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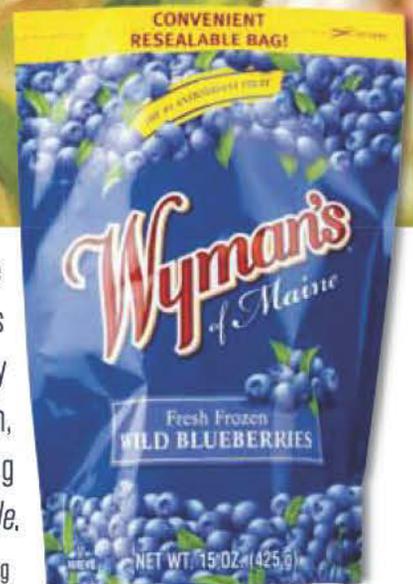


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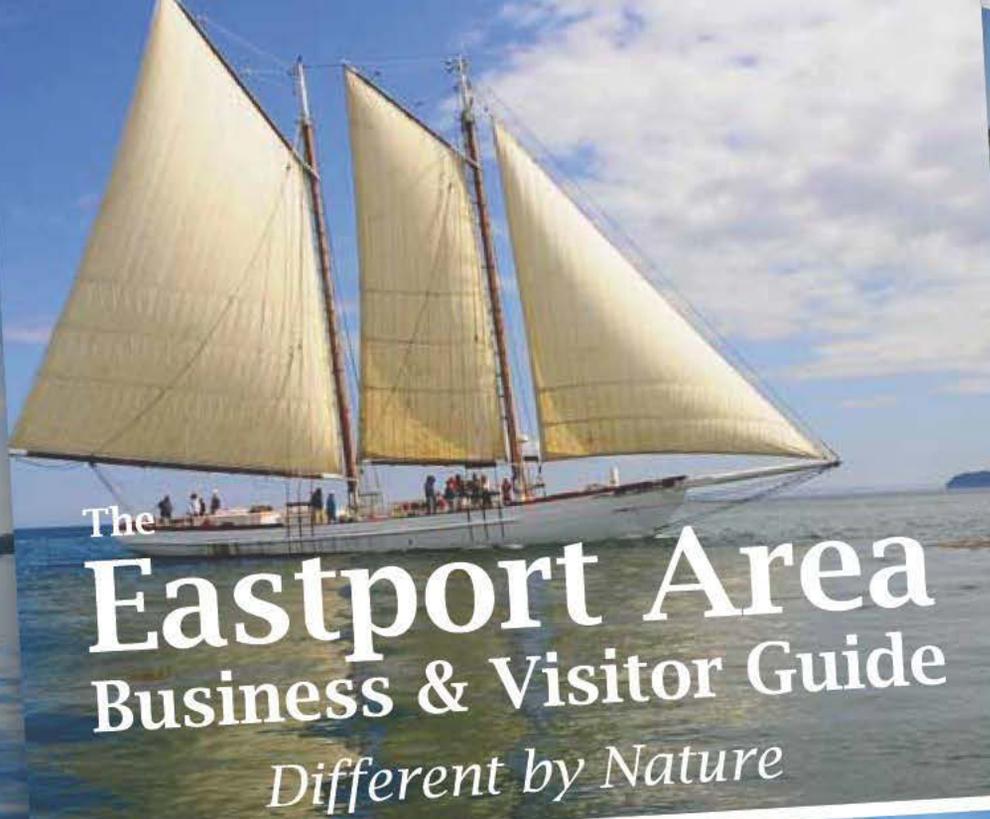
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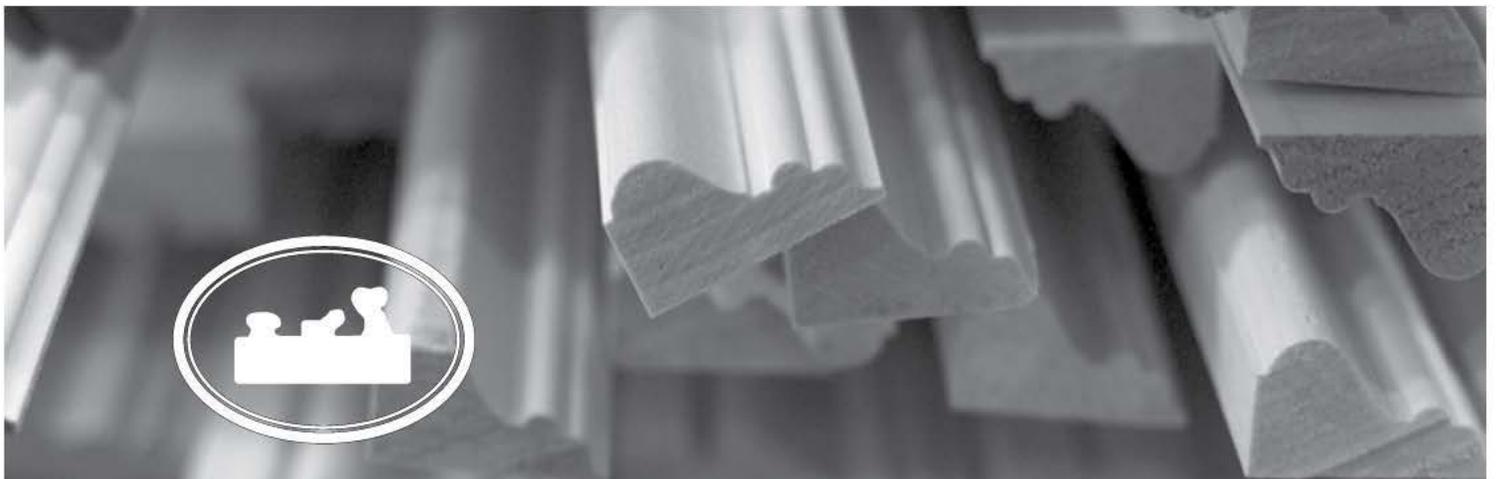
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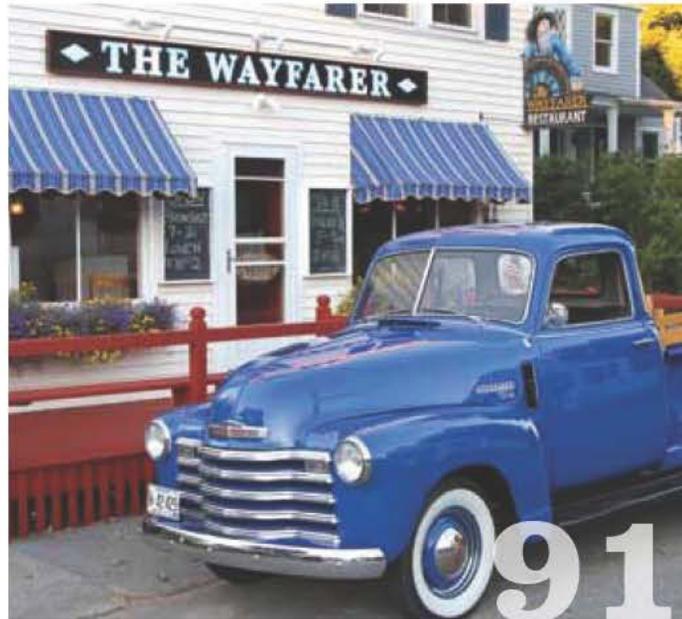
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May 2014 | Vol. 29 no. 3



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MEGHAN MAURICE, COURTESY OF LORI-KAYE MILLER, SEA SALT DINING GUIDE

PERSONALITIES

22 Being Brad Kenney
Ogunquit Playhouse's creative force unveils his season.
By Claire Z. Cramer

112 Flash

Art&STYLE

- 21 Maine Classics**
- 24 Maine Summer Theater Preview**
- 28 Goings On**
- 41 Chowder**
- 109 Fiction**
"Blind Date"
By Ellen Baker

FOOD&Drink

59 Late Nite Bites
It's midnight. You're clubbed out. You've danced the night away. But you're *still* hungry.
By Claire Z. Cramer

90 Restaurant Guide

91 Restaurant Review
The Wayfarer: Cape Porpoise with Southern twist.

PERSPECTIVES

- 16 From the Editor**
- 18 Letters**
- 86 Musket Mythology**
Taking pot shots at a legend.
By Colin S. Sargent

MAINE LIFE

43 New Old Port
Our chameleon, Portland, reveals over a dozen new or transformed retail attractions.
By Claire Z. Cramer

52 Portland After Dark: 7 Nights in the City
Downtown for drinks, dinner, music, dancing, and surprises.
By Olivia Gunn

62 RastaMaine Vibrations...Positive

64 Summer King for a Day
Inside fastballs with a new opera premiere at Merrill Auditorium.
By Claire Z. Cramer

Shelter&DESIGN

- 67 Tuck into a Hotel Bar**
Enjoy life in delicious sips.
- 81 Made in the Shade**
Near the former Lafayette Elm, Kennebunk's Col. Joseph A. Storer Mansion is a 3-dimensional showcase for Colonial Revival & fancy painting.
By Colin W. Sargent
- 95 House of the Month**
High living in the Forest City's Little Italy.
- 100 New England Homes & Living**

Cover: Bartender Jake Acheson mixes it up at The North Point. See our story, page 52. Photo by Deana Lorenzo.



MAY 2014 15



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The Secret History

When we slide our chairs back in the Old Port, we sometimes bump into pieces of our lost geography. On Moulton Street, in the rathskellar of the Old Port Tavern, there's a bar, stage, and dining area. Lining it is the gray stone wall that was once Portland's ancient seawall, now part of the tavern's foundation.

This urban relic predates the famed Rum Riot of 1855. Waves splashed inches from where you're sitting. Thinking in the negative, it means there was once no Commercial Street. No Chandler's Wharf, no DiMillo's, no RíRá. It took dreamers to fill in the street and build new wharves where there was nothing but blue water before.

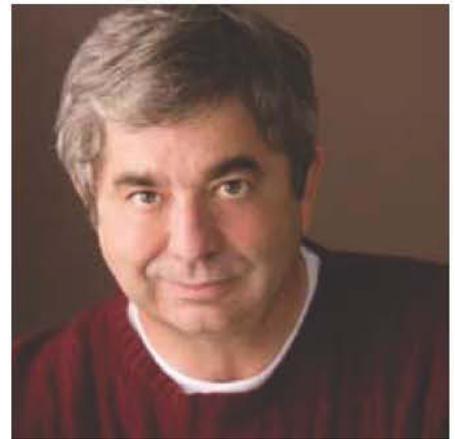
True to its name, Wharf Street, home to so many bistros and clubs today, is where the wharves were.

More remnants of the lost harbor wall run "beneath Fore Street almost to the [Casco Bay] Bridge," according to *Portland Magazine* in "Up Against The Wall: Back When Commercial Street Was The Atlantic Ocean." You can really see the old stones "towering up from a vacant lot at the intersection of Park and Commercial streets..."

"Fore Street was Portland's waterfront, the first street to be cobblestoned. From it bristled the wharves where trading vessels anchored." The railroad beds and Commercial Street were filled in for "\$80,000."

The men's fashion store Seawall riffed on the energy of its 37 Wharf Street digs. "Much of the work I did during art school was informed by the idea of the drift, psychic geography, and treating the cityscape as something to actively engage with," says Daniel Pepice, who set up shop here beside his wife's, designer Brook DeLorme's, studio Brook There. Talk about finding your edge: "When Brook and I decided to start a menswear brand [and chose Seawall as our trade name]...I liked the idea that where our rolls of fabric were stacked and sewing machines hummed would [over a century and a half earlier] have been at the bottom of the harbor." Last summer, "Gurhan, the world renowned jewelry designer, paid us a visit." Inspiration steamed up from the stones. "We talked about the space and what compels people to take creative action." This summer, Pepice and DeLorme are extending their edge. "We are launching a new website" for all the Seawall styles "in collaboration with our friends at David Wood and Portland Dry Goods [including Barbour, Imogene + Willie, and Billy Reid, to name a few]. It's called Seawallshop.com."

Meanwhile, the lower depths under Life is Good (the former Klamon's Bottles) are about to be occupied by Bonfire Country Brew Works, a saloon with 16 TVs, country music videos, and two dozen taps. Slip into the dark to visit the water walls and firewalls of subterranean Portland. See our new attractions section "Portland After Dark" on page 52 to tie up to the area's nightlife.



Colin W. Sargent



See the stones at Old Port Tavern on Moulton Street and at Joseph's (right) on Fore Street.



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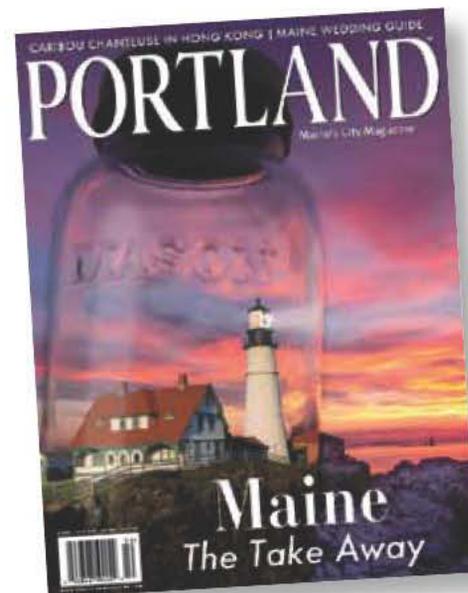
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IN TOUCH

Please let me extend my thanks and appreciation to *Portland Monthly*. As a member of the U.S. Coast Guard, I don't often have opportunities to return home because of my commitments. However, being able to spend time with friends and family is a gift one should never take for granted. The subscription I have to your magazine is the next best option I have to coming home and sightseeing. The articles and images of Maine art, culture, and everyday life are reminders of the things we sometimes forget when in other parts of the world.

It's easy to forget how life used to be when it's left behind for something different. Please keep up the excellent writing and creative stories, it's greatly appreciated by those of us who can't experience them firsthand.

*Petty Officer Michael Beauchamp
United States Coast Guard*

SHOOT FIRST, READ "BEST-OF" STORY LATER

[Via email:] I suggest you have someone act as editor when you decide to put pen to paper and write an article ["Guns & Lobsters" in our February/March 2014 "Best of Portland Monthly" issue, by Colin Sterling Sargent, originally published April 2003]... I found your article one-sided and failed to point out that the Constitution allows the citizens of the United States to own guns... On another note, Chief Chitwood has been gone for years... Maybe you should try writing an article on lobsters; I don't see much mentioned about lobsters in this article unless I missed it. Maybe that's the

sequel to this piece, right? Lobster are turning up with high Mercury levels in the mouth on the Penobscot maybe that's your lead next month. The suicide of the Penobscot lobsters, or was it murder? More so that latter, I predict. Last but not least, please take me off your mailing list. This garbage really pollutes the minds of people who read it. Very one-sided, not objective, and obviously your personal view...

[Follow-up email, a few hours later...]

As I started reading the other articles, I figured out that this article was from 2003. That makes more sense with the views of Chitwood. As I read the article, I thought it could be today in regard to permits because compared to 2003 there are even more. Why do you think law-abiding citizens are applying for permits? It's not these citizens we need to be concerned with but the amount of mentally challenged people our health-care systems are allowing to walk the streets. It's a fact that criminals will get guns and carry without a permit. This article paints the wrong strokes and really irritates me because you make this so black and white. Go on doing what you do... but without me. Good luck with the lobsters.

Don L'Heureux, Portland

[Editor's Note: See another story by my son, Colin Sterling Sargent, "Musket Mythology," on page 86. -CWS.]



SKY HAIKU

I'm a big fan of your magazine. I subscribed when I moved back to Portland after college. I just got your April issue in the mail and liked the article about the Time & Temperature Building—it's definitely a Portland icon. I recently started a blog that promotes the non-profits that go up on the Time & Temp, since often people don't understand what the short messages mean. I'm hoping this blog is a helpful way to spread the word about the non-profits. Visit www.PortlandTimeTemp.com.
Ben Bornstein, Portland

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Nostalgia on Tap

In June: Enjoy craft beers while you thrill to the dings & bings of 1980s-era arcade games (think *Mortal Combat*, *Ms. Pac-Man*, *Street Fighter II*, *NBA Jam*, you get the drill). "You can drink and drive. In fact, we encourage it," says Dave Ace-to, 29, co-owner with Ben Cul-ver, 31, of **Arcadia National Bar**. The pair has researched the barcade phenomenon in other hipster enclaves like Brooklyn, NY, and they believe that arcade nostalgia-washed down with craft beer and grilled-cheese sandwiches—is the next new/old thing.



Street Genius

After 40 years, Portland's Downtown District has energized the Old Port Festival from one day to a 3-day weekend, June 6 to 8. Smarter still, kick-off night will include First Friday Art Walkers. From exotic outdoor eats to Shoestring puppets to SRO mosh-pit throngs, Sunday especially will dazzle this year.



Falling 4U

Scaling tall buildings with a single fundraiser, Rippleffect isn't just climbing the walls, it's climbing down the walls. See it happen. One hundred volunteers will be on the edge of glory against the sheer face of 1 City Center on May 17. Participants will already have raised \$1,000 ahead of the traffic-stopping event. Visit Maine's youth leadership & adventure organization: rippleffect.net/rappelforripple.



We'll Leave the Light on For You

The once stark 19th-century lighthouse & fog signal station on The Cuckolds, a pair of tiny, granite islands off Boothbay Harbor, has shapeshifted into this summer's luxury getaway. Arrive via a restored Navy whaleboat at the restored and repurposed Inn to spend the night in one of two luxe suites. innatcuckoldslighthouse.com

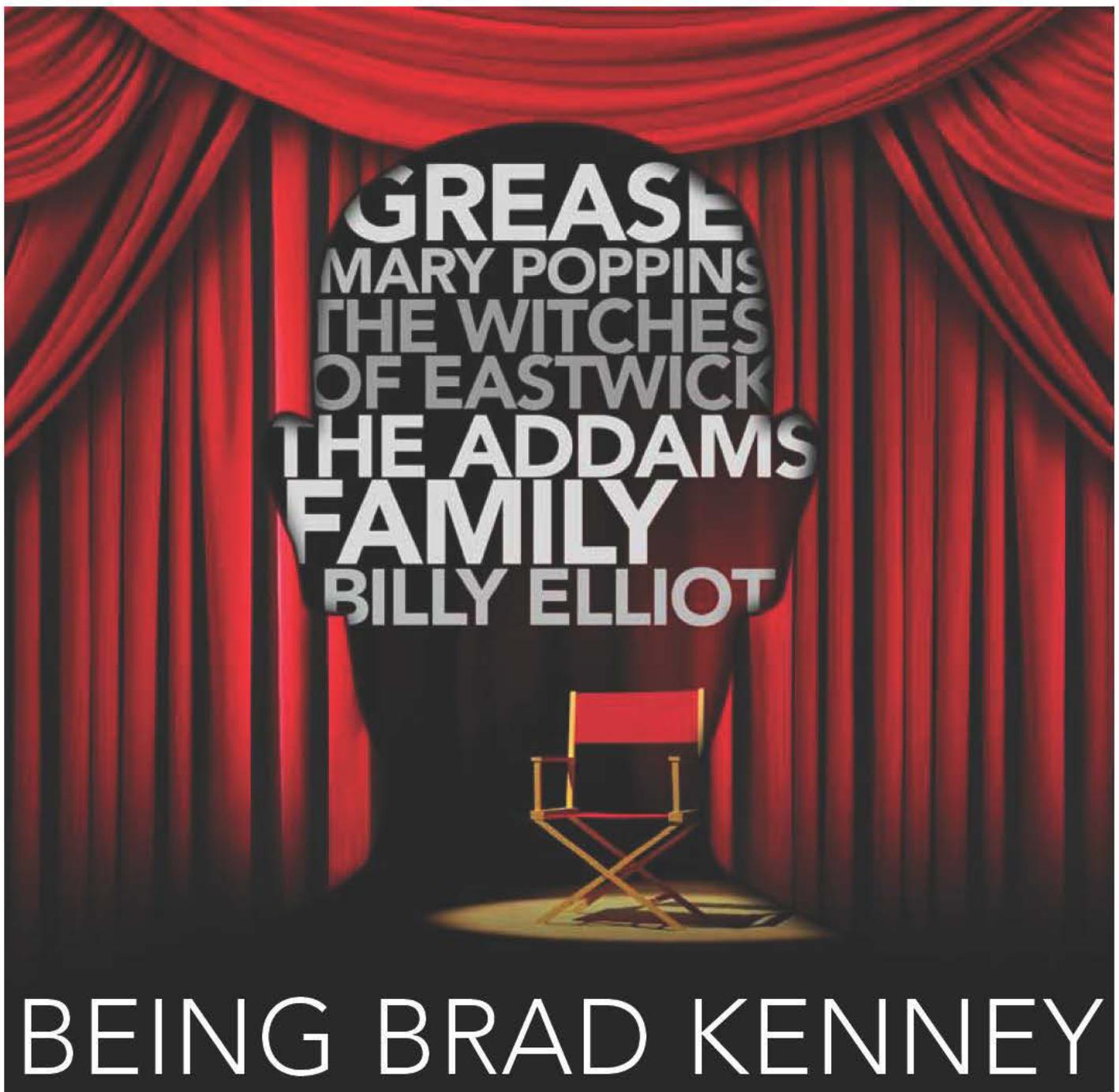


Welcome To My Camp

Portland's 4th poet laureate, Marcia F. Brown, has just released her 4th collection of poetry. *When We Invented Water*, with cover art (right) by Mark Hagen, is published by Moon Pie Press. Longfellow Books, \$15. moonpiepress.com



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: COREY TEMPLETON, DARREN SETLOW(2), MARK HAGEN, BENJAMIN GOODRIDGE, COURTESY OVER THE EDGE



Maine's premier musical-theater tastemaker lifts the curtain at Ogunquit Playhouse.

BY CLAIRE Z. CRAMER

In the past decade, under the stewardship of executive creative director Bradford Kenney, Ogunquit Playhouse has won bouquets of acclaim, including the Moss Hart Award for Outstanding Achievement in the American Theatre, along with many Independent Reviewers of New England nominations. He's made daring moves—redefining summer, making his audience youthful, and raiding New York for stars. So

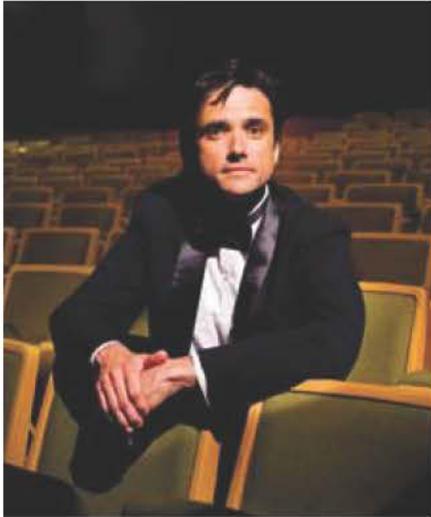
we're not the only ones wondering, what makes the guy tick?

"This is my 9th season, my 10th year in Ogunquit. When I got here in 2005, we had a 10-week summer season that was just expanding to 13 weeks. I'd worked in tourism and hospitality in New England, so I knew fall is an important time. We grew to a 20-week season. In 2014, we're going well into October—a 23-week season. September

has become our biggest month by far. It's like a 'found' new season."

This year's slate of shows kicks off May 21 with a fresh production of *Grease*, followed by *Billy Elliot*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Witches of Eastwick*, and *The Addams Family*.

But it's not your momma's *Grease*. "This is a very new, exciting *Grease*—it's going to pop. We've been holding open-call auditions since January, mostly in New York, but also



in Boston and here. We use predominantly union equity actors, but we blend Hollywood and Broadway folk with New England actors. We've got a terrific new set just built for this production."

Where?
 "In Texas."

HOW ABOUT SALLY?

"Oh, she certainly is," he laughs, when asked whether Playhouse favorite Sally Struthers will be starring again this year. "It's funny; it was a production of *Grease* that first brought here back into musical theater, years ago."

She won't be in this *Grease*, though.

"It looks like Sally's going to be in *The Witches of Eastwick*. This is its first American regional premier. Cameron Mackintosh turned it into a musical comedy hit in London over a dozen years ago, and it was huge over there."

Sir Cameron Mackintosh is the producer-impresario behind *Cats*, *Les Miserables*, *Miss Saigon*, and *The Phantom of the Opera*. *The New York Times* once called him "the most successful, influential, and powerful theatrical producer in the world." He's responsible for the worldwide explosion of musical theater over the past 25 years. So now he's connected to Maine?

"I was fortunate to meet him in London about 10 years ago, and we started a dialog," says Kenney. This planted the seed that will result in *The Witches'* debut in Ogunquit in September. "The book is set in a small New England village. So was the movie. Now it's returning to another small New England village. We expect Cameron will visit us on opening night."

FROM LEFT: MEAGHAN MAURICE, COURTESY OGUNQUIT PLAYHOUSE

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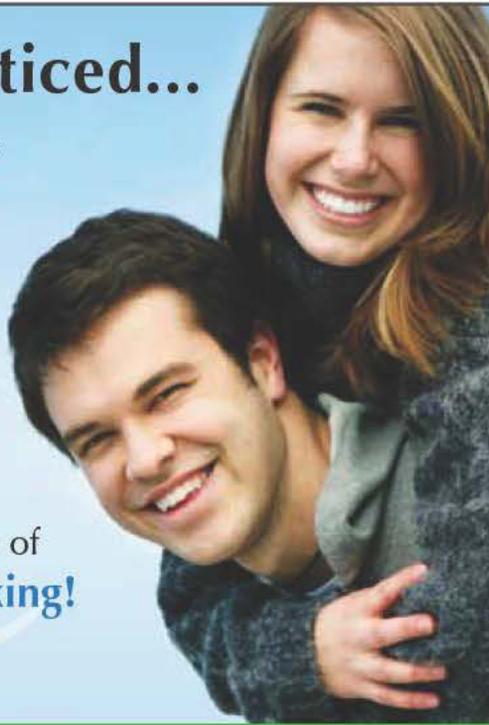
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THEATER

THE KIDS DO ALL RIGHT

"We've cast *Billy Elliot*," Kinney says. "Billy is Noah Parets. He's a New Englander, he's 13, and he's already played Billy. He's great. There'll be two Billys, though—with eight shows a week, there have to be.

"If you know the story of *Billy Elliot*, the adults are all going through terribly hard times—it's the miner's strike in rural England, Margaret Thatcher oppression. But the kids! They're into so much mischief. We cast most of the child actors—boys and girls—from Portland and Seabrook, New Hampshire, casting calls. Eugenia O'Brien at Portland Ballet opened her doors for us. The kids had to show us they could sing, dance, and act. And they are fantastic."

The Playhouse runs a concurrent Children's Theatre schedule during July and August. This summer's lineup includes *Jack and the Beanstalk* and a new Disney musical version of *Peter Pan*.

"We've gone from 'offering shows' for children to making an impact in the lives of children here. We have programs for them on our 27-acre campus. There are some wonderful old buildings on the grounds. On the outside, they're rustic New England. Inside, they're outfitted for rehearsals. The children learn and rehearse along with the Broadway actors. It's really something. We've also started some short fairytale performances for five- to seven-year-olds.

"During the children's season, the children perform in the daytime right in the main playhouse. Then the sets are switched out for the nighttime shows." ■

Theater

Acadia Repertory Theater, 1154 Bridge St., Mt. Desert. *Red*, Jun. 30-Jul. 13; *The School for Wives*, Jul. 15-27; *The 39 Steps*, Jul. 29-Aug. 10; Agatha Christie's *The Unexpected Guest*, Aug. 12-30; Children's Theater: *Puss In Boots*, Jul. 2-Aug. 30. 244-7260 acadiarep.com

Acorn Productions, 90 Bridge St., Westbrook. Shakespeare Conservatory through May 2014; Maine Playwrights Festival through May 4. 854-0064 acorn-productions.org

Arundel Barn Playhouse, 53 Old Post Rd., Arundel. *8 Track*, Jun. 17-28; *A Chorus Line*, Jul. 1-12; *My Fair Lady*, Jul. 15-Aug. 2; *Legally Blonde*, Aug. 5-16; *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, Aug. 19-30. 985-5552 arundelbarnplayhouse.com

Belfast Maskers/Cold Comfort Theater, *Fiddler on the Roof*, USO Show/Songs of Ameri-



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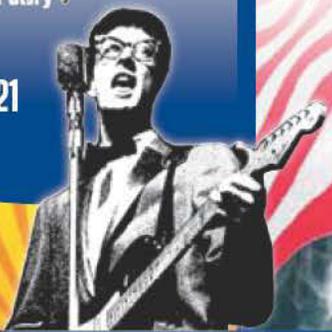
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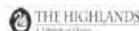
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THEATER

ca, July; *Wind in the Willows*, August. 930-7090 coldcomforththeater.com

Celebration Barn Theater, 190 Stock Farm Rd., South Paris. Summer theater classes: The (Very) Physical Comedy Institute, Jun. 8-21; Intro to Eccentric Performing, Jun. 23-28; Advanced Eccentric Performing, Jun. 30-Jul. 5; Wit and Wordplay, Jul. 2-12; Devising Intensive, Jul. 14-26; Self with Others, Jul. 28-Aug. 2; Improvisation, Aug. 4-9; Spymonkey Clown Masterclass, Aug. 18-23; Retreat with Show Doctor Robert Post, Aug. 18-23. 743-8452 celebrationbarn.com

Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. Chekhov's *Cherry Orchard*, through May 4. 442-8455 chocolatechurch.com

City Theater in Biddeford, 205 Main St. *You Can't Take it With You*, May 16-18, 23; *The Full Monty Musical*, Jul. 11-20; *Bingo! the Winning Musical*, opens Aug. 22. 642-7840 citytheater.org

Fenix Theatre Company, outdoors at Deering Oaks Park, Portland—bring a lawn chair or blanket. *As You Like It*, Jul. 17-Aug. 9. fenixtheatre.com

Freeport Community Players, Freeport Performing Arts Center, 30 Holbrook Rd., Freeport. *The Wizard of Oz*, Jul. 17-27; *Almost, Maine*, Sept. 11-21. 865-5505 fcponline.org

Freeport Theater of Awesome, 5 Depot St., Freeport. Puppet Showplace presents *Robin Hood*, May 9-10. 675-4000 theaterofawesome.com

Hackmatack Playhouse, 538 Route 9, Berwick. *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Jun. 20-Jul. 5; *The Music Man*, Jul. 9-26; Monty Python's *Spamalot*, Jul. 30-Aug. 16; *The Trip to Bountiful*, Aug. 20-30. Children's Drama Camp production of *The Secret Garden*, Jun. 20-Aug. 9. 698-1807 hackmatack.org

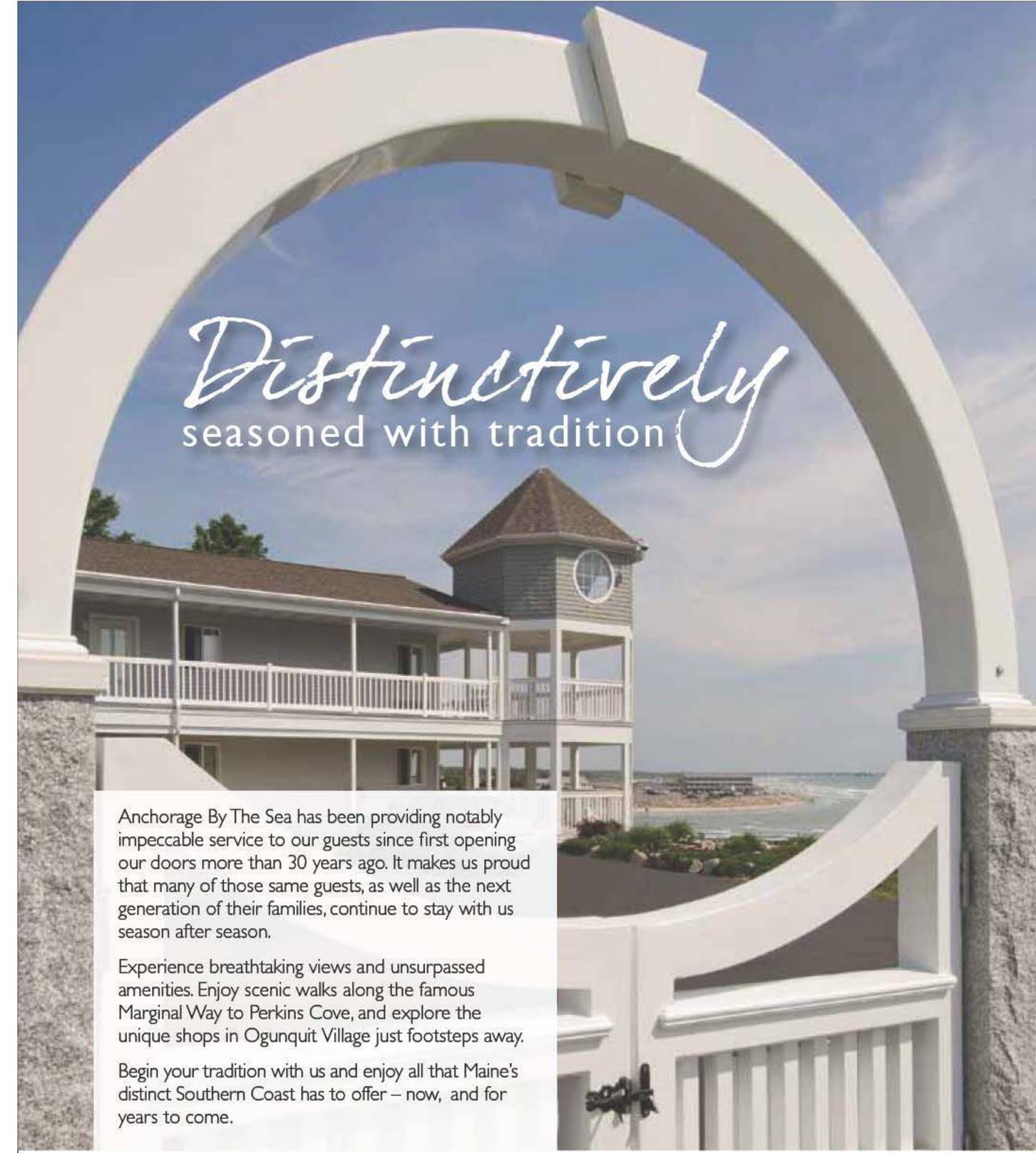
Heartwood Regional Theater Company, 420 Biscay Rd., Damariscotta. *Arsenic and Old Lace*, May 2-4, 8-10. *The Legend of Jim Cullen*, Jul. 24-26, 31 & Aug. 1-2. heartwoodtheater.org

Gaslight Theater, 1 Winthrop St., Hallowell. *The Bat*, Jun. 13-22; *Venus in Fur*, Jul. 3-Aug. 9. 626-3698 gaslighttheater.org

Good Theater. *Legends: The Music of Judy Garland* starring Kelly Caulfield, May 28-31 at Footlights, 190 U.S. Rt. 1 Falmouth, 747-5434; and August 21 at The Theater at Monmouth, 933-9999. goodtheater.com

Lakewood Theatre, 76 Theatre Rd., Madison. *Why do Fools Fall in Love?* May 22-31; *One Slight Hitch*, Jun. 5-14; *Noises Off*, Jun. 19-28; *Bye, Bye Birdie*, Jul. 3-12; *Skin Flick*, Jul. 17-26; *Big, the Musical*, Jul. 31, Aug. 1-9; *Figaro*, Aug. 14-23; *The Fall of the House of Usher*, Aug. 28-31, Sep. 3-6; *Don't Dress for Dinner*, Sept. 11-20. 474-7176 lakewoodtheater.org

Maine State Music Theater, Pickard Theater, 1 Bath Rd., Brunswick. *Buddy: the Buddy Holly Story*, Jun. 4-21; *The Teacher from the Black Lagoon*, Jun. 11; *One Man Star Wars Trilogy*, Jun. 16; *Chamberlain: a Civil War Romance*, Jun. 25-Jul. 12; *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, Jul. 16-Aug. 2; *Godspell in Concert*, Jul. 28; *Footloose*, Aug. 6-23; *Footlight Follies*, Aug. 11; *The Little Mermaid*, Aug. 18. 725-8769 msmt.org



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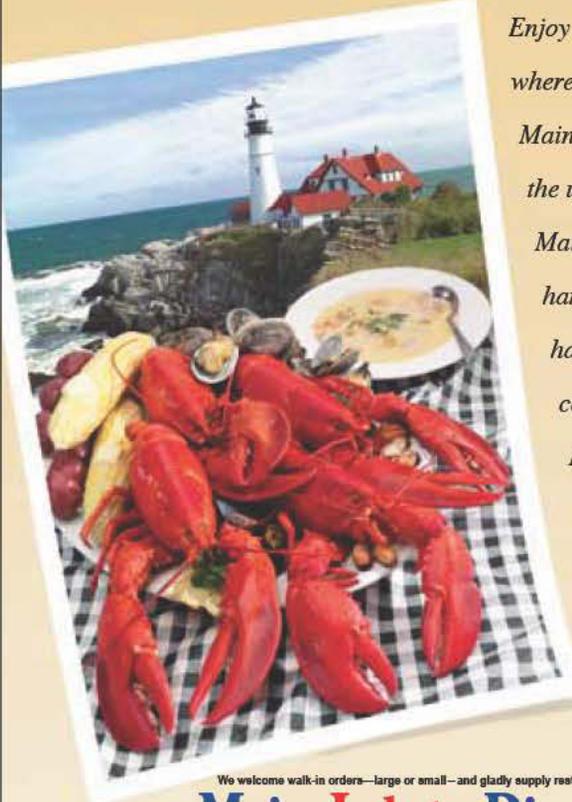
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THEATER

Ogunquit Playhouse, 10 Main St., Ogunquit. *Grease*, May 21-Jun. 2; *Billy Elliot: the Musical*, Jun. 25-Jul. 26; *Mary Poppins*, July 20-Aug. 30; *The Witches of Eastwick: a Musical Comedy*, Sep. 3-27; *The Addams Family*, Oct. 1-26. 646-5511 ogunquitplayhouse.org

Penobscot Theatre Company, 131 Main St., Bangor. *Our Town*, through May 11; *The Rocky Horror Show*, Jun. 12-22. 942-3333 penobscottheatre.org

Portland Players, 420 Cottage Rd., South Portland. *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, May 16-Jun. 1. 799-7337 portlandplayers.org

Portland Stage Company, 25A Forest Ave. *The Savannah Disputation*, through May 18. Studio Theater: 25th Annual Little Festival of the Unexpected, May 6-10. 774-0465 portlandstage.org

Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston. *Moonlight & Magnolias*, May 2-11; *The Pirate, the Princess, and the Pea*, May 18-21; Young Actors Training Program, Jul. 7-25. 782-3200 thepublictheatre.org

Schoolhouse Arts Center, Rte. 114, Sebago Lake Village. *Godspell*, through May 11; *Fiddler on the Roof*, Jul. 642-3743 schoolhousearts.org

St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland. Maine Playwrights Festival, through May 4; *Vivid Motion's Seven Voyages of Sinbad*, May 12-18. 347-3075 stlawrencearts.org

Stonington Opera House, 1 School St., Stonington. *Romeo and Juliet*, Jul. 3-17; *Burt Dow*, *Deep Water Man*, Aug. 9-19; *The Last Ferryman*, Aug. 14-24; *They Called Me Vincent*, Aug 23; Short new community plays with John Cariani, Aug. 31-Sept. 1; *Greetings From Stonington*, Sept. 12. 367-2788 operahousearts.org

Theater at Monmouth, 796 Main St., Monmouth. *My Father's Dragon*, through May 24; *Tales From The Blue Fairy Book*, Jun. 28-Aug 21; *As You Like It*, Jul. 10-Aug. 22; *A Woman of No Importance*, Jul.17-Aug 23; *Romeo & Juliet*, Jul. 24-Aug 24; *What the Butler Saw*, Jul. 31-Aug 23. 933-9999 theateratmonmouth.org

Galleries

Art Gallery at UNE, 716 Stevens Ave., Portland. Recent Acquisitions & Selections From the Collection, Through Jun. 15; Annual Sculpture Garden Invitational, Jun. 13-Oct. 31; Making a New Whole: The Art of Collage, Jun. 26-Sep. 28. 221-4499 une.edu/artgallery

Biddeford Art Walk, downtown Biddeford. Visit local galleries, studios, and museums, May 30; Jun. 27; Jul. 25; Aug. 29. biddefordsacoartwalk.com

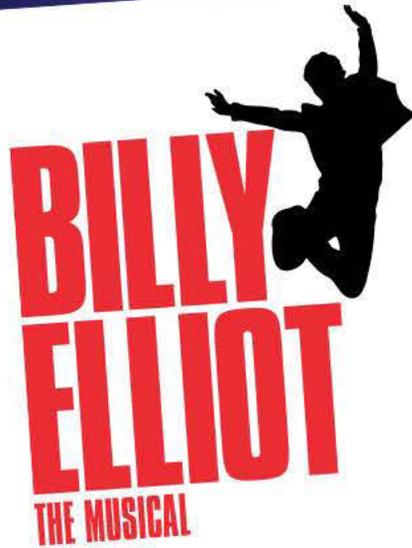
Bowdoin College Museum of Art, 1 Bath Rd., Brunswick. Under the Surface: Surrealist Photography, through Jun. 1; Art and Artifacts from Bowdoin Collections, through Jun. 8; The Jazz Photography of William P. Gottlieb, Jul. 10-Sep. 14. 725-3275 bowdoin.edu/art-museum

Colby College Museum of Art, 5600 Mayflower Hill Dr., Waterville. Histories of Now: Six Artists from

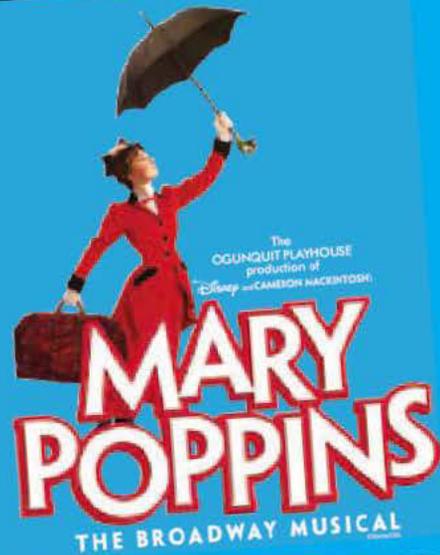
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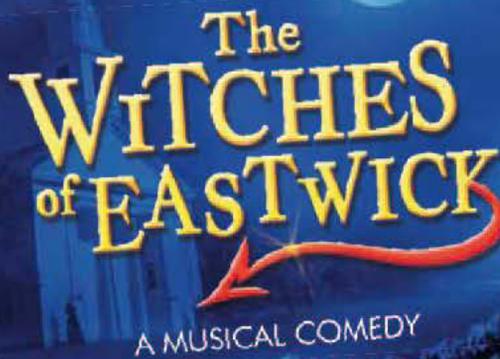


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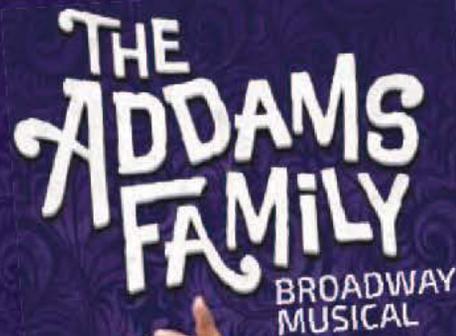


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GOINGS ON

Cairo, through Jun. 8; Julianne Swartz Affirmation, through Jun. 8; The Lunder Collection, through Jun. 8; American Weather vanes, through Jun. 8; Lois Dodd: Cultivating Vision, opening Jun. 7; Bernard Langlais, opening Jul. 19. 859-5600 colby.edu

Farnsworth Art Museum, 16 Museum St., Rockland. The Wyeths, Maine & the Sea, through Dec; The Chakers: From Mount Lebanon to the World, opens Jun. 14. 596-6457 farnsworthmuseum.org

First Friday Art Walk, downtown Portland. Visit local galleries, studios, and museums, Jun. 6; Jul. 4; Aug. 1; Sep. 5. firstfridayartwalk.com

Maine Historical Society Museum, 489 Congress St., Portland. This Rebellion: Maine & the Civil War, through May. 774-1822 mainehistory.org

Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Sq., Portland. Preserving Creative Spaces: The Historic Artists' Homes and Studios Program, through Jun. 15; Richard Estes' Realism, opens May 22; George Daniell: Picturing Monhegan Island, through Aug. 3; Andrea Sulzer: throughsideways, through Aug. 26. 775-6148 portlandmuseum.org

Victoria Mansion, 109 Danforth St., Portland. Mansion as Muse: Contemporary Art at Victoria Mansion, an exhibit inspired by the mansion's interiors, through May 21. 772-4841 victoriamansion.org

Music

Asylum, 121 Center St., Portland. Karaoke, every W; Retro Night, every Th; Sevendust Acoustic, May 9; Parmalee, May 16; Steel Panther, May 24; Satisfaction: Rolling Stones Tribute Band, Jun. 19; Quiet Riot, Jul. 22. portlandasylum.com

Blue, 650 Congress St., Portland. Acoustic Jam, Every Tu; Irish Music Night, Every W; Forbes Trio, Sarah Fard, Eric Quinn Quintet, May 10; Truth or Dare with Heather Styka, May 15; Shanna in the Round, For the Birds, Gunther Brown, May 16, Jun. 20; Sean Mencher & His Rhythm Kings, Gideon Forbes Quartet, May 17; Samuel James & Dana Gross, May 22; The Renovators, Brendan Hogan, The Last Sip, May 23; Steve Wark Jazz Ensemble, John Funkhouser Quartet, Hardy Brothers Jazz Jam, May 24; Pretty Girls Sing Soprano, May 29; Martin England, Ariel Strasser, May 30; Ali Manion, Chris Klaxton Orchestra, The Resonant Rogues, May 31; Chris Trapper, Max Garcia Conover, Jun. 5; Big Fancy, OKBARI, Evan King Group, Jun. 6; Kinnon Church Trio, Jun. 7; Truth or Dare with Heather Styka, Nick Farago, Jun. 19; Shanna in the Round, Welterweight, Gunther Brown, Jun. 20; Sean Mencher & His Rhythm Kings, Jun. 21. 774-4111 portcityblue.com

Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. Greg Brown, Jun. 14. 442-8455 chocolatechurch.com

Darling's Waterfront Pavilion, 1 Railroad St., Bangor. Rise Above Fest, May 10, Tim McGraw, May 29; Celtic Woman, May 30; Dave Matthews Band, Jun. 6; Brad Paisley; Willy Nelson & Friends & Alison Krauss, Jun. 19. waterfrontconcerts.com

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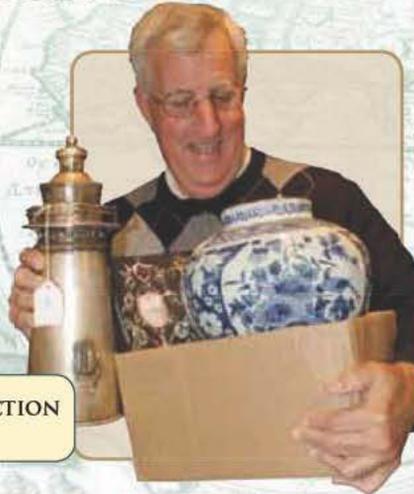
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GOINGS ON

Dogfish Bar & Grille, 128 Free St., Portland. Tombstone PD, May 8; Sean Mencher & His Rhythm Kings, May 10; Dapper Gents, May 15; The Bridge Walkers, May 24; Max Ater, May 22; Larsen, Jun. 5; Matt Meyer & Gumption Junction, Jun. 7. 772-5483 thedogfishcompany.com

Empire, 575 Congress St., Portland. Clash of the Titans, every W., Forget, Forget, May 2; Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad, May 9; Waylon Speed, May 10. 747-5063 portlandempire.com

Ginkgo Blue, 455 Fore St., Portland. Poke Chop & The Other White Meats, May 9; Tokyo Tramps, May 10; Standard Issue, May 14, Jun. 11; Jennifer Porter, May 15; Travis James Humphrey and the Retro Rockets, May 16; Rick Miller and His Band, May 17; Stesha Cano, May 21; OCTANE, May 22; Blue Steel Express, May 23; Tommy O'Connell & The Juke Joint Devils, May 25, Jun. 7; Jason St. Pierre Trio, May 28; Mike Stockbridge, May 29; Black Cat Road, May 30; Travis James Blues Duo, Jun. 4; Tony Boffa Quartet, Jun. 5; Blues Mafia, Jun. 6. gingkoblue.com

Jonathan's, 92 Bournes Ln., Ogunquit. Judy Collins, May 2; Swing Xing!, May 4; Steve Forbert, May 16; Tom Wopat, May 24; Suede with Fred Boyle & Rich Hill, May 25; Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra, May 28; The Greencards, May 29; Leon Russell, Jun. 15; Tret Fure, Jun. 20; Seth Glier, Jul. 11. 646-4526 jonathansrestaurant.com

MAMM Slam Finals at the Asylum, 121 Center St., Portland. Maine Academy of Modern Music's annual face-off of high school rock bands, May 10. 899-3433 maineacademyofmodernmusic.org

Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland. Pops! Classical Mystery Tour May 3 & 4; *The Summer King: An Opera on the Life of Josh Gibson*, May 8; Harry Potter and the Magic of Music, May 11; *Don Quixote*, May 20; *An American in Paris*, Jun. 17; Gordon Lightfoot, Jul. 14; PortOpera: Giuseppe Verdi's *Rigoletto*, Jul. 23 & 25. 842-0800 porttix.com

One Longfellow Square, 181 State St., Portland. Joe Walsh, Brittany Haas & Owen Marshall, May 17; Anna Lombard & the Boston Boys, May 25; Devon Sproule, Jul. 3; Tumbling Bones, Jul. 16. Visit website for more listings. 761-1757 onelongfellowsquare.com

Opera House at Boothbay Harbor, 86 Townsend Ave. Rodney Crowell, May 10; Tom Rush, May 16; David Crodley, Jun. 4. boothbayoperahouse.com

Pedro's, 181 Port Rd., Kennebunk. Primo Cubano Band, music and dancing, May 23. pedrosmaine.com

Port City Music Hall, 504 Congress St., Portland. Maine Youth Rock Orchestra, May 8; Katie Herzig, May 9; The Fogcutters, May 10; Pardon Me, Doug, May 16; The English Beat, Jun. 25; The Milk Carton Kids, Jul. 24. 956-6000 portcitymusic hall.com

Portland Chamber Music Festival at SPACE Gallery, 538 Congress St., Portland. Music for string quartet by John Adams, Dan Visconti & Scott Ordway, May 15. pcmf.org

RiRa Irish Pub, 72 Commercial St., Portland. Open



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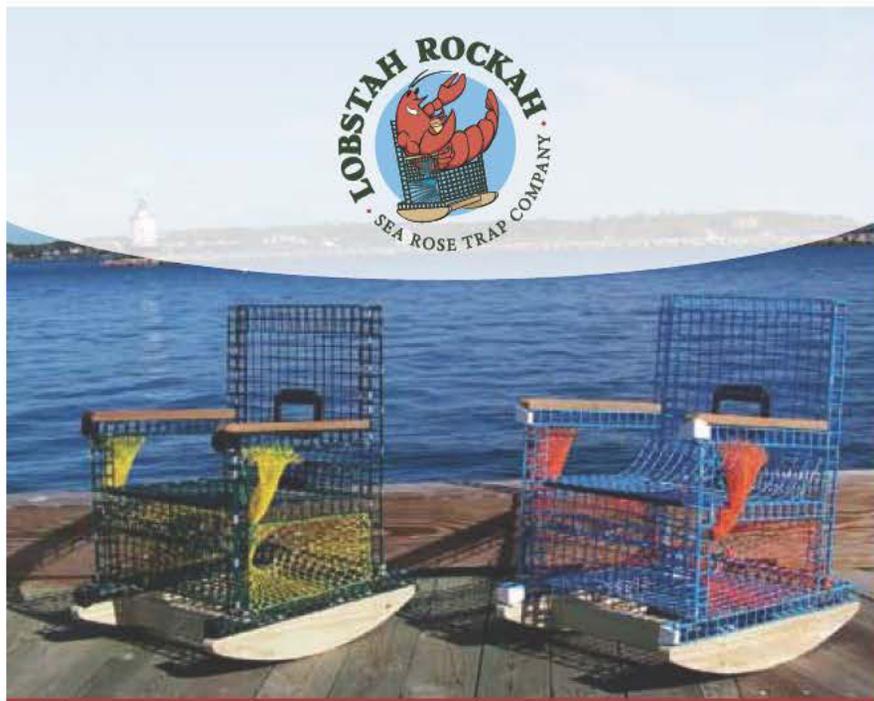
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GOINGS ON



Portland Lobster Company, 180 Commercial St., Portland. North of Nashville, Jun. 13; Band Beyond Description, Jun. 14 & 20; Connor Garvey & Friends, Jun. 15; Amigos & Now is Now, Jun. 21; Jason Spooner Band, Jun. 22; Vinyl Tap, Jun. 27; Muddy Ruckus & Lyle Divinsky, Jun. 28; Pete Kilpatrick Band, Jun. 29. 775-2112 portlandlobstercompany.com

Mic every M, Trivia every Tu, Kilcollins every Th in May & Jun. 761-4446 rira.com/portland

State Theatre, 609 Congress St., Portland. M.I.A., May 6; The Mavericks, May 9; Benefit Concert for Maine People's Alliance, May 10; The Moth Mainstage, Jun. 5; Patty Griffin, Jun. 15; Primus, Jun. 25; Gogol Bordello, Jul. 24. 956-6000 statetheatreportland.com

St. Lawrence Arts, 76 Congress St., Portland. Seven Voyages of Sinbad, May 15-18; Darol Anger & Ermy Phelps with Billy Hill, May 31; Ed Gerhard, grammy-winning guitar, Jun. 28 stlawrencearts.org

Stone Mountain Arts Center, 695 Dug Way Rd., Brownfield. Suzy Bogguss, May 9; Wailin' Jennys, May 10; Tom Rush, May 15; Jonathan Edwards, May 25; Recession Session with the Ragbirds, May 30; Marcia Ball, Jun. 6; Rustic Overtones, Jun. 13; Paula Poundstone, Jun. 19, 20; Mary Chapin Carpenter, Jul. 10, 11. 935-7292 stonemountainartscenter.com

Waterville Opera House, 1 Common St.. John Sebastian, May 9; Leon Russell & Hot Tuna, Jun. 16. pcmf.org

Tasty Events

Browne Trading Company, 262 Commercial St., Portland. Wine tastings at least one Sat. per month, 1-5pm. 775-7560 brownetrading.com

DownEast Pride Alliance Business Networking Happy Hour, at Vinland, 593 Congress St., Portland. Free with cash bar; light food provided, May 20. depabusines.com

Flanagan Farm, 668 Narragansett Trail (Rt. 202), Buxton. Farm Land Trust Dinner: Benefit dinners prepared by local chefs to benefit Maine Farmland Trust. Andrew Taylor and Michael Wiley of Hugo's, Jun. 1; Damian Sansonetti and Ilma Lopez of Piccolo, Jul. 20; Salvage BBQ, Aug. 4. flanaganstable.com

Kennebunkport Festival, annual celebration of food, wine, art, Jun. 3-8. kennebunkportfestival.com

Local Sprouts Local Foods Networking Breakfast, 649 Congress St., Portland, May 20. localsproutscooperative.com

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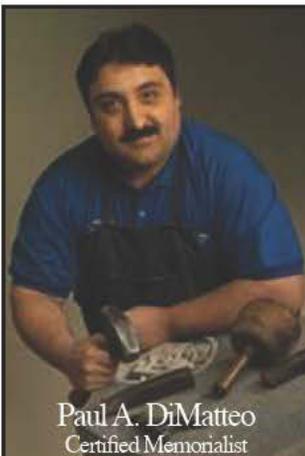


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GOINGS ON

New Hampshire Restaurant Week, all over the Granite State, May 16-23. restaurantweeknh.com

Old Port Wine Merchants, 223 Commercial St., Portland. Wine tasting every third W. 772-9463 oldportwine.com

Salt Exchange, 245 Commercial St., Portland. Bourbon tastings, first F of every month. 347-5687 thesaltexchangerestaurant.com

Sweetgrass Farm Old Port Tasting Room, 324 Fore St., Portland. Father's Day celebration with Sweetgrass wines and many Maine cheesemakers in the Portland shop and at the farm, 347 Carroll Rd., Union, June 15. 761-8446 sweetgrasswinery.com

The West End Deli & Catering, 545 Congress St., Portland. Wine tastings every first F, 6-8pm. 774-6426 thewestenddeli.com

Don't Miss

Alex Katz, at the Westin Portland Harborview Hotel, 157 High St., Portland. Bernard Osher Lecture Series hosts the acclaimed American painter, Skowhegan School alumnus, and Lincolnville resident. Jun. 11. 775-6148 portlandmuseum.org

Bug Light Kite Festival, Bug Light Park, South Portland. May 17. 767-7299 sphistory.org

Colin Sargent, poet, novelist, editor, and publisher, reading new poetry and from his next novel at The Hive, 84 Main St., Kennebunk. May 7, 7pm. thehivekennebunk.com

Georgetown Historical Society, 20 Bay Point Rd. South Portland. Historic Images of Georgetown, 1800s-1960s, with author Gene Reynolds. 371-9200 georgetownhistoricalsociety.org

Harraseeket Heritage Day, benefit for Freeport Historical Society, Brewer South Freeport Marine. Boat parade, chowder and oyster lunch, evening gala, lobsterbake, live music, and auction, Jun. 28. freeporthistoricalsociety.org

L.L. Bean Paddlesports Weekend, Flagship Store and Flying Point Paddling Center, Freeport. Free classes and demonstrations, May 10-Jun. 1. llbean.com

Maine Comics Arts Festival, The Portland Company Complex, 58 Fore St., Portland. More than 100 comics artists and writers, May 18. mainecomics.com

Mayo Street Arts, 10 Mayo St., Portland. Improv Workshop, May 10; Zemya World Folk Ensemble, Jun. 6; Circus From Scratch Summer Camp, Jun. 30-Jul. 3. 879-4629 mayostreetarts.org

Old Port Festival, Portland. Annual extravaganza of music, Maine-made crafts, food, family activities, and lots more, Jun. 6-8. portlandmaine.com

Portland Kitchen Tour, Portland. Visit fabulous city kitchens, spark your imagination, and sample tasty treats, May 9-10. mainekitchentours.com

Piscataquis Heritage Hot Air Balloon Festival, Dover-Foxcroft. Hot air balloons, food, artisans, exhibitions and more. May 30-Jun. 1. phhabf.com

Renaissance Voices, Williston-Immanuel United



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GOINGS ON

Church, 156 High St, Portland. Gershwin, Kern, and other American composers, sung by 21-voice ensemble, May 10. 729-4958 or 829-2116.

Southern Maine AIDS Walk/5K Run, Ogunquit. Sixth annual, sponsored by the Franny Peabody Center, May 3. peabodycenter.kintera.org

Southern Maine Pride Parade, Downtown Portland. Rainbows! Jun. 16. [facebook.com/SouthernMainePride](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernMainePride)

Shipyards Brewing Old Port Summer Fest, Maine State Pier, Portland. Half-marathon, 5K, music, beer garden, food trucks. Jul. 12. oldporthalfmarathon.com

Sugarloaf's Annual Marathon, 5092 Access Rd., Carrabassett Valley, May 18. 800-843-5623 sugarloaf.com



Check Out The Kitchens

Find inspiration and much to covet as you roam through fabulous kitchens in the Forest City on the **Portland Kitchen Tour**, to benefit the Center for Grieving Children, May 9 and 10. The charming kitchen above is on the tour; find it in a brick mansion on the Western Promenade. mainekitchentours.com

Sunday River, 15 South Ridge Rd., Newry. Trek Across Maine, Jun. 13-15; Tough Mountain Challenge, Jul. 26. 824-3000 sundayriver.com

Tahntay, Eastern Promenade, Portland. Celebration of spring with music and magic, parade and community potluck, May 18. tahntay.com

Vintage Baseball Game, Pettengill Farm, Freeport. Two New England teams battle it out according to 1860 rules to the tune of old-timey accordion music. Jun. 22. freeporthistoricalsociety.org

Wolfe's Neck Farm Spring Festival, 184 Burnett Rd., Freeport. Music, food, hayrides, demonstrations, farm animals, and fun, Jun. 1. wolfesneckfarm.org

—Compiled by Jeanee Dudley



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A woman with blonde hair, wearing a long-sleeved, patterned dress in shades of orange and white, and brown leather boots, is swinging happily on a swing set. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a park setting with green trees and a wooden fence.

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It's A Jungle Out There

What would Adrian Monk (Tony Shalhoub, USM '77) think of the University of Southern Maine's dismantling its theater department, and then, for the moment, *unfiring* the fired? "USM...was the time of my life—the formative time...when I figured out I wanted to make theater communications my major. The people embraced me. There was a certain kind of cultural renaissance... One of my professors was Tom Power—the best teacher I've ever had—who really took me under his wing." Next stop for Shalhoub was Yale Drama School, after which he earned stardom in *Wings*, *The Big Night*, *Monk*, and on Broadway [See our interviews, April 2003 & Summerguide 2010.]

Sic Transit Gloria La Selva



One day you're one of the grand cottages of Bar Harbor and the next you're just a tear-down standing in the way of someone's McMansion. It seems like only yesterday that Mrs. John Jacob Astor IV roamed the halls at the gracious 1902 La Selva in the summers after she survived the sinking of the *Titanic* [See "Viva La Selva" by Brad Emerson, May 2013, <http://www.portlandmonthly.com/portmag/2013/04/viva-la-selva/>]. Imagine *not* burning down in the devastating fire of 1947, only to be torn down by progress in 2014.

portlandmonthly.com/portmag/2013/04/viva-la-selva/. Imagine *not* burning down in the devastating fire of 1947, only to be torn down by progress in 2014.

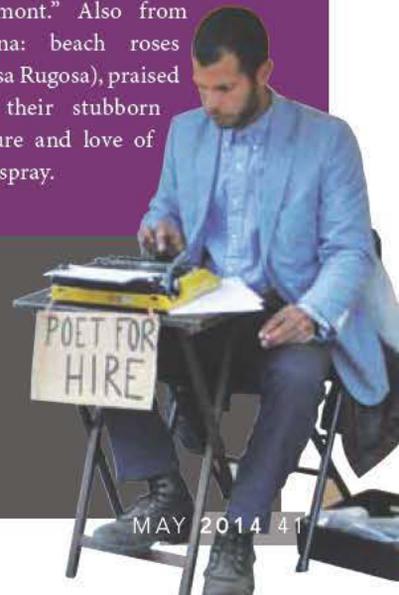
My friend Flickr

Guess whose hypnotic shot of Mt. Katahdin was featured on Weather.com? "I had no idea," says photographer and food blogger Dana Moos, former manager at Pomegranate Inn. "Flickr allows for attribution, so sometimes I get a credit".



China Trade?

Yankee ship captains are credited with importing the Maine Coon Cat during the China trade. *Alternate theories*: "Marie Antoinette attempted to escape France with the help of Captain Samuel Clough. She loaded [his] ship with her prized possessions, including six Turkish Angora cats. Although she did not make it, her pets safely reached the shores of Wiscasset."—Wikipedia. "I hadn't heard that about China," says Beth Kus, of maine-cooncat.com. "After the War of 1812, shipping trade was very busy in New England, and everyone brought back cats, for the rodents. A man wrote a doctoral dissertation on polydactyl cats in New England. He found a lot of unpedigreed coon cats around the Kennebec River, almost none in Vermont." Also from China: beach roses (*Rosa Rugosa*), praised for their stubborn nature and love of salt spray.

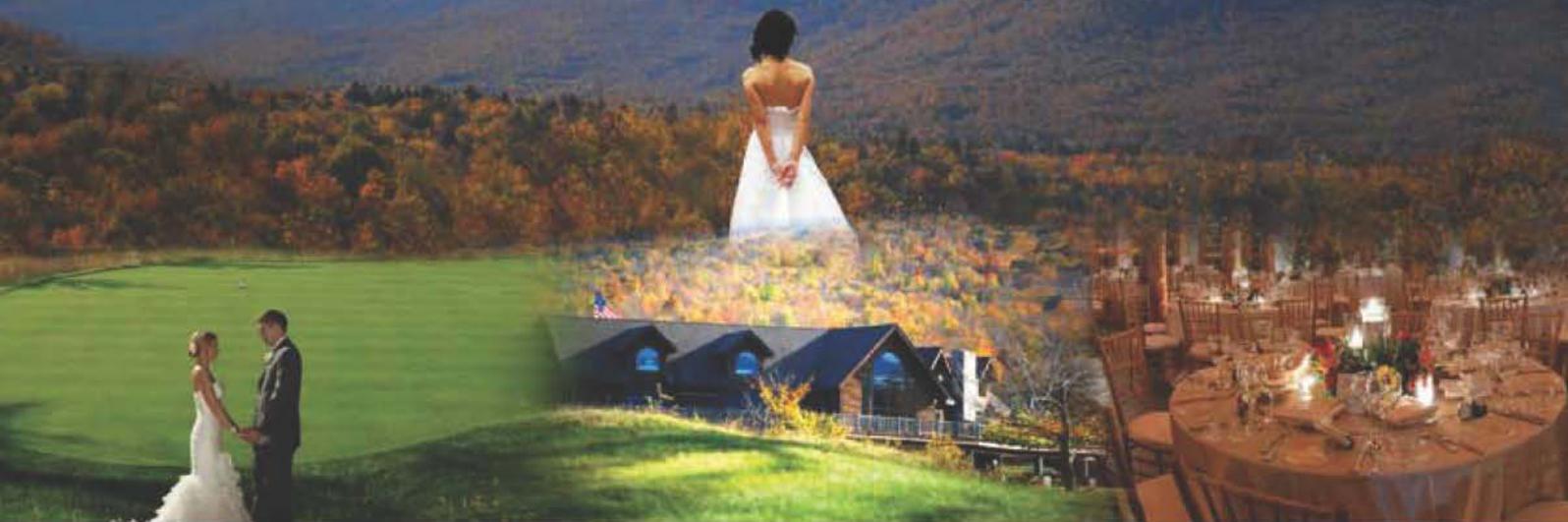


1ST Friday
Summer Knowledge
Name: Kevin Gig: Traveling Poet
City of Origin: New Orleans
Weapon: Manual typewriter
Goal: Move to Northern Maine & write verse...

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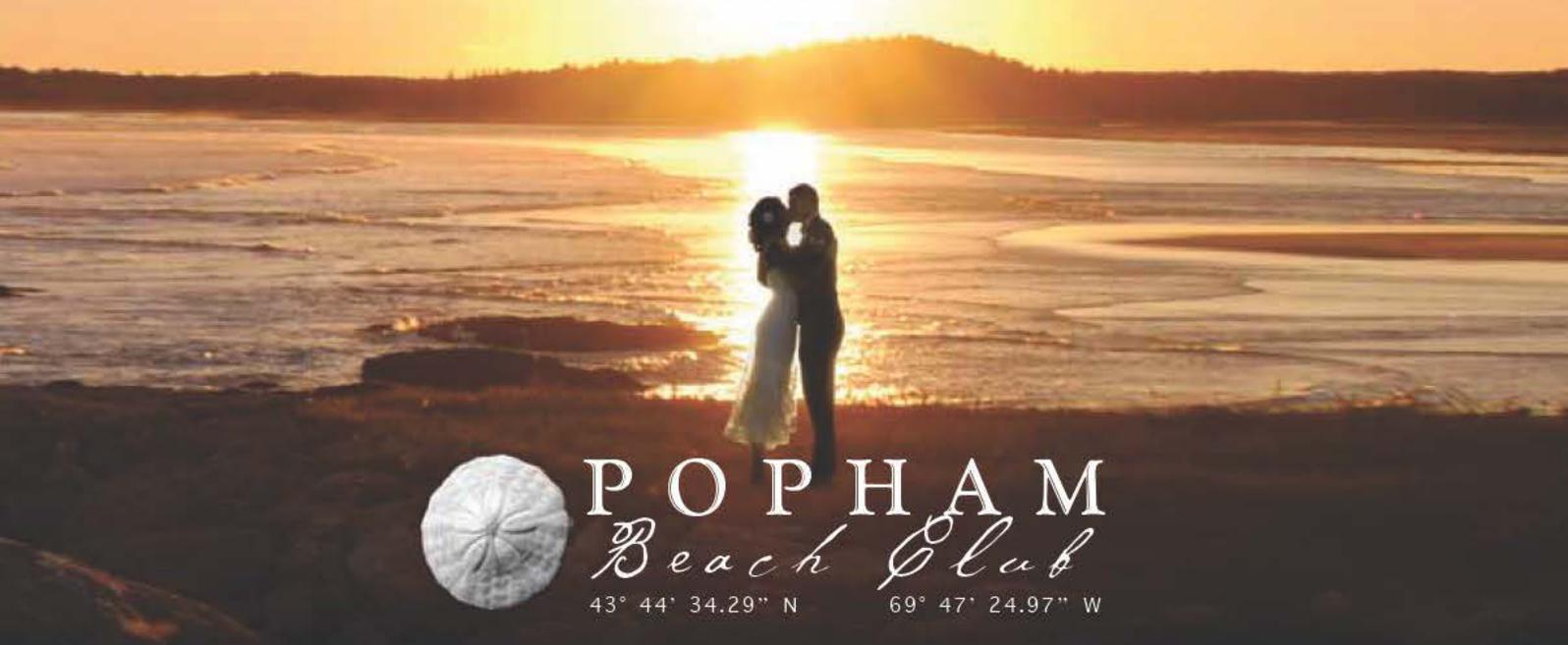


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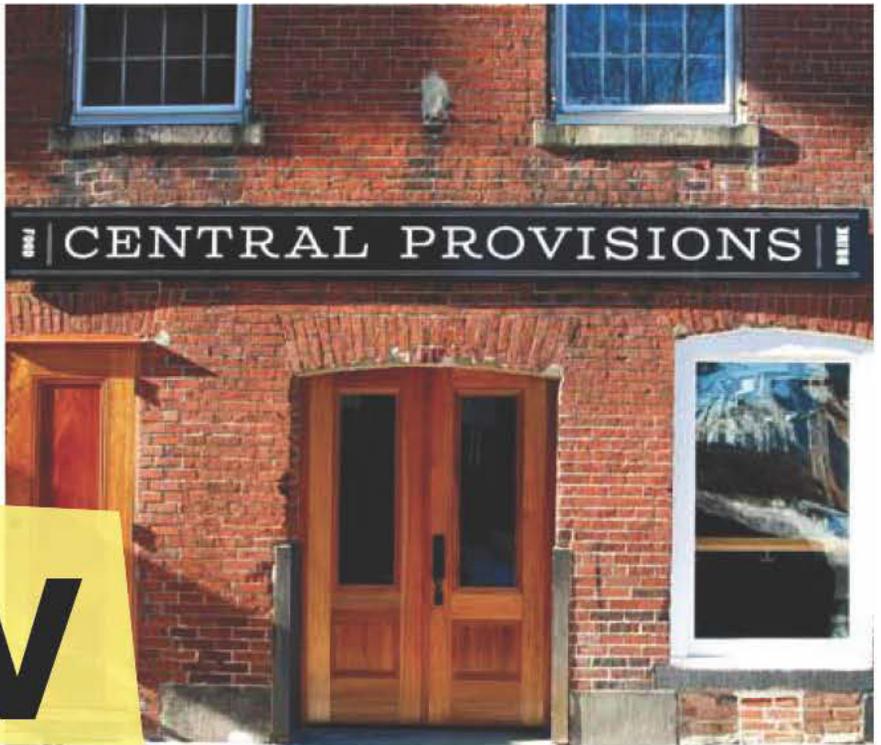
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New

Old PORT



Clockwise from above: Espresso at Lolita; Holly Hamilton's peridot earrings. At the crossroads of Fore, Dana, and Wharf streets, Central Provisions presents a handsome brick facade and cozy interior.

Take a tour through 2014's new summer attractions.

BY CLAIRE Z. CRAMER

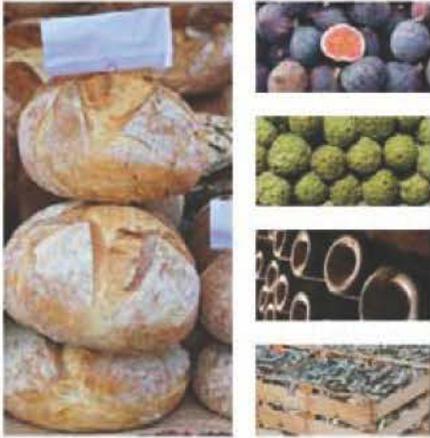
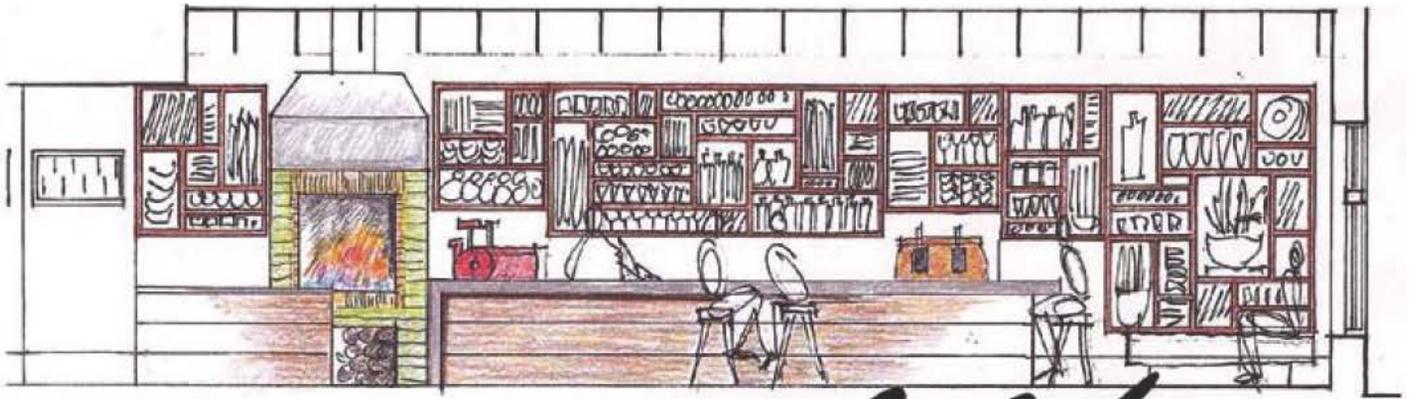
Have you hit the bricks lately in Portland's most densely packed retail and dining nexus? Here's a look at a few recent developments on the peninsula.

WE'RE HUNGRY

Chris and Paige Gould opened Central Provisions in February after renovating two floors of the historic brick warehouse building they bought at 414 Fore Street at the primo intersection of Dana and Wharf

streets. Bethel native Chris has devised a menu around native seafood and his skill with it (scallop carpaccio, fluke ceviche, clams orecchiette, lobster stew with miso and piquillo pepper) and with other small-plate temptations (ham and cheese croquette, porchetta board). He calls it "food from around the world with a newly evolving style." The spot's ultra-rustic Old Port brick-wall, wood-

DOWNTOWN



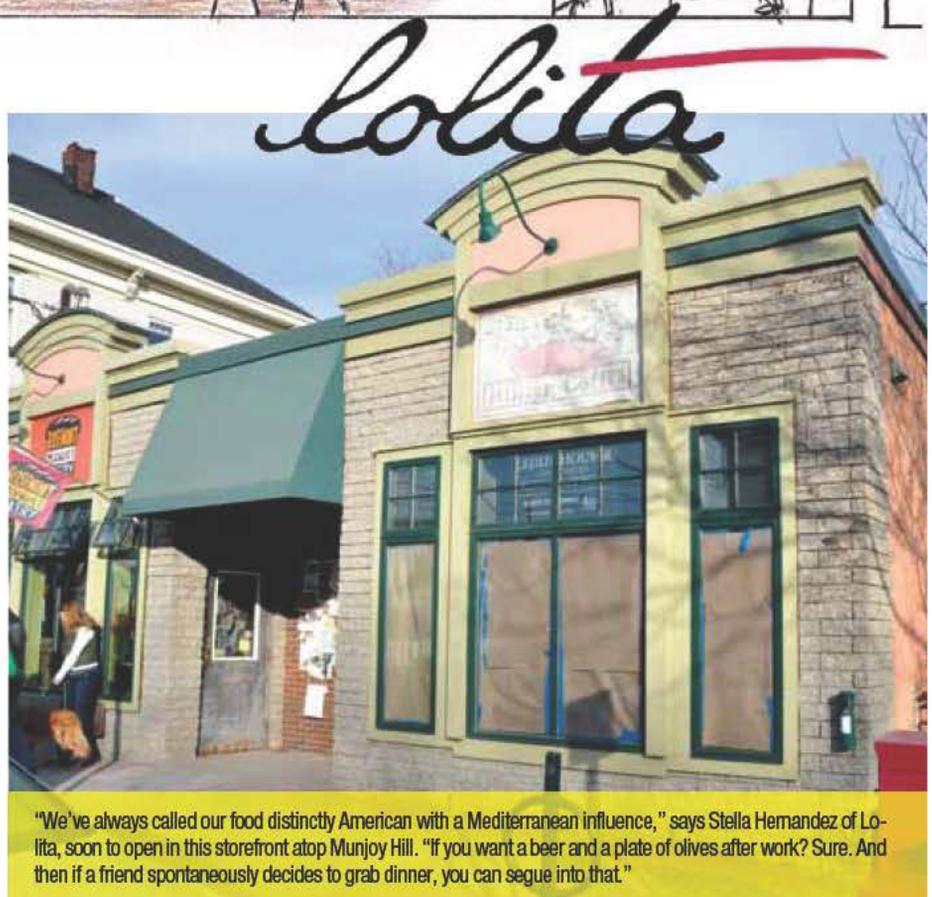
floor charm is showcased beautifully down to the barstools upholstered by Paige in burlap from coffee-bean sacks.

The old-school Oriental Table restaurant at 106 Exchange Street closed last year, and a new restaurant is due to take its place within weeks.

"I can't really say too much," says Dan Talmatch who, with brother Noah, owns The North Point on Silver Street, "but you can say it's going to be the premier steakhouse in Portland."

No small claim, when you're just steps from the Grill Room at 84 Exchange, which, last time we checked, was a premier steakhouse—and a popular one. The Talmatches are optimists. "We don't believe in pretension. That's why we wanted to get out of New York," says Dan. "Our quality of life has improved drastically. Everyone's fantastic here." The North Point [see this issue's front-cover photo] is a cozy favorite with locals, and visitors love to discover it as they explore the side streets. He promises that Timber—the steakhouse—will have the same "warm, friendly, and cozy" atmosphere.

Fans of bygone Bar Lola eagerly await the imminent debut of Lolita, the newest from Munjoy Hill restaurateurs Stella and Guy Hernandez. The Hernandezes' surprising de-



"We've always called our food distinctly American with a Mediterranean influence," says Stella Hernandez of Lolita, soon to open in this storefront atop Munjoy Hill. "If you want a beer and a plate of olives after work? Sure. And then if a friend spontaneously decides to grab dinner, you can segue into that."

cision to swap their hotspot Hilltop Coffee shop into Bar Lola's sunny and larger storefront and then to renovate the former Hilltop Coffee space (in the building it shared with Rosemont Market) into a sleek "vinoteca and asador" named Lolita has created no end of anticipation. Meanwhile, at 100 Congress Street, the roomier new Hilltop attracts throngs for coffee and homemade scones, eclairs, cookies, and brownies.

NEW OLD FRIENDS

"We've always sold capes, shawls, and blankets," says Dory Waxman at her sunny new Old Port Wool and Textile factory and showroom at 52 Danforth Street on the western edge of the Old Port.

Has she ever. Waxman founded Casco Bay Woolworks in 1992, which in its heyday on Moulton Street stopped pedestrians in their tracks with glamorous mannequins swathed in bright, hooded capes posed outside on the cobblestones like Cathy awaiting Heathcliff on the moor. Back then, her tiny ads in the *New Yorker*—also featuring woollen capes—created a mail-order market for the mood-evoking garments. Martha Stewart and Lily Tomlin were customers. Waxman, a former Portland city councillor, sold the business more than 10 years ago as Maine's woollen mills were closing. One day, she realized she missed working with wool, so she started all over again with Old Port Wool and Textile. "I've found a



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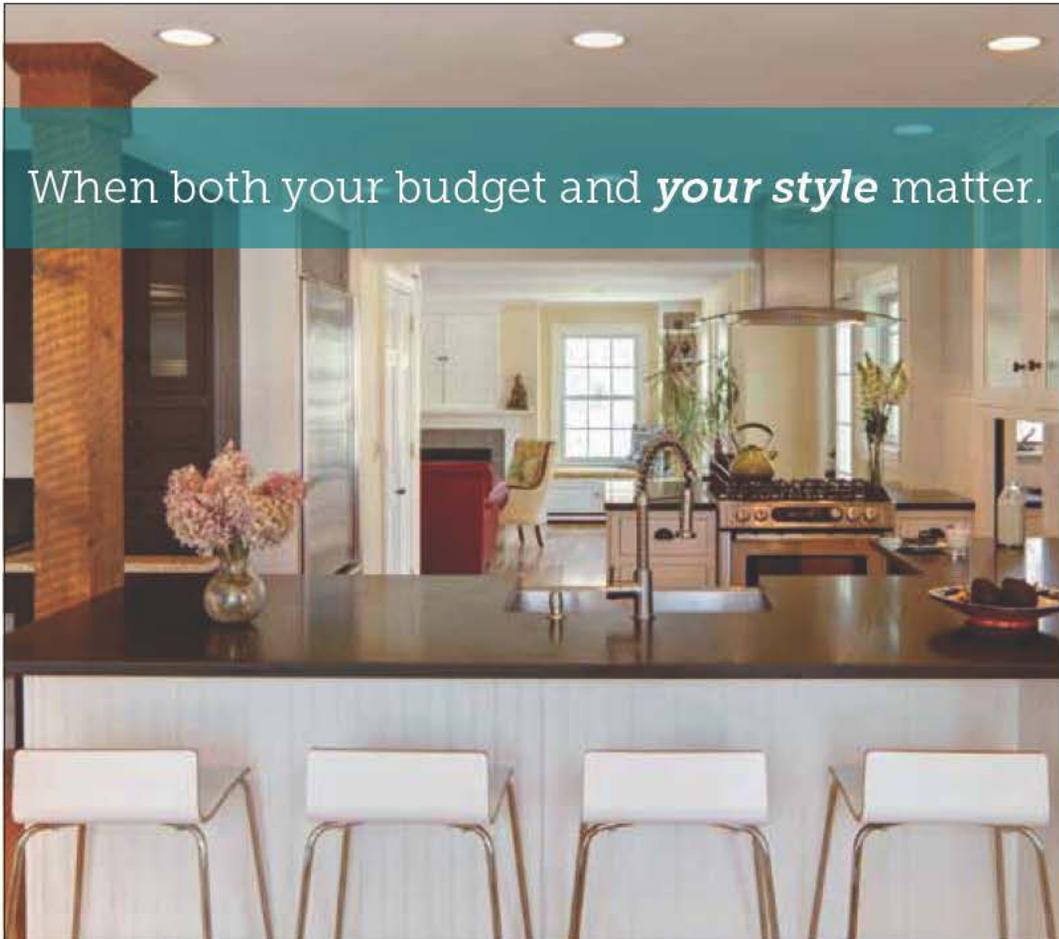
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DOWNTOWN



Woolen capes and shawls are Dory Waxman's specialty at Old Port Wool and Textile on Danforth Street. Below: A few of Holly Hamilton's dazzy rings.



source for 100-percent merino—it's the best—spun from U.S. fleece. My hope is to bring back the wool industry.”

She reflects on the constant renewal of the Old Port: “It’s funny, my neighbor here on Danforth is Rory Strunk [Global Studios, a media content producer], and years ago he was my neighbor on Moulton Street [Strunk’s Resort Sports Network created sports content for distribution to resorts; RSN was sold to Outside TV in 2010].

“I’m so happy to be in this neighborhood,” says jeweller Holly Hamilton in her new shop at 97 Exchange Street. Though she’s new to this location, she’s not new to the Old Port, either. The MECA grad has been fashioning jewelry in the area for 29 years. “This space is really ideal,” she says of her light-filled store with windows facing on Exchange and on Market Street, where she’s situated her work

space. “I hand-pick the stones and build the settings based on what the stones ask for.”

Sherman’s Books & Stationery opened at 49 Exchange Street on April Fool’s Day. “We support Maine publishers and authors as much as we can, and we have a Maine writers section,” says proprietor Tori Curtis. The store also sells “stationery, gifts, notebooks—a little bit of everything.”

This summer, after you pick up a copy

underneath Sherman’s Books. “It’ll be a European-style cafe, a place people can stop by in the afternoon for a coffee or beer, open a book, and relax. We’ll also bake cakes,” says co-proprietor Vikki Walker.

Walker and her husband Kyle Tzarinski found Portland when traveling. “I’m from England, and my husband’s from Vermont. We came here and spent two nights at the Inn at St. John, and we just loved it.” They decid-



“I hand-pick the stones and build the settings based on what the stones ask for.”

—Holly Hamilton

there of Jillian and Malcolm Bedell’s *Eating In Maine* (Tilbury House, \$22.95), you can take it around the corner to Maps Euro Cafe, soon to open at 64 Market Street, which is actually

ed to stay and create Maps Cafe. “We said, ‘Just give us a basement.’ We’re striving for a living-room feel.”

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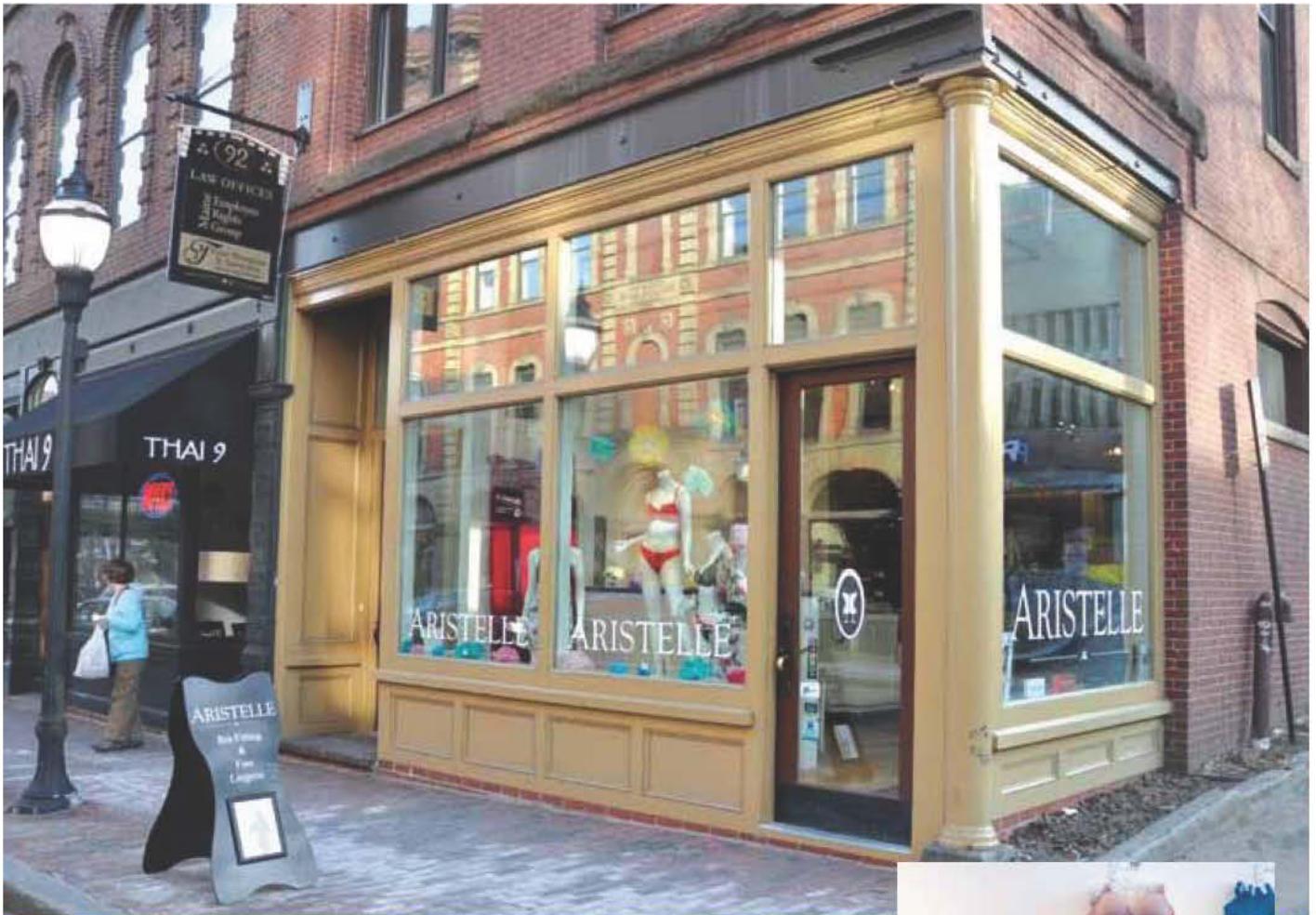
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DOWNTOWN



Fine lingerie fills the picture window at Aristelle on upper Exchange Street and beckons you inside.

LUXURY LACE

Aristelle, the fine lingerie and bra-fitting shop at 92 Exchange, opened just in time for Christmas in the space formerly occupied by Wyler's gifts, homewares, and garments. (Find Wyler's on Maine Street in Brunswick these days.) "It's all about fitting," says owner Andrea King. "We have 150 bra sizes." The store is full of them, as well as other lovely intimate apparel and luxury loungewear. "We do special orders, and maternity. Bra-size swimwear has been really big," which permits mixing tops and bottoms to fit individual body types. There's an Aristelle in Burlington, Vermont, too. "Diana Krall came in and bought a nice set of pajamas."

Fascinatingly, up at 646 Congress Street, another pretty lingerie shop has just come into bloom. Étaín Boutique promises "lovely underpinnings for every lady." Is Portland leading a new trend, like cupcakes or gelato?

"I don't know. Maybe!" says proprietor Mackenzie Morris. "People tell me they love having the selection. Proper fitting is really catching on. People aren't satisfied with Victoria's Secret anymore." Étaín—named for a mythological Irish "goddess of passion"—is bedecked with colorful, frilly little things on dainty wall racks. Toile wallpaper adorns the

"Diana Krall came in and bought a nice set of pajamas."

—Andrea King, Aristelle

spacious fitting room area, which is furnished with an antique mirror and Victorian fainting couch. Like Aristelle, Étaín manages to project a very sweet naughtiness.



GATHERING NO MOSS

The Old Port's always in motion. Blink and you might miss something—remember when Sebago Brewing scooted from the corner of Middle and Market to cushier digs a few blocks away in the Hampton Inn, making space for White Cap Grille? Sadly, the Pepperclub and Good Egg Cafe, beloved for local, healthy, and exuberantly international food for 25 years, will vacate the Old Port this fall to escape the rising rent in their now-very-hot corner of the Old Port. The city's loss may become Kennebunk's gain. We expect a feeding frenzy for Pepperclub's choice location at 78 Middle Street.

Muse Paint Bar—a retail chain concept



"Aaah," New England Cuisine in Kennebunkport

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DOWNTOWN



Rumors swirl around who may become the new tenant for the Paper Patch's former spot on Exchange Street next to b. good burgers.



From the top: Sleek, minimalist-Victorian decor sets the tone at Etain, a pretty new intimate apparel shop on Congress Street; Etain's Mackenzie Morris among her wares. Bottom right: The Paper Patch's former spot on Exchange Street next to b. good burgers.

Opposite from top: Creating fine art and enjoying drinks is the plan at Muse Paint Bar, coming to Commercial Street; Maps Euro Cafe will open this summer on Market St. underneath the new Sherman's Books on Exchange.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: LINDSEY GRIMES, COURTESY MUSE PAINTBAR, LINDSEY GRIMES(D)



for fine-art painting-class parties—is taking over the Commercial Street spot recently vacated by Color Me Mine, a similar chain venture for pottery painting (that will soon reappear at Thompson’s Point). Fancy women’s clothier Carla’s left Fore Street—clearing the way for the arrival of Central Provisions there—and turned up where Emerson’s Books and Maps used to be on Exchange. A branch of Vincenza’s Italian Bakery in Saco’s Pepperell Square is said to be going in a few doors down from Carla’s.

Directly across Exchange, the Paper Patch moved up to more spacious quarters on the corner of Milk Street, where Club 21 used to be. The guys behind the counter at b. good—the friendly, all-natural, totally ethical burger shop on that same block of Exchange—recently shared unsubstantiated rumors about their neighbor storefronts. Such as, that the Paper Patch’s former spot may become a ladies’ boutique, and the now-empty Mornings in Paris coffee shop might soon be a retailer of gourmet jerky. Hey, why not, when Gourmutt Beastro is selling all-natural dog treats right across the street? ■

Deana Lorenzo and Lindsey Grimes contributed to this story.



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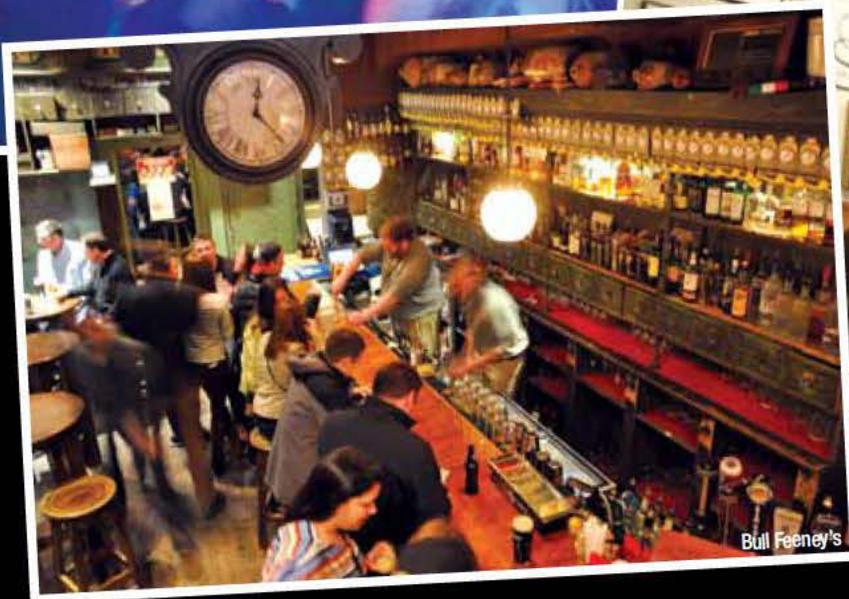
7 Nights in the City

BY OLIVIA GUNN

Early in the journey of my life
I found myself within a forest dark.
And then the lights of Wharf Street
drew me in.

MONDAY
It's 11:30 p.m. on Monday and my boyfriend has the overwhelming urge to play pool. There must be days when every man needs to feign Paul Newman. "All right, hustler, let's go." Old Port Tavern Billiards sits on the corner of Fore Street and Market just across from Bull Feeney's. We pass through the crowd of USM students, whom I assume don't have class the next morning or simply don't care. The live band blasting from the upstairs lounge at Feeney's, backed by Old Port Tavern's '70s-mix, makes for an interesting rendition of "I Got You Babe." There's just one of six tables left, and it's conveniently centered in the room. The ratio of men to women is three to one. These lucky ladies were either dragged into boy's night or finishing off a first date. They can be identified by a giddy smile or bored iPhone stare. I notice one group of guys

MEAGHAN MAURICE (3)



seems to have followed a friend on said first date and show no shame in their “ball” and “pocket” jokes. He blushes at their catcalls and playful insults as his date smiles and secretly wishes they’d gone to her place after dinner. Two games later it’s closing time, and since it’s Monday night, since I left my yoga pants behind for jeans, TOMS, and a sweater, we’re off to find the nearest slice of pizza.

“Hey, kid, we got *three* slices.” The 23-year-old tool nudges his way through the rest of us waiting in line. We’re all relieved he got his much needed, well-deserved slice be-

fore those of us who’ve been in line for 10 minutes. It’s one in the morning, everybody has been drinking, everybody has to drive home, everybody needs a slice, and the teen behind the counter hustles, trying to keep up with orders. Bill’s is a solid retreat to grab food at the end of a long night. Open until 2 a.m., the place appeals to anyone and everyone. Sitting in a booth amid it all, that’s very obvious: “Yo’, Will, yo’, Jeff, yo’, Greg” rings out as more and more bro’s file in. My friend is rudely pushed out of their way, so we decide to give up and split the slice we have. It’s delicious, but at this time of night anything is.

TUESDAY

“What’s she drinking?” “Something that’s not on the menu.” Specialty cocktails are the latest trend in Old Port, or so I’m learning here at Portland Hunt and Alpine Club. The place is brightly lit, chic, and fun. A bar wraps around the front window, tables line up in the middle, and an intimate nook for couples is enclosed with a curtain. A thin, stylish woman with cropped hair sips her no-name wonder from a champagne glass while nibbling popcorn. I order the Witch’s Kiss, a tequila drink—I’m sorry, Agave, an Agave drink—and enjoy the low murmurs of the couples nearby. —>

It's the perfect spot if you're not looking to run into friends or coworkers. Everyone keeps to her/himself, thoroughly enjoying every last drop of her/his delicious choice. The bartenders work magic, measuring each concoction to perfection. Cocktails are an art here at Portland Hunt and Alpine Club, and I dissuade myself from enjoying another masterpiece.

WEDNESDAY

We arrive at Mayo Street Arts with no real expectations, to play it safe. I'd heard of Crow-bait Club through a friend and thought I'd give the monthly play competition a go. Walking into the already packed space, we are certainly strangers in a room full of hysterical "club members." One group stands in the corner shouting across to another group, who shouts to another group, who shouts to the group behind us, and so on. The setup is rather confusing as we pass by a table with cans labeled "WOMEN" and "MEN." Oh, no. My friend glares at me. I swear to her it's nothing kinky, but we take two seats with an easy exit. Beer and wine are passed through a small kitchen window, and those who aren't adding their name to the cans or "playwright" list file in and sit. Soon a man takes center stage and quiets the crowd, yet is continuously interrupted by shouts and "That's what she said" from the back. This is a group of close-knit theater fans, none of whom are working on the next *Les Mis* but look forward to this night with friends, beer, and dialogue. Tonight is Bad Play Night and the writers have gone above and beyond to write their worst. Raunchy is an understatement as the F-word bounces off the walls and the crowd "ughs" and "ewws." Af- →

609 Congress Street

The State Theatre



Restored and reopened to acclaim (with its gilt balconies and Moorish theme, State Theatre is like stepping into a vaulted palace in *New Arabian Nights*). Built in 1929, it operated as a first-run movie house until the 1960s, when it became a porn theater, closing in 1989. Its decline from grand dame cinema status to that of a smut-film street mistress in decades past has been utterly transformed.

Coming Attractions:
May 6, **M.I.A.** 8 p.m.

May 9, **THE MAVERICKS**, 8 p.m.

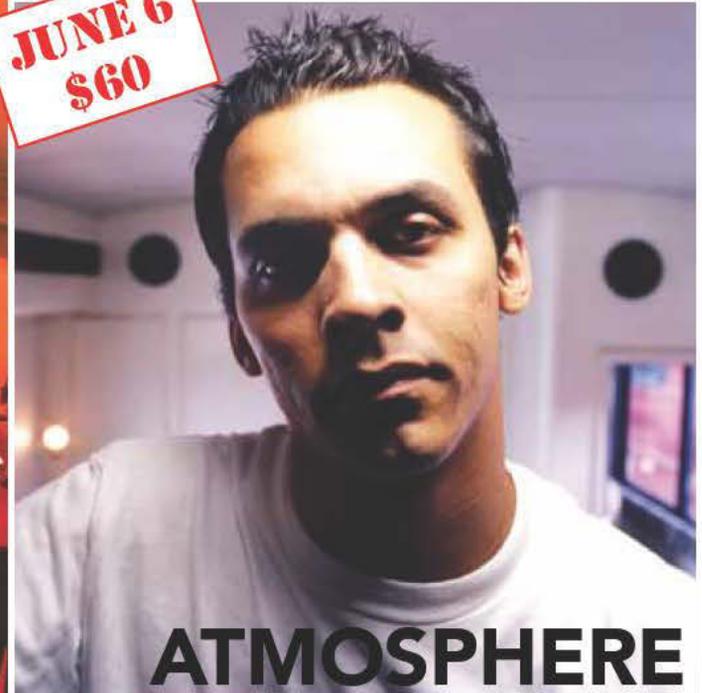
May 10, **PURE PRAIRIE LEAGUE, JONATHAN EDWARDS, LIVINGSTON TAYLOR**, 7 p.m.

June 5, **THE MOTH MAINSTAGE**, 7:30 p.m.

June 15, **PATTY GRIFFIN**, 8 p.m.



JUNE 6
\$60



ATMOSPHERE

David Letterman announced their album as "When Life Gives You Lemons."
Real title: *When Life Gives You Lemons , You Paint That Shit Gold.*

"WE STAY UP LATE EVERY NIGHT, REGRET IT EVERY MORNING, THEN DO IT AGAIN."

– Slug (Sean Daily), 41

After the first act we cast our votes, I for a particularly strange play set in a hotel with surfing sharks. My guest is obviously ready to move on as she breaks away for a smoke. I follow her out, nodding my unacknowledged thank you. Outside, another smoker suggests we stay and act, confessing she's never acted before either but thinks it's fun. Maybe for some, but I'll pass, promising to return next month when the plays aren't so bad.

THURSDAY

After being unreasonably honked at while crossing the "cross-walk" at Commercial and Union (expected on a Thursday past 8 p.m.), I make my way into In'Finiti, eyes peeled for my friend. The place is wide with





Oasis

42 Wharf Street

MAY 24



GATSBY PARTY

**"AND I LIKE LARGE PARTIES.
THEY'RE SO INTIMATE. AT
SMALL PARTIES THERE ISN'T
ANY PRIVACY."**

-F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

The absinthe cobble streets, the lurid Parisian lighting...not a bad place for a bar & music venue.

Coming Attractions:

May 9, **LUAU PARTY**, DJ TINYDANCER on the Patio and DY Royale Upstairs

May 10, **SPARKS TO THE RESCUE** on the Patio DJ TINYDANCER Upstairs

May 17, **BLACK ROSE** on the Patio, DJ Royale Upstairs

May 23, **KILLCOLLINS** on the Patio, DJ Royale Upstairs

May 24, **GATSBY PARTY**, Jazz Quartet on the Patio, DJ TINYDANCER upstairs

One Perfect Night



Cosmos at the Top of the East

an industrial feel. Giant, copper distilleries shine behind the counter, justification for the minimalist bar of 20 or so local/micro brews. Spotting her, I take a seat and am greeted by Chloe, the new bartender from Seattle. “What’s your go-to beer?” She points out the Cannonball XPA, an American Pale Ale for five bucks. “I’ll take it.” My friend orders the cheese platter and is happy to see a new brie. She’s obviously a regular. It’s a quiet place, no music, no TVs. The bar is by no means packed, but singles and couples are placed strategically away from one another, yet close enough to overhear a good topic. “Sangillo’s?” The woman two seats down whips around, hearing my friend, Rachel, describe local dive-bars. “Oh, my God. You’ve got to go to Sangillo’s.” It’s a common occurrence with whomever you meet in a Portland bar that they just can’t help but tell you where you should be drink-

ing. The stranger—Alicia—the bartender Chloe, and Rachel all rave over Sangillo’s one-dollar Jell-O shots, and our present drinks, a perfect Pale Ale and Rachel’s Sorta Toddy—tequila-



based specialty cocktail with a lavender Dolin Blanc (vermouth), cinnamon, and lemon—are eclipsed by cherry-flavored gelatin and well vodka. “You get a shot there and it’s like ‘Hel-

CRAFT COCKTAILS

Cucumber Collins

Black’s Gin, freshly muddled Cucumber, Club Soda, Lime

11

Gold Paloma

Silver 1800 Tequila, Red Grapefruit Juice, Fresh Lime Juice, Agave, Club Soda

13

Caipirinha

Cachaca, Lime, Agave

12

Green Tea & Honey Mojito

Dark Rum, Green Tea, Honey, Mint, Lime

13

Hotel Nacional

Superior Rum, Apricot Brandy, Pineapple Juice, Lime

14

Espresso Martini

Vanilla, Kahlua, Amaretto, Espresso, Cream

13

Pear & Brown Sugar Martini

La Poire, Pear & Brown Sugar infusion, Lemon

14

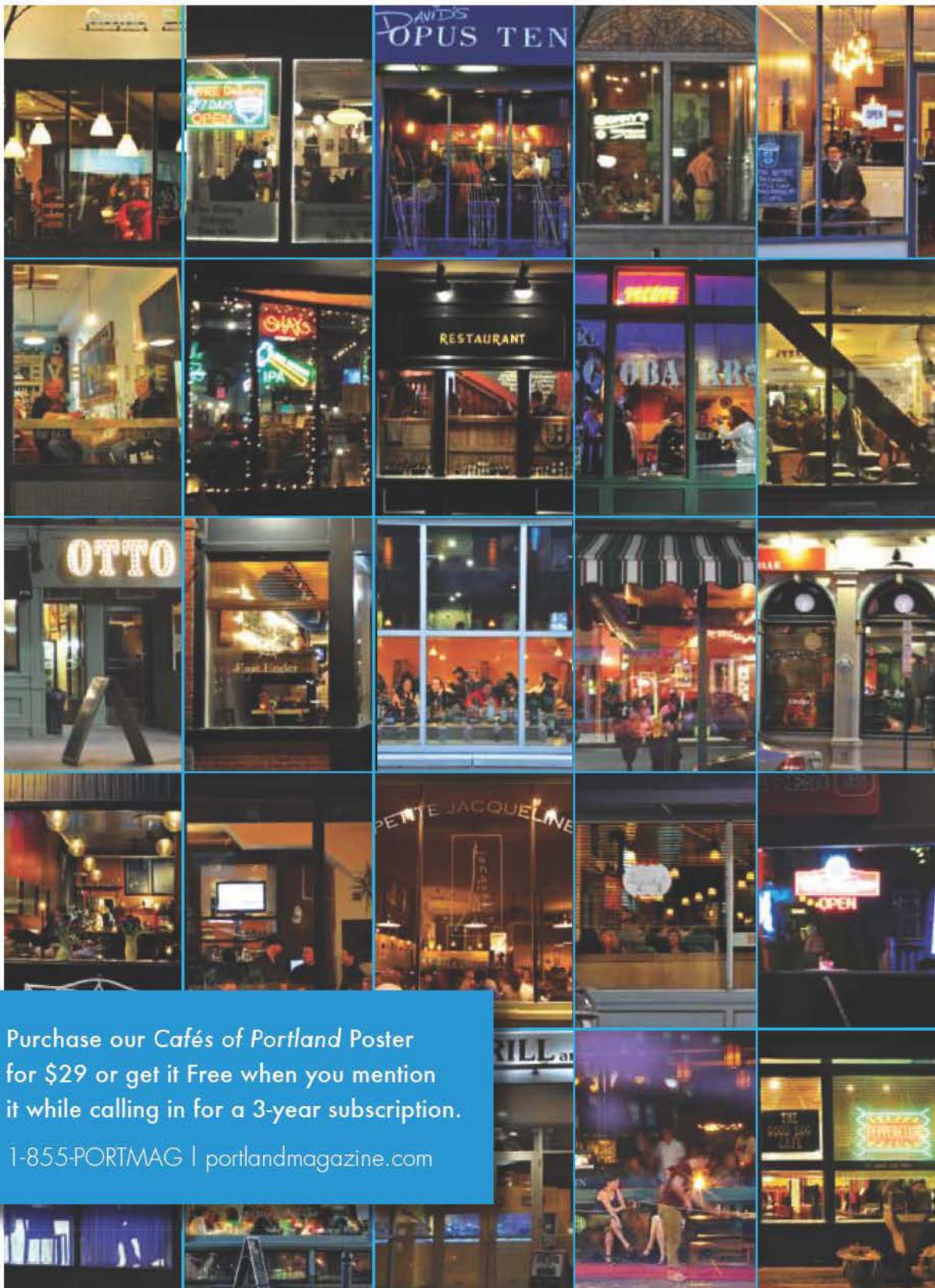
Chocolate & Raspberry Bellini

Dark Chocolate Liqueur, Stoli Razberi, Prosecco, Raspberry Purée

14

lo, Dixie cup,” the three cackle in camaraderie as I pay my tab and realize exactly where I’ll be headed come midnight Friday.

I head up State Street, taking in the particularly flirty swagger of the city this evening. The night is warm, a jumpstart for summer, and the streets are buzzing with those of us who can’t sit still long enough to watch another episode of *Orange is the New Black*. The reggae band, Royal Hammer, is playing at Local 188, and it simply just fits the evening. When entering Local, I’m always a bit reserved, fixing my poise and checking any eagerness at the door. There’s a coolness about Local, and each time, I can’t help noticing the cliques. Tonight it’s no different. Groups of attractive twenty/thirty-somethings lounge on the puffy sofas, reminiscent of *Friends*, and are quick to turn their heads and watch who dare enter the doors of Hipstertopia. Luckily, with my slouchy hat and a wave to nobody in particular at the bar, I



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PORTLAND, Maine's City Magazine

Ever feel blue? Ever hear Blue? Blue, the intimate music venue at 650 Congress, will pull you in from the street. Late night shows a plus; features jazz on Saturdays.

Blue

650 Congress St.



Late Nite Bites

BY CLAIRE Z. CRAMER

It's getting late. You've just emerged from a paranoid dystopian thriller at the Nickelodeon, or Anna Lombard's set at One Longfellow Square. You're hungry.

YOU'RE IN LUCK

"We call it 'reverse' Happy Hour," says Andre Genetti at Boone's on Commercial Street. "From 9 till 11 p.m. Tuesday through



FROM LEFT: MARGINA MARICIC, CHRISTOPHER RECCARDO

Coming Attractions:

Saturdays in May:
JAZZ AT THE BLUE,
 From 6 p.m.

June 13, **THE ACADIAN ACES**,
 10 p.m.

May 16, **SHANNA IN THE ROUND**, 6 p.m. **FOR THE BIRDS**,
 8 p.m. **GUNTHER BROWN**, 10 p.m.

June 14, **HARDY BROTHERS QUARTET** 10 p.m.

June 21, **SEAN MENCHER & HIS RHYTHM KINGS** 8 p.m.

Wednesdays in May:
IRISH SESIUN, 9 p.m.

pass inspection. Making my way through the maze of tables, I spot a seat where I proceed to wait...and wait...and, "Scuse me? Can I get a menu?" By this point my stomach is growling and the scene is closing in on me: beards, flannels, and mom jeans. After indulging in the Spicy Margarita and Garlic Shrimp, I see my friend arrive and we make our way over to the main bar, ordering another drink. By 11 p.m. the band has been playing for an hour, the crowd is tipsy, thus friendlier, and we've made several new acquaintances. The space in front of the band is packed, and it's good to see couples, friends, and strangers grooving together unconsciously, unceremoniously welcoming spring. Local 188, while not always presenting the warmest welcome, wishes me sweet, sweet dreams tonight.



Sonny's is near empty, and of those who are here, 10 of them are men, 40 plus. One in particular can't help but lean in closer and closer —>

Portland Hunt & Alpine Club
 Feeling flush, so we're heading to Hunt & Alpine for craft cocktails and spicy popcorn



ROAM THE COBBLE-STONES

Maybe you've been dancing the night away at Bubba's or Styxx and now you're starved. How about a locally sourced and pedigreed, utterly divine hotdog? Blue Rooster, the diminutive but decadent sandwich shop on Dana Street, has the gourmet bargain. A Junkyard Dog—bacon-wrapped, chili-slathered, and topped with house-made tater tots—is just \$5.

"We're open until 2 every night but Sunday," says Randy Cruse. "People get hungry

late. It can get crowded after the bars close at one. We kind of clear the counters so stuff doesn't get knocked off; it's a good time. There have been situations, but the patrons are helpful if someone needs to be escorted out. We've only called the cops once." Not bad for more than a year of late nights after the bars turn out the lights. 5 Dana St. bluroosterfoodcompany.com

Don't forget Gritty's—the burnished, beloved pub has been here for Portland for 25 years. "We're open till 1 a.m., and the kitchen serves till 11 on Fridays and Saturdays," says bartender Abby Neill. Between the hours of 9 and 11 p.m., "some people need to get a base" if they're planning an evening with pints of Black Fly Stout. A Gritty's Meatloaf Sandwich on a toasted pretzel bun (\$10.99) can be just the thing. 396 Fore St. grittys.com

Buck's Naked BBQ serves up big game until 11 p.m. Thursday through Saturday nights. A Big Buck Combo plate pile-up of brisket, pulled pork, sausage, and pit chicken

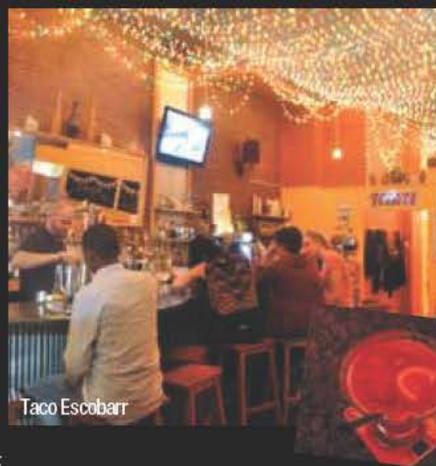
Thursday nights, and 10 to midnight Friday and Saturday, we serve our bar menu for half price and \$3 off wine and beer, with special cocktail prices." In no time, you find yourself on a barstool in Boone's upstairs Oyster Room, gazing out over a row of premium single-malt and vodka bottles into the inky harbor, sipping a \$5 glass of Fess Parker pinot noir with plates of Kung Pao chicken skewers (\$5.50) and pork-and-oyster meatballs (\$3.50) set before you. 86 Commercial St. boonesfishhouse.com



Kushiya Benkay

er, hoping desperately for us to acknowledge him. Finally he asks, "How do you two know each other," making sure we are, in fact, two separate entities. I have the urge to tell him we're dating, but you can never trust that a guy like him will back off with that line. Luckily, it's Thursday and there's a live band, so we really invest ourselves in the singer, Jake Roche, and ignore Don Draper. Sonny's is everyone's favorite bar. I watch as each newcomer is welcomed by name and knows at least one other person seated. It's past 10 p.m. and the bar seems to be getting a steady flow. Soon our first friend is replaced by a younger gentleman who listens as we discuss where to go. He moves in close, unsuccessfully shielding his wedding

ring, and suggests we all go to Sangillo's with him for, you guessed it, Jell-O shots. We smile along and entertain this thought for



Taco Escobarr

less than a minute before Roche distracts us all with his rendition of "Friend of the Devil." Sitting here with my Spicy Pineapple Margarita and The Grateful Dead playing behind me, I'm content and feeling very much a part of the Old Port.

FRIDAY

This is our first stop for the night, and it sets the mood perfectly. Taco Escobarr is my spot when I'm not sure whether I'm hungry or just thirsty. They've got a stacked menu and liquor shelf, so I'm never disappointed. The space is lit by tiny chili pepper lights, green, yellow, red, that cover the entire ceiling and give everyone a warm, sultry look. We take two stools at the end of the bar, and I order my margarita with salt, guac and chips, and a

181 State Street

One Longfellow Square

MAY 25

You never know how they're going to surprise you at this venue on the corner of State and Congress streets.

Coming Attractions:

May 6, **DAVE GUTTER & MIKE TAYLOR**, 8 p.m.

May 16, **DECOMPRESSION**

CHAMBER MUSIC SEASON 6, CONCERT #5: MOZART, 6 p.m.

May 17, **JOE WALSH, BRITTANY HAAS & OWEN MARSHALL WITH LAUREN RIOUX & STEN ISAK**, 8 p.m.

May 18, **OLS SUNDAY JAZZ BRUNCH**, 10 a.m.

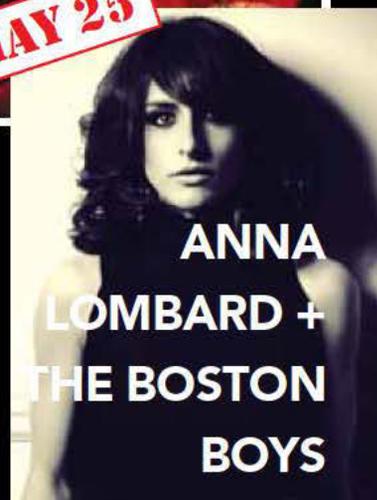
May 25, **ANNA LOMBARD**

& THE BOSTON BOYS, 8 p.m.

May 31, **DUDEFEST 2014: THE BIG LEBOWSKI**, 8 p.m.

June 17, **DUSTBOWL REVIVAL**, 8 p.m.

June 19, **THE PORTLAND JAZZ ORCHESTRA**, 8 p.m.



ANNA LOMBARD + THE BOSTON BOYS



Blue

bloody Mary for my guy. It's not long before we make friends with the couple close by. The girl is drinking a Mayan Ruins, the spiciest cocktail I've ever sipped, and she laughs as we order one ourselves. Devin is a student at one of the local colleges and tells me she's been coming here for the past two years, explaining

it's gone from "sucking" to "great." I ask why she stayed loyal during the bad times. "It was convenient, and they make good infused drinks," she laughs, and I get a sense there's more to that story. After draining our Mayan Ruin (one is enough), we pay our perfectly fair tab and head down Congress.

The place is packed, as usual. Blue, being the designated jazz bar of Portland, tends to attract music buffs, wannabe music buffs, and, at times, your run-of-the-mill music snob, all of whom you can differentiate with a glance around the room (the buffs delight in talking to you about a band you've heard of, the snobs in talking to you about a band you haven't heard of). But tonight is to be a good night for

Blue, a good night for couples who can groove to any Sam Cooke while knowing a bit of Sinatra on the side. We squeeze ourselves into a space between a couple from CA campaigning cross-country and the bar. My friend Colleen serves our drinks, suggesting the Bantam cider. She tells us we're going to love the band, The Evan King Group, and by the looks of front-woman Ms. King, I already do. She's ultra-'40s femme with vixen red hair and a fitting black dress. She and her band seduce us with Al Green and Jill Scott. King plays with the audience, encouraging us to sing along, and we do, to Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On," as Tim, the bar's regular volunteer musician, keeps the tempo on tambourine. With my man's arms around me as we watch a soulful

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MEAGHAN MAURICE(2), COURTESY OF ANNA LOMBARD, OLIVIA GUNNI(2), MEAGHAN MAURICE

PORTLAND AFTER DARK

is \$17.99. If this sounds overwhelming, catfish fingers with ancho mayo (\$8.99) might be a little daintier with your mojito. 50 Wharf St. bucksnaked-bbq.com

SETTLE IN

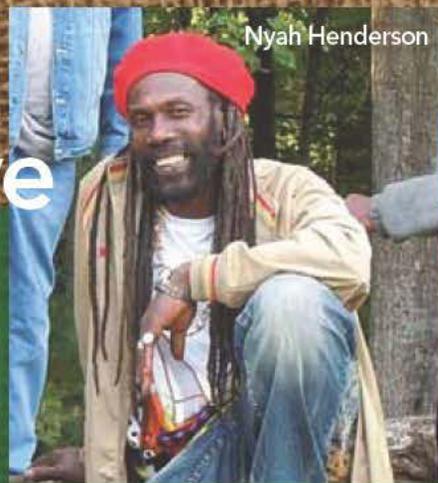
Have an all-American pub dinner and a cold pint of Lake Trout stout brewed with the clear waters of Sebago Lake at Sebago Brewing Co.'s spacious storefront on the ground floor

of the Hampton Inn until 1 a.m. Sebago excels with classics like beer-battered fish and chips. "We do a late-night happy hour with \$6 apps and \$6.99 burgers from 10 to 1 a.m. and a dollar off draft beers—it's pretty popular," says manager Ben Ellis. Sounds like good food for watching sports. "Oh yeah. Last night we had all seven TVs on the Red Sox. They won." When the mood strikes, the most expensive thing on the menu is the New York strip steak at \$23.99. Twelve ounces of Angus with blue cheese butter just might answer the call of the wild when the Yankees come to Fenway. 211 Fore St. sebagobrewing.com

If you'd rather skip the game, the North Point at 35 Silver Street has a good selection of wine by the glass to enjoy with a cheese plate or sandwiches like the Havana Cubano (\$13) until midnight on



Rasta Maine Vibrations...Positive



Nyah Henderson

MEET TWO PERFORMERS

"You want to see me play live for sure," says Nyah Henderson of Stream Reggae. "We've got something at the Eastern Promenade, on Munjoy Hill. I've played every corner and crevice in the Old Port: Brian Boru, Merrill Auditorium, Asylum, The Big Easy, the Porthole, State Theatre, Old Port Tavern, Port City Music Hall. We've performed from Martha's Vineyard to UMaine Orono & Bar Harbor. We've opened for Burning Spear, Third World, Luciano."

David Gagne, 57, has been doing the Boothbay reggae cruise every Sunday for 25 years. Early gigs: "Sugarloaf, the Bag, Raoul's Roadside Attraction. I've opened for The Wailers. "I plays about 230 days of the year, sometimes with my band the Dani Tribesmen.

"One night, at Raoul's, I got a note after the show from Winston Grennan, who'd been in the audience. It said "Can I play with you?" He was one of the original

Maytals. I recorded with him.

"My wife and I also sing as a duo—catch us at Sunday Brunch at McSeagulls in Boothbay Harbor." ■

GIANT PANDA GORILLA DUB SQUAD, May 9 Empire 9:30 p.m.

STREAM REGGAE *Peace Jam*, May 17 Harmony, 8:30 p.m.

THE ROYAL HAMMER May 25, Peaks Island 12 p.m.

THE ROYAL HAMMER May 31, Kelley's Row, Dover, NH 9 p.m.

STREAM REGGAE Jun. 1 The Brunswick in OOB 1 p.m.

STREAM REGGAE, Jun. 8 & 23 Litchfield Bar & Grill 1pm.

STREAM REGGAE Jun. 14 Festival of Love, Harmony

CATCHA VIBE Reggae Sundays mid-May to Sept. at Carmen Verandah, Bar Harbor 6 p.m.

Catch the **DANI TRIBESMEN** every Sunday, May 25 through September 2 at 6 p.m. for the Reggae Music Cruise leaving from McSeagull's in Boothbay Harbor.

weekends (and 10 p.m. during the week). northpoint-portland.com

CONGRESS STREET AFTER THE SHOW

The curtain just dropped on Portland Symphony's presentation of *Don Quixote* and you want a spot for drinks and spicy, salty snacks in which to talk it over. It's a possible dream—just turn west on Congress Street and discover a great white way of late-night snacks. Nosh is known for its hopping bar, towering burgers, and spiced-up, much-in-demand fries made from Lewiston-grown potatoes—dip the sea salt and vinegar version (\$6) into exotic condiments from chipotle mayo to Thai peanut sauce. Eat and drink seven

nights a week until 12:45 a.m. 551 Congress St. noshkitchenbar.com

Across the street at 548 Congress Street, Taco Escobarr is serving \$5 wings or nachos from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. every night. On Monday nights, you can have your tarot cards read while you sip your margarita. A stone's throw farther toward Congress Square, there's Otto's flagship pizza parlor at 576. The people who somehow taught us to love butternut squash and ricotta on our pizza keep the sit-down cafe open till 1 a.m. on weekends, and the slice shop until 2 a.m.

Head farther west across High Street and discover Kushiya Benkay at 653 Congress. The Old Port's old-favorite sushi pioneers, Benkay, opened this Japanese pub-style restaurant in the space that has held restaurants celebrating many ethnicities over the years. It's headquarters for grilled meats and seafood on skewers—including chicken livers, smelts, and baby octopus. Kushiya keeps grilling until 2 a.m. Thursday through Saturday, which is handy after a show at the State, One Longfellow, or Blue—or after extra innings at Hadlock Field—when you're craving all things spicy, grilled, and exotic with sake. You can't miss the *Rock and Roll Benkay/\$2 Skewers till 2 a.m.* sign outside. ■

RiRa



Tessa, Kara, and our new friend Kevin

couple swing around, Blue hits the perfect note tonight. We stay until the very last song, Ella Fitzgerald's "Make Love to You," and head home humming the lyrics: "I can tell by the way you walk that walk..." The Evan King Group plays every first Friday at Blue, so you can find me there on June 6.

Seafood dinners with the parents by day, loudest bar with the longest line by night. This, my friends, is Bull Feeney's. The scent of seafood and too many college dudes in one space can be overwhelming on a weekend, but never judge a bar by its stink. It just shows character. The band tonight is the Dapper Gents, a popular group in Portland that draws a good crowd. I show up early to avoid any potential line, order a Coke, and wait for the band. They are scheduled to start at 9:30, but by the sounds of it (*check, check*), I won't be hearing anything until 10. I chat up the bartenders, check bits of the Sox game, and people watch until I hear, "HEY...HO." I carry my stuff to the neighboring room and take a corner to observe. The song is by the popular band The Lumineers, and the Dapper Gents are doing just fine with

their own version. I watch as more and more girls flutter up to the stage, twirling in their carefully chosen, tiny Urban Outfitters' dresses. It's maybe 50 degrees, but these dolls are ready for summer and even more ready to get the front-man's number. Eventually a couple shimmies up, pulling their burly, Sperry-shoed friend along. They move to Sublime's "What I Got," and I can't help but miss my freshman year of college. A young couple must notice my nostalgia; the girl invites me to sit with them. I decline but ask if they're dating. The guy, Eric, grins, "Not yet." His date, Erin, blushes. They're from Auburn and never miss the chance to visit Bull Feeney's. "It's my absolute favorite spot," Erin confesses. "I mean, sometimes I go to Amigo's to pregame, but I can't come to the Old Port and not come here." I see Eric is ready for one-on-one time with Erin, so I leave them and head out before the crowd gets too big. Had I been with a group of friends, I absolutely would have stayed to dance the night away, playing 19 with the rest of the 25-year-olds.

SATURDAY After flashing our new Maine →

Merrill Auditorium

20 Myrtle Street

1 NIGHT ONLY
MAY 8, \$40

With fabulous acoustics, the Merrill Auditorium at Portland City Hall will wake up summer with an ambitious schedule, from comedy to symphony to Italian opera.

Coming Attractions:

May 10, **AN EVENING WITH ROBERT KLEIN & ROBERT WUHL** 8 p.m.

May 11, **HARRY POTTER & THE MAGIC OF MUSIC** 2:30 p.m.

June 17, **AN AMERICAN IN PARIS** Portland Symphony Orchestra 7:30 p.m.

July 23 & 25, Giuseppe Verdi's **RIGOLETTO** presented by PortOpera 7:30 p.m.

August 17, **JACKSON BROWNE** 8 p.m.

Summer King for a Day

BY CLAIRE Z. CRAMER

Even by opera-star standards, bass Kenneth Kellogg gets around. In his travels, he's sung Colline in *La Bohème* and Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd* at San Francisco Opera; he was Il Re in *Aida* in Atlanta, and at Washington National Opera he was Angelotti in *Tosca*.

On May 8, he'll appear at Merrill Auditorium in the world premiere of *The Summer King*, an original opera by University of Southern Maine music professor Daniel Sonenberg, 43. *The Summer King* tells the tragic story of Negro League baseball star Josh Gibson. Gibson's untimely death in 1947 just 3 months before Jackie Robinson broke the Major League Baseball color barrier kept him from the fame and recognition he almost would surely have received.

What is your favorite line in *The Summer King*?

It's in Sam's aria which comes as he's holding Joshua after he's taken his last breath. He describes Joshua as "a Joshua without God's invitation, never allowed to cross the Jordan River." This speaks volumes to Gibson's importance to the Negro League players... Unlike the Biblical Joshua, whom God parted the Jordan River for, Joshua Gibson wasn't allowed to [cross into] the big leagues.

Tell us about getting into character. Did Gibson really have a friend named Sam?

From my research Gibson was the best play-

er to play the game of baseball. The Babe Ruth of the Negro Leagues or Babe Ruth was the Joshua Gibson of the big league, depending on your frame of reference. My surprise was that I never heard of him. Yes, he had a friend named Sam. Sam Howard Bankhead played in the Negro Leagues and with the Dragones de Ciudad Trujillo along with Satchel Paige and Joshua Gibson.

Have you ever been here before?

I've been to Maine but not officially. I was doing a show in sunny Florida, and Daniel wanted me come to Maine to sing Sam's aria and to participate on a panel discussion at the university. So I flew up to be part of the panel and I spent less than 24 hours here. I didn't even bring a coat. I had to run from car to building because it was so cold here. From what I was able to see in the blur, I want to visit the coast, some of the islands, and eat as much lobster and clams as my stomach can stomach. ■



Kenneth Kellogg



Lori-Kaye Miller

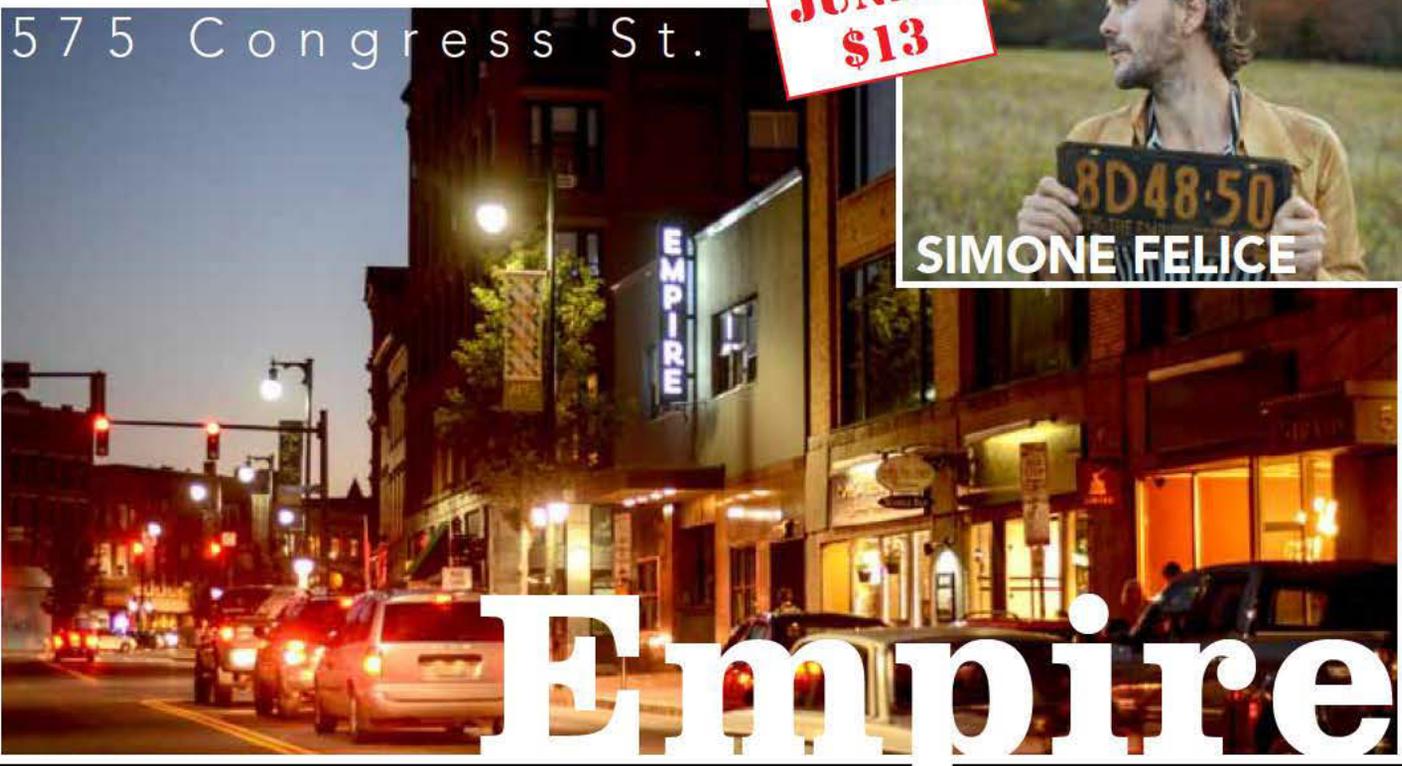
Mezzo-soprano Lori-Kaye Miller plays Josh Gibson's wife, Grace.

"My favorite line I sing is toward the end of the opera when Grace argues with Josh before her aria and asks him, "What kind of King has to leave home to reign?" For some reason, that line means so many different things to me and maybe even to Grace at that time.

"In my childhood, my Dad talked about Jackie Robinson and Hank Aaron, but never anything about Josh Gibson."

575 Congress St.

JUNE 5
\$13



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—NPR

Empire's famed for Wednesday night "Clash of the Titans" competitions where local bands face off with dueling covers. You'll come for the dumplings downstairs at Empire Chinese and stay for the music upstairs.

Coming Attractions:

May 9, **GIANT PANDA GUERRILLA DUB SQUAD** 9:30 p.m.

May 10, **WAYLON SPEED & WHALE OIL** 9:30 p.m.

May 15, **GRIZFOLK** 9:30 p.m.

June 5, **SIMONE FELICE**, 10 p.m.

—■ licenses to the unenthused security, my boyfriend and I push past what I like to refer as the "Gritty's loiterers," the patrons who stand in the middle of the doorways and cast irritated glares as you are forced to nudge your way through. I suggest keeping your eyes forward and ignoring the catty insults from the 35-year-old decked in Forever 21. There's always a live band, and when we arrive around 9:30 they're just setting up. Agreeing it's too nice to be upstairs sweating, we head down to the basement, where another more intimate bar awaits. The bartender pours my Hornitos, and when asked to explain the difference between the Plata and Reposado he offers a short

history on barrel-aged tequilas vs. steel-fermented tequilas, and a sample of both. Impressed, I leave a decent tip. We notice our friends outside and join them, crowding around a small table of mixed drinks and packs of smokes. This is the perfect spot for our starter drink, and we take note of which direction the crowds are headed tonight.

Ri Ra is like that guy you desperately fell for junior year but couldn't get past his flirting and over-partying. I love the idea of Ri Ra. They always have a live band playing great covers, a giant bar, and plenty of floor space. The problem? Everyone else loves the idea of

Ri Ra, too. I enter the bar and immediately feel overwhelmed. The place is full to capacity, and my ears aren't quick enough to adjust to the volume level bursting out of the speakers. How couples are dancing is beyond me. All I can tell is, the song involves drums and a guitar. What the other band members and singer are doing is unclear. I try to squeeze past a group of men who've volunteered as the body inspectors for the evening. Maybe it's the timing, maybe it's the crowd, but I can't seem to shake the bad feeling. I wait to order a drink I know I won't see for another 10 minutes, and before I know it, my group decides to split. Ri Ra was too much of a good thing —>

Port City Music Hall

504 Congress Street

Port City Music Hall takes you downtown and means it. Look for top-flight performers here in many categories.

Coming Attractions:

May 10, **FOGCUTTERS & KENYA HALL BAND**, 8 p.m.

May 16, **PARDON ME DOUG**, 8 p.m.

May 17, **THE AWESOME**, 8 p.m.

June 6, **ROBERT EARL KEEN**, 8 p.m.

June 13, **MODEL AIRPLANE**, 8 p.m.

June 18, **MELANIE MARTINEZ**, 7 p.m.

June 20, **SISTER SPARROW**, 8 p.m.

June 22, **REEL BIG FISH**, 8 p.m.

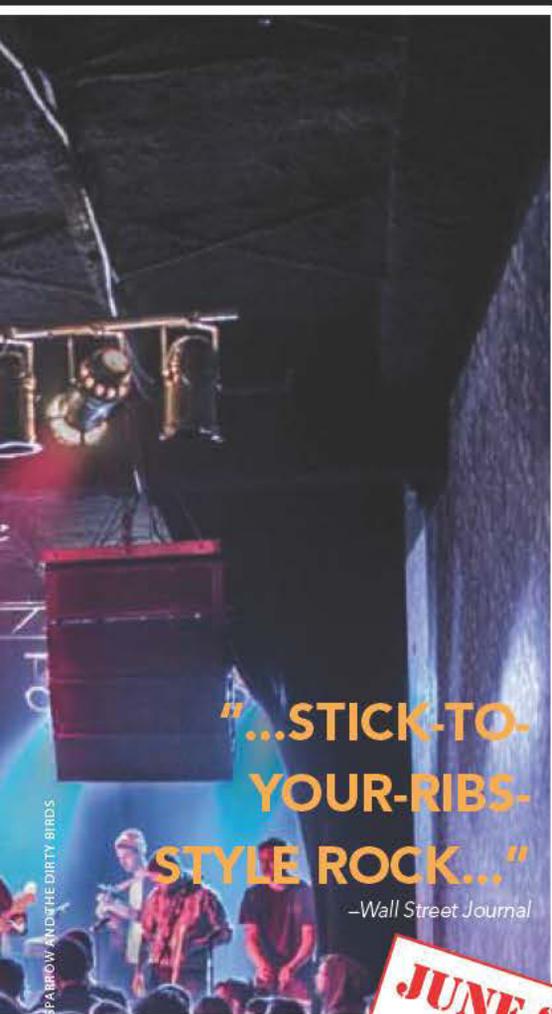
—■ tonight, and I'm ready for something a little simpler.

Sitting here, listening to roots musicians Adela and Jude, it's hard to imagine that half an hour ago I was fighting my way through a swarm of middle-aged singles for a beer at Ri Ra. It's a relaxing night at Andy's, and though we're too late to order food, our server, Rick Marsh, offers us samples of his smoked almonds and pistachios. Andy's is calming and warm, a good break from the louder bars in

Old Port. If you're looking for a spot to actually hear the musicians and your companions, Andy's is your best bet. Rick points to the free popcorn in the back, but we're all set. Andy's has given us the re-boot we needed before taking on the last two hours of our Saturday night.

In *Silver House Tavern*, the entire bar bursts into the chorus of "What's Up," the '90s one-hit-wonder by 4 Non Blondes and the biggest hit of tonight's karaoke. It might be the booze singing, but every single one of us thinks we're

in tune as we continue to belt, some of us even doubling over with emotion, the lines "Hey-yeah-yeah-yeah, Hey-yeah-yeah..." It's that single moment we've all been waiting for. That moment you've worked for all week when you forget the money you just blew on Absolut shots, share a phantom microphone with a stranger, and convince yourself you've just met your soul mate. This song has just inspired a battle of one-ups, and we all rush for the song binder to make our selections. "What about Gold Digger?" "I can't read that fast." As we



"...STICK-TO-YOUR-RIBS-STYLE ROCK..."

—Wall Street Journal

**JUNE 20
\$12**



SISTER SPARROW

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: COURTESY PORT CITY MUSIC HALL; JOSHUA FRANCIS, MEGHAN MORICE(3); COURTESY SISTER SPARROW AND THE DIRTY BIRDS

push and shove, spilling a drink on the pool table, a leather-skirted chick struts up to the mic and dares to take on "Black Velvet," the only song you've seen your mother polish off an entire glass of red to. She takes charge of the room and we all quiet; she needs no backup or lyrics. The song ends, the room sobers for a moment, and my dreams of wowing them with "Mamas, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Cowboys" are dashed. All right, the point of karaoke is to sing badly. Deep down we know we can't sing; that's why we came →



The Armory in the Portland Regency

Tuck Into a Hotel Bar

Hotel bars are one of the easiest ways to feel away from it all, an explorer in your own city. Beyond, they're safe, out of the wind—a welcome combination of intimacy and distance.

Start at the heart of the Old Port, deep within the Portland Regency Hotel. The Armory is wood-paneled, dark, and clubby, just the sort of place to meet 007 for a...

blueberry mojito? "I make a ton of those in the summer," says bartender Mike. "I muddle the berries with the mint—it's delicious." He also recommends the espresso martini. "We have an under-appreciated food menu. It comes from the same kitchen as the four-star restaurant upstairs."

He's right. The Armory's burger easily makes the list of best-in-Portland. 20 Milk St., theregency.com

Another hideaway we love is the bar in the lobby beside Eve's At The Garden in the Portland Harbor Hotel on Fore Street. It's a great place to take it all in and sometimes catch a glimpse of celebrity guests (including Martin Scorsese). ■



The Shipyard Bar & Lounge in The Residence Inn



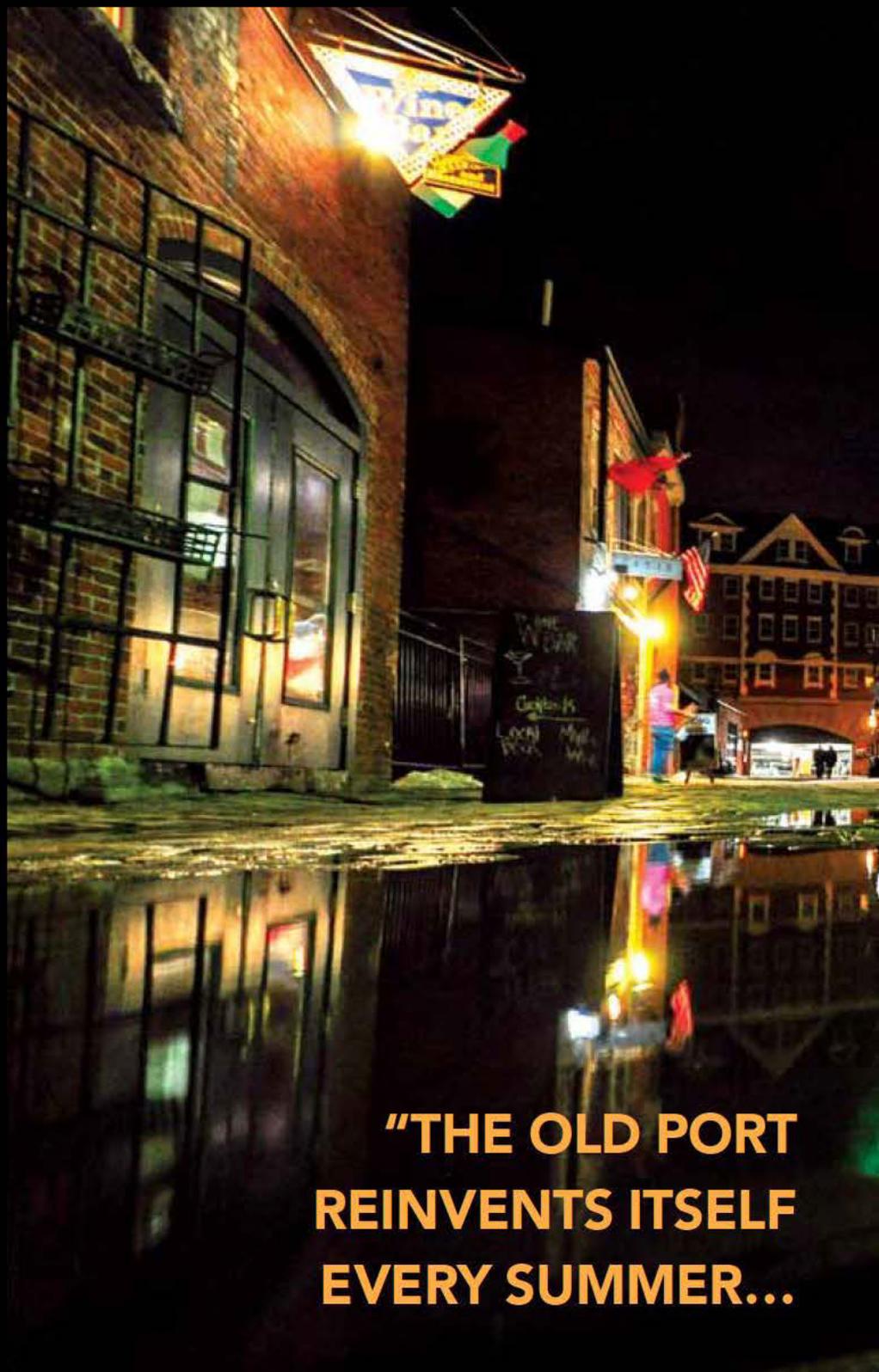
Eve's at the Garden in Portland Harbor Hotel

to Silver House, where everybody sounds like Adele.

There's barely enough room to move, but when the song is right, we all sync up. There's an hour left to the night, and no one is shy. It's all or nothing at this point, so both girls and guys are taking the leap and asking for a dance. Old Port Tavern has turned from the first place we send a tourist to a pheromone-drenched nightclub where everyone is hoping to leave with someone. It's here where hipster and bro find even ground because, quite frankly, they don't notice one another. We're all much too busy getting busy, and as the DJ starts "Blurred Lines," the only person you're focused on is the one you're dancing with. Though the twenties have taken the dance floor, there's an older crew lingering around the bar and we're lucky enough to catch the attention of a woman who offers to order our beers. "Have fun," she shouts and passes us two bottles. The dance floor is a different world, with green laser lights cutting through the thick air. "Happy Birthday, Alexis, this one's for you," the DJ shouts over the speakers. Alexis and her friends cheer, and it's on to the next song. Thirty minutes later we're exhausted, unable to keep up with the rest. It's time for us to go, but it's certain Old Port Tavern will be going strong until the very last minute.

SUNDAY

My head is spinning while trying to read the list of beers above the bar. With 25 taps and over 500 bottled beers, Novare Res is no place for the Coors fan. I try to play it cool and order the first beer I can pronounce, "High and Mighty Two Headed Beast." Oh, God, what have I done? The waitress smiles, knowing I'm lost. Here folks know their beers or have at least experimented enough to make educated guesses. A person like me is simply confused. Having never been able to turn down any beer that's handed to me, I'm no snob. With long picnic tables inviting groups to mingle with others, it's a great opportunity to ask someone what they're drinking and why without feeling like a creep. I mean that's why we're here, right? We all love beer. The place is a bit dungeon-like for my taste, but there's a small room in the back with a fireplace and big, comfy chairs. I'm sold. Now and only now do I wish it were still January. Next time, though, I hope to be drinking

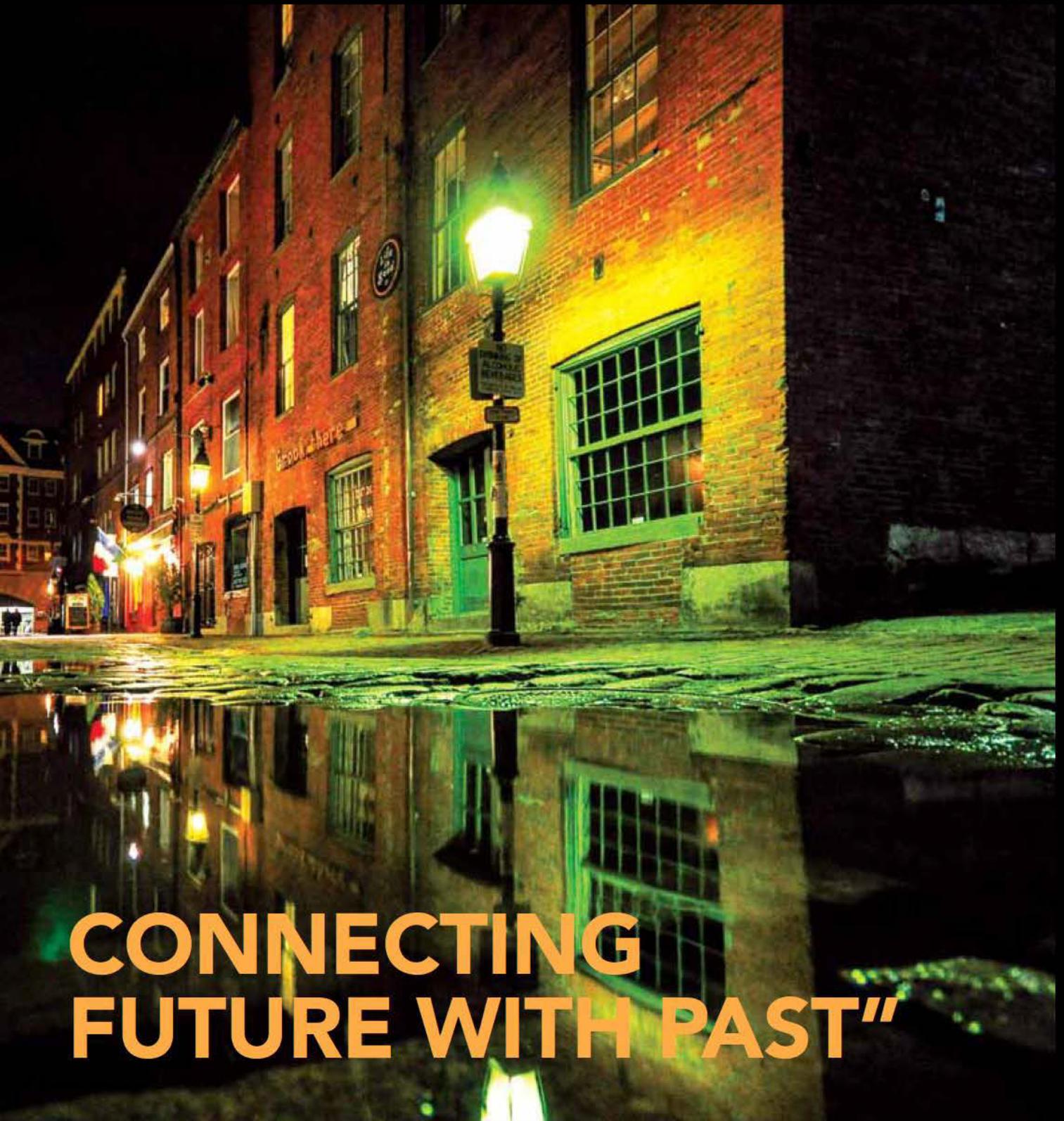


"THE OLD PORT REINVENTS ITSELF EVERY SUMMER..."

my fancy-schmancy draught on the deck with sunshine and friends.

Having no guest, I hand my extra ticket over to the box office at Merrill Auditorium before waiting in line at concessions. "Tonight is a special night," I'm told, and I'm

allowed to take my Allagash White into the concert hall. A very friendly woman leads me to my seat, and I'm shocked to see how full the space is. I wasn't expecting this large audience but am happy I'm not alone. Bobby McFerrin is playing tonight, a promise that summer is really nearly here.



CONNECTING FUTURE WITH PAST"

Though he's a 10-time Grammy winner, I unknowingly assume I'll be hearing "Don't Worry Be Happy," which I'm more excited for than you'd think. As I look over the line-up, I realize I'm in for something quite different. McFerrin and his band will be playing well-known Americana. The crowd

is familiar with most of the songs, and when three audience members are invited on stage, five show up. We're all proud when these Portlanders impress Mr. McFerrin with their voices. I think he's even a bit surprised. One singer in particular, a young man named Chaz, makes his way to

the stage a second time and the two scat back and forth. The show brings Portland to its feet, and at the end of a long week, Merrill Auditorium provides me with an enlightening cultural event. This summer we can look forward to classic acts like Jackson Browne and Gordon Lightfoot. ■

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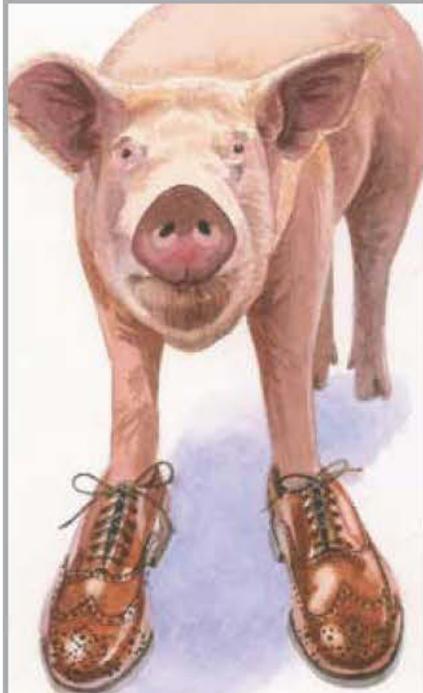
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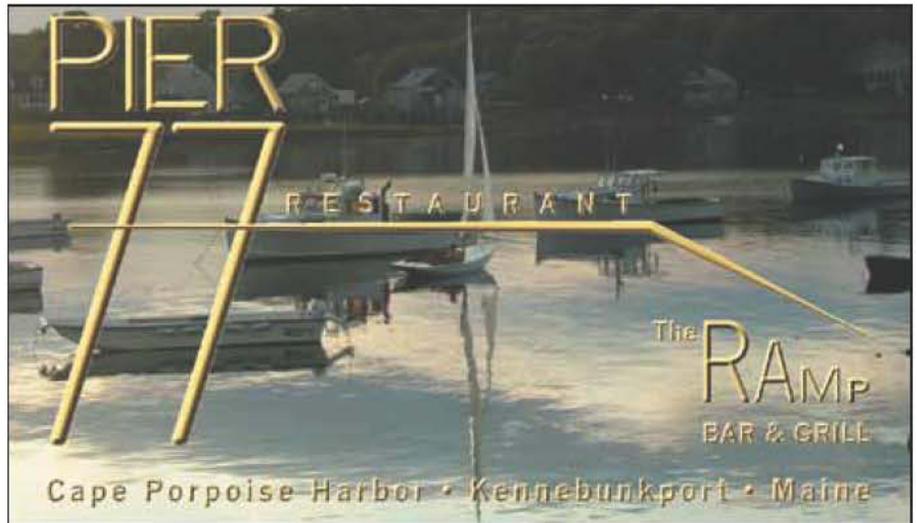
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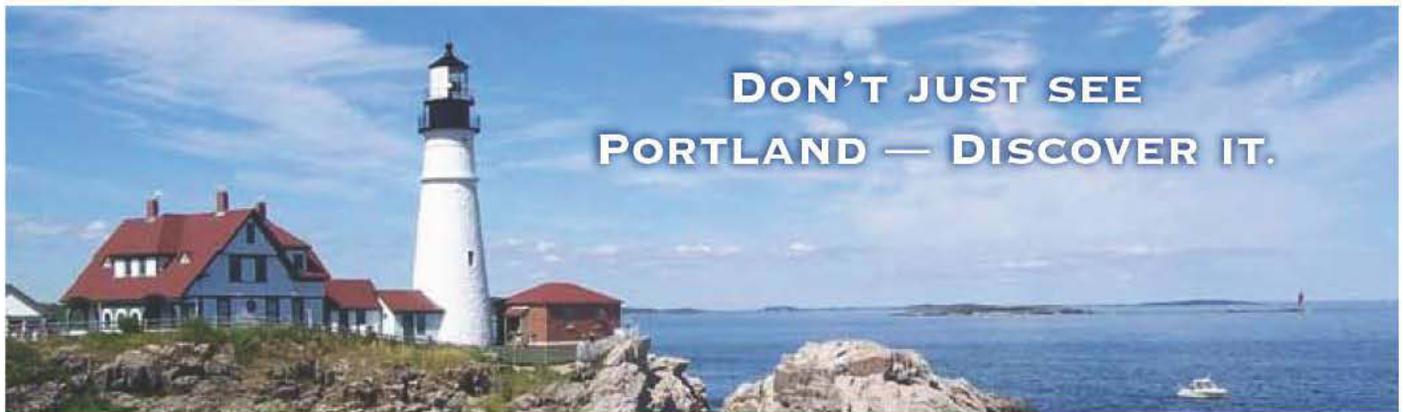


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"We are here, Lafayette," at the newly restored Storer Mansion in Kennebunk.

BY COLIN W. SARGENT

Restored for modern living, Kennebunk's fabulous Storer Mansion remembers the world under sail.

How many Maine homes can say, "Lafayette visited here"? How many can add, "and the tree that grew on this lawn became the emblem for our town crest?"

The Lafayette Elm gave shade to the Marquis de Lafayette when he visited the Storer Mansion in Kennebunk on June 25, 1825. The landmark was once described as floating over the lawn for two centuries "like a giant green cloud" that rose to 131 feet before Dutch elm disease claimed it in 1969.

Its magnificent absence today still haunts the lovely Col. Joseph A. Storer Mansion (1758), along with the ghost of historical novelist Kenneth Roberts (1885-1957), who was born in a second-floor bedroom here.

Listed recently for \$625,000, the Federal manse boasts interiors that have been exquisitely decorated by artist David Wiggins, the for-





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TALKING WALLS

mer owner “who lived here and renovated” the Federal landmark *in situ*, says broker Maureen Adams Weaver. In particular, the spacious dining room delights with hand-painted murals that depict “the travels of a Kennebunk sea captain,” with panels showing The Tropics, Europe, Boston, and then, near the massive fireplace (one of six), safe passage Home to the Kennebunk River. Deftly, a wet bar is to add a splash of verisimilitude to this voyage.

The gourmet Colonial-style kitchen, featuring mustard-hued paneling accented with beadboard interiors; black soapstone counters; and 21st century appliances is just the ticket for entertaining guests swanning around in the three enormous rooms downstairs. Follow the original staircase and rail upstairs and you’ll find three bedrooms. In one of them, Wiggins has designed a frieze that shows facing silhouettes of Lafayette and Washington.

“This is where they say Kenneth Roberts [*Arundel, Rabble in Arms, Northwest Passage, Boon Island*] was born,” Weaver, a Kennebunker herself, says.

With early paneling throughout, much of it bolstered by tasteful restoration, ancient brass hardware, and many original wide floorboards—some Period-perfect in black and white diamonds—this is one yare showplace where you can unpack your sea trunk.

The classic post-and-beam barn has a tree growing through it (with windows inside to watch it grow), an in-law apartment, and massive barn doors that slide together and apart under power like pocket doors (engineering by Door Services Inc.). Taxes are \$6,114.

N.B. This story completes an eccentric Kenneth Roberts triangle for *Portland Magazine*. We’ve covered Roberts’s 1938 stone estate, Rocky Pasture, in Kennebunkport; Stall Hall in Kennebunk Beach (1925); and now this house, his birthplace, as feature stories. Only Blue Roof, his writing studio across the road from Stall Hall (both face the first hole at Webhannet Golf Club), remains. Better yet, next stop, “The Half-Baked Palace,” Roberts’s get-away villa in Italy. ■



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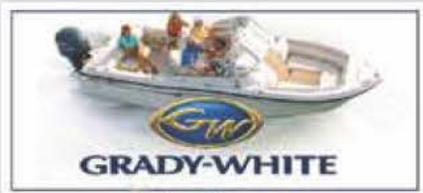
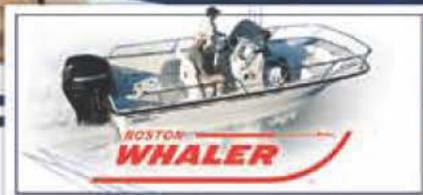
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Musket Mythology

Just how many arms did Revolutionary-era Mainers bear?

BY COLIN S. SARGENT

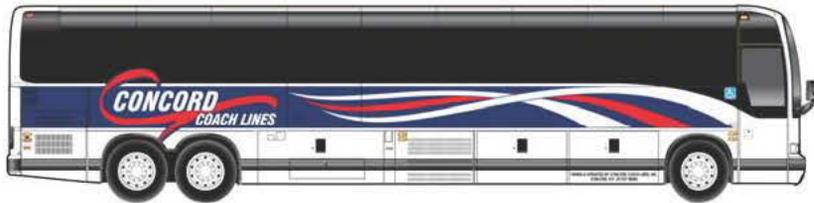


The history most Mainers learn back in our hazy school days about the Revolutionary War suggests guns were to be found everywhere and were available to equip almost everyone.

Maine.gov claims “most men, like Daniel Sullivan, joined a local militia unit to serve for a three- or nine-month stint, subject to a call-up in response to a nearby emergency; others joined what was known as the Regular Continental Army for three years or for the duration of hostilities.” But were there firelocks enough swimming around to justify the image of every man in Maine tugging on his tricorner and shouldering his musket?

In 1770, there were about 31,300 people living in the part of Massachusetts called Maine today, according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census. As Stephen A. Schmidt, consultant to James D. Julia, a market leader in firearms auctions, says, there were barely enough firearms in the whole of the Thirteen Colonies to arm every Mainer; “Fifty thousand guns in colonial Amer-





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PERSPECTIVES

ica is a pretty easy number. If you're going to say a hundred thousand, that's probably reaching pretty far." How many of those could have been in Maine? Since there were two million people in the colonies at the time, that's only about one gun for every twenty people when legend has it we had a gun in every farmhouse. What's it today? A little over four in ten in Maine, reports the CDC from a nationwide survey. John Adams bemoaned the universal shortage of arms in 1777: "*They [the militia] are distressed for want of arms. Many have none, we shall rake and scrape enough...by favor of Heaven.*" The guns just weren't there. Though Maine locals defended Machias successfully against a tiny force in 1779, they were of little use in the much more important Penobscot expedition to try to retake Castine from the British. In any case, Maine's population today is far better armed and far better equipped than we were at the dawn of the Revolutionary War.

Firearms, even smoothbore muskets, were expensive outlays until the Industrial Revolution half a century later brought mass production and replaceable parts to truly arm the masses. American gun production, even for the military, didn't even get off the ground until the 150,000 production run of the 1795 Springfield musket—shooting to pieces the urban myth that our Founding Fathers were born with guns in their hands—and most of those were converted to rifled muskets for use in the American Civil War. Gunpowder and firearms were also highly expensive, so much so that the Continental Army had chronic powder shortages throughout the entire war.

Why, then, does this image of mass participation and firearms ownership in the time of the Revolution exist? The answer lies in the political battles in the wake of the Revolution and our self-delusion that American determination was mostly responsible for the success of the revolution, when the American colonies were trying to knit themselves into a country. A standing army was thought to be a liability by those who wanted a weak, inexpensive central government, so rosy pictures were painted of a militia effectiveness that never was. Further, even the American military suffered greatly until French financing and training created a far more professional force. But what was the

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2014 Calendar of Events

For more information on these events,
go to visitogunquit.org.

May 25-27: Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt
– on display each day at the Dunaway Center, School Street. Sponsored by the NAMES Project Northern New England Chapter. 207-646-1195.

June 21: The Great Race – 100 vintage cars will be in Ogunquit from the 18th -21st and leaving from Ogunquit Beach the morning of June 21st. Ogunquit is the starting line for their 2,400 mile time speed endurance rally for vintage cars which ends at The Villages, Florida. FMI 207-646-2939

June 22: 4th Annual Ogunquit Lifeguard Dash
– Noon start at Ogunquit Beach. Benefits Ogunquit Lifeguard Rescue equipment. 5K beach run. T-shirts for the 1st 300. Christianslifeguarddash.com.

July 4: Fireworks! For more information: visitogunquit.org.

August 21: 41st Annual Sidewalk Art Show and Sale – More than 70 artists showcase & sell their work on the sidewalks & parking lots of downtown Ogunquit. Rain date: August 22.

August 24: Run for the Fallen – 5K Run/Walk, 207-646-1125. runforthefallenmaine.org.

August 30: Annual Labor Day Weekend Sidewalk Sale – Rain date of August 31.

September 1-14: 24th Annual Capriccio – Two-week long, town-wide Festival of the Arts. ogunquitperformingarts.org.

September 13: 13th Annual Lobster Dash – 9am at Ogunquit Beach. lobsterdash.com.

October 24-26: 11th Annual OgunquitFest – A fun-filled weekend of fall-themed events including pumpkin and cookie decorating, costume parade, classic car show, craft show, Geocache/letterbox scavenger hunt, high heel race, bed race, wagon rides, storytelling, scarecrow contest and more!

November 9: 6th Annual Celebrations by the Sea Wedding Expo – Variety of experienced local vendors and professionals to help you plan your special day by the sea. Live entertainment, refreshments, giveaways throughout the event & a special gift for the first 25 couples.

December 12-14: 28th Annual Christmas by the Sea Celebration – A weekend celebration of tree lightings, caroling, restaurant tasting, beach bonfire, entertainment, shopping, Santa, and more.

All event dates and times are subject to change.

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Abbondante Enjoy traditional Italian family favorites steps from downtown Kennebunkport. Bistro seating, casual atmosphere, fresh handmade pastas—classics like spaghetti & meatballs and ravioli with ricotta filling and tagliatelle fra diavolo with clams, shrimp, lobster, and tomato sauce and bucatini alla lobster carbonara. Perfect for your rustic Italian cravings. Open year round and full menu available for takeout. 27 Western Avenue, Kennebunk, 967-2211, abbondanteme.com

Barnacle Billy's, known for luxury lobster, steamed clams, large lusty drinks, barbecued chicken, homemade clam chowder & of course, the lobster roll & lobster stew. Features extensive indoor & sundeck seating where guests can enjoy both the beauty of the harbor & the ocean beyond. Perkins Cove. bambilly.com, 646-5575

Brea Lu Cafe has been serving up breakfast & lunch for 23 years! Favorite menu choices include 12 specialty omelets, build-your-own breakfast burritos, Belgian waffles with fruit, eggs Benedict & homemade corned beef hash. Lunch features homemade chili, fresh made-to-order sandwiches, burgers & wraps. Open daily, 7am-2pm. 428 Forest Ave., Portland, 772-9202

Bull Feeney's Authentic Irish pub & restaurant, serving delicious scratch-made sandwiches, steaks, seafood & hearty Irish fare, pouring local craft & premium imported brews, as well as Maine's most extensive selection of single malt Scotch & Irish whiskeys. Live music five nights. Open 7 days 11:30am-1am. Kitchen closes at 10pm. 375 Fore St., Old Port, 773-7210, bullfeeneys.com

Bruno's Voted Portland's Best Italian Restaurant by Market Surveys of America, Bruno's offers a delicious variety of classic Italian, American, and seafood dishes—and they make all of their pasta in-house. Great sandwiches, pizza, calzones, soups, chowders, and salads. Enjoy lunch or dinner in the dining room or the Tavern. Casual dining at its best. 33 Allen Avenue, 878-9511.

David's KPT Portland Chef David Turin's restaurant in The Boathouse Waterfront Hotel has panoramic windows on the harbor and al fresco dining in summer. Upscale twists on classics include steak and lobster white pizza with garlic butter, steak, lobster, roasted tomato, caramelized onion, goat cheese; and a lobster roll in a house-made focaccia roll. Popular happy hour and Sunday brunch. Open year round. 21 Ocean Ave., Kennebunkport, 967-8225, boathouseme.com/dining

DiMillo's On the Water serves the freshest lobster, seafood, Black Angus cuts of beef, Italian fare & more. DiMillo's offers fabulous views of the water in Portland Harbor from every table, Famous Lobster Rolls, clam chowder, haddock chowder, lobster stew & delicious salads. Serving from 11am. Commercial St., Old Port, 772-2216, dimillos.com

Earth At Hidden Pond James Beard award-winner Chef Ken Oringer opened this "farm-to-fork" restaurant in 2011 featuring the bounty of Hidden Pond Resort's organic farm in a menu that includes house-made pastas and charcuterie; wood-grilled pizzas; and signatures like peekytoe crab toast with French cocktail sauce. Craft cocktails and an extensive wine list. Open May-Oct. 354 Goose Rocks Road, Kennebunkport, 967-6550, earthathiddenpond.com

Eve's at the Garden an oasis of calm and great food in the middle of the Old Port. The perfect spot for meetings, special occasions, and a cocktail. Ingredients from Maine's waters and farms: jumbo scallops, natural, sustainable pork, beef, fish, and shellfish, and Maine lobster. Home to the annual Ice Bar, Eve's garden is perfect for outdoor dining in season. Happy Hour Monday - Friday; free valet parking. Lunch 11:30-2, Dinner 5-9:30. 468 Fore St., Portland, 775-9090, Evesatthegarden.com

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Great Lost Bear A full bar with 70 beer taps of Maine & American craft breweries & a large Belgian selection. Menu features salads, burgers, a large vegetarian selection & the best nachos & Buffalo wings in town. Discover where the natives go when they're restless! Every day 11:30am-11:30pm. 540 Forest Ave., in the Woodfords area of Portland, 772-0300, greatlostbear.com

Hurricane Restaurant menus feature the finest seafood on Maine's coast. Enjoy \$10 off every bottle of wine on Wednesdays. Sunday Brunch 'til 3:30 p.m. and Buck-a-Shuck oysters every Sunday night. Discover our award-winning wine list, house-made pastries, signature cocktails, and extraordinary five-star New England cuisine. Dinner seven nights, lunch Friday thru Monday until Memorial Day. Dock Square, Kennebunkport, 967-9111, hurricanerestaurant.com

LFK features New American cuisine, beer, wine & full spirits in the heart of Longfellow Square with a literary theme. Stop in for a drink, bite to eat, or relax with your favorite book. 188A State St., Portland, 899-3277

Ocean at Cape Arundel Inn & Resort has 180-degree water views; Ocean is perfect for a memorable meal or bites at the bar. Executive Chef Pierre Gignac's offers fine cuisine inspired by southern French and Mediterranean flavors, such as Fisherman's Bourride, a seafood stew with leeks, fennel, fingerling potato, creamy broth and lemon aioli. Open year round. 208 Ocean Ave., Kennebunkport, 967-4015, capearundelinn.com/dining

One Dock Award-winning One Dock in the Kennebunkport Inn serves native Maine classics with a cosmopolitan twist, plus a selection of small plates. Signatures include lobster with homemade saffron fettuccine, white wine cream, and truffle oil. Guests can enjoy live music on weekends, nightly during summer months; daily Happy Hour specials and outdoor dining on the patio and terrace throughout summer. Open year round. One Dock Square, Kennebunkport, 967-2621, onedock.com

Pedro's focuses on simple yet full-flavored Mexican and Latino food. Offering tacos, burritos and an impressive array of margaritas, sangria, beer and wine. Especiales de la semana (specials of the week) keep the menu varied and fresh and showcase different Latino cultures. Seasonal outdoor dining available. Open daily, 12-10. 181 Port Rd., Kennebunk, 967-5544, pedrosmaine.com

Pier 77 & The Ramp Bar & Grill are owned & managed by Kate & Chef Peter Morency. Pier 77 has a formal dining room with stunning views of Cape Porpoise Harbor & live music each weekend, while the Ramp is more casual, with its own bar menu at hard-to-beat prices. Open year-round. 77 Pier Rd., Kennebunkport, 967-8500, pier77restaurant.com *

The Tides Beach Club Coastal chic ambiance overlooking Goose Rocks Beach. Local seafood is the focal point: Maine lobster roll with drawn butter or herbed mayo; crispy fried clams with house tartar; marinated grilled tuna with house-made kimchee, soba noodles, and wasabi. Specialty cocktails with fresh local juices and herbs, artisanal beers, and an extensive wine list. Open May-Oct. 254 Goose Rocks Rd., Kennebunkport, 967-3757, tidesbeachclubmaine.com

*reservations recommended



Cape Porpoise, Southern Fried

The Wayfarer is a down-home, delicious roadside tavern.

Having lived on Pier Road in Cape Porpoise for a year in one of my earlier lifetimes, I am intrigued to be returning to this magic spit of land.

Shock of the new: my favorite greasy spoon, The Wayfarer, has been transformed to celebrate its 50th year. By a southern chef, no less.

Soup of the day is lobster bisque (\$6 cup),

"with a claw sliced and placed on top," chimes our waitress. Delightfully creamy, with a rich briny flavor, it's a good start to a unique mid-day repast.

Chef Brendan Levin's tenure with Jeremiah Bacon at The Oak Steakhouse in Charleston, South Carolina, is reflected in his imaginative Southern-fried menu.

Take the shrimp po' boy (\$12). Fried to a perfect crisp, the small, tasty critters are piled up on a homemade bun and served with hot, delicious fries, sans grease, and some of the



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RESTAURANT REVIEW



best homemade pickles ever (a cross between dill and bread-and-butter, not at all vinegary). The remoulade transforms the shrimp. For rocket fuel, try a little heat from tasty Cholula hot sauce tableside.

Fried chicken with Belgian waffles and maple syrup is real show-stopper, with its crispy-skinned, moist meat taking in the sweetness of the syrup, all complemented by perfect pastry (\$14). Levin's secret for the unbearable lightness of this chicken? "You soak it in butter-milk, dredge it in seasoned flour and put it in the fryer. Lots of things are fried in the South-simple, when you know how."

Levin's Fried Lobster (\$24), a one-and-a-half pounder, is a tasty variation. "You split open the lobster, soak it in whole milk, then lightly dust the exposed meat with seasoned flour and toss it, shell and all, into the fryer. Locals who swear they'd never have anything but a boiled lobster are coming in and having this once a week."

Another sweet plus is the owners' commitment to staying a BYOB restaurant. "We are happy to maintain the status," says owner Scott Lewis, "as our clientele is very much drawn to the amenity." Lewis recently sold Riverside Marina in Kennebunk, where he and wife Dee summered for the past 10 years. They're looking now to sell their horse farm in New Jersey to be in Maine full time. "We love it here."

We raise our glasses of Fetzer Gewurtz-traminer in the The Wayfarer's stemware, and devour a hefty slice of chocolate bourbon cheesecake (\$7). We love it here, too, and will return—perhaps for one of the Monday night roasts (\$12), featuring leg of lamb, rib-eye, meatloaf, barbecue pork loin...or maybe for the maple glazed pork belly (\$8) or seared organic salmon (\$19). ■

The Wayfarer, 2 Pier Rd., Kennebunkport. Breakfast 7 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Dinner 5-9 p.m., 967-8961 wayfarercapeporpoise.com

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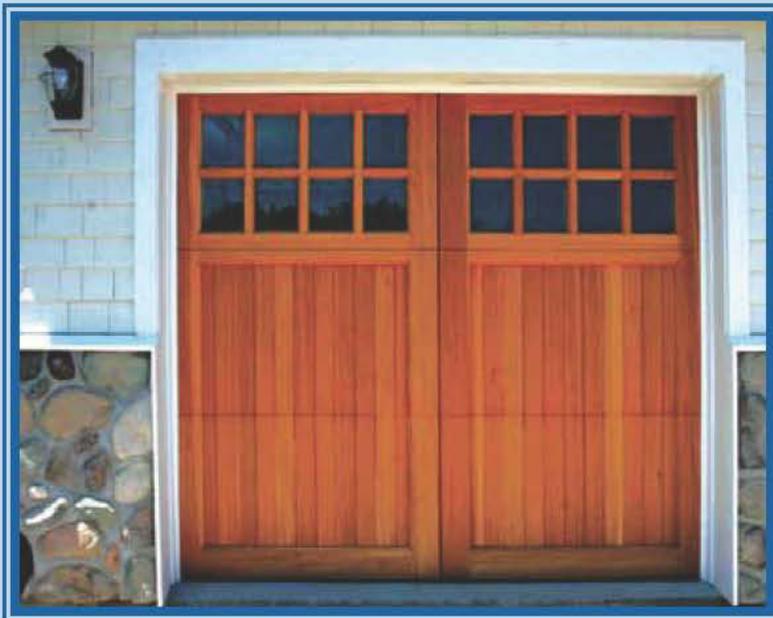
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A View with a View



FROM TOP: CYNTHIA FARR-WEINFELD, NATHAN VARNEY

Excitement makes a passage to India Street.

If you buy this four-story townhouse at 48 Federal Street, you'll have front-row tickets to the show. Perched high above India Street, Ocean Gateway, and the Old Port, you realize the world is your oyster in this glittering curve facing the harbor.

Front and center from your three decks and terrace: new hotels, downtown rooftops, Shipyard Brewery, views of the city and islands.

Back in the days of sail, this part of Little Italy below Eastern Cemetery used to be called "The Bight."

"It's listed for \$825,000," says Ed Gardner of Ocean Gate Realty. "You're right on top of everything." The three-bedroom, two-bath getaway "was developed by Ron Gann of Chica-

“India Street used to be called Restaurant Row, Gourmet Gulch. What really defines this neighborhood is diversity—of cultures, businesses, incomes...”

go in 2004.”

Gann must have had a crystal ball to guess the transformation here: new hotels, restaurants, the Bay House, four new living complexes. “The area’s so attractive that the India Street Neighborhood Association has brought in Michelle Reeves from the West Coast to help re-brand it.”

After all, India Street has bragging rights as “the first street in Portland,” after Native-American footpaths. Like Ellis Island in New York, immigrants arrived here for decades to start their new life in America. Maybe this historic arriving point, more historically palpable than Plymouth Rock, should be called The Golden Door.

“You pay \$110 per month for water, sewer, insurance, plowing, and reserves,” Gardner says of the condo fees. “It’s just \$1,082 year-round for gas heat, water heater, gas cooking, and gas fireplace.”

Floor number one is a private garage, yard, terrace, first-floor bedroom, and access to the elevator and stairs. Floor No. 2 has a family room, laundry, bedroom, bath, and deck.

Floor three is “the living floor,” with fireplace, living room, a breathtaking deck with panoramas of the city, and a granite-and-stainless kitchen with cherry cabinetry.

Floor four is a single lucky bedroom (the bathroom’s ensuite) with the book you’ve always dreamed about reading on a coffee table. Imagine coffee up here with the sun steaming across the harbor. You walk through the sliding doors to the top deck and the sound of gulls. You drink it in. Why not? You’re the wolf of India Street. Taxes are \$6,767. ■

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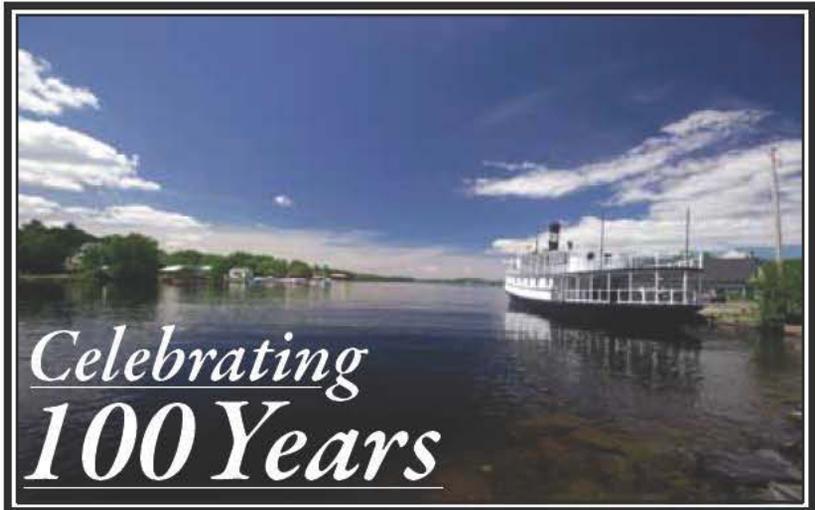
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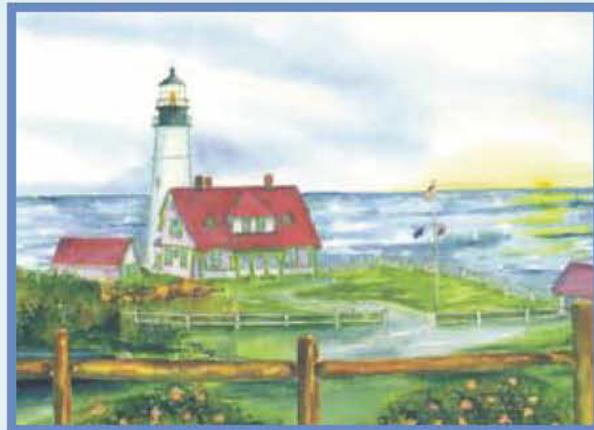


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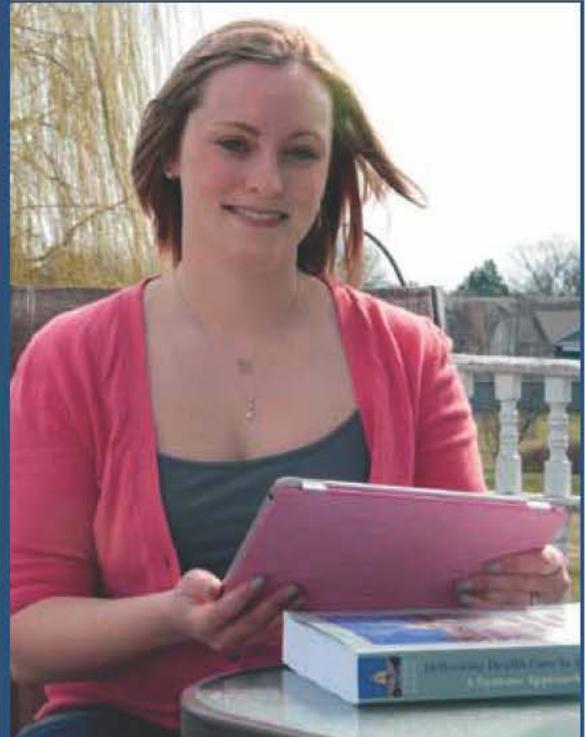
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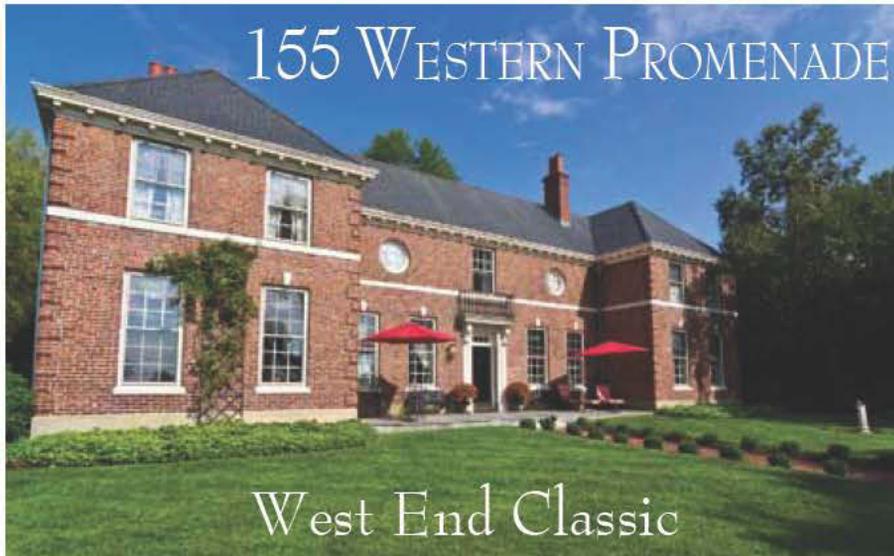
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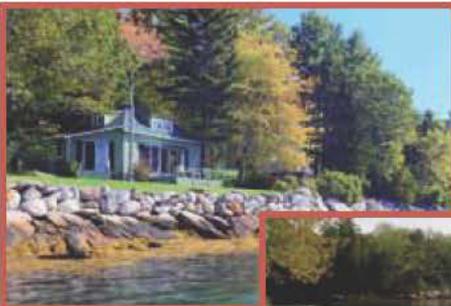
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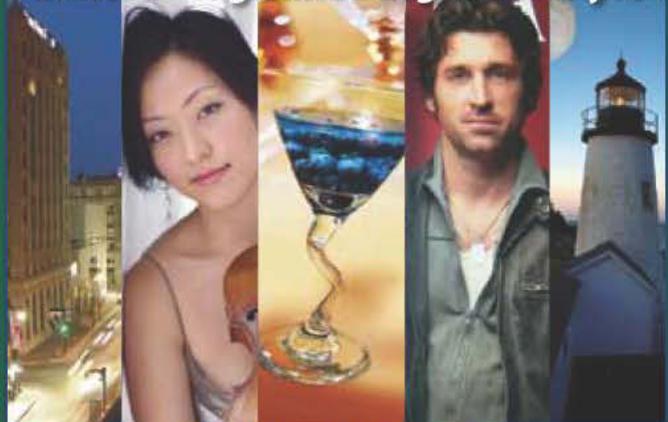
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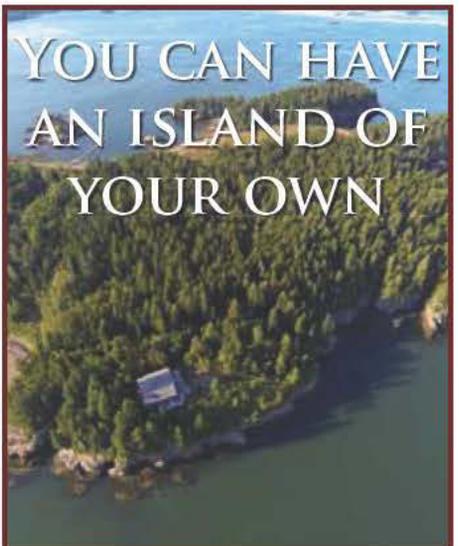


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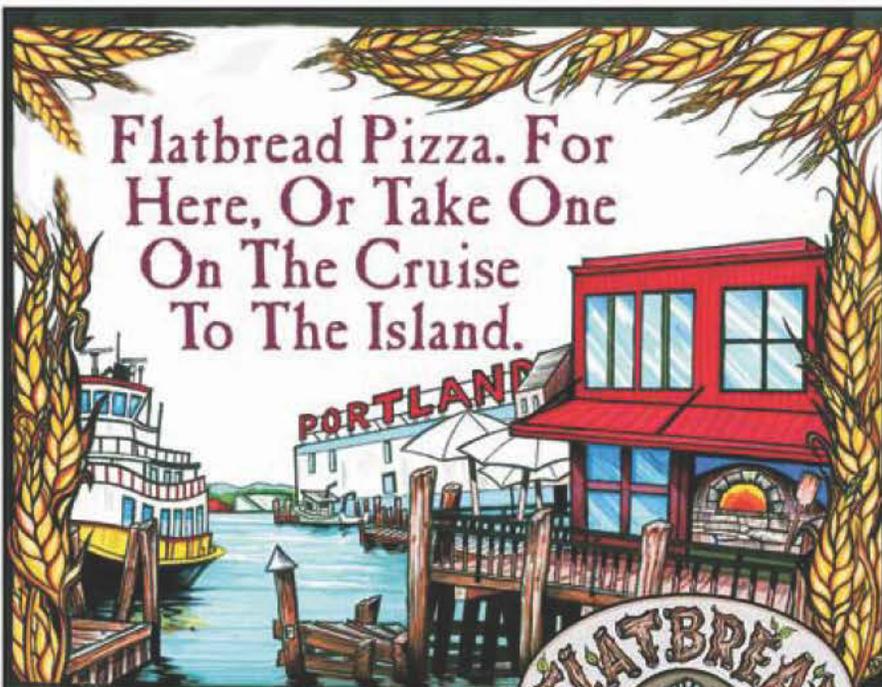
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Blind Date

He'd suggested meeting in the parking lot, taking the ferry to Peaks Island. A romantic-sounding thing. But it could be a mistake. There'd be no way out.

His profile said he "liked a good joke." Was this one? She didn't see him. Tourists—slathering on sunscreen, consulting maps, polishing off to-go lobster rolls—made for the boat like lemmings. It would leave soon. What would she do, if he stood her up? Head for the Holy Donut? Their dark-chocolate-sea-salt could solve almost anything. She'd check her phone for winks, tweets, messages. It wasn't too late for the day not to rate a zero. Someone else might want to take a later ferry. If she did.

"Little Red Corvette?" (Her username. *Baby, you're much too fast*, implied. It got results. Hundreds of winks, dozens of messages. Twenty-seven first dates. Two second dates. Things dwindled that way.) She turned.

But this couldn't be StudMuffin78—listed as six feet tall, a "meaningful agnostic," a player of blues guitar and baseball, whose shirtless photos showed a dark-haired, dimpled man on not-unfriendly terms with a gym. She should have known they weren't current.

"You look almost like your pictures!" he enthused. "I'm Paul." The dimples, at least, were

authentic. He'd gained forty pounds and most of his hair had gone gray. He was five inches shy of six feet. Maybe 10 years older than he'd claimed. "Come on. Let's get our tickets!"

He grabbed her hand. Innocent-seeming as a child. Maybe he was a nice guy. She followed him. At the ticket booth, without hesitation or a backward glance, he bought two.

"Thanks!" she said, surprised. He gave a modest shrug. They waited to board with the finger-licking tourists, the children carrying toy lobsters, the little girls in sundresses and sandals with appliquéd flowers. He smiled non-stop.

"You play baseball?" she asked. It could hardly be true.

A look of chagrin. "Intramural softball, these days, to be honest. Office league." She liked the sheepish way he said it.

He led her to the upper deck. He was really quite nice. She sat on the bench, next to him but not close. She didn't check her phone. He seemed to require consideration. She minded it less than she'd have thought. The ramp came up and the whistle blew and the ferry churned away from the dock. The summer-deep-blue harbor glistened, busy with sails fluttering, kayaks sluicing by.

Nearby on the deck was a group of twenty-

some things, dressed in J.Crew and Patagonia, loud talkers, guests (it was impossible not to infer) of a wedding that was to take place that weekend. She didn't mean to eavesdrop. Henry and Yolanda had fallen in love at first sight, four summers ago. They'd finished their residencies and were going to work for Doctors Without Borders. Weren't they great? Spending 27 thousand on the reception alone. A champagne fountain, lobster and caviar for everyone, the works. Wasn't it great? All of it said with no one smiling, only nodding seriously. This was the way that they saw the world. It was great, but you had to take it seriously.

"Some people really have their shit together," observed StudMuffin78.

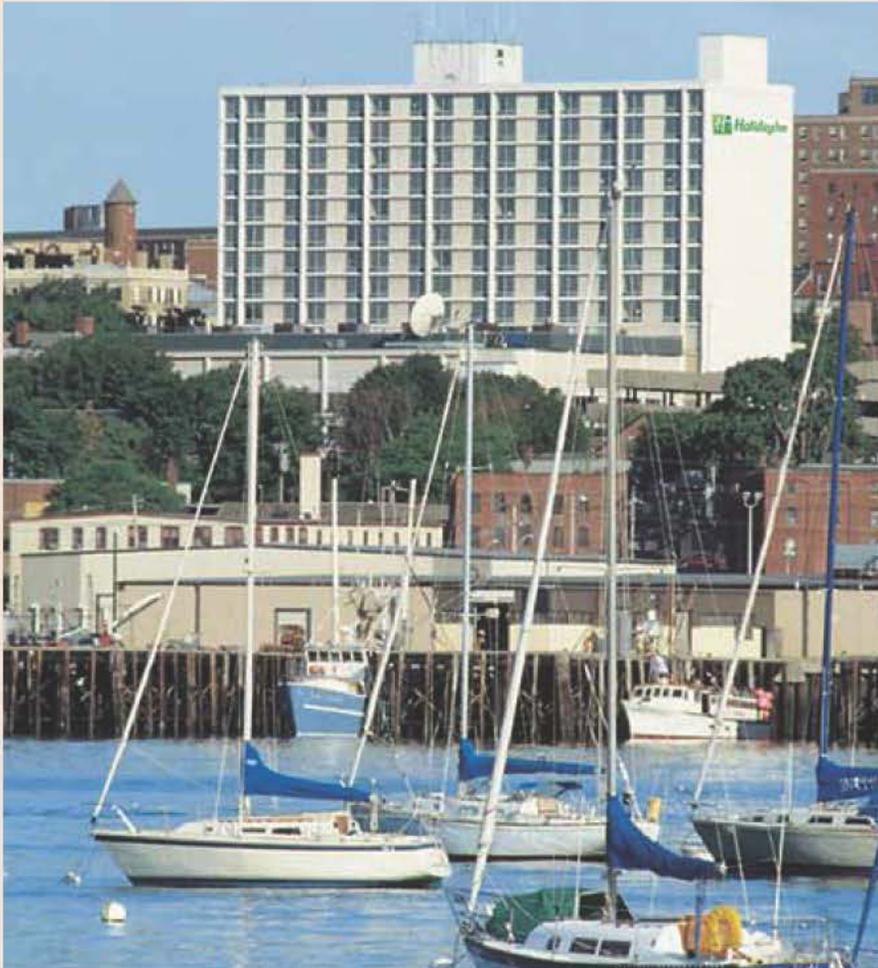
Paul, she reminded herself.

His half-hearted smile acknowledged it: this was just something to say. It meant nothing.

"Other people, other lives." She tried to smile. They were far from shore now, going fast. She wished suddenly that she knew him. Or anyone. She clutched her phone. It was a beautiful day. He really seemed quite nice. ■

Ellen Baker is the author of the novels *Keeping the House* and *I Gave My Heart to Know This*. She lives on the Midcoast, where she's finishing her next novel.

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DRINK AND THINK MAINE HUMANITIES COUNCIL AT SPACE GALLERY, from left: 1. Mary Fernandes, Melissa Sandoval, Sam Morris 2. Nikki Wright, Karin Carlson, Jamie Barilone 3. Galen Kock, Julie Moringello 4. Brittany Sweat, Melissa Anson



MAINE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL OPENING AT AKARI, clockwise from left:

1. Susan Young, John Young, Meri Lowry 2. Susan Muska, Greta Olafsdottir, Dan Levine 3. Tom Grant, Marty Sabol 4. Harry Krigman, Peggy Golden, Suzanne Lacogniata 5. Gillian Britt, Wayne Goodman, Joanne Goodman, Nuri Rosen



THE STACHE PAG AT OCEAN GATEWAY, from left: 1. Brian and Laura VanDe-Water with children Liam and Charlotte 2. Patrick O'Hagin, Anne Marie Stein, Stephen McLeod 3. Joe Regan, James Edward 4. Jessica Yancey, Matt Delamater, Charlie Yancey



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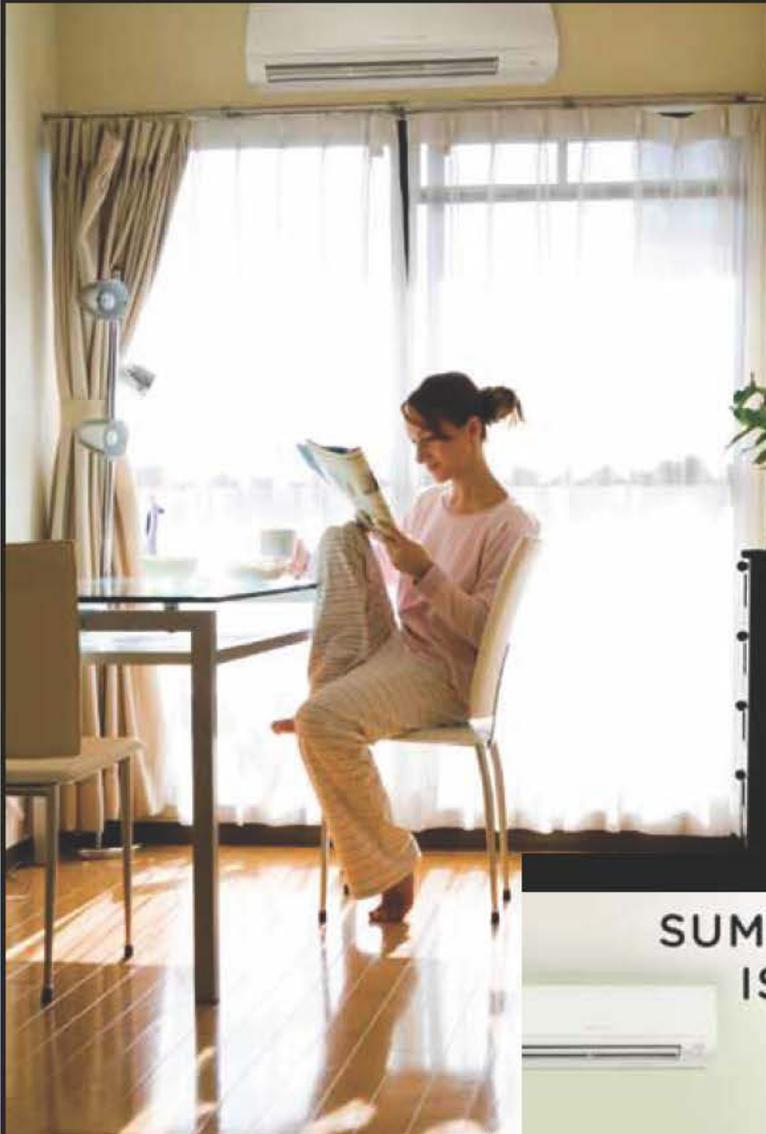


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