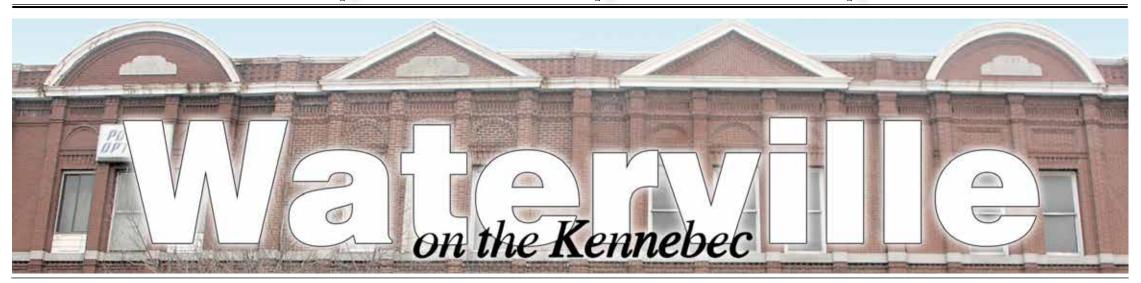
Welcome to OUR TOWNS

WATERVILLE OAKLAND WINSLOW FAIRFIELD



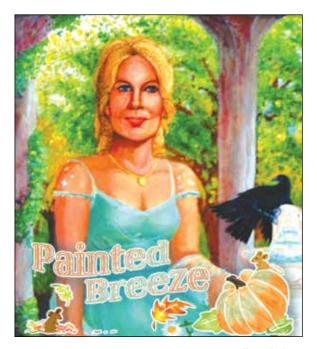
Special Supplement · Morning Sentinel

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

What's new in Waterville? A lot!



Facebook photo Portland Pie Company newly opened in downtown Waterville.



Contributed photo This artwork is the centerpiece of The Framemakers' current Painted Breeze exhibit, featuring an artist's reception from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, October 12.



Contributed photo Black Cape Comics overflows with diverse comics, Cosplay items and more.



Contributed photo The Robin's Nest, a light-filled floral shop, recently opened in the Hathaway Creative Center.

BY NANCY GALLAGHER Correspondent

aterville is bustin' out all over with new and relocated businesses.

At the **Portland Pie Co.** it's all about the dough, says owner Pat Mulligan. A sampling of choices includes gluten free, beer, garlic and basil doughs. Do they have vegan cheese? Naturally.

But the sandwiches, pastas and seasonal menus further explain their success as part of a regional chain of family restaurants. Adults can choose from a rotating selection of 16-ounce cans of local beers or other adult beverages from a full bar. Other services include delivery, take-out, catering and online ordering and payment options.

Located at 173-75 Main Street, Portland Pie Co. faces the new Bill and Joan Alfond Main Street Commons. Business hours are Sunday to Thursday, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Call 401-6200 to order. Or order and pay online at www.portlandpie.

Same name, but new exhibits every other month. **The Framemakers**, at 46 Main Street since 1984, features a 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. public artist reception for its Painted Breeze exhibit with food, drinks and music on Friday, October 12. Owners Ames K. Cyrway and Brian Vigue often conduct fundraisers for nonprofits such as the Waterville Humane Society in conjunction with their events. Watch for their extended "Block Party," featuring 5" x 7" blocks painted by artists, would-be artists and let's-try-it artists. Blocks sell at \$45 to benefit both the artists and the Waterville Art Society Scholarship Fund. Think holiday gifts that keep on giving.

Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, please consult their website at *theframemakers.com* or telephone 872-8927.

Black Cape Comics recently opened at 18 Common Street, Suite 201 in the downtown district, aiming primarily at an 18-35 demographic. In a surprise twist, owner Benjamin Maine says that the majority of his customers are female. In addition to the widely-known comic brands, Black Cape also offers independent publications. Black Cape Comics is the only Maine store selling certain Cosplay products, sought by performance art participants whose self-made costumes and accessories represent specific characters.

Black Cape Comics is open Tuesday, 12 noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; and Sunday 12 noon to 5 p.m. For more information please call 859-3166, consult their social media pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or their website at blackcapecomics.

Light and fragrance fill the air in **The Robin's Nest**, Suite 111A, in the Hathaway Creative Center, where owner/floral designer Robin Samalus Getchell employs her years of floral design experience to assemble and arrange fresh flowers for all occasions. Plants and locally made gifts are also available for walk-in and delivery customers. As a member of the Flower Shop Network, Getchell can also arrange deliveries in the U. S. and Canada. She has a great passion for flowers, and believes customers "are not just buying a flower, they are buying an emotion." Getchell strives to make her true sense of caring and customer service stand out.

Kitchen.

Check her posts on Facebook and Instagram for dates and details on Balloons and Brews, periodic ticketed events where participants create a floral arrangement and also have the option to enjoy beverages from the neighboring Waterville Brewing Company.

Business hours as of October 1 will be Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Telephone is 616-0281. Website is therobinsnestflowers.com.

During the transformation of 93 Main Street into the Downtown Arts Center, **Waterville Creates** and **Common Street Arts** have joined the growing number of businesses in the Hathaway Creative Center, taking their studio, classroom, gallery and clay studio with them. For their new October schedule please go to *Watervillecreates.org*. Telephone is 616-0292. Office hours in Hathaway Creative Center's Suite 106 are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p. m.

Across the street at 35 Water Street sits the recently relocated **Pete's Pig.** An expanded catering business and a desire to return to Waterville triggered the move, says owner Peter Clark.

Open from April through October, Pete's Pig provides carry-out and dine-in meals in addition to its catering service.

"You can buy by the pound, you can buy by the meal, all kinds of bar-b-que stuff," says Clark. Try their popular party packs for special gatherings. Weddings and large-scale corporate events populate their catering calendar.

Business hours are Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Website is *petespig.com*. Email is peter@petespig.com. Telephone is 616-0969. Consult their Facebook page, or just stop in.

Waterville Pediatrics has relocated to 295C Kennedy Memorial Drive, Suite 1. Practice hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Telephone is 873-KIDS (5437).

FOODIES DELIGHT

Look around. Food trucks have sprung up in several Waterville locations.

The Jazz Wagon Bistro cooks up "elevated street food" for breakfast and lunch Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at 72 Armory Road. In addition to daily specials, choose from subs, pasta bowls, tips'n'chips with regular or teriyaki sirloin tips, chili of the day, spinach and artichoke dip with tortilla chips – plus sides and extras. They buy local meats and sub rolls and donate leftovers to the Waterville Food Bank, says co-owner Jasmine Bumps. To order ahead, call Jasmine or Joe Bumps at 242-5681 or 242-8030 respectively. Check their Facebook posts or email them at thejazzwagonbistro@hotmail.com.

Tin Tin's Mobile Kitchen whips up homemade fusion food Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. at 74 Front Street, in the Joseph's Market parking lot. Bengali and Middle Eastern cuisines meld in Tin Tin's recipes. Daily specials, chicken or beef wraps, and chicken or beef over rice appear on the menu. Catering is also available. To order, call 402-7758. Email is <code>ishrat_b@hotmail.com</code>.

After an initial successful season, **Sheba's Wicked Kitchen**, 822 Kennedy Memorial Drive, closes for the season on September 30. She returns in April, 2019.

Resilience. Resurgence. Reinvention. Waterville really rocks.



Contributed photo The front door of the recently relocated Waterville Creates and Common Street Arts in the Hathaway Creative Center.



Pete's Pig chicken and ribs with lots of fixin's is just one of their many specialties for bar-b-que lovers.



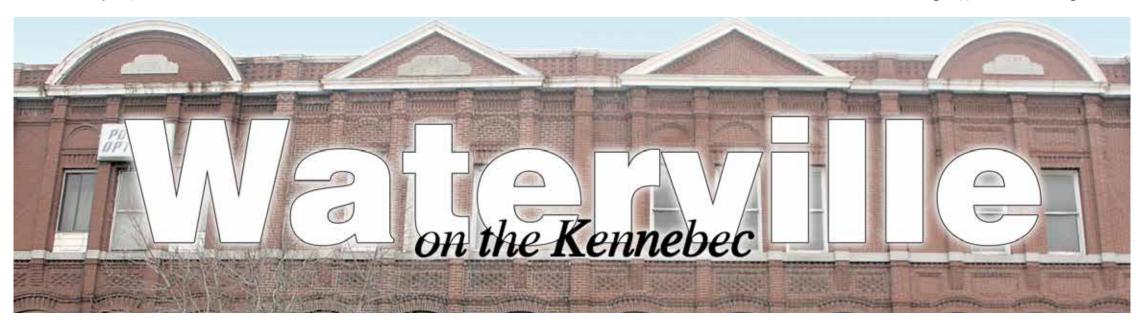
Contributed photo Jazz Wagon Bistro food truck serves up "elevated street food" for breakfast and lunch on weekdays.



Contributed photo Ishrat Khan, nicknamed Tin Tin, creates fusion food in Tin Tin's Mobile



 ${\it Contributed\ photo}$ Sheba's Wicked Kitchen specialties please customers all summer



Inland Hospital celebrates 75 years of serving Central Maine communities

BY WANDA CURTIS Correspondent

nland Hospital is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. Inland President John Dalton reminisced recently in his column, "The President's Podium," about the hospital's early beginnings in the city of Waterville.

"The world was in the midst of war, a new toy called the Slinky was delighting children and the finishing touches were being put on the Pentagon when Waterville Osteopathic Hospital opened its doors 75 years ago," wrote Dalton.

born."

"Many of the modern treatment options we take for granted today were still under development. Penicillin was just coming on the market, surgery usually led to a multi-day hospital stay, and the first kidney dialysis and heart surgery procedures were still years away from being performed."

In the midst of all that, Dalton wrote that something big was about to take place in Waterville, Maine.

"It was an important time for Waterville as local doctors and community leaders came together with a common vision: to create a new hospital to care for the sick and injured of Central Maine," wrote Dalton. "Their powerful commitment and strong determination made up for a lack of resources, and on September 6, 1943, Waterville's new hospital was born."

According to Inland's May 2018 newsletter "Philanthropy Matters," local osteopathic doctors Clair and Nora Brown joined hands with other concerned individuals during those days to make the idea of opening the new hospital become a reality. The authors of the newsletter wrote, "Looking back, it's hard to imagine the doctors dropping their white coats and stethoscopes and picking up hammers and paint brushes, but that's what they did. These healthcare pioneers were the original hospital philanthropists, contributing not only their time and effort, but also their money. They paved the way for today's Inland Hospital."

Dalton praised both them and other community members whose commitment and generous donations have supported Inland's growth from day one to today. Chief of Staff at Inland, Dr.

Cathie Kimball, DO, is a family

"It was an important time for Waterville as local doctors and community leaders came together with a common vision: to create a new hospital to care for the sick and injured of Central Maine. Their powerful commitment and strong determination made up for a lack of resources, and on September 6. 1943. Waterville's new hospital was

JOHN DALTON, PRESIDENT, INLAND HOSPITAL



Contributed photo

One of the new private rooms at Inland Hospital.

practice physician with Inland Family Care. She came to Inland as an intern in 1985, a new graduate from medical school. She stayed on to do a one-year family practice residency. Then she decided to make this area her home and start a practice. Kimball is now president of the American Academy of Osteopathy.

"I have always been fiercely proud of Inland's osteopathic legacy and the tenacity of our founders to want to provide full medical care to their patients," said Kimball. "Back in the day, DOs were being denied access to local hospitals, so they created their own in Waterville. Today, allopathic (MD) and osteopathic (DO) doctors work side-by-side and have mutual respect. Times have changed for the better.'

Kimball explained that some people seek out osteopathic physicians because of their ability to perform osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT). She said that it helps her to connect with her patients in a tangible way and "helps them every day manage pain and dysfunction of all types." Inland's current building on

Kennedy Memorial Drive was con-

structed during the early 60's. Since then, they've had a number of renovations, including the addition of Lakewood Continuing Care Center, renovation of the emergency department and renovation of the medical-surgical unit.

In 1995, Waterville Osteopathic Hospital changed its name to Inland Hospital. Three years later, it became a member of Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems (EMHS). Dalton said that, "becoming a part of EMHS has brought a higher level of specialty care to the region, including heart care, vascular care and other services."

In 2012, Inland Hospital completed a \$5.7 million renovation project consolidating the medical-surgical and intensive care units, renovating the unit's semi-private rooms to private rooms and creating a more efficient layout for the medical-surgical unit.

Dalton said that the hospital has had a strong emphasis on safety and that they participate in the Leapfrog surveys which monitor hospitals for safety and quality of care. Last winter, Inland received

Inland Hospital has had a number of renovations, including the addition of Lakewood Continuing Care Center, renovation of the emergency department and renovation of the medical-surgical unit, ground-breaking pictured above. one of the highest awards for safety and quality when they were named a Top Rural Hospital by

Leapfrog for the sixth time.

Light Health. "Our 75th anniversary is an important time to recognize our osteopathic heritage," said Sara Barry, director of Community Relations at Inland. "And it's also about celebrating who we are today, and looking ahead to an exciting future with a new name and a stronger than ever commitment to the communities we serve."

EMHS will be re-named Northern

On October1, 2018, EMHS will become Northern Light Health. Inland will change to Northern Light Inland Hospital. Medical practices and non-hospital locations associated with Inland and EMHS will

also change their names. Other entities that are part of EMHS, soon to be Northern Light Health, include Acadia Hospital, Aroostook Medical Center, Blue Hill Memorial Hospital, EMMC, Maine Coast Memorial Hospital, Mercy Hospital, Sebasticook Valley Health, CA Dean Memorial Hospital, Ross Care, and VNA Home Health Hospice. The system has more than 12,000 employees

across Maine. EMHS announced on its website earlier this year that the new name "Northern Light Health" reflects a change in the system's evolution

regional focus to an integrated health delivery organization with coordinated statewide offerings." Dalton said that the name change is necessary because "EMHS" doesn't shine a light on who the organization is becom-

ing. He said, "The fact is, Eastern

Maine just doesn't describe us

"from individual locations with a

Dalton explained that the rebrand isn't just about a new name, it's about a change in the way that

health care is delivered. "There are many important

changes underway that will streamline, strengthen and improve our care delivery," said Dalton. "A new shared electronic health record going live this fall is a major example of our connectedness and how we will offer seamless care to patients across the state.

Contributed photo

Dalton also shared that an integrated system can achieve more than single entities and that the goal of Northern Light Health is to create a health delivery system that works better for Maine people.

CONCERT AT WATERVILLE OPERA HOUSE

In conjunction with their 75th anniversary celebration, Inland will present their annual Fall Pops Concert at the Waterville Opera House on October 5. Included will be guest conductor Eric Thomas from Colby College, the Colby Symphony Orchestra, mezzo-soprano Kate Aldrich, tenor David Meyers Jr. and pianist Steven Pane. Other performers will include Eric Christopher Perry and the Colby College Chorale, the Colby-Kennebec Choral Society, as well as teachers and students from Lawrence, Messalonskee, Pineland Suzuki, Skowhegan, Waterville, and Winslow schools.

Tickets are available at OperaHouse.org or 873-7000. The cost to attend the concert and a special pre-event reception starting at 5:30 p.m. at Amici's Cucina is \$50; concert tickets without the reception are \$25. The concert begins at 7 p.m.



Contributed photo Employees lining up for a delicious BBQ lunch, Rita Corsen, Imaging team lead and Cathy Russell, Marden Cardiac Rehab Center team lead.



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Contributed photo Tammy Hatch, HR Director, Angela Gibbs, VP of Quality, and John Dalton, President at the 75th Anniversary kick-off event in February.





Contributed photo Employees sign an Anniversary banner that hangs in the hospital



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expertise



Waterville returns to the river with a fabulous RiverWalk

BY NANCY GALLAGHER Correspondent

y turns serene, raging, shallow, overflowing, polluted and restored, the Kennebec River holds a central place in Waterville's history.

Benedict Arnold cleaved its current, paddling northward. Dams harnessed its power. Fish came, went and returned. Factories lined its banks. And floating logs crowded those banks as generations of woodsmen plied this natural floating highway to world markets.

Changes in environmental and manufacturing policies and practices, along with a groundswell of civic and community support have prompted Waterville's return to the river. Waterville's citizens and visitors can now enjoy a host of recreational activities on the banks of the Kennebec, thanks to the new Rotary RiverWalk.

Planning for a limited riverfront walkway began in 1999, as part of a comprehensive waterfront development plan. Efforts by Waterville City Manager Michael Roy to move the walkway forward languished until the Waterville Rotary Club in 2015 selected the Waterville RiverWalk as its centennial project, contributing \$150,000 towards the project's \$400,000 estimated cost. Rotarians Lisa Hallee and Michael Roy co-chair the RiverWalk Advisory Committee.

Over time everything grew. The RiverWalk length grew from 900 feet to nearly 1200 feet. Interpretive signposts, and family-friendly features incorporated into the expanded design include an amphitheater, a gazebo, a children's play area, a simulated log drives display, lighting, and a colored walkway. Revised estimated costs rose to \$1.3 million. It is now \$1.5 million.

The amphitheater will be used for musical and theatrical productions and community events. Fu-



LISA HALLEE, CO-CHAIR WATERVILLE RIVERWALK **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

ture plans include protective sails above the amphitheater. At the opposite end of the RiverWalk sits the Mitchell Family Pavilion gazebo, a place to visit with friends and enjoy the lovely surroundings. The child's play area includes hand pumps to simulate the river's flow. Seven interpretive signposts inform readers of Maine's Native American presence, Head of Falls, Kennebec River, Mills & Manufacturing, Log Drives, the Kennebec/Messalonskee Trails system and the 2-Cent Bridge. The Rotary Club's \$150,000

the RiverWalk a reality. "Without that early commitment from Rotary I don't think said Roy. With Colby College's financial assistance, a \$300,000 matching Land and Water Conservation grant moved the project closer to fruition. In January of this year the City of Waterville contributed \$300,000 to a fundraising campaign led by Lisa Hallee. Current total raised: \$1,475 million.

contribution has helped make



MIKE ROY, CO-CHAIR WATERVILLE RIVERWALK **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

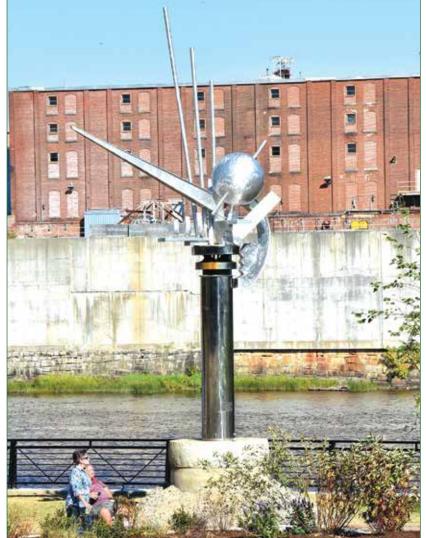
Persons can still contribute through the purchase of a \$400 engravable paver to be laid at the RiverWalk. Pavers ordered after September 15 will be installed in 2019. There are 3 ways to purchase a paver:

Online at RiverWalkathof.com under "donate now."

In person with a check/cash/ credit card at Waterville's City Hall in the Office of Administration, Sarah Bowen can assist with the transaction. Business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. By telephone at 680-4204..

"After 50 years of being vacant and neglected, Waterville's finally going back to a very historic and important section of our city," said Roy. He credits Hallee with the "Waterville's Return to the River" theme.

The official dedication of the Rotary RiverWalk takes place in the amphitheater on Saturday, October 6, at 2 p.m. Senator George Mitchell is the featured speaker. The RiverWalk is open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.



"This RiverWalk is awesome.

There is so much history here that it will bring back wonderful memories."

GLENN LEAVITT

 $Staff\ photos$ by David Leaming Karla Gerard and Glenn Leavitt pass the "Ticonic" sculpture at the RiverWalk at Head of Falls in Waterville on Monday.

Below, Katie Malone walks along the colorful paths at the RiverWalk at Head of Falls in Waterville on Monday.





Staff photo by David Leaming Donna and Leonard Dow and their grandson, Owen, rest on the steps of the amphitheater at the RiverWalk at Head of Falls in Waterville on Monday. Leonard Dow, former director of FirstPark, said





 $^{\prime\prime}$ I had them not only answering my questions, but they were excited for my business.'

Katie Smith, Small Business Owner, Circa 1885



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Put away your summer shorts and prepare for fall fun in Waterville

BY NATHAN TOWNE Waterville Creates! Special to the Sentinel

nother summer has come and is now slowly fading into memories of freshly-picked strawberries on shortcake, afternoons with friends at the beach and evenings with family by the campfire. While we might mourn the annual "putting away of the shorts" (some of us, at least), there is indeed cause to celebrate as the return of autumn means the return of Waterville's most-popular art and community events - and this fall there's something for everyone, including a few unexpected surprises.

This has been a big year for the free Waterville Rocks! Concert series in Castonguay Square, but it's not over yet. The final concert of the summer season will be held on Friday, September 28th and features The Ryan Montbleau Band and Kenya Hall. As always, attendees are encouraged to arrive a little early and bring a blanket or chair to sit on - and friends, lots of friends! The Proper Pig Beer Garden will open at 5:30 p.m. and the concert starts promptly at 6 p.m. If it rains? No biggie - we move the concert inside the Waterville Opera House right next door. Details are available on the Waterville Rocks Facebook Page or the Waterville

Opera House website. Speaking of the Waterville Opera House - did you notice tney announced their new fail season a few weeks ago? The much-anticipated fall musical is a popular American classic -Hello, Dolly! opening on Friday, November 9. But you need not wait until November to catch some amazing performances at the Waterville Opera House: they're showing amazing world broadcasts of incredible theatre events starting the weekend of September 29th with a showing of National Theatre Live: Julie on Saturday and An American in Paris: Broadcast from London on Sunday.

As always, the Opera House will also host the popular annual Inland Hospital Pops Concert on October 5th and will continue to bring awesome music to downtown Waterville on October 6th with Josh Ritter in Concert.

More into comedy? That rascal Bob Marley returns to the Waterville Opera House for his annual performance on Friday, October 12th. There will also be a free community storytelling event, PechaKucha Night Waterville: Volume 29, on Friday, October 19th that is a creative networking event centered on storytelling in 20x20 (20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each while a speaker talks about the significance or meaning of each). For tickets to any of these shows or to see the full schedule of events, visit Opera-House.org.

This October will be an incredibly special time in Waterville's history as the official dedication and ribbon cutting for the RiverWalk at Head of Falls is scheduled on October 6th at 2 p.m., rain or shine, at Head of Falls on Front Street. The Honorable George J. Mitchell will be the keynote speaker at this event and it promises to be a memorable ceremony. More details will be announced as the date nears. The event will be free and open to the public.

Another major milestone happening in Waterville this autumn is the 40th anniversary of our amazing art house theatre, the Railroad Square Cinema, on Friday, October 5. The celebration will feature memorabilia from yesteryear, FREE popcorn (sweet!), surprises and, not sur-



Contributed photo



Contributed photo

The Waterville Opera House has an exciting season of broadcasts from London and around the world planned this fall, don't miss the broadcast of "An American in Paris"

Join the Waterville Creates! for a free Waterville Rocks! concert and pumpkin carving event on September 28th in Castonguay Square. on September 30.

prisingly, movies! In fact, they'll celebrate the day with the first two movies they ever screened at the theater in October of 1978... and will screen a premiere first look at a brand new movie shot this year by Director Michael McDade about Railroad Square! Join the celebration—and the start of Railroad Square's NEXT 40 years! Other must-attend events include the opening reception for their new Art in the Lobby exhibition Titi de Baccarat: With the heart and the reason, along with a screening of "BLACK GIRL" with a post-screening discussion, and the 40th anniversary screening of "Halloween" (1978) on October 31st featuring a restored and remastered digital print. It's going to be terrifying - and terribly fun too! For more information, visit railroadsquarecinema.

Now that the Common Street Arts gallery, classroom and clay studio have moved to their new temporary home at the Hathaway Creative Center, they will start up their adult and kids programming once again. Join Waterville Creates! for an open house on October 4. Not only will they hold the opening reception for the new exhibition, Face to Face: Portraits by Rabee Kiwan, they'll also offer free art activities in the new classroom and will offer a wheel-throwing demonstration in the clay studio too. This is an excellent opportunity to familiarize yourself with Common Street Arts! If you've never attended one of its programs before. For more information on the open house, visit WatervilleCreates.org.

Tickets are now on sale for the Waterville Public Library's fan-favorite FUNdraiser - Nosh & Knock Off 2018: Literary Larceny, an interactive mystery evening at the Library. This annual event will take place on Saturday, October 27 and promises to be the not-to-be-missed live theatrical mystery of the season. Who stole Dorothy of Oz's magical slippers - and will they get away with the crime?

Was it the White Witch from Narnia? Snape from the Harry Potter books? The Mad Hatter? Featuring some of our region's most illustrious and remarkable theatrical talent, Nosh & Knock Off 2018 will delight and entertain, while raising critical funds to support Library programs and services. Tickets are limited and go quickly as this event is 21+! Buy tickets or get more information at watervillelibrary.

Now, for the surprise! While details are still coming together, we now know enough to ask you to save the date for the official book launch of local author Earl H. Smith's history of Waterville, Maine, "Water Village" at the Waterville Opera House on Thursday, November 15. "Water Village" is the first history of



Waterville since 1902. In eighteen succinct chapters, Smith traces the city's evolution from a Colonial outpost to a major 21st century Maine community. He skillfully recounts Waterville's story in the context of state and national events and the city's close relationship with Colby College. You don't get

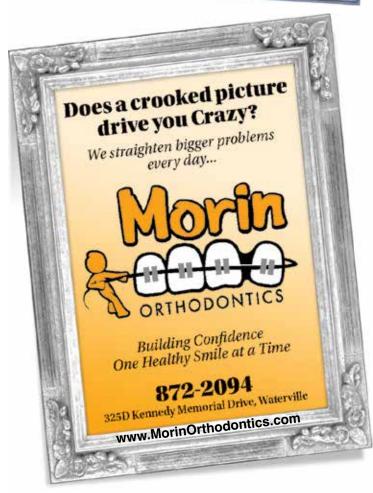
more Waterville than this event. More details will be announced

As you can see, while summer is almost over, things are really heating up here in Waterville this autumn. For more information on these events, visit the Waterville Creates! website at WatervilleCreates.org.









A New Day in Maine



On October 1, EMHS will become Northern Light Health.

As part of the system, Inland Hospital will change to Northern Light Inland Hospital and Sebasticook Valley Health will become Northern Light Sebasticook Valley Hospital.

The name change is a key step in our evolution from individual locations with a regional focus to an integrated health delivery organization with coordinated statewide offerings.

Learn more at NorthernLightHealth.org

Wednesday, September 26, 2018 5

Welcome to OAKLAND



Take time for some research before furniture shopping

said Breton. "We take care of our

customers. We extend warranties

When doing your homework be-

fore making a furniture purchase,

it's important to consider room

size. It's helpful to make a list of

the room sizes before shopping

into each room. It's also impor-

tant to consider how furniture

will be used. For instance, you'd

want to look for fabric that's more

durable and doesn't show dirt as

much for a sofa in the living room

that's going to be used every day.

It's also important to consider

might stay in style. If you have

a limited budget, it's better to

long time.

bucks.

shop around for something more

neutral that will stay in style for a

Shopping the sales can help to

furniture sales around Labor Day,

save money. Many stores have

Veteran's Day, President's Day

and Memorial Day. Other stores

have closeout sales. Looking

online or making some phone

calls, before heading out to the

store can sometimes save a lot of

Regardless of the type and size

of furniture that you plan to buy,

take time to research it before

The key to making a successful

purchase is to do your homework

making a major investment.

before you shop!

how long a certain type of fabric

to know what size furniture can fit

further than manufacturers."

BY WANDA CURTIS Correspondent

hopping for new furniture can involve a lot of time and money. Since most people today are pressed for time and many find their budgets stretched to the limit, it's wise to plan ahead.

The owner of Oakland Furniture, Alan Breton, has been in business selling quality furniture, flooring, mattresses and clocks for about 25 years. He's serviced many customers during that time looking for home furnishings. Breton said recently that, "It's important to do your homework before you shop."

According to Breton, there are more furniture selections available than ever. So it's important for customers to know what they're looking for and how much they have to spend before they start shopping. He believes that it's best to purchase high-quality furniture that will last a long time. Some customers, with a limited budget, may furnish one room at a time with high-quality furniture. Then as they have the money, they can upgrade other rooms.

"Some of the brands that we sell here," said Breton, "include Carolina Furniture, Best Home, New Classic Furniture, Yoder Amish Furniture, Progressive, Vaughan Bassett, Tennessee, Sunset, Eagle, Ashley, Liberty, Chromcraft and Bates.'

They also sell Sealy and Corsicana mattresses.

Breton advised that when buying a new living room set, an important consideration is whether the furniture has coil springs. He said that a sofa with coil springs will have three times the life of sofas without coil springs. He said that when purchasing a recliner, the buyer should flip the recliner over and check to see whether it's made of hardwood.

"There's a lot of particle wood and plywood out there," said Breton.

In regards to dining room furniture, he said that solid oak is the way to go. He said there's a lot of veneer furniture on the market but that solid oak should have three times the life of furniture

made with other types of wood. When purchasing a mattress, Breton said that if an inner-spring mattress is purchased, then a true box spring is necessary. He said that a foundation should be purchased for a foam mattress. He recommends buying a very firm mattress and buying an egg crate mattress to put on top if a

customer prefers a softer bed. Breton said the secret to the longevity of their business is that they take care of their customers. He said their motto is "No one does it better" and they try to stick to that. They're a family

business. "We offer one-day delivery service and that's been a piece of it,'

Century Pools in Oakland can provide everything pool-related

Correspondent

hen Century Pools opened its doors for business in 1972, a gallon of gas went for 36 cents. Dunkin Donuts introduced the tiny orbs of doughnut holes they called "Munchkins," and local theatres ushered in the blockbuster hit, "The

Forty-six years later, gasoline is in the triple digits, Munchkins can only be bought in multiples and movies are more often watched at home on streaming services.

But Century Pools is still located right across the street from its original location on Church Street in Oakland and continues to cite its focus on service as the key to its

Doug Hebert has been the manager at Century Pools for twenty-seven

"I came up to Maine to take care of my father, who was quite ill at the time. I intended on going back to New Hampshire, but I came to Century Pools looking for a job and stayed all these years."

In a business that is seasonal because of Maine's frigid winters, Century Pools is open seven months a year, from April 1st through the end of October. The staff, composed of sales associates Andy King and Starr Jordan, man the store, maintaining the showroom and the two pools they have outside, one above-ground and the other in-ground. They keep the store well-stocked with pool supplies for walk-in customers.

They take calls from customers who are interested in installing a pool, or who already have one but need supplies like sanitizers, skimming nets and pumps.

"I have a team of subcontractors I rely on to do the installations," Doug Hebert said, "and no online pool store can give people the service I can because we're local."

What are the benefits of owning a swimming pool? First are the health benefits related to swimming, both physical and mental.

People who socialize while engaging in exercise can lead to improved mental health.

Kids who swim often become active adults.

Swimming can slow down aging by reducing blood pressure, increasing muscle mass, improving oxygen and blood flow to the brain and increasing cardiovascular health.

Swimming burns more calories than jogging.

(From Dr. G. John Mullen, "The Hidden Benefits of Swimming" in Swimming World Magazine). What has changed since they opened way back in 1972?

"More people buy online," Doug Hebert says, "but the disadvantage to that is you're on your own once

"I have a team assembled on the ground to make sure customers get proper installation, the right supplies and continued customer service."

DOUG HEBERT, MANAGER CENTURY POOLS

that pool is delivered and installed. I have a team assembled on the ground to make sure customers get proper installation, the right supplies and continued customer service." Existing customers cite service, pricing, helpfulness and little touches like carrying items to their car as reasons for giving Century Pools high marks.

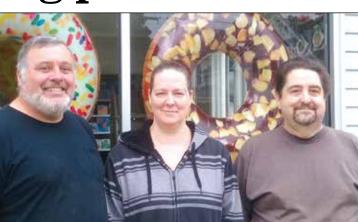
Buying locally has its own movement for good reasons:

For every \$100 spent at a local, independent business, \$68 stays in the community, according to Amy Hartzler, director of communications for the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies, a nonprofit that advocates building strong local economies. That's more than twice the amount chains reinvest. (Lisa Worthman in Forbes Magazine). Local businesses also provide jobs, are more invested in their communities, and are owned by neighbors and friends that support the local

In the winter months, when the dream of paddling around the backyard pool can only be accessed in the imagination, the staff at Century Pools find other things to do. In Doug Hebert's case, attending an annual trade show is on the

"I go down to the show at Atlantic City in January," he said, "and talk to distributors, look at all the new pool products and plan ahead for the coming season."

When making a decision about whether a swimming pool is in your tuture, remember that nealth tip One hour of vigorous lap swimming can burn as much as 715 calories. That's ten Munchkins.







Kate Cone photos

The staff of Century Pools, Doug Hebert, Starr Jordan and Andy King are ready to answer any of your pool questions. Below, Century Pools has been located on Church Street in Oakland since 1972.



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Pleau's great cuts of meat and fresh pastries makes loyal customers

Correspondent

he owners of Pleau's Market on the China Road in Winslow have been serving the Central Maine area for many years. This market continues to be discovered regularly by shoppers who wonder how they've gotten through life without one of Pleau's custom-cut rib-eye steaks.

"We pride ourselves on being an independent, family-owned grocery store," said second-generation owner Rob Pleau. "And we pride ourselves on our great employees and top-notch customer service."

People are rethinking the wisdom of buying food in bulk, said Pleau. They don't want to eat something that's been sitting in a warehouse for six months or more and they also like to support a local business. His meat department grinds hamburg fresh daily and if the hamburg doesn't sell the same day it's ground, he'll mark the price down. He personally guarantees none of his hamburg is pre-ground or pre-packaged.

"Customers who have moved out of the area will come back weekly for cuts of meat they can't find anywhere else," he said. "We also sell a lot of meat packages that include high quality cuts of poultry, pork and beef."

The store offers a menu of fresh



Contributed photo

Pleau's Market specializes in custom cuts of meat and hamburg ground daily. Located at the corner of Route 201 and China Road, Pleau's Market also offers meat packages for the freezer, with high quality cuts of poultry, pork and beef.

dough pizzas, deli sandwiches and pastry from the in-house bakery. Customers also can order meals-to-go, whether for supper that night or for the camping trip over the weekend.

"People might not have any idea what they want for dinner, but they'll stop by every night on the way home just to buy something they know is fresh," he said.

The store's fans don't mind sharing their enthusiasm. One Facebook poster said, "I've eaten lots of (ribeye) steaks in lots of places but have NEVER had a better steak than the ones that came from Pleau's!

Another customer raved about the spare ribs in barbecue sauce.

which delivered a meal of "yummy wicked tender falling off the bone

Local seasonal items, like fiddleheads, sell out quickly each spring. Each fall and winter, Pleau's Market carries apples picked at Lemieux's Orchard in Vassalboro. He also offers fresh local cider.

For the colder season, Pleau's also carries Dura-briques, which are cylinder-shaped, hardwood sawdust bricks made at the Duratherm plant in Vassalboro. They also sell quickly, especially during the shoulder seasons of fall and spring, when a fire in the wood stove in the morning is all that's needed to warm the house. They

also are excellent for backyard fire pits and camping, because they are long-lasting and inexpensive.

Pleau's single-serve and family-sized chicken pot pies are in high demand each fall, as are the freshly-baked apple turnovers, muffins and pies. At Thanksgiving and Christmas, he sells lots of prime rib roasts and steaks and even more of those freshly-baked pies.

Customers check every Monday morning for the store's sales flyers.

On many weekend mornings, visitors will be greeted by local students who are raising money for charitable causes. The Pleau family attended local schools and try to support efforts of young people who are working hard. Many of those same young people find their first job stocking shelves and waiting on customers at the market.

In addition to foods, beverages and household goods, Pleau's Market offers helpful and time-saving extras including a propane tank exchange, gift certificates, lottery and megabucks tickets, an ATM and a wide selec-

tion of beers, wines, and liquors. Once the home of the Winslow IGA, the store is at the corner of Route 201 and 10 China Road in Winslow. Find them on Facebook, visit pleausmarket.com or call 873-4612. The store is open daily from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

docks in the United States after

docks and lifts are made in Buf-

falo, NY, and Bilodeau has been

selling their highly-engineered

products for nine years. Wave

Armor roto-molded poly floating

docks and PWC boat ports are

manufactured in Maple Lake, MN.

Bilodeau has been selling their is-

land swim rafts and PWC ports for

the last three years and he picked

Great Northern Docks have been

manufactured in Naples, Maine

for 30 years and Bilodeau is their

largest dealer. They manufacture

both floating and stationary alu-

of wood dock hardware for the

custom-made wood sections.

we constantly search for new

products to bring to the local

market," Bilodeau said. "We carry

solution to fit anyone's waterfront

the widest variety of products in

Maine, so we can customize a

and budget."

docks like we always have.

"While we still build wooden

minum docks, as well as a full line

do-it-yourselfers or for Dock Guys'

up their entire line this year.

only five years. RGC aluminum





Susan Varney photos

Meridians sign at The Gerald, Main Street, Fairfield.

There is always something different and tasty at Meridians in Fairfield

BY SUSAN VARNEY Correspondent

eridians, 151 Main Street, Fairfield, is a small, select, scrumptious place, David Gulak and Josh Sullivan organic farmers and merchants with a taste for the unusual, distinct and inspired from around the corner and across the world are there to share their knowledge and wares: wine, beer, cider, cheese, grains, rice, paté, fresh produce or soft drink. Come in and peruse the shelves.

Come to a tasting event - a couple of times a month Meridians offers something special from a local or out of country vineyard or brewery.

What was once the The Gerald For more information, visit their Hotel continues to draw people location at 83 Cushman Road in to downtown Fairfield. Once a Winslow. Call 873-7198, email destination hotel now refitted and chris@dockguys.com or explore filled with vintage humans and a their website at dockguys.com. place to shop for local and worldly wonders. Domestic and imported libations, by the bottle or the case

with special discounts for bulk purchases. Need a keg or a platter for a family reunion, beach party or wedding? You've come to the right place.

Fairfield continues to draw merchants like the men at Meridians with the town's entrepreneurial traditions. So how did these present day businessmen come to Fairfield? It all began with an idea in 2014, an idea that small organic farms were the way of the future.

"Fairfield is a quiet, accessible, friendly place with infrastructure and potential," said Sullivan. It's a place for a small business, close to Waterville, which is 10 minutes away with its population and colleges but Fairfield is not as expensive and is still in a beautiful flowing river valley.

A recent Spanish Wine Tasting at Meridians, on a waxing August moon with Mars in retrograde

More MERIDIANS, PAGE 7

The Dock Guys can provide docks, boat storage and more

BY VALERIE TUCKER Correspondent

The Bilodeau family has been designing, building, installing, maintaining and removing waterfront systems since 1986. Chris Bilodeau's father ran the business until 2002, and today, Chris and his wife Laurie continue to improve and expand the family business at their new headquarters in Winslow.

Their crews take special care of all docks and related equipment. Everything is done by hand and stored properly. Beyond their dock installations, repairs and removals, the company has added boat winterization and storage to provide customers with a one-stop service experience.

"We have tried very hard to stick to one thing and be the best," Bilodeau said. "But after years of hearing customers' complain about the lack of service and respect from their "boat guy," we've added complete boat winterization services, including shrink wrapping and basic repair work."

The company also provides outside storage on the ten acres at the new facility located near the Carter Memorial Bridge.

Dock Guy's teams installed 750 docks this spring and summer, and they expect to remove even more this fall. Bilodeau says he has seen a significant increase in fall dock installations, because customers want to avoid the rush in the spring. In the fall, he also can lock in better project design prices for spring installations, because he can avoid manufacturers' price increases in January.

"In the peak of our seasons, we work seven days a week, with up to five crews to accommodate our customers' schedules," said Bilodeau. "We provide an honest day's work for an honest day's pay and our growth proves that people appreciate that.

After so many years in the business, he and his crews have the expertise to repair and maintain any piece of waterfront equip-

"We use GPS and digital photography to guarantee equipment is installed properly and exactly the way our customers want," he

Services go far beyond the basics, from sledgehammering dock legs into the lake or river bottom to making minor repairs and replacing small hardware.

"We take great pride in providing fast service," Bilodeau said. "We also leave everything tidy after we finish, even washing the dock

"We carry the widest variety of products in Maine, so we can customize a solution to fit anyone's waterfront and budget."

CHRIS BILODEAU, OWNER, THE DOCK GUYS



before we leave.

Dock Guys can refurbish wooden docks and deck boards, replace rotten and broken wood as well as sand, seal or stain surfaces. They replace boat lift cables, replace anchors and chains and provide pressure-washing services. Docks can be installed on posts or wheels or floating. They also install boat lifts, including manual, hydro-cable and hydraulic equipment. They also add the accessories, including canopies and stairs, and remove and store everything in the fall.

While the service side of his business has always been the

core, the explosive growth on the retail side has been driving the train recently, Bilodeau said. Today, he sells waterfront equipment statewide. Their full product line manufacturers include Bertrand, RGC, Wave Armor and Great Northern. They also carry specialty marine products, including solar lights and mooring equipment, through other manufacturers.

Bertrand aluminum docks and boat lifts are made in Sherbrooke, Quebec and provide some of the lowest cost solutions on the market. Dock Guys has grown to be their largest dealer of





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Welcome to RAIRFIELD

Fairfield History House is filled with treasures and memories



Susan Varney photos

Fairfield history House, the Cotton Smith House at 42 High Street.



Susan Varney photos

The Devenish Distributors representative and David Gulak, one of owners of Meridians tell about Spanish wines as guest Savanna Dickey, Fairfield, tastes a selection.

Meridians

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

brought out more than 20 people to taste six wines provided by Devenish Distributors of Portland two whites, a rosé and three reds.

The tasting started with Gulak introducing guests to a couple of white wines from the Basque region of northern Spain. An area cooled by mountains and sea, Riojas, cool, acidic, aging to nutty. The wines were all organic and as the Devenish representative said, "Wines that taste like dirt." High in mineral content, the vines are not irrigated making the roots go deeper thus having a higher

"minerality" and great flavor. Gulak said he starts with the white wines since they are lighter and moves on to the heavier reds. The first wine was Biaxas, then came the Albarino which was my favorite as well as Laura Patterson's.

Patterson lives in Waterville and comes to tastings often. This spring she was in Barcelona visiting her daughter, a political philosophy student there.

"The cheapest bottle of red picked up anywhere is delicious but it is hard to find a good white. Albarino is the one."

Gulak told us Spain has 2 million acres devoted to vineyards. We moved on to a Rosé light and sweeter. Then to the Reds where several favored the Lafanfarria: good but I'd already fallen for the Albarino which I ended up bringing home and sharing with friends over dinner with fresh vegetables and gluten-free Gnocchi modified from Aube Giroux's recipe seen in the film "Modified."

Snacks served with the tasting included Olli Salumeria Chorizo, from California and found in their cooler along with a selection of cheese such as the cheddar at

fresh & delicious

the tasting.

For four years Meridians has been treating the community to some of the tastiest wines, beers, and foods of the world, local and afar so whether you've lived in Maine all your life or you're a recent transplant, a visitor, tourist, or convert to the rural scene, there is something for every heart and soul here. Stop by and check out the selection and get on the emailing list for tastings and events.



BY SUSAN VARNEY Correspondent

uilt around 1890, the Cotton-Smith House, 42 High Street, Fairfield is a relatively unchanged example of the Queen Anne style. Its notable exterior is accompanied on the interior by beautiful woodwork, wall and ceiling stenciling and stained glass windows. Referred to as the Smith House, the original owner was John Cotton, a manufacturer of wood products. Cotton gained prominence as the founder (1882) and owner of Fairfield's Maine Manufacturing Company, which made wooden ice boxes. In 1894, Cotton sold his property and moved to Nashua, New Hampshire.

The second owner of the house was John H. Smith (1848-1925) a carpenter. After the death of Smith's wife Effie in 1946, the couples' only son, Aleson, inherited the property. The Cotton-Smith house was sold to the Fairfield Historical Society in 1983 by Aleson's wife, Gertrude Smith, through a gift from Ray Toby. (Gertrude Smith was a long-time music teacher at Lawrence High School.)

A group of historic-minded citizens began in 1973 to gather and organize information about the history of Fairfield, finally getting a home for their labors when the Cotton-Smith house came their way in 1983. The Cotton-Smith House had essentially a one-family ownership since the Cotton family only lived there a couple of years before moving to New Hampshire and selling the house to his carpenter (Smith) whose family turned it over to become Fairfield's History House. The house is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The board of directors, members and volunteers of the Historical Society plan and put on events throughout the year to share the beauty of the house and Fairfield's industrial revolution, their knowledge of Fairfield and to raise money to keep it all going. Open Tuesdays for tours and research, the members continue to gather and catalogue information making it easier to help people do family research. If it's archives, antiques, history and photos you want, the History House is a good place to begin.

Some of the events sponsored by the History House include a Quilt Show every two years. This year is was at the Victor Grange in Fairfield Center featuring 60 quilts, old and new, by friends and members of the Historical Society to raise money. Every year there is a barn and yard sale fundraiser the first weekend of October (October 6 this year); donations accepted.

The museum has events throughout the year to bring folks out to see special collections or talented locals doing crafts or talking about Fairfield history. Volunteers point out distinct features of the house including the ceiling in the dining room with detailed woodwork, beautiful and intricate.

The History House collections include costumes,

"The Barn houses a military collection and diaries back to the Revolution and the Aroostook War."

DOUG CUTCHIN, PRESIDENT FAIRFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD

wedding dresses, hats, fans, furniture, dishes and table wares, cooking utensils in a kitchen fitted with a wood cook stove, hand pump in sink, ice box accessed from front and rear where ice would be loaded by the delivery man, butter molds, wash boards and everything needed by a household of the late 1800s.

Volunteers change exhibits with the season going all out decorating for Christmas. Other times they feature authors of Maine, costumes of ladies and gents, featuring hats and fans and the ever beautiful painted pine furniture manufactured in Fairfield and sold around the world.

"The barn houses a military collection and diaries back to the Revolution and the Aroostook War," said Doug Cutchin, President of the board and historic lecturer. There are many old tools on display in the barn as well.

Fairfield was something of a center of the universe in by-gone days because of its many creative entrepreneurs. The stately homes of earlier businessmen, mill owners and entrepreneurs like E.J. Lawrence, of Library and school fame, Amos Gerald who invented the drop-head sewing machine and built the famous Gerald Hotel, G.W. Hinckley of Good Will-Hinckley School, W.T. Bovie, PhD, pioneer of therapeutic and surgical tools and W. Connor who was the first to electrify Fairfield. The remains of the electrical generating station can be seen on the down river side of Mill Island which also has many decaying remains of mill foundations. These men, among others continue to lend the town its beauty and history.

The museum has a general collection of maps, photographs and documents dating back to the 1700s with over 4000 photos of the area and its people which volunteers are working to identify. Copies of some photos can be seen at Elm City Photo after getting an ID number from the museum.

Primary and secondary sources are available at the History House for genealogy research. Also the History House has information about the tuberculosis

sanatorium operating from the 1890s to the 1970s. Research in the Fairfield Historical Society's collections is available for free to members; non-members pay a small fee. For research inquires call 453-2998 or write to Fairfield Historical Society at 42 High St. Fairfield 04937 or email fhs2@myfairpoint.net. Open Tuesdays and the second Saturday each month. March through November, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Susan Varney photos

Beautiful wood detail of ceiling in dining room at the Fairfield History House.



We've moved to our new temporary home at the Hathaway Creative Center!

Join us at our Waterville Creates! Open House October 4th, 5:00–7:00pm

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- tea towel self portraits
- art happy hour
- pumpkin carving
- Teen Tuesdays and Elementary Thursday after school programs
- holiday cookie decorating
- professional development workshops for artists



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