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Reel Big Fish needs a real big crowd

Kirsten Sylvain
Editor-in-Chief

Last April, the committee in charge of planning a national act concert for Gorham decided to push back the concert date to the fall because of a lack of time for preparation, and now, five days before the ska punk band, Reel Big Fish, is scheduled to visit Gorham, it’s crunch time.

Last year, the student senate allocated $27,000 of student activity fee to fund a concert featuring a national act. The money rolled over and has been re-purposed for the concert scheduled on Sept. 29. At the Friday student senate last week, eight days before the concert, the senate approved another $6,257.50 of student activity fee money towards the concert with a vote of 13 to 2 opposed, bringing total expenditures for the concert to nearly $34,000. As of last Friday, no tickets had yet been sold. Posters were up all over campus reading, “tickets sold at the CIA, Campus Involvement and Activities office (Gorham) and the SIAC.”

“We need to put our skin in the game and get behind it.”

- Chris Camire
Student Senate Chair

Activities Center (Portland), but no tickets were yet on sale at those locations as of Friday. Tickets will, however, go on sale at both locations this Monday, and they are being sold online at www.concertideastickets.com. The student rate is $15 per ticket, and the public rate is $25.

Dan Welter, Coordinator of Student Activities in Gorham and head of the planning efforts, explained that he and others planning the event worked with the resources that they had as best they could to get tickets on sale as quickly as possible. Welter called an emergency meeting at the Husky Hutt in Gorham last Thursday, calling for help with the efforts. Student senate chair, Christopher Camire, attempted to bolster involvement further at the last Senate meeting. “We need to put our skin in the game and get behind it. Tell a friend, tell everyone,” he said. Senate Treasurer Samuel Harmon reiterated his concern saying, “It’s too late to back out.”

And other student senators emphasized that it’s now or never. Despite some of the last minute planning, Senator Andrew Kalloch said that the amount of student involvement and excitement going into putting on the show far exceeded his expectations.

The concert will be held indoors at 3 p.m. at the Gorham Field House at which the fire code specifies a maximum capacity of 2,600 people. The student rate is $15, the public rate is $25.

See Reel Big Fish on page 3

Gray and Dodge talk Libertarian platform

Kirsten Sylvain
Editor-in-Chief

Last Friday Libertarian Vice Presidential candidate, Jim Gray, and Libertarian Maine senate candidate, Ian Dodge, spoke about their party’s platforms at the Wishcamper Center.

Gray is the running mate of Libertarian presidential candidate and two-time Governor of New Mexico Gary Johnson. Gray is a Navy veteran, a former federal prosecutor for the U.S. Attorney’s office in Los Angeles and an Orange County Superior Court judge.

Gray and Johnson are “running to win,” as the candidates for the U.S.’s third largest political party. Gray, who described Maine as one-party state, as “almost ‘third-world’ in that regard, outlined what he called “a revolution in the making.”

He even compared the state of the U.S. to the Roman Empire before it collapsed.

"Rome was over extended and it collapsed. We are Greece. We want to balance the budget for 2013.”

For Gray and Johnson, the primary idea behind their strategy is cutting government programs and a laissez-faire attitude towards business. They want to infuse the economy with competition. Planning to audit the federal government like any other private corporation and dismantle the departments of Education, Energy and Commerce, as well as the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the IRS, they would also attempt...
Faculty complaints about development cuts

Brian Saxton
News Editor

When USM’s colleges were asked to cut over 1 million dollars from their annual budget last year, funds allocated for faculty development were largely targeted for cuts.

For professors the availability of this money is something they expect. It allows them to research, write, invent and stay current in their academic field and in many cases pursue larger long-term goals that benefit the university in the long run.

Professors use these funds to publish work, travel to conferences and present research allowing faculty to stay up-to-date on teaching methods and creating a more interesting and engaging classroom experience for students. It also makes USM more competitive in attracting higher quality professors and in turn, more students, and retention of students is a top priority for USM’s President Theo Kalikow.

Theo Kalikow. She stated in her address to faculty on August 31 that attracting and retaining students is key to success at USM and the cornerstone to a more fiscally sound university.

It was deep cuts to the budget last year that lead to a large reduction in faculty development funds. The deans of each of the three colleges at USM were asked to find 1 million dollars to cut from each of their budgets. In addition to that amount, they each had to cut a mandatory $100,000 from funds allocated specifically for the faculty development within the college. For many of the deans this represented nearly all of their available faculty development money.

Lynn Kuzma, Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences said that all additional funds and the baseline for faculty development had to be stripped from her budget. She had a little over $100,000 prior to the cuts. However, she was able to use salary funds on full-year sabbatical to make funds available. She says her faculty receives about $1,000 each year for development expenses using these funds. Professors on sabbatical get paid up to one semester’s wages. However, if they choose to extend their sabbatical to one year, half of their expected annual salary becomes money available for use elsewhere.

Provost Michael Stevenson has said that faculty development funds are a high priority for the University. “We need to make sure there are funds for people to develop skills, go to conferences, the list of things is huge.” Stevenson, who was not at the university when the cuts were made, explained that the school needed to meet a particular fund target in order to balance the budget, protect jobs and still provide a high quality education to students.

The responsibility to balance the budget means there is no going back to the way things were. Stevenson has asked the deans to nominate faculty members for a task force whose concern it will be to make funds available for faculty development and to oversee the current system.

Studnet Senate last Friday

Sidney Dritz
Contributor

Student senators covered a range of issues at the meeting last Friday, most notably the upcoming Reel Big Fish concert and the reinstatement of the College Republicans as a recognized USM student organization.

The re-instatement of the formerly defunct College Republicans was passed with a unanimous vote. During the discussion leading up to the vote, however, Director of Portland Student Life, Chris O’Connor, and Senator and College Republican sponsor, Joshua Dodge, reminded senate that the group must be accepted or denied based on the legitimacy of their constitution, rather than the senators’ feelings on Republicans in general.

“They’re going to be using the same constitution they were using before they went defunct,” said Senator Dodge. “It was approved before, I don’t see why it shouldn’t be approved now.”

The College Republicans’ representative at the senate gave a brief account of what the group hopes to achieve now that they’ve been reinstated. They will take a more bipartisan angle in planning some of their first events, including a voter registration drive in collaboration with Mainers for Obama and a debate on the positions of Romney and Obama in October.

After the vote for the College Republicans, the senate faced complaints from students and faculty. According to the Student Affairs Committee, the greatest concerns brought to the senate’s attention this semester have been problems related to the parking garage. Complaints specified a lack of parking, perhaps due to the garage’s open status to the public. Others have mentioned that students have been ticketed within the garage due to the new parking passes, which have been difficult to see. The senate decided that these problems will be discussed more in depth at the next meeting.

In addition, Friday’s meeting saw the amendment of five new senators. Each was asked his or her major and what committee he or she hoped to join. Each new senator was unanimously voted in, the table slowly filling until the last newly appointed Senator, Ben Trundy, was asked to bring his chair with him from the audience to the table.

Tyler Boothby, James Duffey, Michael Schermuly, Ciara Pickens and Trundy were all approved as members of the senate. Though the new members have raised the senate’s numbers substantially, as O’Connor pointed out, there is still space for more.

From Libertarian on page 1

to repeal the 16th amendment, which gives the government the right to tax income. Instead, Gray proposed a consumption tax. They would also, in effect, cut most forms of government-funded financial aid for college students, expecting students to fund their education through private loans.

If a student has no credit by the time they’re in college, then “they’ve probably done something wrong,” Gray said in a private interview with the Free Press. He maintains that if all students’ loans were privatized, tuition rates and loan interest rates would go down significantly, taking some of the pressure off students. Students would safely be able to obtain private loans in order to fund their own educations, according to Gray.

Gray’s answer for Afghanistan is to bring troops home and keep troops at home until absolutely necessary. He and Johnson would also bring most military personnel stationed abroad home, closing many of the 900 to 1,000 bases overseas.

Gray also proposed completely halting government funding for Planned Parenthood and a complete repeal of the Affordable Care Act. The healthcare act would be replaced with a system of government-funded clinics for those who cannot afford to take care of themselves, and for everyone else, he suggested a catastrophic insurance plan with a $4,000 deductible.

Dodge started off the event with plans for his potential senator position, talking about his local law firm, but concluded instead that the active disenfranchisement of an entire group of voters who are unable to comply with the strict regulations of the laws.

“We have Charlie Summers who pushed ending same day voting. He claims he wants to spread liberty, but when he come to Maine, he’s disenfranchising people.”

He moved on quickly to discuss the legalization of marijuana in Maine.

“If we’re not allowed to self-medicate what the hell is the point of living,” Dodge said in one memorable argument. Gray, when asked if he vouched for the legalization of marijuana answered “no,” but explained that he supported the strict regulations of marijuana as a substance available to the public of legal age.
The goal of student senate and those involved in planning the event is that profits from the show will allow USM to put on even larger and more impressive events in the future. Welter says that he believes the concert will bring in about 1,000 people, with the hope that a majority of tickets will be sold the day of the show. In order for the event to make USM a profit, it would need to sell to maximum capacity with much of the sales from public tickets. The bottom line is that any chance of a profit is dependent upon ticket sales.

For Student Body President, TJ Williams, the most frustrating part of the planning process was the wait for contracts and other details to go through, but he agrees that the concert has the potential to be a big success with the help of student volunteers. Those most directly involved in the planning also seem fairly confident that the show will be a success despite some preparation issues, like slow ticket sales and contract and set-up issues late in the process.

For Welter, who has put an extraordinary amount of work into planning the concert, he feels that the show has every chance of being a huge success at this point. “We all have to work together to make this show a true success. This show has the potential to be a major indicator of the future of events like this at USM,” Welter said.

The original show was postponed after the planning committee recognized that the specified timeline was unrealistic. Some on the committee believed that in pushing the concert back, the time would allow for a better planned event. While student involvement has been impressive so far in the efforts to put on the show, estimations for turn-out at the show remain uncertain.

Ska punk band Reel Big Fish will play on Saturday at the Gorham Field house.

From Reel Big Fish on page 1

news@usmfreepress.org
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Courtesy of the band

30% off the meter
Just show your student I.D.
DR DOG
DELTA SPIRIT, SPENCER ALBEE
SEPTEMBER 18

SOULIVE
ALAN EVANS TRIO
SEPTEMBER 21

REGINA SPEKTOR
ONLY SON
OCTOBER 8

SLIGHTLY STOOPID
OCTOBER 18

MIIKE SNOW
SAT OCTOBER 20

BRANDI CARLILE
BLITZEN TRAPPER
OCTOBER 24

PAPER DIAMOND
MORRI$, OF THE TREES
SAT OCTOBER 27

CITIZEN COPE
OCTOBER 29

FUN.
Campus Consciousness presents:
A benefit for Mainers United For Marriage
OCTOBER 31

PRETTY LIGHTS
KEYS N KRATES, ELIOT LIPP
NOVEMBER 1

G. LOVE
& SPECIAL SAUCE
NOVEMBER 10

UMPHREY’s McGEE
THE BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIAL HOUR
NOVEMBER 3

TAKING BACK SUNDAY
BAYSIDE, THE MENZINGERS
NOVEMBER 18

DINOSAUR JR.
SCREAMING FEMALES
NOVEMBER 29

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA
DECember 6

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DECEMBER 30 & 31

Get tickets online at www.statetheatrendland.com, in person at the Cumberland County Civic Center Box Office and charge by phone at 800-745-3000. Tickets available at the State Theatre Box Office one hour before show time.
USM Announces Class of 2016 Pioneers

The USM Pioneer students for 2012 are:
- Dustin Boucher of Caribou plans to major in computer science. He is a graduate of Caribou High School.
- Christopher Dunn of Kennebunk plans to major in mechanical engineering. He is a graduate of Kennebunk High School.
- Christopher Fitzgerald of Scarborough plans to major in biology. He is a graduate of Scarborough High School.
- Nathan Goodrich of Gorham plans to major in mechanical engineering. He is a graduate of Gorham High School.
- Nicholas Hamel of Rumford plans to major in mathematics. He is a graduate of Mountain Valley High School.
- Megan Maguire of South Berwick plans to major in mathematics. She is a graduate of Marshwood High School.
- Joseph Murphy III of Lewiston plans to major in mechanical engineering. He is a graduate of Lewiston High School.
- Ryan W. Pulver of Vassalboro plans to major in mechanical engineering. He is a graduate of Erskine Academy.
- Mackenzie Sullivan of Lewiston plans to major in biology. She is a graduate of Lewiston High School.
- Christopher Walker of Saco plans to major in mathematics. He is a graduate of Thornton Academy.
- Joseph Walter of Brunswick plans to major in biology. He is a graduate of Brunswick High School.
- Allison Ward of Rockland plans to major in mathematics. She is a graduate of Oceanside High School.
- Nicolas Williams of Mexico plans to major in engineering. He is a graduate of Mountain Valley High School.

For more information on events check out: www.usm.maine.edu/events

Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log Sep 10 to Sep 16

Sunday, September 9, 2012
Run Forest Run
4:26 a.m. —Three subjects took off from Philippi Hall when police arrived on a related call. The subjects were not located.

Vandalism
12:30 p.m. —Report of vandalism to a wall in a stairwell.

Thursday, September 13, 2012
Artist Expression
8:33 a.m. —Graffiti was reported in multiple locations at Glickman Library. The incident is still under investigation.

Friday, September 14, 2012
Another Fire
10:15 p.m. —Fire alarm was activated in Philippi Hall.

Parking lot Drugs
11:39 p.m. —Officer in parking lot G12 with three subjects, and possible drug activity.

Saturday, September 15, 2012
Lost and Found
12:11 p.m. —Assisted Gorham Police with locating student in Dickey Wood Hall.

Wednesday, September 19, 2012
Hot Enough?
9:27 a.m. —Fire alarm activated in Philippi Hall due to the steam from a shower.

Thursday, September 20, 2012
Leaving the scene
8:01 a.m. —Gorham police were trying to locate a subject who was involved in leaving the scene of an accident. The accident was off campus, and involved a USM student.

I want my lawyer
3:14 p.m. —Police responded to a suspicious person at the Law School. Person had been involved in a previously reported incident.

Oo-oo That Smell!
7:22 p.m. —Police responded to odor of Marijuana at Upton-Hastings Hall

Keepr of the piece
11:15 p.m. —SUMMONS to Anthony A, Da Silva, 18 of Gorham for Possession of Drug

Friday September 9, 2012
Pipes Down!
3:06 a.m. —Police responded to excessive noise in a room in Upton Hastings Hall

Dry Dorm
3:42 a.m. —Student referred to of community standards for having liquor.
September 24, 2012

**Puzzles**

**Crossword**

Across
1. Energy
2. Arouse, eventually
10. Lose all power
14. In union, or a score
15. Heavenly hunter
16. Grammy winning New Age
17. Workout actions
19. Via, informally
22. Response to “Are you?”
27. “To my ear…”
28. Bond with the 1939 hit “Heat Wave Tonight!”
29. Pass ball, n.e.
32. Suddy menacing gesture
33. Nourish crawfish
34. Fuming ending with yes
35. Proton(s), e.g.
36. Celts
37. Pharmacy containers
38. Der. Comb form
39. Prefix meaning “bone”
40. Caesar bread
41. Dog. Founded in 1910
48. Where actions put potential
51. Bend one’s elbow
53. X is XXXI
56. Feds. directed him
59. Desert resting place
62. Is... in pert
63. Intimate conversation between lovers
64. Run... get credit at the joint
67. Where the oldest walks
68. Auto theft
69. Beaver’s creations
70. College student’s part-time
71. Go to... (interjection)

**Sudoku**

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 × 9-square grid subdivided into nine 3 × 3 boxes. Some of the squares contain numbers. The object is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3 × 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.

**Cryptogram**

A letter in a cryptogram stands for another letter. Use the hint to crack the code.

**Weekly Horoscope**

**Word Search**

Theme: Deck of Cards

Search for the list of words in the grid of letters. Grab a pen and circle each word as you find them.

**The solution to last issue’s crossword**

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Aries
March 21-April 19
Find a middle ground—between keeping things super light and dealing with intense issues—in your relationship.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Today your fantasies may be pulling you away from the tangible details of what you do for a living. Keep one foot on the ground.

Gemini
May 21-June 20
Playfulness predominates. Put off more serious matters till another day.

Cancer
June 21-July 22
You (or the kids) may be inclined to splurge on some kind of self-indulgence today. A little spoiling is fine; just don’t go overboard.

Leo
July 23-August 22
Contradictory mental impulses emerge. Light, floaty and casual on one hand, digging for secrets on the other. A bit of both is OK.

Virgo
August 23-September 22
Try to avoid money hassles today. An ideal day for simply indulging yourself—as long as you can afford it.

Libra
September 23-October 22
A strong desire for justice motivates you today. Competitive interactions are possible, but you can choose to be charming instead.

Scorpio
October 23-November 21
A confused, misguided individual pays attention to your insights. You help bring clarity.

Sagittarius
November 22-December 21
Today you tend to see only what you want to see. A positive focus is fine, but remember reality too!

Capricorn
December 22-January 19
Talk to people more; you need mental stimulation and new experiences. Be alert for ideas which enhance your abilities at work.

Aquarius
January 20-February 18
A loved one demonstrates caring and commitment. Your bonds of attachment are strengthened.

Pisces
February 19-March 20
Today, your relationships are balancing self-will with the rights and desires of another. Compromise can lead to an optimally loving interaction.
There’s a lot of pressure today on what young people should do with their lives. Finish high school, go to a four-year college, get a degree, make a lot of money at your prestigious job and get married. It’s straightforward. It’s what everyone does. But what if you wanted to take a different path? Do you want to take a year off and pursue something other than education and money? Switch majors? Maybe you could begin following a dream you’ve had for a long time.

The Dream Share Project is a movement that is encouraging people to do just that. Chip Hiden and Alexis Irvin, lost and unsatisfied with their post-college office jobs, set off on a cross-country road trip in August 2010 to learn about themselves and meet successful people who have spent their lives following their dreams. Along the way they learned about finding a life-long passion, committing to a dream and rededicating what ‘success’ means.

“It started out as just talking to a few friends who were also recent graduates and were frustrated with their new jobs,” said Irvin.

“Neither of us had traveled much before,” said Hiden, “so we decided to go on a road trip. And then that idea evolved into so much more. We wanted to go and figure out what the ingredients were for success.”

The decision to document the journey was made. The couple went on to purchase Flip Video cameras, a new tent, plenty of food and then started out on their trip. Beginning in Maryland they traveled west, stopping in major cities along the way to find and interview people who have been successful in achieving their goals.

“We would pick which city we were going to stay in and then get right down to research,” said Irvin.

Throughout their trip, they met a lot of interesting and inspirational people including an Olympic skier, a member of the Original Latin Kings of Comedy, a slam poet, a Project Runway fashion designer, the CEO of a sustainable flip flop company and many others.

After three months of traveling and driving over 15,000 miles, the couple returned home with over 50 hours of raw footage to work with. Neither had any experience in video editing or media studies, so creating a documentary was quite a task. Funded primarily by an account on Kickstarter, an online platform that helps fund creative projects, they were able to pay to put the film together and manage music royalties. The film is also sponsored by the Creative Visions Foundations, a group that supports creative leaders.

Now they are touring the country, showing their film and encouraging students to take their dreams seriously.

“A lot of the time we have these dreams, these goals that we keep to ourselves,” said Hiden. “It’s scary to put yourself out there sometimes, but once you share it, your dream starts to become reality.”

“It’s scary to put yourself out there sometimes, but once you share it, your dream starts to become reality.”

-Chip Hiden
Co-founder of the Dream Share Project

“Saying what you want to do out loud, especially to your friends and family is really important,” said Irvin. “Once you tell everyone you want to write a book they’re going to be asking you, ‘Hey, how’s that book coming?’ And you’re going to want to be able to say you’re on top of it. It creates a support group.”

The video addressed what is referred to as “paralysis by analysis,” a state in which people think too much about a problem and do not take any action out of fear. According to various professors of sociology and career counselors interviewed in the documentary, one of the biggest reasons people don’t attempt to accomplish their goals is simply fear of failure.

“We’re talking about post-college goals here, which is a really serious subject. Even terrifying for some people,” said Irvin. “I think this is a very light way of getting people to start talking about it together.”

“It’s common that, as the school-year begins to unfold, students are bombarded with the questions, ‘So, what are your plans for this year?’ and ‘What do you want to do with your major.’ Sometimes, students just don’t know yet.”

After each screening of the documentary, Hiden and Irvin take their audience through a simple workshop to help them focus on their own dreams. The workshop asked audiences to openly discuss their dreams, list challenges they may face and ask for possible solutions from their peers. Discussion really got serious on both the Portland and Gorham campuses when the documentary was screened on Thursday.

“It was just really reassuring to talk with people who value childhood dreams,” said senior music major, Leigh Charest. “It was really encouraging. Sometimes I feel like I’m one of the only people focusing on serious goals. Now I see that everyone has their own dreams that they’re working toward and are willing to share their experiences.”

“This documentary helped me see that I’m on the right track and showed me some easy ways to stay there,” said sophomore Jennifer Joldersma, a digital art and media student. “I’m so inspired to just keep on going and become as successful as I can be in everything I do.”

For people interested in the project that are unable to attend a screening, there is an open-enrollment class offered on The Dream Share Project web site. The class, which can be finished at your own pace, contains a series of podcasts and reading to help users break through mental roadblocks and discover their passion.

This documentary has inspired college students across the country to live for themselves and follow their dreams. Hiden and Irvin are still connected to a few students that they have inspired in different corners of the country. There is a section of their web site where people are allowed to post their dreams for the world to see. Participants are often helped and encouraged by other users. Remember, the first step is to say what you want to do out loud, so go tell someone your dream today.
USM Theatre presents: 8

Sam Hill
Arts & Culture Editor

With election day right around the corner, citizens all over Maine are likely to be researching both candidates and referendum questions in order to make a well-informed decision come November. One of the hot issues in Maine this year is Question One: Do you want to allow the State of Maine to issue licenses to same-sex couples? The USM Department of Theatre is aiming to inform and entertain voters with their upcoming staged-reading of "8," a docudrama on the issue.

Tell me about your outfit.

“The spandex are from an athletic store, Olympia Sports, I think. They’re not leggings, I like spandex better, it’s definitely more comfortable, I really like to be comfortable. And then these strappy sandals came from Second Time Around, a consignment store, they were only 20 bucks! The skirt is a hand-me-down, it’s Forever 21. And the earrings are from Mexicali Blues, and then the rings…”

Yes, tell me about those rings!

“So the rings (from left to right); this turquoise one was a gift from a good friend, it’s from a craft fair. This one’s from France, it’s pretty plain but it has a really cool Mayan design on it. This one has been in the family for a while. It was given to me by a relative during World War II and when they died it was passed down through the family and eventually my mom gave it to me. It has the original initial engraved on it. This little one was given to my mom when she was younger and then she gave it to me.”

So do you where the rings all the time?

“Yes I always wear all four of them, but I like to switch up which fingers I wear them on.”

Do you have any style icons or anything that influences your clothing choices?

“I don’t really have any style icons. I guess I don’t really try very hard to find trends, but sometimes I’ll look at a magazine or look at Vogue and I’ll see interesting clothes and I’ll paint a person wearing them. I think fashion does influence what I choose to paint sometimes. So I guess I express trends through art, then, rather than through myself.”

What are your favorite places to shop?

“I feel like Portland is very artsy, very down-to-earth. I see some people that have a more grungy, hippie-type look and other people who are more traditional. Portland style is definitely more practical and functional, whereas in a more modern city like Montreal people seem to dress up more. Portland’s great because there’s a lot of variety and individuality here.”

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Do you have any style icons or anything that influences your clothing choices?

“I don’t really have any style icons. I guess I don’t really try very hard to find trends, but sometimes I’ll look at a magazine or look at Vogue and I’ll see interesting clothes and I’ll paint a person wearing them. I think fashion does influence what I choose to paint sometimes. So I guess I express trends through art, then, rather than through myself.”

What are your favorite places to shop?

“I feel like Portland is very artsy, very down-to-earth. I see some people that have a more grungy, hippie-type look and other people who are more traditional. Portland style is definitely more practical and functional, whereas in a more modern city like Montreal people seem to dress up more. Portland’s great because there’s a lot of variety and individuality here.”

With election day right around the corner, citizens all over Maine are likely to be researching both candidates and referendum questions in order to make a well-informed decision come November. One of the hot issues in Maine this year is Question One: Do you want to allow the State of Maine to issue licenses to same-sex couples? The USM Department of Theatre is aiming to inform and entertain voters with their upcoming staged-reading of "8," a docudrama on the issue.

Tell me about your outfit.

“The spandex are from an athletic store, Olympia Sports, I think. They’re not leggings, I like spandex better, it’s definitely more comfortable, I really like to be comfortable. And then these strappy sandals came from Second Time Around, a consignment store, they were only 20 bucks! The skirt is a hand-me-down, it’s Forever 21. And the earrings are from Mexicali Blues, and then the rings…”

Yes, tell me about those rings!

“So the rings (from left to right); this turquoise one was a gift from a good friend, it’s from a craft fair. This one’s from France, it’s pretty plain but it has a really cool Mayan design on it. This one has been in the family for a while. It was given to me by a relative during World War II and when they died it was passed down through the family and eventually my mom gave it to me. It has the original initial engraved on it. This little one was given to my mom when she was younger and then she gave it to me.”

So do you where the rings all the time?

“Yes I always wear all four of them, but I like to switch up which fingers I wear them on.”

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Sidney Dritz

Arts & Culture Recommends

Sidney Dritz

As the country moves closer to election season, the Voices United concert series will kick off with at least one event in each state in order to raise awareness for the Americans United for the Separation of Church and State. Here in Portland, Cindy Bullens, Connor Garvey and Vanessa Torres will perform at One Longfellow Square Sept. 30, with doors opening at 7 p.m.

The concert is being played to benefit a cause. Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, has been fighting for since its formation in 1947, the fight to protect the separation of church and state. Simon Brown, communications associate for Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, hopes this series of benefits will draw attention to “the increasing infusion of religious doctrine into policy-making on a national level.”

Connor Garvey is one of those musicians who expressed enthusiasm for the cause. “In a lot of ways, the power of this event is in the arrival,” said Garvey. Garvey plays melodious folk-rock which, as he says, is not overly political. “I sing a lot about hope and growth and challenge,” he said. His songs are often narrative. His lyrics are very sympathetic as he writes about the experiences of a wide range of characters. The kind of lyric writing and songwriting requires seems like an appropriate trait for a musician who will be playing to try to protect the right to religious freedom.

It is an characteristic of his work shares with Vanessa Torres, who will also be playing Sunday night. The connection is no coincidence, since the two have toured and collaborated together before.

The concert kicks off a tour where half of the proceeds will go to support the fight to protect the separation of church and state. The concert is one of the many events that are part of the Voices United Tour. This tour is organized by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Center for Religious Freedom. The event will feature performances by various musicians and speakers who support the separation of church and state.

The concert is being held at One Longfellow Square, which is located in the heart of Portland. The venue is known for its excellent acoustics and intimate atmosphere. The audience will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of musical genres, including folk, rock, and classical music.

Tickets for the event are available online at the American Civil Liberties Union website. Tickets are $20 and $30 for VIP guests. A portion of the proceeds will go to support the fight to protect the separation of church and state.

After completing the longest tour in hip-hop history, the Hostile Takeover Tour 2012, performing 90 shows in 99 days, Tech N9ne immediately jumped back into the studio to lay down some tracks, resulting in his new EP, E.B.A.H., which stands for “Evil Brain Angel Heart.” Since he has been on tour, Tech N9ne hasn’t been working on a full-length album, but smaller EPs.

Fans of Tech N9ne will be a little disappointed with the content just after looking at the tracklist. The music videos for “E.B.A.H.” and “Don’t Tweet This” had a lot of attention and buzz. “Hurt Feelings” is “annoying like long nose hair” in the list. Tech N9ne shares with Vanessa Torres, who was chosen for Maine were picked because they expressed enthusiasm about performing for our cause.

Tickets are $20, and available in advance either through One Longfellow Square box office or through Longfellow Square website.

Get your tickets now and support the separation of church and state!

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Paul Revere still kickin’

Local Review

Paul Revere still kickin’

Paul Revere’s self-titled debut, released by Strange Music, is a two time Grammy nominee. “I sing a lot about hope and growth and challenge,” says Connor Garvey, communications associate for Americans United. “The concert is being played to benefit a cause. Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, has been fighting for since its formation in 1947, the fight to protect the separation of church and state.”

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Tech N9ne reloaded

National Review

Tech N9ne reloaded

Tech N9ne’s regurgitation of Church and State, there has been an event to raise awareness for the separation of church and state. The event will feature performances by various musicians and speakers who support the separation of church and state.

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Get your tickets now and support the separation of church and state!
Local
Top 5:
Used Clothing Stores

Brittney Cacace
Contributor

1.) Little Ghost Vintage
This tiny nook of a shop is bursting with tons of vintage and secondhand clothing. One thing that makes Little Ghost stand out is its overall quirky nature. Among the selections here are old fashioned pins and hats, pieces of artwork, postcards and retro-aprons. Little Ghost also has a rather large listing of merchandise on Etsy, an online marketplace for handmade and vintage items. Shoppers can get a discount online (with the code “littleghosties”) or in store for shopping locally. 477 Congress St.

2.) 604 Thrift
Anyone looking for cheap, but well cared for secondhand clothes and shoes will definitely appreciate this two-floor store. The relatively large men’s section is very nice, as many thrift stores have little to no selection for male customers. There is also a nice collection of retro toys, VHS tapes and books that you may recognize from childhood, as well as a sampling of home decor and jewelry. 604 Congress St.

3.) FIND
This spot may be the best place for shoppers seeking out brand names on a budget. Everything they sell is specifically chosen so you can get vintage and name brand items for great prices. Even better, they offer the perfect deal with one of their “color tag sales.” It isn’t too hard to find a quality item for significantly less than retail value. 16 Free St.

4.) Material Objects
This is the place to go for proper vintage, featuring quality pieces dating back as far as the 20s. It is probably one of the largest thrift stores around, so the odds of finding something you really want here are high. Plus, everything is organized and professional looking, so things are even easier to find. 500 Congress St.

5.) Second Time Around
Second Time Around specializes in high-end and designer secondhand products, such as Guess and Tommy Hilfiger. Price reductions from the original tags are astounding and the quality is excellent. Only problem is that there is no men’s section. All in all, if you’re looking for something expensive, but you’re too cheap to pay for the real thing, this place is probably for you. 28 Exchange St.

A&C Listings

Tuesday, September 25th
The Milk Carton Kids / The Brendan Hines
Empire Dine and Dance
575 Congress St.
Doors: 8:00 pm / Show: 8:30 pm

Thursday, September 27th
Tedeschi Trucks Band
State Theatre
608 Congress St.
Doors: 8:00 pm / Show: 8:00 pm
Tricky Britches / Darlingside
One Longfellow Square
181 State St.
Doors: 8:00 pm / Show: 8:00 pm

Friday, September 28th
This Way / Adam Ezra Group
Empire Dine and Dance
575 Congress St.
Doors: 8:00 pm / Show: 9:00 pm
Stephane Wrembel
One Longfellow Square
181 State St.
Doors: 8:00 pm / Show: 8:00 pm

Saturday, September 29th
The Fishtank Ensemble
One Longfellow Square
181 State St.
Doors: 8:00 pm / Show: 8:00 pm
Sunrunner / Dementia 5 / Hemlock / Vanishing Act
Geno’s Rock Club
625 Congress St.
Doors: 9:00 pm / Show: 9:00 pm
Reel Big Fish
Gorham Field House
37 College Ave., Gorham
Doors: 2:00 pm / Show: 3:00 pm

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Apple shakes up the phone world again, but is Droid better?

With the official announcement of the iPhone 5 during Apple’s Sept. 12 press event, the technology world is flooded with excitement, but for every thousand people who buy one, there’s at least one who steps back and surveys what the iPhone has done to the masses. This time around, it’s me.

There was a time when I used to want an iPhone more than anything, but now it’s more interesting to me to stand back and watch the people flock to Apple stores nationwide. With the announcement of the new iPhone 5, there’s not much to talk about the smartphone scene.

During the Sept. 12 conference, Tim Cook, also known as the guy who replaced Steve Jobs, explained that this iteration of the device will have a larger 4-inch screen, faster processor, upgraded camera and more body choices. The iPhone 5, this year’s most anticipated smartphone, sold out its first pre-orders in one swift hour, vastly trumping the 22 hours it took the pre-orders for the iPhone 4S to sell out last year. Prices start at $199 on AT&T.

Apple’s technology announcements have become a landmark event for the technology world, occurring a few times a year, the conferences showcase the iPhone and iPod, laptop and iPad ranges. One of the reasons that Apple products are so wildly successful is because of the hype. Apple knows how to create serious excitement, and their fans follow suit. Apple gave us little information about this year’s phone, but it’s still been exciting to see other companies respond.

As an Android phone user myself, I did find it harder to adjust to after years of using an iPod, but I think there’s a lot more depth to Apple as Apple’s touch interface. Many think that Apple’s interface is too simplistic and doesn’t allow enough user customization. Android has the benefit of widgets, like a weather and clock icon, that break up the sea of apps on the screen. Honestly, I find myself wishing that Apple did the same.

All of the benefits of Apple and Android are points of contention within the technology community. Smartphone users get defensive about their brand. Before the iPhone 4 (which saw a radical design change) hit stores in 2010, the iPhone touch and iPhone family looked almost identical for three straight years. Other than hardware updates, the first three generations of iPhones looked startlingly similar, warranting a slew of criticisms that Apple’s designers were “lazy.”

With Android, many people love the updates in the user interface, a welcome change by the majority of smartphone users. The user interface Android phones are updated about once a year, and older smartphones like the original Droid Incredible are still being updated as well. Others like the variety within the look of Android phones, giving each phone a style that is different than the one next, whereas Apple is stuck with one, “love it or hate it” design. Both Apple and Android could learn a lesson from one another.

But the caveat about Apple in particular is how polarizing they are to the public. For many, Apple is a divisive company, and I’ve met very few people indifferent about Apple the technology titan. They have caused a serious dichotomy among smartphone users. Apple recently won a billion dollar patent lawsuit against Samsung and is seeking to have 8 Samsung devices banned from the market. This has not only tarnished Samsung’s reputation, but is a turning point in the mobile device patent wars between Apple and other companies like Motorola. Some people belong to the iPhone party, others say it’s just a rehashed version of last year’s product like “shiny ass turd.” Well this turd has over 140 million total sales. Any way you cut it, Apple is doing something right, because the phones actually do sell themselves.

I used to purchase strictly Apple products because that’s what I was used to buying, and it became a routine of sorts. But after getting an Android smartphone, I’m absolutely on the fence. I actually like having both types of software, a stance that seems rare within the technology world. Apple products have their own unique benefits, but do so Android ones as well. I love Apple products--yes, it’s true, but it’s not the reason I got up in the morning. The same can be said for my Android smartphone as well. There is one thing, though, that all cell phone lovers can agree on: we love technology, but we don’t love the same technology.

Sources: ansonalex.com; asymco.com; idownloadblog.com
You know what, Gov. Romney?

You got me. It seems that the best defense for President Obama against the Romney campaign is, officially–Mitt Romney.

Footage leaked this week of Gov. Romney at a fundraiser has been making the rounds on every corner of the internet, creating a fervor of comments in its wake from enraged people in both party’s spheres.

The video shows Romney revealing his thoughts on the 47 percent of Americans that do not pay income taxes in a way that makes me want to say, “OK, Mitt, now tell us how you really feel?”.

I may be laughing at the fact that Romney’s mouth is his own worst enemy.

However, I have to hand it to him. He’s right about some things. I do feel like I am entitled to certain things living in this country. We have a very famous piece of documentation that outlines them all pretty nicely, as factions such as the Tea Party are always so quick to remind us of.

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness can all be taken to be as broad or as narrow in definition as you like. But in this country, it’s pretty hard to attain or keep without a stable home, food and good health, three things that Gov. Romney says people leeching off of the government’s teats shouldn’t expect help with. Let’s not even mention education.

These are pretty bold words to come out of the mouth of a candidate who has never wanted for any of those things, who has never known financial hardship the way that many Americans living below the poverty line do, trying to survive despite unemployment, disability or lack of support.

And good for you, Mitt. I am sincerely glad to know that you never will have to worry about those things. I would never wish it upon anyone. But here is the truth, Mitt. If given the choice, a considerable number of people in those positions would much rather not have to endure that standard of living either. People who wouldn’t be able to vote without government support, should be be inclined to do so. These include former soldiers, talented people who are down on their luck, students who are struggling to find work in a terrible job market, and the elderly. My grandparents included, who worked their entire lives to see their retirement lose its value because of the criminals on Wall Street who crashed their investments with no penalty.

Romney can’t empathize whatsoever because, in his words, “Frankly, I was born with a silver spoon, which is the greatest gift you can have: which is to get born in America.” (motherjones.com)

While the media will have a field day with your ill-given speech to some wealthy donors, I will be focused on your now confirmed disregard for the perspectives of 47 percent of Americans who don’t pay income tax. I will ponder the fact that even though you have publicly acknowledged that you do not consider those to be people that you can ever relate to, that my grandparents who have little of the care that they deserve, will still probably vote for you. Most of all though Mitt, I am going to let you keep talking, because you are going to inevitably say something even more absurd to hurt your campaign in the near future. I’m just going to have popcorn before I watch the next gaffe on YouTube.

Corrections

In the article last week titled “Tobacco Ban to be implemented starting January”, Suzanne Roy was quoted incorrectly. It should have read: “The focus of the tobacco policy is on tobacco and not the tobacco user.”

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From a smoker’s point of view

After having read your recent article titled “Students and Faculty debate smoking ban”, I felt compelled to provide the viewpoint of a smoker; a viewpoint that based on my observations is shared by many students, faculty, and staff who smoke.

The article states that, ‘People continue to smoke outside designated areas, regardless of signs clearly stating the areas.’ Admittedly I have only been on campus for a short time, but I have yet to see a single, well-marked, designated smoking area. So I, like many other students, continue to smoke in areas that are out of other people’s way but still convenient. Most of us smokers don’t want to impose our habit on non-smokers; I for one am married to a non-smoker and take every possible measure to shield my spouse from my smoking. The health concerns are not lost on most of us.

Part of the challenge any society faces is how to make amenable decisions when the rights of one group are in opposition to the rights of another group. Generally speaking, the goal in such a situation is to give both groups some or most of what they want. A campus wide prohibition of tobacco products is a far cry from that goal and sends the message to students that we care more about one group than another.

What smokers are asking is simple: clearly marked areas that are easily avoided by pedestrians and still conveniently located around campus, perhaps a gazebo in the field between Payson Smith and Luther Bonney for example. Wouldn’t a cooperative approach be more effective than the prohibitive approach that has thus far created an “US vs. THEM” scenario?

–Thoughtful and Smoking

Letters & Comments

Have a comment? Email editor@usmfreepress.org
Sports

Quick Hits: The Huskies’ week in review

Anna Chiu
Sports Editor

Volleyball
Huskies redeem with a win
The women’s team defeated Lyndon State College after losing the first match of the day against Western Connecticut State University. USM lost the first match with the scores of 25-14, 25-13, 25-11 but was able to capture the win with the scores of 25-21, 25-15, 25-9. The huskies improve their record to 5-9 but at 0-3 in conference play.

Freshman Demi Ruder made a career high nine aces while junior Madalyn Terry trailed with eight aces against Lyndon State. Ruder and Terry also had three digs while senior blocker Krista Keene and freshman blocker Kelsey Abramson each contributed six kills.

The women’s team will host Husson this Tuesday for a non-conference match at 6 p.m.

Women’s Tennis
Huskies end three-match winning streak
The women’s team faced a tough loss after losing 3-6 against Salem State University on Saturday. The huskies record falls to 6-3 and is currently 2-2 in the Little East Conference. Junior Mary Moran and Emily Boutin won the only doubles match but both also contributed wins at the men’s second singles respectively.

The women’s team will travel to UMass Dartmouth this Saturday for a LEC match at 1 p.m.

Men’s Soccer
USM loses 1-2 in overtime
The men’s team were unable to capture the win after losing in overtime against Keene State on Saturday. The huskies face their fifth straight loss as they trail with eight aces at 0-3 in conference.

The men’s team will be back in action this Wednesday hosting Colby College at 4 p.m.

Women’s Soccer
USM dominated by Keene State
The women’s team lost 0-3 against Keene State on Saturday, dropping their record to 1-7 and 0-2 in the LEC.

Freshman goalie Marissa Terry made six saves for the huskies while senior goalie Katie Cobb had four. The huskies will face University of Maine Farmington this Tuesday at 4 p.m for a non-conference match.

Field Hockey
Huskies lose fourth consecutive game
The women’s team faced a tough 0-6 loss against Keene State in a LEC game on Saturday afternoon. The huskies record falls to 4-5 and 1-2 in the LEC.

Junior goalie Kayla Kennedy and sophomore Lindsey Fortin both made three saves for the team.

The women’s team will travel to Salem State this Wednesday for a LEC game at 6 p.m.

Anna’s Monday Night Prediction
Green Bay Packers vs Seattle Seahawks
Aaron Rodgers is under a lot of pressure to play well after his poor performance last week against the 49ers. However, 49ers defense makes most teams uncomfortable, so the Seahawks defense should ease the packers offense tonight. Green bay has more passing yards this season but the Seahawks can certainly run the ball; they have almost double the rushing yards compared to Green Bay.

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The sweet truth about diet soda

Is it better than regular soda?

By Anna Chiu

The artificial sweetener aspartame is commonly used in many diet products where it is known as the healthy ‘alternative’ to regular sugar, but the truth is aspartame could turn out to be worse for your health.

Mayor Bloomberg and The New York City Board of Health recently approved the ban of sugary beverages over 16 ounces in hopes to promote healthier lifestyles and curb obesity. Starting in March, it will be illegal to purchase sugary drinks at restaurants, movie theaters, sports venues, coffee shops, food trucks and street carts in the city of New York. This restriction will include both fountain type beverages like soda, sweetened coffee, teas, juice and sports drinks.

The cause of obesity cannot be tied to a single drink or food. It is influenced by many factors involving your lifestyle, genes, friends and family. Someone who drinks soda everyday may also be eating sugary foods. Paradoxically, a perfectly healthy individual may have a soda as their splurge.

The real issue with the ban is that diet and calorie-free drinks remain ‘safe’ and acceptable. In such a fast-paced city, many will make the switch to diet soda because it’s convenient and available. Diet drinks and juices have low to zero calories, so what’s the big deal?

Let’s first take a look at the ingredients in your standard diet soda; carbonated water, caramel color, aspartame, phosphoric acid, potassium benzoate, natural flavors, citric acid, caffeine. If you’re not a health major, there’s only two ingredients that most people have heard of; carbonated water and caffeine. In theory, the rest of the ingredients should be safe since they’re passed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, but there are no conclusive studies that prove sodas are safe in any way. For instance, the ingredient phosphoric acid, a preservative, keeps sodas from going flat. When phosphoric acid enters your body, the acidity level in your blood rises, causing an off balance of phosphorus and calcium in your bloodstream. Your body fights to balance it’s homeostasis by extracting calcium from your teeth and bones to neutralize the acidity level in your blood. Chronic consumption of this ingredient may increase bone loss, increasing your chances of osteoporosis in the future.

The real villain in diet soda and thousands of other food products is the artificial sweetener aspartame. The word artificial should be enough to scare, but it is supposedly safe and approved by the FDA. Aspartame is found in many everyday foods like cereal, sugar-free chewing gum, frozen desserts, yogurt and drink mixes. Aspartame is composed of three chemicals: aspartic acid, phenylalanine and methanol. Aspartic acid and phenylalanine are amino acids that make up 4-5 percent of the total amino acid profile when eaten naturally from protein sources such as fish or eggs. But in aspartame, aspartic acid and phenylalanine make up 90 percent of the artificial sweetener, which is an unnatural and massive amount that results as a neurotoxin. Normally, aspartic acid acts as a neurotransmitter in your brain where it facilitates the messages going from neuron to neuron, but too much of it will cause calcium to rush into the cell, which then triggers a large amount of free radicals that kill the cell. Simply put, too much aspartic acid will excite or stimulate the neural cells to death. Chronic or obsessive consumption of diet products could cause symptoms like headaches, fatigue, anxiety, sleep problems, depression and vision problems. Most people don’t associate their symptoms and illness from long term use of aspartame or realize that they may be affected by this toxin. Brain damage isn’t the only association with aspartame, other reports claim that aspartame increases your risk of cancer and can also lead to weight gain.

So why isn’t aspartame banned? Looking at the complete history of aspartame and its relationship to the FDA, there have been controversy over their approval methods and scientific studies. For instance, with the Freedom of Information Act, Clause 23, hundreds of pages of evidence show that lab tests were faked and the dangers of aspartame were concealed. The diet industry is worth almost 60 billion dollars in the U.S., according to Market Research, an online database of over 700 research publishers with 400,000 researched reports. Who knows if they’re trying to protect their profits by hiding the truth about aspartame from the public. There are many conflicting theories about why aspartame got approved, but the truth is that the FDA has rejected the artificial sweetener multiple times. So is diet soda really worse for your health than regular? Well, both can be detrimental to your health. Either way, it’s a lose-lose situation: You could drink 22 tablespoons of sugar, or you could drink neurotoxins that will cross your blood-brain barrier to destroy your brain cells. The best solution is to educate and empower people to make the best choices for their health. Prohibiting sugary beverages, but allowing diet beverages, instead, is a contradiction and will do nothing to change people’s behavior or lifestyle.

The sweet truth about diet soda

Is it better than regular soda?

Regular soda

- One can of soda contains 10 teaspoons of sugar
- 21 percent of all sugar in the average American diet comes from soft drinks
- Americans drink 49.78 billion liters per year
- Half of Americans drink a sugary beverage everyday
- Risk of becoming overweight or obese goes up 26% if you drink a can of soda every day

Diet soda

- Diet sodas that are low in calories are high in sodium
- Artificial sweeteners can cause you to crave more food due to a faulty insulin response
- Causes further diabetic complications
- Diet sodas contain more caffeine than regular
- Risk factors of chronic consumption include abdominal obesity, high blood pressure, insulin resistance and high cholesterol

Aspartame sources

- Equal, Nutrasweet and other artificial sugars
- Instant breakfasts
- Sugar-free chewing gum and breath mints
- Cereals
- Cocoa mixes
- Gelatin and frozen desserts
- Yogurt
- Cooking sauces
- Sugar-free products
- Drink mixes
- Flavored water

Non-food sources

- Laxatives
- Chewable Vitamin Supplements
- Some pharmaceuticals and supplements
USM Community Page

USM cycle club gearing up

There’s no doubt that biking in a big city such as Portland can be intimidating. Maryalice Walker, nursing student and president of the USM Cycle Club, hopes to assuage those fears in folks riding to and around campus. To that end, she and Assistant Director for Sustainable Programs, Tyler Kidder, have begun leading leisurely bike trips out into the city from the front of Woodbury Campus Center every Friday at 5 p.m.

“It really can be intimidating at first,” Walker says of pedaling in traffic around Portland. “Hopefully we can help people become more comfortable.”

The rides are strictly social – no spandex required, and bikers are encouraged to bring route suggestions with them when they arrive, along with their helmet, lights and sensible shoes. Not intending for the trips to be strenuous for anyone, they typically keep to low or no traffic areas and don’t stray too far from USM. Expect stops for refreshments and views, and feel free to peel off at any time if you don’t wish to continue.

Bikers of any skill level are welcome, as well as any bike. If you’re unsure whether or not your equipment is road-ready, show up a few minutes early to have it all checked out. Both Walker and Kidder are there early every week to check tire pressures, brake operation and helmet fit to ensure a safe and relaxing ride.

On Monday Oct. 1, as part of Commuter Week, the Cycle Club will hold an hour-long workshop on commuter biking basics at 4:15 p.m. in the Woodbury Campus Amphitheater. Attendees will learn important maintenance skills such as how to fix or change a flat tire, and get some tips on convenient routes to take around campus. Workshops will hopefully take place on a bi-weekly basis continuing into the semester.

Walker hopes the club will gain popularity quickly, and has some plans for the future. “Eventually we’d like to have a small shop on campus, with a few tools for people to use.”

The USM Cycle Club welcomes every member of the USM community to participate.

For more information, visit usm.maine.edu/sustainability/usm-cycle-club or contact Club President Maryalice Walker at maryalice.walker@gmail.com.

For more events: www.usm.maine.edu/events