

# Summertime in the Belgrades

... Serving the Central Maine Lakes & Kennebec River Corridor



VOLUME 25, NUMBER 7

## The Wishes in Our Midst

by Esther J. Perne



A family...a forever home...food...a future for our children...clean, clear lakes...Wishes for a family have topped the list on the annual Christmas wish tree at the Good-Will Hinckley School, a group home setting for Maine's challenged youth and may top the list of the state's almost 2,000 children and youth in foster care or the estimated 2,000 plus homeless students and definitely for the several dozen children awaiting adoption.

Wishes for families are tall dreams but there are lesser ones, too, easier to fulfill. On the Good Will-Hinckley Wish List, for example are: art supplies - washable paints, markers, canvas, paper and sketch pads, bikes, ice fishing equipment, legos model kits, cornhole, tetherball and other

outside games, play-doh, sleds, snowshoes, tennis and volleyball equipment.

Wishes for a forever home are in the eyes of the dogs and cats, hopeful and waiting in our many rescue facilities. These waiting pets long for kind words and a comforting pat, always fresh water and no chains, and maybe it's ok to get on the furniture.

Even the most ardent animal lover can't adopt them all but everybody can contribute to a shelter wish list by buying extra cleaning supplies or a bag of food or whatever is needed. The Franklin County Animal Shelter in Farmington, for example, needs: scoopable cat litter, bleach, Purina Cat and Kitten Chow, 4Health Grain-free Dog Food, blankets and towels and flat sheets (used are wel-

come), paper towels, large Kong dog toys, cat and kitten toys and tennis balls.

Wishes for food, accompany these youngest of residents everywhere but especially at night. No child should have to try to understand that choices have to be made between shelter and winter warmth and transportation and food and food has to be at the end of the list. No child should go to bed hungry but estimates for the state (one out of eight; one out of five) indicate otherwise.

Help reaches these children through school food programs, churches, hospitals, food pantries, food drives and collection boxes. Help reaches these children when cash donations are made to regional organizations such as the Good

*Continued on page 2*

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Continued from page 1

Shepherd Food Bank in Auburn. And help reaches these children when visitors and vacationers leave their unopened cans and dry goods at the post office or town office collection boxes. For what to contribute on an ongoing basis, lists are available through the University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

Wishes for a future, safe and secure, for their children is the overriding wish of immigrants and refugees in Maine. They arrive with nothing, needing everything from simple hygiene products like soap and toothpaste to (no surprise) winter coats and warm clothing to furnishings when they finally have a place to live. An easy way to help that allows them to make their own choices are gift cards to grocery stores and all home goods and clothing stores. Cards can be mailed to Maine Immigrant and Refugee Services, 256 Bartlett Street, Lewiston, ME 04240 or Catholic Charities Maine, Attn: Development Office, PO Box 10660, Portland, ME 04104

Wishes for clear, clean lakes and a safe environment for children and grandchildren is the dream of many lake dwellers and users who have had this privilege over the generations. There is still time this summer to attend meetings, volunteer and donate and to check with the 7 Lakes Alliance in Belgrade Lakes to see if they have a wish list - especially for the tools and equipment that the hard-working youth conservation corps use.



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OAKFEST 2023 SCHEDULE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>JULY 28<sup>TH</sup> AND JULY 29<sup>TH</sup> 2023</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FRIDAY EVENING-DOWNTOWN WINE AND DINE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MAIN STREET CLOSSES AT 3:00PM</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">LIONS SAFARI-8YRS-12YRS-4:30PM- SPONSORED BY OAKLAND LIONS CLUB</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BEER TENT-5:30PM-11:00PM-SPONSORED BY THE OAKLAND AMERICAN LEGION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOOD TRUCKS-3:00PM-11:00PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PARADE 6:00PM-6:30PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DJ RICHARD JANDREAU-6:30PM-8:00PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT-6:30PM-BUDDIES GROCERIES PARKING LOT*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">**FUNDRAISER FOR MEMORIAL HALL RENOVATIONS PROJECT*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BETWEEN THE LINES 8:00PM-11:00PM-SPONSORED BY OAKLAND AMERICAN LEGION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">50/50 RAFFLE-TICKETS AT THE BEER TENT-SPONSOR: OAKLAND AMERICAN LEGION</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SATURDAY-SHINE ON OAKLAND DAY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 9:00AM-3:00PM</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">VENDOR SET UP-5:30AM-8:00AM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CRAFTERS &amp; ARTISANS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SHINE ON CASS LITERACY BOOTH-FREE BOOKS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOOD TRUCKS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KIDS' SECTION-SPONSORED BY KINGDOM LIFE CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CRUISE IN CAR SHOW 9:00AM-2:00PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LIVE BANDS-TBA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DARLINGS ICE CREAM TRUCK-9:00AM-11:00AM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DUNK TANK**</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RAFFLES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">**DUNK TANK FUNDRAISER FOR OAKFEST**</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SATURDAY EVENING- SUMMER CONCERT SERIES</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OAKLAND WATERFRONT PARK-6:00-8:00PM</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">DOM COLIZZI AND TOURMALINE</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SATURDAY EVENING-MOVIE NIGHT</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARIOS BROTHER 2-SPONSORED BY KINGDOME LIFE CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BUDDIES GROCERIES &amp; OAKLAND PHARMACY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OAKLAND AMERICAN LEGION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OAKLAND LIONS CLUB</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SHINE ON CASS FOUNDATION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KINGDOM LIFE CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OAKLAND WATERFRONT PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES</p>
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## 7 Lakes Alliance Recognizes Citizens from 3 Lakes With the Eddie Mayer Community Conservation Award

On Sunday, July 16, 7 Lakes Alliance honored four citizens from three different lakes in the Belgrade Lakes watershed with its 2023 Eddie Mayer Community Conservation Award. The award recognized their instrumental roles as founders of the Youth Conservation Corps. The 2023 honorees included: Jane Eberle of Great Pond and South Portland; Gerald Tipper of East Pond, Lenny Reich of Salmon Lake, and Bob Joly (posthumous).

Eddie Mayer was the quintessential community conservation volunteer. Beginning in 1974, as a volunteer for the Belgrade Lakes Association, Eddie took Long Pond's "vital signs", such as temperature, oxygen and clarity, for over three decades. He set an exemplary standard of citizen action to protect the nature of the Belgrade Lakes watershed.

In the decades since the awardees founded the program, the YCC has helped landowners voluntarily control erosion to keep algae-fueling phosphorus out of the lakes. The YCC provides landowners with technical assistance to infiltration steps, buffer gardens and shoreline protection. According to Stuart Cole, 7 Lakes' Erosion Control Coordinator, the founders' vision still benefits the lakes every day.

"YCC projects provide water quality protection, native habitat including food, shelter and pollination, and economic value to property owners and communities. Above all, the YCC provide jobs for local youth throughout the watershed, providing them key experience, skills and conservation education. We are grateful to Jane, Lenny, Jerry, and Bob for their foresight."

Inspired? No matter what your interests, skills or location, there are



L to R: In 7 Lakes Alliance rain garden. Me, 7 Lakes CEO (left), Pete Kallin, 7 Lakes Chair (right), with recipients of the Eddie Mayer Community Conservation Award: Lenny Reich of Salmon Lake, Jerry Tipper of East Pond.; not pictured: Jane Eberle, S. Portland and Great Pond.

countless ways you can volunteer to help conserve the nature of the Belgrade Lakes region. To learn how, go to [www.7LakesAlliance.org](http://www.7LakesAlliance.org).

## Updating Oakland's Memorial Hall for the 21st Century

by Gregor Smith



This year, the Town of Oakland and its signature structure, stately Memorial Hall, both turn 150. Built to honor Oakland's Civil War dead, Memorial Hall has, at various times, hosted a bank, a post office, a Civil War veterans group, elementary school classes, town offices, the town library, church services, high school graduations, and much more. Now, at its sesquicentennial, the town-owned building needs renovations so that it can continue to serve the residents of Oakland and the surrounding towns.

Back in March 1869, when Oakland was still part of Waterville, the town of Waterville appropriated \$2000 to build Civil War memorials. The money was evenly divided between the villages of Waterville and West Waterville, as Oakland was then called. (Oakland separated from Waterville in 1873, and took the name Oakland ten years later.)

In Waterville proper, the funds helped pay for a bronze replica of Martin Milmore's statue of an ordinary Union soldier. The original "Citizen Soldier" was erected in a Boston cemetery and copies soon appeared in numerous northern cities and towns. That statue still stands in Monument Park at the corner of Park and Elm Streets in downtown Waterville.

In West Waterville, community leaders decided to build a public hall, where the townsfolk could gather for occasions both solemn and celebratory. The West Waterville Soldiers' Monument Association led the efforts.



Plays staged in other local venues were important fundraisers. Construction started in 1870 and finished three years later. By most accounts, the total cost of construction was \$12,000, which comes to roughly \$280,000 in 2023 dollars.

The hall was designed in the Italian Gothic style by Thomas Silloway (1828-1910). A former Universalist minister, Silloway designed over 400 church buildings and various other public edifices in Eastern United States, including the Vermont State House. At the time, it was unusual for a structure so grand as Memorial Hall to be erected in a town as small as West Waterville, which had but 1,500 inhabitants when the building was completed.

The principal building material was slate from a quarry on the banks of Messalonskee Stream, near where the Cascade Woolen Mill once stood. The Oakland Historical Society's website describes the hall's architecture thus: "The Hall is a masonry structure, built out of stone from a local quarry with brick trim. The gabled entry is flanked by tall sash windows in segmented-arch openings, with mini-gables in the roofline above. The entry section has a steeply pitched gable, with a rounded-arch recess

*Continued on page 13...*



## — Take It Outside —

# Families Everywhere

by Pete Kallin

Hard to believe this is already the 7th column of the summer. I couldn't believe it when my morning paper had a "Back to School" flyer in it already! I don't think the kids are reading the paper, though. They are too busy having fun in and around the water and hiking the nearby trails. As the water has warmed into the high 70's, the trout fishing is slowing down but the bass and pike are continuing to feed on schools of alewives. The bass are also hitting big Hex mayflies that are hatching in the evening and early morning. I have had good luck with spotting feeding fish on the sur-



Nice smallie caught on leech fly. Hex Mayfly.



Left: Mary Kahler with Finn on The Mountain. Right: Tim and Doina Harris with Tom and Doini.

Doini, and niece, Sam Leach. Everyone got in on the action and caught some nice smallmouth bass.

This area offers some great outdoor recreation, whether you like to hike, bike, birdwatch, fish, sail, or paddle a canoe or kayak. Pick up a map of the local trails at Day's Store or from the 7 Lakes Alliance at their building in the Village. Also, please check the sign out front and the 7-LA FaceBook page for details on some interesting events scheduled this summer (<https://www.facebook.com/belgradelakes/>). The Tuesday afternoon presentations by Chewonki are especially popular with kids. And don't forget the annual Beanhole Supper and Loon Calling Contest also on August 5th. Check the web site and keep an eye on the sign out front. And make sure you take a kid along on your next outdoor adventure.

*Continued on page 15...*

face early in the morning and casting big flies or poppers to them. A three-pound smallie on a 6-wt flyrod is a lot of fun. With the frequent rains we have had this summer, the flows over the dams are higher than usual for this time of year. This has extended the time the fish "stack up" below the spillway in Peninsula Park. The water is too warm for the trout but the white perch and smallmouth bass are hanging out there feeding on small baitfish and crayfish, as well as a few big pike feeding on all of the above. I have been catching quite a few nice (14"-18") smallmouth by bouncing a black woolly bugger, leech pattern fly, or small jig along the bottom in 3-4 feet of water right where the flow enters Long Pond.

I've been getting a few hikes in and doing some mushroom and berry foraging in the Kennebec Highlands. I am also seeing a lot of kids out hiking with friends and family. Last week I met Mary Kahler from Skowhegan on The Mountain hiking with her grandson, Finn. Mary hiked The Mountain last winter with her husband and enjoyed it so much she wanted to come back during the summer with Finn. My friend, Mike Guarino, of Maine Wilderness Tours, has been introducing a lot of families to bass fishing in the Belgrads. Recently he took Tim and Doina Harris from Connecticut out on Great Pond along with their kids Tom and

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## — Calendar —

Additions and changes to events, activities, outings, visits, etc. are welcome and appreciated. Email, call, or stop us on the street with ideas and information.

**Thursday 7/27 and Friday 7/28** - The Kneading Conference with dozens of workshops and presentations, Fairgrounds, Skowhegan.

**Thursday 7/27 - Saturday 7/29** - Maine Quilts, annual conference show, Civic Center, Augusta.

**Thursday 7/27 - Sunday 8/13** - As You Like It, by William Shakespeare, in repertory, 933,9999, Cumston Hall, The Theater At Monmouth.

**Friday 7/28 and Saturday 7/29** - Oakland Oakfest, Friday evening downtown wine and dine, food trucks, parade, dj Richard Jandreau, cornhole tournament, Between the Lines band, Saturday - Shine On Oakland Day at Williams Elementary School 9 am-3 pm, kids activities, cruise in car show, food trucks, downtown Oakland.

**Friday 7/28** - 20th Reunion Messalonskee High School Class of 2003, private tent, music, food, fun, RSVP to patsy.a.kenney@gmail.com, 5 pm, The Woodshed, 915 Western Avenue, Manchester.

**Friday 7/28** - Will Evans Trio, Waterville Rocks concert, free, family-friendly, 6 pm, beer garden opens 5:30 pm, (rain location Waterville Opera House), Head of Falls, downtown Waterville.

**Friday 7/28** - Pat Pepin Band, Johnson Hall Free Waterfront Concert, 6-7:30 pm, Waterfront Park on the Kennebec River,

Gardiner.

**Friday 7/28 - Sunday 7/30** - Eastern Maine Agility and Dog Show, free to public, Fairgrounds, Route 201, Skowhegan.

**Saturday 7/29** - 14th Annual Paddle Trek, 15-mile paddle from Mt. Vernon Village to Wayne Village, registration closes July 27, join for all or just part, 30 Mile River Watershed Association, Mount Vernon.

**Saturday 7/29** - The Bread Fair, dozens of vendors and displays, Fairgrounds, Route 201, Skowhegan.

**Saturday 7/29** - Farmers' Market & Craft Fair, vendors - \$25/space, Drop Off Booth available for donations, 9 am-3 pm, 160 Bean Road, Mount Vernon.

**Saturday 7/29** - King Artie and the Knights of the Rad Table, Lakewood Young Performers Camp, 10 am, Lakewood Theater, Route 201, Madison.

**Saturday 7/29** - Hercules, Missoula Children's Theater, 12 pm, Waterville Opera House, Main Street, downtown Waterville.

**Saturday 7/29** - Friends of Messalonskee Annual Meeting, speakers include Jennifer Jesperson, Ecolninstincts and Charlie Baeder, 7 Lakes Alliance, light refreshments, Lakeside Lodge at Bangs Beach, 28 Marigold Lane, Sidney.

**Saturday 7/29** - Screening of "In The Moon's Shadow," pickleball/basketball court fundraiser for the Belgrade Center for All Seasons, 7 pm social hour and silent auction, 8 pm movie screening and Q&A. \$10 at the door, Belgrade Recreation Center, Route 27, Belgrade.

**Saturday 7/29** - Coleman Martin, UMF Summer Concert Series, 7 pm, University of Maine at Farmington.

**Sunday 7/30** - Ironman 70.3 Triathlon, swim in the Kennebec River, bike, run, partnering with Kennebec Valley YMCA, downtown Augusta.

**Sunday 7/30** - Village Green Craft Show, homemade gifts from central Maine and beyond, 9 am-2 pm, rain or shine, downtown Belgrade Lakes.

**Sunday 7/30** - Black Orange w. Rob Carlton, Concert at Norcross Point, free, 2-4 pm, Winthrop.

**Sunday 7/30** - Belgrade Lakes Association Annual Meeting, water quality updates, loon status, board elections, questions and concerns, 4-6 pm, Belgrade Lakes Golf Course, West Road, Belgrade Lakes.

**Sunday 7/30** - Bob Lovelace, Concerts in the Park, 5-6:15 pm, Coburn Park, Skowhegan.

**Monday 7/31 - Sunday 8/6** - Skowhegan River Fest 2023, celebrate life on the river with a full week's schedule of activities, food, music, competitions, golf, films, a parade, moonlight madness, fireworks, bicentennial celebration and much more, the Kennebec River, surrounding venues and downtown Skowhegan.

**Monday 7/31** - Camp and Gravel Road Maintenance Workshop, 9 am-3 pm, 7 Lakes Alliance, Main Street, Belgrade Lakes.

**Monday 7/31** - Dunlap Highland Band, Friends of Lithgow Library Summer Concert Series, on the lawn, bring your own chairs and blankets, 6:30 pm, Lithgow Public Library, Winthrop Street, Augusta.

**Monday 7/31** - Western Maine Foothills band, Concerts in the Park, 7-8:30 pm, Meetinghouse Park, downtown Farmington.

*Continued on page 11...*

## Village Green Concert Series Belgrade Lakes, Maine

### Summer 2023

Every Thursday 6:00-8:00

July 6th// Archie and Friends  
July 13// Pat Colwell and The Soul Sensations  
July 20// Denny Breau  
July 27// The Fossils  
Aug 3// Bob Colwell Trio  
Aug 10// Midnight Breakfast  
Aug 17// The Maniacs  
Aug 24// Frenzie  
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Sept 7// Chris Poulson and The Social Club

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## Belgrade Bean Hole Supper



### Beanhole Bean Supper to benefit Belgrade Fire & Rescue Association.

Saturday, August 5

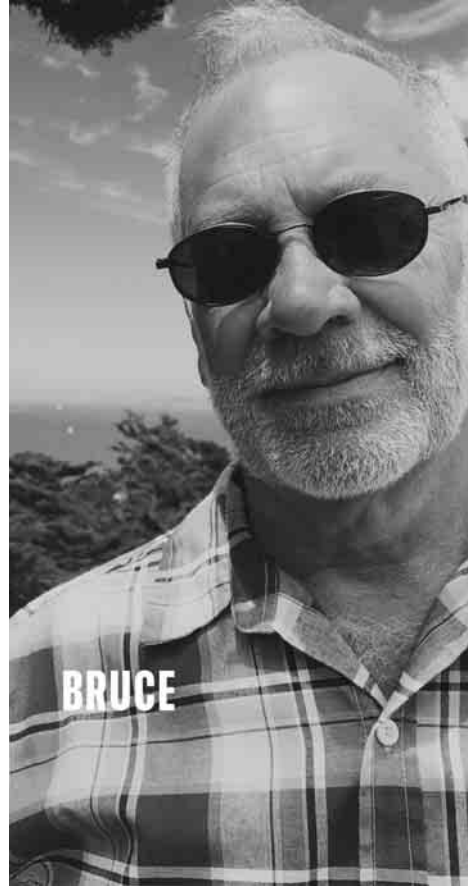
Meal includes: Baked Beans cooked overnight in the traditional way using a wood burning fire pit, Hot dogs, coleslaw, rolls, brown bread, homemade desserts and drinks. Admission Adults- \$12.00 Children 5-12 \$7.00 under 5 years old eat free. Meal will be served at the Belgrade Center for All Seasons located at 1 Center Drive, Belgrade ME 04917. We are once again very lucky to have music provided by the Gawler Family!

Thank you all for the support and we hope to see you there!



## — Along the Kennebec River Corridor —

### Hathaway Mill Antiques Celebrates its 6th Anniversary!



Hathaway Mill Antiques will be celebrating 6 years in business, with 20% off storewide discounts on Saturday August 5th and Sunday August 6th! This festive, event filled shopping weekend will include: refreshments, presentations, and free appraisals.

Hathaway Mill Antiques is located in the beautifully restored historic former Hathaway Shirt Factory on the Kennebec River at 10 Water Street in Waterville Maine. The antique mall is conveniently located close to restaurants, Colby and Thomas Colleges, museums, art studios, shopping, and lodging.

Hathaway Mill Antiques has a vast array of merchandise with a price range for anyone's budget. From period furnishings, to Mid Century Modern collectibles, rare books, art, textiles, nautical items, furniture, rugs, quilts, glassware, ironstone, pottery and ceramics as well as a variety of items in other categories. "Discover the Gem that is Hathaway Mill Antiques!" Free Appraisals by Independent Appraiser Daniel Buck Soules Saturday August 5th from 12:00pm-4:30pm. Limit 3 items per customer, pre-registration required day of.

Daniel Buck Soules has been involved in the sale and appraisal of Antiques and Fine Art since the early 1970's. He started his career in the family antiques business as a very young man and began auctioneering in 1975. With more than forty years of auction and estate sales experience Mr. Soules specializes in Americana, principally 18th and 19th centuries, Shaker items and 19th and 20th century paintings. Daniel has been involved with museums, organizations, and historical commissions throughout New England for over twenty years.

Mr. Soules appeared for eleven years as an independent appraiser in Decorative Arts and Collectibles on the PBS television program "Antiques Roadshow".

Daniel Buck Auctions is located at 501 Lisbon Street, Lisbon Maine where Daniel proudly serves the Mid-Coast community.

Book Collecting by Bruce McCaslin with Book Binding by colleague D. Andrew Eddy.

Mr. McCaslin & Mr. Eddy will present Determining Book Value, Starting A Home Library, and Book Binding on Sunday August 6th from 12:30am to 1:30pm.

Hathaway Mill Antiques is handicapped accessible and all major credit cards and personal checks are accepted. The antique mall is open Wednesday through Sundays 10am-5pm

For more information please contact: Deborah J. Stufflebeam, Hathaway Mill Antiques Manager, 207-877-0250 or email her at [info@hathawaymillantiques.com](mailto:info@hathawaymillantiques.com).

### Taste of Waterville August 2 at Head of Falls

The area's largest food and entertainment festival will be held on Wednesday, August 2 at Head of Falls in Waterville. Highlights will include food trucks from noon to 10 pm, culinary vendors from noon to 6 pm, beer and wine gardens, brew tastings, a cornhole tournament and entertainment from 1 to 11 pm.

For the brew tasting, brew cards can be purchased for \$35 in advance (\$40 at event) are redeemable for 16 2-ounce samples at the 14 breweries represented.

Teams for the cornhole tournament can register in advance for \$60, check-in will begin at 4 pm and the tournament starts at 5:15 pm. with prizes of \$1,000 for 1st place, \$600 for 2nd place and \$300 for 3rd place.

Daytime music will feature Byron Glaus, Don Colizzi, Payton Don, Downeast Brass and Mike Morrison while the main stage will present Shane McNear, Dakota and 12/OC.

For more information visit [www.tasteofwaterville.com](http://www.tasteofwaterville.com).

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 Free Appraisals by Independent Appraiser Daniel Buck Soules  
 Saturday August 5th 12:00PM-4:30PM  
 Pre Registration Required Day of check Facebook & Instagram or call for details

~ **Sunday August 6th - 12:30pm-1:30pm**  
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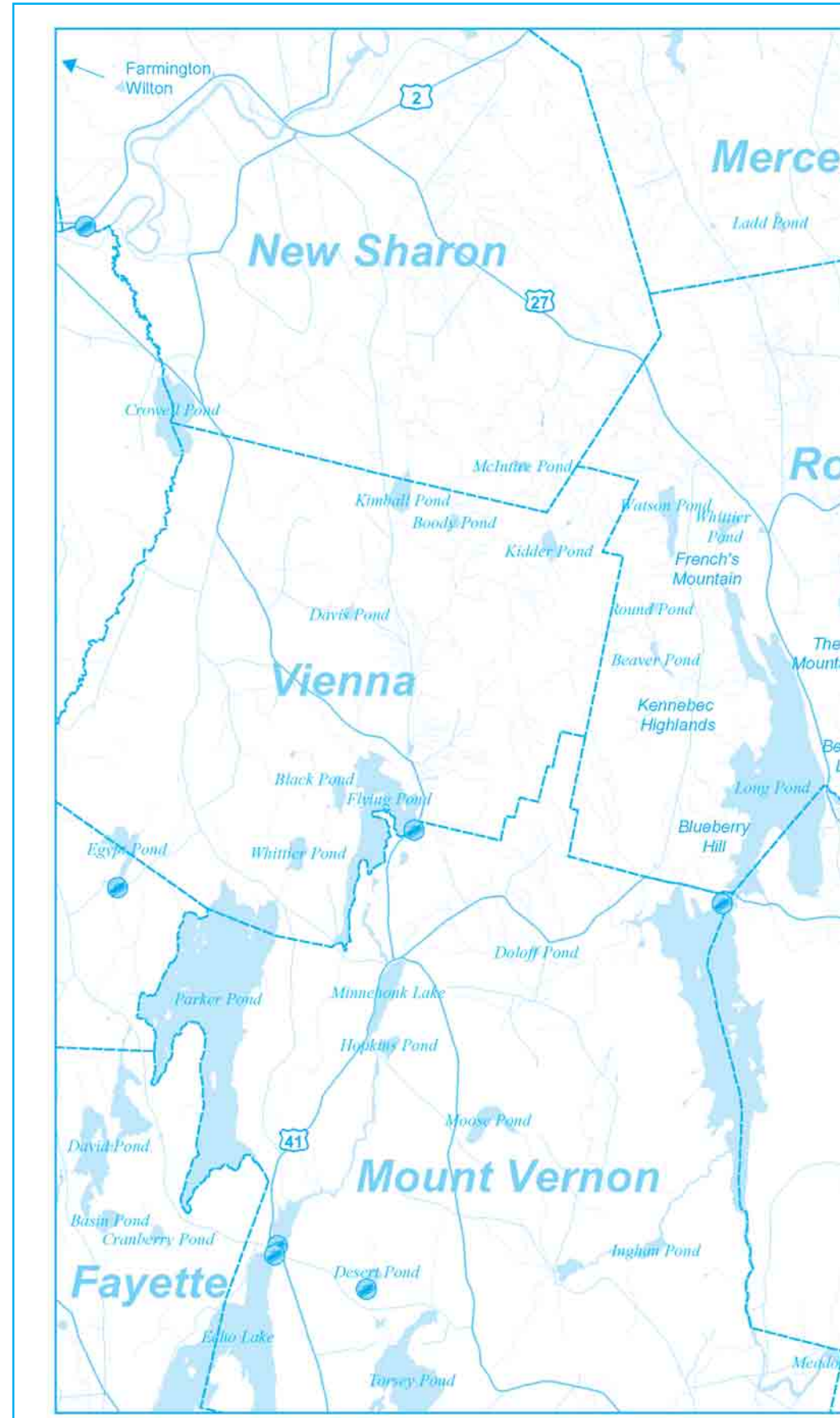
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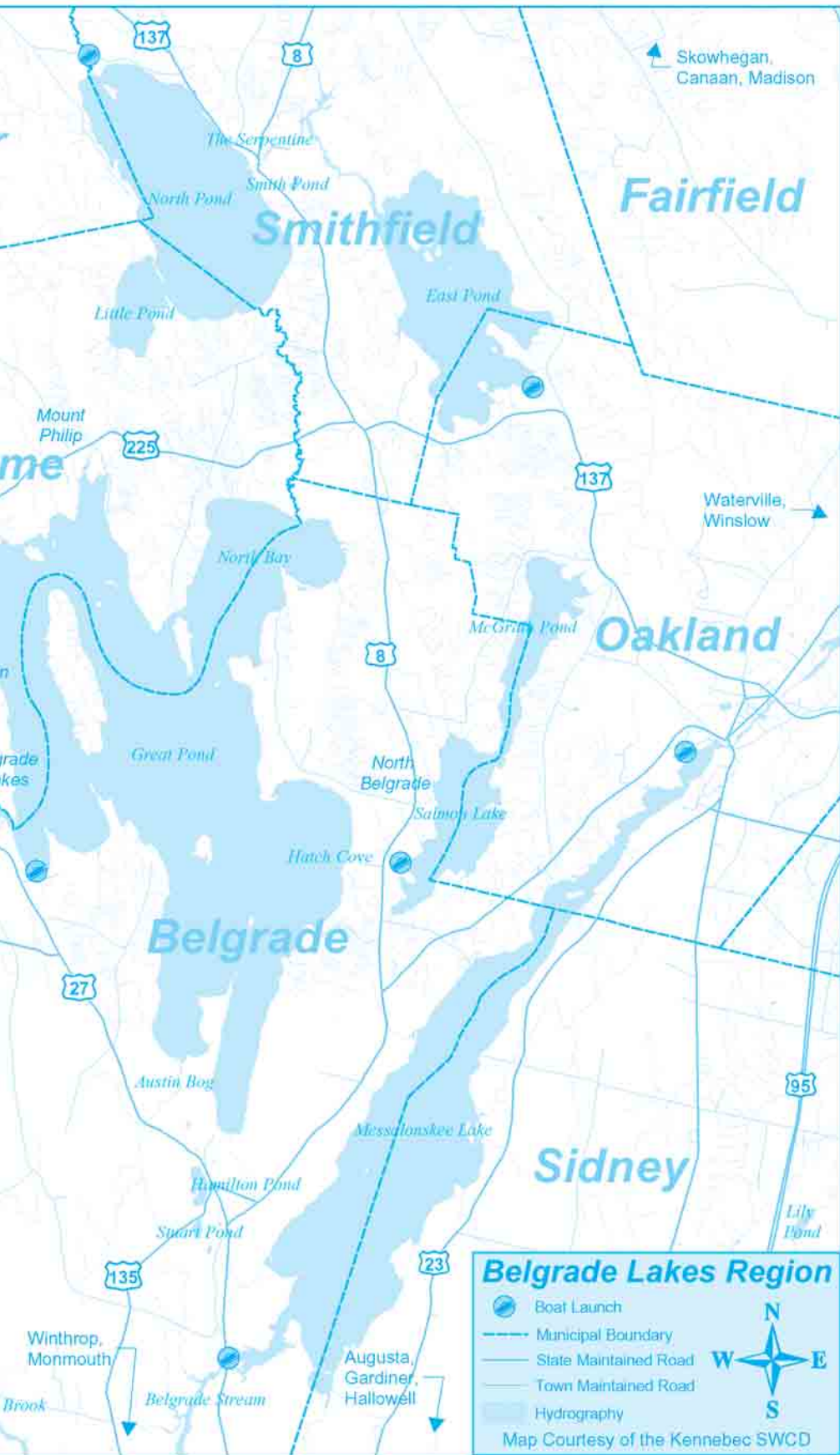
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## Call of the Loon

### It Comes with the Territory

Last week, we were conducting a regular BLA Loon Survey on Great Pond when we saw a single loon behaving somewhat unusually. It was staying above the water more than normal and hugging the shore. We decided to check that area, the island off of Foster Point, a little more thoroughly than usual. The single loon began to follow us, which was intriguing because that behavior is typical of loons with a mate either on a nest or with a chick somewhere nearby. We'd never seen a loon nest over here, and we didn't have this area recorded as a territory, so it wasn't a regular part of our route. Sure enough, though, another adult was tucked into the safety of a little inlet, and to our surprise, it had a chick on its back! We happily recorded this observation under a brand new location - Foster Point Territory.



Intruder being escorted out of the territory

After 5 years into the Belgrade Lakes Association's Loon Preservation Program, we've gotten a pretty good grasp of where loons like to nest, and where certain pairs can be found. Loons are territorial birds, defending an area ranging from a stretch of shoreline to the waters surrounding a small island to a cove or inlet. For instance, on Great Pond, territorial pairs can be found in the Marina (yes, really), on Oak, Pine and Blueberry Islands, and in the Robbins Mill Stream, to name a few. Territorial pairs will defend their home from intruding birds by posturing, yodeling, chasing them out and sometimes even fighting. We've found that the many of the most successful territories, or the ones that nest and subsequently hatch chicks, have few intrusions.



Because of the banding program, we can keep track of specific loons year to year. In most instances, territorial pairs will remain together in the same territory for numerous years, even reusing their nest. A common misconception, though, is that loons always mate for life. Especially here in the Belgrades, fidelity is often poor. Sometimes the incumbent female will nest with a new male, and sometimes it's the other way around. Two new birds may even replace the old pair. While we are still learning why this happens, it's part of the fascinating behavioral profile that makes loons so interesting to study.

As you explore the lake this summer, take a few minutes to stop and observe the loons. Over time, you may notice individual quirks: perhaps that certain birds dive frequently and slink low in the water, and that others are bold enough to swim right under your boat. Whether by bands or by distinctive size, try to line up all your observations with each other and even recognize individual birds. For instance, if you see a chick with its parents one week, the chances are good that it will be somewhere nearby the next time you see it. Loons' territorial nature is one of their most unique and distinctive features, and like many other traits, it's clear if you look closely. Happy birding!



Brynne Robbins, Colby Loon Project Intern





## Dining

### Augusta

• **Riverfront Barbeque & Grille and Gin Mill Lounge**, world class barbeque, seafood, pasta and vegetarian entrees, full service dining, catering, bulk take out, 300 Water Street, Augusta, [www.riverfrontbbq.com](http://www.riverfrontbbq.com), 622-8899

### Belgrade

• **H.J Blake's for Goodness Sake's**, fresh, homemade, tasty take out, signature lobster rolls, hot dogs, burgers, scenic outdoor seating, 945 West Road, Belgrade, 462-2280

• **Sadie's Boathouse Restaurant** at Great Pond Marine, hearty contemporary American fare, 25 Marina Drive, Belgrade Lakes, 495-4045, 242-1273

• **Winterberry Farm Café**, homemade treats, pie, cookies, granola bars, grilled organic cheese sandwiches, veggies, drinks, 538 Augusta Rd, (Route 27), Belgrade, 649-3331 779-7883

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## Weekly Farmers' Markets

**Tuesday** - Augusta Farmers' Market, 2-6 pm, Mill Park, Water Street.

**Wednesday** - Fairfield Farmers' Market, 2-6 pm, 81 Main Street, Nazarene Church Parking Lot, 81 Main Street.

**Thursday** - Downtown Waterville Farmers Market, 2-6 pm, Head of Falls and Riverwalk.

**Friday** - Farmington Farmers' Market, 10 am-1 pm, parking lot near Better Living Center, Front Street.

**Saturday** - Farmington Farmers' Market, 9 am-12

noon, in front of Court House, Main Street.

**Saturday** - Hallowell Farmers' Market, 9 am-12 noon, Steven's Commons.

**Saturday** - Skowhegan Farmers' Market, 9 am-1 pm, Somerset Grist Mill.

**Saturday** - Wayne Farmers' Market, 9 am-12 noon, on the Green at Mill Pond.

**Sunday** - Belgrade Lakes Farmers' Market, 9 am-2 pm, 7 Lakes Alliance, Main Street, Belgrade Lakes.



....Continued from page 6

**Tuesday 8/1** - Scales & Tails, Chewonki Nature Program, hands-on program to study snake skins, turtle shells and other reptilian artifacts, 3 pm, 7 Lakes, 137 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes.

**Tuesday 8/1** - Good Question? Pillsbury, Quist and Lester, Rock on the River series, 7-8:30 pm, Grandstand, Water Street, Hallowell.

**Tuesday 8/1** - The Wallflowers, rock 'n roll, 8 pm, Waterville Opera House, Main Street, downtown Waterville.

**Tuesday 8/1** - Full Moonrise Hike, French Mountain, register at <https://www.7lakesalliance.org/all-events>, 8 pm, 139 Watson Pond Road, Rome.

**Wednesday 8/2** - Invasive Plant ID Workshop, 10-11:30 am, 7 Lakes Alliance, Main Street, Belgrade Lakes.

**Wednesday 8/2** - "Mystery Tusk, Searching for Elephants in the Maine Woods," with Gary Hoyle former Maine State Museum curator, cohosted by Belgrade Historical Society and Belgrade Public Library, 6 pm, Belgrade Public Library, Depot Street, Belgrade.

**Wednesday 8/2** - Faculty Recital, New England Music Camp,

7:30 pm, Alumni Hall, Sidney.

**Wednesday 8/2** - Taste of Waterville, the area's largest food and entertainment festival, sponsored by the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce, food, beverages, cornhole competition, noon to 11 pm, Head of Falls, downtown Waterville.

**Wednesday 8/2** - Ellis Falls, free summer concert series, 6 pm to sunset, Mill Park, Water Street, Augusta.

**Thursday 8/3** - Book Sale, The Friends of Lithgow Library, cash only, to support the mission of the Friends, Thursday 9 am-7:30 pm, Friday 9 am-4:30 pm, Saturday 9 am-11:30 pm, 45 Winthrop Street, Augusta.

**Thursday 8/3** - Borderline Express, WaterFront Music Series, 6-8 pm, WaterFront Park, Oakland.

**Thursday 8/3** - Bob Colwell Trio, Village Green Concert Series, 6-8 pm, 495-3481, recreation@townofbelgrade.com, Route 27, downtown Belgrade Lakes.



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[www.hathawaymillantiques.com](http://www.hathawaymillantiques.com)

### APPLE ORCHARDS

**The Apple Farm**, 104 Back Road, Fairfield,  
453-7656, [www.applefarm.us](http://www.applefarm.us)

### ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

**LakeHouse Design, Build, Renovate**, 17 Birchwood Road,  
Augusta, 242-3663. [www.lakehousedesignbuildmaine.com](http://www.lakehousedesignbuildmaine.com) [houzz](https://www.houzz.com)

### ARTS

**High Peaks Artisan Guild**, art gallery open Friday,  
Saturday, Sunday 11 am-5 pm, other times by chance or  
appointment,  
245 Main Street, Kingfield, 340-1045,  
[highpeaksartisanguild.homestead.com](http://highpeaksartisanguild.homestead.com)

**Waterville Creates**, 10 Water Street, Suite 106, Waterville,  
616-0292, [www.watervillecreates.org](http://www.watervillecreates.org)

### AUTOMOBILE STORAGE

**Belgrade Lakes Marine and Storage, Inc.**,  
366 Augusta Road, Belgrade, (Rte. 27), 495-2378,  
[www.belgradelakesmarine.com](http://www.belgradelakesmarine.com)

### BANKING

**Maine State Credit Union** 200 Capitol Street, Augusta,  
623-1851, [www.maineatecu.org](http://www.maineatecu.org)

### BEVERAGES

**Tree Spirits**, 152 Fairfield Street (Rte. 23), Oakland,  
861-2723 or 465-3007, [www.treespiritsofmaine.com](http://www.treespiritsofmaine.com)

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Machias, Portland, Rochester (NH), Rockland, Skowhegan,  
1-800-HAMMOND, [www.hammondlumber.com](http://www.hammondlumber.com)

### BOAT MOORINGS

**Great Pond Marina**. 25 Marina Drive, (off Rte. 27),  
Belgrade Lakes, 495-2213, [www.greatpondmarina.com](http://www.greatpondmarina.com)

### BOAT RENTALS

**Great Pond Marina**, 25 Marina Drive, (off Rte. 27),  
Belgrade Lakes, 495-2213, [www.greatpondmarina.com](http://www.greatpondmarina.com)

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Oakland,  
465-2146, [www.midmainemarine.com](http://www.midmainemarine.com)

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**Belgrade Lakes Marine and Storage, Inc.** 366 Augusta  
Road, Belgrade, 495-2378, [www.belgradelakesmarine.com](http://www.belgradelakesmarine.com)  
**Great Pond Marina**, 25 Marina Drive, (off Rte. 27), Belgrade  
Lakes, 495-2213, [www.greatpondmarina.com](http://www.greatpondmarina.com)  
**Mid-Maine Marine**, 885 Kennedy Memorial Drive,  
Oakland, 465-2146, [www.midmainemarine.com](http://www.midmainemarine.com)

### BOOKS

**Children's Book Cellar**, 52 Main Street, Waterville,  
872-4543, [www.facebook.com/ChildrensBookCellar/](http://www.facebook.com/ChildrensBookCellar/)  
**Oliver and Friends, Bookshop**, 87 Main Street, Belgrade  
Lakes, 707-2123

**Peoples Book Shop**, 605 Wings Mill Rd., Mount Vernon,  
620-2392, [hosehead51@roadrunner.com](mailto:hosehead51@roadrunner.com)

### BUILDERS

**G&L Contracting**, Belgrade Lakes, 215-7951, 495-9009,  
233-7408, [gandlcontractingmaine.com](http://gandlcontractingmaine.com)

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Road, Augusta, 242-3663. 512-8161  
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**Maine-ly Elder Care**, 28 Center Street, Oakland,  
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**Winterberry Farm**, 538 Augusta Road, (Rte. 27), Belgrade,  
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**Golden Pond Wealth Management**, 129 Silver Street,  
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### LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

**Belgrade Lakes Association (BLA)**, Long Pond and Great  
Pond, PO Box 551, 137 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes,  
512-5150, [belgradelakesassociation.org](http://belgradelakesassociation.org)

**McGrath Pond-Salmon Lake Association (MPSLA)**,  
Belgrade and Oakland, PO Box 576, Oakland, ME 04963,  
[mpslassociation@gmail.com](mailto:mpslassociation@gmail.com)

### LAND AND LAKE CONSERVATION

**7 Lakes Alliance**, PO Box 250, 137 Main Street, Belgrade  
Lakes, 931-7710, [www.7lakesalliance.org](http://www.7lakesalliance.org)

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474-2420, 405-0880, [www.lychlandscaping.com](http://www.lychlandscaping.com)

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**Ellen Wells**, Coldwell Banker Plourde Real Estate, 649-1471

**Lakepoint Real Estate**, 221 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, 495-3700, [www.belgradelakepoint.com](http://www.belgradelakepoint.com)

**Amy Bernatchez**, Lakepoint Real Estate, 314-2353, [amy@belgradelakepoint.com](mailto:amy@belgradelakepoint.com)

**Trisha Cheney**, Lakepoint Real Estate, 716-6494, [trisha@belgradelakepoint.com](mailto:trisha@belgradelakepoint.com)

**Stephanie Yeaton**, Lakepoint Real Estate, 495-4046, 592-5577, [stephanie@belgradelakepoint.com](mailto:stephanie@belgradelakepoint.com)

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**RESTAURANTS**

See Dining Directory on page 11

**RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES**

**Granite Hill Estates**, 60 Balsam Drive, Hallowell, 626-7786, 1-888-321-1119, [www.granitehillestates.com](http://www.granitehillestates.com)

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## The Dams Keeper Report

Although it's been another roller coaster of a week with daily forecasts of scattered thunderstorms, we actually fared fairly well with the 1.86" of precipitation we did get over the past ten days. It could have been a lot worse which our neighbors up north will attest to.

The good news is that we are still holding our own and our ponds are in excellent shape despite the challenges. The Village dam, as of this writing, is 3.24" above full pond with one gate opened just one foot. Long Pond, at the Wings Mill Dam, is 2.76" below full with both gates at 18" and 24" respectively with upper Long at two inches above full. Snow Pond is 6.12" below the top of their spillway, which as I've said before, is remarkable considering the rain! Salmon and

McGrath remain in great shape, right at full pond with the 1 cfs. calibrated valve still opened 15 turns.

If you recall, they were forecasting another drought for this summer, which couldn't have been further from the truth! But the good news is that we all survived the deluge and with an updated ten day forecast with only .20" of precipitation, it looks like we're finally going to have the Chamber of Commerce weather we all deserve.

If you have a particular questions regarding our Dams and/or water levels, please email your inquiry to: [dickgreenan@outlook.com](mailto:dickgreenan@outlook.com) and we will try to answer your question either in this column or via email.

Enjoy the family, your vacation and you have permission to put the umbrellas back in the closet!

*Dick Greenan*

*Chairman, Belgrade Lakes Watershed Dams Committee*



## Mystery Tusk

### Searching for Elephants in The Maine Woods

The Belgrade Historical Society in conjunction with the Belgrade Public Library will be hosting author, Gary Hoyle on Wednesday, August 2, at 6pm. Gary will give a slide presentation on his book, "Mystery Tusk Searching for Elephants in the Maine Woods".

A true story of author, Gary Hoyle's search for a mysterious tusk that seems to have two conflicting histories-one ancient and one modern. The book reads like a mystery novel as it tells the story of the first paleontological excavation of a mammoth in Maine, as well as the history of an African elephant that visited Maine and inspired P.T. Barnum

Gary Hoyle is a former curator of Natural History at the Maine State Museum (1973-2001). During Mr. Hoyle's tenure at the museum, he designed and fabricated a significant portion of exhibit elements for the permanent exhibit halls. A fine artist, Hoyle illustrated the book.

Refreshments will be provided.



...Continued from page 4

housing a beautiful stained glass rose window at its top. The corners of the entry projection are buttressed, and the building corners exhibit brick quoining."

In its 150 years, the hall has seen many and varied uses. The western end of the basement was originally occupied by the West Waterville Savings Bank — an empty, granite-walled vault is still there — and the central room became a post office. The eastern part of the basement was a garage for a handtub fire engine. (This 19th-century forerunner of a pumper truck consisted of a metal tank on wheels with a bar running the length of either side. Groups of firefighters, half on each side, would pump their bars up and down, like a seesaw, to make the water shoot out of a hose.)

After the post office moved out, the local chapter of the Grand Army of the Republic, a nationwide organization of Union veterans of the Civil War, moved in. By 1904, the bank was gone, but Oakland moved its town offices into the building, and in 1905, the town's three-year-old free public library moved in as well. The library remained in the basement of the hall until the current library building opened half a block to the north in 1915.

In the early 20th century, the hall was also used for 1st and 2nd grade classes and for Catholic worship. Until the early 1990s, it was a polling place. The auditorium on the main floor, which by one account could seat 350 people, was used for town meetings, high school graduations, plays, and various other meetings and receptions, public and private. Nowadays, the building is used primarily by a local dance school.

The restoration of Memorial Hall is a project of the Oakland Area Historical Society and the Town of Oakland's Memorial Hall Committee. The first phase, which is expected to cost around \$500,000, is repointing the exterior stones and repairing the granite front steps and a granite retaining wall. This work will take place next year. Later phases, which will take place as funding becomes available, will include adding a sprinkler system, an elevator, and handicapped-accessible restrooms in order to bring the building into compliance with current fire safety codes and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

At an open house in the hall in May, five groups of architecture students from the University of

*Continued on page 14....*





## Community Read

by Martha F. Barkley

Finally a librarian called with a copy of *This Wild Land* by Baxter Park Ranger Andrew Vietze. A very popular community read with many copies selling at Oliver and Friends, too.

Wish I had a copy earlier to read during all that June rain because friends were raving about it. Now I read my library copy by the lake before my daily swim to cool off.

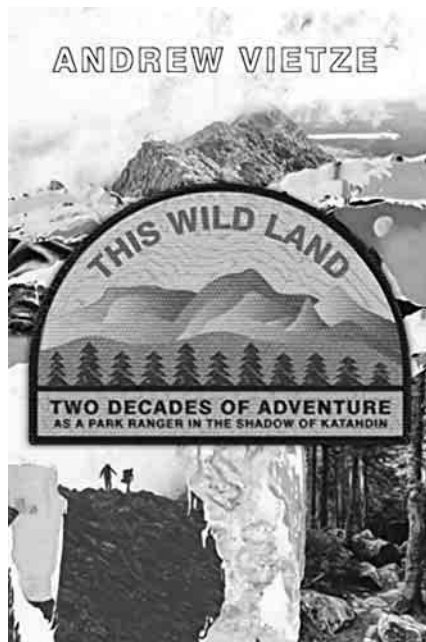
Katahdin hovers in its grandness over almost every chapter. The AT thru hikers, day hikers and their lack of preparedness, personalities of rangers and outdoor toilets are main characters.

Yes, cleaning outhouse facilities is mentioned more than I would ever dream a good writer would get away with, but this fine writer does. After all, Andrew Vietze had a solid, successful writing career for ten years in the prestigious *DownEast* magazine.

Clearing trees and parking lot maintenance did not get my attention at first, but later chapters had me turning the pages. "I figured some fancy magazine editor wouldn't want to get his hands dirty [remarks by instructor]...I recognized immediately that real park rangers cleaned outhouses, and I wanted to be a park ranger.

Parking lot management is big at Katahdin where climbers are limited daily for safety reasons. A mountain climber from Maryland driving a European sports car screamed in the ranger's face when not allowed to park. Planning ahead for Katahdin is required. The screaming climber left, not even considering all the other 45 peaks or 200 miles of hiking trails or paddling ponds and lakes, 50 to choose from. Why not explore other options while near Katahdin?

Hikers today who forget their prescription meds or lone hikers abusing drugs offer many emergency situations for the rangers to handle. Medical attention happens daily for Katahdin climbers, ankle and foot trauma being number one. Helicopter rescue sometimes.



"I'm particularly impressed with the combat vets who use the trail as a way to decompress after their wartime experience. The tradition dates back to the first thru-hiker, Earl Shaffer, who was a radio man in the Pacific during WW II and 'walked off the war' by trekking from Ga. to Me."

Mosquitoes and moose dying from ticks and black flies biting people everywhere exposed are covered more thoroughly than nuisance by bears. Yes, a bear causes minor problems occasionally, but black flies are worse for people. The two French ladies' story was hard to believe, but read about them...

Walt Disney finding Bambi right here "in the shadow of Katahdin" is another history lesson full of detail and beauty that became an American classic film. We in Maine know the woods Bambi frolicked in. The Augusta movie theatre is where Disney wanted the premier, but local hunters objected so Walt Disney went to London and then NYC instead.

Andrew Vietze had quite a car episode with a moose on the road for quite a long gallop. His family, wife and two kids, all benefited from their Baxter Park experiences, but he explains the difficulties as well.

Join the community read discussion in August with the author for q&a with you. Bring your questions.



...Continued from page 13

Maine at Augusta presented design concepts to update the building while retaining its historic character. Each of the five plans included an elevator inside the building and a wheelchair ramp outside. A professional architect will synthesize the students' proposals into an overall plan, taking the best elements from each.

The whole project is expected to cost around \$5 million. Dr. Michelle  
....continued on page 15

"We worked with Amy Bernatchez and she was awesome!! Amy worked really hard for us and went the extra mile to make it all happen in the end. She is not only very personable but extremely knowledgeable! I'd work with her again in a heartbeat!" L.Y.- 7/2023



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The total eclipse of the sun is coming to Maine April 8th, 2024  
It's a good time to see In The Moon Shadow which captures the 2017 Total Eclipse magnificently. Curious as to the effects? Come support the new pickle-ball/basketball fundraiser and see!



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## — Real Estate Update —

## Real Estate Trends this Summer

This issue of Summertime marks about the half-way point for our summer season. Now that the weather has finally started to cooperate, we are enjoying the water and outdoor recreation spots. The 4th of July parade and fireworks had a great turnout. The Thursday evening music on the Village Green saw 300+ music lovers enjoying the shows each week. The restaurants are busy, Day's Store has a steady flow of shoppers. Life in the Belgrade Lakes Village is vibrant...and normal.

While we are not sure what 'normal' is in the real estate market after the last 3 years, but at this half-way point of the summer we can share some trends and highlights. So far this summer (May-July) there have been 57 home sales in the Belgrade Lakes Region, which is down sharply from the summer of 2022, just over 30% decrease.

The average sale price is up significantly to over \$500,000, a 32% increase from last year.

Waterfront home sales have seen a slight increase in volume from last year with 30 sales this summer, up 29. The higher price trend also continues with waterfront properties up 23% to \$693,000.

The demand for both residential and waterfront properties is still strong in the region, and the number of homes for sale continues to decline. Currently there are only 59 homes for sale in the region, with 29 of those being waterfront. This is a 20% decrease from this time last year. In comparison, there were over 150 active listings at this time in 2019.

Some notable home sales in the region:

A long pond home on Rockwood Drive in Belgrade sold for \$1,900,000 after only 52 days on

the market.

There have been 9 home sales over \$900,000 this summer, compared to 5 last year.

3 camps on Hoyt Island on Great Pond have sold this year, with 2 more under contract.

There have been 10 homes sold on Great Pond with an average sale price of \$690,000.

Because of the lack of homes on the market, we will likely see the trend of fewer homes selling in the area, but this will also continue to keep prices at historically high levels. This summer may offer a great opportunity to sell your camp or cottage, especially if the market price is under the area average. Currently half of the homes on the market locally are priced over \$700,000.

Ask a real estate professional! And enjoy the second half of the summer!!



...continued from page 5



Tim and Doina with niece, Sam Leach.

...continued from page 14

Fontaine, the historical society's secretary and grant writer, has applied to both of Maine's U.S. senators for Congressionally Directed Spending, i.e. an earmark. She is also seeking other federal, corporate, and non-profit foundation grants. She hopes that entire project can be completed in five or six years, but allows that it could take longer.

Besides looking for grants, the historical society will be holding fundraisers. They held a "Tea and Tour" at the hall in May and will hold a cornhole tournament and raffles during OakFest, on July 28-29. The raffle prizes are a recliner, a vintage snowmobile, a mountain bike, and a stay at a local bed and breakfast. The society is also putting together a cookbook of recipes new and old and historical photos and fun facts, the sales of which will benefit the restoration and other OAHS projects.

Finally, individual donations are most welcome. To donate online, visit the project's GoFundMe page, [gofund.me/94fc01af](https://gofund.me/94fc01af). If you prefer, you can mail a check to the Oakland Area Historical Society, PO Box 6, Oakland, ME 04963.

### Camp and Gravel Road Maintenance Workshop Save Money - Maximize Resources - Protect Water Quality

Attention: Camp Road residents, Lake and Road Association members, Driveway owners, Municipal Officials, and Contractors

**This workshop is for you!**

This workshop will discuss road design, installation, and how routine maintenance of your gravel road and/or driveway will save you money and protect water quality.

Road Commissioners, Public Works Supervisors, CEOs, and anyone involved in road maintenance are welcome.

Provides 4 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for Recertification in Erosion Control Practices.



**Presenters:**

**Charlie Baeder**, 7 Lakes Alliance: *Roads and Water Quality*; 319 cost-share grants for road construction projects to reduce erosion and improve water quality, 2023-2024.

**Peter Coughlan**, Director, Maine Local Roads Center, Maine DOT: *Road basics 101; grader operators; ensuring safety and reducing impacts on water quality; culvert sizing; winter plowing; technical resources.*

**John Maclaine**, Nonpoint Source (NPS) Training Center, Maine DEP: *Permitting, Erosion, and Sedimentation Control; Culvert grant opportunities 2023-2024; Stream-Crossing design and construction.*

**Josh Platt**, President, Maine Environmental Solutions LLC; Kennebec County Soil and Water Conservation District: *Surveying gravel roads; Road Plans: design and maintenance for road associations.*

**Dave Rocque**, Maine State Soil Scientist-retired: *Effective non-traditional practices to repair roads.*

**When and Where:**

**Date: Monday, July 31, 2023**

**Time: 9 AM-3 PM** (indoor 9-noon; Lunch; field site visits 1-3); registration opens 8:30 AM

**Location: 7 Lakes Alliance**, 137 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918

**Parking:** Behind Union Church, School Street, Belgrade Lakes

**Lunch and Snacks provided**

**Cost of Workshop:** \$20 Pre-Registration; \$30 day of event. \$5 discount for 2 or more members of the same road association, lake association, business, or town.

To register, visit 7 Lakes Alliance website [www.7lakesalliance.org](http://www.7lakesalliance.org) or call **207-495-6039**

**Hosted by** 7 Lakes Alliance, Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed, and 30 Mile River Watershed Association

"Funding for this project is, in part, provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The funding is administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection in partnership with EPA."



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MLS 1561641 \$1,250,000



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