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# The Country Courier

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**INDEX**

- Funny Things Kids Say.....2
- Maine Calendar.....3
- Classifieds .....8

## 1856 Monmouth Academy Restoration Committee continues to make progress

MONMOUTH - The 1856 Monmouth Academy Restoration Committee continues to make meaningful progress in its effort to preserve and revitalize one of the community's most important historic landmarks. Thanks to ongoing support and careful planning, the exterior restoration of the 1856 Monmouth Academy building has now been successfully completed.

To help bring the project to completion, the committee recently submitted a request for Congressional Directed Spending (CDS) funding through the office of Susan Collins. This opportunity represents up to \$750,000 in potential grant funding, but it requires a 25% local match. The Town of Monmouth's share would be approximately \$187,500 as a one-time investment. If awarded, the total project funding would reach about \$937,500—enough to complete the interior and fully restore the building for public use.

Residents will have the opportunity to support this effort at the polls. On Tuesday, June 9th, voters are asked to support Warrant Article #21, which would authorize the \$187,500 match for the academy restoration. This is a one-time request and not a bond or long-term capital expense. Based on current valuations, the estimated impact would be approximately \$0.20 per \$1,000 of property value, though the final figure may vary slightly.

In addition, Warrant Article #12 requests \$6,000 to provide minimal heating for the building. Maintaining heat is essential to protect the structure—particularly the brick and mortar—from damage caused by Maine's seasonal temperature fluctuations.

It is important to understand

that this is not just a project about nostalgia. It is an investment in the future growth of Monmouth. The 1856 Academy sits in a highly active and developing area of town, abutting key community assets including the fairgrounds, the 117 Recreation Building, public and private schools, and the community trail system currently being developed behind the high school. It is also located near new residential developments along Academy Road and Main Street. Completing the 1856 Academy strengthens this growing hub and creates a central gathering space that supports both current residents and future growth.

As noted by the National Park Service, "One of the most overlooked aspects of historic preservation is its economic impact. Cities and towns that have embraced their heritage and allowed it to remain often take on a vibrant, eclectic feel, a trick that could not be pulled off in a new construction by the cleverest architects. Preservation enhances real estate values and fosters local businesses, keeping historic main streets and downtown economically viable. Heritage tourism is a real economic force, one that is evident in places that have preserved their historic character. Developers are discovering that money spent rehabilitating historic buildings is actually an investment in the future, when



these structures could be the showpieces of a revitalized city."

Interest in the building's future use continues to grow. Once completed, the 1856 Academy Community Center will serve a wide range of purposes, including voting, Town Board meetings, recreation programs, receptions, weddings, dances, senior programs, presentations, and community luncheons and dinners.

The facility will offer approximately 2,950 square feet of usable space, including:

- A large hall accommodating about 172 people standing

or 80 with tables and chairs

- A smaller meeting room accommodating about 40 standing or 19 seated

The building will be available for rental by both residents and non-residents, with fees aligned with those of Cumston Hall. Features will include three unisex restrooms (one ADA accessible), an emergency shower, and a catering kitchen (without cooktops or hood). The building is being designed to meet ADA 2010 accessibility standards as adopted by the State of Maine and will comply with the International Energy Conservation Code 2021.

From a financial perspective, this investment is also about maximizing value. The \$187,500 local match has the potential to leverage \$750,000 in outside funding—effectively tripling the Town's contribution. These funds would allow the completion of the interior, making the building fully functional and open to the public.

Currently, the Town is paying approximately \$127,053 annually on the original \$1.5 million bond approved in 2021, with about \$991,788 remaining. Completing the project ensures that this investment begins delivering real value to the community.

The building itself is in solid condition. The interior has no outstanding issues, and the basement is dry and typical for a Maine structure. As part of the final work, the basement beneath the 1914 addition will be sealed to make it watertight and suitable for storage.

The committee believes this is a rare opportunity to complete an important project with significant outside funding support. By approving Warrant Articles #21 and #12, Monmouth voters can help protect their investment, preserve a historic landmark, and create a vibrant, functional community space that supports both present needs and future growth. If you have questions, please reach out to [kjs1985@restorma.org](mailto:kjs1985@restorma.org) or find our website [restorma.org](http://restorma.org).



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# Share the funniest thing your kid or grandchild said this week!



Submit this form with your Funniest Thing Kids Say conversation and we will publish in an upcoming issue.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Funny Things Kids Say  
Turner Publishing, Inc.**

P.O. Box 214, Turner, Maine 04282  
Or email: [FunnyThingsKidsSay@turnerpublishing.net](mailto:FunnyThingsKidsSay@turnerpublishing.net)

My husband, son Emit (age 4) and I attended many motor sports as he was growing up, mud runs being his favorite. One of the big trucks BLEW through the mud in less than 5 seconds and Emit looked wide-eyed at his dad and said, "Whoa Dad! He musta had hyper-soxide (nitrous oxide) in that rig!" That is what it will be forever called in our home. Some things just stick. – Rhonda Hoyt Buckfield

**SHARED FROM POSITIVE PARENTING SOLUTIONS**

"Mommy, I love you, but we seem to have our differences," from my 4 year old at bedtime.

Becky: When I told my then 6-year-old son that I was expecting our 3rd child he said, "You've got to be

kidding me!!! Do you know how hard it is to raise 3 kids, mom?!" LOL So funny...and man, was he right.

Rhonda: As we were walking through the store, my 4.5 years old daughter looks at me and asks, "Why do I always have to match my clothes and you don't?"

# Tripp Middle School Track

May 13, 2026 Lake Region Track, Naples



Katie Berube - Tripp Facebook Track photos



# MAINE CALENDAR

## JUNE

**June 3** – Living Well with Dementia, 1-2 p.m., New Gloucester First Congregational Church, 19 Gloucester Hill Road, New Gloucester.

**June 6** - Plant & Bake Sale, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Goodwin Well & Water, Rt 4 in Turner, FMI call 207-212-5275 or visit [www.northturnerunionpresbyterianchurch.com](http://www.northturnerunionpresbyterianchurch.com).

**June 8** - Community Walk at the Shedd Pond Addition, 5 p.m., Manchester, registration required, FMI at [tklt.org/upcomingevents](http://tklt.org/upcomingevents).

**June 13** - Canton Historical Society to History Hour and Spaghetti Dinner, program starts at 3 p.m. (free!), and the spaghetti dinner is 4:00-6:00 p.m. (\$5 per adult; \$3 per child), 25 Turner Street in Canton.

**June 13** - A New Biography of Governor Ken Curtis, 7 p.m., Leeds Community Church, Presentation by Douglas Rooks, FMI at [tklt.org/upcomingevents](http://tklt.org/upcomingevents).

## JULY

**July 21** — Leavitt Institute Class of 1963 will observe the 63rd class reunion on July 26, 2026 at the home of Dale Talbot. Come and get acquainted again with our classmates (family). It will be a great time. Contact Dale at 207-251-5788 or Marion at 207-946-5579.

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

**TURNER:** At Turner Public Library Stay & Play is on Wednesdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m., Story Hour is at 10:30 a.m., and Silent Book Club is from 4-6 p.m. on Thursdays.

**GRAY/NEW GLOUCESTER:** Meet friends and neighbors, chat one-on-one with the GNG Community Connectors, every Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 11 a.m., New Gloucester Community Building (behind town hall) or 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Gray Library, large meeting room in the basement.

**SABATTUS:** Looking for local senior citizens interested in restarting a Senior Citizens group, if interested, please email Jon at [jmsab23@aol.com](mailto:jmsab23@aol.com).

**WINTHROP:** Winthrop Food Pantry, Thursday pickup 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. and

## 2026 MUSIC FOR MAVIS Tuesdays at the Gazebo

98 Matthews Way, Turner



May 19..... Preston and Curry  
May 26..... Me 'n Moe

June 2..... Lefty and the Ladies  
June 9..... Jodi Boys  
June 16..... Chicks with Sticks  
June 23..... Backwoods Road Band  
June 30..... Bobby Colwell Trio

July 4..... Continental Shakedown  
July 7..... Back Cat Road Band  
July 14..... Moosehedz  
July 21..... The Fossils  
July 28..... Smith Collaboration

August 4..... The Terry Swett Band  
August 11..... Denny Breau  
August 18..... Bonnie and the Practical Cats  
August 25..... Dirty McCurdy

September 1..... Hot Damn  
September 8..... Pam Weeks

2nd & 4th Thursdays 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m., 10 Cross Rd., Winthrop, FMI call Sherie Knowlan, Director (207)377-3332 or [winthropfoodpantry.org](http://winthropfoodpantry.org), Curb-side pick-up of shelf-stable food.

**WINTHROP:** Winthrop Hot Meal Kitchen, Monday - Thursday hot meal pickup 11:00 a.m., St. Francis Xavier Church, 20 Lake St., Winthrop, Contact: Steve Dodge (207)620-0488. Meal delivery to Winthrop & Wayne

residents. Cooks, helpers, donations, or Hannaford Gift Cards are appreciated.

**WAYNE:** 30 Mile River Snowmobile Club meetings

are on the first Monday of the month, meet at the Ladd Center in Wayne at 6:00 p.m., RSVP on Facebook page each month so we can have a count for pizza, salad and dessert at each meeting, sharing the cost of the pizza.

**WAYNE:** Tot Time at the Ladd Center is a relaxed, informal playgroup every Monday morning from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., parents must stay with their children, and everyone is welcome, FMI call Ladd Center Director, Adam Brooks 685-4616.

**LIVERMORE FALLS:** Craft Circle, Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m., Treat Memorial Library, 56 Main St., Livermore Falls, bring your own project or learn along with us, craft group for all ages, FMI call 207-897-3631.

**AUBURN:** Weekly Chess Club, every Wednesday, 4-6 p.m., Auburn Public Library, all levels and ages welcome; FMI call Joe Kaper 207-274-8463.

**TURNER:** Silent Book Auction, every Thursday from 4-6 p.m., Turner Public Library, 98 Matthews Way, Turner, (207) 225-2030.

**TURNER:** Story Hour, every Wednesday at 10 a.m., Turner Public Library, 98 Matthews Way, Turner, (207) 225-2030.

**WAYNE:** Cary Library Book Sale, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 3rd Saturday every month, Williams House, 14 Old Winthrop Road, Wayne, FMI call 685-3612 or visit our website <https://www.cary-memorial.lib.me.us>.

**HARRISON:** Men's Breakfast, second Thursday morning 8-9 a.m., United Parish Congregational Church of Harrison and North Bridgton, 77 Main St., Harrison, FMI call 207-583-4840 or email [info@unitedparishucc.org](mailto:info@unitedparishucc.org).

**LIVERMORE FALLS:** Craft Circle, 5:30 p.m., Treat Memorial Library, 56 Main St., Livermore Falls, bring your own project or learn along with us, this is a craft group for all ages, FMI call (207) 897-3631.

**LIVERMORE FALLS:**



## Turner Public Library's Annual Book Sale

July 2-5 9am-1pm daily

Unless otherwise marked:  
Hardcover Books \$1  
Paperback Books .50¢  
\$5 Fill a Bag Sale on Sunday July 5th

Books for all ages & interests, puzzles & other treasures

Community Room of the Leavitt Institute Building at 98 Matthews Way, Turner

Ernie Steward from Spruce Mountain Adult Education visit the library to help our patrons with their technology needs, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Treat Memorial Library, 56 Main St., Livermore Falls, sign up by calling (207) 897-3631.

**AUGUSTA:** AL-ANON meeting, Sunday evenings, 5 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 69 Winthrop Street, Augusta, both in person and on Zoom (for Zoom info please refer to [maineafg.org](http://maineafg.org))

**MONMOUTH:** Friends of Cumston Public Library book sale, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. third Saturday of the month, lower level, Cumston Hall, 796 Main St., Friends of Cumston Library on Facebook.

**WINTHROP:** Winthrop Maine Historical Society, first Thursday of month, 6-8 p.m., Winthrop History and Heritage Center, 107 Main St., 207-395-5199, [winthrop-mainehistorical@gmail.com](mailto:winthrop-mainehistorical@gmail.com).

**NORWAY:** Serenity Seekers Al-Anon newcomers meeting 6:15-6:45 p.m. followed by Regular Meeting 6:45-7:45 p.m. at The Hills Recovery Center, 15 Tannery Street, Norway, ME. Every Thursday. FMI [serenityseekersnorway@gmail.com](mailto:serenityseekersnorway@gmail.com)

**FARMINGTON:** Farmington Grange has WWW, Wednesday Welcome and Warm Up, First and third Wednesdays, November thru

April. Everyone is welcome, 10-2, coffee sweets, light lunch, social time, projects, games and puzzles. Grange Hall is located at 124 Bridge Street, West Farmington. For more information call Bonnie Clark 207-778-1416

**FARMINGTON:** Nine-ish- NA Meetings (In Person), 9:15-10:30 a.m., Franklin Memorial Hospital, 111 Franklin Health Commons, Farmington.

**Food Addicts Meetings FREE** - Food addicts in recovery meetings: Tues Zoom and phone, Thurs phone and Sun in person. [foodaddicts.org](http://foodaddicts.org) FMI call 441-8002 or 623-1924.

**CANCELLATIONS** None listed.  
**POSTPONEMENTS** None listed.

Events for the Maine News Calendar should be received two weeks before the event in order to be considered for publication. Please refer to our deadline chart at this link for specific publication deadlines: <https://www.turnerpublishing.net/pdf/Deadlines.pdf>. Email your event information to [articles@turnerpublishing.net](mailto:articles@turnerpublishing.net) and include: Date of event; name of event; time of event; venue location; town; contact phone number. Late submissions may not be published. Emailed events are processed faster.

## MAINE CALENDAR PAGE

If you are hosting a free community event and would like it added to our calendar, please email your details to: [advertising@turnerpublishing.net](mailto:advertising@turnerpublishing.net) and include: Date of event; name of event; time of event; venue location; town; contact phone number. Late submissions may not be published. Emailed events are processed faster. Our Maine Events calendar page is FREE for free community events. Church, library and school event news is free on this page. If you are a business and/or charging admission/fee, there is a charge for a display ad on these pages. Email: [advertising@turnerpublishing.net](mailto:advertising@turnerpublishing.net). Call 207-225-2076 for pre-payment options. Events for the Maine Events Calendar should be received two weeks before the event in order to be considered for publication. Please refer to our deadline chart at this link for specific publication deadlines: [www.turnerpublishing.net/pdf/Deadlines.pdf](http://www.turnerpublishing.net/pdf/Deadlines.pdf)

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# Stay safe with proper food preparation this summer

There are important food safety rules to follow when enjoying summertime barbecues. One simple guideline is the “two-hour rule.” When temperatures are between 70°F and 90°F, food should not sit out for more than two hours. If temperatures rise above 90°F, limit outdoor exposure to just one hour.

It is especially important to take extra precautions when handling food during summer outings. Although the season may feel slow to start, Maine will soon be enjoying warm days in the 80s. Foods such as meat, poultry, seafood, eggs, and other perishable items require special attention as temperatures rise.

Warm outdoor conditions create the perfect environment for bacteria and other pathogens to multiply rapidly, increasing the risk of foodborne illness. Below are some helpful tips to re-

duce that risk and keep your summer gatherings safe:

1. **Marinate Safely** Always marinate meats such as steak or chicken in the refrigerator—never at room temperature. Keep meat cold while marinating, and do not reuse marinade that has come into contact with raw meat. If you want to baste or re-marinate while grilling, use a fresh sauce.

2. **Wash Hands Thoroughly** Wash your hands before, during, and after food preparation. Remove jewelry such as rings that can trap bacteria. Use warm water and antibacterial soap, scrubbing for at least 15 seconds (longer is better). Rinse and dry hands completely before handling food or utensils and wash again immediately after handling raw foods.

3. **Keep Hair Secured**

Tie back hair and avoid loose items that could come into contact with food during preparation.

4. **Preheat the Grill** Always start with a hot grill. Preheat your grill or coal for at least 20 minutes before cooking. High heat helps reduce the risk of bacteria lingering on cooking surfaces.

5. **Cook to Proper Temperatures** Use a food thermometer to ensure meats are cooked to safe internal temperatures:

- Ground beef (hamburgers): 160°F
- Steaks and roasts: 145°F (medium rare) to 160°F (medium)
- Poultry: 165°F
- Pork: 145°F (with a rest time) or 160°F depending on preference.
- Fish should be opaque and flake easily when done.

6. **Avoid Cross-Contamination.** Never use the same plate for cooked food that is used for raw meat. Always use clean plates and utensils when serving, and serve food hot to prevent bacterial growth.

7. **Use Coolers Properly** When camping or traveling, store beverages and perishable

foods in separate coolers. Beverage coolers are opened more often, which reduces the internal temperature. Keep coolers packed with ice, full when possible, and out of direct sunlight. If traveling more than an hour from the grocery store, use a cooler to safely transport perishable items home.

Resources If you have questions about food

safety, contact: • U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Meat and Poultry Hotline: 1-888-674-6854 (TTY 1-800-256-7072) • Food safety information: [www.food-safety.gov](http://www.food-safety.gov)

By following these simple steps, you can help ensure your summer meals are both enjoyable and safe for everyone.

Live Long, Live Well

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Tripp Middle School help their Annual Spring Concert May 26th.

Michelle Ducharme Pushard photos



# Tripp Middle School Spring Concert

## Western Maine Community Chorus Presents "A Celebration of American Composers" Concert

FARMINGTON - The Western Maine Community Chorus (WMCC) invites you to the spring program, A Celebration of American Composers. The performance will take place on Sunday, May 3rd, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. in Nordica Auditorium, Merrill Hall, University of Maine at Farmington (224 Main Street, Farmington, ME).

The concert will feature works in a wide variety of styles: classical, folk, spiritual, musical theatre, and popular/jazz. Featured composers include William Billings, Sup-

ply Belcher, Amy Beach, Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim, George Gershwin, Duke Ellington, and Paul Simon.

"This program celebrates the wealth of exceptional music American composers have contributed to our musical culture," said Paul McGovern, WMCC Music Director. "It has been a challenge for the WMCC to learn this varied program. Many of the texts express themes of fellowship, hope, beauty, and love and speak to us today in these chal-

lenging times. We are so looking forward to sharing it with the community." Admission is at the door, with a suggested donation of \$20 per person (students free)—but everyone is welcome, regardless of the amount.

The chorus is directed by Dr. Paul McGovern, who brings over 30 years of choral conducting and teaching experience. He has performed with ensembles such as St. Mary Schola, Blue Hill Bach Festival, and Opera Maine. Accompanist Christina Spurling holds a Master of Music

from the Longy School of Music of Bard College and has collaborated with numerous Maine choirs, including the Bagaduce Chorale, Acadia Choral Society, and Colby College Choirs. The chorus features over forty community members from across Western Maine.

Formerly known as the UMF Community Chorus, the WMCC is celebrating over 40 seasons of joyful singing in the heart of Farmington. The chorus presents winter and spring concerts annually and opens membership each

September and January to all who wish to sing. Donations and sponsorships are gratefully accepted throughout the year to sustain these efforts. As the chorus is now fully community supported and funded, support from individuals and businesses

is essential to ensure this long-standing tradition continues.

For more info on the concert, membership, and how to donate, follow the Western Maine Community Chorus Facebook page or email [westernmainecommunitychorus@gmail.com](mailto:westernmainecommunitychorus@gmail.com).



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# Decorating for America's 250th anniversary

Metro

Each year on July 4, many Americans are in a celebratory mood as they prepare for all the fanfare involved with Independence Day festivities. But Independence Day 2026 stands to be extra special since it marks America's 250th birthday. Towns, cities and the entire country will be planning much more extravagant July 4 celebrations in 2026.

People who want to get in on the America 250 action may want to begin thinking about how they are going to make their homes and businesses more festive.

- **Bunting and banners:** Bunting and banners are traditional patriotic decorations. They traditionally are red, white and blue and can be hung from porches, fences and railings.
- **American flags:** Many homes and businesses already display the flag, but this is the perfect opportunity to do so for those who want to exhibit their pride in America. Be



Metro photo

sure to treat the flag with respect and review the official United States Flag Code, which mandates that the flag never touches the ground and is illuminated if flown at night. When hanging against a wall or window, the blue union must be at the top left.

- **Specialty signs:** Many municipalities are getting in on the America 250 action and will organize specialty parades and parties. People can check with local government offices to see if lawn signs will be available. If so, they


can be displayed in front of homes or retail stores.

- **Tablescapes:** Themed America 250 tablecloths can be used for backyard parties and picnics. Centerpieces of mason jars filled with mini flags and birthday number candles spelling out 250 are another fun idea.

- **Cozy accents:** Both homeowners and store owners can incorporate cozy accents like wooden blocks or patriotic table runners that display the 1776-2026 theme. Throw pillows and blankets featuring stars and stripes tossed over an antique rocking chair on a porch or near an entryway is a great way to offer a touch of Americana.


- **Lights:** Twinkling holiday lights in red, white and blue can be hung around windows and doors, or wrapped around trees in the yard for festive appeal.

Communities may identify specific decorating goals, like entire streets featuring paper lanterns, or America 250 flags on telephone poles. Residents can participate in such plans where possible.



## PET

# Spotlight




Ziggy

Submitted by Charles and Crystal Hotham, Turner

Send us your favorite Pet Picture and your pet may be in the next edition.

Email them to: [petspotlight@turnerpublishing.net](mailto:petspotlight@turnerpublishing.net)  
Include your name, your pets name and the town you live in.

## Scam Alert Bulletin Board



Fraud Watch Network

Steer Clear of Traffic Violation Scams


After toll road scams spread last summer, a new version is surging—texts claiming you owe money for a traffic or parking violation. These messages often include an official-looking notice offering a court date or a small fine (around \$6), with a QR code for immediate payment to avoid penalties. They may mention your location or use fake case numbers to appear legitimate and create a sense of urgency.

If an unexpected message like this sparks strong emotions and demands urgency, treat it as a potential scam. Report the message as spam and avoid responding, clicking links or scanning QR codes. If you think the claim may be real, contact the court or agency directly using trusted contact information.

**Learn how to spot and avoid scams with AARP Fraud Watch Network™. Suspect a scam? Call our free helpline at 877-908-3360 and talk to one of our fraud specialists about what to do next.**

**Need a scam prevention speaker for your group? Click the link to fill out our online form or send an email to [me@aarp.org](mailto:me@aarp.org).**

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# Andwell Health Partners responds to national moratorium in home health and hospice

LEWISTON - First and foremost, we want the patients and families we serve in home health and hospice to know that the actions taken by the Administration to impose a nationwide moratorium on home health and hospice will have no impact at all on the care and services provided by Andwell. Andwell Health Partners, formerly Androscoggin Home Health Care

& Hospice and Hospice of Southern Maine have been providing services to Medicare beneficiaries for sixty years, and nothing about the moratorium will change our commitment to continue providing nonprofit healthcare for Maine people.

Andwell Health Partners supports efforts to protect the integrity of Medicare home health and hospice programs and appreciates

the National Alliance for Care at Home's continued advocacy on behalf of patients, families, and providers nationwide. As Maine's largest independent nonprofit provider of home health, hospice, and community-based care, Andwell understands the importance of strong governmental oversight and accountability within these essential programs. At the same time, poli-

cies designed to address fraud must be carefully implemented to avoid unintended consequences for communities already facing workforce shortages, growing demand for care, and limited provider access; particularly in rural areas.

"Patients and families deserve both accountability and access," said Ken Albert, President and Chief Executive Officer

of Andwell Health Partners. "The overwhelming majority of providers are delivering compassionate, high-quality care in good faith every day. We support targeted, data-driven approaches that remove bad actors while preserving access to essential services for the people who depend on care at home."

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced a six-

month national moratorium on certain new hospice and home health providers effective May 13. Current providers may continue delivering care without interruption. Andwell Health Partners will continue monitoring developments closely and advocating for policies that protect both program integrity and patient access to high-quality nonprofit care throughout Maine.

# Leadership, fiscal responsibility, your write-in candidate, Lisa Cesare, Androscoggin County Commissioner

Lisa has been a resident of Minot for 35 years, and began her deep involvement in the community in 2010 with the recreation department, helping secure over \$100,000 in grants. Resulting in the construction of new walking trails and the creation of new ballfields. In 2015, Lisa began serving as a Selectman in Minot, a role she still holds, consistently managing the town budget with a focus on fiscal

responsibility. Starting in 2018, she has served each year on the RSU16 Budget Committee, advocating for a balanced approach to meeting both school and resident needs. In 2020, Lisa was appointed to fill a vacancy on the County Budget Committee, and has served since, including the last three years as Chair, facilitating productive discussions, and guiding responsible financial decisions.

Most recently, the Town of Minot's library agreement with the Auburn public library was not renewed by the City of Auburn, due to a large increase in costs. Lisa worked with surrounding towns, and has already created new ties with Turner and Mechanic Falls on a new reimbursement program, with minimal disruption to our residents.

"I was impressed with her depth of understand-

ing regarding budgets. Her municipal experience is helpful as is her ability to work well with others in a nonpartisan manner," stated Jane Pentheny, Androscoggin County Commissioner.

With her deep under-

standing of local issues, focus on smaller towns and proven track record of fiscal responsibility, Lisa is committed to serving the residents of Leeds, Minot, Turner, Livermore and Livermore Falls, and would be honored to earn

your write-in vote as the Democratic candidate for Androscoggin County Commissioner, District 7 this June.

Paid for and authorized by Lisa Cesare, For Androscoggin County Commissioner.

# Lisa Cesare, write-in candidate for Androscoggin County Commissioner, your voice for our rural towns

I am formally announcing my candidacy as a Write-In Democratic Candidate for Androscoggin County Commissioner, representing Turner, Minot, Leeds, Livermore, and Livermore Falls. Over the past five years serving on the county budget committee, I have recognized the importance of ensuring that our smaller rural towns are

adequately represented in decisions concerning county policy and spending. In Minot, for example, the county tax accounts for approximately 8% of the total budget, requiring careful management of municipal resources to address rising costs. I possess the leadership abilities necessary to advocate for our collective towns and to establish an

equitable balance between the services provided by the county and the financial capacity of our residents. On June 9, I encourage you to WRITE in Lisa Cesare and select the box as your candidate for County Commissioner.

*Paid for and authorized by Lisa Cesare, For Androscoggin County Commissioner.*

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**HOW**

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- Keep a fire extinguisher, shovel, and water nearby. Be ready to put out your fire!
- Never leave a burn pile unattended.

**WHAT**

- Do not burn garbage, carpet, insulation or construction debris.
- Dried clippings, bushes, plants and prunings from vegetation on your property.
- Do not use gas or kerosene on your burn pile.

**WHEN**

- Postpone burning if it is hot, dry or windy.
- Check for any fire restrictions in effect.

Clear all flammable material and vegetation down to mineral soil within at least 15 feet of your burn pile. **15 FOOT MINIMUM**

Small burn piles are easier to control and less likely to escape. **3 FEET** (width) **2 FEET** (height)

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DEPARTMENT OF ACP MAINE FOREST SERVICE RANGER

Maine Forest Rangers brush burning guide

Photo via Leeds Volunteer Fire Department, Facebook

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## ATTENTION READERS

We are stream-lining our process to make the Bi-monthly Country Courier consistent with our other 22 monthly publications. Therefore starting in January 2025 the first issue of the the Country Courier will be digital only moving forward through 2025. We will offer this FREE to our readers and customers. Goto: [www.turnerpublishing.net](http://www.turnerpublishing.net) to get your Country Courier Good News.

Thank you for reading and thank you for your support in this transition.

## Turner Publishing

Turner Publishing Media is a family-owned and operated business established in Turner, Maine, in 1992. We have been supporting schools, children's sports and academics, as well as promoting businesses and the communities we serve for over 32 years. All of Turner Publishing's publications are Maine Made. Our printers use soy inks and solar methods to protect the environment while printing our publications. Our paper suppliers use power from hydroelectric sources and work with local plants to use waste heat; heat that would otherwise be sent into the environment, to help produce the steam needed in the papermaking process.

We were told 100% of the chips used for the newsprint come from waste streams of other processes, such as the waste from lumber mills. Our newsprint producers also have a process to ensure that all fiber supplies come from forests that are managed for sustainability and comply with forest management principles.

The chips go through a thermo-mechanical pulp-making process, which involves a combination of steam and

mechanical force to break the chips into a "slurry" of water and fibers. Giant machines work the chips into a mixture that is mostly water. This mixture is then sent to a process to brighten the paper.

Newsprint is grayer than most other commercial papers. This is because the process of whitening newsprint does not use chlorine or other stronger agents and focuses on environmentally safe practices.

For this reason, we ask you to support Turner Publishing and the businesses in this publication and shop locally. Turner Publishing is not only doing its part to be environmentally responsible to save our planet, Turner Publishing promotes all the good things happening in the community and we donate over \$300,000 annually in media sponsorships to non-profits, churches, historical museums, and the arts. The businesses in our publications help us do this with their ad revenue (support them as well), so that the good can keep spreading. "It's All Good News" and thank you for reading!

# Cabin Fever Concerts, hosted by "Music for Mavis"

Hi folks! You don't know what you have been missing! 'MUSIC FOR MAVIS' in Turner hosts, each winter, a "Cabin Fever Concert" Series, featuring local talented musicians. The 4th and final musician of this winter series is our talented soul-singer and songwriter Mary Murphy. She accompanies herself on the piano, guitar, and blues harp. Mary connects with her audience and she is loved for her talent and heart up and down the eastern seaboard. We are lucky to have her as our neighbor and friend. Come welcome Mary with your musical community.

Earlier in the winter we were fortunate to be entertained by the Wonderful Colwell Brothers!: Pat on guitar and voice, and Bobby with voice, guitar, piano and accordion. They are an incredible, talented and charming duo, right here in our midst, entertaining throughout Maine from Johnson Hall in Gardner, to One Longfellow Square in Portland, to all over Hal-lowell, and throughout Maine.

They were followed by Sarah Crosby and Ryan Weeks, a duo infusing folk and love songs, with a blend of their own harmony and sweetness that warms the heart. Sarah is also a powerhouse singer in the band "The Moosehedz" who will be coming to Gazebo this summer. Don't miss them!

And our third concert was the energized Trio of

Robby Coffin, Bobby Colwell and Dave Thibideau. Maggie was unable to attend, and Bobby was our lucky replacement. What a night. A NIGHT NOT TO BE MISSED! Intimate, electric, humorous, tender, powerful and masterfully talented, this group DELIVERED, and you should jump at any chance to hear them again!

We are so lucky to have talent like this right here at home, both at our beautiful outdoor gazebo and in the Leavitt Institute community room during cabin fever time. Intimate, exceptional, inspirational, incredible! Please Please come out!! recognize the talent offered in our community; acknowledge them, appreciate them, support their talents, and come together as music lovers toasting our hearts over the warm fires of their joyous music.

AND... SEE YOU AT THE GAZEBO! each Tuesday evening, from May 19th to September 8th. Tuesdays to remember! FMI call 207-754-0954, 207-249-8046, 207-240-4591. (Schedule appearing soon)

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**Thank you for reading the Communities "Good News"**

*Happy New Year!*



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