored by Machias Savings Bank, is expected to draw more than 900 community and statewide leaders. More information about the event is on the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce [website](#).

Mitchell Center to host talk on how Indigenous knowledge can restore traditional sweetgrass harvesting Nov. 14

10 Nov 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled “[Wabanaki plant gathering in Acadia National Park: Mobilizing Indigenous Knowledge to restore traditional sweetgrass harvesting](#)” at 3 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 14. In this talk, Suzanne Greenlaw, a Ph.D. student with the UMaine School of Forest Resources, will discuss the Indigenous research methodology and participatory action research approach to facilitate sweetgrass gathering in Acadia National Park. Greenlaw is a citizen of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and an ethnobotanist focused on mobilizing Indigenous Knowledge and cultural practices to address cultural resource issues such as reduced access, invasive species planning and loss of traditional food sources. She currently co-leads a project that facilitates the development of plant gathering agreements between the Wabanaki Nations and Acadia National Park. This interdisciplinary work focuses on Wabanaki stewardship approaches and cultural protocols to assert Indigenous sovereignty within natural resource management. Greenlaw’s research aims to provide a template of culturally appropriate engagement between Native American gatherers and national parks. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely. To register and receive connection information, visit the [event webpage](#). Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Sun Journal notes UMaine Extension role in Oxford County Extension Association meeting and election

10 Nov 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) reported that the Oxford County Extension Association will hold its annual meeting and election of officers in partnership with University of Maine Cooperative Extension staff on Dec. 6, 4:30–5:30 p.m. Association members provide input on educational programming needs and oversee county budget appropriations that support programs for county residents focusing on positive youth development and the Maine food system. The meeting is free and open to the public.

BDN, News Center Maine report on UMaine broccoli sprouts research**10 Nov 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [News Center Maine](#) reported that University of Maine researchers and their colleagues are investigating whether broccoli sprouts can help prevent and treat inflammatory bowel disease in humans. Through multiple studies, Yanyan Li, assistant professor of human nutrition; Sue Ishaq, assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences; and researchers from other institutions will explore how human gut microbes could use a compound from broccoli sprouts to generate a new one that prevents and reduces inflammation. [WLTX-TV](#) (Channel 19 in Columbia, South Carolina) shared the News Center Maine report.

Brewer, Glover speak to PPH about LePage gubernatorial race loss**10 Nov 2022**

The [Portland Press Herald](#) interviewed Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, and Robert Glover, associate professor of political science, about gubernatorial candidate Paul LePage's loss in the November election. Brewer attributed LePage's 2022 loss to the lack of a viable third-party candidate, his opponent was an incumbent widely perceived as having done a "pretty good job," and the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court abortion ruling. "I do think that inflation was the top issue for most voters, but that abortion was also very important for many voters, especially persuadable voters," Brewer said. Glover called Election 2022 a kind of crossroads for Maine's GOP. "I think this was also a referendum on LePage's combative, divisive eight years and some conservative voters not wanting to go back to that. I heard more conservative voters essentially expressing frustration," Glover said. [Yahoo News](#) shared the PPH story.

BDN features Talalay Congressional Award**10 Nov 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Miriam Talalay, a first-year University of Maine zoology student from Luterville, Maryland, was one of 549 Congressional Award gold medal awardees from 41 states. "I was overjoyed, so grateful for receiving something I worked so hard toward," Talalay says about receiving the medal. "It's getting rewarded for doing the stuff I already love. I also thought it was a great learning experience and opportunity to kickstart projects I already wanted to start."

Ellsworth American cites UMaine participation in salmon restoration**10 Nov 2022**

In an article about the recent release of 300 mature Atlantic salmon into the upper reaches of the East Branch of the Penobscot River for salmon restoration efforts, the [Ellsworth American](#) noted that the University of Maine will help track the released salmon as they spawn and make their way out to the ocean, using a combination of canoe surveys to look nests where salmon deposit eggs and acoustic telemetry to track tagged salmon among those released. [The Fishing Wire](#) shared the Ellsworth American report.

O'Reilly co-writes op-ed for The Globe and Mail about Hockey Canada**10 Nov 2022**

Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine Graduate School of Business School, co-wrote an opinion piece for [The Globe and Mail](#) with Rick Burton, professor of sport management at Syracuse University, about Hockey Canada rebuilding its image after scandal. "As professionals who have spent most of our lives working, analyzing and consulting for sports organizations around the world, we think that restoring the integrity of the Hockey Canada brand will depend on securing the right kinds of partnerships. ... Brands are perceptions, measured in the value people hold in their minds about a given property. And how Hockey Canada goes about this will make for a valuable lesson for all organizations," O'Reilly and Burton wrote.

Call for nominations for University of Maine honorary degrees**09 Nov 2022**

The University of Maine Honorary Degree Committee seeks nominations for honorary degrees to be awarded at the May 2024 commencement ceremonies. The awarding of honorary degrees is an opportunity to draw positive attention to the university through the recognition of world-class achievement and impact. Please consider submitting a nomination for this special University of Maine honor. Please find below the University of Maine Board of Trustees Policy regarding Honorary Degrees. To submit a nomination, please use [this University of Maine Honorary Degree nomination form](#). A separate nomination should be used for each nominee and be accompanied by a nomination letter (no more than five pages) that includes the following information:

- a compelling rationale for the nominee
- relevant biographical data
- description of the nominee's regional, national, or international prominence
- description of the nominee's connection to the state of Maine

The nomination letter also should address: The candidate’s most notable accomplishments and how these achievements make this individual worthy of receiving an honorary degree. Why it is particularly appropriate for this person to receive an honorary degree from the University of Maine. Please submit the completed nomination materials by Monday, November 28, 2022.

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Nov. 14

14 Nov 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update as follows:

- Annual snow removal training for campus crews is Tuesday. First snow of this season in Orono is expected on Wednesday.
- Roof repair at D.P. Corbett Business Building is expected to start on Wednesday.
- Sod being installed at the Advanced Structures and Composites Center Thursday, weather permitting.
- Terrell House window and siding installation should be completed this week.
- Final campus paving projects campuswide being scheduled.
- Carpet replacement in the Collins Center for the Arts scheduled for winter break.
- Ongoing: Holmes and Coburn halls construction; Aquaculture Research Center demolition; construction of experimental blueberry beds at Wyman’s Wild Blueberry Research and Innovation Center.

Schattman speaks to Maine Science Podcast about agroecology

14 Nov 2022

Rachel Schattman, assistant professor in the School of Food and Agriculture at the University of Maine, was featured on the Maine Science Podcast’s [latest episode](#). Schattman discussed her agroecology research, which uses skills and techniques across social and lab sciences. Schattman and her team work with specialty crop producers and agricultural advisers to identify and address production challenges, with a focus on climate change adaptation. The [podcast](#), a production of the Maine Science Festival, has featured other experts from the UMaine community in previous episodes.

Maine STEM Partnership Summit Nov. 18–19

14 Nov 2022

The Maine STEM Partnership at the RiSE Center will host its annual summit at the Samoset Resort in Rockport Nov. 18–19. The STEM education improvement community will convene over 120 STEM educators and administrators from across the state, university faculty and staff, and other community partners to discuss the current and future STEM-related challenges facing Maine and beyond, and plan how all can work together to meet these challenges by building excellence in STEM education for all students. Founded and supported by the Maine Center for Research in STEM Education (RiSE Center) at the University of Maine, the statewide Maine STEM Partnership seeks to build and sustain a diverse, statewide community that strengthens preK–16+ STEM education by promoting rich, research-supported classroom experiences that deepen learning and engage all students. This community seeks to build STEM literacy and career competency, and to encourage students to become STEM educators and education researchers. The RiSE Center is an interdisciplinary center organized to conduct research, graduate education, secondary preservice teacher preparation, and professional learning. It focuses on improving the research and research-based practice of STEM education at all levels of instruction. More information on the 2022 Maine STEM Partnership Fall Summit is [online](#).

Mitchell Center to host talk on becoming a policy entrepreneur Nov. 21

14 Nov 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled “[Becoming a Policy Entrepreneur: Learning to love the creative and sometimes surreal world of policy making](#)” at 3 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 21. In this talk, Lisa Margonelli, editor-in-chief at Issues in Science and Technology, quarterly policy forum published by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and Arizona State University, will discuss her path to understanding and participating in policymaking and the kinds of active roles scientists can take to engage with policymakers and become policy entrepreneurs. In addition to serving as editor-in-chief of Issues in Science and Technology, Margonelli is the author of “Oil on the Brain: Petroleum’s Long Strange Trip to Your Tank” and “Underbug: An Obsessive Tale of Termites and Technology.” With a fellowship at the New America Foundation, Margonelli began to propose policies directly to decision-makers in 2006. She came to realize the myriad, and surprisingly chaotic, ways that policy is made. Scientists often provide evidence for policymakers, but actively proposing policies can be a very effective avenue for creative problem solving on a big scale. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Media promote UMaine Extension aquaculture workshop

14 Nov 2022

The [Daily Bulldog](#), [Turner Publishing Inc.](#) and [Sun Journal](#) shared that University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H and Auburn Public Library will offer a workshop about aquaculture and its impact in Maine from 4–5 p.m. Nov. 30 at the Auburn Public Library, 49 Spring St. The workshop is free; no registration is required.

Food Service Director, Food Management share UMaine study about hospital food waste

14 Nov 2022

[Food Service Director](#) and [Food Management](#) reported on a recent study by the University of Maine that found that with the right support, hospitals can do more to reduce their food waste.

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review notes UMaine tuition match program

14 Nov 2022

In an article about interstate tuition matching programs, the [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#) noted that the University of Maine has a public flagship match program with a dozen states, including Pennsylvania.

University of Toronto Press publishes Q&A with O'Reilly

14 Nov 2022

The [University of Toronto Press](#) published a Q&A with Norm O'Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business at the University of Maine, about his new book "[Business the NHL Way: Lessons from the Fastest Game on Ice](#)." O'Reilly co-wrote the book and the Q&A with Rick Burton, professor of Sport Management at Syracuse University.

WABI, BDN quote Veves speech at Husson University

14 Nov 2022

In an article about a military presentation at Husson University, [WABI \(Channel 5 in Bangor\)](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) quoted a presentation by Lt. Col. Steven Veves, a professor of military science at the University of Maine. "We teach from freshmen to senior years to commission in the Army, but we also offer leadership development over four years in college. They come to us and gain amazing opportunities to lead once they graduate the university," Veves said.

Lincoln County News advances UMaine Darling Marine Center event for middle school students

14 Nov 2022

The [Lincoln County News](#) boosted an educational program designed for middle school students led by Devin Guilfoyle, outreach coordinator at the University of Maine Darling Marine Center, at 1 p.m. on Nov. 19. The content will explore tides, tidal zonation, the formation of salt marshes and hands-on exploration of organisms that live in Gulf of Maine ecosystems. Interested students in grades 5-8 should apply by completing the form by Nov. 17 at dmc.umaine.edu.

O'Reilly interviewed by Globe and Mail about Tim Hortons hockey-related marketing

14 Nov 2022

Norm O'Reilly, dean of the University of Maine Business School, spoke to the [Globe and Mail](#) about the company Tim Hortons taking a step back into hockey-related marketing after the Hockey Canada scandal. "If it's not perceived to be authentic, consumers are smart, and skeptical ... and it can backfire," he said. "... Is it legitimately helping, putting resources in to make change – and has a marketing benefit too? In an ideal world, it's both. You're able to achieve your marketing objectives in a way that helps hockey fix its culture, and make these changes."

Insider cites anti-hazing research

14 Nov 2022

In an article about hazing on college campuses, [Insider](#) cited a [journal article](#) on hazing prevention on university campuses, authored by researchers at Cornell University and professor Elizabeth Allen in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine. [Yahoo News](#) shared the Insider report.

Schattman speaks to Reuters about soil erosion in the Midwest

14 Nov 2022

[Reuters](#) interviewed Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine, about rain causing unprecedented levels of erosion in the Midwest. Schattman said the U.S. Midwest and Northeast were especially vulnerable to land erosion because they were receiving more extreme amounts of rain than normal, a trend expected to continue through the end of the century. [Yahoo News](#), [Japan Today](#), the [St. Louis Post Dispatch](#), [KELO-AM](#) (Sioux Fall, South Dakota), [KVOX-AM](#) (Fargo, North Dakota), [WSAU-AM](#) (Wausau, Wisconsin), [WVFM-FM](#) (Kalamazoo, Michigan) and other outlets shared the Reuters report.

Ticks congregate in certain areas of Acadia National Park, UMaine study shows

14 Nov 2022

Acadia National Park is one of the most beautiful and popular places to visit in Maine, for tourists and residents alike. With so many visitors, Acadia is a

hotspot location for exposure to tick borne diseases, which are on the rise in the state. A new study from the University of Maine has found clusters of tick populations in the park, which could help inform prevention strategies for tick-borne illnesses like Lyme disease. Former UMaine master's student Sara McBride, now a medical entomologist for the Indiana Department of Health, and Allison Gardner, associate professor of arthropod vector biology at the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology, led a team of researchers from UMaine, Cornell University and the National Park Service in overlaying tick surveys with ecological habitat feature data to model the risk of exposure to tick-borne disease in Acadia National Park. The researchers collected blacklegged ticks at 114 sites across the park over two years and mapped that data out on the park's landscape features. The results showed that tick density varies significantly across the park, but is particularly high in areas with deciduous forest cover and relatively low elevation, especially the northeast area of Mount Desert Island. "Understanding the spatial distribution of tick exposure risk in the park may ultimately inform practical environmental and public health management strategies," says Gardner. "For example, the National Park Service could post informational signage in areas that have high tick densities, or build boardwalks in known tick habitat." The researchers then chose 19 of the sites and looked more deeply at the microclimate conditions, vegetation and activity of tick host species like mice and deer to further explore the fine-scale patterns of tick distribution. They found significant differences in microclimate conditions and vegetation across the sites, but not in host activity. Mean temperature and mean humidity at the sites correlated with tick nymph populations and may provide a link between landscape features and blacklegged tick densities. "Sara [McBride]'s study is novel in her attempts to link broad associations between tick densities and landscape features with the fine-scale microhabitat conditions that are directly experienced by ticks and may influence their survival and host-seeking behavior," says Gardner. The researchers also tested ticks and small mammals in the area for multiple tick-borne pathogens and found a variety of them, including the pathogens that cause Lyme disease, babesiosis and anaplasmosis. Therefore, the results could help inform the exposure risk for different areas of Acadia National Park. The study was supported by Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park through a Second Century Stewardship Fellowship. The [study](#) was published Oct. 22, 2022, in the Journal of Medical Entomology. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Extension 4-H, Auburn Public Library offer aquaculture workshop Nov. 30

15 Nov 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H and Auburn Public Library will offer a workshop about aquaculture and its impact in Maine from 4–5 p.m. Nov. 30 at the Auburn Public Library, 49 Spring St. Aquaculture is the practice of cultivating aquatic plants and raising aquatic animals for food. Here in Maine, farmers raise oysters, mussels and tilapia, and grow many different types of seaweed. Brandon Dyer, Auburn Public Library children's librarian, and Jason Collins, Benchmark Animal Health sales and technical manager, explore and discuss fish anatomy and aquaculture landmarks in Maine. Recommended for ages 8 and up. The workshop is free; no registration is required. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sarah Sparks, 207.581.8206; sarah.sparks@maine.edu. More information about UMaine Extension 4-H is available on the [program website](#).

Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training Program seeks host businesses, organizations

15 Nov 2022

Businesses and organizations interested in hosting a Maine Horticulture Apprentice are encouraged to sign up on the University of Maine Cooperative Extension [website](#). The Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training is a three-part, comprehensive curriculum designed to supply learners with a foundational horticulture education suitable for skilled entry-level positions in the horticulture industry. Developed with input from industry leaders, the program prepares learners with the practical knowledge and skills desired by employers. There are several benefits to hosting a Maine Horticulture Apprentice Trainee, including opportunities to hire an apprentice who has received training on a number of horticulture topics; work with someone who has shown interest in and dedication to entering the field of horticulture; and support the next generation of the horticulture workforce in Maine. Suitable Apprenticeship Hosts include landscaping businesses, nurseries (public-facing or wholesale), farms, nonprofits (botanical, community and school gardens, etc.) and groundskeeper positions. Apprentice opportunities can be paid or volunteer positions so long as they are in alignment with the Fair Labor Standards. More information and the interest list can be found on the program [webpage](#). For questions, call 207.581.3188 or email extension.gardening@maine.edu.

Maine Public notes Rep. Pingree meeting with UMaine delegation to COP27

15 Nov 2022

In a story about Maine's 1st District congresswoman Chellie Pingree attending the United Nations climate summit known as COP27, where delegates and scientists are negotiating strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change, [Maine Public](#) noted that Pingree met with some of the University of Maine delegation in attendance at the summit in Egypt.

BDN, Camden Herald advance Maine STEM partnership summit

15 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and the [Camden Herald](#) noted that the Maine STEM Partnership at the RiSE Center will host its annual summit at the Samoset Resort in Rockport Nov. 18–19. The STEM education improvement community will convene over 120 STEM educators and administrators from across the state, university faculty and staff, and other community partners to discuss the current and future STEM-related challenges facing Maine and beyond, and plan how all can work together to meet these challenges by building excellence in STEM education for all students.

Media note UMaine involvement in research about how plant life spread on land

15 Nov 2022

[ScienceDaily](#), [Futurity](#) and [Yale Daily News](#) noted that Jay Wason, assistant professor of forest ecosystem physiology at the University of Maine, co-authored a new study showing that a simple change in the vascular system of plants made them more drought-resistant, which opened new landscapes for exploration.

Best Products cite UMaine Extension information in article about Nana Hat

15 Nov 2022

In an article about the Nana Hat, a product from ABC's "Shark Tank" that helps preserve bananas by covering the stem with a silicone cap, [Best Products](#) cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension that explains how most fruits produce a gaseous compound called ethylene that starts the ripening process. The Nana Hats are a silicon cap that can be wrapped around the stem of the bunch and stifle ethylene release, with a magnet at the tip to secure a cute little knit cap. [Yahoo News](#) shared the Best Products report.

Morning Ag Clips reports on new UMaine degree in sustainable food systems

15 Nov 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) reported that the University of Maine has launched a new Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Food Systems that will train students with a passion for sustainability to help solve complex socio-ecological problems pertaining to food production and access. The program will prepare students for careers in supply chain management, food production and processing, community development and support services, policymaking and governance, regional planning and farm management, says Mona Therrien-Genest, associate director of the UMaine School of Food and Agriculture. A fact sheet about the academic program is [online](#).

Giudice, Fink write op-ed for BDN about disability rights advocates improving remote voting

15 Nov 2022

Nicholas Giudice, a professor of spatial computing at the University of Maine, and UMaine Ph.D. candidate Paul Fink wrote an opinion piece for the [Bangor Daily News](#) about how disability rights advocates improved voting for all Mainers this election season. "The measures taken to enable accessibility are worth the effort, as they have net effects for democracy as a whole. By allowing hundreds of thousands of Mainers to track the progress of their votes, Disability Rights Maine and its advocates greatly improved election transparency with immeasurable impacts on voter trust in what continues to be described as our 'fragile' democracy, which is now that much less fragile," they wrote. Giudice and Fink are members of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications.

University of Maine partners with Sodexo to focus on the student dining experience, campus retail opportunities, modernizing venues

16 Nov 2022

The University of Maine will become the final public university in the state to partner with Sodexo for campus dining services, increasing healthy local food options for UMaine students, national purchasing power, and economic opportunities for Maine growers and producers. Pending the outcome of negotiations with Sodexo, UMaine Dining's 21 nonrepresented management and supervisory employees will be offered the opportunity to transition on Jan. 1, 2023; full transition of the 91 represented UMaine Dining Services salaried and hourly employees who opt to transition to Sodexo will occur by July 1. All employees will be offered commensurate positions with Sodexo. The employment of nearly 130 UMaine students in Dining Services will be unaffected this academic year. After July 1, student employees will be hired by Sodexo. Beginning July 1, 2023, Sodexo will expand UMaine's multifaceted dining services on campus, including enhancements in residential and retail options for students, and concessions for athletics patrons. It also will help address UMaine Dining's recent staffing shortage. Sodexo also has committed to significant investments in UMaine over the next four years, including capital improvements to residential and retail dining facilities, and catering and concessions venues. UMaine students and other university community members will be invited to offer feedback and suggestions, and engage in town halls and focus groups to gain insight into their expectations of service level, local food options and dining venue quality. "For years, the dedicated UMaine Dining staff members have operated a successful, high-quality program that has reinvested dollars annually into the university. Sodexo has committed to additional investments in UMaine in the next decade, including capital improvements to dining facilities, increased retail and catering opportunities, and reducing food costs by leveraging purchasing scale," says Kelly Sparks, UMaine vice president for finance and chief business officer. For the last six years, the University of Maine System has had a positive relationship with Sodexo at all six campuses, says Gretchen Catlin, chief facilities and general services officer for the University of Maine System. "Our partnership has expanded our ability to source local and fresh food, and to serve more students in a cost-effective way," Catlin says. The decision to outsource UMaine dining services follows a formal review of University of Maine Dining Services, conducted by an independent consulting firm to identify opportunities to optimize value and expand service. "Each of the UMaine dining employees has my personal commitment to provide unwavering support through the transition," says Brett Ladd, CEO of Sodexo Campus Division. "All current dining employees can be confident that we will invest in them from day one — from providing comparable compensation and benefits, honoring tenure and investing in skills training and career growth." Throughout the spring semester, the university will be engaging in discussions with the employees and their labor organizations, and the campus community. UMaine students and other university community members will be invited to engage in town halls and focus groups to gain insight into the future expectations of service level, local food options, and dining venue quality. "The priority will be service to our students and the campus, and protecting the rights and needs of current employees in Dining Services," says Richard Young, executive director of auxiliary enterprises for UMaine and its regional campus, the University of Maine at Machias. "The university has a simple equation to guide the process: excellent quality, impeccable service, respect and dignity for all current employees." UMaine will continue to manage the costs of meal plans for residential and commuter students. On-campus retail dining costs will continue to reflect the minimal increases incurred annually as a result of food and fuel costs, and supply chain fluctuations. Sodexo meal plans, retail and concession or catering enhancements are designed to enrich the student's dining experience on the UMS university campuses. Sodexo's eight-and-half-year contract will include adherence to UMaine's commitment to high-quality standards and local food sources, while increasing access to licensed food vendors, the integration of greater digital and mobile ordering technology, and expansion of concession and tailgating options. Sodexo will pay UMaine a \$3 million signing bonus and a \$7 million facility investment, \$2 million of which will be deployed in the first year of the contract. Over the next four years, Sodexo has committed to capital improvements to residential and retail dining facilities, and catering and concessions venues. Capital improvements are expected to include modernizing Hilltop and York dining halls. In addition, like UMaine Dining, Sodexo is committed to expanding the purchasing power of local growers and providers, and helping address food insecurity, directly impacting the Maine economy, says Dan Roy, a Sodexo district manager. From potatoes in Presque Isle to coffee roasted in Carrabassett Valley, the University of Maine System purchased more than \$1 million in food and beverages from local farmers and producers in FY21. Of the \$4.75 million spent on food by the University of Maine System in FY21, \$1.16 million — 24.4% — was local, with about half for Maine meat, poultry and seafood, and nearly \$200,000 for dairy products. Contact: Margaret Nagle, nagle@maine.edu

Lord Hall Gallery's Studio Art Senior Capstone exhibit 'Énouement' opens Nov. 18

16 Nov 2022

This year, the Studio Art Senior Capstone exhibit in Lord Hall Gallery is called “Énouement.” As always, the students in the class chose the name, which is French for the bittersweetness of having arrived here in the future without being able to tell your past self how everything turned out. The pieces are at once hopeful, introspective and ethereal, with whimsical sculptures of mushrooms, glass trout adorned with feathers and realistic landscapes punctuated by colorful shapes. For this cohort of sixteen UMaine senior studio art majors, the capstone exhibit experience has been about more than just learning about the behind-the-scenes work that makes art shows happen. It’s about displaying the art they created and the community they have built, despite the fact that for many of these students, this is their first full semester on campus since the pandemic started. For the Studio Art Senior Capstone class, every student is required not only to contribute art to the exhibit, but also to contribute the behind-the-scenes work that makes the exhibit possible, like fundraising, designing fliers and figuring out what food to serve at the opening. The students also have to write artist statements about their work, and practice resume writing and mock interviews to help them prepare for life after graduation. “They have a lot to do in this class and they’ve done everything for this show,” says Andy Mauery, professor of studio art who is teaching this year’s capstone class. “The department does supply the gallery and hardware and fixtures, but the students do their own first rounds of curation to decide what should go in and what they should cut. They plan the reception, they bring the show into the gallery, they stage it, they work with the gallery director and they hang it and sometimes they do artist talks after.” Mauery says that the capstone experience has been essential to UMaine’s studio art major since James Linehan, professor of art, introduced it 26 years ago. UMaine was an early adopter of having professional practice incorporated into academic art degrees. “It’s a really great course. It looks at the skill sets that students need to find different careers in art. We’re cognizant of being honest about the skills that will be useful for them in their careers,” Mauery says. “There’s an idea that a lot of people have that art is exclusively a solo pursuit. This is also a largely collaborative experience.” Setting up the exhibit gives the artists a chance to see the details that make a quality show — everything from how to properly mat a piece of art to figuring out which local businesses and organizations will be the best collaborators for the show. “It’s definitely been exciting,” says Connor Reese, senior studio art and art education double major. “It’s a taste of what it’s like to be a real artist. It’s been stressful trying to get everything put in and get all the deadlines in on time and everything like that, but we’ve all put a lot of time into this.” Maurey said that the role that each student takes on in the exhibit planning process “can look really different depending on what their focus is.” The students have learned about elements of the art as a profession they might be involved in, opening them up to careers that they can pursue after graduation that they hadn’t previously considered. For example, Sofia Rivera, a senior studio art and art education double major, says that she has felt “pride” in her successes fundraising for the show through events like bake sales, raffles and reaching out to the community; that skill, Mauery says, is essential in the professional art world. “This group has been really great at fundraising and making connections in the community which is increasingly important in art,” Mauery says. Lily McLaughlin, a senior studio art major, designed the posters and images for social media for the show — another important element to getting the word out about the gallery. “I have learned that I really enjoy making those. I have a minor in graphic design but I never had any experience to put something out there that was actually getting information to people,” McLaughlin says. The capstone exhibit takes place every fall, but this cohort of seniors faced a unique set of challenges leading up to the exhibit. Most of them have spent the bulk of their college art education virtually over Zoom. For many, this meant having to set up home studios, and having limited access to the materials and means for creating art. Up until this semester, most of the students in the class had only ever met their capstone classmates on a computer screen. Now that they’re back — in some cases, for the first full semester since their freshman year when the pandemic started — they have in-person access to everything that the UMaine Department of Art has to offer. Their work reflects that new sense of discovery while still displaying the students’ individual styles and interests. “A lot of these works were made in the last couple months,” says Taylor Bair, a senior studio art major. “You see that desire and enjoyment of using what’s available to us now that we’re back and really going at that full force. I think a lot of people produced really strong work.” The sense of community with their peers has also allowed the students to create work that they are proud of. “We missed a lot of that during the pandemic getting to know each other and working together in the studio. I have gotten to know people more in the past month than the past two years,” says Anastasia Lipp, senior studio art and psychology major. “There’s a momentum of energy when you’re working with other people. I feel like that’s part of why it’s been such a productive and successful semester.” The opening reception for “Énouement” begins at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 18 at Lord Hall Gallery. It is free and open to the public. The exhibit will run until Jan. 20, 2023; Lord Hall Gallery is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., and is free and open to the public. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Call for 2023 Commencement speakers open until Nov. 17

16 Nov 2022

University of Maine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy invites recommendations for 2023 Commencement speakers until Nov. 17. In the past, the University of Maine has welcomed local, regional and national figures to deliver keynote addresses during undergraduate and graduate ceremonies. To submit your recommendations, please complete [this form](#). The final list will be reviewed by the committee in the coming weeks, with the hopes of making a priority recommendation by the end of the month.

UMaine named a top university for encouraging students to vote by Civic Nation

16 Nov 2022

The University of Maine has been ranked among the top higher education institutions for engagement in student voting by the nonprofit Civic Nation. UMaine participated in the organization’s [All In Campus Democracy Challenge](#), which recognized colleges and universities for their efforts to increase voter turnout among students, and to institutionalize political engagement and civic learning. Part of the requirements for the competition included sharing campus voter data, submitting a 2022 democratic engagement action plan and being a signatory to ALL IN’s Higher Education Presidents’ Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation. The Department of Political Science, UMaine UVote and other groups hosted many events and offered several resources to promote voting among students. UMaine UVote ambassadors conducted classroom visits, held voter registration drives, offered information sessions and contacted peers directly. The ambassadors and their peers also volunteered as poll workers with the Town of Orono on election night.

New associate director for archiving named for Maine-Syracuse Longitudinal Study

16 Nov 2022

The directors of the Maine-Syracuse Longitudinal Study (MSLS) announce the appointment of Susan Elias as associate director for archiving. Elias will serve as study archivist and historian for MSLS, which has data collected since 1974. Elias earned degrees in wildlife science at the University of Maine and Virginia Tech (bachelor’s and master’s, respectively), and Earth and climate science at UMaine (Ph.D.). She is a staff scientist at the MaineHealth Institute for Research in Scarborough. In addition to her experience in data archiving and management, Elias is known for her statewide research on ticks that carry Lyme

disease. Persons wishing to use MSLS data or obtain published papers should contact Elias (susan.elias@maine.edu); Fayeza Ahmed (fayeza.ahmed@maine.edu), associate director of MSLS, Department of Psychology, University of Maine; or Michael Robbins, co-director of MSLS (robbins@maine.edu). More information on MSLS is [online](#). The MSLS study was funded by the National Institutes for Health, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), and its directors are affiliated with the Department of Psychology and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Engineering.

Ranco to co-present Indian Law and History Lecture Nov. 18

16 Nov 2022

Darren Ranco, chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, will be one of the speakers for the virtual Indian Law and History Lecture, co-hosted by the University of Maine School of Law and Maine Conservation Voters at noon on Friday, Nov. 18. The lecture will explore the Doctrine of Discovery, a millennia-old legal principle that formed the foundation for Western property law and was used to justify the Christian Crusades and colonization of the Americas. Ranco, also a professor of anthropology, and Rebecca Tsosie, a professor at the University of Arizona School of Law, will discuss the underpinnings of the Doctrine of Discovery in American jurisprudence and reflect on how it affected Maine. Michael-Corey Hinton, attorney and leader of the Drummond Woodsum, will moderate the talk. Visit the [Maine Law website](#) to access the webinar or learn more.

Media notes that Maine Horticulture Apprentice Training Program seeks host businesses and organizations

16 Nov 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Daily Bulldog](#), [Turner Publishing Inc](#), the [Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension is seeking businesses and organizations to host Maine Horticulture Apprentices. Suitable Apprenticeship Hosts include landscaping businesses, nurseries (public-facing or wholesale), farms, nonprofits (botanical, community and school gardens, etc.) and groundskeeper positions. Apprentice opportunities can be paid or volunteer positions so long as they are in alignment with the Fair Labor Standards. More information and the interest list can be found on the program [webpage](#).

Mount Desert Islander shares Beal research about clams

16 Nov 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) reported that Brian Beal, a professor of marine ecology and director of the marine field station at the University of Maine at Machias, is conducting research along Maine's coast to see how clams spawn in an environment free of predators. The research began in 2020 and is entering its third year of data collection.

Spectrum News reports on UMaine Extension 4-H receiving funding for Bridgton education center

16 Nov 2022

[Spectrum News](#) reported that the new educational center at an iconic movie theater in Bridgton is getting a boost from federal money that will help pay for the theater's purchase. Rep. Chellie Pingree and Sen. Angus King announced the \$450,000 in funding on Monday. Susan Jennings, executive director of the Maine 4-H Foundation and a professor with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, said this week that 4-H anticipated the funding announced on Monday and will be using it to pay for the purchase of the theater.

Klein featured in EcoWatch guide to solar panels for homes

16 Nov 2022

Sharon Klein, associate professor at the University of Maine School of Economics, was featured as an expert on solar panel efficiency in [EcoWatch](#)'s 2022 guide to the 10 best solar panels for homes. Klein explained that crystalline solar panels are generally more efficient than thin film, and cloudy weather, shade and temperature can all affect the efficiency of solar panels. "Although solar panels work best in direct sunlight, they can also work when light is reflected or diffused through clouds. However, when it is cloudy, solar panels will not be operating at their maximum efficiency. They may only be operating at 10–25% efficiency, depending on how dense the clouds are. ... Shade will act like a cloud, diminishing the efficiency of the solar panel. Solar operates best in cooler temperatures. High temperatures reduce the efficiency. The best way to know if your roof is good for solar is to ask for free quotes from multiple local solar installers. They will be able to tell you exactly how many panels, of what type, your roof can support, whether any tree removal is necessary, and how much it will cost and you will save," Klein said.

Nick Sinacola: Balancing business classes and baseball

16 Nov 2022

Nick Sinacola, a baseball pitcher from North Attleboro, Massachusetts, found at home at the University of Maine and the Maine Business School. The 2021 America East Pitcher of the Year had a banner season as a junior. In July 2021, Sinacola made history when the San Francisco Giants signed him in the 7th round pick of the MLB draft. It was the fourth-highest selection from UMaine in the past three decades. He was also the fourth Black Bear named a Collegiate Baseball First Team All-American. While he left UMaine to join the Single A-Affiliate San Jose Giants, he hasn't stopped learning. Sinacola moved into the MBS online degree program and continues pursuing his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration on the road. Read Sinacola's full story on the Maine Business School [website](#). Contact: Melanie Brooks, melanie.brooks@maine.edu

UMaine experts collect rapid response resources for schools facing threats of violence

17 Nov 2022

In response to a rash of [school shooting threats](#) at Maine schools this week, the [Maine Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Team](#) led by faculty and staff at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development collected resources for supporting schools during and after a crisis, which were published by the [Maine Department of Education](#). “We recognize that individuals will respond to these events differently, and some may require additional supports to process the experience. Reassuring students, staff and families that school is a safe, predictable, positive, and supportive environment is an important first step,” the Maine PBIS team wrote. PBIS is a nationally recognized, multitiered framework providing a continuum of supports that promote positive academic and behavioral outcomes for all K–12 students. The Maine PBIS collaboration between the University of Maine System and Maine DOE has helped more than 75 schools across the state implement the framework, with more being added each year.

‘The Maine Question’ digs into legacy and future of UMaine’s Climate Change Institute

17 Nov 2022

The nation’s first multi- and inter-disciplinary research institute to study Earth’s recent and long-term climate variability was founded in 1972 at the University of Maine. That institute, now known as the Climate Change Institute, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, a milestone that honors the many groundbreaking discoveries its scientists have made in the field of climate science. CCI have scientists first mapped the difference between climate during the Ice Age and today in the 1970s; discovered the importance of marine-based ice sheets in the 1980s; connected acid rain to human causes in the mid-1980s; uncovered the concept of abrupt climate change through studying ice cores in Greenland in the mid-1990s; and led expeditions traversing Antarctica to determine the impact of human-sourced pollutants into the 2010s. In episode eight of season seven of “[The Maine Question](#),” CCI director Paul Andrew Mayewski and researchers Daniel Sandweiss and Cynthia Isenhour discuss the legacy of the institute and its future of discoveries and contributions that will help tackle the all-encompassing challenge of global warming worldwide. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension’s flagship nutrition education program part of multistate group to receive national excellence award

17 Nov 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor Kate Yerxa is a member of a multistate team honored with the 2022 National Excellence in Extension award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), and Cooperative Extension. The Agricultural Experiment Station Multistate Research Group was cited for excellence and leadership in performing the work of Extension research, technical assistance, and outreach education. The goal of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program’s (EFNEP) Related Research, Program Evaluation, and Outreach multistate project is to strengthen the evidence base of EFNEP by developing and testing critical and culturally relevant evaluation tools to assess the program’s effectiveness. “EFNEP is the core of UMaine Extension’s food and nutrition educational outreach, and is aimed at improving the health and food security status of the state’s most vulnerable populations,” said Hannah Carter, associate provost for online and continuing education, and dean of UMaine Extension. “The evaluation tool developed through this multistate collaborative is used by all land grant universities that deliver EFNEP and has improved the rigor of data collection for the program. This team of researchers have established that EFNEP improves the quality of life of participants and the paraprofessional staff who deliver the program.” Yerxa, who is also UMaine Extension’s EFNEP coordinator, has led Maine’s participation in this project since its inception in 2008. The team consists of 23 university researchers, practitioners, and graduate students who represent 16 land grant institutions. Team members reflect the diversity of expertise required to address research needs including nutrition, physical activity, education, economics, food safety, public health, sociology and statistics. Beverly Durgan, chair of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy and dean of Extension at the University of Minnesota, congratulated the team and noted that “these leaders are making a difference by connecting community needs and university resources to address critical issues across the nation.” Contact: Kate Yerxa, 207.581.3109; kate.yerxa@maine.edu

Call for performers at 2023 International Dance Festival

17 Nov 2022

The Office of International Programs and the International Student Association is issuing a call for performers for the 2023 International Dance Festival in the Collins Center for the Arts on Feb. 11, with shows at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. The annual event showcasing performances from around the world is a unique opportunity for cross-cultural exchange, team building, and leadership development through the art of dance. UMaine students are given preference, but members of the public often participate and are encouraged to apply. A variety of skill levels is acceptable. If you are interested in performing in the 2023 International Dance Festival, contact Sarah Joughin, joughin@maine.edu.

Turner Publishing Inc. boosts performance of Weimann piece at Sebago-Long Lake Music Festival

17 Nov 2022

[Turner Publishing Inc.](#) noted that the First Concert of Sebago-Long Lake Music Festival’s 50th season, which will be broadcast on Maine Public Radio’s Maine Stage, at 8 p.m. Nov. 23 includes “The Lake Guide,” a piece commissioned by the festival to commemorate its 50th anniversary written by Beth Wiemann, a music professor at the University of Maine.

Media outlets report on Qualls wearing medieval armors to class

17 Nov 2022

[WSHK-FM](#) (Dover, New Hampshire), [WOKQ-FM](#) (Dover, New Hampshire), [WBLM-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [WJBQ-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [WCYY-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [WHOM-FM](#) (Portland, Maine) and [Seacoast Current](#) reported that Dan Qualls, associate professor of education at the University of Maine Machias, taught an entire class wearing tried and true medieval body armor. UMaine Machias posted about the occasion on [Facebook](#), with an overwhelmingly positive response.

BDN reports on UMaine research about ticks in Acadia National Park

17 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported on a new study from the University of Maine that has found clusters of tick populations in Acadia National Park, which could help inform prevention strategies for tick-borne illnesses like Lyme disease. Researchers found that tick density varies significantly across the park, but is particularly high in areas with deciduous forest cover and relatively low elevation, especially the northeast area of Mount Desert Island. “Understanding the spatial distribution of tick exposure risk in the park may ultimately inform practical environmental and public health management strategies. For example, the National Park Service could post informational signage in areas that have high tick densities, or build boardwalks in known tick habitat,” said Allison Gardner, associate professor of arthropod vector biology at the UMaine School of Biology and Ecology.

UMaine-led delegation of students, faculty attend Women’s Forest Congress

17 Nov 2022

A University of Maine-led delegation of students and faculty joined the 8th Forest Congress in North America from Oct. 17-20 in Minneapolis, Minn. Forest Congresses date to 1882, and are called when critical issues arise for forests and the people who steward them. Past meetings led to groundbreaking change, including the establishment of the U.S. Forest Service and the Civilian Conservation Corps. This year’s congress is the first in 48 years, with a female lens applied to all discussions. Despite advances in workplace equity, forestry continues to be a male-dominated field. Just 8% of Maine’s licensed foresters are women. The Women’s Forest Congress drew nearly 500 members of the forest community from across North America. “I wholeheartedly believe a more inclusive profession is our best chance for healthy and sustainable forests now and in the future. The more people involved in the conversation, the more solutions we can find,” says Nicole Rogers, UMaine assistant professor of silviculture. Rogers co-led the university’s delegation with Jessica Leahy, professor of forestry, associate dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture and associate director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station.

Through RLE, popular Phage class is taken to the next level

17 Nov 2022

Editor's note: Story updated Nov. 21, 2022 In Phage Genomics at the University of Maine, students can go from playing with dirt to being published scientists over the course of two semesters. Despite being academically challenging and time intensive, [Phage Genomics](#), or simply “Phage,” as the students know it, is almost universally beloved by those who have taken it. Since its founding, the course has not only led to over 46 published genomes and five published scientific papers that students have co-authored, but also an enduring community of students and peer mentorship network that is only getting stronger with the class’ recent designation as a Research Learning Experience (RLE) and opening up to students beyond the Honors College. Phage is taught by Sally Molloy, associate professor of genomics; Melissa Maginnis, associate professor of microbiology; and Melody Neely, associate professor of molecular and biomedical sciences. The class, which is part of a nationwide program sponsored by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), is required for all incoming and transfer students in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences. Over the course of two semesters, Phage teaches students about bacteriophages, or viruses that infect bacterial hosts. Bacteriophages are considered the most numerous biological entities on Earth. For every bacterium, of which there are an estimated [five million trillion trillion](#) on Earth, scientists estimate there are approximately 10 phages that can attack it. Studying how these viruses affect bacteria is important because it can help develop viral treatments and inform scientists’ understanding how viruses and bacteria interact, which is essential to understanding human health. On top of traditional lectures and classwork, students in Phage have the opportunity to isolate their own bacteriophages from soil samples, which they often collect and bring in. Because bacteriophages are so common and microbial life in soil is so active, the amount of scientific discovery available to students is seemingly endless. The Phage journey begins in a one-week Black Bear Bridge RLE course called Rage of Phage before the start of the fall semester. Students isolate genomic DNA from pathogenic mycobacteria, which is sent to a sequencing facility. In the fall Phage class, the students assemble the bacterial genomes and search for prophages, which are bacteriophage genomes that have integrated into the bacterial genome and potentially impact the virulence of the bacterium. Students also isolate phages from the soil and name them (which always result in a variety of quirky monikers, like NiceHouse, MrRager and IdentityCrisis). The genomes of the newly isolated bacteriophages are sequenced over the winter break so that in the spring semester, students can characterize the genomes of both the prophages and bacteriophages by identifying genes, determining their function and learning about how the viruses impact the biology of their bacterial hosts. Because the students are working with real materials instead of controlled experiments, things don’t always work out as planned — not all the prophages that are isolated in the first semester make it to the spring — but that failure is part of the learning process. “We’re taking away from the mindset of, ‘I have to get an A,’ to ‘I can fail at something and learn from it and come back and do it better,’” Neely says. “You have to get it wrong before you get it right. That’s such a foreign idea to students coming into science.” The students’ completed phage genomes are all housed on [an online database](#), but they also have the potential to be published in academic journals. In total since the class started in 2011, 46 phage genomes have been published out of work that UMaine students did in the class. For the first time, the 2021 cohort of the Phage class has five previously unidentified phages published in their own scientific papers: [Oregano](#), [Periwinkle](#), [Finkle](#), [Widow](#) and [StarStruck](#). Dorian Royal is a current junior biochemistry major who worked on the phage Oregano. He took the class because he was interested in the practical elements and impact of doing research on health and curing disease (though he says he had no idea that he could get published when he signed up for the class, an opportunity that he was “very grateful” for). “Instead of just learning stuff from a book and memorizing it, you’re applying and observing what you learn,” Royal says. “You are able to see, ‘Oh yeah, what I’m doing is really working.’ Having research that you’re able to call your own is a really validating feeling.” Royal is also a football player, and says that as an instructor, Molloy was supportive and accommodating with his schedule traveling for games — which could be tricky, as the class meets for four hours twice a week in the fall and three times a week during the spring. “I don’t think it would have been as overwhelming as it could have been if I didn’t have that support,” Royal says. “It was really validating seeing Sally [Molloy] was always on my side and pushing me to always perform at my best.” Because of the skills he built in the class and relationship he developed with Molloy, Royal has continued his work with phages in Molloy’s lab this year. The Phage professors are committed to making the challenging class possible for any student who is interested and committed to taking it. Sophomore Alison Kueck was even able to publish the phage she worked on in class, Periwinkle, after only taking Phage in the spring semester. She transferred into the molecular and cellular biology major from the medical laboratory science major (after a chance conversation with Molloy in the hallway, no less). After catching up on the material over winter break, Kueck was able to jump right in — with the support of Molloy, her classmates and the devoted teaching assistants, of course. “It’s the coolest class I’ve ever taken,” Kueck says. “It was so interesting to see something that I was working on that mattered. I’ve taken a million science courses and you’re regurgitating the same experiment and it goes in the trash at the end of the day. Getting published was amazing as well. I mean, how many kids get published at 18 or 19?” Though HHMI designed the scientific process for isolating the

phages, the Phage instructors have adapted the curriculum in other ways to support a more holistic approach to scientific learning. For example, Molloy says she will have students form groups in class to discuss and sometimes illustrate the topics covered; they even create group contracts with rules about how they're going to interact with one another. The instructors also have students write reflective essays about their experience at the end of every week that the instructors read and write notes to students in response. "We're giving them lots of experiences in this class but if you don't stop to think about those experiences in a detailed manner you don't learn from those experiences," Molloy says. "We've got to develop the space where trying new skills feels like a normal part of the process in a community where people are going to support you at your best and at your worst." Alan Baez Vazquez graduated in 2020 with a degree in biochemistry and is now pursuing his Ph.D. at Harvard University (in large part, he says, because Phage opened his eyes to the possibility of making scientific research a career). He says that the journaling assignments were surprisingly helpful when he was choosing graduate programs. "That was the first time I ever had to talk about my feelings in a science class," Vazquez says. "When you go out and get a Ph.D., a big part is finding a healthy lab environment, so being in touch with, 'Oh, failure sucks in the lab, I need a support network to carry me through these failures' is definitely very helpful." The mentorship element of the course is unique, too. Aside from the mentorship of Molloy, Maginnis, and Neely, the class has an unusually high number of teaching assistants — up to seven at a time for a class of 25 — and most of them are undergraduate students who had previously taken the Phage course. The TAs have a community, too. Seniors Aiden Pike and Kate Southworth are not only currently teaching assistants in the Phage course, but they also took Phage together their freshman year. "I think the most important part of this class was the sense of community," Pike says. "It is something that has kept me going through this degree." The mentorship element of Phage has, perhaps, been more important this year than ever. "I feel like a lot of students have been having anxieties coming into this year, especially after COVID," Southworth says. "A lot of what we do involves helping students feel supported and getting them the resources they need so the transition is easier for them. It's been an awesome feeling knowing you are helping them out." Other past Phage students will teach office hours-style sessions outside of class called Phage Enrichment that are popular with current students (Kueck says that when she took the class, she attended Phage Enrichment every week). "If you don't understand the material, it's not like you're thrown out to the sharks. You have a chance to learn from each other," says sophomore Eleanor Carrolton, a Phage enrichment instructor. "I didn't understand ribosomes the first time and now I have a way to explain it to other people that's more understandable." The experience has an impact on the student teachers, too. Vazquez said that being a TA for the Phage class his senior year of undergraduate prepared him for teaching as a graduate student. Southworth says that her experience as a Phage teaching assistant has solidified her decision to pursue an M.D./Ph.D., and Carrolton is considering becoming a professor when she previously wanted to focus solely on lab work. This year, Phage was taught both semesters as an RLE, which has given the instructors more resources from that to help run the mentoring element of the course. "We want students to learn that they don't have to be alone in any of their challenges, they can collaborate with each other, with faculty and within that community," Molloy says. "We're mirroring how it really is when you're doing challenging research and learning. We don't go up in our labs and by ourselves never discuss or talk to each other. That's not how anything works and that's not how the education system should work. We're an R1 school. We want students to have access to the authentic research that UMaine can offer." The RLE program is a UMS TRANSFORMS initiative funded by the Harold Alfond Foundation's historic \$240 million challenge grant. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Emily Albee: 2022 Penobscot County Teacher of the Year found a passion for education and social justice at UMaine

18 Nov 2022

Emily Albee ('06, '09G, '12G) says her high school students are often surprised to learn that she wasn't entirely prepared for college when she started attending the University of Maine. The Hampden Academy social studies teacher is a self-described military brat who lived in Colorado, Hawaii and Maryland growing up. But both her parents were from Maine and they decided to move home around the time Albee graduated from high school. "I wasn't sure what I was going to do, but my parents basically threatened me if I didn't go to college, and I am grateful they did because I spent 10 years at UMaine," Albee recalls with a laugh. "I had some cousins who had gone there, and it seemed like a good fit when I visited. But I really had no idea what I was doing at first. I learned how to learn at UMaine." Albee was an elementary education and history double major. She joined Delta Zeta sorority, where she took part in leadership and community service opportunities. As a sophomore in 2003, she helped organize an on-campus talk by Francis Bok, a Dinka tribesman and former slave from South Sudan. Albee says the experience was transformative for her. "I realized I have a passion for social justice," she says. "After that, a group of us worked through the Office of Student Life to start a Human Rights Awareness Week." UMaine is also where Albee discovered a love of travel, which has brought her to destinations across the globe, including New Zealand, Cuba, China, Peru, Guatemala, Ireland and several countries in Europe. When she finished her student teaching and graduated with a bachelor's degree in December 2006, Albee stayed at UMaine and rolled right into a graduate program. She got a job as a research assistant working in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and Industrial Cooperation. She was assigned to a grant managed by professor of electrical and computer engineering Bruce Segee. "The project aimed to bring supercomputing technology for dynamic Earth modeling into middle school classrooms," she says. "I helped develop a curriculum for 7th and 8th graders, presented research findings at national conferences, and helped submit grants to various state and federal sponsors." In May 2009, she earned her Master of Education with concentration in middle-level social studies. By this time, she was looking for a full-time teaching job, but there were virtually none to be found due to the fallout from the 2008 financial crisis. Albee ended up taking a 25 percent position as 7th grade social studies teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School in Hampden. She continued to work on the NSF grant with Segee and took a job as an education outreach assistant at UMaine's Foster Center for Student Innovation. Not finished with college, she enrolled in two more graduate programs: A Certificate of Advanced Study (C.A.S.) at the College of Education and Human Development and an innovation engineering graduate certificate through the Foster Center. "I was working and going to classes at UMaine in the mornings, then teaching in the afternoons," she says. "I did that for a year, and then got an additional 50 percent teaching position and eventually worked my way into a full-time job." Albee split time between Reeds Brook and neighboring Hampden Academy for a year and started working just at the high school in 2011. She received a full-time teaching position there in 2015. All these experiences helped foster Albee's interest and active involvement in local and state education associations. "The benefit of going to UMaine is that you have access to all these incredible people," Albee says. "People like Jake Ward, Mike Hastings, and Bruce Segee. Phyllis Brazee, Barb Blazej, Ed Brazee and O.J. Logue in the College of Education and Human Development, Renee Kelly at the Foster Center, Nathan Godfried, Elizabeth McKillen and Stephen Miller in the History department. These are all dear mentors and friends." In May, Albee was named the 2022 Penobscot County Teacher of the Year. She also was a finalist for 2023 Maine Teacher of the Year, which ultimately went to Matt Bernstein, a high school teacher in Portland. But she says the experience has allowed her to reflect on her teaching and given her an opportunity to get more involved in education policy issues that interest her. "It's a year of service from when you are named county teacher of the year, and it has definitely filled my cup coming out of a few years of teaching during the pandemic," she says. "I'm willing to shout from the rooftop to shed light on the importance of education in Maine, and advocate for policies that I believe in like free school breakfast and lunch, and making sure the state continues to meet its obligation to pay 55 percent of the cost of K-12 schools." Ultimately, Albee says the way she plans to keep contributing is by having conversations. "We all want our kids to have successful academic and social-emotional learning experiences," she says. "If there's one thing I learned at UMaine, it's that talking to people about these issues — at the local, state and national level — and using your personal and professional network to solve problems can make a huge difference." Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

New study outlines ways to recruit more women for bioenergy, forestry

18 Nov 2022

To recruit more women for careers in the forestry industry, particularly the bioenergy sector, University of Maine researchers have devised a road map. The team, led by Abigail “Abby” Novak, a master’s student in forest resources at the BioEnergy Lab of the School of Forest Resources (SFR), found that attracting and retaining women in bioenergy and related-fields, including those who are young or from historically underrepresented groups, can be done by offering interdisciplinary research opportunities in higher education, having employers provide ample support and outreach, and promoting relatable success stories. Increasing gender diversity in the workforce not only helps women looking to enter into or advance careers in bioenergy or forestry, but also benefits companies. According to researchers, having more gender-diverse teams can result in better teamwork and more innovative products, services and problem solving. Their study, conducted by Novak, Ling Li, an assistant professor of sustainable bioenergy systems of SFR, and Katherine Glover, a Research Associate with the Climate Change Institute, was published in the academic journal [Sustainability](#). To determine the possible benefits of university interdisciplinary research, the group hosted a summer program that involved students and faculty working on projects pertaining to biochar production and multiple applications, which was funded by the AY 21–22 UMS Research Reinvestment Fund (RRF) Grant Programs: Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Collaboratives. Eight undergraduate students, three graduate students and six faculty participated. Six out of the 11 students were women. One faculty participant was female. The program allowed young students to learn skills that helped them envision having a career in forestry and identify and use their strengths for their projects, researchers say. They also benefited from collaborative work and exposure to mentors — graduate students and faculty — with diverse backgrounds. At the end of it, two undergraduates, one of them female, produced research findings they were able to present at several conferences, symposiums and workshops. Two female students shared plans to pursue graduate studies in nanoscience and sustainability, and one enrolled in a forestry sustainability-related graduate program at UMaine. Several reports produced by program participants were featured in the “2021 Wild Blueberry Grower Report” published by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. “When I participated in this program as a junior in my undergraduate career, it opened my perspective about the depth of interdisciplinary research,” says now UMaine graduate student Jessica Hutchinson. “It is crucial in deepening your understanding of what collaboration looks like, as well as broadening the way you question and approach a topic. Now I am a graduate student in plant, soil, and environmental science working with native woody species. Having been a part of a bioenergy research project not only prepared me for the skills necessary for graduate research, it has broadened the scope in which the principles of my discipline can be applied. I hope to incorporate and promote interdisciplinary studies within my field, focusing on the wide applications of bioenergy.” In addition to offering opportunities for their students, researchers say universities with degree offerings in bioenergy and forestry can help create a more gender-diverse workforce in the industry by implementing ambassador programs, apprenticeships, internships and similar activities for nearby middle and high school students, as well as other forms of outreach. “The need for universities and colleges to implement a more gender diverse workforce in bioenergy/forestry is essential to progressing as a society that fosters diversity and different backgrounds,” Novak says. “In order to create change and new innovative ideas, for researchers and the community, we need to make it a priority to make moves to alter the existing institutional dynamic, especially in a historically white male dominated industry and sector. Being able to have multiple perspectives can move all voices to be united.” Study authors also determined efforts employers could make to not only enlist more women workers, but also better support them and encourage them to pursue leadership roles. These measures include creating safe spaces for people from underrepresented groups to voice their hardships without fear of retaliation, establishing reachable goals for recruiting more women leaders, being transparent with those efforts and challenges associated with them, and highlighting past or present work of women in forestry in workshops, lectures, newsletters, social media or word of mouth. Implementing efforts by academic institutions and companies will benefit from having well-developed and well-resourced planning committees, researchers say. “Since the 1970s, women in forestry have grown from essentially zero to where we are now. While we have progressed significantly in this time, there is more which we can do, as a university, a sector and a state, to promote opportunities for women and under-represented populations in Maine’s forest economy,” Li says. “Bringing different experiences and backgrounds into the workforce and leadership provides greater opportunities for new ideas and approaches to solve problems.” The study also explored the degree of representation of women among bioenergy companies in Maine, which a particular focus on biochar. Through analyzing public data, researchers found that women account for 33–39% of leadership positions among companies in Maine that contribute to biochar production. For the forestry industry overall, only a little over 30% is made up of women, with a small part comprising minority women. Nationwide, 38% of forestry workers and leaders are women. “Abby started researching these demographics in her field in spring 2021 as a project for my ‘Women and Climate Change’ course,” Glover says. “I’m so pleased to see how this study evolved to incorporate workforce development programs happening here on our campus. We now know from multiple studies that supported, diverse teams are in the best position to drive the innovation we will need to tackle the effects of climate change. With this study, we are able to offer actionable advice to others who want to implement similar training programs that develop a diverse workforce and a sense of belonging.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Mitchell Center to host talk about challenges in forest management Nov. 28

18 Nov 2022

The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled “Sustainability Is Not Enough: From Stewardship to Reciprocity” at 3 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 28. In this talk, Roger Milliken, board chair of the Baskahegan Company, discusses the conflicts between traditional forest management practices and the contemporary needs of modern forests and society. Building on perspectives gained from 40 years of forest management and conservation, Milliken will describe the tensions experienced by those who care for forests, as well as the conflicts between seeing forests as resources and as communities to which humans belong. From 1983–2020, Milliken led the Baskahegan Company, which was founded by his grandfather in 1920. In the same year he took the reins of the firm, he published a book, “Forest for the Trees; A History of the Baskahegan Company.” During his tenure, the organization expanded its land base to 150,000 acres, all while practicing a high standard of economically and ecologically responsible forestry. Milliken also was active in conservation efforts across northern New England, including the passing of the Maine’s Forest Practices Act and creation of the state’s ecological reserves system. He joined The Nature Conservancy’s global board of directors in 2000 and served as its board chair from 2008–11. All talks in the Mitchell Center’s [Sustainability Talks](#) series are free and are offered both remotely via Zoom and in person at 107 Norman Smith Hall. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#). Please note that face coverings are required for all persons attending Mitchell Center Sustainability Talks. Updates for this event will be posted to the event webpage. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Ruth Hallsworth, 207.581.3196; hallsworth@maine.edu.

Angelosante speaks to the BDN about school shooting hoaxes in Maine

18 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Courtney Angelosante, PBIS initiative coordinator at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, about how to support students in light of school shooting hoaxes. Angelosante said that students, families, educators and first responders who

were impacted by the calls and lockdowns Tuesday may have a variety of responses to and questions about what happened. Providing time and spaces to talk is vitally important. “Even if it was just a threat, it can hurt and have long-lasting impacts. But, we should also remember that most people are good,” Angelosante said.

Media share Mitchell Center event on forest management

18 Nov 2022

[The Daily Bulldog](#), [Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk titled “Sustainability Is Not Enough: From Stewardship to Reciprocity” at 3 p.m. on Nov. 28. Registration is required to attend remotely; to register and receive connection information, [see the event webpage](#).

Ranco speaks to News Center Maine about Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act

18 Nov 2022

[News Center Maine](#) interviewed Darren Ranco, associate professor of anthropology and coordinator of Native American research at the University of Maine, about the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act. While the act was written in a way that allowed the tribes to go back and make amendments as needed, they said that process didn't work as they expected. "I think people had been promised, maybe incorrectly, that even if things were a little bit off that it was fixable, that it could be the first draft or something," Ranco said.

Media share Downing performance at Boothbay Harbor Opera House

18 Nov 2022

The [Times Record](#), [Boothbay Register](#) and [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) reported that Elizabeth Downing, instructor of flute at the University of Maine, will perform with Grammy-winning composer and pianist Paul Sullivan at the Boothbay Harbor Opera House on Dec. 3 for the first in a series of holiday concerts at the historic venue.

CentralMaine.com cites UMaine information about forests and carbon sequestration

18 Nov 2022

In a column about how forests can serve as a buffer against climate change, [CentralMaine.com](#) cited a study from the University of Maine that [estimates](#) Maine's forests sequester nearly 70% of the carbon dioxide emitted in Maine every year.

News Center Maine features UMaine researchers studying how to destroy PFAS chemicals

18 Nov 2022

[News Center Maine](#) featured the research of Onur Apul, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at UMaine. Over the next several years Apul and his team will be researching how to eradicate PFAS chemicals — compounds considered virtually indestructible — with a quarter-of-a-million-dollar grant from the National Science Foundation. The research will focus on water filtration systems used by homeowners and municipalities to filter out toxic chemicals. "If we recover spent water filter materials, can we also destroy PFAS? We think at lower temperatures than expected we can destroy PFAS again giving us an upper hand at a lower energy footprint," Apul said.

Wabanaki Winter Market returns with one-of-a-kind artwork

18 Nov 2022

The Wabanaki Winter Market, an annual celebration of art created by Wabanaki artists, will return with one-of-a-kind artwork for sale from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 10 at the University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts. This year marks the 28th anniversary of this signature holiday event, hosted by the UMaine Hudson Museum and the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance (MIBA), and supported in part by the Onion Foundation. The market will feature over 30 Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Maliseet and Mi'kmaq artists who create brown ash and sweetgrass baskets, birchbark containers, and jewelry, among other art forms. MIBA participants include new and nationally award-winning basket weavers. The Wabanaki Winter Market also includes a performance of Penobscot songs by Kelly Demmons, a brown ash pounding exhibition by Mi'kmaq artist Eldon Hanning, a children's brown ash bookmark workshop by Penobscot weaver Pam Cunningham and drumming by the Burnwurbskek Singers. Additionally, there will be book signings for “Still They Remember Me” by authors Carol Dana, Penobscot language master, and Margo Lukens, UMaine English professor, and for “Night of the Living Rez” by Morgan Talty, UMaine assistant English professor. “The Hudson Museum is excited to host the full-scale return of this in-person opportunity to celebrate Wabanaki artists and their extraordinary art,” says museum Director Gretchen Faulkner. “In addition to one-of-a-kind art, visitors can learn about Wabanaki history and culture through demonstrations, music, a children's workshop, drumming and dancing, and exhibits in the Hudson Museum.” The schedule of events is [online](#). To request a reasonable accommodation, contact the museum at 207.581.1904. Also of interest to visitors to the show, the Minsky and Merritt galleries are featuring exhibits of Wabanaki artwork. A collection of Wabanaki brown ash and sweetgrass baskets and basket making tools from the Leo and Florence Shay Collection will be on exhibit in the Merritt Gallery. The Minsky Gallery is showcasing works by Indian Island School students in grades 5–8, with artists from each grade using different printmaking techniques. Fifth graders created hand-printed and hand-colored Plexiglass etchings of shamans and medicine people. Sixth graders made portraits colored with watercolor paint after they were hand-printed. Seventh graders made self-portraits using linoleum block prints. Eighth graders used techniques pioneered by Andy Warhol to make self-portraits that were screened over watercolor paint. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Nov. 21

21 Nov 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update:

- Final campus roadway paving for the season is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday.
- Corbett Business Building roof work that was delayed by weather will begin Monday.
- Softball and field hockey field construction projects are ongoing, with completions expected in the spring and summer, respectively.
- New carpet for the Collins Center for the Arts will be installed over the semester break.
- Demolition of the Aquaculture Research Center is complete.

UMaine Climate Change Institute celebrates 50th anniversary

21 Nov 2022

The University of Maine's Climate Change Institute celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2023, marking half-century of research and education related to climate change in Maine, New England and across the planet. In 1973, professor emeritus [Harold Borns](#), whose research focused on glaciers and glaciation in Maine, founded the Institute for Quaternary Studies with the goal of conducting interdisciplinary research studying the last 2 million years of Earth's physical, chemical, biological and social characteristics. In 2002, the institute was renamed as the Climate Change Institute (CCI). Since then, CCI has spearheaded important projects leading to groundbreaking discoveries. Scientists at CCI first mapped the difference between climate during the Ice Age and today in the 1970s; discovered the importance of marine-based ice sheets in the 1980s; connected acid rain to human causes in the mid-1980s; uncovered the concept of abrupt climate change through studying ice cores in Greenland in the mid-1990s; and led expeditions traversing Antarctica to determine the impact of human-sourced pollutants into the 2010s. Along the way, students at UMaine played a focal role in research and participated in other hands-on learning opportunities through CCI. Many have gone on to be leaders in fields studying the physical, chemical, biological and social aspects of climate change around the world. More information about CCI's research expeditions can be found on its [website](#). Paul Mayewski, world-renowned polar explorer, climate scientist and glaciologist, has served as the director of the CCI since 2002. He has led more than 60 expeditions to some of the planet's most remote areas, including an expedition to Mount Everest with National Geographic and Rolex in 2019. Mayewski said that CCI is one of the first — if not the first — truly interdisciplinary group at UMaine with a worldwide reach. "Doing interdisciplinary science is not such a simple thing; it really requires an openness to other disciplines' methodologies and the problems that they care about. For a problem like climate change, you need to have a multidisciplinary approach. It's not enough to just have people in silos; you want people to be talking to each other and developing responses to the challenge together. This is bigger than an individual research and/or academic unit," says Mayewski. "We give our graduate students and many undergraduate students a life-changing experience through our approach to research and field expeditions throughout Maine, the polar regions, high mountains, deserts and oceans" Mayewski discussed the 50th anniversary of CCI on last week's episode of the [Maine Question podcast](#), along with UMaine researchers Cindy Isenhour, associate professor of anthropology and climate change, and Dan Sandweiss, professor of anthropology and Quaternary and climate studies. On Nov. 18, current students, alumni and faculty gathered to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the CCI — its history, past accomplishments, future goals and continued impact on current students and alumni. Presenters included George Jacobson, director emeritus of CCI; Jim Roscoe, professor emeritus of anthropology with a cooperating professorship at CCI; CCI alumna Kimberly Miner, scientist and engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL); and CCI alumnus Kurt Rademaker, assistant professor of anthropology at Michigan State University. Additional video testimonials contributed by CCI alumni that were screened at the 50th Anniversary proceedings can be viewed on [YouTube](#). Mayewski is proud to be celebrating CCI's 50th anniversary and reveling in its accomplishments, but their work is far from over. The next half-century of the institute promises even more discoveries and contributions to tackling the all-encompassing challenge of climate change around the world. "Because climate change is a rapidly evolving challenge, it is constantly absorbing more and more disciplines and views," Mayewski says. "We need to constantly evolve with it." Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Verma leads UMaine to create new opportunities for students to study offshore wind in Norway

21 Nov 2022

Editor's note: This release was updated Nov. 28. University of Maine graduate students will soon have new opportunities to study offshore wind energy at the largest university in Norway. The [Norwegian government](#) awarded UMaine and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) about \$292,000, or approximately 3 million Norwegian krone, to develop new, collaborative learning and research opportunities between both the institutions in the area of offshore wind. This 4-year grant was allocated through the [UTFORSK](#) program, which is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research and administered by the Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills. The project award will be shared equally among both the institutions. Amrit Verma, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, is leading this project with a team of five other faculty members at UMaine. He will also work with a cohort of eight faculty members from NTNU, where he earned his Ph.D. in marine technology. Among the offerings will be educational and research exchanges, through which UMaine master's and Ph.D. students can take courses and conduct thesis research at NTNU, and vice versa. Funding from the Norwegian government will support the exchange activities of 19 students — seven from UMaine and 12 from NTNU. The project also supports research exchanges for 14 faculty members from both institutions. "I am thrilled by the new offshore wind power relationship with NTNU, as it provides me the opportunity to expand my graduate studies in innovative and exciting areas while also enhancing my Ph.D. research through travel, exchange, collaboration and publishing efforts with a broad range of Norwegian and other international experts," says Patrick Moroney a graduate student studying wind turbine blades at UMaine's Mechanical Engineering Department. Through the collaborative project with NTNU scientists, UMaine researchers also plan to revamp five courses and create two new ones that includes a course on floating offshore wind turbines and one course on Marine Operations. Additionally, the multi-institutional team plans to establish four virtual summer intensive classes taught by faculty from both universities. Researchers from both institutions also aim to prepare two externally funded project proposals and publish more than 10 international research articles together as part of this joint effort. They also plan to establish monthly virtual online seminars with guest lectures and panel discussions starting in January 2023, and two joint seminars held during conferences in 2024 and 2026. Verma says part of the rationale behind the collaborative project is that the offshore wind industry is rapidly growing worldwide and is recognized as one of the most important strategic areas by Norway and the U.S. Both NTNU and UMaine have a wide range of common research and educational activities in the area of offshore wind technology, thereby formulating a sound basis for a partnership that will advance the growth of next-generation offshore wind infrastructures. "By receiving the award, we will be able to advance offshore wind education at UMaine further while gaining access to complementary expertise at NTNU," Verma says. "The project will also enable visibility of both institutions nationally and internationally, will promote workforce development while providing an international perspective to UMaine students in the area of offshore wind." For Verma, the joint effort between his current home institution and his alma mater will be crucial, as this will allow him to work with students and his previous colleagues at NTNU

while advancing the research goals of his Wind Energy and Marine Operations (WEMO) Lab. "I am eagerly looking forward to the collaboration with NTNU on offshore wind energy," says Saravanan Bhaskaran, a graduate student who started studying recently at Verma's WEMO Lab after completing his master thesis at NTNU. "I am sure that the new courses designed for this student exchange program will help me to broaden my knowledge on marine operations. My past affiliation with NTNU as a master student adds to the intrigue and attractiveness of this proposition." Other UMaine faculty working on the project with Verma include Richard Kimball, Presidential Professor in Ocean Engineering and Energy; Andrew Goupee, Donald A. Grant, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering; Wilhelm Friess, associate professor of mechanical engineering; Keith Berube, associate professor of mechanical engineering technology; and Lauren Ross, assistant professor of hydraulics and water resources engineering. Verma, Kimball, Goupee and Ross also are affiliated with the UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

UMaine Extension is your resource for food safety facts and Thanksgiving recipes

21 Nov 2022

Through its work in the Maine food system, University of Maine Cooperative Extension conducts research and offers training, workshops, bulletins and videos that highlight proper sanitation, food preservation and safe food-handling practices, as well as healthy and budget-friendly recipes. There are a number of [resources on Extension's Food and Health website](#) to help you prepare for and enjoy a safe and tasty Thanksgiving meal. If you are wondering how much turkey to buy, Kate Yerxa, registered dietitian and Extension professor, suggests planning for 1–1½ pounds of turkey per person. This will provide enough for the meal and leftovers for turkey sandwiches or your favorite turkey recipe. How to safely thaw the turkey is another common question, says Jason Bolton, UMaine Extension professor. The length of time it will take to thaw a turkey in the refrigerator depends on its size. Plan on 24 hours per 5 pounds of frozen turkey. Turkey should be cooked to reach an internal temperature of 165 degrees Fahrenheit to kill harmful bacteria. The temperature should be measured in the innermost part of the thigh and wing and the thickest part of the breast with a food thermometer. Leftovers should be stored in the refrigerator at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or colder within two hours of being cooked, and should be frozen or used within four days. Gravy needs to be used within two days. Dairy-based desserts, such as cream pies and cheesecakes, must be kept refrigerated at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or colder. For more detailed information about thawing, cooking and storing your turkey, download the free bulletin [Helpful Hints for Handling Turkeys for Thanksgiving](#). Extension has several other food safety fact sheets that many find helpful at this time of year:

- [Basics for Handling Food Safely](#)
- [General Food Safety Tips for Preparing Food](#)
- [Food for Holiday Giving: Safety Comes First!](#)

Recipes for a variety of side dishes, many of which use local Maine produce, can also be found on [the UMaine Extension website](#). The organization has developed a [Mainely Dish video series](#) to illustrate step-by-step instructions for many of its featured recipes. Mainers can also visit the [Spoonful Blog](#) to find science-based food and nutrition information, including recipes, food preservation, grocery shopping on a budget, food safety and health tips. If you have any food safety questions this Thanksgiving, you can call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1.888.MPHotline (1.888.674.6854) to talk to a food safety expert or chat live at ask.usda.gov from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday. If you need help on Thanksgiving Day, the meat and poultry hotline is available from 8 a.m.–2 p.m. EST.

BDN shares UMaine Extension Thanksgiving information

21 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared [resources on the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Food and Health website](#) to help prepare a safe and tasty Thanksgiving meal.

News Center features UMaine, UNH arctic charr study

21 Nov 2022

[News Center of Maine](#) reported University of Maine researchers investigating how the diversity and evolution of feeding habits among Arctic charr populations in Maine affect their resilience or vulnerability to climate change for a study with the University of New Hampshire. "These Arctic char populations are the canary in the coal mine for this part of the world," said Michael Kinnison, a UMaine professor of evolutionary applications. "What we see with these Arctic char might help us make predictions for these species for years to come."

PPH reports on UMaine ASCC unveiling world's first 3D-printed bio-based house

21 Nov 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center in Orono will unveil the world's first bio-based 3D printed house. Built on the world's largest polymer 3D printer, the 600-square-foot BioHome3D is a potential solution to the housing crisis, labor shortage, supply chain disruptions and environmental challenges. [Yahoo News](#) and [Sun Journal](#) shared the PPH report.

BDN featured Schattman on PFAS panel

21 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Rachel Schattman, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture at the University of Maine, presented at a forum organized by the Bangor Daily News and Maine Farmland Trust about removing toxic "forever chemicals" from the environment. Schattman is in the early stages of research on how PFAS chemicals are absorbed by crops.

Chicago Tribune interviews Knowles about Welsh community in Chicago

21 Nov 2022

The [Chicago Tribune](#) interviewed Anne Knowles, professor of history at the University of Maine, about the Welsh community in Chicago cheering on Wales in the 2022 World Cup. “If the Welsh ever beat the English in any sporting contest, it is a huge national victory. It is one of the biggest things that can happen,” said Knowles, who has previously written about Welsh migration to Chicago. [Yahoo News](#) shared the Chicago Tribune report.

Carney speaks to BDN about forest loss to solar energy development

21 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Noah Charney, assistant professor in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology at the University of Maine, about concerns related to booming solar energy development in Maine cutting into forests and habitats already threatened by climate change. “Where you choose to put a site is important, given the options. Then, how you manage the site can have a huge impact on what wildlife can exist there,” Charney said. Charney argued that it could also be less costly for developers to manage an existing habitat, instead of paying compensation fees.

CCAUE campaign underway

21 Nov 2022

The University of Maine System (UMS) Combined Charitable Appeal for University Employees (CCAUE) is well underway. The need for support this year remains crucial to many Mainers. Across the state, we continue to deal not only with the ongoing effects of the pandemic, but also with high cost of living increases creating stress at the gas pump and grocery store. With winter approaching and heating costs high, our neighbors will be relying on programs such as CCAUE to help fill in the gaps. The 2022–23 campaign once again invites your participation. For more information about our partner organizations, please visit maine.edu/ccaue. Not only will you find a helpful Donor Guide on the site, but also information on how you may contribute online, including payroll deduction for your convenience. From now until Nov. 30, we ask for your kind consideration of the information provided to help determine whether participating is a choice that you would like to make. If you have any questions about this program, please contact our campus CCAUE campaign chair, Angela Michaud, at angelamichaud@maine.edu; 207.581.1640.

The pandemic led to more speeding on Maine’s rural roadways, UMaine study finds

21 Nov 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic affected a lot of elements of life in Maine — including, apparently, how much drivers speed on the state’s rural roadways, according to a new study from the University of Maine. At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, states across the country reported an increase in the rate of fatal and severe car accidents despite the decrease in traffic volume. When stay-at-home orders were put in place, not only were there fewer drivers on the road, but less enforcement of traffic laws. Drivers responded to these shifts by increasing their speed, particularly on rural roads, which make up 80% of all roads in Maine. Researchers from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Maine and University of Connecticut used statistical models to quantify the impact of the pandemic on speeding in Maine. They developed models for three types of rural roads — major collectors, minor arterials and principal arterials using data from count stations that recorded the number of vehicles and their speed. They found that the odds of speeding by more than 15 mph increased by 34% on rural major collectors, 32% on rural minor arterials and 51% on rural principal arterials during the stay-at-home order in April and May 2020 compared to the same months in 2019. What’s more, the speeding trend continued even a year after the start of the pandemic. The models showed that the odds of speeding by more than 15 mph, in April and May 2021, one year after the order, were still 27% higher on rural major collectors and 17% higher on rural principal arterials compared to the same months in 2019. “These results show that the massive disruption in travel demand, or traffic volume, can have a profound impact on the operational speed or speeding with lasting effects long after the disruption has ceased,” says Ali Shirazi, principal investigator of the project and assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine. This study highlights the importance of managing transportation infrastructure for traffic flow and safety in times of crisis like the pandemic, particularly in light of the diminishing funds available to transportation agencies in the state. “Speeding is a contributing factor in many fatal or severe crashes, so recognizing that speeding has significantly increased suggests the importance of exploring countermeasures or interventions to reduce the speed,” Shirazi says. The study will be published November 2022 in the journal *Accident Analysis & Prevention*, and is currently available [online](#). Funding for this research was provided by the Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center (TIDC) at the University of Maine under grant 69A3551847101 from the U.S. Department of Transportation’s University Transportation Centers Program. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

First 100% bio-based 3D-printed home unveiled at the University of Maine

21 Nov 2022

On Nov. 21, the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) unveiled BioHome3D, the first 3D-printed house made entirely with bio-based materials. BioHome3D was developed with funding from the U.S. Department of Energy’s Hub and Spoke program between the UMaine and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Partners included MaineHousing and the Maine Technology Institute. The 600-square-foot prototype features 3D-printed floors, walls and roof of wood fibers and bio-resins. The house is fully recyclable and highly insulated with 100% wood insulation and customizable R-values. Construction waste was nearly eliminated due to the precision of the printing process. “Our state is facing the perfect storm of a housing crisis and labor shortage, but the University of Maine is stepping up once again to show that we can address these serious challenges with trademark Maine ingenuity,” said Gov. Janet Mills. “With its innovative BioHome3D, UMaine’s Advanced Structures and Composites Center is thinking creatively about how we can tackle our housing shortage, strengthen our forest products industry, and deliver people a safe place to live so they can contribute to our economy. While there is still more to be done, today’s development is a positive step forward — one that I was proud to support through my Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan and my budget. I extend my congratulations and thanks to the University of Maine and its partners, and I look forward to continuing to tackle these problems with innovative



solutions.”

The U.S. and Maine, in particular, are experiencing a crisis-level shortage of affordable housing. The National Low Income Housing Coalition reports that nationally, there is a need for more than 7 million affordable housing units. In Maine alone, the deficit is 20,000 housing units and growing each year, according to the Maine Affordable Housing Coalition. Nearly 60% of low-income renters in Maine spend more than half of their income on housing. This untenable situation is exacerbated by the twin challenges of a labor shortage and supply chain-driven material price increases. In addition to Mills, those participating in the unveiling event included U.S. Sen. Susan Collins; Jeff Marootian, senior advisor for energy efficiency and renewable energy for the U.S. Department of Energy; Rebecca Isacowitz, acting chief of staff for the office of energy efficiency and renewable energy at the DOE; Steve McKnight, acting advanced manufacturing office director for the DOE; and Xin Sun, associate laboratory director for energy science and technology with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The leaders toured ASCC, provided remarks and participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony. Also in attendance were legislators, housing advocates and developers, and Maine high school and university students. “With today’s production of the world’s first ever 3D-printed house made from recycled forest products, the University of Maine continues to demonstrate its global leadership in innovation and scientific research,” said Sen. Collins. “This remarkable accomplishment was made possible by the tenacity and expertise of Dr. Habib Dagher, his team and students at the UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Center. I commend them on pioneering this new market opportunity for Maine’s forest products industry, which could help alleviate our nation’s housing shortage. Their groundbreaking work will lay the foundation for the future of affordable housing and help create new jobs across our state.” The technology is designed to address labor shortages and supply chain issues that are driving high costs and constricting the supply of affordable housing. Less time is required on-site building and fitting up the home due to the use of automated manufacturing and off-site production. Printing using abundant, renewable, locally sourced wood fiber feedstock reduces dependence on a constrained supply chain. These materials support the revitalization of local forest product industries and are more resilient to global supply chain disruptions and labor shortages. Using the advanced manufacturing processes and materials developed at UMaine, future low-income homes can be customized to meet a homeowner’s space, energy efficiency and aesthetic preferences. Importantly, as the manufacturing technology and materials production are scaled up, homebuyers can expect faster delivery schedules. “We are finding solutions here at ASCC to the pressing problems that our world faces and that Maine faces, through research on transformative offshore wind technology, next-generation solutions for transportation infrastructure, advanced forest products and large-scale 3D printing, and of course, affordable housing,” said UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “The work that goes on in this lab absolutely exemplifies the work of a land grant institution — an institution that was started in order to help to solve the problems of, and further the economic advancement of, the state of Maine in partnership with the people of Maine. I couldn’t be more proud to point to this lab and exactly how that’s happening right here.” The prototype is currently sited on a foundation outside ASCC, equipped with sensors for thermal, environmental and structural monitoring to test how BioHome3D performs through a Maine winter. Researchers expect to use the data collected to improve future designs. BioHome3D was printed in four modules, then moved to the site and assembled in half a day. Electricity was running within two hours with only one electrician needed on site. “Many technologies are being developed to 3D print homes, but unlike BioHome3D, most are printed using concrete. However, only the concrete walls are printed on top of a conventionally cast concrete foundation. Traditional wood framing or wood trusses are used to complete the roof,” said Dagher, ASCC executive director. “Unlike the existing technologies, the entire BioHome3D was printed, including the floors, walls and roof. The biomaterials used are 100% recyclable, so our great-grandchildren can fully recycle BioHome3D.” “It’s these type of public-private collaborations, supported by DOE’s Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Technologies Office, that will help spur innovation in our manufacturing sector. These partnerships across industry, academia, government and our national labs have ushered in critical new technologies that are reducing emissions, improving efficiency, and making our manufacturing stronger, more resilient and more sustainable,” said Marootian, also the nominee for assistant secretary of the DOE. According to the United Nations Environment Programme, buildings account for nearly 40% of global carbon emissions. Sustainably grown wood fiber is a renewable resource that captures carbon during the tree growth cycle. BioHome3D may be thought of as a carbon storage and sequestration unit during its lifetime and after it is recycled. This project is the product of strong partnerships in and beyond the UMaine community. The DOE-funded [Hub and Spoke](#) Program between UMaine and [Oak Ridge National Laboratory](#) is leading the research and development of sustainable, cost-effective bio-based 3D printing feedstock alternatives, such as the material used for BioHome3D. The Hub and Spoke program is a direct result of a request initiated in 2016 by Sens. Collins and Angus King for a U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Assessment team to help Maine bolster the forest economy and create jobs and opportunity in rural regions of the state following the closure of several large paper mills. Oak Ridge National Laboratory’s Manufacturing Demonstration Facility, a leader in advanced manufacturing, and UMaine, home to ASCC, [Forest Bioproducts Research Institute](#) and School of Forest Resources, are natural partners in the field of large-scale, bio-based 3D printing. The [Maine Technology Institute](#) supported the design of the prototype, and

MaineHousing was a key partner in developing and reviewing the specifications for the home in alignment with low-income housing standards. “This program shows the power of scientific collaboration to address critical national needs,” said Sun. “Uniting the capabilities and facilities of ORNL with UMaine’s expertise and drive for innovation, we have together achieved a significant milestone in the development of sustainable materials and manufacturing technologies, and decarbonizing the buildings sector.” This effort has been made possible by advances in large-scale additive manufacturing coupled with innovations in bio-based material chemistries that have emerged from these partnerships. “This project gives us a real possibility to achieve something that has eluded us to-date, and that is the speed of production, to be able to mass produce in a very fast way housing. ... The idea that we can create housing units in a fraction of the time with a fraction of the workforce — that is an efficiency that we’ve never experienced before. It’s going to stretch our precious state and federal resources exponentially, and most importantly, provide — quickly — for those most in need in our state,” said Daniel Brennan, director of MaineHousing. The successful print of BioHome3D builds on the ASCC’s demonstrated excellence in advanced manufacturing, design and modeling. The prototype was printed on the world’s largest polymer 3D printer, which, in 2019, produced the [world’s largest 3D-printed boat](#). ASCC will be able to scale its advanced manufacturing research in housing construction with the opening of the Green Engineering and Materials (GEM) research Factory of the Future. When complete, GEM will serve as a hub for AI-enabled large-scale digital hybrid manufacturing. The Factory of the Future will drive innovation-led economic recovery in Maine, with bays dedicated to scaling up the production of housing, such as BioHome3D, as well as boatbuilding, an important Maine industry. A key aspect of the GEM facility is preparing the workforce of the future through immersive world-class educational opportunities at the nexus of engineering and computing. GEM is at the core of the university’s plan to create the new Maine College of Engineering, Computing and Information Science’s (MCECIS), which integrates engineering and computing education and research. The new GEM facility will be for engineering and computing comparable to a teaching hospital in the medical field, where engineering, computing and information science students learn by working in the lab next to world-class faculty and staff. This effort is supported by the Harold Alfond Foundation and UMS TRANSFORMS, with a goal to double the output of engineers and computing and information scientists to meet workforce needs of the state." "Workforce and economic development are essential components of ASCC's world-class research," says University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy. "Our federal and state policymakers know that an investment in Maine's research university is an investment in the state's future. We appreciate the shared vision and the opportunity to continue to show demonstrated return on investment through initiatives like BioHome3D and the students getting hands-on learning today to carry on the work tomorrow." Already, \$25 million in direct investment has been secured for GEM, including \$15 million through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan — the proposal put forth by Gov. Mills and supported by the Maine Legislature to invest the state’s share of federal American Rescue Plan relief funds — and \$10 million in the FY22 federal budget thanks to funding requested by Sens. Collins and King. Nearly \$40 million in other federal funds championed by Sens. Collins and King are pending for the project. The Advanced Structures and Composites Center is a world-leading interdisciplinary center for research, education and economic development, encompassing material sciences, advanced manufacturing and engineering of composites and structures. Housed in a 100,000-square-foot ISO-17025-accredited facility, the center has been recognized nationally and internationally for cutting-edge research programs leading and impacting new industries, including offshore wind and marine energy, civil infrastructure, biobased composites, large-scale 3D printing, soldier protection systems and innovative defense-related applications. Contact: Taylor Ward, 207.852.4530; taylor.ward@maine.edu

UMaine researcher Jay Wason helps solve century-old botanical mystery

22 Nov 2022

About 400 million years ago, the earliest plants on Earth — which were only a few centimeters in length — changed their vascular systems from simple cylinders into more complex shapes, which allowed them to absorb water from soil, expand into new habitats and forever alter the Earth’s ecosystems and atmosphere. Scientists discovered this evolution 100 years ago, but one question has loomed and spurred countless debates since then: why did it happen? Jay Wason, a University of Maine assistant professor of forest ecosystem physiology, co-authored a Yale University-led study published in the academic journal [Science](#) that finally answered the century-old botanical mystery. Through extensive anatomical and microscopic analysis of living and fossilized plants, and with several simulations, Wason and his colleagues found that the earliest land plants evolved their vascular systems to better resist drought. When plants dry out, air-bubbles get stuck in their xylem, specialized tissue that transports water and nutrients from the soil to stems and leaves, which can kill them when left unchecked. Redeveloping their xylem into more complex shapes allowed the earliest plants to prevent drought-induced air bubbles from spreading throughout them, which, in turn, made expanding to drier habitats possible. “The evolution of more complex vascular systems helped set the stage for the evolution of many common plants we see today, including trees,” Wason says. “Although this research focused on early evolution of land plants, these results also shed light on how the organization of cells that transport water in wood can help trees survive drought conditions.” Visit the [Yale website](#) to learn more. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Media report on UMaine study about recruiting more women for forestry careers

22 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Phys.org](#), [Canadian Biomass Magazine](#), [Pulp and Paper Canada](#), [Bioenergy Insight](#) and [Advanced Biofuels USA](#) shared a University of Maine study that outlines how to recruit more women for careers in the forestry industry, particularly the bioenergy sector. The team found that attracting and retaining women in bioenergy and related-fields can be done by offering interdisciplinary research opportunities in higher education; having employers provide ample support and outreach; and promoting relatable success stories. "In order to create change and new innovative ideas, for researchers and the community, we need to make it a priority to make moves to alter the existing institutional dynamic, especially in a historically white male dominated industry and sector," said Abigail Novak, a master's student in forest resources at the BioEnergy Lab of the School of Forest Resources who led the study.

Media report on unveiling of ASCC’s bio-based house

22 Nov 2022

[NPR](#), [CNN](#), the [Boston Globe](#), [Portland Press Herald](#), [News Center Maine](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [Maine Public](#), [Ellsworth American](#), [Yahoo News UK](#), [WMTW-TV](#) (Channel 8 in Portland), [WABI-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor), [WEBB-FM](#) (Augusta, Maine), [WQCB-FM](#) (Brewer, Maine), [WBZN-FM](#) (Brewer, Maine), [WEMZ-TV](#) (Allentown, Pennsylvania), [WJBQ-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [Architectural Digest](#), [3DPrint.com](#), [3D Natives](#), [3D Printing Media Network](#), [Architect](#), [Engadget](#) and other international outlets reported that the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center formally unveiled the world’s first bio-based 3D-printed house. Built using the world’s largest polymer 3D printer, the 600-square-foot BioHome3D is seen as a way to address the housing crisis, labor shortages and supply chain disruptions in a way that is friendly to the environment. “Are we going to solve the problem overnight by printing the first home? No. This is the beginning of a road, where we’re going to get there by doing a lot of research in the future. ... There are 1.2 million tons of wood residuals in our sawmills right now, in our region, that could go to print houses," said Habib Dagher, founding director of ASCC. [Yahoo News](#)

and [Government Technology](#) shared the PPH report. [New Hampshire Public Radio](#), [Connecticut Public Radio](#), [WBUR News](#), [WCAI-FM](#) (Woods Hole, Massachusetts), [WFCR-FM](#) (Amherst, Massachusetts) and [WSHU-FM](#) (Fairfield, Connecticut) shared the Maine Public report.

Wild turkeys adapt movement to Maine's winter weather, UMaine study shows

22 Nov 2022

Thanksgiving may be right around the corner, but Maine's wild turkeys have more to worry about than ending up on the kitchen table. Winter is coming, and with it, extremely cold temperatures and fewer resources for turkeys to thrive. According to a University of Maine study, wild turkeys will adjust their movements in inclement winter weather to increase their odds of survival, but their behaviors may change as the climate continues to warm. Wild turkeys were historically extirpated from Maine, but thanks to conservation efforts beginning in the 1970s, wild turkey populations have now been restored and are present in every county. At their northern range limit in Maine, wintering turkeys generally face extreme low temperatures and scarce resources. Turkeys adjust their movements — for example, the locations where they roost at night — in order to increase their chances of surviving the tough Maine winters. Understanding how species behave in their northernmost habitats is increasingly important with a changing world. The warming climate may expand the northern boundaries of a species' range, but is also linked to the heightened magnitude and occurrence of extreme weather events that impact an animal's chance of survival. A team of UMaine researchers partnered with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to study how wild turkeys moderate their movement in Maine over the course of the winter. They deployed GPS transmitters on 59 wild turkeys captured at baited sites between 2018 and 2020. The turkeys were observed over all types of landscapes, including commercial forests, residential areas and agricultural lands. The scientists compared how the wild turkeys transitioned between movement states — stationary, mobile and roosting — according to local weather, considering variables like snow depth and temperature. The data showed that wild turkeys altered their movement in subtle, context-specific ways, depending on different weather variables. For example, turkeys were more likely to spend time in a stationary state when temperatures were colder and snow was deeper. When stationary and roosting, turkeys selected conifer forests and avoided land covers associated with foraging, such as agriculture and residential areas; this was especially true during poor weather. "Our results emphasize how winter severity is a limiting factor for turkey populations in Maine, but also how turkeys have adapted to survive these harsh conditions. By being flexible about when and where they move, turkeys can conserve energy when weather is bad and take advantage of resources as they become available. As winter's get shorter and warmer, we could see these pressures lessen, which could be good for turkey populations," says Matthew Gonnerman, who conducted the research for his Ph.D. in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology at the University of Maine, and is now a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Maryland. Wild turkeys were found to be flexible in their ability to adapt their movements to the changing winter weather conditions. The results will inform wild turkey conservation efforts in light of climate change, and may provide a model for how the same can be done for other species. For example, wild turkey populations will need habitats with adequate shelter to protect them in times of inclement weather as the warming climate continues to expand the upper boundaries of their range. "Thanks to conservation efforts, wild turkey populations are doing really well in Maine. Our work suggests part of their success relates to their flexibility in dealing with our long Maine winters," says Erik Blomberg, associate professor of wildlife population ecology in the UMaine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology. "As climate change continues to alter winter conditions in Maine, it's going to be very interesting to continue tracking turkey populations and their response." The [study](#) was published September 2022 in the journal *Ecological Applications*. Additional collaborators include Pauline Kammath, associate professor of animal health in the School of Food and Agriculture; Stephanie Shea, who completed her Ph.D. in ecology and environmental sciences; Kaj Overturf, who completed his bachelor's degree in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology and the Honors College; and Kelsey Sullivan, biologist with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

New study to assess how biochar from Maine forest biomass can help wild blueberry farmers

22 Nov 2022

Determining how wild blueberry growers can use biochar, charcoal-like material derived from the pyrolysis of wood, to increase soil moisture and aid in the crop's ability to be resilient to drought will be the focus of a new study by University of Maine researchers. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) awarded more than \$74,000 for the project, led by Yongjiang Zhang, an assistant professor of applied plant physiology, in collaboration with Ling Li, an assistant professor of sustainable bioenergy systems; Lily Calderwood, an assistant professor of horticulture and University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry specialist; and Ivan Fernandez, a professor of soil sciences and forest resources. Seasonal drought, which has been seen more frequently in the wild blueberry growing regions due to climate change, reduces soil moisture through increased evaporation and crop water loss, according to [previous UMaine research](#). Over a long period of time, the decrease in available water is more likely to harm the vigor and yield of the wild blueberry crops, especially in non-irrigated fields. Researchers say biochar may be another soil moisture management tool for many wild blueberry farmers. Irrigation, which only covers 30% of farmed wild blueberry land in Maine, is an expensive investment. Because biochar mixes with soils faster and will not be picked up by harvesting equipment, it may be more efficient than wood chips, according to researchers. Funding from USDA NRCS will begin to address the many aspects of biochar as a soil moisture solution, including sourcing material, affordability, rate of application and its interaction with the wild blueberry system over time. "Biochar will not only enhance soil water holding and protect crops from drought, but also help mitigate climate change by locking carbon in soils," Zhang says. "In the long term, it can also improve soil nutrient retention and soil health, which needs to be studied for wild blueberry fields." UMaine scientists previously tested biochar on wild blueberries grown in the lab and greenhouse, but now it must be evaluated in the field to assess the practicality of its application at a commercial scale. They plan to conduct their tests at the UMaine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro and a privately owned field near Lubec using biochar products made by two Maine companies and the university's Forest Bioproducts Research Institute. The team plans to use their findings to create a standard testing protocol for biochar (pH and nutrient and contaminants) and field application guidelines, the latter of which will be shared publicly on the UMaine Extension website and with growers through Extension reports, conferences and field meetings. "Utilizing biochar to support agriculture benefits rural economic activity in two of Maine's heritage industries: our farms and forests," Li says. "By using Maine's forest biomass to create biochar, we support harvesting operations and active timberland management, and help diversify Maine's forest products markets. The added benefit of increasing crop yields and vigor allows Maine's farmers to be more profitable in their operations." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

'Plan B' art exhibit at the UMaine Hutchinson Center

23 Nov 2022

"Plan B," a new multimedia art exhibit curated by Lorraine Brown of Artivism in Maine, is at the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast. The show, on display through Jan. 9, is free and open to the public from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday. There will be

a public reception for the exhibit on Friday, Dec. 9 at the Hutchinson Center from 4:30–6:30 p.m., with refreshments and entertainment. The art show is the culmination of a three-day conference organized by Artivism in Maine, with sponsorship from Volunteers of America and others. The conference was held at venues across Belfast in November, with visual art exhibits, performances, a resource fair, and workshops on a range of topics including Ayurveda, mental health first aid, food and healing, and dance. The eclectic works featured in the exhibition are by artists who came to art as a “plan B.” Creating art, for these artists, is a pathway to healing, health, connection, perspective and joy. “What do we do when life doesn't work out the way we planned and we are thrown a serious curveball?” asks exhibition curator Lorraine Brown. “How do we humans heal? How do we respond to the surprise, the shock of loss, grief, separation, severe mental health diagnoses, the ravages of damaging addictions? If the art on display at the Hutchinson Center is any indication, responses are wildly varied — illuminative, moving, imaginative and unexpected.” The exhibition features work by Val Porter, James Hillman and Molly Riddle. Also included are works by people who are currently or formerly incarcerated at the Maine State Prison (artwork donated to [Helping Incarcerated Individuals Transition and Beyond Bars](#)), and children from [Camp Jinka](#), a camp for youngsters who have experienced loss. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sam Overlock, hutchinsoncenter@maine.edu. More information about the Hutchinson Center’s Fernald Art Gallery and the “Plan B” exhibition is [online](#).

UMaine Extension accepting applications for market garden training to begin in January

23 Nov 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a comprehensive nine-month hybrid (online and in-person) training program for all beginning farmers. Participants will acquire the knowledge, skills and abilities required to successfully grow produce for small-scale private or commercial fruit and vegetable operations. Online training begins Jan. 17. The program continues twice-monthly through the end of September and includes farm field days throughout the growing season. [Boots-2-Bushels: Boot Camp for Market Gardeners](#) will cover topics that include soil health and crop planning; no-till production; vegetable and fruit production; food safety; integrated pest management; tools and equipment; marketing and farm economics; and more. Subject matter experts from UMaine Extension, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association and local farms will serve as instructors. Participants will earn a certificate of completion. Registration is open to all beginning farmers; priority will be given to veterans, their family members and farmers with a disability. The \$150 fee includes course materials and in-person farm visits. For out-of-state veterans who cannot attend the farm visits, the registration fee is reduced. For more information and registration instructions see the [program webpage](#). Space is limited and registration closes on Dec. 14. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Anne Martin, 207.944.1533; anne.martin1@maine.edu. Boots-2-Bushels is a project of [Maine AgrAbility](#), a federally funded program that addresses health, safety and injury prevention on the farm, on the water and in the forest.

Commuter Week is Nov. 28–Dec. 2

23 Nov 2022

The Center for Student Involvement is hosting Commuter Week Nov. 28–Dec. 2, featuring a variety of free activities for commuter and nontraditional students. Most events will be held in the Commuter Lounge, a space designed to serve as a quiet study and social space for commuter students that offers coffee, tables, whiteboards, helpful staff, a kitchenette and charging supplies. The Commuter Lounge is on the ground floor of the Memorial Union, room 150. The schedule is as follows:

- Monday: Donuts in the CCA lot
- Tuesday: Succulent potting and painting in the Commuter Lounge, all day
- Wednesday: Grilled cheese in the Commuter Lounge, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
- Thursday: Student Wellness Resource Center mural painting in the Commuter Lounge, as supplies last
- Friday: First Friday bagels and canvas painting in the Commuter Lounge, as supplies last

Machias Valley News-Observer shares ‘Hungry Now’ documentary screening

23 Nov 2022

The [Machias Valley News-Observer](#) noted that the documentary “Hungry Now,” filmed and produced through a class at the University of Maine Machias, will have its regional premiere at the University of Maine at Machias Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. Dec. 2, following its television premiere on Maine Public Television on Thanksgiving night, Nov. 24, at 9 p.m. “Hungry Now” brings the direct voices of “the hungry, the homeless and the helpers” in a series of interviews with children and adults who “seem to walk their whole lives uphill in a nation of wealth and promise.” The film is part of UMaine’s Right to Food film series.

Calder speaks to BDN about safely preparing Thanksgiving dinner

23 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Beth Calder, food science specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the School of Food and Agriculture, about safely preparing, serving and storing Thanksgiving dinner.

Media report on UMaine research about speeding during the pandemic

23 Nov 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor), the [Daily Bulldog](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) shared a University of Maine study that showed speeding increased on Maine’s rural roads during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. states across the country reported an increase in the rate of fatal and severe car accidents despite the decrease in traffic volume. When stay-at-home orders were put in place, not only were there fewer drivers on the road, but less enforcement of traffic laws. “Speeding is a contributing factor in many fatal or severe crashes, so recognizing that speeding has significantly increased suggests the importance of exploring countermeasures or interventions to reduce the speed,” said Ali Shirazi, principal investigator of the project and assistant professor of civil and

environmental engineering at the University of Maine.

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Nov. 28

28 Nov 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update:

- Nutting Hall stairwell work is scheduled to begin in the near future.
- Repairs on the Jenness Hall HVAC system are wrapping up.
- Installation of a new east substation transformer on campus continues.
- Completed: campus roadway paving for the season and D.P. Corbett Business Building roof work.

UMaine Machias museum management class exhibit opens today

28 Nov 2022

“TIME: Stories of the Past and Echoes of the Future,” an exhibit by UMaine Machias professor Bernie Vinzani’s museum management class, opens today, Nov. 28, 4–6 p.m at the University of Maine Machias Art Gallery on the first floor of Powers Hall. The exhibit, inspired by T.S. Elliot’s poem “Burnt Notion,” conveys the idea that while living in the present, we can take works from the past and use them to inspire the future. The students from the class’ fall semester selected a piece from the University’s Permanent Collection and then created their own works based on that inspiration. Students used multiple mediums, such as ink and graphite sketchings; paintings with watercolor; photography; and sculptures. The gallery is open Monday and Friday from 11 a.m.–2 p.m., and Tuesday– Thursday from 11 a.m.–4 p.m. for the remainder of the semester.

Media note registration opening for Boots-2-Bushels training

28 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a comprehensive nine-month hybrid (online and in-person) training program for all beginning farmers, Boots-2-Bushels: Boot Camp for Market Gardeners. Registration is open to all beginning farmers; priority will be given to veterans, their family members and farmers with a disability. Space is limited and registration closes on Dec. 14. For more information and registration instructions see the [program webpage](#).

BDN reports on CCI 50th anniversary

28 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that the University of Maine’s Climate Change Institute celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2023, marking a half-century of research and education related to climate change in Maine, New England and across the planet. More information about CCI’s research expeditions can be found on its [website](#).

Media note Downing performance at Searsport First Congregational Church

28 Nov 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) and [Republican Journal](#) noted that Elizabeth Downing, instructor of flute at the University of Maine, will perform with Grammy-winning composer and pianist Paul Sullivan at the First Congregational Church in Searsport on Dec. 4, at 3 p.m.

Bolton speaks to News Center Maine about Thanksgiving food safety

28 Nov 2022

Jason Bolton, food safety specialist with the Maine Food and Agriculture Center and University of Maine Cooperative Extension, was featured on [News Center Maine](#) discussing best practices to prevent bacteria from growing and spreading when it comes to preparing, serving and storing Thanksgiving dinner.

BDN shares Yerxa EFNEP award

28 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor Kate Yerxa is a member of a multistate team honored with the 2022 National Excellence in Extension award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, and Cooperative Extension. The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program’s (EFNEP) Related Research, Program Evaluation, and Outreach multistate project aims to strengthen the evidence base of EFNEP by developing and testing critical and culturally relevant evaluation tools to assess the program’s effectiveness.

Media share ‘Plan B’ art exhibit

28 Nov 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Courier-Gazette](#) and [Republican Journal](#) noted that “Plan B,” a new multimedia art exhibit curated by Lorraine Brown of Artivism

in Maine, is at the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center. The show, on display through Jan. 9, is free and open to the public from 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday. There will be a public reception Dec. 9, at the Hutchinson Center from 4:30–6:30 p.m. with refreshments and entertainment. More information about the Hutchinson Center’s Fernald Art Gallery and the “Plan B” exhibition is [online](#).

The Express notes UMaine Extension information about cranberries

28 Nov 2022

In an article about cranberries, the [Express](#) (Lockhaven, Pennsylvania) cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension noting that bumblebees and honeybees are important pollinators for cranberries because the pollen grains produced by cranberries are too heavy to be carried by the wind.

BDN shares Wabanaki Winter Market

28 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the Wabanaki Winter Market, an annual celebration of art created by Wabanaki artists, will return with one-of-a-kind artwork for sale from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. on Dec. 10 at the University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts. The schedule of events is [online](#).

Maine Public, WGME note UMaine wood bank grant

28 Nov 2022

[Maine Public](#) and [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland, Maine) noted that the University of Maine recently received a grant for \$62,500 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to encourage more communities to create wood banks. The [Bangor Daily News](#), [WLUK-TV](#) (Green Bay, Wisconsin), [WZTV-TV](#) (Nashville, Tennessee), [WHP-TV](#) (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania), [WTTE-TV](#) (Columbus, Ohio), [KRNVT-TV](#) (Reno, Nevada), [WJAC-TV](#) (Johnstown, Pennsylvania), [KATU-TV](#) (Portland, Oregon), [KRXI-TV](#) (Reno, Nevada), [WGXA-TV](#) (Macon, Georgia), [WBMA-TV](#) (Birmingham, Alabama), [KRCC-TV](#) (New Bloomfield, Missouri), [KVAL-TV](#) (Eugene, Oregon), [KOMO-TV](#) (Seattle, Washington), [KFOX-TV](#) (El Paso, Texas), [WCTL-TV](#) (New Bern, North Carolina), [WEAR-TV](#) (Pensacola, Florida) and [WPFO-TV](#) (Portland, Maine) shared the WGME report.

BDN reports on UMaine fraternity volunteering with Welcome to Housing

28 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that 40 members of the University of Maine Kappa Sigma fraternity recently joined volunteers associated with Welcome to Housing to load furniture donated and removed from the University Inn Academic Suites in Orono.

Media share Webb obituary

28 Nov 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [WABI-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) and [WQCB-FM](#) (Brewer, Maine) reported that Betsy Webb, professor of educational leadership at the University of Maine, died Thanksgiving morning at the age of 61. Webb previously served as the Bangor School Department superintendent, and was named the 2013 Maine Superintendent of the Year and in 2012 was the Maine School Superintendents’ Association Outstanding Leadership Award Winner. [Yahoo News](#) shared the PPH report.

Media note new UMaine biochar study

28 Nov 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine researchers will study how wild blueberry growers can use biochar, charcoal-like material derived from the pyrolysis of wood, to increase soil moisture and aid in the crop’s ability to be resilient to drought. The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) awarded more than \$74,000 for the project, led by Yongjiang Zhang, an assistant professor of applied plant physiology, in collaboration with Ling Li, an assistant professor of sustainable bioenergy systems; Lily Calderwood, an assistant professor of horticulture and University of Maine Cooperative Extension wild blueberry specialist; and Ivan Fernandez, a professor of soil sciences and forest resources.

BDN features UMaine Phage class

28 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) featured the University of Maine’s Phage Genomics class. Since its founding, the course has not only led to over 46 published genomes and five published scientific papers that students have co-authored, but also an enduring community of students and peer mentorship network that is only getting stronger with the class’ recent designation as a Research Learning Experience and opening up to students beyond the Honors College.

Maine Monitor cites UMaine Extension PFAS resources

28 Nov 2022

In an article about minimizing exposure to PFAS, the [Maine Monitor](#) cited the University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s “[Understanding PFAS and Your Home Garden](#)” website. According to the UMaine Extension, risks from eating homegrown produce will depend on three factors: the level of PFAS in the soil, the type of crop grown and the volume of homegrown produce you consume.

Media highlight UMaine turkey movement study

28 Nov 2022

[Phys.org](#), [Knewz](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) shared a University of Maine study that shows wild turkeys will adjust their movements in inclement winter weather to increase their odds of survival, but their behaviors may change as the climate continues to warm. “Our results emphasize how winter severity is a limiting factor for turkey populations in Maine, but also how turkeys have adapted to survive these harsh conditions. By being flexible about when and where they move, turkeys can conserve energy when weather is bad and take advantage of resources as they become available. As winter’s get shorter and warmer, we could see these pressures lessen, which could be good for turkey populations.” said Matthew Gonnerman, who conducted the research for his Ph.D. in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology at the University of Maine.

BDN features Talty

28 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) wrote a feature about Morgan Talty, assistant professor of English at the University of Maine, whose debut book “[Night of the Living Rez](#),” has received an avalanche of accolades since its release in July. The book was named one of the [New York Times’ 100 best books of 2022](#). “I hear from people all the time about how much they love the book or how the book has affected them, and it reminds me, constantly, how powerful and important storytelling is. So many people — Native and non-Native — have been cheering me and the book on, and that support has meant so much to me,” Talty said.

UMaine Extension accepting applications for market garden training to begin in January

28 Nov 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a comprehensive nine-month hybrid (online and in-person) training program for all beginning farmers. Participants will acquire the knowledge, skills and abilities required to successfully grow produce for small-scale private or commercial fruit and vegetable operations. Online training begins Jan. 17, 2023. The program continues twice-monthly through the end of September and includes farm field days throughout the growing season. [Boots-2-Bushels: Boot Camp for Market Gardeners](#) will cover topics that include soil health and crop planning; no-till production; vegetable and fruit production; food safety; integrated pest management; tools and equipment; marketing and farm economics; and more. Subject matter experts from UMaine Extension, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association and local farms will serve as instructors. Participants will earn a certificate of completion. Registration is open to all beginning farmers; priority will be given to veterans, their family members and farmers with a disability. The \$150 fee includes course materials and in-person farm visits. For out-of-state veterans who cannot attend the farm visits, the registration fee is reduced. For more information and registration instructions see the [program webpage](#). Space is limited and registration closes on Dec. 14. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Anne Martin, 207.944.1533; anne.martin1@maine.edu. Boots-2-Bushels is a project of [Maine AgrAbility](#), a federally funded program that addresses health, safety and injury prevention on the farm, on the water and in the forest.

Evan Warburton: A fun guy studying fungi

28 Nov 2022

Evan Warburton is wild about mushrooms. He forages for edible mushrooms, grows oyster mushrooms in his apartment and researches how fungi interact with trees as an undergraduate researcher at the University of Maine. Inspired by the community of UMaine mycologists, Warburton is growing into a great researcher in his own right, studying the underground fungal networks that support forest ecosystems on Maine’s coastal islands. During the pandemic, Warburton spent a lot of time walking around the woods at his childhood home in New Jersey, foraging for mushrooms and listening to podcasts. He was listening to an episode about famed mycologist Paul Stamets discussing the mycorrhizal network, or the network between trees and certain fungi that exchange essential soil nutrients for sugars to help keep the trees healthy and feed the fungi. “The transfer of energy is interesting to me,” Warburton says. “Not all organisms eat like we do. Most fungi are decomposers. They secrete enzymes that break down their food, like if we were to barf up our stomach acid to break down our food and then eat that product. The aspects of biochemistry tied in through this metabolic activity and the ecological implications of looking at how this affects forest health made me want to do research on this.” Then-sophomore Warburton reached out to UMaine mycologists to see if he could get involved with research. He eventually connected with Joyce Longcore, associate research professor at the School of Biology and Ecology, who has won the [2022 Distinguished Mycologist Award](#) for her research about chytrid fungi. Warburton learned valuable techniques in mycology from Longcore — and he greatly admired her work in the field — but her research wasn’t exactly what he wanted to study; he still had mycorrhizal fungi on his mind. Longcore introduced Warburton to [Peter Avis](#), a new mycologist in the UMaine community who would go on to be an adjunct instructor and is now director of CORE while continuing to conduct research. Avis was starting a project to look at mycorrhizal fungi on the coastal islands of Maine and asked if Warburton would be interested in joining. Warburton was “totally up for it.” “His idea for the project was to go around to islands and sample them for their fungal communities based on island size, distance from mainland and human development on these islands,” Warburton says. “Maine has so many islands, so this is a very long term project.” In August 2021, Avis and Warburton went to Roque Island to collect samples of soil, tree roots and seedlings to test which species of mycorrhizal fungi are present in the sites. They stayed for several days together in a cabin on the island as they conducted their field work. “Evan [Warburton] was a fantastic colleague and partner,” Avis says. “He did everything I needed him to do and had tons of great questions. He was just a happy workmate even though it was buggy and rough conditions.” The duo were able to collect samples from five more islands over the course of the next two years. Warburton also served as an intern at the Maine eDNA program, where he extracted DNA from water samples on Hurricane Island (another place where he was able to grab some soil for his and Avis’ mycorrhizal fungi project). Warburton studied these samples in the lab throughout the rest of last school year and into this past semester, extracting DNA and conducting polymerase chain reactions to target what species they were seeing in the samples. Warburton says that already, they have found shared fungi species between the mature tree roots and the seedling roots in their samples, giving the impression that there is a potential connection between them. He has applied for a grant from the National Science Foundation to support his anticipated future graduate studies and to determine whether that connection means that the tree roots, seedlings and fungi are exchanging nutrients — or interacting in another way entirely. Warburton is hoping to translate some of his current research into his capstone project. He is a biochemistry major with a minor in ecology and environment science, a combination that Avis says is unusual for a mycologist, but one of the things that makes Warburton special as a student researcher. “He’s one of the first undergraduate researchers I’ve had that has pulled his interests from such broad fields together,” Avis says. “His training from biochemistry has influenced how he understands this complex phenomenon of mycorrhizal associations. He’s one of the students that has taken the lessons he learned in classes and can

see them really clearly and is excited to apply those to the research that's right in front of him. That's pretty cool." Even though the mycorrhizal fungi research project is far from over, Warburton sees potential for how it could be used in the future. "I want to find a way to apply what I'm finding out to forestry practices," Warburton says. "If you leave certain trees that don't have as much value in the lumbering business, mycorrhizal fungi can thrive." Warburton hopes to go to graduate school and continue researching the wonderful world of fungi. He has some experience presenting research already. This past summer, Avis was not able to present at the Mycological Society of America conference in Gainesville, Florida, about the research that he and Warburton had been working on. Warburton stepped up to the plate as UMaine's sole representative to the prestigious conference and had the opportunity to present what they had found so far. "I wasn't expecting to talk a lot, but once the poster sessions started, I didn't stop talking the entire time," Warburton says. "It was a great experience. What was really cool was when we had the awards ceremony and they started listing off winners, the biggest award went to Joyce Longcore, and then a couple other awards were given to other mycologists who were UMaine alumni. I was like, 'This is really cool that I'm here. Maybe I'll get an award one day.'" Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Ross Sousa: Using new tools to solve old problems on the farm

28 Nov 2022

While working part-time on farms and in greenhouses, University of Maine senior Ross Sousa of Somerset, Massachusetts learned firsthand how disease can ruin crops. Memories of farmers' plight, combined with a passion for plant pathology and finding more sustainable agricultural resources, encouraged him to get involved in research to determine whether lobster shells can combat soilborne pathogens that infect potatoes. The project, led by Ph.D. student Katie Ashley, is exploring how various concentrations of chitin from lobster exoskeletons will help cultivate microbial communities in the soil that help defend potatoes against soilborn pests. Sousa, an Honors College student, is assisting with the study as a technician in Associate Professor Jianjun Hao's lab, assessing how lobster shell chitin alone and mixed with compost can inhibit *Verticillium*, a pathogen that can cause early dying among potatoes and other crops. Some of Sousa's tasks for the project include dissecting potato tubers and examining their vascular rings for *Verticillium* infection, measuring and watering greenhouse plants, extracting DNA samples and collecting various data. He also ensures that the chitin from the shells poses no adverse effects on crop yield and plant emergence, vigor, biomass and height. Just like lobster shells, fungal cell walls in certain crop-infecting pathogens contain chitin. There are microorganisms in the soil that can break down chitin, but Sousa says they may not be metabolically active. Incorporating lobster shell meal into the soil could activate the microorganisms, after which they would begin consuming chitin from the shells, then eliminate the soilborne pathogens by targeting and breaking down the chitin in their cell walls. "After having developed personal relationships with farmers and knowing the issues they might face, I definitely was hoping that the research I do would alleviate some of those struggles in the field, while also being conscious of how those practices affect the environment," Sousa says. "I see using compost with lobster shell meal as a better alternative compared to using a soil fumigant because it has led to issues of killing microorganisms in the soil." Sousa joined Hao's lab as a technician in October 2021. Prior to working there, he interned with the organization Integrated Pennycress Research Enabling Farm & Energy Resilience Project at Western Illinois University that summer. In addition to working with Hao, Sousa also serves as a lab technician for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab. Balancing his lab technician responsibilities and coursework during his final year of undergraduate education requires strict time management. Sousa says he finds motivation from the thrill experienced through research and learning new ways to be a better scientist. "When working in Dr. Hao's lab and the diagnostic lab for a job, I feel like I have a lot more freedom in what I can learn," Sousa says. "I enjoy taking advantage of that freedom of learning whatever I can in those labs, as well as combining that knowledge with that gained from my classes." Sousa enrolled at UMaine for its botany program — which he said was the closest and most affordable for him, but didn't know he wanted to study plant pathology right away. That interest blossomed in fall 2021 when he took a course in it with Hao and another in mycology by associate professor Seanna Annis. After working at farms, farm stands and greenhouses while in high school, Sousa says he appreciates receiving a hands-on education at UMaine that involves both field and lab research. He says he also enjoys working in an interdisciplinary environment, which is helping him develop a more varied skill set. "Nowadays, the best thing you can do is collaborate in science and research," Sousa says. "You can't really do anything alone now. We're at that point where to make more groundbreaking impacts, you have to definitely work with other people." Sousa says after he graduates, he hopes to continue working in a lab setting or for a Cooperative Extension service for a couple of years, then pursue a master's degree or Ph.D. in plant pathology. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Rural educators struggle to meet student mental health with limited resources, UMaine study finds

28 Nov 2022

Educators in Maine's rural schools are struggling to meet the mental and emotional needs of their students due to a lack of resources, and institutional support, according to a new study from the University of Maine. In education around the world, there is a tension between meeting institutional goals like fiscal efficiency, literacy and numeracy while also meeting the emotional needs of students. That tension can be heightened in rural communities due to fractured, distant social service networks and the declining economic well-being of many communities. Even so, the need to address the emotional and mental needs of students in schools is greater than ever. In addition to adverse childhood experiences like neglect, abuse, mental illness, family issues and exposure to systemic adversity like poverty and racism, disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic have further exacerbated the need for trauma-informed practices for students. Catharine Biddle, associate professor of educational leadership at the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, led a study analyzing focus group discussions with 110 rural Maine educators from 12 schools at various grade levels. Participants were asked questions about teacher-student relationships, the relationship between the school and the community, as well as strengths and challenges related to supporting student learning and healthy development. Biddle framed her study through a lens of critical rural theory, which draws attention to the ways in which the purpose, activities and effects of education; the role of schools as institutions in a community; and the implicit assumptions in institutional and policy logics differ for nonurban areas. For example, professional norms and expectations within schools in rural areas may not be the same as those in cities; the diminished political economy of rural places may impact educational policy; and the teacher's themselves may have a different relationship to a rural community than they would in a city. "Critical rural theory helps to highlight the ways in which our current educational system was not designed with rural schools in mind. Funding that relies on district capacity to write grants, narrowly defined credentials that ignore the many hats rural teachers must wear, and inadequate teacher support systems for those in our most remote schools are all examples of spatial inequities in education," Biddle says. The teachers in the study described the increasing pressure on student achievement, dwindling financial resources within their districts and little institutional attention to the changing student needs around stress and mental health. Teachers saw many ways in which stress directly interfered with their ability to address the curriculum, including rising student anxiety related to economic insecurity, such as hunger or transiency, or personal adversity such as parent death (often from substance use), removal from the home and placement with temporary caregivers or other family members. The teachers also cited a lack of formal training in addressing these issues, and frequently worried that, in the absence of training, they were actually harming children through their lack of knowledge about childhood adversity. To tackle these issues in light of the lack of institutional support, teachers described individual acts outside of their regular job descriptions, some that may even defy existing schools policies. Some of these actions included small gestures, such as hugging students even in schools that had policies against such

engagement, to significant forms of resistance, such as refusing to engage with mandated reporting systems or issues around documentation because they are seen as doing more harm than good. “I think one of the most surprising findings was how conflicted teachers felt about mandated reporting,” Biddle says. “Clearly, more research is needed here to understand why some rural educators may not want to report and how the dynamics of mandated reporting play out in small communities.” Addressing students needs was found to come often at a great emotional cost to teachers, contributing to more burnout in the profession, but also sometimes at a financial cost to teachers, as they discussed keeping supplies to meet students’ basic needs in their classrooms, including clean clothing, snacks, toiletries and other necessities. The teachers in the study couldn’t agree on exactly what changes are needed to help them better address their students increased emotional needs, but their responses clustered around three key themes: adequate resources to achieve the high expectations laid out by the state; a broad base of community supports for families; and, finally, a model of teaching and learning that recognizes humanity. Biddle hopes that the insights from this study may contribute to better designed policy to address both teacher burnout and childhood adversity in Maine’s rural communities. “Teachers were clear: school is about so much more than achievement for young people,” Biddle says, “Children and youth need to feel that they are appreciated as people by the adults around them, that they need adequate mental health supports, and that our current staffing solutions are not meeting those needs.” The [study](#) was published in the journal The Rural Educator in Volume 43, Number 4, in 2022. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

CCAUE campaign extended to Dec. 5

29 Nov 2022

The University of Maine System’s (UMS) annual giving campaign Combined Charitable Appeal for University Employees (CCAUE) is well underway. The need for support this year remains crucial to many Mainers as they deal not only with the ongoing effects of the pandemic, but also with high cost of living increases creating stress at the gas pump and grocery store. With winter approaching and heating costs high, Mainers will be relying on programs such as CCAUE to help fill in the gaps. UMS employees may participate through payroll deduction and check/debit or credit card contributions. Over almost 20 years, the UMS community has contributed more than \$2 million to charities serving our state, nation and global community. This year's campaign has been extended through Monday, Dec. 5. For more information about our partner organizations, please visit maine.edu/ccaue. If you have any questions about this program, please contact our campus CCAUE campaign chair, Angela Michaud, at angelamichaud@maine.edu; 207.581.1640.

Zipe Education shares Warburton profile

29 Nov 2022

[Zipe Education](#) shared a profile about Evan Warburton, a University of Maine undergraduate studying the underground fungal networks that support forest ecosystems on Maine’s coastal islands. “I want to find a way to apply what I’m finding out to forestry practices. If you leave certain trees that don’t have as much value in the lumbering business, mycorrhizal fungi can thrive,” Warburton said.

BDN features UMaine Zillman Art Museum

29 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) wrote a feature about how the University of Maine’s Zillman Art Museum ended up in downtown Bangor. The museum was founded in 1946 by longtime UMaine art professor Vincent Hartgen, but by the late 1990s, it had already well outgrown its on-campus location at Carnegie Hall with the nearly 6,000 works of art then in the museum’s collection. The nonprofit Couri Foundation purchased 40 Harlow in 2000 and over the course of two years, the lower floor of the building was transformed into art galleries. The University of Maine Museum of Art opened its doors in 2002.

Media report on UMaine rural educator study

29 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#), [Zipe Education](#), [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland), [WFVX](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor) shared a new University of Maine study that shows educators in Maine’s rural schools are struggling to meet the mental and emotional needs of their students due to a lack of resources and institutional support. Catharine Biddle, associate professor of educational leadership in the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, led a study analyzing focus group discussions with 110 rural Maine educators from 12 schools at various grade levels. “I think one of the most surprising findings was how conflicted teachers felt about mandated reporting. Clearly, more research is needed here to understand why some rural educators may not want to report and how the dynamics of mandated reporting play out in small communities,” Biddle said. [WPFO](#) (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the WGME report.

UMaine researchers write article for Issues in Science and Technology about mudflats research

29 Nov 2022

University of Maine researchers co-authored an article for [Issues in Science and Technology](#) about collaborating with Maine tribes to study mudflats to illustrate how community-university partnerships can strengthen deliberative and democratic practices. The article was written by David Hart, director of the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions and a professor in the School of Biology and Ecology at the University of Maine; Bridie McGreavy, associate professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism and faculty fellow in the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine; Anthony Sutton, assistant professor of Native American Studies and Food Systems and faculty fellow in the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions; Gabrielle Hillyer, Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences in the National Research Traineeship Conservation Science Program; and Darren Ranco, chair of Native American Programs, professor of anthropology and faculty fellow in the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions.

BDN notes Pratt participation in Bangor Book Fair

30 Nov 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that Bruce Pratt, a lecturer in the Department of English at the University of Maine, will participate in the Bangor Area Maine Authors' Book Fair on Dec. 10, from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Pratt is an award-winning writer and poet whose first novel is titled "The Serpents of Blissfull."

San Marcos Daily Record cites UMaine Extension information about owning horses

30 Nov 2022

In an article about a local horse sanctuary, the [San Marcos Daily Record](#) (San Marcos, Texas) cited a University of Maine Cooperative Extension survey about the price of equine ownership, which found that it costs about \$4,000 a year to keep a horse.

The Atlantic features a conversation with Talty

30 Nov 2022

[The Atlantic](#) featured a conversation with Morgan Talty, associate professor of English at the University of Maine, about his debut novel "Night of the Living Rez." "I find that mentoring and editing and working with other writers is rejuvenating for me. I have to do it. It charges my batteries for the creative work. I'm very reclusive when it comes to my own writing — I don't have a writing group — but I need editing and teaching and that literary community," Talty said.

NYT reports on UMaine small mammal research

30 Nov 2022

The [New York Times](#) featured the research of Alessio Mortelliti, associate professor of wildlife habitat conservation, and Ivy Yen, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology at the University of Maine, about how mice contribute to ecosystem construction of forests. "People see that a forest is regenerating, but what people don't see is that the forest is regenerating following the decisions of small mammals," Mortelliti told the NYT. The [Society of Environmental Journalists](#) and [3 Quarks Daily](#) shared the NYT report.

USDA NIFA awards \$668K to UMaine researchers studying hay spoilage in alfalfa relative to grasses

30 Nov 2022

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has [awarded](#) \$668,456 to a team of University of Maine researchers studying new ways to reduce spoilage in high-moisture hay, and how spoilage processes differ in alfalfa relative to grass hays. The spoilage of stored hay bales is a costly issue for U.S. farmers, especially in areas like the Northeast and North central regions where unpredictable weather during the hay wilting process can lead to unexpectedly moist baling conditions. Storing hay at high moisture levels decreases its nutritional value and increases the risk of mold. In the U.S., over \$3 billion is lost every year to hay spoilage. This is especially true of legume hay, like alfalfa. Legume hay is desirable for farmers because it typically has a higher nutritive value than grasses due to their higher protein and pectin concentrations and higher rate of fiber digestion. Alfalfa alone represents half of the hay production in the United States. Moreover, legumes fix atmospheric nitrogen into the soil, reducing fertilizer costs and increasing soil health. However, a previous UMaine [study](#) showed that legume hay like alfalfa is less responsive to preservative treatments that prevent spoilage in high moisture conditions than their less-nutritious grass hay counterparts. Certain preservatives like propionic acid, and its buffered salts, have been shown to be more helpful than others to keep high-moisture hay mold-free. This grant will allow the researchers to evaluate the efficacy of propionic acid and its buffered salts at preserving nutrients during the storage of alfalfa and grass hay and compare its effectiveness against other treatments. As part of this project, Andre Brito at the University of New Hampshire will also evaluate preservation approaches for producers that cannot apply chemical preservatives, such as organic farms. Project collaborators Luiz Ferraretto at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Juan Alvez at the University of Vermont will conduct activities through their cooperative extensions to improve awareness of the consequences of hay spoilage. "This project is based on years of collaboration to expand our understanding of hay spoilage," says Juan Romero, UMaine associate professor of animal nutrition and one of the researchers on the team. "Depending on the year, hay is the third or fourth most valuable crop in the United States and the third in Maine. Livestock farmers in New England face increasing feed costs that reduce their profitability, but at the same time, they are losing nutrients in hay that has already been harvested due to suboptimal conditions during storage. In the eastern United States, precipitation patterns can force producers to bale hay above moisture recommendations. Under such circumstances, preservatives need to be applied." The researchers will also isolate, identify and study hay molds across the Northeast and North Central regions to build the first library of hay molds so novel technologies can be developed to mitigate their activity. "By identifying the molds found spoiling hay, we can estimate the risk of mycotoxins being produced in hay and improve consistency and comparability of testing of efficacy of preservatives by developing a standard panel of fungi for trials at UMaine and elsewhere," says Seanna Annis, associate professor of mycology and one of the researchers on the team. Through the USDA NIFA grant, the research and extension team also aims to raise awareness on the consequences of hay spoilage and the proper utilization of preservatives to mitigate nutrient losses among alfalfa hay producers in the Northeast and North Central regions. The award started Sept. 1, 2022, and will run through Aug. 31, 2025. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

CUGR, MSGC academic year fellowships recipients announced for 2022–23

01 Dec 2022

The University of Maine Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) has announced the 2022–23 undergraduate and graduate recipients of the CUGR and Maine Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) academic year fellowships. The [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) winners are listed on the CUGR website. The CUGR Research and Creative Activities fellowships were developed to increase student involvement in faculty-supervised research and are supported through the Office of the Vice President for Research. Each fellowship provides \$1,500 per undergraduate student and \$3,000 per graduate student for the costs associated with their project. The MSGC fellowships help provide research opportunities to students in aerospace technology, space science, human exploration and space development, Earth science and other science- or engineering-related fields. The focus of proposed projects funded by the fellowships must be aligned with the research priorities of NASA's Earth and space science strategic enterprises. Undergraduate recipients receive \$1,500 for research costs and graduate student awardees receive \$3,000. To learn how to conduct research responsibly and write successful proposals, students are encouraged to sign up for the INT 125 course this spring and participate in Experiential Programs Innovation Central (EPIC). For more information visit umaine.edu/epic.

‘The Maine Question’ explores new frontiers for state’s space economy

01 Dec 2022

University of Maine research and education have ascended beyond Earth’s atmosphere since the 1990s. For example, UMaine scientists have tested the latest hypervelocity decelerators for NASA space travel and created a wireless leak detection system for the International Space Station. Through its latest inventions and studies, and scholarship and fellowship programs, UMaine plays a critical role in advancing the state’s space economy and training future leaders in the aerospace industry. But the university is far from reaching its final frontier. In recent years, UMaine researchers have been developing the state’s first small research satellite with the University of Southern Maine and three K–12 schools. The university also launched a multipronged, multidisciplinary initiative to support research and development in space science and engineering with help from non-STEM researchers. At the same time, a Maine SpacePort Complex for nanosatellite production and other research is in development. In this episode of “The Maine Question,” Ali Abedi, UMaine associate vice president for research and professor of electrical and computer engineering, and his Ph.D. student Joseph Patton discuss what new frontiers await Maine’s space economy and the university. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or “The Maine Question” [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Paquette named associate provost for academic affairs and faculty development

01 Dec 2022



[caption id="attachment_94511" align="alignright" width="223"] Gabriel Paquette[/caption] Gabriel Paquette, vice provost for academic affairs at the University of Oregon, has been named associate provost for academic affairs and faculty development at the University of Maine, effective Feb. 3. He also will be a UMaine professor of history. “Dr. Paquette’s experience as a vice provost at the University of Oregon and as a fellow in the Office of the Provost at Johns Hopkins will serve us well at UMaine,” says John Volin, executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. “We look forward to having him join us in the spring semester.” Paquette has been a member of the University of Oregon community since 2018, where he also has served as dean of the Robert D. Clark Honors College (2018–20). He is a professor of history and global studies. Prior to joining the University of Oregon, Paquette directed the Program in Latin American Studies and was a professor of history at The Johns Hopkins University. He is the author of three books, including “The European Seaborne Empires: From the Thirty Years’ War to the Age of Revolutions.” Paquette received a Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge, and an M.A. from the National University of Ireland, where he was a George J. Mitchell Scholar. “I am excited to join UMaine and thrilled to have the honor of working with an impressive faculty whose achievements as scholars and teachers both enrich the university and contribute powerfully to the State. I can’t wait to get started,” Paquette says.

Mount Desert Islander shares Lee talk

01 Dec 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) noted that Susanne Lee, faculty fellow at the University of Maine’s Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, will talk about the link at the Northeast Harbor Library on Dec. 8 at 5:30 p.m. The public can attend the talk in person or by Zoom. Register on the Northeast Harbor [website](#).

Charney speaks to BDN about solar development in Maine’s forests

01 Dec 2022

Noah Charney, assistant professor in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the Three Corners Solar Project in Kennebec County. Charney independently reviewed the project’s application documents and analyzed different online habitat maps. He said that though the development will likely disrupt the connection between wetlands and forests in the area, if he had to choose a forested site for solar development, it would be one that’s been previously logged like this one. Still, habitat mapping is more essential for larger solar farms and the state shouldn’t limit the tool to small-scale, low-impact sites. “I would think that mapping for larger sites is as important if not more important,” he said.

BDN highlights UMaine partnership with Norwegian University of Science and Technology

01 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the Norwegian government awarded UMaine and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology about \$292,000 to develop new, collaborative learning and research opportunities between both the institutions in the area of offshore wind. This four-year grant was allocated through the UTFORSK program, which is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research and administered by the Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills. Amrit Verma, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, is leading this project with a team of five other faculty members at UMaine.

Bookstore and Bear Necessities host sales in December

30 Nov 2022

On Friday, Dec. 2, University Bookstore will host its annual Holiday Sale from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. at its Memorial Union location with festive savings and light refreshments. The sale will include special markdowns, new merchandise perfect for gift giving, made-in-Maine items and technology deals from the Tech Center. Spend \$75 and get a limited-edition tumbler featuring the Maine bear logo while supplies last. On Tuesday, Dec. 13, Bear Necessities Fan Shop at Harold Alfond Sports Arena will hold its annual Tinsel Tuesday sale from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. with light refreshments, complimentary gift wrapping from M Club and once-a-year markdowns on Fan Shop gear. Shoppers also will enjoy free shipping now through Dec. 16 on all online purchases at umaine.edu/bookstore and goblackbears.com/shop. In addition, any purchase made in store and online Dec. 2–13 will be entered for a chance to win a prize basket from the two stores. Bring three nonperishable items for the Black Bear Exchange food drive to earn a 30% coupon for a regular-priced item.

Effort to recruit, retain more UMaine clinical psychology students from diverse backgrounds earns national award

01 Dec 2022

The University of Maine Clinical Psychology Doctoral Training Program has received a national award for its multifaceted effort to recruit and retain more in-state students from diverse backgrounds. The American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (APAGS) named UMaine the 2022 recipient of its Student Diversity Initiative Award, which includes \$2,500 for the recruitment and retention project. Patricia Goodhines, an assistant professor of clinical psychology, and Liv Valö, a Ph.D. student who chairs the doctoral program’s graduate student Diversity Committee, are leading the effort in collaboration with other faculty and committee members. With the award funding, the project team will provide application fee waivers to six in-state clinical psychology program candidates from rural areas, Wabanaki tribal nations or other diverse backgrounds. Existing students will be hired to provide these applicants and additional diverse prospective students mentorship in the form of facility tours, lab shadowing and review of application materials. The award also will support existing programming from the Diversity Committee, including the Stanley Sue Distinguished Diversity Lecture Series and other multicultural competency seminars and workshops for the campus community and general public. “This award will support pathways to doctoral training for historically underrepresented communities in Maine, as well as empower students to become leaders in diversifying the field of clinical psychology,” says Goodhines, who also advises the Diversity Committee. “Cultural humility and inclusion are core values of the program, and this pilot project represents a continued commitment to expanding recruitment, retainment, and leadership opportunities for trainees from diverse backgrounds.” UMaine’s nationally recognized and highly competitive Clinical Psychology Program prepares students for careers through both research and practice. As part of their training, students provide psychological services to the public through internships, practicum and the university’s Psychological Services Center, the only training clinic in the state that provides low-cost and accessible mental health services to individuals of diverse identities facing various barriers to care. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@umaine.edu

Machias Valley News Observer notes ‘Hungry Now’ premiere at UMaine Machias

02 Dec 2022

The [Machias Valley News Observer](#) shared that the documentary “Hungry Now,” which was created through a documentary filmmaking course at University of Maine at Machias, will have its regional premiere at UMaine Machias at 7 p.m. on Dec. 2.

Boston.com selects Talty’s ‘Night of the Living Rez’ as Book Club’s December read

02 Dec 2022

[Boston.com](#) selected “Night of the Living Rez” by Morgan Talty, associate professor of English at the University of Maine, as their December Book Club read.

Morning Ag Clips, BDN note UMaine grant to study alfalfa hay spoilage

02 Dec 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has awarded \$668,456 to a team of University of Maine researchers studying new ways to reduce spoilage in high-moisture hay, and how spoilage processes differ in alfalfa relative to grass hays.

BDN boosts one-woman show performance at UMaine

02 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared information about the performance of a one-woman show by Vicki Summers, a Portland actress who turned her maternal grandmother’s life story into a one-woman play, “Bella, an Immigrant’s Tale.” It will be performed for free at 7 p.m. Sunday at the Minsky Recital Hall. Derek Michaud, UMaine’s coordinator of religious and Judaic studies, noted that “the best lecturers can be a bit dry, but Vicki’s grandmother’s story will be familiar to many Jewish families.”

Wall Street Journal cites UMaine information in discussing White House lobster controversy

02 Dec 2022

In an article about the controversy ignited by President Joe Biden serving Maine lobster at his dinner with French president Emmanuel Macron, the [Wall Street Journal](#) cited information from the University of Maine Lobster Institute that said the Maine lobster industry employs more than 10,000 lobstermen, with an economic impact as high as \$4 billion.

Gallandt speaks to BDN about climate change and weed management

02 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Eric Gallandt, professor of weed ecology at the University of Maine, about how climate change will impact weed management for growers in Maine. “Organic farming and ecological weed control is an interesting mix. On the one hand you are seeing these periods of wet conditions hitting when you need to [weed] and on the other hand it’s too dry and you need to be thinking about irrigation...We need to be thinking about weeding tools or strategies that are more robust. If you are going to cultivate or hoe weeds, the odds of being able to nail the timing to get out there are smaller and smaller,” Gallandt told the BDN.

UMaine TIDC recognizes students from member universities

02 Dec 2022

The University of Maine’s Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center (TIDC) recognized 28 students from their six member universities at the Annual TIDC Student Recognition Night virtually on Nov. 30, 2022, at 5 p.m. The event highlighted the accomplishments and contributions of their students from the past year, including an award ceremony that recognizes the winners of the Student of the Year and the Student Poster Contest. The University of Maine’s Jhan Kevin Gil-Marin won first place in the 2022 Student Poster Contest with his poster “Examining the impact of rumble strip installation in prevention of lane departure crashes in Maine,” and Felipe Saavedra tied for third place with his poster “Durability of Large-Scale 3D Printed Materials for Transportation Infrastructure.” Read more on the UMaine TIDC [website](#).

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Dec. 5

05 Dec 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update:

- In support of the last days of classes and finals week, excavation work at the construction site of Holmes and Coburn halls, and roof work at D.P. Corbett Business Building will pause from Dec. 6–16.
- Roadway pothole patching continues on days of unseasonable weather.
- Advanced Manufacturing Center roof and louver repair work is underway.
- Replacement of Alford Arena's northeast steps begins Dec. 12.
- Shibles Hall elevator repairs are scheduled to begin Dec. 19, with an anticipated completion date of Dec. 22.
- Masonry repairs are being scheduled for Aubert Hall's roof parapet walls.

UMaine senior awarded IEEE scholarship for electrical engineering

05 Dec 2022

Ben Brooks, a University of Maine senior from Monmouth, Maine, majoring in electrical engineering technology with a concentration in power engineering, has received one of 75 scholarships awarded to undergraduate students nationwide from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). According to their website, the IEEE Power & Energy Society awards the scholarship to undergraduate students majoring in electrical engineering who are high achievers with strong GPAs and distinctive extracurricular commitments who are committed to exploring the power and energy field. Additionally, scholarship recipients become members of the IEEE, which helps to connect electrical engineers with the mission of "advancing technology for the benefit of humanity.” Brooks plans to graduate from UMaine this spring 2023, and will use the \$2,000 scholarship to help pay for his final semester. He says the electrical engineering technology faculty have been formative to his success as an engineer at UMaine, particularly associate professors John Allen and Paul Villeneuve, and professor Jude Pearse. “The faculty is extremely knowledgeable and truly cares and wants you to succeed,” Brooks said. Brooks’ senior design project is creating a simulated hydroelectric generator facility, using a small scale hydro-electric generator to charge a 12V battery bank, with the voltage from the generator being measured and displayed on a screen. The DC voltage from the battery bank will be inverted to AC voltage to power a small water pump. Aside from engineering, Brooks enjoys spending time outdoors, playing basketball and attending UMaine football and hockey games.

Ellsworth American shares UMaine Extension wreath making tutorial

05 Dec 2022

In a column about wreath making in Maine, the [Ellsworth American](#) cited an online [tutorial](#) from University of Maine Cooperative Extension about making fir wreaths.

BDN reports on UMaine Clinical Psychology Doctoral Training Program diversity award

05 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that the University of Maine Clinical Psychology Doctoral Training Program has received a national award for its multifaceted effort to recruit and retain more in-state students from diverse backgrounds. The American Psychological Association of Graduate Students named UMaine the 2022 recipient of its Student Diversity Initiative Award, which includes \$2,500 for the recruitment and retention project. Patricia Goodhines, an assistant professor of clinical psychology, and Liv Valö, a Ph.D. student who chairs the doctoral program’s graduate student Diversity Committee, are leading the effort in collaboration with other faculty and committee members.

House Digest cites UMaine Extension information about tussock caterpillars

05 Dec 2022

In an article about tussock caterpillars, [House Digest](#) cited information from University of Maine Cooperative Extension that notes tussock caterpillars are not poisonous or venomous. Their prickly hairs can cause rashes on the skin, and children are more likely to develop the rash than adults. You can wash the hairs away with soap and water, and use tape or a pair of fine tweezers for embedded hairs.

Grunge notes UMaine Extension information about guinea fowl and ticks

05 Dec 2022

In an article about what would happen if ticks disappeared from the planet, [Grunge](#) cited a [bulletin](#) from University of Maine Cooperative Extension noting that guinea fowl can be used to manage tick populations.

WABI reports on Witter Wonderland

05 Dec 2022

[WABI](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine’s Witter Teaching and Research Center hosted its Witter Wonderland event on Sunday. The University of Maine Drill Team and Maine Animal Club invited the public to celebrate the holiday season. “It’s really good to see the kids having a good time. We’ve had Bananas at this event so it’s funny to see the kids interact with him but also get to see the horses,” said Maine Animal Club President Danielle Harmon.

Fernandez speaks to Maine Public about the importance of soil

05 Dec 2022

Ivan Fernandez, professor at the University of Maine School of Forest Resources and Climate Change Institute, was a panelist on [Maine Public](#)’s show Maine Calling about the importance of soil in human lives and for the planet.

UMaine receives award from Governor’s Energy Office to launch new programs and courses on offshore wind

05 Dec 2022

University of Maine faculty will help meet the workforce demand of the offshore wind industry by offering students more training for future careers with new courses, micro-credentials and an undergraduate concentration in offshore wind energy, made possible with a \$266,669 award from the Governor’s Energy Office’s Clean Energy Partnership program. The initiative, OffshoreWind4Maine, led by Amrit Verma, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, will offer hands-on curricula that will give high school and UMaine students and working professionals knowledge and skills in this growing industry. These new offerings are expected to benefit more than 300 undergraduate and graduate students in a single year and continue to establish Maine as a global leader in offshore wind research and workforce development. OffshoreWind4Maine integrates with Maine’s goals for the production of floating offshore wind energy in the Gulf of Maine to address local energy needs, reducing impacts on the climate and creating economic opportunity through Maine-based manufacturing, operations and maintenance of floating turbines. The state’s strategy is detailed as part of the [Maine Offshore Wind Initiative](#), and the development strategy under way as part of the [Maine Offshore Wind Road Map](#). The road map team recently completed the [2022 Maine offshore Wind Talent Analysis](#), which informs and supports the creation of the OffshoreWind4Maine initiative. [The federal government](#) seeks to support the creation of 77,000 jobs in offshore wind energy as part of its effort to install 30 gigawatts by 2030 and 110 gigawatts by 2050, which would include 15 gigawatts of floating offshore wind energy by 2035. Verma says employers struggle to find workers in the U.S. with the necessary skills, prompting them to recruit talent from elsewhere. At the same time, the number of UMaine students interested in studying offshore wind energy is growing, with the graduate-level concentration in it being one of the most popular offered by the Department of Mechanical Engineering, he says. These new programs and curricula will not only meet student demand, but also bolster Maine’s offshore wind workforce and support the state’s effort to become carbon neutral by 2045, says Verma. Their implementation is a joint effort between the Department of Mechanical Engineering, the UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) and the School of Marine Sciences. The award also will provide opportunities for curriculum development for Maine high school students through the [Windstorm Challenge](#), an engineering design competition for Maine middle and high school students to design a floating offshore wind hull and test it at the ASCC. The Windstorm Challenge, which will be held May 12, 2023, is free for all students and will highlight the unique opportunities for research and training in offshore wind energy at UMaine. Other UMaine faculty and staff involved in the project include Richard Kimball, Presidential Professor in Ocean Engineering and Energy; Andrew Goupee, Donald A. Grant Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering; Damian Brady, Agatha B. Darling Associate Professor of Oceanography; Rebecca Fisher, a program manager with the ASCC; Taylor Ward, communications manager at ASCC; Matthew Tomasko, offshore wind business manager at ASCC and Wilhelm Friess, an associate professor of mechanical engineering. “There are so many exciting opportunities in the offshore wind industry. Thanks to our insightful faculty and the generous support of the Governor’s Energy Office, the University of Maine is helping more students follow their passions, aiding workforce development and preparing future leaders in this field,” says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “This initiative is also another example of our commitment as a top-tier, R1 university to providing meaningful learning opportunities in the latest research and serving the people of Maine and beyond.” New micro-credentials created through this effort will include offshore wind model testing, lab instrumentation, protected species observing and remotely operated vehicle utilization. Verma says they will provide students with certifications in skills suited for specialized areas of the offshore wind industry, research and development and environmental impacts analysis, which will help them earn jobs or promotions. The new courses include a graduate-level Wind Energy Engineering course, an Offshore Wind Farm Engineering course for undergraduate and graduate students, a Marine Operations class about

building and installing offshore wind technology and the interdisciplinary course Offshore Wind Energy Stakeholder Challenges. With these new classes and existing ones, the Department of Mechanical Engineering will be able to create an undergraduate concentration in offshore wind energy, complementing the one currently available for graduate students. Verma says the new concentration will help undergraduate students secure careers in offshore wind. “We are leading offshore wind efforts in the U.S. with our floating concrete VoltturnUS hull technology,” Verma says. “As a result of our cutting-edge research, we have made several advances in the field of offshore wind. As part of this project, ‘OffshoreWind4Maine,’ we will take advantage of our several years of experience in this area to train students at the university and provide them with essential employability skills relevant to offshore wind. In addition to fulfilling domestic demand, the training programs and courses will make Maine's students more competitive internationally. Also, these efforts will uniquely position UMaine and the state of Maine to attract offshore wind students from around the world.” “Micro-credentials provide students with the opportunity to apply academic knowledge and build employability skills in an authentic work environment,” Fisher says. “Through work and research experiences at the ASCC, students earning micro-credentials in Offshore Wind Energy will gain competency in specialized technical skills as well as essential career skills needed to contribute to this growing field.” UMaine has become a leader in the research and development of floating offshore wind energy technology over the years with innovations like the VoltturnUS technology, which has more than 70 patents. ASCC faculty, led by founding director Habib Dagher, [have partnered with New England Aqua Ventus LLC](#) — a joint venture between Diamond Offshore Wind, a subsidiary of the Mitsubishi Corporation, and RWE Renewables — to develop an 11-megawatt demonstration project using the center’s floating platform technology. Verma says his initiative will complement the project and the state’s effort to develop a 150-megawatt floating offshore wind research array, which also will use the Composite Center’s technology. In Maine, offshore wind energy represents the largest untapped natural energy resource, with more than 156 gigawatts, or 156,000 megawatts, of clean power off the coast from the Gulf of Maine’s high-quality offshore wind resource. Mainers currently use 2.4 gigawatts of electricity each year and New England population centers with high electrical demand are nearby. Tapping this renewable resource could provide significant, locally produced energy for Maine and the region. Maine has the deepest waters near its shores, approximately 200 feet deep at three nautical miles, and 89% of Maine’s 156 gigawatts offshore wind resource is in deep waters. The state also offers extensive maritime industry infrastructure and proximity to one of the largest energy markets in the country. “More than 14 years ago, the University of Maine’s ASCC launched a floating offshore wind research program to address high gasoline and heating oil costs, create jobs and protect the environment. We’ve since built an offshore wind program that has launched the first grid-connected US offshore wind turbine in 2013, the 1:8 scale VoltturnUS floating hull off Castine, Maine. Today, this program houses one the largest floating offshore wind research and engineering teams in the world,” says Habib Dagher, founding director of the Composites Center. “This state-funded workforce training initiative is possible because of the research and design expertise gained over the past 14 years. Through this workforce initiative, we continue our drive to make responsibly-sited offshore wind a reality, creating clean energy Maine jobs, while protecting our traditional fishing industry. The program will provide a pathway for our students to become tomorrow’s leaders.” [Gov. Janet Mills announced this award](#) and eight other clean energy workforce grants, totaling \$2.5 million, on Dec. 1. The Clean Energy Partnership, which supports the development of good-paying clean energy and energy efficiency jobs, is funded by her Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan. The Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan is Gov. Mills’ roadmap, approved by the Legislature, to invest nearly \$1 billion in Federal American Rescue Plan funds to improve the lives of Maine people and families, help businesses, create good-paying jobs and build an economy poised for future prosperity. For more about Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, visit maine.gov/jobsplan. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Maine Business School students to host sport management summit

06 Dec 2022

From 1-6 p.m. on Dec. 7, the fall 2022 Facility and Event Management Class (MGT 490) class will host the Inaugural Maine Sport Business Summit in Corbett Business Building, Devino Auditorium, Room 100. The Maine Sport Business Summit is a first annual event in the Maine Business School featuring panels of sport business leaders from throughout the country. This year's topics include sport marketing, early career in sport management, and a keynote panel focused on 50 years of Title IX and women in sport. This special event will be free and open to the public. The event starts with a networking hour in the atrium, followed by three panel discussions. Attendees will also be entered to win prize bags and gift cards from event supporters. Snacks and light refreshments will be provided. For more information and to register, visit the Maine Business School [website](#).

Media share UMaine senior’s engineering scholarship

06 Dec 2022

[The Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [Turner Publishing Incorporated](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Ben Brooks, a University of Maine senior from Monmouth majoring in electrical engineering technology with a concentration in power engineering, is one of 75 students in the U.S. to be awarded an Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers scholarship. Brooks plans to graduate from UMaine this spring.

Sun Journal, CentralMaine.com promote USDA working group meeting at UMaine Extension office

06 Dec 2022

The [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared that the Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District (OCSWCD) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will hold a public meeting of the Oxford County USDA Local Working Group on Dec. 14, 10 a.m. at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Oxford County Office.

Media note UMaine award from Governor’s Energy Office for new offshore wind programs

06 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [MaineBiz](#), [Engineering News-Record: New England](#) and [WABI-TV](#) (Channel 5) reported that the Governor’s Energy Office’s Clean Energy Partnership program awarded the University of Maine \$266,669 for OffshoreWind4Maine, an initiative led by Amrit Verma, assistant professor of mechanical engineering. The program will offer hands-on curricula that will give high school and UMaine students, and working professionals knowledge and skills in this growing industry. [Energy Central](#) shared the MaineBiz report. [KWCH-TV](#) (Channel 12 in Wichita, Kan.) shared the WABI report.

Cal Matters speaks to Dagher about offshore wind

06 Dec 2022

In an article about the first-ever auction of offshore wind leases in California, [Cal Matters](#) spoke to Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center. “There’s a lot of opportunities, but there’s also some challenges. California has deeper waters than any other areas with these floating turbines so far in the world. How do you protect the environment, protect local stakeholders, protect the fisheries, protect indigenous communities, while also speeding up permitting so we make a difference with global climate change?” Dagher said. [LAist](#), [Press Democrat](#), [Lookout Santa Cruz](#), [North Coast Journal](#), [Lost Coast Outpost](#), [North Bay Business Journal](#), [Piedmont Exedra](#), [Jefferson Public Radio](#), [San Francisco Standard](#), [KCBX-FM](#) (San Luis Obispo, California), [KFMB-TV](#) (San Diego, California) and [KXTV-TV](#) (Sacramento, California) shared the Cal Matters report. [EcoWatch](#) and the [North Coast Journal](#) cited the Cal Matters report.

AP, Washington Post cite information from UMaine Climate Reanalyzer

06 Dec 2022

In an article about the warming Arctic regions of Alaska, the [Associated Press](#) and [Washington Post](#) cited information from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer that showed last Sunday, the Arctic as a whole averaged 11.5 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than the 1979-2000 average temperature. The following Monday, Climate Reanalyzer’s computer models showed that average to likely be 10.5 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than normal. The [Seattle Times](#), [Fox News](#), [CBC](#), [U.S. News and World Report](#), the [Independent](#), [Yahoo News](#), [SFGate](#), [Houston Chronicle](#), [Arizona Daily Sun](#), [CT Insider](#), [Morgantown News Herald](#), [Anchorage Daily News](#), [Ketchikan Daily News](#), [North Platte Telegraph](#), [KIRO-TV](#) (Seattle, Washington), [WATE-TV](#) (Knoxville, Tennessee), [WOKV-FM](#) (Jacksonville, Florida), [KOKI-TV](#) (Tulsa, Oklahoma), [WFMZ-TV](#) (Allentown, Pennsylvania) and other outlets shared the Associated Press report. [AccuWeather](#) cited the AP report.

New liquid-coated air filters can improve early detection, analysis of airborne pathogens

06 Dec 2022

Researchers from the University of Maine and University of Massachusetts Amherst have designed new liquid-coated air filters that allow for improved early detection and analysis of airborne bacteria and viruses, including the one that causes COVID-19. While conventional air filters help control the spread of disease in public spaces like hospitals and travel hubs, they struggle to keep the pathogens they capture viable for testing. The inefficiency can inhibit scientists’ ability to identify biological threats early on, which could hinder any response and protection measures. The research team, led by Caitlin Howell, a UMaine associate professor of biomedical engineering, developed a composite membrane with a liquid layer for filters that is better suited for capturing viable bacterial and viral samples for analysis. They modeled the membrane after the Nepenthes pitcher plant, which has a slippery rim and inner walls that cause insects to fall and become trapped within its digestive fluid. By keeping the bacteria and viruses they capture feasible for examination, researchers say their novel liquid-coated air filters can enhance air sampling efforts, early pathogen detection and biosurveillance for national security. “I think for our patients and ourselves as caregivers, this technology will give us the confidence we are safer in performing care,” says Dr. Robert Bowie, medical director of the Down East Emergency Medical Institute. “Knowing we have improved safety makes it easier to leave our loved ones and go to work caring for others.” The group of researchers developed multiple types of filters that contained their liquid-coated membrane technology, and tested their ability to preserve and release E. coli bacteria; SARS-COV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19; and JC polyomavirus, which attacks the central nervous system. They specifically found that more airborne pathogens were captured by high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters with their liquid-coated membrane than those without. The team published their findings in the journal [ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces](#). “During the early stages of the pandemic we were watching in real time how many problems were being caused by no one knowing where the airborne virus was and where it wasn’t. We had a system that could start to address that need, so it was our responsibility to step up and help out,” Howell says. The project was a significant interdisciplinary effort across the fields of biomedical engineering, chemical engineering and microbiology. The UMaine biomedical engineering team included first author and Susan J. Hunter Presidential Award winner [Daniel Regan](#), Graduate School of Biomedical Science, Engineering (GSBSE) Ph.D. student Chun Ki Fong and former master’s student Justin Hardcastle. The microbiology team, led by associate professor Melissa Maginnis, included Avery Bond, a Ph.D. student in molecular and biomedical sciences, and Claudia Desjardins, then a university laboratory assistant in wastewater analysis. The chemical engineering team, based at UMass Amherst, consisted of professor Jessica Schiffman and Ph.D. student Shao-Hsiang Hung. The team was joined by Andrew Holmes, a biocontainment research scientist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Regan first pitched the initial concept for liquid-coated air filters to capture bacteria-containing aerosols to his dissertation committee in March of 2019, based on conversations with military researchers and concerns for detecting potential contamination during medical evacuations. He also featured it in a presentation for the 2020 UMaine Student Symposium titled “Optimizing Liquid-Gated Membranes for Bioaerosol Capture and Release, which earned him the Dr. Susan J. Hunter Presidential Research Impact Award. The concept was further developed and refined when Howell, Maginnis, Schiffman, and Holmes realized that this could also apply to virus-containing aerosols in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic and applied for funding from the National Science Foundation. In 2020, the project was awarded a [\\$225,000 NSF EAGER award](#) — an early concept grant that supports “untested, but potentially transformative research ideas or approaches.” “COVID-19 has been a constant reminder of the important role biosurveillance capabilities provide for decision makers to have detailed information for reducing biological risks” says Regan, now a fellow at the Janne E. Nolan Center on Strategic Weapons, an institute of the Council on Strategic Risks in Washington, D.C. “In the last year alone, the world has experienced high-consequence pathogens including an outbreak of monkeypox (or mpox), a resurgence of Ebola Sudan and high case numbers of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection (RSV). The need for pathogen early warning could not be greater, and it is our hope that further investment in liquid-coated air filters can help advance biosurveillance capabilities for aerosol detection.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Ellsworth American highlights Comins talk

07 Dec 2022

The [Ellsworth American](#) shared information about a talk by Neil Comins, professor of physics at the University of Maine, at the Wilson Museum titled “Solar System Origins: When and Where the Solar System Came From” on Dec. 15, from 3–4 p.m. To receive the Zoom link, email Haley at education@wilsonmuseum.org with the subject line “Solar System Origins.”

Media report on UMaine liquid-coated air filter design

07 Dec 2022

[News Center Maine](#), [WFVX-TV](#) (Fox 22/ABC 7 in Bangor), [the Mirage](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Public News Time](#), [News Medical](#) and other outlets reported that

researchers at the University of Maine and University of Massachusetts Amherst have designed new liquid-coated air filters that allow for improved early detection and analysis of airborne bacteria and viruses, including the one that causes COVID-19. "HEPA filters are really good at what they do. They can clear out virus, they can clear out bacteria. What they can't do is give you the ability to then collect what was on the surface of the filter and test it to see if it is dangerous. That's our invention," University of Maine associate professor Caitlin Howell, who led the study, told News Center Maine.

HowStuffWorks features UMaine research in article about agrovoltaics

07 Dec 2022

In an explainer on agrovoltaics, or adding solar energy developments to agricultural lands, [HowStuffWorks](#) noted that one of the largest agrivoltaics sites in the U.S. is a blueberry farm in Rockport, Maine. Researchers from University of Maine Cooperative Extension are evaluating the impact of the installation and will also see how the crops fare under the solar array.

Maine Public features Grant as VIP caller on program about resilience

07 Dec 2022

Kristen Grant, senior Extension program manager for coastal community resilience, and diversity, equity and inclusion at the Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension at the Wells Reserve, was a VIP caller on [Maine Public](#)'s show Maine Calling for the final program in a series about resilience.

Brewer speaks to WABI about Georgia runoff election

07 Dec 2022

Mark Brewer spoke to [WABI-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) about the runoff election for Georgia's senate seat between incumbent Raphael Warnock and Herschel Walker. [WSAZ-TV](#) (Huntington, West Virginia), [KWCH-TV](#) (Hutchinson, Kansas), [WBRC-TV](#) (Birmingham, Alabama) and [WLOX-TV](#) (Biloxi, Mississippi) shared the WABI report.

Portland Phoenix notes UMaine offshore wind development

07 Dec 2022

In an article about offshore wind development in the Gulf of Maine, the [Portland Phoenix](#) noted that the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center has been designing its own floating turbine for over a decade. ASCC Founding Executive Director Habib Dagher told the Portland Phoenix that the goal of a 2024 launch of a turbine is still on schedule.

Socolow writes for Slate about 'Oh, Yeah?' button

07 Dec 2022

Michael Socolow, associate professor at the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, wrote an article for [Slate](#) about Tim Berners-Lee, the inventor of the internet, proposing that every browser be equipped with what he called the "Oh, Yeah?" button to ask the browser for more credentials from a website in order to build trust. "The 'Oh, Yeah?' button represented an early warning that we'd all need to be more skeptical in cyberspace in the future...Had it come to pass, so many ills that plague the web and social media today—think: 'fake news' accusations, disinformation campaigns, and catfishing—could have been addressed from the start," Socolow wrote.

Calderwood featured on NBC Boston discussing climate change impacts on wild blueberry industry

07 Dec 2022

Lily Calderwood, Extension wild blueberry specialist and assistant professor of horticulture at the University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture, spoke to [NBC Boston](#) about the impact of climate change on Maine's wild blueberry industry. Calderwood said that climate change related impacts like seasonal drought and spring frost events during bloom can negatively affect wild blueberry crops, and cited how University of Maine researchers soil moisture management to mitigate these impacts

Accelerated UMaine program helping state employees earn special education teaching credentials

07 Dec 2022

Maine will soon have more qualified teachers to serve the state's youngest residents with special needs thanks to a partnership between the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development and Maine Child Development Services (CDS). The Maine CDS system, which is part of the Maine Department of Education, operates nine regional sites that offer preschool services for children and families across the state. The partnership allows CDS employees to become certified as teachers of students with disabilities, birth to age 5, in just nine months. The fast-track program is designed to speed up the certification process for these educators, who would otherwise need to complete a four-year undergraduate or two-year graduate degree to earn special education teaching credentials. Maine DOE is covering tuition for employees, who will receive access to additional resources and mentoring during and after the program as well. Sarah Meuse works as an individualized education program coordinator at CDS Reach in Portland and is part of the first cohort of 13 CDS employees to join the accelerated program. She was already thinking about going back to school to earn her certification in early childhood special education, but says she was wary about taking out loans to do so. "The program was offered to me by CDS, and it's free, with the condition that you continue to work with children who have special needs after completion," says Meuse. "That has been my plan, so it was really a perfect opportunity for me." Like many states, Maine faces a [shortage](#) of qualified special education teachers at all levels, not just early childhood. Although the issue predates COVID-19, it's grown since the pandemic as record numbers of educators, both nationally and statewide, have retired or left teaching for other careers. Once she completes

the certification program, Meuse says she hopes to continue to take courses and complete a master's in special education with an early intervention concentration. She says the classes she's taken this semester are directly related to her current job and already have provided her with tools and knowledge that she can use to help serve the children, families and fellow educators with whom she works on a daily basis. She says the mentoring aspect of the program has been especially valuable. "It gives me a point of contact when I have questions or concerns," she says. "The mentors provide us with information about the courses outside the certification track and keep us up-to-date on certification requirements from Maine DOE, which can be confusing to navigate without support." Mentors include Deborah Rooks-Ellis, former coordinator of graduate programs in special education at the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, and longtime leaders at CDS and Maine DOE. The mentors hold monthly Community of Practice meetings, where the employees can learn about additional resources for professional growth, as well as information on topics such as anti-bias education, inclusive classrooms and advocacy opportunities. Rooks-Ellis recruited the first cohort of CDS employees to the program before she left UMaine for Coastal Carolina University at the beginning of the 2022–23 school year. She remains involved in the project, and Shihfen Tu, director of the School of Learning and Teaching in the College of Education and Human Development, says the program will continue. "When you have complex challenges, like the shortage of certified special education teachers, you have to get creative," says Tu. "We're proud to work with the state to help their workers earn certification and gain the knowledge, skills and values necessary to provide differentiated, evidence-based instruction to Maine's youngest and most vulnerable students." Research shows that educational and social outcomes for students with special needs improve when they receive early intervention services like those the CDS employees are learning to provide in the accelerated program. Likewise, teachers who are well-prepared are more satisfied and have longer careers than those who receive less training. Erin Frazier, state director of special services and inclusive education birth–22 with Maine DOE, says helping CDS employees earn certification will make the system stronger. "We developed this collaboration between the Maine Department of Education and the University of Maine because it's important to invest in the dedicated CDS staff to support their continued professional development as they work diligently to provide preschool services in Maine," Frazier says. The first cohort is expected to be complete by May 2023 with additional cohorts set to begin each fall moving forward. Contact: Casey Kelly, casey.kelly@maine.edu

New research shows 'empowering' advertisements fall short in cognitive tests

08 Dec 2022

Advertisements with themes of female empowerment have become more popular in recent years with companies that sell everything from cosmetics to cars. A new study published by a University of Maine professor shows that while these advertisements are perceived as empowering by the women who viewed them, they do not lead to subjects thinking more about empowerment when put to the test. True empowerment gives individuals the perception that they have some control over their life's outcomes, and has been empirically linked with positive health impacts like greater community engagement, reduced burnout in the workplace and improved overall well-being. While there is ample information about the harmful effects of objectification in women's media, there is little evidence to speak to the potentially beneficial effects of empowering messages. The fact that these messages of empowerment are being used in advertisements for companies that have long profited off of women's insecurities, like cosmetics companies, also calls their impact into question. "Empowerment-themed advertisements are popular among female consumers, and for good reason," says Amelia Couture Bue, assistant professor of media studies in the Department of Communication and Journalism at UMaine. "For many consumers, they represent a refreshing departure from the traditionally objectifying campaigns that women have voiced frustration with for decades. But while it's easy to let our guard down, the presence of empowering narratives doesn't negate the fact that many of these advertisements still contain images and other message themes that we know from prior research to be problematic. Testing whether or not these empowerment-themed advertisements succeed in making women feel empowered is an important step toward encouraging companies to invest resources in creating messages that succeed beyond a nominal level." While pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of Michigan, Couture Bue led a study along with Sonya Dal Cin and Kristen Harrison at the University of Michigan Department of Communication and Media investigating whether empowerment-themed advertisements primed women to think more about empowerment. The researchers recruited 273 women ages 18 to 35 to view advertisements with high and low levels of objectification and empowerment. For example, beauty advertisements that included empowerment messages but also fixated on conventionally beautiful models' physical features, like those from Covergirl, Pantene and Under Armor, were considered high in both objectification and empowerment; advertisements without empowering messages that still focused on models' appearance were high in objectification and low in empowerment. Meanwhile, advertisements that had empowerment-themed messages and showed women performing a range of activities, including sports, without focusing on their appearance were considered high in empowerment and low in objectification. Those that neither mentioned empowerment nor focused on women's physical beauty — think commercials for Apple, Geico, Allstate and Microsoft — were designated as low on both metrics. After viewing their randomly assigned advertisement, women were asked about their perceived feelings of empowerment. Then, they were asked to perform lexical decision tasks — a standard psychological method of quickly distinguishing between words and non-words in order to measure schema activation, which shows whether complex topics have been activated or stimulated in the brain — containing empowerment and objectification themed words. "Self-reporting our emotional experiences can be difficult, especially when we're experiencing mixed affect or seemingly conflicting emotions. While self-reports of emotion provide valuable data, implicit measures like the lexical decision task we used in this study help us understand what participants are experiencing at a more subconscious level," Couture Bue says. "Measuring empowerment and objectification simultaneously through the lexical decision task also allowed us to make a more direct comparison than explicit measures would." The results showed that women reported greater perceived empowerment after viewing advertisements that had those messages, even if the advertisements also included physical objectification. However, women also reported more awareness of their appearance for all high objectification advertisements, regardless of whether they had themes of empowerment. In contrast, the results from the lexical decision tasks showed that empowerment-themed advertisements are no more effective in activating empowerment schemas for the subjects than traditional advertisements. However, the study did find that objectifying traditional advertisements — that is, those beauty ads with high levels of objectification and no messages of empowerment — slowed participants' responses to words across all categories, supporting the idea that self-objectification is cognitively taxing. "We expected to find a simple relationship where the images in these advertisements primed objectification schemas, and experiencing self-objectification, in turn, explained why women didn't report feeling empowered after seeing these types of advertisements in other studies — but this wasn't what we found," Couture Bue says. "At least on an implicit level, participants who showed greater activation of empowerment schemas often showed greater activation of objectification schemas too. This finding suggests that objectification may not be the only thing limiting the effectiveness of these advertisements. It also suggests that mental models of empowerment and objectification may not be as oppositional as we initially thought. I think this finding is indicative of how closely linked feelings of attractiveness and empowerment are for many women within Western cultures and how far we have to go in understanding media and empowerment." The [study](#), published November 2022 in the journal *Media Psychology*, reinforced the idea that the relationship between empowerment and objectification in media is complex, but it will take more than feminist messaging in a shampoo commercial to create real change. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Liza White: Engineering new applications for paper mill products

08 Dec 2022

Growing up in Rumford, Maine, Liza White learned the extent to which paper manufacturers contribute to the rural economies in which they operate. Residents would regularly say “paper is money” in relation to the mill’s importance; they would celebrate its successes and shudder when it struggled. Changes in global demand have brought both economic uncertainty and opportunity to Maine’s pulp and paper industry. Now as a University of Maine Ph.D. student in biomedical engineering, White is investigating new uses for these companies’ products, which may open new markets and support places like her hometown. In collaboration with UMaine biomedical engineering associate professor Caitlin Howell, White leads multiple studies into possible biomedical applications for products manufactured by Sappi North America, which own and operate the Somerset Mill in Skowhegan, Maine and the Westbrook Mill in Westbrook, Maine. “It’s nice to be able to explore using paper in different ways than we’ve always thought of,” says White, who also is a student in the Graduate School of Biomedical Science and Engineering. “As we’re moving more toward digital, there’s more stress for paper companies. Being able to explore different avenues in which we can use traditional, well-established methods for other things really is compelling to me.” White’s primary research with Sappi involves determining whether the film that it manufactures for imprinting texture patterns onto textiles can be used for water quality testing. She and Howell are working collaboratively with machine learning and water quality assessment expert Amy Mueller, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at Northeastern University, as well as her Ph.D. student Albert Navato. The project is supported by a [joint seed grant from UMaine and Northeastern](#). The clear film can diffract a direct source of light, which then takes the form of a rainbow. White theorizes that when contaminated water droplets interact with the film, the rainbow would change in various ways, such as in color concentration and intensity. Exactly how the rainbow transforms would be determined by the specific contaminants, she says. The extent of contamination and specific pollutants could then be identified by taking and examining photographs of the rainbow spectra. If successful, this process could reduce the cost and time for water testing by allowing municipalities, government agencies and other organizations to perform it in-house, instead of sending samples to a lab. White says she hopes to eventually develop sensor technology and artificial intelligence that could eliminate the need for sample collection all together by testing the water on-site, analyzing it and sharing results with users. Using a seed grant from NASA through the Maine Space Grant Consortium, White also is studying how this application could be used for hydroponics and growing plants in space. “This technology itself has multiple applications, and we’re just really exploring how this texture interacts with different contaminants in different ways to actually see what the end application could really be. Because there are a lot of different ways we could go with this,” White says. White has been studying at UMaine since 2017. As an undergraduate majoring in biomedical engineering, she didn’t know exactly what to study until she listened to a guest presentation by Howell about her research in an introductory biomedical engineering course taught by Michael Mason that year. At that moment, White knew she wanted to pursue a biomedical engineering degree and work in Howell’s lab. Since 2018, White has worked on several projects. She collected data for an initiative to improve sample handling and manipulation using folded paper with liquid-infused polymer surfaces. As a graduate student, she worked on a project to develop a novel [microfluidic water purification system](#), which also involved Sappi. It was Howell who motivated her to pursue a master’s degree at first, then convinced her to switch to a Ph.D. program. As another researcher from a small town in Maine, White says Howell inspires her to work hard in her research and shows her what she is capable of achieving. “All of Dr. Howell’s projects, I feel, are really interesting,” White says. “I don’t think there’s a project that she does that I don’t love.” When she isn’t conducting research, White works as a per diem emergency medical technician for Northern Light Medical Transport and Emergency Care and volunteers with the University Volunteer Ambulance Corps. During her undergraduate studies, she joined the Phi Mu sorority and served as its president for one year, and played intramural sports. Throughout much of her collegiate career, White has also worked with the Maine College Circle, an organization that encourages and helps youth from rural communities pursue higher education, including sharing her experiences with secondary students in Rumford. “I am going to visit my hometown in January to talk to some middle school students about STEM, and specifically to show them that paper can be used in other ways. The hope is to inspire students to want to explore STEM more” White says. “In rural Maine, not a lot of students get pushed to go to college. They don’t always see a need for it. I want to show them that it is possible, and that their parents don’t need to make a bunch of money to go to college.” After she earns her Ph.D. in 2025, White says she hopes to work in industry-related research and development. “I’m very open to most opportunities,” she says. “All I care about is that what I’m doing makes people’s lives better.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Laatsch speaks to Maine Science Podcast about astronomy

08 Dec 2022

Shawn Laatsch, director of the [Versant Power Astronomy Center](#) at the University of Maine, was featured on the Maine Science Podcast’s latest [episode](#). Laatsch discussed his dedication to the public understanding of astronomy and his work throughout the United States and Europe. The conversation was recorded in October 2022. The [podcast](#), a production of the Maine Science Festival, has featured other experts from the UMaine community in previous episodes.

New agriculture-focused calendar features original artwork by Maine-based artists

08 Dec 2022

The Maine Agricultural Mediation Program (MAMP) has released its 2023 wall calendar featuring original artwork by Maine-based artists. MAMP is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Mediation Program and is managed locally by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The 2023 calendar, which features a farm and food system-inspired image each month, has a wire binding and measures 8.5 x 11 inches. Copies can be [purchased on Extension’s website](#) for \$6.50, which includes shipping. MAMP supports farmers and families in discussions surrounding priorities, goals and decision-making as it relates to changes in the future of the farm, immediate markets and relationships with lenders. Mediation is voluntary and confidential. It can help resolve conflict around topics that include agricultural loans, conservation programs, wetland determinations, pesticides, family farm transition, lease issues, neighbor disputes and worker/employer disagreements. [Visit the program website](#) to learn more about agricultural mediation at UMaine Extension.

BDN, Zipe Education report on UMaine program to earn special education teaching credentials

08 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Zipe Education](#) reported on a partnership between the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development and Maine Child Development Services (CDS) that allows CDS employees to become certified as teachers of students with disabilities, birth to age 5, in just nine months. The fast-track program is designed to speed up the certification process for these educators, who would otherwise need to complete a four-year undergraduate or two-year graduate degree to earn special education teaching credentials.

BDN shares UMaine Roeder induction to Phi Kappa Phi honor society

08 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that Mackenzie Roeder, Ph.D. student at the University of Maine, was recently initiated into Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Roeder is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Graduate students in the top 10% of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

The Nature Conservancy features Njuguna research

08 Dec 2022

The [Nature Conservancy](#) highlighted the research of Edwin Njuguna, Ph.D. student in the University of Maine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology. Njuguna is using Kenya Bird Map Project data to develop the biological condition gradient for the Upper Tana River — the first use of the method outside the U.S. and the first using birds. “As an environmental studies student I went to the museum (in Nairobi) to learn about birds and I never left. Now it’s birds, birds, birds everywhere I go!” Njuguna said.

Brickman consults for Global Forum of Innovation in Health Professional Education

08 Dec 2022

Lily Brickman, a graduate student of food science and human nutrition at the University of Maine and a former Gerontological Workforce Enhancement Program graduate assistant, served as a student consultant to the Global Forum of Innovation in Health Professional Education convened by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. The forum, which took place Dec. 7–8, investigated how health professions can work together to help older adults.

Maine EPSCoR conference attracts over 400 attendees, including UMaine Portland Gateway

08 Dec 2022

More than 430 people gathered in Portland Nov. 13–16 for the 27th National Science Foundation (NSF) EPSCoR National Conference (NSF Award # 2038037) hosted by the University of Maine and the Maine EPSCoR Office. All 28 NSF EPSCoR jurisdictions were present at the event, including representatives from Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Understanding the incredible importance of the Science of Team Science, a new interdisciplinary field that examines the processes by which research teams conduct research), early on the Maine EPSCoR Director, Shane Moeykens, contacted a national leader in the field – the UMaine Portland Gateway Director Pips Veazey, who also has strong ties to the EPSCoR community, having previously directed the Alaska EPSCoR program. Veazey invited three disciplinary experts to present two Science of Team Science sessions during the conference: a keynote panel, and a workshop focused on the future of research collaboration and spanning boundaries. Presenting alongside Veazey were Christine Ogilvie Hendren, director of the Research Institute for Environment, Energy and Economics at Appalachian State University; Dave King, founder of Exaptive; and Anne Heberger Marino, associate director of the UMaine Portland Gateway. The keynote panel highlighted the strong community of practice that EPSCoR has developed over several decades and explored the theme of interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration using the metaphor of air travel: We can fly! Now where to? How do we get there effectively? How does this change our lives? The workshop introduced participants to three techniques to create shared meaning across boundaries: developing a team dictionary, creating a “Cognitive City” linking thoughts and meaning, and building 3D models with interlocking bricks.

Traffic alert: two-hour scheduled detour on campus Dec. 9

09 Dec 2022

A section of Portage Road on campus will be closed from noon–2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9. Commuters and pedestrians will see emergency vehicles from UMaine and Orono in the area providing technical support. The roadway will be a staging area of a mock vehicle-pedestrian accident that will be filmed for a public service announcement produced by University of Maine Student Government.

Fogler Library creates subject guide on inventor of earmuffs

09 Dec 2022

Fogler Library staff have created a [LibGuide](#) about Chester Greenwood, the inventor of the earmuffs from Farmington, Maine. The guide includes links to information about Greenwood’s personal life, his other inventions and the early earmuff manufacturing process.

WJBQ-FM features story about UMaine student inventing the ‘Slanket’

09 Dec 2022

[WJBQ-FM](#) featured the story of Gary Clegg inventing the “Slanket,” a blanket with sleeves, while a student at the University of Maine in 1998. [WBLM-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [WCYY-FM](#) (Portland, Maine), [WHOM-FM](#) (Portland, Maine) and [WBZN-FM](#) (Brewer, Maine) shared the report.

Hey SoCal notes Dagher presentation at California Climate Emergency and Energy Security Summit

09 Dec 2022

[Hey SoCal](#) noted that Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC), presented at the California Climate Emergency and Energy Security Summit, hosted by the California Energy Commission in Sacramento, about floating wind turbines. Dagher said that California needs a statewide plan to facilitate offshore wind while protecting the environment, local communities, the fisheries, and

Indigenous communities. “I think the U.S. has an opportunity to lead in the floating space. I think what we need to do is work together. We need to work together on permitting. Permitting slows things down more than anything else,” Dagher said. [MSN](#) shared the Hey SoCal report.

Mount Desert Islander notes UMaine Extension role in Downeast Gleaning Initiative

09 Dec 2022

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) featured Healthy Acadia’s Downeast Gleaning Initiative, launched in 2013 in partnership with University of Maine Cooperative Extension to help local food pantries provide their customers with fresh produce that they were previously unable to do due to budget constraints, lack of refrigeration or space. The program, which has been replicated across Maine and parts of the country, relies on many Mount Desert Island farmers — Beech Hill Farm, Triple Chick Farms and Bar Harbor Farm — and local meal sites to serve hungry Mainers in Washington and Hancock counties.

Brewer featured on CityNews’ The Todd Veinotte Show

09 Dec 2022

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, was a guest on The Todd Veinotte Show from [CityNews](#) (Halifax, Canada) discussing how the Georgia Senate runoff election swinging in favor of Democrat Raphael Warnock will impact U.S. politics.

Woman’s World cites UMaine study

09 Dec 2022

In an article about the mental health benefits of spending time with a dog, [Woman’s World](#) cites a study conducted as a University of Maine Honors College thesis that found participants who spent time with a dog experienced boosts of cheerfulness and feelings of well-being.

Johnson speaks to Courier-Gazette about Christmas tree prices

09 Dec 2022

[The Courier-Gazette](#) interviewed Brett Johnson, sustainable agriculture and horticulture professional with University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Somerset County, about how the 2008 recession has led to inflated Christmas tree prices. Johnson also said other farming crops like vegetables take less time and effort and produce a faster income, which means new farmers are less likely to grow Christmas trees.

Media boost calendar from UMaine Extension initiative MAMP

09 Dec 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#), the [Daily Bulldog](#), [Sun Journal](#), [CentralMaine.com](#) and the [Bangor Daily News](#) shared that the Maine Agricultural Mediation Program (MAMP), a U.S. Department of Agriculture program managed locally by University of Maine Cooperative Extension, released its 2023 wall calendar featuring original artwork by Maine-based artists. The 2023 calendar features a farm and food system-inspired image each month. Copies can be [purchased on Extension’s website](#) for \$6.50, which includes shipping.

Phys.org advances UMaine professor’s study about empowering advertisements

09 Dec 2022

[Phys.org](#) reported on a new study published by a University of Maine professor that shows that while advertisements with themes of female empowerment are perceived as empowering by the women who viewed them, they do not lead to subjects thinking more about empowerment when put to the test. "Testing whether or not these empowerment-themed advertisements succeed in making women feel empowered is an important step toward encouraging companies to invest resources in creating messages that succeed beyond a nominal level," said Amelia Couture Bue, assistant professor of media studies in the Department of Communication and Journalism at UMaine.

Socolow speaks to Observer about Congressional bill to support news organizations

09 Dec 2022

Michael Socolow, associate professor in the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, spoke to the [Observer](#) about a bill in Congress that would require platforms like Facebook to pay news publishers when links to their articles appear on their sites. Socolow noted that in Australia, which has a similar law, Facebook and Google are estimated to pay out \$140 million each year to media publishers, which he said is “chump change.”

UMaine-led study shows mountain glacier melting is linked to shifting westerlies and likely to accelerate

09 Dec 2022

The combination of global atmospheric warming and westerly winds shifting toward the poles will likely speed up the recession of mountain glaciers in both hemispheres, according to a UMaine study. Mountain glaciers freeze and gain mass when the climate cools, and melt and lose mass when the climate warms. The extent to which the fluctuations in mountain glaciers are reflective of local, regional and even hemispheric climate variations, however, is less clear, which has made it more difficult for scientists to use glacial data to interpret past climate dynamics and make predictions for the future. A team of researchers from the University of Maine conducted a National Science Foundation-funded study evaluating how atmospheric conditions are reflected in the mass fluctuations of mid-latitude glaciers on opposite sides of the Earth, comparing global temperature and wind changes with glacier snowline elevations (also called “equilibrium-line altitudes”) in the Southern Alps of New Zealand and in the European Alps observed over the course of nearly four decades. Glacier

extent is dependent on the height of the snowline in the atmosphere, below which ice melts, which in turn is determined by the temperature of the atmosphere. The data showed that the fluctuations in glacial snowlines reflected temperature changes over large regions of the atmosphere for the two mountain systems studied — even on hemispheric scales. Moreover, the latitudes of westerly wind belts were found to be important for regulating the proportion of cold versus warm air masses that influence glacier melting and freezing. “This study really shows how intertwined Earth’s climate system is. At first subtle shifts in the state of the climate system can create waves throughout the system that have far reaching consequences,” says Alexander Audet, principal author of the study, who completed the research as a master’s student at the University of Maine. He is now pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Nevada, Reno. The results show that under global warming, the poleward contraction of the westerly winds belts may accelerate warming — and glacier melting — in the mid latitudes of both hemispheres. “These results highlight the sensitivity of Earth’s mountain glaciers to broad-scale atmospheric dynamics. They are incredibly sensitive, physical thermometers, monitoring atmospheric conditions from the sea surface to the top of the troposphere. Reconstructions of past glacier change from glacial landforms may therefore help to provide quantitative insights into how large portions of the atmosphere behaved during past episodes of abrupt climate change, and in turn may offer clues into the climate dynamics of a warming world,” says Aaron Putnam, co-author of the study and associate professor at the UMaine School of Earth and Climate Sciences. George Denton, UMaine professor at the School of Earth and Climate Sciences and the Climate Change Institute, also co-authored the report. Other co-authors of the study included Joellen Russell of the University of Arizona; Andrew Lorrey, who received his master’s at UMaine and is now principal scientist of climate and environmental applications at the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) in New Zealand; Andrew Mackintosh of Monash University, Australia; and Brian Anderson at the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. The [study](#) will be published in the Dec. 16, 2022 issue of Geophysical Research Letters, and was first published online Nov. 14, 2022. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Dec. 12

12 Dec 2022

UMaine Facilities Management weekly update Dec. 12 for the semester break:

- The T3 COVID laboratory demobilization begins today. The lab will leave campus next Monday.
- Painting and carpet replacement in South Annex begin this week.
- Exterior step replacement at Alford Arena will begin Wednesday, weather permitting.
- Fogler Library loading dock door replacement work is scheduled to begin next week.
- D.P. Corbett Business Building roof work, including access safety work, is scheduled for next week.
- Renovations in the UMaine Police Department are underway.
- Shibles Hall elevator work is scheduled for Dec. 19–22.
- Carpet replacement in the Collins Center for the Arts begins Dec. 27 and is expected to take three weeks.
- A campus diesel fuel tank will be replaced at the end of December.
- Oak Hall center entry and basement flooring will be replaced.
- Hancock Hall north stairways, Hart Hall laundry room and elevator, and Patch Hall center landings and south stairway will be coated and epoxied.

Facilities Management wishes the campus community a wonderful and memorable holiday break.

UMaine leads \$3 million study on how warming Arctic affects American lobster in New England, Atlantic Canada

12 Dec 2022

Investigating how a rapidly warming Arctic will affect American lobster populations and the communities that depend on them in New England and Atlantic Canada will be the focus of a University of Maine-led study backed by a \$3 million award from the National Science Foundation’s Navigating the New Arctic Program (NNA). Richard Wahle, director of the university’s Lobster Institute and professor in the School of Marine Sciences, is spearheading the project, dubbed the NNA Lobster Network, joined by 18 other researchers from UMaine, the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Columbia University, Florida State University and Memorial University of Newfoundland. Building on long-standing partnerships with the fishing industry, government and academic organizations, the team will investigate how climate-induced Arctic change alters lobster abundance and distribution from coastal Rhode Island to Newfoundland. NSF funded the study not only as part of its NNA initiative, but also as [one of its 10 Big Ideas](#). The NNA Lobster Network will support investigations into the influence of past and future climate and management scenarios on various physical, biological and socio-economic conditions at different scales; all through cross-sector and cross-border partnerships. The results of this project could help improve models for lobster population distribution forecasts, as well as an understanding of the economic dependence of coastal communities on this fishery and, therefore, their vulnerability to future change. Researchers hope that new data on Arctic ice melt trends will give the team unprecedented lead time to anticipate ocean ecosystem changes that influence lobster distribution and abundance. Resulting forecasts and scenario analysis tools will provide crucial information for fishermen and other stakeholders in this iconic fishing industry that netted \$725 million in 2021 in Maine alone, [according to Maine’s Department of Marine Resources](#). “The project is well timed to meet the urgent need to understand the increasingly apparent links between a rapidly warming Arctic and the rapid ecosystem changes in the Gulf of Maine, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, their fisheries and communities that, in some cases, are perilously reliant on the American lobster,” Wahle says. Other UMaine faculty involved in the study include Damian Brady, associate professor of oceanography; Christine Beitzl, associate professor of anthropology; Joshua Stoll, assistant professor of marine policy; and Heather Leslie, professor of marine sciences and director of the Darling Marine Center. Outreach and communication staff support is provided by Chris Cash, assistant director of the Lobster Institute; Natalie Springuel, Marine Extension program leader with Maine Sea Grant; and a technical liaison yet to be hired. The project also includes four postdoctoral fellows and two graduate students. Arctic warming poses several threats to the world’s oceans. Melting glaciers, icebergs and ice sheets are increasing sea levels and altering ocean circulation, a crucial driver of heat movement around the globe that, when disrupted, can increase or decrease water temperatures and cause unpredictable weather and climatic changes. Additionally, thawing permafrost in the Arctic is releasing more carbon into the atmosphere. The NNA Lobster Network aims to use the latest information and models of changing Arctic conditions to generate forecasts on how ocean circulation and the lower latitude coastal marine ecosystem of the Northwest Atlantic will change in future decades out to 2050. In turn, this information will be used to update and geographically expand existing larval lobster transport and population dynamic models initially developed for the Gulf of Maine. In the end-to-end analysis, economists will use this information to evaluate impacts of changes in the lobster resource on fishing fleet dynamics, operations and economic outcomes for the fishery. Project social scientists will build on quantitative climate resilience indicators that are already under development for Maine and expand their reach to lobster communities in other parts of New England and Atlantic Canada. Long-standing partnerships with the fishing industry and government agencies will help provide the ground truth data

and feedback needed to both validate model products and make them useful to stakeholders. Previous research by scientists from UMaine and other institutions have discovered that when it comes to the lobster fishery, there are winners and losers in a warming ocean, Wahle says. For example, rising temperatures across the Gulf of Maine, which is warming faster than the vast majority of the world's oceans, caused lobsters to shift farther north over the years to keep pace with their northerly migrating cold-water habitat. As a result, lobster fisheries in southern New England have experienced significant die-offs and financial loss. At the same time, rising temperatures have had favorable effects on the Gulf of Maine's lobster fishery over the past decades, although continued warming now may threaten its viability. Just as the influence of the cold, nutrient-rich Labrador Current from the north is diminishing, the warm, salty and nutrient-poor Gulf Stream waters are being felt more strongly, dramatically altering the productivity of the Gulf of Maine ecosystem. Researchers hypothesized that these climate-induced ecosystem changes, along with the adverse effects of stressfully warm summer temperatures, have caused a decline in larval lobster survival that ultimately results in smaller harvests. This work is also relevant to understanding the changing abundance and distribution of members of the ecosystem other than the lobster, from the tiniest plankton to the iconic Atlantic cod, herring and even the endangered North Atlantic right whale. To determine how changes in the Arctic affect lobster populations in the Northwest Atlantic, Wahle and his team plan to create a climate vulnerability assessment that focuses on the lobster fishery's northward range shift as the ocean warms. They also will develop a coupled atmosphere-ice-ocean-ecosystem model to examine how changes in ocean circulation and the Arctic cryosphere, the frozen parts of the region, affect fishery and ecosystem productivity in New England and Atlantic Canada. Researchers will use existing field datasets, including some co-produced with the fishing industry, to validate their model. "The lobster fishery is a heritage industry that is essential to the island and coastal communities of Maine," says Marianne LaCroix, executive director of the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative. "Knowing more about future climate conditions in the Gulf of Maine will allow the fishery to adapt practices so that they can see continued success." "A unique aspect of the NNA Lobster Network is that it capitalizes on long-standing cross-border collaborations among scientists, fishers and government agencies in the U.S. and Canada to develop tools to analyze likely scenarios and forecast future climate impacts on our coastal communities that are now so economically dependent on the lobster fishery," says project partner professor Rémy Rochette of the University of New Brunswick. Wahle has been conducting lobster and other marine science-related research in the Gulf of Maine since the late 1980s. He joined UMaine faculty in 2009 after 15 years as a research scientist at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences. He became director of the Lobster Institute in 2018. In 1989, Wahle founded the American Lobster Settlement Index, a scientist-industry collaborative that monitors the annual pulse of juvenile lobsters that settle in coastal nurseries at over 80 sampling sites from Rhode Island to Atlantic Canada. Wahle is one of many UMaine faculty members conducting research involving the Arctic and the implications of its climate-induced warming. In 2018, the UMaine Arctic Initiative was formed to build on their work and enhance collaboration in the campus community and with outside stakeholders. The Lobster Institute's mission is to foster research and communication toward a sustainable and profitable lobster fishery in the U.S. and Canada. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

WABI covers sport business summit

12 Dec 2022

[WABI-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that Maine Business School students hosted their first Sport Business Summit at the University of Maine. "I think there's just so much information that [comes with] these speakers have come from across the world. I think they can really shed some light on some of the students to get them to feel more comfortable for life after college," said Andrew Varipatis, event organizer.

Berkshire Eagle cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data

12 Dec 2022

In an article about the unusually warm winter in the Berkshires, the [Berkshire Eagle](#) cited data from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer showing that temperatures across the entire Arctic averaged 11.5 degrees higher than the normal temperature over the years spanning 1979–2000.

Brewer speaks to NPR about incoming Maine legislature

12 Dec 2022

[National Public Radio](#) interviewed Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, about Maine's more diverse income state legislature. Brewer told NPR that increased diversity in an elected body can have a measurable impact on policy. Brewer also noted the fact that all five of the new Black lawmakers in the Maine legislature are Democrats, tracks with two national trends: the Democratic Party generally nominating more diverse slates of candidates, and the party finding greater electoral success in more diverse urban places. [WUSF Public Media](#) (Tampa, Florida) shared the NPR report.

Yahoo News cites UMaine Climate Reanalyzer data

12 Dec 2022

In an article highlighting the impacts of climate change on Alaska and Hawaii, [Yahoo News](#) cited information from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer that shows temperatures in the upper third of Alaska, located inside the Arctic Circle, have been observed at an average of 11.5 degrees Fahrenheit above normal this month. [Aol](#), [WPXI-TV](#) (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania), [WFTV-TV](#) (Orlando, Florida), [WSB-TV](#) (Atlanta, Georgia), [WOKV-FM](#) (Jacksonville, Florida), [KOKI-TV](#) (Tulsa, Oklahoma), [WHBQ-TV](#) (Memphis, Tennessee), [WDBO-FM](#) (Orlando, Florida), [WJAX-TV](#) (Jacksonville, Florida), [WHIO-TV](#) (Dayton, Ohio), [KIRO-TV](#) (Seattle, Washington), [WGAU](#) (Athens, Georgia) and other outlets shared the Yahoo News report.

Leahy speaks to PPH about woodbanks

12 Dec 2022

Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions of natural resources at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Portland Press Herald](#) about woodbanks in Maine. Leahy, who researches wood banks, said that firewood is the only heat source for as many as half of the homes in parts of Washington County. Leahy told the PPH she hopes that she can support the expansion of the network of wood banks using a [\\$62,500 U.S. Forest Service grant](#) awarded to UMaine for the National Wood Bank Project, but she also hopes that people will not forget that there are structural issues in society that cannot be addressed solely by volunteers. "People should be able to afford basic elements of living — we can't lose sight of that. We have to think about bigger, longer-term solutions than managing the crisis of people being cold this winter," Leahy said. [Yahoo News](#) shared the PPH report.

Maine Public features UMaine Arctic char research

12 Dec 2022

[Maine Public](#) featured research from the University of Maine about the impacts of climate change on the feeding patterns of Arctic char populations in Maine. Maine Public interviewed University of Maine graduate students Brad Erdman and Fred Seavey; Mike Kinnison, professor of evolutionary applications; and Christina Murphy, assistant professor at the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology. Murphy and Kinnison and a colleague from the University of New Hampshire recently was awarded a \$1.5 million National Science Foundation grant to study how fish fit into the food webs in Maine lakes, and how this might predict their vulnerability to climate change. The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Vermont Public](#), [New Hampshire Public Radio](#), [Connecticut Public](#), [New England Public Media](#) and [WCAI-FM](#) (Woods Hole, Massachusetts) shared the Maine Public report.

Dagher speaks to San Diego Union-Tribune about offshore wind in California

12 Dec 2022

[The San Diego Union-Tribune](#) interviewed Habib Dagher, founding executive director of the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Laboratory, about the challenges of developing offshore wind in California. “You’re looking at some places where you’re in 2,000 or 3,000 feet of water. The East Coast leases off New York were less than 150 feet of water,” Dagher said. Still, Dagher said that wind can complement the abundant supply of solar in California “because offshore wind [production] typically is better in the wintertime and solar is better in the summertime. And at nighttime, of course, you don’t have [any production from] solar but you can have a lot of good offshore wind.” The [Victoria Advocate](#) and [The Paradise News](#) shared the San Diego Union-Tribune report.

BDN interviews MacRae about PFAS in Penobscot County drinking water

12 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) spoke to Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, about PFAS in Penobscot County drinking water. Though most water districts in Penobscot County are not finding “forever chemicals” in their drinking water supplies, laboratories can’t entirely rule out their presence. MacRae said many things can interfere with laboratories getting an accurate result at such low levels. PFAS might be in the air when someone opens a vial to collect a sample, making the result appear greater than it really is, or PFAS that is actually in the water might bind to other particles and get filtered out, making the result appear lower than it really is. “It’s good news, because it’s fairly low even in the ones where there has been some detection. But obviously none is better than some, and that’s clear from the [Environmental Protection Agency’s] health advisory numbers,” MacRae said. The [Piscataquis Observer](#) shared the BDN report.

Fernandez, Winski speak to BDN about forest carbon sinks

12 Dec 2022

In an article about Maine forests serving as carbon sinks, the [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed the University of Maine’s Ivan Fernandez, professor at the Climate Change Institute and School of Forest Resources; Dominic Winski, research assistant professor at the Climate Change Institute and School of Earth and Climate Sciences; and Daniel Hayes, associate professor of geospatial analysis and remote sensing. A first-of-its-kind analysis of Maine’s greenhouse gas emissions showed that the state is approximately 75% carbon neutral, mostly because Maine’s abundant forests capture and store carbon from the air. “Maine’s forests are not limitless. Neither is the amount of carbon that can be stored in forests. At some point we will max out,” Fernandez said.

Media report on on UMaine mountain glacier study

13 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Phys.org](#), [Nature World News](#), [ScienceDaily](#) shared a University of Maine-led study that found a combination of global atmospheric warming and westerly winds shifting toward the poles will likely speed up the recession of mountain glaciers in both hemispheres. The study compared global temperature and wind changes with glacier snow line elevations in the Southern Alps of New Zealand and in the European Alps observed over the course of nearly four decades. The results show that under global warming, the poleward contraction of the westerly winds belts may accelerate warming and glacier melting. "These results highlight the sensitivity of Earth's mountain glaciers to broad-scale atmospheric dynamics," said Aaron Putnam, co-author of the study and associate professor at the UMaine School of Earth and Climate Sciences.

Morning Ag Clips notes UMaine funding for Maine Farm to School Institute

13 Dec 2022

[Morning Ag Clips](#) reported that U.S. Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King awarded \$224,963 to the University of Maine for the new Maine Farm to School Institute, which will connect schools with locally grown food and educate rural middle and high school students about nutrition. This funding was awarded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

BDN writes feature about UMaine mascot history

13 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) wrote a feature article about how the University of Maine’s mascot switched between a moose and a bear in the early 1910s. Eventually, UMaine settled on having the black bear as its mascot, and Bananas T. Bear has now represented the school for over 100 years.

Media report on UMaine-led study on lobsters and climate change

13 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Maine Public](#), [MaineBiz](#), [Public News Service](#), [Coastal News Today](#), [Wiscasset Newspaper](#), [Environmental News Network](#), [Maritime Executive](#) and [WGME-TV](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) reported that the University of Maine is leading a collaborative research project along with scientists from the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Columbia University, Florida State University and Memorial University of Newfoundland that will assess how a warming Arctic might affect lobsters in New England and Atlantic Canada. The study, which will be funded by \$3 million from the National Science Foundation, could improve lobster distribution forecasts, and help predict which coastal communities might be most vulnerable to the economic impacts of shifting lobster ranges. [Saving Seafood](#) shared the BDN report. [WPFO-TV](#) (Fox 23 in Portland) shared the WGME report.

UMaine researchers designing origami-inspired foldable shelters for temporary housing

13 Dec 2022

University of Maine researchers are designing origami-inspired foldable shelters for temporary housing. The [study](#) appears in the December 2022 issue of *Engineering Structures*; it was published online in October 2022.

Killy named UMaine director of athletics

14 Dec 2022

Orono, Maine – Jude Killy, deputy director of athletics and chief of staff at Miami University, has been named University of Maine director of athletics, effective Jan. 30. Killy has been a member of the Miami University community since 2008. He has been deputy director of athletics and chief of staff since 2018, overseeing the operations of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. His fundraising experiences includes both annual fund and major gift solicitation and spans nearly 20 years on a college campus. Killy also has served as a sport supervisor for men's basketball, baseball, men's ice hockey, men's and women's swimming and diving and synchronized skating, and assisted with football. Killy has a five-year contract at UMaine with an annual salary of \$250,000. "We welcome Jude, his wife Beth and their two daughters to Black Bear Nation," says UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. "This is such an extraordinary time for UMaine Athletics and the state of Maine. The \$90 million challenge grant from the Harold Alfond Foundation, the high-caliber coaches and support staff, and the tremendous roster of talented student-athlete leaders are just a few of the many reasons we are excited for the future of UMaine Athletics. We look forward to Jude's leadership in Division I athletics and in fundraising as the athletics master plan at Maine's flagship R1 university advances our institutional commitment to inclusion, community-building and serving the state of Maine." Miami University is a Division I institution with 19 varsity men's and women's sports programs. The department, with a more than \$30 million annual budget, has won more than 50 championships in the past decade. "Thank you to Chancellor Malloy, President Ferrini-Mundy, Provost Volin and the search committee for this special opportunity," says Killy. "I am extremely grateful the President has selected me to work with and for her on behalf of the University of Maine." "I am thrilled to be the next AD, to represent our staff, coaches and students, and to help support the entire campus and community," says Killy. "The University of Maine is an amazing institution with unique attributes. UMaine Athletics is an iconic brand. It has tremendous academic and athletic prowess. I cannot wait to get to work and it will be my privilege to serve the Division I flagship institution for the state. Killy, who served as campaign manager for the \$80 million Graduating Champions Campaign, which raised more than \$82 million, directed the Miami University athletic development team to five of its best fiscal years. He assisted in soliciting and securing multiple six and seven-figure gifts for several of Miami University's newest facility projects. Killy also implemented external strategies to enhance revenue generation and the game day experience with a result in combined ticket sales for football, men's and women's basketball, ice hockey, and volleyball increasing and surpassing more than \$1 million each year. Specific to hockey, Killy implemented donor-based seating, helping to lead the program to its highest ticket sales revenue ever. Aside from his sport supervision, Killy has significant experience with support staff oversight throughout his career and has served as a liaison to the President's Office, university business and finance, university advancement, accounts payable, strategic procurement and human resources and legal. "We are thrilled with the outcome of our national search and look forward to the experience Jude will bring to UMaine," says John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost, who chaired the athletics director search committee. "Jude's extensive background in collegiate athletics, significant fundraising and revenue generation experience, and his leadership qualities make him a great fit for this role at the University of Maine. I want to thank the search committee for its work in the past two months and look forward to this next chapter in UMaine Athletics." Prior to Miami University, Killy served as director of athletic development operations from 2002–05 at the University of Pittsburgh before being promoted in 2006 to Pittsburgh's director of annual fund. "I do have to thank Miami University and the Miami family, specifically President Greg Crawford and Director of Athletics David Saylor," Killy says. "It has been an honor to represent them both and Miami, and to work directly under David's tremendous leadership. I could not be more blessed than to have worked with a better professional or person." Killy will take over as director of athletics role from Samantha Hegmann-Wary, who has been serving as interim director of athletics since Aug. 17. Hegmann-Wary will resume her role as associate athletic director for compliance & senior woman administrator. Killy earned a bachelor's degree in communications from John Carroll University and a Master of Sports Administration from Ohio University.. His wife, Beth, is an associate clinical faculty member at Miami University's Farmer School of Business. They have two daughters, Jessica and Elise.

Ishaq co-authors article for Brooklyn Eagle

14 Dec 2022

Sue Ishaq, assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences at the University of Maine, co-authored an article for the [Brooklyn Eagle](#) about the benefits of compost. The article explains that compost is so powerful in improving soils that it is often called "black gold." The article explains how composts feed soils, how access to compost is an equity issue and how growing compost programs across the United States.

News Center Maine reports on therapy dogs at UMaine

14 Dec 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported on a University of Maine program that brought therapy dogs to the Fogler Library to help students manage end-of-semester stress.

MacRae speaks to BDN about PFAS in plumbing tape

14 Dec 2022

Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Bangor Daily News](#) about the presence of “forever chemicals” in Teflon plumber’s tape, which is used to fill the spaces between interlocking pipe threads to seal the pipes and prevent leaks. The tape is made with a likely carcinogen called perfluorooctanoic acid, more commonly called PFOA, which is a type of “forever chemical” that has contaminated community water supplies and private wells across Maine and the country. MacRae says that plumber’s tape is unlikely a major source of contamination, especially given all the other potential sources of PFAS now in the environment. The toxic chemicals have been found in rainwater across the world, in addition to household dust. “It’s possible the tape is contributing to contamination in drinking water, but I would think it’s surely not going to be just that,” MacRae said.

News Center Maine reports on UMaine research about alternative use for paper mill products

14 Dec 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that researchers at the University of Maine are studying new applications for paper mill products. Liza White, UMaine biomedical engineering graduate student and Rumford native, and Caitlin Howell, associate professor of biomedical engineering at UMaine, are studying paper products manufactured by Sappi North America, which operates mills in Westbrook and Skowhegan. A big focus of their studies is textured paper and film, which is produced at a fast rate in mass quantities. Major applications include low-cost water quality detection and generating microdroplets for medical use. “We’re getting into the digital age where we’re not using paper as often as we used to. I had the unique perspective of seeing how the economy is truly affected by the mills closing,” White said.

New study shows trends of Lymphoproliferative disease among Maine wild turkeys

14 Dec 2022

The potentially lethal Lymphoproliferative virus (LPDV) is becoming more prevalent among wild turkeys in the Northeast. With wild turkey populations growing, the risk of disease transmission between them, their domesticated counterparts and chickens may increase. In a new University of Maine-led study, researchers identified the prevalence of LPDV in wild turkey populations statewide and the factors that can influence their chance of infection. Their research can help inform management strategies, such as harvest and translocation regulation, and support any future investigations into the possibility of disease transmission between wild turkeys and other fauna. Some turkeys that become infected with LPDV exhibit lymphoid tumors and other lesions, ataxia and lethargy, but not all show signs of the disease that are visible to the naked eye. There is no evidence disease can harm humans, and turkeys infected with it are still considered edible. The team of scientists led by Stephanie Shea, who conducted the study when she was a Ph.D. student in ecology and environmental sciences, collected tissue samples from 699 Maine turkeys from 2017–20. The group found that 59% tested positive for LPDV. Researchers also examined how seasonality, location, age and sex influenced the risk of infection among wild turkeys. They found that females, adults and individuals sampled in the spring had LPDV more often than males, juveniles and individuals sampled in the winter. The group also discovered that more juvenile turkeys that lived near forested areas had LPDV than those that lived near farms. The higher infection rate among female turkeys in Maine may result from differences in physiology and foraging behavior that make them more susceptible to disease, according to researchers. Adults are more likely than juveniles to have higher levels of exposure to the virus, possibly resulting in chronic infections. In the spring, turkeys move around more to forage and mate, which results in an increased possibility for LPDV exposure. Turkeys that reside near farmland have access to more bountiful, widespread food options than those that live in forested areas, which researchers say may affect how they interact and, therefore, influence the disparity in LPDV infections. “Our findings highlight patterns of LPDV infection in Maine’s wild turkey population, which can help us to predict location, timing and individuals affected and is useful for monitoring wild turkey health,” says Shea, now an assistant diagnostician with University of Maine Cooperative Extension’s Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab. In addition to examining the prevalence of LPDV in Maine, the research team tested for reticuloendotheliosis virus (REV) infection, which can cause immunosuppression, tumors and runt disease; *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, a lesion-causing disease that can inhibit reproduction and egg hatchability; and *Salmonella pullorum*, which can be lethal for chicks. Of the 699 wild turkeys researchers sampled, 3.4% tested positive for *Salmonella pullorum*, 16% were infected with REV; and 74% tested positive for *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*. Co-infection rates for LPDV and *Salmonella pullorum*, REV and *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* were 2.6%, 10% and 51%, respectively. “This study provides valuable information on the prevalence and co-occurrence of multiple pathogens of concern in wild turkeys, data that are important for understanding how pathogens affect turkey population dynamics and for assessing potential risks to Maine’s poultry industry,” says Pauline Kamath, Shea’s adviser at the time and an assistant professor of animal health. Other researchers involved in the project include Kamath; Erik Blomberg, associate professor of wildlife population ecology; Kelsey Sullivan, biologist with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; Matthew Gonnerman, a former UMaine Ph.D. student who is now a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Maryland; and Peter Milligan, an associate professor of biology at the the University of Maine at Augusta. Their findings were published in the [Journal of Wildlife Diseases](#). Over the years, several UMaine researchers provided deeper insight into Maine wild turkey populations, their habits and the forces that threaten them. Earlier this year, [a group led by Gonnerman produced a study](#) which found that turkeys adjust their movements — for example, the locations where they roost at night — in order to increase their chances of surviving the tough Maine winters. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Traffic alert: Stillwater Avenue bridge closing, one-way traffic delays

15 Dec 2022

The Maine Department of Transportation will be closing the Stillwater Avenue (Llewellyn Estes) Bridge in Old Town to all traffic from approximately 10 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15 to approximately 4 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 16. The closure is necessary while the Old Town Water District secures a water pipe under the bridge. A detour will be in place during this closure through Orono via Bennoch Road (Route 16), Route 2 and College Avenue. More overnight closures may be required next week.

‘The Maine Question’ looks back its seventh season

15 Dec 2022

Season seven of “The Maine Question” podcast covered a broad variety of subjects in research and higher education. Topics ranged from archaeology to space research, and from the challenges in K–12 education to toxic forever chemicals and efforts to mitigate them. In the [tenth and final episode this season](#),

host Ron Lisnet looks back on the big UMaine stories he shared, all of which reflect the extensive research activity, learning opportunities and public outreach generated by Maine's public, R1-designated institution. Listen to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Stitcher](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or "The Maine Question" [website](#). New episodes are added Thursdays. What topics would you like to learn more about? What questions do you have for UMaine experts? Email them to mainequestion@maine.edu.

Media share funding for UMaine social work graduates

15 Dec 2022

[The Sun Journal](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [MaineBiz](#), [Piscataquis Observer](#) and [WABI-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) reported that the University of Maine has received part of Gov. Janet Mills' \$2.25 million in grant funding to expand health care training opportunities, a much-needed investment in Maine's rural workforce. The University of Maine System is part of a group that will receive a combined [\\$1.6 million from Mills' Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan](#) to go toward improving graduate medical education opportunities in rural communities for social workers. The [Portland Press Herald](#) and [Yahoo News](#) shared the Sun Journal report.

NECN reports on overdose data from UMaine

15 Dec 2022

[New England Cable News](#) reported on new state overdose data compiled in a report published by state officials and University of Maine researchers that shows that 565 people have died from fatal overdoses through October 2022, a rate of approximately 56 people per month.

Media report on new UMaine athletic director

15 Dec 2022

[The Associated Press](#), [News Center Maine](#), the [Bangor Daily News](#), the [Portland Press Herald](#), [WGME-TV](#) (Channel 13 in Portland), [WABI-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) and [92.9 The Ticket](#) reported that the University of Maine has officially announced that Jude Killy will become the Black Bears' new director of athletics. Killy comes from Miami University, where he most recently served as the school's deputy director of athletics and chief of staff since 2018. The move will take effect on Jan. 30. [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the PPH report. [WVIT-TV](#) (Fox23 in Bangor) shared the WGME report. The Herald Bulletin (Anderson, Indiana), [WHK-AM](#) (Cleveland, Ohio), [Brattleboro Reformer](#) (Brattleboro, Vermont), [Ottumwa Courier](#) (Ottumwa, Iowa), the [Register-Herald](#) (Beckley, West Virginia.), the [Toronto Star](#) and other outlets shared the AP report.

Gov. Mills awards UMaine \$475,000 to increase placement of MSW graduates in rural communities

15 Dec 2022

This week, Gov. Janet Mills announced an award of \$475,000 to the University of Maine System to support the placement of students pursuing Masters in Social Work (MSW) degrees in rural health care sites. In addition to placing students in these areas of high need, the funding will be used to increase the number of trained practitioners who can supervise MSW students and encourage current health care staff to consider pursuing an MSW degree by providing the opportunity for field placements in rural communities. "Now more than ever, social workers are essential to ensuring the health, well-being and productivity of Maine people and our communities," says University of Maine System Chancellor Dannel Malloy. "This investment recognizes our public university system's unique ability to prepare compassionate and highly competent social work professionals for service across our state, and especially in rural regions where there is growing need, but where access to critical mental health and social services is limited. We look forward to leveraging these funds to expand enrollment and opportunity for our social work students to advance their own practice and make a real difference for their fellow Mainers during these times of challenge and change." "This funding will allow us to support MSW students interested in practicing in rural areas, as well as supporting a number of field placement sites providing unique behavioral health services in more remote regions of the state. We will be partnering with seven Northern Light Health rural community hospitals and the Pleasant Point Health Center, where students will benefit from the supervision of skilled social workers well versed in the needs of their rural communities. Students and their supervisors will also have the opportunity to participate in a series of anti-racism, diversity, equity and inclusion workshops conducted by Bangor-based Equity Consulting & Education," says Sandra Butler, professor and director of the MSW program at the University of Maine. The award is part of a \$2.25 million funding package to strengthen Maine's health care workforce by expanding training opportunities for health care professionals in rural areas. Additional awardees include MaineHealth and St. Joseph's College of Medicine. "Rural Maine is my home. I care deeply about the people who live there, and I want to ensure that they have access to high-quality health care services," said Mills. "This investment builds on our efforts to recruit and train more people to enter the health care workforce and to strengthen our health care system in the long-term for the benefit of Maine people." The package is funded in part by \$1.6 million from the Governor's [Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan](#), which will be used to recruit and support clinical supervisors, known as preceptors, in rural health systems, and to expand graduate medical education programs in Maine. The funds, administered by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, will expand training opportunities for doctors, nurses, social workers, and other health professionals in rural communities and encourage aspiring health care workers to launch rewarding careers in Down East, northern and western Maine, where health care providers are in demand. "This investment by Gov. Mills will bolster Maine's health care workforce and ultimately improve access to health care in rural communities," said Jeanne Lambrew, Commissioner of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services. "Supporting the pipeline of health care professionals and developing a coordinated system to connect Maine people with rewarding career opportunities will help strengthen Maine's health system for patients statewide." This award is the latest investment from the Mills Administration to address Maine's workforce challenges, which were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The [Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan](#) is the Governor's plan, approved by the Legislature, to invest nearly \$1 billion in Federal American Rescue Plan funds to improve the lives of Maine people and families, help businesses, create good-paying jobs, and build an economy poised for future prosperity. The plan has so far dedicated more than \$300 million for workforce programs, and has created 22,000 apprenticeship, career and education advancement and job training opportunities for Maine people. Contact: Sandra Butler, sbutler@maine.edu

Undergraduate team in Lobe's Investment Strategy class among top 5% in 2022 CME Trading Challenge

16 Dec 2022

An undergraduate student team — Ethan Howe, Jackson Graham, Aidan Michaud, Austin Loveless and Colby Dionne, with faculty adviser Sebastian Lobe, University Foundation Professor of Investment Education and associate professor of finance — made it to the top 5% at the prestigious 2022 CME Group University Trading Challenge, which took place Oct. 2–28. The CME Group Inc. (Chicago Mercantile Exchange) is an American global markets company and the world's largest financial derivatives exchange. The Challenge is a complimentary electronic trading competition that allows students to experience the excitement, energy and decision-making environment of real-time trading. Teams of undergraduate and graduate students can trade various CME Group products from multiple asset classes in a simulated, professional trading platform. This annual competition is a unique chance for students to learn hands-on techniques for trading futures. The team competed through Lobe's Investment Strategy class, representing the University of Maine this year for the first time since the competition started in 2009. They competed against 497 other international teams, with 2,000 graduate and undergraduate students from more than 200 schools in 23 countries, and ranked No. 22. Competition products included futures contracts from agriculture, energy, metals, equity index, interest rates and foreign exchange asset classes. "It is a joy to confirm that our students can compete on par with other students from the world's best universities," Lobe says. "It's a vivid testament to our thriving undergraduate finance education at the University of Maine. In a highly realistic trading simulation, the team made a great return of 51% over one month. All competing teams' average and median returns have been negative, with -13.1% and -4.3%. The UMaine team's risk management was superior as the stable performance with relatively low volatility demonstrates."

BDN, Phys.org report on UMaine wild turkey disease study

16 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Phys.org](#) shared a new University of Maine-led study where researchers identified the prevalence of potentially lethal lymphoproliferative virus in wild turkey populations statewide and the factors that can influence their chance of infection. Their research can help inform management strategies, such as harvest and translocation regulation, and support any future investigations into the possibility of disease transmission between wild turkeys and other fauna.

WFVX advances Comins lecture

16 Dec 2022

[WFVX-TV](#) (Fox 22 in Bangor) shared that Neil Comins, professor of astronomy and astrophysics at the University of Maine, hosted a free talk entitled "Solar System Origins: When and Where the Solar System Came From," at the Wilson Museum in Castine.

UMaine Office of Innovation and Economic Development rebrands as SPIRE

16 Dec 2022

University of Maine president Joan Ferrini-Mundy has announced the rebranding of the Office of Innovation and Economic Development (OIED) as the Office of Strategic Partnerships, Innovation, Resources and Engagement (SPIRE). Building on the work OIED already does, SPIRE will be wholly focused on fulfilling the university's service mission through a strong emphasis on strategic partnerships, and corporate and community engagement. SPIRE will be led by vice president of innovation and economic development Jake Ward, in close collaboration with Renee Kelly, who is being elevated to associate vice president of strategic partnerships, innovation and engagement. Two of UMaine's key industry service centers, the Process Development Center and the Advanced Manufacturing Center, join the Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research as part of SPIRE. The three facilities cater to existing and emerging sectors that are critical to Maine's economy, and this structure will create operational efficiencies, as well as new opportunities to serve the state's businesses. In addition to continuing to manage development of UMaine research innovations and intellectual property, and support entrepreneurship across the University of Maine System, the office will lead corporate engagement for UMaine with the help of a new team member. John Burns, longtime managing director of Maine Venture Fund who also spent more than a decade as second vice president of investments at UNUM, recently joined UMaine as director of corporate engagement. "Corporate Engagement at the University of Maine is about creating deeper, broader and meaningful holistic relationships between corporations and the University of Maine; partnering industry with UMaine talent," says Burns. "Whether companies are seeking to increase visibility, recruit a trained and educated workforce, connect with research collaborators, or share expertise, UMaine has a plethora of incredible assets." In this role, Burns will develop and lead a strategic approach to UMaine's engagement with the business community in Maine and beyond, expanding and building broad and deep relationships with a set of key corporate partners. "OIED forges partnerships and innovative problem-solving to address needs ranging from an entrepreneur's technology, to industry-wide interests and grand challenges like climate change," says Renee Kelly, associate vice president for strategic partnerships, innovation, resources & engagement. "SPIRE will combine commercialization, industry partnerships and innovation resources to build alliances to grow Maine's economy." Contact: Katharine England, katharine.english@maine.edu

UMaine Extension 4-H plans workshop to develop youth public speaking skills

19 Dec 2022

University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H staff in Penobscot County will hold a youth public speaking workshop on Saturday, Jan. 21. The in-person workshop is scheduled from 2–4 p.m. at the Penobscot County Extension office, 307 Maine Ave., Bangor. This workshop, which will use the 4-H public speaking program as the basis for instruction, is open to all youth ages 5–18, both 4-H members and non-members. Participants will learn how to choose a subject or theme and hear about the difference between a demonstration and an illustrated talk. Other topics covered will include organizing materials, grabbing the audience's interest and understanding the public speaking score sheet. Public speaking is a useful skill to master, even for those who do not pursue formal public speaking opportunities. Many 4-H alumni report how important it was to have public speaking skills when they applied to college, interviewed for jobs or interacted with adult peers. Through the 4-H public speaking program, participants learn to evaluate basic skills, give and receive constructive feedback, and build confidence to express themselves in various life situations. Youth who choose to participate in competitive public speaking tournaments select a topic that they feel is important to share, develop a presentation, practice it with family and other club members, and enter the county tournament. If they achieve a minimum score there, they qualify for the state tournament which is open to youth ages nine and older. To register, find out more information or to request reasonable accommodations, [visit the program website](#), email sheila.norman@maine.edu or call 207.942.7396.

Former longtime UMaine admissions director passes away

19 Dec 2022

William Munsey, a University of Maine alumnus and former longtime director of admissions, passed away Dec. 12. A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m., Dec. 20 at Buchanan Alumni House on campus. Munsey's career in college admissions spanned a half-century and included serving as director of admissions at Gorham State College, later University of Maine Portland-Gorham, and now the University of Southern Maine. He was UMaine director of admissions from 1980–2014. As noted in the [obituary online](#), gifts in his memory can be made to the [Bill and Helen Munsey Scholarship Fund](#), University of Maine Foundation or the Maine State YMCA Camp, [Bill Munsey Scholarship Fund](#).

SCMP Young Post cites UMaine study about class sizes

19 Dec 2022

In an article about whether small class sizes are better for student learning, South China Morning Post's [Young Post](#) cited a study from the University of Maine and the University of Washington that found that students who didn't engage in hands-on learning were 1.5 times more likely to fail a course than students who did.

PPH column notes UMaine research about forests

19 Dec 2022

A column written for the [Portland Press Herald](#) about the potential for Maine's forests to mitigate the effects of climate change cited modeling from University of Maine forest scientists indicates improved forestry could provide benefits in the range of the 30 Percent Solution, the New England Forestry Foundation's aim for forests provide 30% of the region's necessary carbon reductions over the next 30 years. [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the PPH column.

Maine Monitor cites UMaine research in article about PFAS costs

19 Dec 2022

In an article about the cost of PFAS, the [Maine Monitor](#) noted that the University of Maine is conducting research on means to destroy PFAS in used filters. The article also cited a University of Maine survey completed last spring of 432 residents statewide, part of research to be published in [Maine Policy Review](#), which found that nearly one in five respondents still had not heard of PFAS.

WABI notes UMaine funding for advanced manufacturing

19 Dec 2022

[WABI-TV](#) (Channel 5 in Bangor) noted that the University of Maine has received several million dollars for "high-performance computing enabled large-scale advanced manufacturing" programs through the Senate's passage of the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act.

Evolution News shares UMaine loon research

19 Dec 2022

In an article about migrating birds, [Evolution News](#) cited research from the University of Maine that outfitted red-throated loons with satellite transmitters and monitored their routes. The results showed epic journeys through Greenland, Canada and the Arctic.

Marzilli named associate provost for student success and innovation

19 Dec 2022



[caption id="attachment_94821" align="alignright" width="200"] T. Scott Marzilli T. Scott Marzilli, special assistant to the president for student success at the University of Houston-Downtown, has been named associate provost for student success and innovation at the University of Maine, effective Feb. 1, 2023. He will also be a UMaine professor of kinesiology. "Student success and innovation are among two of our most important tenets at Maine's R1 university," says John Volin, UMaine executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. "We look forward to the depth of experience Scott brings to this position focused on helping lead our student success and retention initiatives campuswide, innovating new strategies and programs, as well as integrating these with UMS TRANSFORMS Student Success and Retention initiatives." Marzilli has been a member of the

University of Houston–Downtown community since 2018, serving as dean of University College and chief student success officer and, since May, as special assistant to the president for student success. In 2008, Marzilli was named chair and professor in the Department of Health and Kinesiology at the University of Texas at Tyler. During his decade at the university, he also served as interim dean in the College of Nursing and Health Services, assistant vice president for academic innovation and student success, and dean of University College. Marzilli coordinated the biomechanics/motor skill laboratory at the University of West Florida from 1999–2008, and was promoted to associate professor in health, leisure and exercise science, with a specialization in motor behavior. He holds a Ph.D. in movement science from Florida State University. "I am so excited to join the University of Maine, and I look forward to working, as a community, to build upon current student-centered programs that provide holistic support and wraparound services to our students. I am passionate about helping lead new, innovative initiatives to ensure we democratize potential and provide every student we enroll with the opportunity for success," Marzilli says.

Online SAT Prep Matters and SAT Boot Camp courses offered through the Hutchinson Center in winter/spring 2023

20 Dec 2022

Preparation for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) will be the focus of an online SAT prep course or SAT Boot Camp offered through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in multiple sessions in 2023. SAT Prep Matters is designed for rising high school juniors and seniors who plan to take the SAT this year. The course will be offered from 6–7:30 p.m. ET on four Mondays. Three sessions of the program will be running in winter/spring 2023, including Session One: Feb. 6, 13, 27 and March 6; Session Two: April 3, 10, 24 and May 1; and Session Three: May 9, 16, 23 and 30. SAT Boot Camp will also be offering two sessions, beginning with Session One: Feb. 21, 22, 23 and 24 from 1–2:30 p.m. ET; and followed by Session Two: April 18, 19, 20 and 21 from 10–11:30 a.m. ET. More information is available on the Hutchinson Center [website](#). The redesigned SAT has a total score made up of two parts — verbal skills and math. The average SAT score for students in Maine is 1031 total (College Board report, graduating class of 2018 all Maine schools). According to the College Board, to attain at least a C in a nonremedial college math class, a student must score 530 out of 800 on the math section of the SAT. However, only about 40% of high school students can do so. Course instructor Mary Smyth says that students need to understand the concepts, not just cram at the last minute to pass a test. For 15 years, Smyth has tutored students for the ACTs, AP Calculus, SATs and SAT subject tests. Under her tutelage, and through their own hard work, most of Smyth's students have improved their SAT scores by 100–200 points. Smyth has been teaching algebra through calculus at Watershed School in Camden for over a decade and has coached SAT prep for 15 years. She is a retired pediatrician and is a local expert on college admission testing. A limited number of scholarships are available. More information about upcoming UMaine professional development programs, registration and need-based scholarship applications are available on the Hutchinson Center [website](#). For more information or to request an accommodation, contact um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; 207.338.8002.

BDN, Paper Advance share White profile

20 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Paper Advance](#) shared a profile of Liza White, a University of Maine Ph.D. student in biomedical engineering investigating new uses for these paper mill products, which may open new markets and support places like her hometown of Rumford. "It's nice to be able to explore using paper in different ways than we've always thought of. As we're moving more toward digital, there's more stress for paper companies. Being able to explore different avenues in which we can use traditional, well-established methods for other things really is compelling to me," White says.

O'Reilly speaks to CEO Magazine about MaineMBA

20 Dec 2022

Norm O'Reilly, dean of the Graduate School of Business at the University of Maine, was interviewed by [CEO Magazine](#) about the MaineMBA program. "We are very proud of the fact that the MaineMBA can be taken online or in-person, and from Maine, from across the United States or from anywhere in the world at the same price, with the same professors, and with the same course options. We like to say 'it is the MBA your way,'" O'Reilly said.

Ippolito featured on WGME discussing TikTok bans on government devices

20 Dec 2022

John Ippolito, professor of new media at the University of Maine, spoke to [WGME-TV](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) about Maine considering banning TikTok on government devices, as many other states have done. "It's not really about spying; it's really more about influence. ... If we're going to focus on TikTok as a problem, we really should be focusing on all kinds of social media companies and the use of an algorithm that can again splinter us into polarized factions or amplify bad habits and dangerous tendencies of its users is something that is common to multiple social media, not just TikTok," Ippolito said.

News Center Maine features Birkel research about manufactured homes

20 Dec 2022

[News Center Maine](#) featured Sean Birkel, research assistant professor of the Climate Change Institute, and his research with the University of Vermont and University of New Hampshire about the climate resilience of manufactured homes. "The whole basin, and also [the] Gulf of Maine, last year and this year, are the two warmest years on record. How do we best prepare and adapt? Implement measures to protect civil infrastructure?" Birkel said.

The Atlantic interviews Ranco about how warming winters conflict with Penobscot culture

20 Dec 2022

[The Atlantic](#) interviewed Daren Ranco, chair of Native American Programs at the University of Maine, about how warming winters conflict with Penobscot culture. Ranco, also an associate professor of anthropology, said that Penobscot Nation members' notion of seasons is tied to the 13 moons that make up each year. With Northeast winters becoming milder due to global climate change, the names of two moons — takwaskwayi'-kisohs ("moon of crusts of ice on the snow") and aspa'skwacess-kisohs ("moon when ice forms on the margins of lakes"), which roughly correspond to March and December — don't "make as

much sense," he says.

Ippolito presents about Cyberpunk for Arebyte Gallery exhibition ‘Futures Past’

20 Dec 2022

Jon Ippolito, professor of new media at the University of Maine, gave a talk on the relevance of Cyberpunk science fiction in contemporary digital art for the exhibition “Futures Past” that opened on Oct. 27, 2022, at Arebyte Gallery in London. A video of the lecture is available [online](#).

Tickets now available for 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration Jan. 16

20 Dec 2022

The 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration, co-sponsored by the Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP and the University of Maine Division of Student Life, will be held 8:30–10:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan.16 in the Wells Conference Center. Tickets are \$20 for community members, faculty, staff and graduate students; \$15 for children under 12. Free admission for UMaine undergraduate students, sponsored by UMaine Student Government. [Register online](#). The Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast is supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund. For more information or to request a disability accommodation, contact Student Life, um.studentlife@maine.edu; 207.581.1406.

UMaine researchers testing lobster shells to thwart potato soil pathogens

20 Dec 2022

Scientists at the University of Maine are evaluating if lobster shells can cultivate beneficial microbial communities that ward off soilborne potato pathogens. The novel shell-to-spud combination may connect two cornerstones of Maine’s food system and enhance the state’s circular economy. Potatoes are Maine’s top agricultural commodity with a value of more than \$215 million in 2021, according to a National Agricultural Statistics Service [report](#). The crop’s value is in its roots, making it especially susceptible to soilborne diseases. Early potato dying syndrome, a fungal pathogen present in Maine, can decimate [as much as half](#) of a crop in severely affected fields. Katie Ashley, a plant science Ph.D. student in the lab of Associate Professor Jianjun Hao, is assessing how different concentrations of cooked, dried and ground lobster shells may prevent potato disease. [Ross Sousa](#), a fourth-year botany major from Somerset, Massachusetts, has also worked on the project as a laboratory technician. In addition to disease resistance, the team is also tracking soil microbial communities, overall crop yield, and plant emergence, vigor, biomass and height. The ingredient of interest is chitin, which comprises 75% of lobsters’ exoskeletons and provides structural support. Chitin is also present in fungal and bacterial pathogens. Some naturally occurring soil microbes specialize in breaking down this compound. Ashley hypothesizes that adding chitin-rich shells in the fall will cultivate these beneficial microbial communities, creating a line of defense against soilborne pests. [caption id="attachment_94845" align="aligncenter" width="750"]



Dried lobster shells are processed in a blender and then grain mill, rendering them the texture of cornmeal. The powder is mixed into the top three of four inches of soil at a concentration of .02 to .08% of the soil’s weight.[/caption] The approach is not without precedent; chitin from other types of shellfish is already part of integrated pest management programs on farms in South Korea, Japan and California. Based on this past work, Ashley initially also considered oyster shells. She soon realized their rock-like nature makes them difficult to grind into a usable soil amendment, and pivoted to lobster. Hers is the first study to use Maine’s state crustacean and apply the practice to potatoes. “We’re very fortunate to have both rich agricultural production and a blue economy. It puts Maine in a very unique position,” says Ashley, who earned her master’s in plant pathology from UMaine. “We have these really valuable resources; why aren’t we using them yet? This presents an opportunity to connect the potato and lobster industries and utilize shellfish byproducts which would otherwise enter the waste stream.” The team completed a greenhouse trial with 90 plants on UMaine’s campus this fall. A field-scale trial in the 2023 growing season will compare plots with different concentrations of chitin, compost and chemical fumigation at Aroostook Farm in Presque Isle. Ashley and Hao are hoping growers in the region may also open portions of their fields for the study. Preliminary results indicate that the amendment also benefits aboveground plant growth by an average of 200%. Lobster shell fertilizer is not new. Ashley’s study may provide the data to support its growth into a broader market. Hao’s lab, the Roger Clapp Greenhouses and Aroostook Farm are part of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station at the state’s R1 public research university. The study is an extension of a \$10 million multistate research collaboration funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture and led by the

University of Minnesota. Hao is a co-principal investigator on the project, which aims to address key soil issues on potato farms — the mounting pressure of soilborne disease despite fumigation, and declining soil productivity that supports crop health. “Soil microorganisms are the key to improve soil quality and can be measured as an indicator of soil health. These beneficial microorganisms are highly driven by soil amendments such as crops, plant residues, animal manures and, in this case, lobster shell meal,” says Hao, who also holds appointments in UMaine’s School of Food and Agriculture, and School of Biology and Ecology. Further support was provided by a \$14,260 Graduate Student Research Grant from the USDA’s Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program. Sousa received a fellowship from UMaine’s Center for Undergraduate Research for his work on the project. If successful, Ashley’s approach could provide an alternative disease control practice for Maine potato growers. Chemical inputs are the largest operating expense for the state’s growers, according to a [2008 report](#) from the Maine Potato Board. Some, like chlorothalonil, which has been used since the early 1970s to control late blight, have been the subject of [increasing scrutiny and regulation](#). “Reducing the reliance on pesticides for disease management in favor of enhancing microbial soil ecology could benefit both agriculture and the environment,” Ashley says. The concept would also provide a new market for byproducts of the lobster industry. According to the [Maine Department of Marine Resources](#), it landed a 100-million-pound catch in 2021. Curt Brown, a marine biologist at Saco-based seafood supplier and processor Ready Seafood, estimates that shells account for 25% of lobsters’ weight. Nearly half of Maine’s catch is processed rather than sold live, and those shells are largely destined for landfills. A new market for this byproduct would ebb that waste stream. Ready Seafood and Luke’s Lobster in Portland and Coastal Chitin provided lobster shells for Ashley’s study.



“This research has the very real potential to turn a waste stream into a revenue stream for Maine’s lobster industry, while at the same time helping to increase the value of another iconic Maine product: the potato. I can’t think of a better example of a true win-win scenario for our state,” Brown says. Ready Seafood has a well-established record of partnering on UMaine research projects, including the [American Lobster Settlement Index](#) and exploring techniques to accelerate the shell-hardening process in recently molted lobsters. “As Maine’s public research university, connections to the people and businesses we serve are vital. Our scientists work every day to explore opportunities and deliver solutions for our community here in Maine and society at large,” says Diane Rowland, director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, and dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture that oversees UMaine’s agricultural and marine science research. “We are so grateful for the continued support of partners like those in the potato and lobster industries. Together, we are charting a silo-busting course for our Maine’s working landscapes and waterfronts.” Contact: Erin Miller, erin.miller@maine.edu

UMaine, MDIFW researchers developing new tools for wild turkey management

20 Dec 2022

Researchers from the University of Maine and Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife are working together to develop new resources that will support current and future management strategies for wild turkey populations in the state. Scientists from UMaine and MDIFW recently developed an integrated population model for estimating wild turkey abundance at the regional and state levels using data they collected from 2018–20. They also found that their population estimates were improved when accounting for local differences in hunter harvest rates using a spatial predictive process. Their findings were published in the journal [Ecology and Evolution](#). Building on the last project, the team now aims to develop a new web-based application that wildlife managers can use to predict how certain changes in harvest regulations and other management protocols could affect wild turkey populations. The tool will rely on a new, more advanced simulated population model that researchers will create using earlier estimates and historic data from 2017–21. The group received \$142,000 for the project through the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, which is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and provides funding support to state wildlife management agencies, such as MDIFW. Researchers Erik Blomberg from the UMaine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology and Joseph Zydlewski of the USGS Maine Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit are working on the project with MDIFW senior resource biologist Kelsey Sullivan. The analysis will be done in collaboration with Matthew Gonnerman, a UMaine alum and postdoctoral researcher at the University of Maryland, and UMaine Ph.D. student Lara Katz. “Informed decision making is a keystone to smart management,” Zydlewski

says. “Reliable estimates of turkey numbers will help the state protect populations, reduce landowner concerns and provide hunters with outstanding opportunities.” Wild turkeys were wiped out in Maine in the early 1800s largely due to unrestricted hunting and increased agricultural production, according to the [MDIFW website](#). The department began reintroducing wild turkey in the 1970s, and its efforts resulted in a successful reestablishment of the species across the state. Populations of wild turkeys and the popularity of hunting them has steadily increased in Maine over the past few decades, with about 6,000 turkeys harvested each year, according to researchers. In 2017, MDIFW updated its wild turkey management objectives in response to growing abundance and hunting, and in 2018, its scientists began a long-term partnership with UMaine to collect population data and other revelation information to support the department’s latest goals. “Wild turkey populations have been doing exceptionally well in Maine, and with that success has come challenges to decision-makers who sometimes must balance multiple objectives for turkey management,” Blomberg says. “We’re excited to continue our collaboration with MDIFW to create state-of-the-art tools to manage Maine’s wild turkeys.” Over the years, several UMaine researchers have provided deeper insight into Maine wild turkey populations, their habits and the forces that threaten them. Earlier this year, the UMaine and MDIFW turkey research team [produced a study](#) which found that turkeys adjust their movements — for example, the locations where they roost at night — in order to increase their chances of surviving the tough Maine winters. [Another study](#) was able to determine the prevalence of potentially lethal Lymphoproliferative virus (LPDV) in wild turkey populations statewide and the factors that can influence their chance of infection. Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Kaia De Vries: National math award winner loves a challenge

21 Dec 2022

Complex math problems can intimidate some second-year college students, but they invigorate Kaia De Vries. The University of Maine sophomore dives headfirst into real analysis, permutations, inversions and other challenging queries presented to her, honing her skills so she can become an adept mathematician. In recognition of her hard work and passion, the [American Mathematical Society](#) awarded De Vries, of Fryberg, Maine, one of its undergraduate opportunity awards this year — the \$3,000 Edmund Landau Award — to support her studies. The announcement came as a surprise to De Vries, who didn’t know that the UMaine Department of Mathematics and Statistics nominated her for the award until she received a phone call from Nigel Pitt saying the society gave it to her. “I really enjoy doing all of my math coursework, and I always try really hard to do a good job,” says De Vries, who is majoring in math and minoring in computer science. “It feels like that’s paying off.” De Vries says her love of math sparked in grade school when she completed homework assignments with help from her father, Chris. When tackling problems, he would tell De Vries about the real-world connections and applications for the work she was doing, which she says made it fun. At Fryeburg Academy, De Vries participated in the math team in her junior and senior year — the latter of which she spent as its co-captain, and competed against students from across the state. Through the team, she discovered a passion for solving intricate mathematical concepts, ones she didn’t explore in her high school classes. “I always liked the problem-solving aspect of math, and getting into the more complex, higher-level stuff,” De Vries says. “It’s interesting to learn about the bigger problems you can solve and how you can apply it all to modeling real issues.” Outside of class, De Vries serves as vice president of the Math Club, which was founded this year, and participates in department events, such as its weekly colloquium series. De Vries says the math faculty are “very supportive and amazing” with students, and their passion for their areas of expertise is inspiring. The department has also hosted more events and activities this year, she says, giving her more opportunities to socialize with her teachers and classmates and meet new people. “My peers have also been very wonderful to be around and be in class with,” De Vries says, “I love working on assignments and trying to figure out homework problems with them.” This year, De Vries plans to apply for the “Four Plus” bachelor’s–master’s program in math, which will allow her to take graduate-level courses and begin working toward her master’s degree in her senior year. Students typically apply for the program in their third-year of study, but De Vries says she qualified to submit her application as a second-year student because she started at UMaine with 35 credits. Eisso Atzema, De Vries’ advisor and principal lecturer in mathematics, encouraged her to apply for the “Four Plus” program. “He has been really great at encouraging me to do things like apply for the Four Plus master’s program and to just generally be involved in all of the events the math department does,” De Vries says. Next year, De Vries hopes to conduct mathematics research. While she hasn’t yet determined her research topic for her undergraduate program, she looks forward to discovering new knowledge for the remainder of her college experience. She also hopes to continue conducting research in a future career in the private sector. “I think it would be fun to do something that someone hasn’t done before,” she says, “say something, prove something that no one has ever proven before, even if it’s really small.” Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Boston.com highlights takeaways from Talty event

21 Dec 2022

[Boston.com](#) highlighted six key takeaways from a discussion with Morgan Talty, assistant professor in the Department of English at the University of Maine, for the publication’s book club.

BDN, Piscataquis Observer note UMaine Extension’s role in Dover-Foxcroft after-school program

21 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Piscataquis Observer](#) noted that University of Maine Cooperative Extension will partner with the SeDoMoCha after-school program in Dover-Foxcroft, which just received a \$150,000 grant from the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program.

Gill speaks to Physics World about the term ‘Anthropocene’

21 Dec 2022

Jacquelyn Gill, associate professor of paleoecology and plant ecology at the University of Maine, spoke to [Physics World](#) about the term “Anthropocene,” which geologists have not yet fully defined despite the fact that the term has entered the public discourse. “I think, in a lot of ways, the cat’s out of the bag. ... What an event framework allows us to do is to characterize the Anthropocene in the way that it’s already being used by the broader public, by journalists, by historians, environmentalists, etc. — all of whom sort of use the word as almost a metaphor for the suite of activities that humans do that leave a marked impact on the planet,” Gill said.

Media feature Killy, new UMaine athletic director

21 Dec 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#), [Bangor Daily News](#), [News Center Maine](#) and [WGME](#) (Channel 13 in Portland) wrote a feature about Jude Killy, the new University of Maine athletic director. Killy told the BDN that the position is the “opportunity of a lifetime.” Killy will start his new post in Orono on Jan. 30, joining the university in the early stages of a decade-long plan to upgrade athletic facilities. The [Bangor Daily News](#) shared footage of the press conference to introduce Killy.

Business Wire highlights UMaine role in Sappi North America’s grant for forestry recovery

21 Dec 2022

In an article about Sappi North America, Inc., receiving a \$1 million grant from the Maine Technology Institute’s Forestry Recovery Initiative to improve productivity and reduce energy in its Somerset Mill, [Business Wire](#) noted that Sappi partners with the University of Maine for pulping and forestry research, as well as product prototyping, and UMaine will be a key partner in Sappi’s project. [Yahoo Finance](#), the [Bakersfield Californian](#), [Tulahoma News](#) and other outlets shared the Business Wire report.

Media share UMaine Hutchinson Center’s SAT prep courses

21 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#), [Sun Journal](#), [Daily Bulldog](#), [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#), [Republican Journal](#) and [Zipe Education](#) shared information about an online SAT prep course and SAT Boot Camp offered through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in multiple sessions in 2023. More information about upcoming UMaine professional development programs, registration and need-based scholarship applications are available on the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

Dill speaks to BDN about winter cutworms

21 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Jim Dill, pest management specialist with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, about winter cutworms. Dill said that the cutworms were especially active in the days leading up to the storm last week because the weather had been so unseasonably mild. “Think of it, we had green grass until very recently. Then, just like that, they got caught on top of the snow,” Dill said. The [Piscataquis Observer](#) shared the BDN report.

Tutor Program awarded CRLA certification

22 Dec 2022

The College Success Programs' Tutor Program has been awarded certification as a Level 1- and 2-certified tutor training program by the internationally recognized College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). The Tutor Program has been certified for 21 years and is certified through 2026. For more than 30 years, CRLA has been a leader in learning assistance, reading and academic support programs, with almost 1,300 members and over 2,000 certified training programs worldwide. The Tutor Program has worked hard to develop a tutor training program that meets CRLA’s rigorous standards and has successfully completed the International Tutor Training Program Certification (ITTPC) peer review process. Achieving certification means that the Tutor Program has met CRLA’s high standards for tutor selection, training, direct service and evaluation as an integral part of its overall tutoring program.

Deadline for Maine Sea Grant research proposals: Jan. 10

22 Dec 2022

Maine Sea Grant's biennial request for research proposals is now open for submissions. Maine Sea Grant seeks proposals that link research to the needs of coastal communities. Total two-year requests are limited to \$200,000 in Sea Grant funds (including all direct and indirect costs). The program will host an informational webinar on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023, at noon. [More information is online](#).

Retirement celebration for director of UMaine Housing Services Jen Perry Jan. 4

22 Dec 2022

Members of the University of Maine community are invited to a reception in honor of Jen Perry’s retirement as director of UMaine Housing Services after 45 years of service to the university. The reception will take place Wednesday, Jan. 4, 3:30-5:30 p.m. in the Wells Conference Center. Light refreshments will be available. RSVP by Jan. 2 to Debra Bell, debra.bell@maine.edu.

Zipe Education features De Vries

22 Dec 2022

[Zipe Education](#) featured University of Maine sophomore Kaia De Vries, who was recently awarded the \$3,000 Edmund Landau Award from the American Mathematical Society to support her studies. “I always liked the problem-solving aspect of math, and getting into the more complex, higher-level stuff. It’s interesting to learn about the bigger problems you can solve and how you can apply it all to modeling real issues,” De Vries said.

Dallas Morning News cites information from UMaine Climate Reanalyzer

22 Dec 2022

In an article about the polar vortex, the [Dallas Morning News](#) cited information from the University of Maine Climate Reanalyzer showing that the world as a whole is about the same temperature as the average was from 1979–2000 for this time of year.

PenBay Pilot advances virtual facilitation workshop at UMaine Hutchinson Center

22 Dec 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) shared information about two facilitation trainings through the University of Maine Hutchinson Center's professional development program. Building Your Virtual Facilitations Skills, an online program, will be held on Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8 and 15 from 1–3 p.m. ET. The cost is \$225 per person. Strengthening Your Facilitation Skills, an in-person program, will be held May 5, 19 and June 2 from 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. ET and costs \$425. This new training series was developed through a collaboration with University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Sea Grant, New Hampshire Extension, Virginia Cooperative Extension, and University of Vermont Extension. More information is available on the Hutchinson Center [website](#).

McGill speaks to Science News Explores about declining animal populations

22 Dec 2022

Brian McGill, professor of biological science at the University of Maine, spoke to [Science News Explores](#) about the declining populations of different animal species. “Looking at changes in population size can show us species that are trending toward extinction. The species in this study haven’t gone extinct — at least, not yet. So “there is still time for humans to take action and turn things around,” McGill said.

UMaine graduate student attends UN summit

22 Dec 2022

Joseph Black, a University of Maine master's student in interdisciplinary studies, attended the [Green Summit](#) hosted by Humanitarian Affairs Asia at the UN Conference Centre in Bangkok, Thailand, Dec. 13–16. Black had the opportunity to meet people who work with the UN, and also clean a river in Bangkok and plant mangroves. A Green Summit video is [online](#).

MBS students complete course on the business of healthcare

22 Dec 2022

This fall semester, 10 Maine Business School students tackled real-world problems in the healthcare industry through a partnership with Northern Light Health. The students worked closely with human resource professionals to offer solutions around recruitment and engagement. This special topics class originated from a conversation between MBS internship coordinator Taylor Ashley and Paul Bolin, '92 and '99G, chief people officer and senior vice president of Northern Light Health. Read the full story on the [MBS website](#).

Facilities Management employees contribute to successful food, toy drives in the season of giving

22 Dec 2022

Facilities Management's 2nd annual food drive, Nov. 1–Dec. 16, yielded 10 boxes of nonperishable goods for the on-campus food pantry, Black Bear Exchange. In addition, members of the FM community supported the Salvation Army's annual Angel Tree, Dec. 1–14, collecting gifts for 40 children in need in Orono, Old Town, Milford and Bradley.

Leaders thank congressional delegation for securing UMS workforce development and innovation funding

23 Dec 2022

The bill on its way to the President's desk includes \$53 million in one-time federal funding, known as earmarks, for investments in the university that will directly benefit Maine Thanks to the leadership of Maine's congressional delegation, the omnibus spending bill passed today includes \$53 million in one-time investments in infrastructure and initiatives that will allow Maine's public universities to accelerate economic and community development across the state. Many of the University of Maine System projects funded through the FY23 federal budget at the direct request of Sen. Susan Collins, a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and Sen. Angus King and Rep. Jared Golden, with the support of Rep. Chellie Pingree, who serves on the House Appropriations Committee, will be led by the University of Maine, which in 2022 became the first institution in Maine to ascend to the top-tier of America's research universities when it achieved R1 Carnegie Classification. This includes a new PFAS testing and research lab and outreach program; modernization of the nation's only dedicated wild blueberry research facility located in Jonesboro, and an aquaculture research and development center in Franklin to help those industries innovate with new products and processes; a food innovation center to support local food processing; and further funding toward construction of a cutting-edge Green Engineering and Materials Factory of the Future connected to UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center. UMaine will also undertake the first-of-its-kind statewide tick and tick-borne disease study and conduct outreach to manage and mitigate threats to human health, and lead the collaborative creation of a roadmap for Maine's agriculture economy. “For every challenge confronting Maine, the University of Maine has unmatched research strength and strong community connections that, when catalyzed by this federal funding that leverages state investment and other external grants and contracts, can result in real solutions that will make a difference here in Maine,” said UMS Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation and UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. “We are so grateful for the ongoing partnership with our terrific delegation, which reflects a deep commitment to our state's students and communities and the vital institutions like ours that serve them. While these investments will initially enhance university facilities and expand education and research programs, the impact will be that Mainers are better equipped with the knowledge, skills and innovations necessary to shape Maine's future and its place in the world.” The new appropriations will also launch or expand targeted education and workforce development programs offered through UMS universities and centers in Augusta, Bangor, Brunswick, Ellsworth, Farmington, Fort Kent, Machias, Orono, Portland, Presque Isle, Rumford and Rockland in areas of high employer need, including nursing, dental assisting, cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing, aviation maintenance, entrepreneurship, immigration law and forestry. “On behalf of the entire University of Maine System, I want to thank the Maine congressional delegation for securing such significant federal funding that will directly strengthen our ability to serve the state through high-impact, high-quality education and research,” said Chancellor Dannel Malloy. “We are so grateful that Sens. Collins and King and Reps. Pingree and Golden value and understand our universities and their unique capacity to drive growth and opportunity across this state. This infusion of investment couldn't come at a better time for our System and state, and truly demonstrates the commitment of the delegation and our public universities to Maine's more prosperous future.” With \$1.3 billion in deferred

maintenance, flat tuition, and modest state appropriations increases that fall short of rising compensation and other costs, the restoration of the federal earmark process offers Maine’s public universities an opportunity to finally advance long-needed and planned projects, though the one-time funds will not support ongoing operations. For example, the budget on its way to President Joe Biden’s desk for signature includes \$4 million requested by Sens. Collins and King to renovate Fox Auditorium on the campus of the System’s northernmost university. “On behalf of all of us at the University of Maine at Fort Kent and the entire St. John Valley, I want to thank Sens. Collins and King for their tireless work to secure funding to make badly needed renovations to Fox Auditorium, which was built in 1969,” said UMFK President Deb Heeden. “Whether hosting a town meeting or a drama production put on by the local high school, this facility is a cornerstone of the community that provides opportunities for connection, celebration and culture so important to preserving the quality of life and heritage of our rural region. This investment will ensure Fox Auditorium can continue to play a leading role in bringing our community together for generations to come.” All of the UMS proposals were backed by letters of support from relevant industry, nonprofit and municipal partners noting the high-impact community benefit of the projects, including one that will enable the University of Maine at Augusta to bring its in-demand dental assisting and expanded functions dental assisting degree programs, currently offered in Bangor and Lewiston, to the University of Maine at Presque Isle. “Aroostook County leads Maine in the percentage of its older residents who have lost all of their permanent teeth to dental diseases,” said UMPI President Ray Rice and UMA President Joe Szakas in a joint statement. “In addition to academic program startup costs, these funds requested by the County’s own Sen. Susan Collins as well as Sen. Angus King will allow us to launch a new dental lab on the Presque Isle campus where our students will get high-impact, hands-on training, providing free and reduced community dental services, including to area veterans. We think this partnership will be a real game-changer in improving the oral, public and economic health of the County.” An additional \$74 million was included in the omnibus in support of direct requests from UMaine and the Maine congressional delegation to increase funding for key programs at federal agencies through which research and innovation initiatives at the flagship university are often funded. Education, research and economic, workforce and community development led by UMaine and other UMS universities will also be bolstered by other funding provided by the FY23 spending bill that faculty and staff will secure through competitive award processes administered by various federal agencies. To learn more about the funded University of Maine System projects, please visit collins.senate.gov/newsroom. Contact: Margaret Nagle, 207.581.3745; nagle@maine.edu

Nhan Chau: Designing for science at Maine EPSCoR

27 Dec 2022

Growing up in Vietnam’s Ho Chi Minh City, Nhan Chau and her little brother would watch cartoons together — Doraemon, a Japanese anime about a time-traveling robotic cat, was their favorite. She promised him that one day, she would make art of her own. As an intern at [Maine EPSCoR](#) at the University of Maine, which oversees and implements Maine’s jurisdiction of the National Science Foundation Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), Chau may not be drawing cartoon cats, but she is applying her artistic talents to communicating and promoting top-notch science initiatives — and learning about her own creative process along the way. Chau, a senior majoring in new media with a minor in graphic design and a member of the Honors College, applied for an internship position at Maine EPSCoR this past spring semester. Even though the position was advertised as a writing assistant, she included her portfolio of photography and graphic design as well. Luckily, that kind of creativity was just what Maine EPSCoR was looking for. “What I really wanted was someone to do videos,” says Daniel Timmermann, technical communications specialist at Maine EPSCoR and Chau’s supervisor. “Between her graphic design and animation work and familiarity with that type of storytelling, I felt that that was something she could definitely learn. She was game, and it turned out really well. It’s very rare that you have someone come in who can contribute to the team immediately.” Chau’s duties at EPSCoR have run the gamut since she started working there in May 2022, including writing articles for the Maine-eDNA website; drawing illustrations for the forthcoming edition of the Maine EPSCoR [magazine](#); managing the program’s social media postings and graphics; and taking and editing photos and videos of researchers at work. Chau sees the value in using her artistic eye to promote what she says as “really important” work. “In addition to just appealing to the scientific community, appealing to the wider, general public is also good to bridge that communication so they can chime in on what is happening,” Chau says. “It’s very exciting to see people who are very good at their crafts doing the thing that they’re doing.” Timmermann says that Chau has been an enormous asset for the Maine EPSCoR office. He was impressed with her overhaul of the Maine-eDNA website, combing through the websites of other university research institutes to figure out what worked and looked aesthetically nice to apply to the website redesign. “It looks nice, it’s informative and something that people can maneuver easily,” Timmermann says. “It takes a lot of time to develop and work through the bad ideas and having someone like her who is not only creatively talented but knows how to use the design tools is a big help. From last June onwards, I think it’s hard to find a project that she didn’t in some way have a hand in that our office put out, whether it’s a publication or a website.” Most notably, Chau helped create a large portion of the resources the office used for the 27th National Science Foundation (NSF) EPSCoR National Conference in Portland, which was hosted by Maine EPSCoR. She designed a new logo for the event and helped produce all of the marketing materials for the conference. “She takes on a really broad range of creative responsibilities and has really been able to contribute,” Timmermann says. “We’re very lucky that we found her because not a lot of folks are able to come in and do that as students. The conference was a large undertaking and out of all of the projects that’s one she should be particularly proud of.” Chau says that her internship has not only influenced how she thinks about her artistic process, but has also prepared her for a career after graduation. “If I could incorporate more science into my craft, it would appeal to a wider audience. Science, math and physics also help with animation; it relates a lot,” Chau says. “Actually designing and editing something for actual clients is a big pressure and responsibility. Now I’m ready for a real-world job.” Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

PPH cites UMaine 2021 overdose data

27 Dec 2022

In an article about drug- and alcohol-related deaths bringing down life expectancy nationwide, the [Portland Press Herald](#) cited research from the University of Maine’s Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center that showed 632 Mainers died of drug overdoses in 2021.

BDN, Maine Monitor highlight UMaine funding in federal budget bill

27 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Maine Monitor](#) highlighted that \$120 million from the omnibus spending bill that passed the Senate on Thursday will go to various initiatives in the University of Maine System, including \$33 million for UMaine’s Advanced Manufacturing Center and \$8 million for PFAS research.

Vermont media feature UMaine research about animal personalities

27 Dec 2022

The [Williston Observer](#), the [Citizen](#), the [Colchester Sun](#) and the [Milton Independent](#) featured research from the University of Maine that examined animal personalities by looking at “synzoochory,” the dispersal of seeds by seed-caching animals.

PenBay Pilot highlights UMaine Emera Astronomy Center

27 Dec 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) highlighted the University of Maine’s Emera Astronomy Center in an article about day trips in Maine.

Birthisel featured in Maine Beacon

27 Dec 2022

Sonja Birthisel, lecturer in the University of Maine’s Ecology and Environmental Sciences department, was featured in the [Maine Beacon](#) for her work as a climate activist.

BDN, Piscataquis Observer report on UMaine, MDIFW research about wild turkey management

27 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Piscataquis Observer](#) reported that researchers from the University of Maine and Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife are working together to develop new resources that will support current and future management strategies for wild turkey populations in the state. Building on the last project, the team now aims to develop a new web-based application that wildlife managers can use to predict how certain changes in harvest regulations and other management protocols could affect wild turkey populations.

Brewer speaks to PPH about Maine Republican Party

27 Dec 2022

Mark Brewer, professor of political science at the University of Maine, spoke to the [Portland Press Herald](#) about Maine Republican Party Chairwoman Demi Kouzounas seeking a fourth term as leader of the state party after bruising election losses this November. Brewer said that it would be unusual for Kouzounas to be elected to a fourth term, especially after another disappointing election cycle. Brewer also said the party itself seems unsettled about which direction to go, pointing to the first vote on the \$473 million heating and energy assistance bill Dec. 7, which was overwhelmingly supported by House Republicans but blocked by Senate Republicans. [Yahoo News](#), the [Sun Journal](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the PPH report.

New York Times features Climate Reanalyzer data visualization

27 Dec 2022

In an article about the polar vortex, the [New York Times](#) used a data visualization from the University of Maine Climate Change Institute’s Climate Reanalyzer.

Calder speaks to BDN about dangers of older food preservation techniques

27 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) interviewed Beth Calder, University of Maine Cooperative Extension food safety specialist, for an article about the dangers of certain outdated food preservation techniques, like water glassing eggs, canning better and animal feed fermentation. “With more research we are seeing a lot of these [older] methods are not safe practices. In both the short and long term they can actually make people quite sick,” Calder said.

Media report on UMaine research about lobster shells fighting soil pathogens that impact potatoes

27 Dec 2022

[The Bangor Daily News](#), [News Center Maine](#), [MaineBiz](#), [CentralMaine.com](#), [Lincoln County News](#), [Morning Ag Clips](#), [WMAZ-TV](#) (Channel 13 in Macon, Georgia) [Spud Smart](#), [Potato Pro](#), [Potato News Today](#) and [Potato Grower](#) reported that researchers at the University of Maine are currently exploring whether lobster shells can be used to combat soil pathogens like early dying syndrome in potato fields. The fungus responsible for the disease is present in Maine soils and can wipe out half an annual crop. Katie Ashley, a plant science doctoral student at UMaine, is working under the hypothesis that the correct concentration of the compound chitin can prevent these fungal diseases. About 75 percent of a lobster’s shell contains chitin, one of the most abundant polysaccharides in nature, second only to cellulose.

Richards featured on the College Admissions Process Podcast

27 Dec 2022

Chris Richards, director of undergraduate enrollment management at the University of Maine, was featured on the [College Admissions Process Podcast](#) hosted by John Durante.

BDN reports on UMaine Office of Innovation and Economic Development rebranding as SPIRE

28 Dec 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported that University of Maine president Joan Ferrini-Mundy has announced the rebranding of the Office of Innovation and Economic Development as the Office of Strategic Partnerships, Innovation, Resources and Engagement, or SPIRE. SPIRE will focus on fulfilling the university's service mission through a strong emphasis on strategic partnerships, and corporate and community engagement.

Carter speaks to Maine Public about federal funding to UMaine to study PFAS**28 Dec 2022**

Hannah Carter, dean of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, spoke to [Maine Public](#) about the federal budget bill including \$8 million to the University of Maine to study "forever chemicals" and their impact in the state. "Because farmers want to farm their lands. They don't want it to sit there. And we want them to be able to do that. Some of that is, we've got to figure out what happens with PFAS uptake into a plant. And I think that's the most urgent research, to me, that can happen," Carter said.

Hudson Museum closed until Jan. 17**29 Dec 2022**

The Hudson Museum will be closed until Jan. 17 during the installation of new carpeting in the Collins Center for the Arts.

Mount Desert Islander promotes Horne event**29 Dec 2022**

The [Mount Desert Islander](#) promoted an event about how Mount Desert Island's tourism industry is adapting to climate change, featuring Lydia Horne, who received her Ph.D. at the University of Maine studying the topic.

Maine Public notes UMaine contributions to climate reporting**29 Dec 2022**

In a roundup of the year's climate stories, [Maine Public](#) cited an interview with Ivan Fernandez, a professor of soil science at the University of Maine, where he said that snow in Maine has decreased by 7% and will decrease by another 20%–40% by 2050. The article also noted that, according to the University of Maine's 2020 update on climate change, the spruce and fir trees that made Maine famous will decline as a result of warmer seasons.

Section of Munson Road closed through Jan. 6**29 Dec 2022**

Munson Road from Schoodic Road to Sebec Road will remain closed daily through Jan. 6 during the excavation for the installation of sewer and gas lines as part of the Holmes and Coburn construction project. The roadway will be open to traffic nights and weekends.

BDN, Piscataquis Observer share UMaine Extension 4-H youth public speaking workshop**30 Dec 2022**

The [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Piscataquis Observer](#) noted that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H staff in Penobscot County will hold a youth public speaking workshop on Saturday, Jan. 21. The in-person workshop is scheduled from 2–4 p.m. at the Penobscot County Extension office, 307 Maine Ave., Bangor.

WMTW notes UMaine Professional Opioid Workforce Response Program**30 Dec 2022**

In a segment about the opioid crisis in Maine, [WMTW-TV](#) (Channel 8 in Portland) highlighted the University of Maine's Professional Opioid Workforce Response Program, which has been training students to take on jobs in substance use treatment and prevention since 2019. Elizabeth Armstrong, assistant professor of social work and the program's director, told WMTW that preparing students for those positions is critical as the state continues to navigate the opioid crisis. "I think we at the School of Social Work are really well-equipped to provide professional training they need to excel in the substance use workforce," Armstrong said.

Sun Journal reports on UMaine role in Franco newspaper digitization project**30 Dec 2022**

[The Sun Journal](#) reported on the University of Maine's role in a Maine State Library project to digitize French language newspapers published in Maine. The article noted that the Franco-American Collection of the University of Maine also has extensive holdings of the newspaper Le Messenger, which was published between 1880 and 1968. Jacob Albert, a librarian archivist and project manager of UMaine's Franco American Portal, has been involved in the digital project for the past three years. "It illuminates connections between the French speaking communities that were not covered by the English papers," Albert said. [Yahoo News](#) shared the Sun Journal report.

PPH reports on federal funds to UMaine for tick research

30 Dec 2022

The [Portland Press Herald](#) reported that the University of Maine will receive \$6.2 million in federal funding to research ways to control tick populations, identify emerging tick species and expand public health efforts as Lyme disease cases have reached record-high levels in Maine. Griffin Dill, director of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Tick Lab, spoke to the PPH about the funding, noting that the \$6.2 million will pay for five years of research and public education. [Yahoo News](#) and [CentralMaine.com](#) shared the PPH report.

PenBay Pilot reports on UMaine grant from NSF to support low-income engineering students

06 Sep 2022

The [Penobscot Bay Pilot](#) reported that Wilhelm Friess, associate professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Maine, was awarded \$749,999 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for a project called Building Bridges for Engineering Students (BBEST) that supports talented, low-income engineering students. "This program will entice and support talented engineering students to enter, persist and graduate from UMaine. This will directly support the UMS TRANSFORMS objectives to strengthen Maine's workforce and economy by increasing the number of graduating engineers from UMaine," Friess says.

UMaine researchers look into how to make kelp aquaculture a better carbon sink

12 Sep 2022

Cost-effective carbon dioxide removal technologies play a key role in combating climate change. A team of researchers at the University of Maine in collaboration with Conscience Bay Research have developed a kelp aquaculture model for the Gulf of Maine that maximizes carbon sequestration and cost effectiveness of this natural carbon sink. Wild macroalgae is one of the most extensive and productive vegetative biomass stocks, but it primarily grows in rocky nearshore areas not conducive to localized long-term sequestration, which only occurs when macroalgae is incorporated within deep ocean sediments at over 1,000 meters of depth or remineralized at depths below the permanent thermocline in areas of the ocean where carbon is blocked from returning to the atmosphere. Macroalgae aquaculture, like farming kelp in the Gulf of Maine, could potentially be leveraged to replicate this carbon sequestration process by farming large quantities of kelp at an offshore site, transporting the kelp to a deep water "sink site" and then depositing it deep in the ocean where the carbon can be sequestered. "Farming kelp for the purposes of large-scale carbon dioxide removal is an idea that has recently gained significant attention from the research community, private sector and aquaculture industry. The goal of our analysis was to assign some realism to the conversation regarding the costs and environmental impact of this emerging technology. Many are looking to the Gulf of Maine as not only a national leader in sustainable seafood production, but also a potential carbon sink. More information is critically required to help guide potential ocean carbon dioxide removal development," says Struan Coleman, principal author of the study and research associate at UMaine. A team of researchers led by UMaine aimed to figure out how kelp aquaculture can optimize carbon sequestration and cost effectiveness. "Kelp cultivation for carbon sequestration is not cost competitive right now, but there are important pathways to reducing the cost of producing kelp, which is good for everyone," says Damian Brady, co-author of the study and UMaine associate professor of oceanography. "We focused on the cost of production, because if it is not cost competitive with other carbon sequestration approaches, like direct air capture, then that can dictate where future research funding gets committed." The researchers created a detailed model for kelp aquaculture in the region. By tinkering with 18 different variables — including the assumptions for harvest labor requirements, where electricity was sourced from and the size of PVC spools within the nursery where the kelp spores or gametophytes attach and grow — they were able to reduce the cost of carbon sequestration through kelp aquaculture from \$17,048 per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent to \$1,257. The findings represent a significant cost decrease for carbon dioxide removal in kelp aquaculture; however, the industry cost target for such technologies is around \$100 per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent in order to be economically viable. "This means the industry will need to innovate beyond the way farms are run now if macroalgae carbon dioxide removal is to be economically viable," says Adam St. Gelais, co-author of the study and aquaculture innovation specialist at the UMaine Aquaculture Research Institute. "Additionally —and equally important with regards to scaling— this model provides pathways to reduce production costs and reduce production-related emissions for kelp farming regardless of its ultimate use. Insights from the model can be applied now to help producers increase yield and expand margins through optimization as they look to grow." Even if it is not possible to optimize all the parameters outlined, the scientists pinpointed six steps that will have the most impact on production costs, energy usage and monitoring in kelp aquaculture. First, farms should have the ability to move into larger, contiguous offshore sites in order to make more efficient use of ocean space and decrease the risk farmers assume when taking on a lease for a kelp aquaculture farm. Farmers should also automate the seeding and harvest process, leverage selective breeding to increase yields and assess the cost-benefit of gametophyte nursery cultures as opposed to spores, as they are less expensive and allow for better selective breeding. "Our findings are in line with many of the research and development needs that the kelp aquaculture industry has been working on for decades. I think the real value of our approach was looking at the ways in which variables such as yield, energy usage within the nursery and farm design impact the cost structure of kelp farms at a relatively large scale. If this industry is going to continue to expand, whether contributing to food or carbon dioxide removal supply chains, we'll need to tackle these issues" says Coleman. Kelp farms in the Gulf of Maine can also decarbonize by sourcing electricity from renewable sources and employing low greenhouse gas impact materials with long lifespans. Finally, they need to develop low-cost and accurate monitoring techniques for ocean-based carbon dioxide removal to reduce the uncertainty of carbon budgeting. "Our team is excited to continue this work over the next two years and hope to accelerate kelp farming along the technology cost curve. We leaned heavily on our initial analysis to identify the most impactful levers that we could pull to answer pressing research and development questions. Through a combination of field and modeling studies, we hope to de-risk promising designs and technologies," says Coleman. The [study](#) was published August 2022 in *Frontiers of Marine Science*. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

22 Sep 2022

Boothbay Register shares Darling Marine Center program for The [Boothbay Register](#) reported that Sarah Risley, a University of Maine graduate student based at the Darling Marine Center, will lead a team of high school students in green crab surveys this fall as part of an ongoing community science research program in the Damariscotta River estuary. The data that students collect will be used to help inform future management by the Damariscotta-Newcastle Shellfish Committee in coordination with the Maine Department of Marine Resources. Interested high school students can apply by completing the form found at tinyurl.com/5b7rjec3. Cats: UMaine in the news; marine sciences; nsfa; outreach; prek-12 outreach; darling marine center news;

Blackstone featured as VIP Caller on Maine Public show about post-COVID-19 symptoms

04 Oct 2022

Amy Blackstone, professor at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and University of Maine Department of Sociology, was a VIP caller on [Maine Public's](#) show Maine Calling looking at the long-term symptoms of COVID-19.

Maine Wire cites UMaine study about overdose deaths

06 Oct 2022

In an article about a debate about drug policies between gubernatorial candidates Gov. Janet Mills and former Gov. Paul LePage, [Maine Wire](#) cited a [study](#) from the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center that found 504 Maine residents died from overdoses of both pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical drugs in 2020.

MaineBiz features UMaine Nursing WellNurse program

30 Sep 2022

[MaineBiz](#) featured the University of Maine School of Nursing's WellNurse program aimed at reducing stress and burnout and building resilience among nursing students, faculty and staff. WellNurse was made possible by a \$1.5 million award from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The award was made possible by \$103 million in American Rescue Plan funding to help health and public safety professionals, particularly those in rural and medically underserved communities, reduce burnout and promote mental health. "We've seen unprecedented levels of stress, anxiety and burnout across the nursing profession related to working and learning in a high-stakes environment, while we continue to manage the additional demands generated from the pandemic," said Kelley Strout, the School of Nursing's director and the principal investigator on the award.

BDN boosts Mitchell Center talk with EPA New England administrator

11 Oct 2022

The [Bangor Daily News](#) noted that the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine will host a talk about initiatives by the federal government to address climate change and environmental justice featuring David Cash, the New England regional administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency at 3 p.m. Oct. 17. Registration is required to attend remotely via Zoom; to register and receive connection information, see the [event webpage](#).

UMaine-led delegation of students, faculty attending UN climate summit

24 Oct 2022

A University of Maine-led delegation of students and faculty will witness world leaders, diplomats and experts negotiate global policies to address climate change at a United Nations summit from Nov. 7–18 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. By attending the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27), graduate students and faculty from UMaine and the University of Maine School of Law will learn first-hand how delegates, scientists and other stakeholders devise initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions worldwide and help countries mitigate the effects of global warming. Delegation members also will have the opportunity to help write statements to present to country negotiators and network with high-level diplomats, fellow scientists and lawyers, and other stakeholders during the summit. Additionally, they will watch as research from UMaine and other institutions informs policy decisions on the world stage. For some faculty, observing negotiations will support their own climate change and global policy studies. The delegation is co-headed by Cindy Isenhour, an associate professor of anthropology and climate change, and Nicholas Micinski, an assistant professor of political science and international affairs. Other members from UMaine include Adam Daignault, E.L. Giddings Associate Professor of Forest Policy & Economics; Daniel Hayes, an associate professor of remote sensing and geospatial analysis; Gabrielle Hillyer, a Ph.D. student in ecology and environmental scientists; Julia Hiltonsmith, a Ph.D. student of anthropology and environmental policy; and Victoria Markiewicz, a master's student with the School of Policy and International Affairs. The members from Maine Law are Anthony Moffa, an associate professor of law, and Mikala Bolmer, a J.D. candidate. "This is an absolutely incredible opportunity for the University of Maine and for graduate students in particular," Isenhour says. "I think it's a real opportunity for higher education to take a leadership role in climate mitigation. Opportunities like this are also just priceless for students to learn about climate governance." During COP27, Isenhour will provide scientific expertise to negotiators participating in the technical workshops of the Global Stocktake. The Paris Agreement includes a provision to "take stock" of progress on global goals for emissions and adaptation every five years. Isenhour, who has studied the politics of carbon accounting for five years, says she plans to "share information during the technical dialogs about alternative carbon accounting systems that can help to raise ambition and contribute to climate justice for developing economies." The summit also will feature discussions surrounding other aspects of carbon monitoring, public and private financing of climate change mitigation efforts, research, water governance, land use, renewable energy and other technologies, migration and refugees, equity and justice, and resilience and sustainability, all of which UMaine and Maine Law delegation members can attend. Government and nongovernment delegations will host their own workshops and booths about different climate change-related issues and policies to address them, and their work to help tackle the problem. "The importance of COP27 to the future of our planet and to the education of the next generation of climate policy leaders from UMaine and Maine Law cannot be understated," Moffa says. "Our environmental and oceans law program will join a select group from the U.S. legal academy whose research will directly contribute to, and benefit from, international climate negotiations." The UNFCCC [awarded UMaine observer status](#) last year during COP26. As a research and nongovernmental organization, UMaine will join the meetings as a member of the Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organizations (RINGO) constituency. Isenhour serves as the RINGO representative to the technical workshops on a key aspect of this year's negotiations, the Global Stocktake. This allows her to provide research-based guidance for global carbon accounting. Members of the group are not present to negotiate or advocate specific political positions, but to provide scientific information or to study the negotiation process. UMaine joins a list of RINGO organizations that include top-ranked universities and nonprofits from across the U.S. and the world. UMaine's application for observer status came after several UMaine faculty and students were given the opportunity to attend the UN Climate Negotiations in 2017 and 2018, made possible with assistance from Dan and Betty Churchill. Among the members of the UMaine-led delegation to COP27, however, Isenhour is the only one who previously attended a UN climate summit. "We appreciate the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has granted us observer status and recognized UMaine's leadership in climate change and global policy research and education," says President Joan

Ferrini-Mundy. “By attending COP27, graduate students from UMaine and Maine Law will gain knowledge and connections that will better equip them to help study and understand the effects of climate change and increase global sustainability as future scientists, policymakers and perhaps even world leaders.”
Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

News Center Maine reports on UMaine arctic char research

08 Nov 2022

[News Center Maine](#) featured research conducted in part by the University of Maine about what arctic char living in Maine might teach scientists about climate change adaptation. Maine’s arctic char have been separated from their northern counterparts for thousands of years, and they are showing differences in breeding, eating and lifestyle. The researchers said this is due to warming waters in Maine compared to the Arctic Circle. “In a warming climate, we really want to focus on those cold-adapted species to see how they’re being affected by a warming climate. ... All these things are interconnected and it’s understanding all those connections between the species,” said University of Maine graduate student Brad Erdman.

News Center Maine highlights UMaine delegation at COP27

08 Nov 2022

[News Center Maine](#) reported that a University of Maine-led delegation of students and faculty is part of more than 30,000 people expected to meet at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Egypt, which began Sunday. By attending COP27, graduate students and faculty from UMaine and the University of Maine School of Law will learn firsthand how delegates, scientists and other stakeholders work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions worldwide and help countries mitigate the effects of global warming. “My work is on climate migration, looking at how climate change drives migration and how international organizations and countries cooperate to help them,” Nicholas Micinski, an assistant professor of political science and international affairs at UMaine, explained. “It’s not a big issue at the COP right now, but we’re hoping to make it an issue.”

Vekasi co-authors paper on mineral supply infrastructure gap

18 Nov 2022

The transition to green technologies has been steadily ramping up in terms of scale all over the globe in recent years. What this means, however, is that the access to the minerals necessary for crafting the infrastructure for those green technologies has never been more important.

As international tensions heighten in the face of geopolitical events – particularly among world powers such as the United States, China and Russia – countries have begun to re-examine their mineral production capabilities. For countries like China, with robust mining and processing operations, negative impacts are at least somewhat muted as their mineral supplies continue to grow.

But for a country like the U.S., or any other country which is currently short on metal supply, decoupling from the largest mineral supplier in the world could have a catastrophic impact on the green tech transition.

An interdisciplinary group of researchers from academia and industry has written an article in the *Environmental Science and Technology* scientific journal – titled [Closing the Infrastructure Gap for Decarbonization: The Case for an Integrated Mineral Supply Agreement](#) – addressing this problem and proposing a possible solution.

Among the authors is Kristin Vekasi, associate professor in the Department of Political Science and School of Policy & International Affairs at the University of Maine.

“In order to transition from fossil fuel use, the world needs many more minerals such as rare earths, cobalt, platinum, lithium, and more,” Vekasi said. “Unfortunately, there are many obstacles to ramping up production, including environmental concerns about mining and processing of the minerals, and also risks from geographic concentration along mineral supply chains.

“In particular, because China has a commanding market share in many of these minerals, geopolitical tensions between the United States and China has hampered a coordinated effort to increase supply,” she continued. “This paper argues that existing international arrangements such as the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) or the G20 can help countries coordinate to increase mineral supplies in a safer, cleaner, and more transparent way and eliminate a barrier to the transition to green energy.”

Vekasi also spoke to the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to this complex topic.

“Everyone who contributed to this paper has worked on related issues for years,” said Vekasi. “The interdisciplinary team challenged our set assumptions and strengthened the analysis and policy recommendations we made in the paper.”

She went on to speak to the ways in which experts from different spheres viewed issues in different ways: the economist analyzed market interventionist policies differently than the political scientists, the political scientists analyzed geopolitical struggle in different ways than the geographer, and so on. In addition, the paper included people from the realm of industry, who had their own specific perspectives to contribute.

Vekasi expressed a degree of optimism that papers such as this one could help motivate a more concerted response to these looming concerns.

“We are hoping that major players in the critical mineral world will push for a global coordinated response to the widely recognized issues such as current supply must increase dramatically to meet coming demand, geographic concentration in mining and post-mining processing and refinement introduces supply chain risks, environmental damage, and health risks to surrounding communities,” she said. “Currently there are a variety of disparate efforts (one example is the US-led Mineral Security Partnership announced this summer) but most exclude the major player in the field: China.”

The proximity of the paper’s release to the U.N. Climate Change Summit, which took place from November 6-18 in Glasgow, Scotland – also could prove

beneficial.

“This month is one where people are really focused on climate problems and solutions,” Vekasi said. “I see this paper and broader project as a really important component to solving some climate-related challenges.”

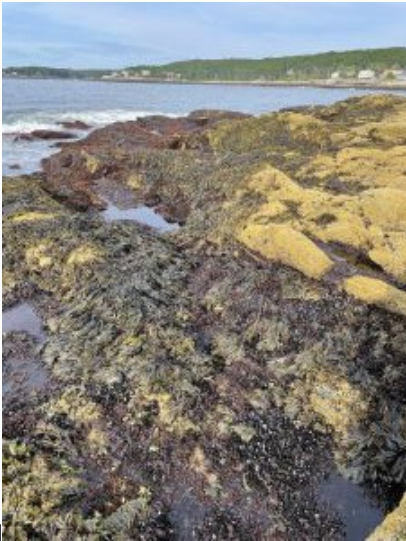
A book that will delve much deeper into the assorted issues raised in the paper is planned for publication next year; Vekasi’s chapter focuses on mitigating political risks in the rare earth supply chain.

Marine ecology on the Maine coast

10 Dec 2022

Sophia Pelletier served as an undergraduate research assistant in the Leslie Lab at [UMaine’s Darling Marine Center](#) in summer 2022. She is from San Diego, CA and currently lives in Davis, CA. Sophia graduated from University of California at Davis with a BS in Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology and is applying to graduate programs in marine ecology. **Getting Started** This summer, I was fortunate enough to work as an undergraduate research assistant in the Leslie Lab. I came across this opportunity via the [Mark D. Bertness Grant to Support Marine Field Ecology in Maine](#) offered by the University of Maine’s [Darling Marine Center](#). My senior year at UC Davis, I felt behind in my research experience due to the pandemic. While I didn’t immediately write a proposal, I kept it in the back of my head throughout the fall. After returning from winter break, I decided to give this proposal my best shot. I started drafting ideas. I spent hours on my floor, reading scientific papers and mapping out ideas until I ultimately came up with a study to investigate sea star population change over time in the Gulf of Maine. I discovered a program led by the [Schoodie Institute](#), inviting citizens to document sea stars along the Maine coast. I was initially drawn to this call to action because it stated: “Upload the pictures to iNaturalist, a smartphone app for collecting and sharing nature observations...” I knew that I wanted to incorporate citizen science into my research proposal, and iNaturalist is a good platform for mapping the current distribution. **Launching the Research** The first step was to read literature and familiarize myself with sea stars and the coastal marine habitats of the Gulf of Maine. The next step was creating an answerable research question for the summer. Following a literature search, I found that a lot of the questions I had (i.e., why are sea star populations declining?) were not answerable in a summer. I needed to ask a question that I could have at least a preliminary answer to by the end of the summer. My initial question for the summer was: *How have sea star abundances changed over time?* However, as I learned more about the system and the work others had done, I developed two more specific questions:

- 1. What are the current distributions of various sea star species in the Gulf of Maine?
- 2. How have blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*), the primary prey of *Asterias* sea stars, abundances changed over time in the Gulf of Maine?



[caption id="attachment_4065" align="alignright" width="264"] Mussels and algae on a rocky shore in Chamberlain, Maine.[/caption] **Connecting with Others** Contacting experts was one of the most inspiring parts of this project. I got to have amazing and educational conversations with experts, divers, community members, and graduate students. I was fortunate to meet Melina Giakoumis, a graduate student at the City University of New York. Melina had conducted intertidal and subtidal sea star surveys in the Gulf of Maine the summer before and asked if I would be interested in using her protocol and sites from the previous summer. This was a breakthrough. Once I had the protocol for quantifying sea stars, I was able to think about other data I would like to collect while in the field. After I met with Melina, I took the time to think about what I had learned and how I wanted to translate that knowledge into my surveys. My goal was to get the most out of my sampling, despite limited time. I ultimately decided to add mussel percent coverage and algae percent coverage. I added mussel percent coverage for two reasons: (1) mussels are a prey source for sea stars and (2) during a community meeting, one of the coastal land owners asked us why mussels are declining. This question struck a chord with me, as someone who lives on the coast is seeing these changes and wants to know why. Documenting these changes is the first step to understanding the cause. I added algae percent coverage because the second time that I surveyed at Chamberlain (also known as Long Cove Point), I observed extensive algae coverage. These surveys were as a part of an experimental survey approach, so I had the freedom to add what I wanted to monitor. In addition, I took note of water temperature and salinity at each of my

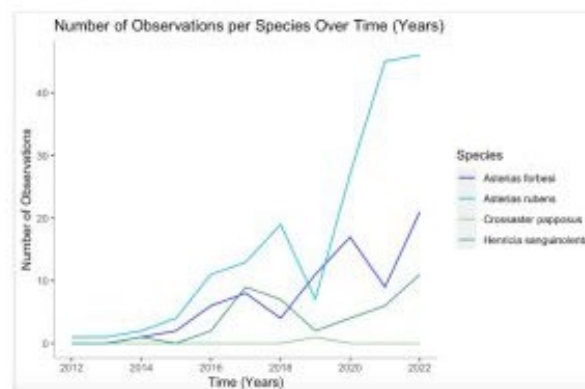


Figure 1: The number of

sites. [caption id="attachment_4066" align="alignleft" width="406"]

iNaturalist observations of *Asterias forbesi*, *Asterias rubens*, *Henricia sanguinolenta*, and *Crossaster papposus* in the Gulf of Maine vary by species. Data are from <https://www.inaturalist.org> and were accessed 7/18/2022 for the months of May-July every year from 2012-2022. [caption] **Sharing my Science**

At the end of the summer, I gave a poster presentation at the [SEA \(Science for Economic Impact and Application\) Fellows](#) Symposium at the [Downeast Institute](#) in Beals, Maine. I spent a lot of time making graphs and deciding what would best summarize all that I learned over the summer. This symposium was the first time I had the opportunity to present my own project. This was a pivotal moment for me—I felt confident in what I had done this summer and in my ability to present and answer questions about my research. This graph (Figure 1) on my SEA Fellows Poster received a lot of attention. It was complemented by a figure created by the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) which showed that sea stars censused subtidally on the Maine coast have declined drastically within the last 20 years. Many people asked me why there appeared to be an opposite trend on my iNaturalist graph, which largely reflects intertidal observations, as compared to the DMR figure. While I believe that platforms such as iNaturalist can and will be important for long-term monitoring in the future, there is a lack of earlier data (i.e., 2012) as compared to 2022. This is because more people now have access to phones and the internet, and iNaturalist is more widely known and used, leading to more data. **Reflecting on the Research Experience** This summer was not only a great experience conducting independent research, but also enable me to develop confidence in myself as a scientist. I could not have succeeded without the help and support of my lab mates, collaborators, and faculty mentor, Dr. Heather Leslie. My undergraduate mentors from UC Davis also provided key support and insights. Through my work in Maine, I was able to take a big step in my journey as a scientist: I was able to design my own research project. Designing my own project presented me with an amazing opportunity to develop skills in sampling design, data collection, and analysis. This was especially important given that I lost out on years of in-person research experience due to the pandemic. The pandemic took away human contact, which resulted in a loss of networking opportunities. This meant a loss of potential lab and field opportunities, and also an added difficulty to build professional and academic relationships important for letters of recommendation and mentorship. This summer, I was fortunate enough to meet with many researchers and these conversations gave me valuable experience networking and building important professional relationships.

Home for the Harvest cites UMaine Extension information about dry, shady plants

29 Dec 2022

In an article about shrubs that are suited to grow in dry, shady conditions, [Home for the Harvest](#) cited information from a University of Maine Cooperative Extension bulletin listing plants for very dry soil and shade.

Salimeh Sekeh wants to teach AI how to manage itself

30 Dec 2022

Salimeh Sekeh wants to help humanity — and she sees artificial intelligence as a key way to do that. At the University of Maine, Sekeh is leading research that designs machine learning models and teaches artificial intelligence to essentially improve itself, which will have impactful applications in Maine and beyond. Before Sekeh joined the University of Maine in 2019, she was a postdoctoral student at the University of Michigan in electrical engineering and computer science. On the North Campus where she spent most of her days, she often attended events about how artificial intelligence was working to improve everything from autonomous vehicles to medical machinery. Sekeh was already passionate about algorithm design — the architecture of code that determines what it can and can't do — and started envisioning how she could use her skills to continue improving these technologies in positive ways. “AI is a technology that can help us shape the world that we want to live in,” Sekeh says. “It doesn't apply to one single problem. Anything can be somehow linked because in anything you have data.” When she was applying for tenure-track positions, she saw an opportunity to bring this interest in machine learning to UMaine, which she learned was planning to heavily invest in machine learning, data science and artificial intelligence research. Now, Sekeh studies deep neural networks — basically, a subset of artificial intelligence that learns by mimicking our own brains' complex connections. Deep neural networks are already present in many aspects of daily life, from virtual assistants like Siri and Alexa and autonomously driving cars to photo tagging suggestions on Facebook that seem to get more uncannily accurate every day. Sekeh explains that no matter their function, deep neural networks need training to perform the tasks they are assigned and make decisions. Facial recognition software, for example, must learn the difference between faces before it can say whose face, exactly, is pictured. Sekeh used the example of a baby learning how to do basic tasks, like eating. A researcher provides a deep neural network with “training data” like a parent will demonstrate the basic mechanics of eating to a baby, until eventually the baby is able to eat on its own. However, deep neural networks are complex and require a large amount of computer memory to operate. As the technology and algorithms continue to evolve and improve, figuring out how to compress them without losing their functionality and performance is increasingly important. Sekeh wants to figure out how to prototype the architecture of these deep neural networks in such a way that they are better able to figure out what learned skills they need for a given task through a process known as “continual learning.” With Sekeh's algorithm, deep neural networks will be able set aside or “freeze” unneeded functionalities to use for the next task instead of filtering them entirely, as is often the case with existing algorithms. “Once I learn how to eat, I don't forget,” Sekeh says. “When you are teaching a baby walking or any other task, it's not forgetting how to eat. The part of the brain that has already learned to eat and is ‘freed’ for that. What's the result of this process is lifelong learning which is what humans are doing.” In 2021, Sekeh received \$80,000 from the National Science Foundation for her research. She hopes that her compression techniques will make deep neural networks less expensive to run in order to expand their use in smaller devices like cell phones and drones and also in limited resource environments — for example, an aerial drone gathering data on a remote forest. Sekeh's deep neural

network research isn't limited to compression, though. In 2022, Sekeh received yet another \$679,004 grant from the NSF — this time, an Early CAREER Award — to research machine learning robustness, or the ability of the models to deal with noise or perturbations without losing their functionality, performing well even in the face of adversarial conditions. Think of an autonomous vehicle camera detecting a stop sign, but the image is blurry because the car hit a bump or it is raining outside. A network that lacks robustness may interpret this noisy image as a slow sign, which would put the user in danger. “We have some data that makes a network vulnerable and fools the network. Our mission is that when we are learning tasks and training deep learning algorithms, we teach the network to be robust towards those adversarial examples.” Sekeh says that the machine learning industry tends to keep the ideas of robustness and compression separate, but through her research, she aims to unite the two to make better and efficient overall deep neural networks. “We’re saying, ‘Hold on a second, if you’re doing compression and part of your network gets discarded, isn’t it vulnerable?’” Sekeh says. “Let’s do it simultaneously: compress it and address the robustness. We’re working on them both independently and where they overlap to improve the deep learning models’ performance in an efficient and robust fashion.” Sekeh envisions many ways that her research can apply to solving problems in Maine and beyond. Robust and efficient deep neural networks will not only make autonomous cars safer to drive even in the snowiest parts of Maine, but it will also make drones and other autonomous research vehicles more accurate and usable for farmers, foresters, marine scientists and more. Sekeh sees education as an essential element of her work — and not just teaching AI. She is organizing two summer boot camps for undergraduate students at the Roux Institute to learn more about deep neural networks and train the next generation of scientists like her. Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

UMaine research shows animal personalities change what role critters play in building the world around them

07 Apr 2022

Just like people, animals have personalities — and, like people, these individual differences in behavior may determine what role an animal plays in building the world around it. “Mutualisms” are symbiotic relationships between animals: clownfish keeping stinging sea anemones clean in exchange for protection, or bats providing nutritious guano to pitcher plants as they provide a place to rest. These relationships not only benefit the species involved, but also provide the foundation for developing biodiversity through co-evolution and gene flow within populations. To understand how these relationships shape ecosystems, scientists need to understand what drives them in the first place. Animal personality is often overlooked in studies of ecology, but researchers at the University of Maine decided to see how unique behavioral types affect mutualistic interactions — specifically, between deer mice and the tree seeds that they hoard to eat, and disperse among the forest to germinate along the way. In a [study](#) published in the journal PNAS, UMaine scientists observed the behavior of deer mice at over 200 stations with red oak, white pine and beech seeds. The researchers classified the behavior as either negative or positive, depending on whether it gave the seeds a chance to germinate. For example, consuming the seed at the site was a negative interaction, while removing the seed and moving it intact at another site was considered positive. The mice were then put on a continuum, with more antagonistic individuals at the negative end of the spectrum and mutualistic individuals at the other. The researchers then looked to see whether individuals classified as “antagonistic” had personality traits (such as boldness measured in standard behavioral tests) in common. For example, an individual mouse’s timidity or boldness was measured by the amount of time spent at the end of an emergence tunnel before emerging. The results showed that while deer mice were found to be generally antagonistic toward all the varieties of seeds — that is their food, after all — individual mice were found to have far more mutualistic mannerisms than others depending on some other personality traits that they exhibited. Timid mice tended to be more antagonistic than their bold counterparts when it came to their behavior with large seeds like acorns, opting for the “safer” choice of taking the seed deep underground into a burrow where it can’t germinate or taking it to a secluded location to eat it instead of caching the seed on the surface. Bold mice, on the other hand, were more likely to behave antagonistically toward the smaller white pine and beech seeds, eating the seeds on-site or shortly thereafter rather than caching them for later. The different hoarding techniques of bold and timid mice suggest that their personalities affect their survival strategies — and the trees that grow in their wake. “These results are exciting as they show that each individual plays a slightly different role in an ecosystem, and this role is determined by their unique personality. Every mouse counts and its mind can potentially have cascading effects on ecosystems! This implies that we need to start rethinking the way we conserve and manage ecosystems, we need to start considering the role played by each individual,” says Alessio Mortelliti, an associate professor in the UMaine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology. The significance of animal personalities in these ecosystem-building mutualisms show that removing individuals with certain personality traits can have more of an impact on the dynamics of a habitat than previously thought — even beyond deer mice and their seeds. Previous research has shown that bolder individuals are more likely to be removed from populations via hunting or fishing. Studies have also shown that such personality traits might impact an animal’s ability to cope with changes in habitat like urbanization. “As far as we know, our study is the first to examine how personality traits might impact the strength of mutualisms. One of the reasons why this hasn’t been done before is probably because mutualisms, like most ecological processes, are so complex. I think it will be important to examine the role that personalities might play in other mutualisms, such as pollination. I think there is also a lot of potential for future studies examining the impact of personality traits on the seed dispersal mutualism. Specifically, it would be important to learn more about how personality might play into cache recovery and pilfering behavior,” says Allison Brehm, a UMaine Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology and principal author of the journal article. The study was funded by a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) grant and the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station (MAFES). Contact: Sam Schipani, samantha.schipani@maine.edu

Rafa Tasnim: Safeguarding Maine wild blueberries from climate change

02 Aug 2022

Like many crops across the world, wild blueberries face several threats posed by climate change, including rising temperatures. Rafa Tasnim from Dhaka, Bangladesh, is trying to pinpoint new ways growers can protect one of Maine’s most iconic crops by using resources from the state’s backyard. Since joining the University of Maine in 2019, Tasnim, a Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental sciences, has led studies that revealed that [wild blueberry fields in Down East Maine are warming faster](#) than the state as a whole, and that fields [experience warming differently](#), depending on their location, the season and the time of day, among other factors. Her work has garnered state and national media attention. These studies, however, are only the beginning of what Tasnim hopes to accomplish while at UMaine. [Another recent study](#) that Tasnim co-authored found that wild blueberries are more sensitive to dry conditions over a long period of time, meaning proper soil moisture management is more essential than previously expected. Tasnim is evaluating materials that may improve water retention in the soil that would protect the plants during dry periods at blueberry fields, particularly those once considered waste products like compost and biochar to help create more sustainable food systems. She also has been assessing soil amendments, foliar fertilizers — those applied directly to leaves, and nanocellulose. “I’m trying to study materials that are available here,” she says. “My idea is to use whatever recyclable waste we have around us so that we don’t pressurize the landfills anymore.” Tasnim conducts her research in the lab of YongJiang Zhang, her adviser and an assistant professor of applied plant physiology, and at UMaine’s Blueberry Hill Farm in Jonesboro. The equipment she uses includes remote sensing tools and ArcGIS software, portable leaf photosynthesis measurement system, leaf chlorophyll content meter, leaf area meter, soil moisture meter, real time soil water stress monitoring sensors and pressure chamber that can measure plant water stress and other plant attributes. Ecology and environmental sciences was not always Tasnim’s field of

study. She began her academic career in civil engineering, earning her bachelor's from the Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST) in her hometown and a master's degree from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), with a specialization in geo-environmental engineering. Her passion for safeguarding food systems from a warming planet ignited while she was working on a slope stability project during her postgraduate studies in Hong Kong. In particular, she was investigating the effects of increased carbon dioxide levels on vegetation that grows along slopes, which helps stabilize them by removing excess moisture through transpiration. Tasnim found that rising carbon dioxide levels reduce transpiration of those plants, which she says can lead to more water pressure in those slopes during rainfall further decreasing soil stability and put slopes at greater risk of landslides. While conducting her project, Tasnim says she realized she enjoyed researching plants, and how greenhouse gasses and climate affect the plant-soil interaction more than traditional civil engineering research areas, and she resolved to shift gears and pursue a new field. "That's how things changed for me," she says. "That was the time in my master's program that really sparked and helped me to understand what I really wanted." While studying at UMaine, Tasnim has mentored undergraduate students for their own research projects, taught courses, presented and judged at the 2019 and 2021 UMaine Student Symposium, presented her research at the 12th International Vaccinium Symposium last year, and served as a technical reviewer for multiple journals. She also has earned several fellowships, grants and other awards from the university and outside organizations, all of which have fully funded her studies. This year, she received the Doctoral Student Graduate Research Excellence Award from the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture; the Janet Waldron Doctoral Research Fellowship from the Graduate School; and the BioME Seed Grant from the Bioscience Association of Maine. Tasnim was still searching for Ph.D. programs when she moved to Maine with her husband, SK Belal Hossen, so he could pursue his doctoral degree in geotechnical engineering at UMaine. She became interested in the university's program offerings after seeing the research conducted in the greenhouses on campus. Meeting with Zhang, learning about his research and witnessing the top-of-the-line tools in his lab, however, sealed the deal, Tasnim says. Zhang has provided guidance on which courses would help her to execute her research and connected her with other experts like Lily Calderwood, wild blueberry specialist of UMaine Extension and assistant professor of horticulture, and Francis Drummond, professor emeritus of insect ecology and pest management. "He is the best," Tasnim says about Zhang. "Without my adviser's guidance and directions — he actually showed me how to move forward with this kind of research — nothing would have been possible." While Tasnim's studies have been significant and garnered widespread acclaim, she says they mean little unless growers apply her findings to their management strategies. That is why she relies on and greatly admires the professionals at UMaine Extension, who make her research and others more accessible to producers and the general public. UMaine Extension experts like Calderwood facilitate access to complex academic research conducted in the university by creating annual reports that compile researchers' findings, and host conferences and field days where growers can literally meet and discuss the research findings with UMaine faculty and researchers. Tasnim has been assisting Calderwood and others in drafting the reports for the blueberry growers since joining UMaine in 2019. "That's the thing I feel good about, is that my publications are not just some papers that are published and cited. They are actually getting to actual audiences: the growers from Maine and potentially growers from other states, other regions too," Tasnim says. "If (my work) is not going to help anybody change anything, then it doesn't matter how many publications I have or how many citations that I get." Tasnim plans to graduate from UMaine in fall 2023. After receiving her doctoral degree, she hopes to continue helping growers, conducting soil and plant science research under changing climate and supporting more sustainable food systems by working as a faculty researcher, an employee of a federal agency or in research and development. "Whether you believe it or not, climate change is happening. Food insecurity is happening. Agricultural crop systems are devastated in different regions of the world," Tasnim says. "I really want my research to have implications on the real world, even if it's a tiny bit, in terms of crop systems and food insecurity problems." Contact: Marcus Wolf, 207.581.3721; marcus.wolf@maine.edu

Three ASCC Researchers Among Top 2% of Scientists Worldwide

17 Oct 2022

Orono, Maine — Three researchers at the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center, Dr. Douglas Gardner, Dr. Mehdi Tajvidi, and Dr. Eric Landis, were identified as among the top two percent of scientists worldwide based on c-score. The c-score is a measure of scientific impact that considers number of citations, co-authorship, and author order in publications. Elsevier publishes a [database](#) of the 100,000 top scientists across all scientific fields based on these standardized citation metrics.

Dr. Douglas Gardner is a leader in cellulose nanocomposites research at the ASCC, and a Professor of Sustainable Materials and Technology at the UMaine School of Forest Resources. Fittingly, Gardner was recently recognized for reaching over [9,000 journal article citations](#). Dr. Mehdi Tajvidi leads the Laboratory of Renewable Nanomaterials, which focuses on alternative applications of cellulose nanomaterials, and is an Associate Professor of Renewable Nanomaterials at the UMaine School of Forest Resources. Dr. Eric Landis is a lead researcher with the Transportation Infrastructure Durability Center at the ASCC, and a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Dr. Aaron Weiskittel and Dr. Shawn Fraver, both with the UMaine School of Forest Resources, are also among the top two percent of scientists.

This is the second year that ASCC faculty number among the top scientists worldwide, a testament to the ongoing and far-reaching impact of their research. To read more about Dr. Gardner's credentials, history, and work, [visit this link](#). For more on Dr. Tajvidi's credentials, history, and work, [visit this link](#); for Dr. Landis, [visit this link](#).

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