

Summertime in the Belgrades



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

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 8

Celebrating Our Surroundings

by Esther J. Perne



Traditional Saturday night fare, iconic bird calls, outdoor concerts, summer theater performances, agricultural fairs, lake association meetings, business and community anniversaries, games, competitions and recreation - all on, near or in view of water, woods and open lands.

August is the high point of summery celebrations, of festivals, of get-togethers, some once-a-season traditions, some the end of a successful summer-long series, some for profit, some as benefits, some just for fun and free. And they all involve significant and beautiful settings.

In Belgrade Lakes, where outdoor concerts on the Village Green have supplied weekly entertainment and where outdoor craft shows and coffeehouse music have supplied monthly

entertainment, the first Saturday, August 5, offers two events that have endured for at least four decades: the Bean Hole Supper and the Loon Calling Contest.

The supper, which is held at Belgrade's Center for All Seasons on Great Pond and which features beans cooked overnight using a wood-burning fire pit, not only represents the traditional Saturday night bean supper but also the legacy of an era when logs were transported (driven) on Maine's major rivers, when cooks traveled downstream a day ahead of the drive to make fire pits so that hot beans, cooked overnight, would be ready when the workers arrived. The Bean Hole Supper benefits the Belgrade Fire & Rescue Association.

The Loon Calling - imitating a call like none

other - is an absolute ode to the Maine lake setting today and millions of years ago. Held on the Belgrade Stream at the bridge between Belgrade Lakes and Rome, the contest is open to all ages and open to spectators by land and by boat. The location not only provides a scenic setting of the stream on one side of the road and Long Pond on the other but is historically significant for the early water-powered mills that lined the stream.

While the first August weekend in Belgrade Lakes is dedicated to bean hole beans and loon calling, the predominant event in other small lake towns is the outdoor concert, almost always near water or in a scenic park. Although seasonal schedules are tapering off, the possibility of attending an outdoor music concert every night

Continued on page 2

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Continued from page 1

of the week continues into August. A bonus: Most of them involve scenic destination drives.

Not outdoors, but nonetheless a scenic drive away are the region's two summer theaters: Lakewood on the shores of Lake Wesserunsett whose schedule continues into September and The Theater at Monmouth in historic Cumston Hall where a repertory selection of plays will be offered through mid-August.

Although there are agricultural fairs nonstop throughout the summer throughout the state, a favorite in the area begins the second week in August. Skowhegan State Fair runs from Thursday, August 10 through Saturday, August 19 and offers an extensive schedule of entertainment, horse racing, exhibits, competitions, food options, a midway and the opportunity to immerse in the products, produce and livestock of rural Maine.

There are many reasons to attend lake association meetings but the one that goes without saying is the setting of the gathering: golf courses, camps, parks, private clubs and halls, public facilities and community centers. By August most of the meetings have been held but in the Belgrades two remain: on August 10, the McGrath Pond/Salmon Lake Association will hold its annual meeting in Oakland's Pleasant Point Park on McGrath Pond and on August 14 the North Pond Association will meet at Pine



Tree Camp on North Pond in Rome.

Two anniversaries are being formally celebrated the first week in August. Hathaway Mill Antiques in the restored historic former Hathaway Shirt Factory on the Kennebec River is celebrating its 6th anniversary and the town of Skowhegan, also on the Kennebec River, is celebrating its 200th anniversary.

The celebration of Skowhegan's Bicentennial will be part of another significant celebration in Skowhegan: River Fest, when many facets of the

scenic and recreational value of the Kennebec River are highlighted through activities on and near the water. (For details, see page 7.)

Celebrations aside, it is not too late in the summer to just enjoy all the recreational opportunities, the beautiful settings, the scenic drives and the privilege that almost every outing to something planned or on the personal agenda is on, near or in view of a beautiful setting of water, woods and open lands.



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Wonderful Wildlife



Beaver dam: This spectacular beaver dam across Trout Creek at the northern end of Great Pond is about 75 feet long. Paddling through this area is a delightful excursion, but twenty feet beyond the entrance, our canoe was blocked by some of Maine's finest engineers. photo by Kay Overfield



Eagle: Beautiful Eagle! What a gift this morning on the beach of Tracy Nale Sewall, Cedar Village Drive, Snow Pond. photo by Thomas Nale

Summertime in the Belgrades

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McGrath Pond - Salmon Lake

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Annual Meeting Aug. 10th @ 6:00 pm - Pleasant Point Park,
McGrath Pond. Rain date Aug. 11th @ 6:00 pm

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Courtesy Boat Inspector Stops Invasive Curly-leaf Pondweed At Great Pond Launch

Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs) are the Belgrade Lakes' first line of defense against costly invasive aquatic plant infestations. 7 Lakes Alliance operates this critical program in partnership and with support of lake associations, local towns, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, and citizen supporters. The CBI program also provides numerous local jobs and fosters a lake-friendly relationship with boaters.

Recently, CBI Alice Bowden made a crucial save while working at the Great Pond boat launch Alice spotted and removed a piece of curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) from the propeller of a boat visiting from Bare Hill Pond in Harvard, Massachusetts. Invasive fanwort and variable leaf milfoil also infest Bare Hill Pond.

Alice's catch was a true "save" as there are no documented CLP infestations in Great Pond. She reflected, "I found the segment of curly-leaf pondweed less than an hour into my very first day as a courtesy boat inspector. I was not

expecting to catch an invasive so soon, I'm glad I was there to stop it [from] spreading!"

Although Alice stopped CLP from another state, it easily could have come from the nearby, newly discovered infestation of CLP found by a 7 Lakes-trained volunteer in the Serpentine between East and North Pond in 2021. CBIs' recent removal of invasive variable milfoil from several boats exiting Messalonskee Lake this summer also underscore dangers close to home.

Like algal blooms, infestations of invasive aquatic organisms threaten wildlife habitat, property values, and recreational uses. Infestations are costly to remediate and are rarely eradicated. Climate change increases these threats by creating better growing conditions and longer seasons. So please thank CBI for their excellent work protecting the



Belgrade Lakes from invaders. To learn more about the CBI program or to become a CBI on any of the Belgrade Lakes, visit www.7lakesalliance.org.

Famed Violinist Midori Headlines Final Atlantic Music Festival Concert of 2023

by Gregor Smith

Internationally renowned violinist Midori returns to the Atlantic Music Festival to perform as soloist with the AMF Orchestra for the festival's closing concert, Saturday, August 5, 7:30 p.m. at Colby College in Waterville. Directed by Maestro Kisun Sung, the program includes the *Petite Symphonie in B Flat Major* by Charles Gounod, the *Serenade No. 1 in D Major, Op. 11*, by Johannes Brahms, the *Romance in F Minor, Op. 11*, by Antonín Dvořák, and the *Serenade (After Plato's "Symposium")* by Leonard Bernstein.



The concert, which takes place in Lorimer Chapel, is free and open to the public. It may be the last orchestral performance in Colby's chapel, as the college will open its Gordon Center for Creative and Performing Arts this fall. The new facility will include a 300-seat performance hall.

A child prodigy, Midori — professionally, she uses just her given

name — made her orchestral debut at age 11 in 1982 with the New York Philharmonic. Since then, she has performed around the world, has released 22 albums, has been honored at the Kennedy Center, and has founded several nonprofit organizations, including Midori & Friends, which supports music programs in New York City's public schools. Currently, she is Dorothy Richard Starling Chair in Violin Studies at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and a Distinguished Visiting Artist at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. She first appeared at the Atlantic Music Festival last year, when she presented two solo recitals.

Except during the first year of the pandemic, 2020, the Atlantic Music Festival has brought teen and young adult musicians and older instructors to Colby College each summer for master classes, private lessons, rehearsals, and performances of classical music. Besides the orchestral concert, the other performances during the festival's final few days are scenes from favorite operas presented by the AMF Vocal Institute on Thursday, August 3, at 7:30 p.m.; a chamber music recital by AMF faculty

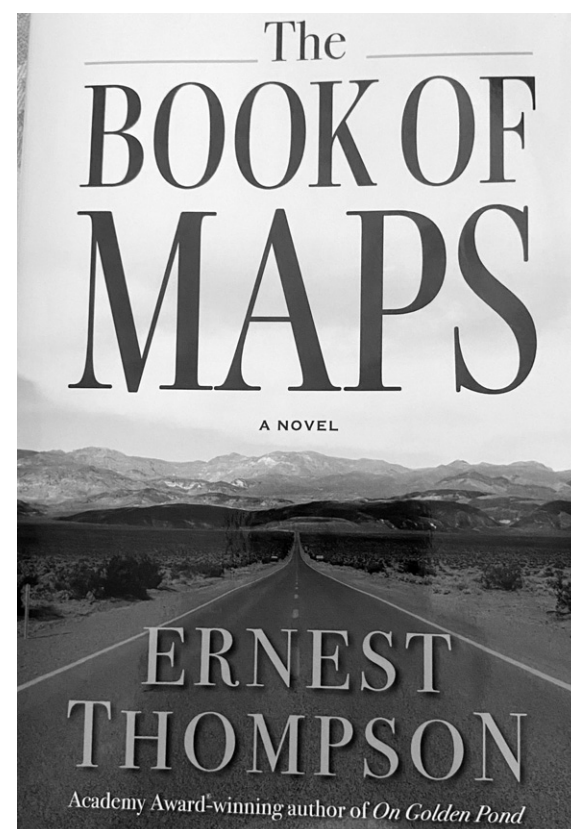
and fellows on Friday, August 4, at 7:30 p.m.; and a program of new works composed by AMF students, faculty, and fellows on Saturday at 3:00 p.m. All of these performances take place in Lorimer Chapel and are presented without charge. For more information, visit the AMF website at www.atlanticmusicfestival.org.

Join author Ernest Thompson of "On Golden Pond" fame to hear about his new novel "The Book of Maps"

Saturday, August 19, 4 pm

Belgrade Center for All Seasons

Route 27, Belgrade Lakes



Free and open to the public, the presentation will include:

- Meet and Greet
- Presentation on "The Book of Maps"
- Auction of "On Golden Pond" memorabilia
- Book sales and signing

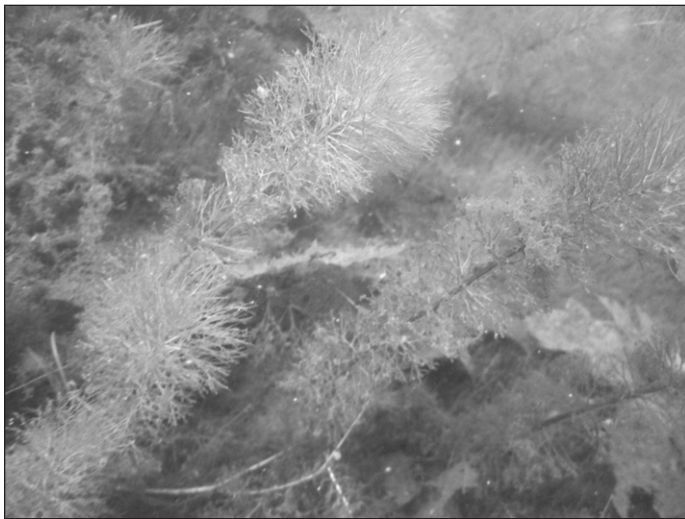
Proceeds will benefit the Belgrade Lakes Association



— Take It Outside —

Summer in Full Swing

by Pete Kallin



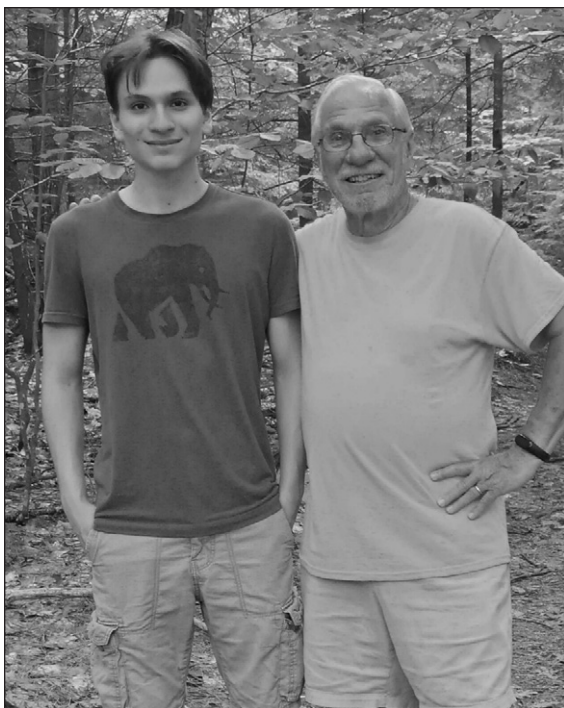
Water marigold.



Freshwater bryozoan, or "moss animal"

We have finally had most of a week without rain although it's been really hot and humid. That has gotten a lot of people out in the water to cool off, including me. I am part of a 7-Lakes program called "Adopt-a-shoreline." I am a trained Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) volunteer but you don't have to be to participate in this program but it helps. 7-Lakes conducts multiple trainings throughout the summer at multiple locations. Visit their web site (<https://www.7lakesalliance.org/>) for details or stop into the gallery to learn more. Basically the program is to patrol

your shorefront at least twice a summer from a small boat, kayak, or snorkeling, looking for new plants that weren't there before. If you find something that looks suspicious, grab a sample and bring it in to 7-Lakes for an ID. My area is Tracy Cove on Long Pond, which has over a mile of shoreline. It is an area I fish regularly paying careful attention to the plants and at least once a year during the heat of summer, I patrol by snorkel. It cools me off, is good exercise, and I can get an up-close look at all the weed beds and "large woody debris" where the fish hang out. I have found a lot of good fishing spots this way as well as a lot of fishing lures lost by other fishermen. All the plants I found were natives, including several milfoil "lookalikes" such as water marigold which has the same "bottle brush" look as milfoil but has branching leaves instead of feathered leaves. I also spotted some large (about the size of a small football) freshwater bryozoans on some submerged tree



Left: Greg Held and grandson, Nathan. Right: Henry and David with sunfish.

branches. These are colonial animal with tentacles that looks like a weird jellyfish and feeds on small invertebrates.

I've been getting a few hikes in and doing some mushroom and berry foraging in the Kennebec Highlands. It is a much better mushroom year so far than last and the blueberries on top of Vienna Mountain are having a bumper crop. I am also seeing a lot of kids out hiking with family. Last week I met Greg Held and his grandson, Nathan Castillo from Neptune, NJ, hiking at French Mountain. The Helds have a camp on the north end of Great Pond and Greg pointed out that Nathan is part of the 5th generation taking care of the family camp. He also said that the rain garden installed on the property by the YCC about 10

Continued on page 15...

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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 8/3 - Saturday 8/5 - Book Sale, cash only, proceeds support the mission of the Friends of Lithgow Library, 45 Winthrop Street, Augusta.

Thursday 8/3 - Saturday 8/12 - "Catch Me If You Can," 474-7176, Lakewood Theater, Route 201, Madison.

Friday 8/4 - Thursday 8/10 - "An Illiad", "The Importance of Being Ernest", "As You Like It," in repertory, 933-9999, Cumston Hall, Theater at Monmouth.

Through Sunday 8/6 - Skowhegan River Fest and celebration of Skowhegan's 200th anniversary, dozens of activities downtown, on the Kennebec River and throughout the surrounding area, food, competitions, river events, dinner in the park, live music, bed races and much more, fireworks, downtown Skowhegan.

Friday 8/4 - Bake Sale, 9-11 am, Lithgow Public Library, 45 Winthrop Street, Augusta.

Friday 8/4 - Griffin William Sherry, 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 8/4 - The Oren Robinson Band, Johnson Hall Free

Waterfront Concert, 6-7:30 pm, Waterfront Park on the Kennebec River, Gardiner.

Friday 8/4 - Kyle Knuppei and Matt Davis, 7 pm, Vienna Union Hall, Vienna.

Saturday 8/5 - Rapunzel, Missoula Children's Theater, 12 noon, Waterville Opera House, Main Street, Waterville.

Saturday 8/5 - Beanhole Bean Supper, sponsored by Belgrade Firefighters Association, \$12 adults, \$7 children 5-12, free under 5, 5-7 pm, Center for All Seasons, Route 27, Belgrade Lakes.

Saturday 8/5 - Belgrade Lakes Loon Calling Contest, hosted by Castle Island Camps, sign-up 6:30 pm, contest begins at 7 pm, all ages welcome, Lakepoint Real Estate parking lot, Route 27, Belgrade Lakes.

Saturday 8/5 - Baroque Music Quintet, 6 pm, donations accepted, 6 pm, Union Meeting House, Readfield.

Sunday 8/6 - Calypso Soldiers, Concert at Norcross Point, free, 2-4 pm, Winthrop.

Sunday 8/6 - Elena Ciampa and Friends, UMF Summer Concert Series, 2 pm, Emery Community Arts Center, University of Maine at Farmington.

Sunday 8/6 - New England Music Camp Intensive/Prelude Showcase, 3 pm, Bowl in the Pines, Pond Road, Sidney.

Sunday 8/6 - Barbie's Sing-A-Long, Concerts in the Park, 5-6:15 pm, Coburn Park, Skowhegan.

Monday 8/7 - Western Maine Foothills Band, Concert in the Park, 7-8:30 pm, Meetinghouse Park, downtown Farmington.

Tuesday 8/8 - Hallowell Does...Band, songs from 1973, get retro, Rock on the River series, 7-8:30 pm, Grandstand, Water Street, Hallowell.

Tuesday 8/8 - The Bugmobile with Chewonki, 3 pm, 7 Lakes Alliance, 137 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes.

Wednesday 8/9 - Invasive Plant ID Workshop, 10-11:30 am, 7 Lakes Alliance, 137 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes.

Wednesday 8/9 - Block Party with DJ Matt James, free summer concert series, 6 pm to sunset, Mill Park, Water Street, Augusta.

Thursday 8/10 - Saturday 8/19 - Skowhegan State Fair, rides, exhibits, entertainment, music, food and much more, Route 201, Skowhegan.

Thursday 8/10 - Cruise-In, 5-7 pm, Waterfront Park, Gardiner.

Thursday 8/10 - Smoke & Mojo, WaterFront Music Series, 6-8 pm, WaterFront Park, Oakland.

Thursday 8/10 - Midnight Breakfast, Village Green Music Series, 6:30-8 pm, 495-3481, recreation@townofbelgrade.com, Main Street, Belgrade Lakes.

Thursday 8/10 - McGrath Pond-Salmon Lake Association annual meeting, (rain date August 11), bring your own chairs, 6 pm, Pleasant Point Park, Oakland.



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Belgrade Bean Hole Supper



Beanhole Bean Supper to benefit Belgrade Fire & Rescue Association.

Saturday, August 5

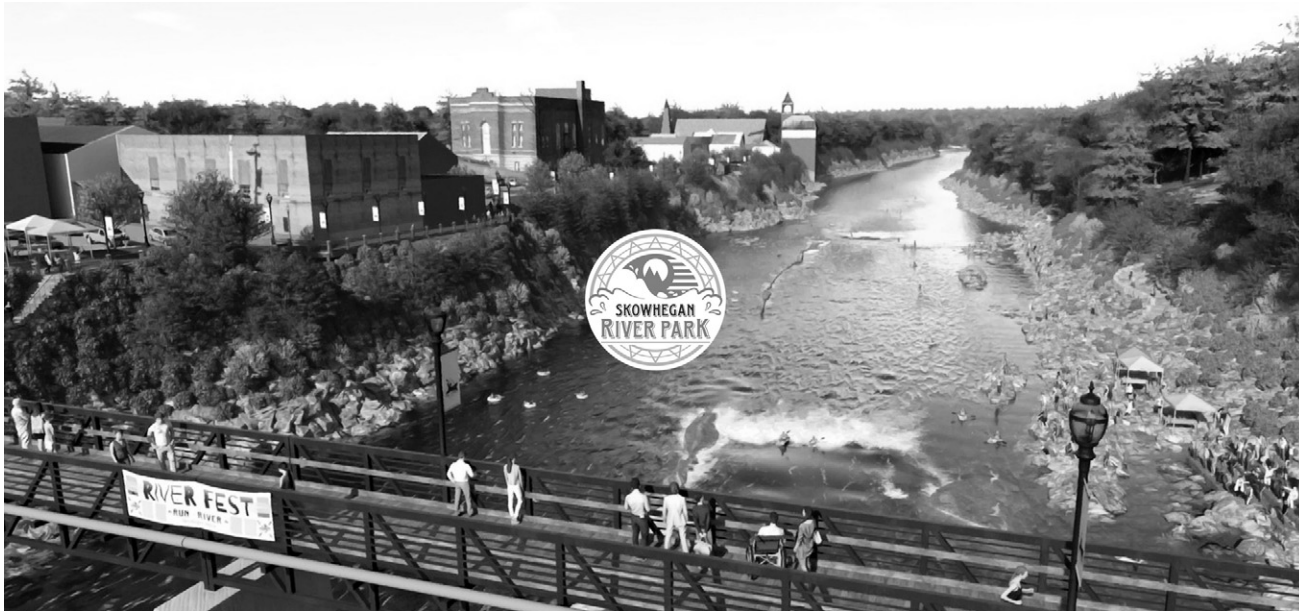
Meal includes: Baked Beans cooked overnight in the traditional way using a wood burning fire pit, Hot dogs, coleslaw, rolls, brown bread, homemade desserts and drinks. Admission Adults- \$12.00 Children 5-12 \$7.00 under 5 years old eat free. Meal will be served at the Belgrade Center for All Seasons 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 —

Grand Celebration of Life on the Kennebec River and a Town Turning 200



When Skowhegan holds River Fest 2023 the week ending August 6, events will focus on a rich heritage and on an ambitious future.

Located where the Kennebec River has been a major transportation corridor for the logging industry and where the mighty waterfalls have fueled electric power, Skowhegan is also the center for outdoor activities and adventures and the site of a major River Park proposal.

In a celebration that spans a week but focuses on the first weekend in August, highlights on the calendar include:

- Thursday, August 3: Whitewater Kayaking Clinic, Lobster Bake, Golf Tournament, Bicentennial Parade and Maine Outdoor Film Festival Screening.
- Friday, August 4: Watercraft Demo Day and Moonlight Madness - featuring Axe Throwing, a Makers Market, Live Music, Chainsaw Carving and Bed Races.
- Saturday, August 5: Move More Kids Activities, Inflatable Kayaking through the Skowhegan Gorge, River Days Family Activities, Dinner in the Park - Coburn Park, Kennebec on Fire Sculpture Lighting and Fireworks at the Great Eddy.
- Sunday, August 6: Bicentennial Celebration, Outdoor Games, Horse-drawn Wagon Rides, Down River Races, Food Trucks and Kite Flying with Bob Ray.

For more information contact the Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce.



Antique Appraisals and Book Collecting Information at Hathaway Mill Anniversary Celebrations




On Saturday and Sunday, August 5 and 6, Hathaway Mill Antiques in Waterville's historic mill building will be celebrating 6 years in business with storewide discounts, refreshments, presentations and free appraisals.

Free appraisals Daniel Buck Soules are scheduled for 12-4:30 pm on Saturday. The limit is 3 items per customer and pre-registration is required. Book binding and book collecting will be held 12:30-1:30 pm on Sunday.

Everyone is welcome to discover Hathaway Mill Antiques' vast range of merchandise at all price levels. For more information call 877-0250.




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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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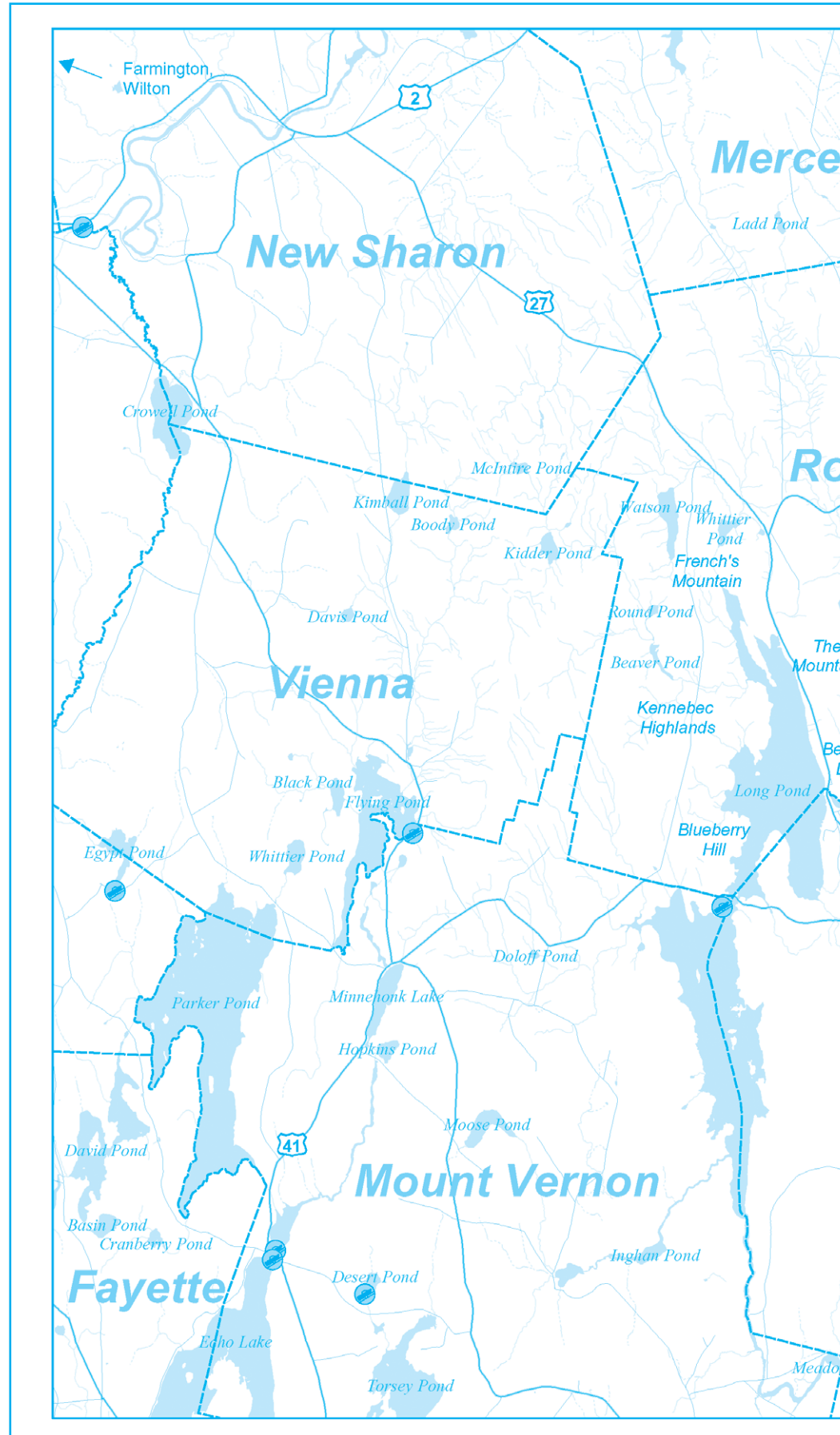
UPCOMING EVENTS

Invasive Aquatic Plant ID Workshop
August 3, 10:00-11:30 am
Fairview Grange, 826 Village Rd, Smithfield

Chewonki Presents: The Bugmobile
August 8, 3:00-4:00 pm
7 Lakes Alliance, 137 Main St., Belgrade Lakes

Chewonki Presents: Vernal Pools
August 15, 3:00-4:00 pm
7 Lakes Alliance, 137 Main St., Belgrade Lakes

LifeFlight Ground Safety Course, Helicopter Demonstration & Group Hike for The Cross
August 17, time and location TBD



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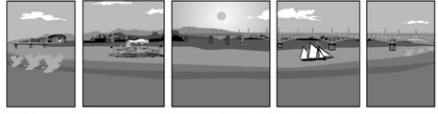
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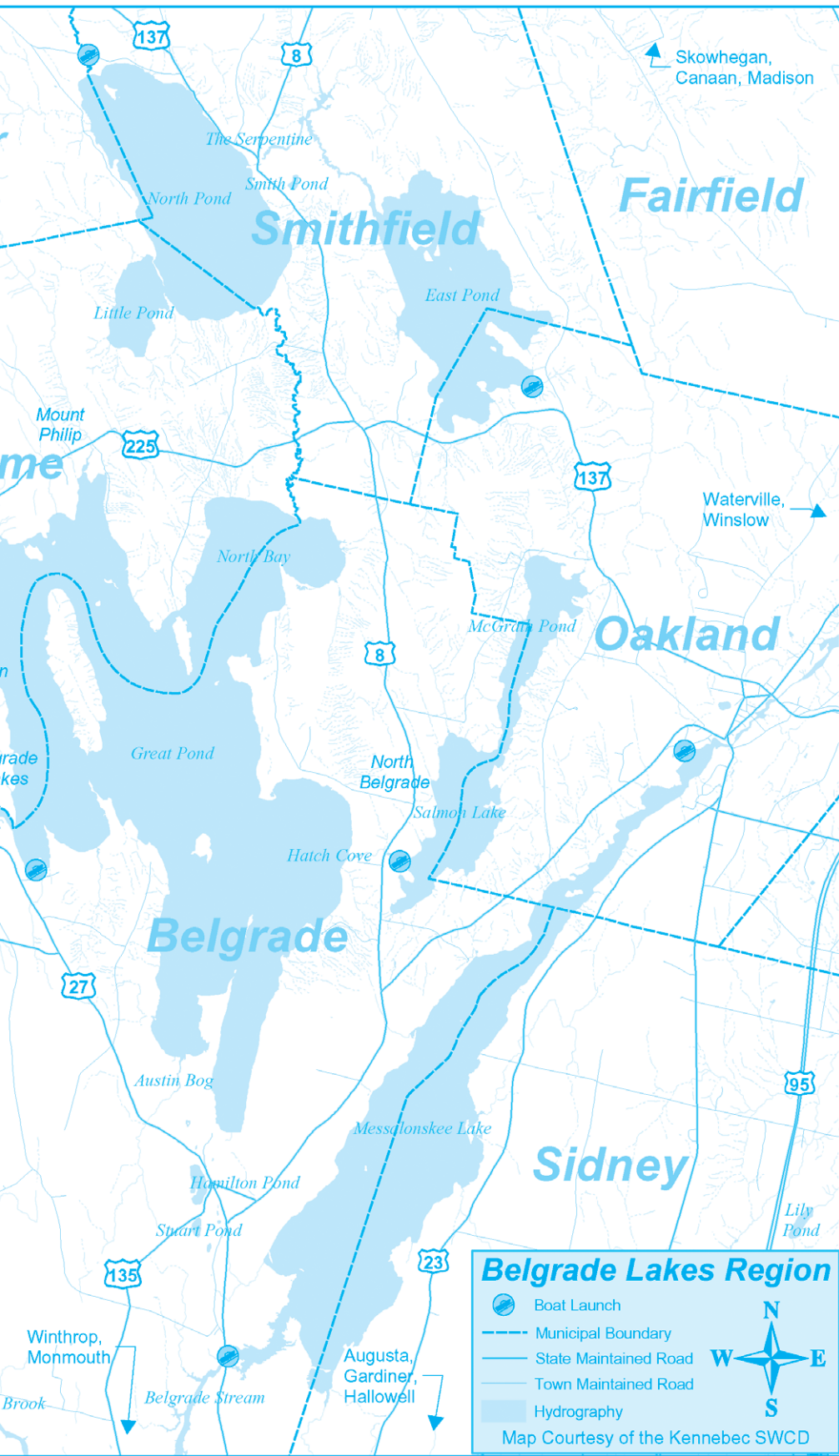


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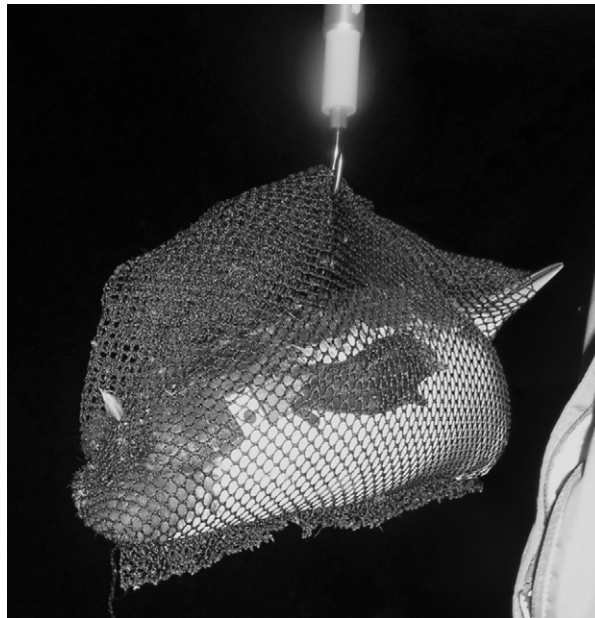


A Very Successful Evening of Banding

Last night our two Colby College interns, Professor Catherine Bevier, loon expert Lee Attix and two of Biodiversity Research Institute's renowned biologists, had a very successful evening of banding six adult loons in Great Pond. Along with our two previous evening banding sessions

1238-24407	2023	Long Pond	Ingham Stream	ATV	F	No	red stripe	green	silver	orange dot
1238-25632	2023	Long Pond	Ingham Stream	ATV	M	No	white dot	blue	silver	yellow dot
1238-25635	2023	Long Pond	Tracy Cove	ATV	F	No	green dot	orange	yellow dot	silver
1238-25638	2023	Long Pond	Tracy Cove	ATV	M	No	red	green dot	silver	orange dot
0687-15976	2023	Long Pond	SW Cove	ATV	F	No	red	orange	silver	yellow dot
0689-15914	2023	Long Pond	Ingham Pond	HY	U	No	white dot	silver	green	yellow dot
1238-25651	2023	Long Pond	Ingham Pond	ATV	M	No	blue stripe	yellow	white	silver
1238-25652	2023	Long Pond	Blueberry Island	ATV	M	No	orange	yellow stripe	white dot	silver
1238-25653	2023	Long Pond	Blueberry Island	ATV	F	No	blue	red stripe	silver	white
0689-15911	2023	Long Pond	Graveyard	ATV	M	No	orange stripe	blue	white dot	silver
1238-08886	2023	Long Pond	Graveyard	ATV	F	No	green stripe	yellow	silver	white dot

2023 Eleven of the seventeen 2023 Long and Great Pond Bandings



2023 Long Pond Banded Female being weighed prior to being released.

Once alongside, they are scooped up with a large net and secured by other crew whose responsibilities are to secure that head and deadly beak with a towel and tucking under the arm pit of the volunteer holding the loon in his/her lap. Remarkably the loon has a respiration rate similar to ours and can be quite docile in the arms of the crew but can also in an instant, and without warning, kick out those powerful legs and wings in a raucous escape attempt!

It takes about thirty minutes to obtain two vials of blood, three feather samples, and the numerous measurements. During this period the chick(s) is either secured in a blanket lined box or held by a

over the past two weeks, our team has banded sixteen adults and one large chick which is a credit to their logistics and expertise!

Loons are captured for determination of age, sex, and overall health by assessing weight, leg and beak lengths, blood and feather analyses for heavy metals contaminants and banding for easier recognition on future surveys and to track successful nesting pairs. By first surveying the territories earlier the day of the banding, the team search for the specific adult pair with at least one chick. They then return in the dark and approach the territory with a spotlight and a binocular equipped observer. Once the adult(s) and chick are spotted and held in contact with the spotlight, they are carefully and very slowly approached while calling the birds in with a chick call. While following the light and call, the adults generally swim right up to the boat.



Yours truly holding a chick while its father is being banded, etc.



Another 2023 Long Pond successful Banding experience!

and others to not only better assess the health of our loon population and breeding results, but better assess these collective trends so that we do not get flat-footed if and when our loon population becomes further threatened.





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, 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

Oakland - Wines & Spirits

• **Tree Spirits**, tasting room for award winning wines and spirits made from local apples, pears and maple syrup, tours available, 152 Fairfield Street, Oakland, www.treespiritsofmaine.com, 861-2723 or 465-3007

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.



Filmmakers Honored at 26th Maine International Film Festival

The Maine Film Center (MFC) announces the winners of the Tourmaline Prizes and the Audience Favorite Award at the 26th annual Maine International Film Festival (MIFF). This year's MIFF featured nearly 100 films, 23 of which were made in Maine.

The juried Tourmaline Prizes, named for Maine's state gem, recognize the best Maine-made films of the festival. Prizes were awarded to one feature-length and one short film.

The winner of the Tourmaline Prize for best feature film and a \$5,000 prize was "We Are the Warriors" a documentary centering on the controversy in Wells, Maine, following accusations of indigenous culture mockery by the local high school team fans. The film was co-directed by David Camlin and Megan Grumbling, both Wells High grads.

The winner of the Tourmaline Prize for best short film and a \$2,500 prize was "See You In

April," directed by Alec Helm. The documentary visits North Street Dairy Cone, a beloved mom-and-pop establishment that has been lovingly crafting ice cream for 58 years in Waterville, Maine. Helm explores how the seasonal business manages to flourish year after year and poses the question of what lies ahead once the owners decide to retire.

Throughout the festival, audiences voted for their favorite feature films. The winner of this year's Audience Favorite Award is "What I Want You to Know," directed by Catie Foertsch, which tells the story of the costs, consequences, and casualties of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan through interviews with service members who were there, including two Mainers.



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www.hathawaymillantiques.com

APPLE ORCHARDS

The Apple Farm, 104 Back Road, Fairfield,
453-7656, www.applefarm.us

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

LakeHouse Design, Build, Renovate, 17 Birchwood Road,
Augusta, 242-3663. 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

Waterville Creates, 10 Water Street, Suite 106, Waterville,
616-0292, www.watervillecreates.org

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623-1851, www.maineatecu.org

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1-800-HAMMOND, www.hammondlumber.com

BOAT MOORINGS

Great Pond Marina. 25 Marina Drive, (off Rte. 27),
Belgrade Lakes, 495-2213, www.greatpondmarina.com

BOAT RENTALS

Great Pond Marina, 25 Marina Drive, (off Rte. 27),
Belgrade Lakes, 495-2213, www.greatpondmarina.com

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Mid-Maine Marine, 885 Kennedy Memorial Drive,
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Great Pond Marina, 25 Marina Drive, (off Rte. 27), Belgrade
Lakes, 495-2213, www.greatpondmarina.com
Mid-Maine Marine, 885 Kennedy Memorial Drive,
Oakland, 465-2146, www.midmainemarine.com

BOOKS

Children's Book Cellar, 52 Main Street, Waterville,
872-4543, 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

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233-7408, gandlcontractingmaine.com

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See Directory on page 11

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Maine-ly Elder Care, 28 Center Street, Oakland,
465-3249, www.maine-lyeldercare.com

EXCAVATING

David Stevens, Belgrade, 465-3815, cell 314-0314

EYE CARE

Eye Care of Maine, 325 E. Kennedy Memorial Drive,
Waterville, 873-2731, 1-800-660-3403, www.Maine2020.com

FARM MARKETS

Winterberry Farm, 538 Augusta Road, (Rte. 27), Belgrade,
649-3331, www.winterberryfarmstand.com

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Golden Pond Wealth Management, 129 Silver Street,
Waterville, 873-2200, www.goldenpondwealth.com

FILMS

Maine Film Center
MIFF/Maine International Film Festival, miff.org,
miff@mainefilmcenter.org,

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Generators of Maine, 262 Augusta Road (Rte. 27), Belgrade,
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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

McGrath Pond-Salmon Lake Association (MPSLA),
Belgrade and Oakland, PO Box 576, Oakland, ME 04963,
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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

Amy Bernatchez, Lakepoint Real Estate, 314-2353, amy@belgradelakepoint.com

Trisha Cheney, Lakepoint Real Estate, 716-6494, trisha@belgradelakepoint.com

Stephanie Yeaton, Lakepoint Real Estate, 495-4046, 592-5577, stephanie@belgradelakepoint.com

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Belgrade Lakes Marine and Storage, Inc, 366 Augusta Road (Rte. 27), Belgrade, 495-2378, www.belgradelakesmarine.com

RESTAURANTS

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RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

Granite Hill Estates, 60 Balsam Drive, Hallowell, 626-7786, 1-888-321-1119, www.granitehillestates.com

STORAGE

Fieldstone Storage, by appointment only, 270 Summer Street, Oakland, 314-5523, FieldStoneStorage.com

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The Dams Keeper Report

I apologize for lulling everyone into a false sense of comfort with our forecast of Chamber of Commerce weather for this past week! Overall, our weather has been great BUT, and there's usually a BUT, we received another warning from our 'friends' at Kennebec County Emergency Management Agency just today as I am penning this week's column:

POTENTIAL FOR SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING 7/27/2023. *Potential exists for the highest severe thunderstorm threat of the season today. *Excessive rainfall is possible within thunderstorms with isolated to scattered flash flooding. *What has changed: Flood watch has been expanded. Increasing confidence overall. *Damaging wind gusts associated with thunderstorms could lead to downed trees and power lines. Localized power outages along with travel disruptions due to closed roads could be possible in areas with severe thunderstorms. *Any severe thunderstorm will have the potential to produce **damaging winds, small hail, and a possible tornado** across southern NH and southwest ME.

So, again my question to you is, "do we open all of our gates, which are presently close to closed to maintain our full ponds, OR, do we heed their advice, open up the gates to make room for this deluge and potentially lose what

water we already have? A real conundrum! Well, as I am writing this, of course we are checking the radar and fortunately, it all looks like it's going west of us once again. But that could change tonight for the worst while we're counting sheep! Right now, we're opting for the conservative approach, to maintain status quo, BUT (I know, another "BUT"!) like always, we're keeping our fingers on the switch!

Moving forward, we are still holding our own and our ponds are in excellent shape despite the challenges. The Village dam, as of this writing, is 2.52" above full pond with one gate opened just 6". Long Pond, at the Wings Mill Dam, is 2.16" also above full with just one gate opened 1', with upper Long at just one inch above full. Snow Pond is 5.28" below the top of their spillway, which is still good and can handle the water if we end up sending some down at the last minute. Salmon and McGrath remain in great shape, right at full pond with the 1 cfs. calibrated valve still opened 15 turns – kudos to Cam & Co.

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

Enjoy the family, your vacation and this incredible heritage!

Dick Greenan
Chairman, Belgrade Lakes Watershed Dams
Committee



Boating and Lakes' Use Etiquette

MISSION STATEMENT: To familiarize lake users with the customary code of accepted behavior while boating. It is about doing one's part to promote safety and what is generally socially acceptable while sharing the lake resource.

1. When launching or taking out your craft, respect the launch ramp areas and those working (milfoil inspectors) as well as other boaters. Offer your help if needed, we are all in this together.
2. Keep the tunes and voices in check, (sound travels loudly over water) especially at night.
3. What you bring to the lake, take home from the lake. These waters are precious, carry in-carry out.
4. Know the Rules of the Road. Powered boats must give way to all unpowered craft (paddle, rowed, sailed) – SLOW DOWN and be aware of your wake. Know the meaning of all navigational and informational markers (buoys).
5. Keep 200 feet minimum from shore and respect shoreline properties. Limit noise and rafting boats together that encroach on the serenity of any area. Headway speed only inside of 200 feet.
6. While moving in a boat, always watch carefully for wildlife and stay away from sensitive nesting areas. Maintain safe speed and distance under all conditions.
7. Be sensible, if it is a large lake, enjoy your activities in the less congested areas.
8. Keep a close eye on the weather, summer thunderstorms can brew up quickly. DON'T delay getting off the lake.
9. Maine law states that children ages 10 and under must wear a life jacket. The Maine Warden Service recommends everyone wear his or her life saving jackets when on the water. Leave alcohol on shore and never drink or drug before or during boat operations. Maine DUI laws apply on the water.
10. Night boating presents potential hazards. Go slow, use proper lights and be especially vigilant.
11. Using Maine lakes carries with it a responsibility. Please take it seriously.

EMBRACE IT, ENJOY IT AND SHARE IT WITH OTHERS.

Distributed by Concerned Citizens of the Belgrade Lakes Region





A Senator's Eye

Celebrating Maine, Washington and the Joys of Scraping the Windshield by Angus S. King

by Martha F. Barkley

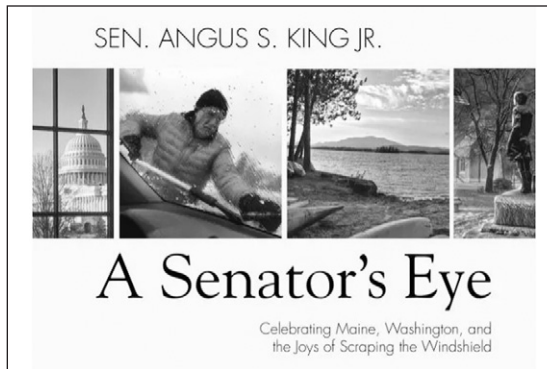
Do not let politics scare you off from this photo album of fun situations and stories. You will be amused and impressed by Maine's Independent former governor of our state and now for many years Senator serving with Susan Collins.

Motorcycles and Angus and Susan, yes it is all in this colorful, funny collection of commentary and photos to prove the reality.

I really loved the lacrosse championship team pigging out on hot dogs and a proud father of one on the team saying it does not get better than this outside on a beautiful Maine evening.

Maine's mountains and aquaculture are picture perfect with musings worth reading. The huge tuna in "Young Man and the Sea" proves the point that this is real work and real income for a week!

A bowling alley birthday in Brunswick just makes you smile with Senator King.



"If you can read this, thank a teacher.

If you can read this in English, thank a Veteran."

Great photo of Vet and King arm in arm.

From Bath Iron Works to Mooooooo! cows in Clinton, the whole state is covered.

Islesboro lobsters to Rumford truck looking like take off to space, Fort Kent mush dogs to our own Travis Mills here in Rome...

D.C. photos make our Capitol city look civilized and beautiful through the eye of King's camera. More

photos and time spent on the exceptional work done in that town. "Lion of the Civil Rights Movement" John Lewis with Angus King. "In the Room Where It Happens" to "Rare View(s)" in D.C.

World travels, but always back home to Maine. The frosting of Winter in Maine and summer sunsets back home...enjoy this book at Belgrade Library, purchased at Bull Moose in Waterville.



One Step at A Time Sustainability Thrives at Granite Hill Estates

Granite Hill Estates retirement community in Hallowell and Augusta has an active group of residents known as the Senior Green Committee which is dedicated to improving sustainability within their community. Their mission says, "Certified by the state of Maine as an Environmental Leader, Granite Hill Estates is committed to conserving the environmental resources on which its vibrant community life and the well-being of future generations depends."

We talked with committee chair, Maggie Shannon, to learn about the initiatives they are working on, plans for the future and the excitement of being named a Certified Environmental Leader by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Both residents and management are proud to have received this prestigious award but recognize their work is just beginning. Committee members believe education is their primary task. They plan to focus instruction on improving waste management through recycling, reducing the use of toxic substances and cutting energy use on campus. Immediately, they are working to launch several initiatives:

1. Educate – Print interesting recycling facts and tips on how to be green in the weekly newsletter and on the closed circuit TV at Granite Hill Estates
2. Highlight Recycling – By placing a bottle recycling bin in the breakfast room, a prominent and convenient location, Senior Green is drawing attention to the importance of recycling. An added benefit is the CLYNK income the committee gets from these refundable bottles and cans through Maine's successful bottle bill. Proceeds will support Senior Green efforts and local charities of residents' choosing.
3. Expand Recycling – Residents who live in the apartments at Granite

Hill and who want to recycle household waste will soon receive an apartment sized recycle bin. Recycles are picked up 3 times weekly at Granite Hill Estates. Providing small recycling bins makes it convenient and their visibility prompts recycling.

4. Reduce Toxics by Promoting Eco-Swaps - Senior Green will encourage residents to switch from products packaged in plastic and containing toxic substances for ecofriendly alternatives like laundry detergent strips and dish detergent tablets by handing out samples for residents to try.
5. Reduce water use - Through education and helpful tips, the committee aims to reduce water usage. During the months of August and September they will collect baseline data on water consumption on campus in preparation for an October campaign to cut water use across the community. They will publish the results of the campaign and continue to publish monthly results while encouraging improvement.

The residents at Granite Hill aren't acting alone. Maggie emphasized that the managements of Granite Hill Estates and Northbridge Communities have been extremely supportive of the committee's efforts and willingly collaborate to make things happen. The motto of the Granite Hill Estates Senior Green committee is, 'Reducing our footprint one step at a time'. This committee is proof that the most important part of making a big change is to start, even with small steps.

To learn more about the wonderful way of life at Granite Hill Estates contact Steve Roy at 207.626.7786 or email sroy@granitehillestates.com. Granite Hill Estates is located at 60 Balsam Drive, Hallowell, ME



"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

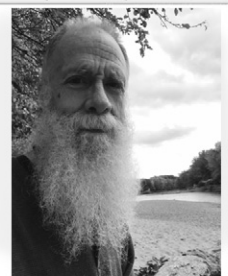


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— Real Estate Update —

A Lake House is a Lifestyle

What can we do today? When choosing to buy a vacation lake home, this is an important question to answer, especially if there are kids asking! Owning a lake house is also deciding on a lifestyle.

Larger lakes in the area offer more 'things to do'. Long Pond, Great Pond, Cobbossee, Maranacook and others offer the opportunity to dock and dine. These lakes, as well as others, have restaurants on or close to the shoreline with the ability to take your boat to dinner. The larger lakes also offer more places to explore by boat, more area for water skiing or tubing, and more hidden fishing spots.

Smaller lakes, ponds and streams offer a different waterfront experience. Most people that purchase on a smaller lake are looking for solitude, peace and quiet...and often a much lower sticker price. These lakes likely have fewer homes and boats, offering private fishing spots and smooth water for paddling.

When considering your lakefront home, also consider the proximity to amenities. There are a number of local lakes that are a short boat or car ride to local villages – Belgrade Lakes, Winthrop, Wayne and Readfield. These villages offer the opportunity to visit shops, restaurants, farmers markets, craft fairs and local events.

The Belgrade Lakes Village has a list of 'things to do' throughout the summer. Every Sunday, you can visit the Farmer's Market. Thursday evenings offer music on the Village Green. Wine Tastings at Day's Store, Music at the Village Inn, Kids (and adult) activities at 7 Lakes Alliance. The list goes on, but there is never a day with nothing to do.

So when deciding where you want to buy your vacation home, consider the lifestyle that each lake, community and village has to offer. The possibilities are endless – you just need a local resource to make it happen.



...continued from page 5



Cousins, Laina, Jocie, and Aly sitting on a rock.

years ago has been "working like a champ" and preventing runoff despite all the rain we've had. Also seeing lots of my neighbors' grandkids and relatives enjoying the water, including Sarah Toner's nephews Henry and David, from Gorham catching sunfish, and more of Eric Hasenfus' grandkids swimming.

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.



COFFEEHOUSE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN



**Featuring the sparkling musicianship of
The Buttermilk Hill Band
Saturday, August 19 – 6:30 PM**

**Belgrade Village Green - Route 27 in Downtown Belgrade Lakes -
Donations Requested
→ Bring your own chairs and refreshments ←
→ In case of rain, Coffeehouse will take place at the Union Church of
Belgrade Lakes ←←**

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