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# Leavitt Varsity Baseball



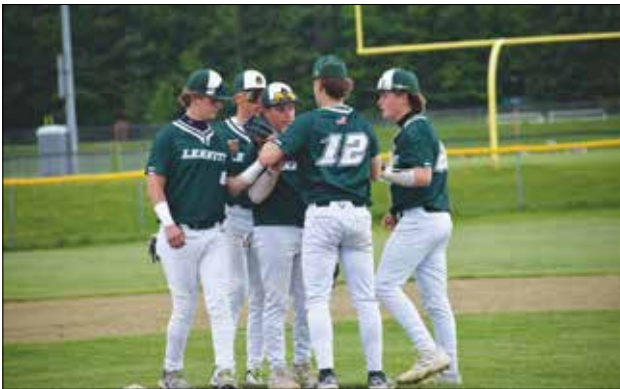
Easton Harrington, incoming freshman at Leavitt and younger brother to senior #9 Tucker Harrington, sung the National Anthem for Senior Recognition and both playoff games.

Submitted Photos  
Seniors (L-R): Coach Dan Mellen, Tucker Harrington, John Oliver, Nick Mellen, Head Coach Roger Varney

TURNER - The 2026 Leavitt Hornets Varsity Baseball team put together a season to remember, finishing the regular season with an impressive 11-2 record and earning the No. 2 seed in the MPA Class B South Tournament. Throughout the spring, Leavitt consistently found ways to compete, earning key victories and establishing themselves as one of the top teams in Class B South.

Their postseason journey began at home in the quarterfinals against Morse. Backed by strong pitching, solid defense, and timely hitting, the Hornets delivered a dominant 8-0 victory to advance to the semifinals. The win showcased the balanced team effort that had become a hallmark of the season.

With a trip to the regional championship on the line, Leavitt once again hosted a playoff game, welcoming Greely for the Class B South Semifinals. Despite a determined effort and the support of a packed home crowd, the Hornets came up short



against a talented Greely squad, bringing their season to an end.

Additionally, congratulations to three of our Leavitt Hornets on being named to the 2026 KVAC Class B Teams:

- Ryder Sawyer-Brown (#4) – KVAC Class B All-Conference First Team
- Trenton Holst (#12) – KVAC Class B All-Con-

ference First Team  
•Tucker Harrington (#9) – Class B Baseball All-Academic Team  
The scoreboard may say the season is over, but the memories, friendships, lessons learned, and moments shared will last far beyond the final out. It was a good run, Hornets. One that players, families, coaches, and fans will remember for years to come.



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Submit this form with your  
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**Funny Things Kids Say**  
**Turner Publishing, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 214, Turner, Maine 04282  
Or email: [FunnyThingsKidsSay@turnerpublishing.net](mailto:FunnyThingsKidsSay@turnerpublishing.net)

While preparing breakfast for my two grandchildren, my 9-year-old granddaughter Arabella and I were having some girl talk. We mentioned how us girls have to stick together.

MY 5-year-old grandson Odin piped in “OH, you’re not a girl Nani?”

Puzzled, I said, “you didn’t know I’m a girl?” His rational explanation was, “well, you had your hair cut really short, so I wasn’t sure.”

He had always known me to have medium length hair.

- Deborah of Lewiston

It was around Halloween time when our little Susan was learning her ABC’s. She very confidently told us: A is for Apple; B is for Boy, C is for Cat....then hesitation. She faltered... D is for....? D is for....? Then she jumped up and excitedly announced: D is for Dhost!!

- Ann of Farmington

# MOVIE REVIEW

by Lucas Allen

## DISCLOSURE DAY

When Steven Spielberg directed “Close Encounters of the Third Kind” in 1977, he gave the world something to believe: that we are not alone in the universe. Five decades later, the Oscar-winning director is now giving us a different kind of outer world experience with his new original sci-fi thriller “Disclosure Day.” His take on the alien conspiracy thriller a ’la “The X-Files” is scripted by David Koepp, who previously wrote for the filmmaker “The Lost World: Jurassic Park” and “Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull.”

Margaret’s (Emily Blunt) average morning with her musician boyfriend Jackson (Wyatt Russell) took a weird turn one morning when she suddenly speaks other languages like Russian and Korean, plus gaining the knowl-

edge of the people that she talks to by looking into their eyes. Then, during her meteorology job at a local news station, she stands in front of the camera and bizarrely begins speaking in some sort of alien language. Meanwhile, a young man named Daniel (Josh O’Connor) is on the run with his girlfriend Jane (Eve Hewson) from the mysterious Wardex after stealing a whole archive of classified information pertaining to the existence and experimentation on extra-terrestrials. The group leader, Noah (Colin Firth), is using means to locate them, including using an advanced device to create a psychic link to one of the fugitives.

Soon, both Margaret’s and Daniel’s paths converge as each of them starts to discover that they

had been through a traumatic event from their childhood that brought them together. The answers they seek come from Wardex defector Hugo (Colman Domingo), who leads an underground resistance in an attempt to open the stolen archive and reveal all the secret data to the entire world. However, it is only a matter of time before Noah and the rest of Wardex catch up to them, hoping to protect such information that the whole world may not be ready for.

Each Spielberg film can be represented by a timeless theme that brings a certain emotional response to mind. If “Close Encounters” represented curiosity and “E.T.” about friendship, then this film’s theme can best be described as empathy. Being empa-

thetic about humanity and understanding the unknown carries that feeling throughout the movie. It also understands that while we are living in cynical times, there is a time when rediscovering what was thought lost could be found again.

Right from the beginning, this movie raises some important ideas and questions regarding the political, religious, and moral implications of revealing such secrets. While there are no real answers, it still gives the viewer something to ponder about, especially with their own views on the matter. Whether or not you do agree with what the characters are doing, it makes this otherwise overlong (at 146 minutes) journey to its stunning conclusion all the more worthwhile.

There are not too many action scenes,

but the few shown also shows Spielberg’s mastery of suspense and excitement once more. Much of the film becomes a big chase scene with some vehicular damage and one part involving a train. It’s those brief moments of heart-stopping fun and shock that wonderfully recalls the cliffhanger-style action of the Indiana Jones series.

Spielberg assembled a pretty good cast for this sci-fi drama, yet it’s Blunt giving probably an award-worthy performance that could also be one of the best in her career. Her emotional range and her character’s journey help to ground the film in its humanistic approach to the story. O’Connor’s performance is decent enough, though his best scenes are the ones with Blunt in the

second half. Firth does a good job as the antagonist without resorting to mustache-twirling, while Domingo does a fine “wise sage” part even though his dialogue can range from ambiguous to overly explaining.

“Disclosure Day” certainly has a place among Spielberg’s finest works in his astonishing nearly six-decade career. He brings all the right ingredients, cooks them carefully, and presents a real dandy of a cinema meal. No matter which kind of Spielberg film you like best, this one will definitely be a favorite for a lot of people.

THE MOVIE’S RATING: PG-13 (for action/violence, some bloody images, and strong language)

THE CRITIC’S RATING: 3.75 Stars (Out of Four)





# MAINE CALENDAR

## JUNE

**June 27** - Summer Reading Program, “Plant a seed, read” kick-off, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Treat Memorial Library, 56 Main Street, Livermore Falls, all ages welcome, enchanted garden carnival, games and treats.

**June 30** – Visit from Che-wonki, 1:30 p.m., 56 Main Street, Livermore Falls, they’ll be bringing Maine Mammals for us to meet and learn about.

**June 30** - “Music for Mavis” Bobby Colwell Trio, 6:30 – 8 p.m., The Turner Gazebo, 98 Matthews Way, off Rt 117, Turner Center, rain or shine, suggested donation \$10 per person, bring a chair, blanket, picnic, umbrella and friends, FMI 754-0954, 754-0788 or 249-8046.

## JULY

**July 4** - “Music for Mavis” Continental Shakedown, 6:30 – 8 p.m., The Turner Gazebo, 98 Matthews Way, off Rt 117, Turner Center, rain or shine, suggested donation \$10 per person, brings a chair, blanket, picnic, umbrella and friends, FMI 754-0954, 754-0788 or 249-8046.

**July 7** - “Music for Mavis” Back Cat Road Band, 6:30 – 8 p.m., The Turner Gazebo, 98 Matthews Way, off Rt 117, Turner Center, rain or shine, suggested donation \$10 per person, bring a chair, blanket, picnic, umbrella and friends, FMI 754-0954, 754-0788 or 249-8046.

**July 14** - “Music for Mavis” Moosehedz, 6:30 – 8 p.m., The Turner Gazebo, 98 Matthews Way, off Rt 117, Turner Center, rain or shine, suggested donation \$10 per person, bring a chair, blanket, picnic, umbrella and friends, FMI 754-0954, 754-0788 or 249-8046.

**July 21** - “Music for Mavis” The Fossils, 6:30 – 8 p.m., The Turner Gazebo, 98 Matthews Way, off Rt 117, Turner Center, rain or shine, suggested donation \$10 per person, bring a chair, blanket, picnic, umbrella and friends, FMI 754-0954, 754-0788 or 249-8046.

**July 26** — 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.

**July 28** - “Music for

Mavis” Smith Collaboration, 6:30 – 8 p.m., The Turner Gazebo, 98 Matthews Way, off Rt 117, Turner Center, rain or shine, suggested donation \$10 per person, bring a chair, blanket, picnic, umbrella and friends, FMI 754-0954, 754-0788 or 249-8046.

## 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.

**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>.

**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:** 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.

**LIVERMORE FALLS:** Story Time, Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., Treat Memorial Library, 56 Main St., Livermore Falls, favorite picture books, sing-a-longs, and other activities, any questions or for more information, please call the library at 897-3631.

**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.

**SKOWHEGAN:** Al-Anon, hybrid meeting, 7-8:00 p.m. every Tuesday, Skowhegan Federated Church, Island Avenue, 1-800-498-1844, [www.maineafg.org](http://www.maineafg.org).

**FAIRFIELD:** Victor Grange monthly meeting, second Monday of the month, 5:30 potluck, 6 p.m. meeting, all welcome.

**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)

## ONGOING:

**NEW GLOUCESTER:** Coffee Hour, Tuesdays, 9-11 a.m., New Gloucester Congregational Church, 19 Gloucester Hill Rd., New Gloucester, FMI call Cindy Slocum 207-572-2594 or Lori Fowler 207-572-

6493.

**NEW GLOUCESTER:** Community Cafe Lunch, 11:30 a.m., New Gloucester Congregational Church, 19 Gloucester Hill Rd., New Gloucester, FMI call Cindy Slocum 207-572-2594 or Lori Fowler 207-572-6493.

**NEW GLOUCESTER:** One-on-one with Community Connector, 9-11 a.m., New Gloucester Library, 379 Intervale Road, New Gloucester, FMI call Cindy Slocum 207-572-2594 or Lori Fowler 207-572-6493.

**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

**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.

**WATERVILLE:** Central Maine Square Dance club offering beginner lessons, every Tuesday 6:30-8:00 p.m., George Mitchell School Dutton St., Waterville, cost is \$5.00 per lesson, FMI call Bob at 447-0094.

**CANCELLATIONS** 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.

### 2026 MUSIC FOR MAVIS

#### Tuesdays at the Gazebo

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|                  |                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 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                     |

### 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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# MAINE OUTDOORS *v. Paul Reynolds*

## RANGELEY FLY FISHING FESTIVAL



Submitted photos



A large scale version of the fabled, elusive trout, White Nose Pete.



Rangeley guide and outdoor writer Bob Romano and his wife Trish chatting with Mary at the Fly-Fishing Festival.

A Quebec brookie mounted by the late David Footer.

Those outdoorsmen and women who have been there would rarely give you an argument if you contended that Rangeley, Maine is ground zero for those whose passion is to cast a long line on the Magalloway River or the Kennebec. So, it was fitting recently that the 5th annual White Nose Pete Fly Fishing Festival took place at the historic Rangeley Inn and Tavern.

Who the heck is White Nose Pete? It is a fish, a purely fictional big trout that, as the story goes, haunts the pocket waters of the fabled Rapid River, a real hook-jawed, fat-bellied slobberknocker! Legend holds that a few trout men have hooked him long enough to see his white nose, but never long enough to get him anywhere near the net.

Sponsored by the Rangeley Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce, the festival was a two-day affair with lots to see and do. And a great chance to get caught up with old friends and make some new ones. Friday night at the Inn, two well-known and unforgettable fly-fishing characters had their names added to the Fly-Fishing Legends Honor Board. The new inductees were Rangeley guide Herb Ellis and angler and artist Dave Tibbetts. Both men follow in the long shadows cast by such local and even national angling icons as Flyrod Crosby and Carrie Stevens, not to mention Herb Welch, Don Palmer, Ed Grant, Bud Wilcox and others.

Following the induction, a live auction was held, hosted by the always witty and sardon-

ic Bill Pierce. A pile of money was raised from the donated items. My newest trout watercolor painting titled "Rapid River Runner," which retailed for \$195.00 and sold for \$400. Also auctioned off were some marvelous prints by Dave Tibbetts and the late David Footer.

The festival kicked off Saturday morning in full force, despite a light drizzle. Many of the vendors set up their displays in the Inn while others were under tents outside.

For me, one of the most remarkable and eye-catching displays was a number of brook trout mounts by the late David Footer. Footer's son was on hand to answer questions about the background of the impressive trout; many caught in Labrador or Quebec. Footer was

a rare combination of superb taxidermist and fine artist. His trout under glass are alive like no other board mounted brookies you will ever see.

While a friend looked after my Northwoods Sporting Journal vending table, I took a break and sat in on a wonderful and informative slide presentation by guide and outdoor writer Bob Romano. Bob, an Italian from the Bronx, showed up in Rangeley to fish more than 40 years ago and never left the Western Mountains. He is as colorful as he is informed about Rangeley and its precious fishery. Romano surveyed area guides and asked them to name their favorite two flies. He also chatted about

why these flies got top billing with the Rangeley fishing guides. As

you might suspect, no two guides think alike when it comes to their go to flies. Angler/historian Leslie Hilyard, for example, hoves to the Green Beauty and the Jitterbug.

What's a Jitterbug? It was news to me. Sounds like a bass bug, but it is a serious trout fly, and surprisingly it was tied and created by the boss lady herself, Carrie Stevens!

What I also learned was that a highly effective wet fly is the Hare's Ear. Bob Romano swears by it. The only Hare's Ear I ever used or heard of is the Hare's Ear nymph, which is almost as popular as a Copper John.

Isaac Walton, or some other angling forebear, observed that angling is much like mathematics in that it can never be fully learnt. And as

you know, if you fish that is part of the fun of it all. The Rangeley Lakes Region White Nose Pete Fly Fishing Festival is a gathering of more than just interesting and convivial souls. It is a treasure trove of the most seasoned and experienced anglers in Maine. And they will talk to you.

In 12 months, Rangeley will do it all over again. Put it on your calendar. It is well worth the drive.

The author is editor of the Northwoods Sporting Journal. He is also a Maine Guide and host of a weekly radio program "Maine Outdoors" heard Sundays at 7 p.m. on The Voice of Maine News-Talk Network. He has authored three books. Online purchase information is available at [www.sportingjournal.com](http://www.sportingjournal.com), Outdoor Book

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# Maine Blue Collar Scholarship Foundation surpasses \$1 million awarded



Submitted Photos

GORHAM — Following the completion of its 2026 scholarship review process, the Maine Blue Collar Scholarship Foundation (MBC) is proud to announce a historic milestone: awarding more than \$1 million in scholarships and toolships to Maine individuals pursuing careers in the skilled trades.

Since its founding in 2017, MBC has grown from a bold idea into

one of Maine’s most impactful workforce development initiatives, built entirely by volunteers and funded entirely by businesses and individuals who believe in the future of Maine’s trades. The milestone reflects both the growing demand for skilled trades workers and the statewide support behind the foundation’s mission.

MBC awards scholarships and toolships ranging from \$1,000

to \$2,500 to individuals entering careers across more than 20 trades, including electrical, plumbing, HVAC, welding, diesel technology, linework, heavy equipment, building construction, automotive technology, culinary arts, public safety, healthcare, and more. Awards help recipients purchase tools, pay for certifications, and begin careers without taking on significant debt.

“Our mission has always been about creating opportunities and removing barriers for people who want to build a future through hard work and skilled trades,” said Christi Moody, Executive Director of the Maine Blue Collar Scholarship Foundation. “Reaching more than one million dollars awarded is an incredible milestone that reflects the growing demand for tradespeople.

These careers are essential to Maine’s future, and we’re proud to support the next generation entering the workforce.”

Recipients have come from more than 100 Maine communities, over 90 high schools, and all 27 of the state’s career and technical education schools, representing recent graduates, CTE program completers, and adult learners making career changes.

The foundation continues to partner with businesses, educators, contractors, unions, and workforce organizations throughout Maine to connect scholarship recipients with employment opportunities and long-term careers.

For more information about scholarship opportunities or ways to support the foundation, visit [mainebluecollar.com](http://mainebluecollar.com) or email [info@mainebluecollar.com](mailto:info@mainebluecollar.com).

## Op-Ed- Togetherness on the Trails

The last time I was at an airport, harried and yearning for home, something struck me. In an airport, almost everyone seems vaguely hostile: we are tense, irritable, anxious to get on with our journeys. An airport is an intermediate step between where you are at that moment and wherever it is you’re going. We regard each other as extras in a movie.

On the trail, though, while there are always exceptions, running into someone is a welcome thing. You exchange smiles (unless they’re carrying a portable speaker and blasting music, in which case it’s eye-daggers), you engage in small talk. You share, and then you move on. The kinship we feel on trails is real, maybe because there’s no separate agenda like there is at an airport. You’re out to be present, and being present

helps us see one another as individuals, not extras.

Trails can equalize. It matters much less on the trail about who the other is, or what they believe, or where they’re from—you recognize them as a fellow because you’re sharing something precious together. The sights, the sounds, the smells, the last curve before the trail unveils a vista that only you and they have seen so far today. The other person you encounter might be someone you haven’t seen in years, or your neighbor, or it could be the president of your bank. It almost literally does not matter; the trail has you meet together as equals on a kind of shared journey.

Trails are precious because they’re one of the few public spaces left where we let our guards down almost entirely and operate from a place of welcome and openness. To me, that’s a

powerful benefit we overlook amongst all the other fantastic reasons to support public access and conservation. But it’s important—the whole notion of community is predicated on the idea of connection on some level, and so these public places where that connection is most apparent should be preserved.

Preserving them takes hard work. Not everyone can volunteer their money, though thankfully, volunteering and service can take many forms. The High Peaks Alliance is al-

ways looking for people to help—trails need to be blazed and maintained, for example. That was how I got started with HPA, equipped with a high-powered weed whacker and some sturdy boots, helping a few other volunteers clear an overgrown trail. Even this column is an example of how to make an effort, even from far away.

It is a joy to greet others on the trail. We should remember the many who work so hard to make that possible. Think of them when you step on a care-

fully placed stone to forge a stream or see a trail blaze just ahead as you start to wonder if you’ve lost your way. And if you can, vol-

unteer, however you are able. And when I see you on the trail, I’ll be sure to stop, smile and to greet you in the spirit of fellowship.



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# How to drive safely with a trailer in tow

Metro

Summer road trips create a sense of adventure during a popular time of year. That's especially true for those planning driving vacations. Seasoned road trippers know to expect the unexpected when taking to the open road, and the surprises that emerge during a summer road trip make such excursions even more memorable.

Many drivers will be hitching a trailer to their vehicles when taking to the open road for summer vacation. Trailers can be used to transport bicycles, boats, jet skis, kayaks, or even extra luggage. Driving with trailers can be tricky, but drivers can keep these safety strategies in mind when driving a vehicle with a trailer hitched to the back.

- Familiarize yourself with the trailer. Consumer Reports notes that travel trailers can sometimes weigh more and be even taller than the vehicle pulling them. That can make it



Metro photo

challenging to drive safely with a trailer in tow. But practice makes perfect, and drivers are urged to practice driving with a trailer in tow before they depart for a road trip. A large and empty parking lot can be a great place to get a feel for driving with a trailer hitched to the back of your vehicle.

- Practice turns. Turning when driving a car or truck with a trailer hitched to the

back requires a different approach. Wide turns are necessary to reduce the likelihood that the trailer tires hit the curb.

- Consider using towing mirrors. Towing mirrors are specially designed side-view mirrors that extend beyond standard side-view mirrors to offer drivers wider visibility, which can be necessary when wide loads are attached to

the back of a vehicle. Towing mirrors can make it safer to change lanes and drive in reverse when a trailer is attached to the back of a car or truck.

- Recognize trailers swing. Consumer Reports urges drivers to give constant consideration to the swing of a trailer when turning. A trailer sometimes swings in the opposite direction when turning, which can in-

crease the chances of hitting other vehicles, signs and even pedestrians. Carparts.com notes that the longer the distance between the rear wheels to the back bumper of the trailer, the greater the tail might swing. Managing and calculating swing is one of the reasons why practicing before taking to the open road can be so helpful.

- Adjust the trailer brakes. Consumer Re-

ports notes that many trailers have electric brakes, and these brakes can and should be adjusted depending on what's being towed. When towing a heavy boat, the brakes should be set to use a lot of force. But brakes should be adjusted when towing lighter weight to avoid tires locking up and skidding.

- Use the tow/haul mode if your vehicle has one. Many modern vehicles, and particularly trucks, come with a tow/haul mode option. When engaged, that system automatically adjusts the transmission when it senses a vehicle is going downhill. That takes some strain off the brakes and generally makes driving with a trailer in tow a lot safer.

These tips can make driving with a trailer in tow more comfortable. Additional tips are available at [consumerreports.org](http://consumerreports.org) and [carparts.com](http://carparts.com).

## Scam Alert Bulletin Board



### Watch for Credit Card Skimming

With fuel pumps and ATM's as frequent targets, a surge of skimming devices is threatening consumers. Criminals attach sophisticated skimmers directly over legitimate card slots or splice them into internal wiring to secretly record your financial data.

Many modern skimming devices closely resemble real hardware, making them difficult to detect at first glance. Vulnerable targets include stand-alone ATM's, unattended retail checkout lines, and card terminals located in busy tourist areas.

The next time you fill your tank or use a card terminal, inspect the machine closely for loose, bent, crooked, or scratched components. Pull firmly on the card slot or wiggle the keypad before inserting your card. If anything feels loose or altered, do not use it and notify an employee immediately. To help stay safe, choose tap-to-pay options or digital wallets over physical insertion. Use credit cards for stronger fraud protections.

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## Grilled kebabs made a flavorful addition to any backyard barbecue

Grilling enthusiasts are always on the lookout for something new to cook over an open flame. While traditional staples like steaks, hamburgers and hot dogs will never lose their favor among lovers of grilled food, expanding one’s grilling repertoire can open doors to new flavors and ensure meal time is always something to look forward to.

Fans of foods cooked over an open flame who want to try something new and flavorful can try this recipe for “Grilled Pork and Mango Kebabs With Chili Sauce” courtesy of Lines+Angles.

### Grilled Pork and Mango Kebabs With Chili Sauce

Makes 4 Servings

**For the chili sauce:**

- 1/2 cups rice wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon fish sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon caster sugar
- 2 red chilies, sliced

**For the kebabs:**

- 2 tablespoons whole grain mustard
- 1 cup pineapple juice
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black peppercorns
- 1 1/4 pound pork tenderloin, trimmed of silver skin and cut into chunks
- 1 large ripe mango
- Olive oil, for brushing
- 1 handful small mint leaves



1. For the chili sauce: Whisk together all the ingredients for the chili sauce in a small saucepan. Warm over a low heat, stirring until the sugar and salt have dissolved. Set aside until needed.
2. For the kebabs: Preheat a grill to a moderately hot temperature.
3. Stir together the mustard, pineapple juice, lime juice, salt, and pepper in a large mixing bowl. Add the pork, stir well to coat, and set aside until the grill is preheated.
4. In the meantime, halve and pit the mango. Cut away the skin before cutting the flesh into cubes.
5. Thread the pork onto the skewers, alternating with the mango flesh. Brush the grates of the grill with some olive oil.
6. Lay the kebabs onto the grill and leave to cook, turning occasionally, until the pork and mango are lightly charred all over, about 8 to 10 minutes.
7. Remove from the grill to a plate and let rest for 5 minutes, covered loosely with aluminium foil.
8. Scatter with mint leaves and serve with the chili sauce on the side.

Metro

## 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, Supply 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 Mu-

sic 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 challenging 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).



### Careless burning can cause a WILDFIRE!

**HOW**

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

Small burn piles are easier to control and less likely to escape.

**WHAT**

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**WHEN**

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Thank you for reading the Communities “Good News”

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Maine Forest Rangers brush burning guide



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