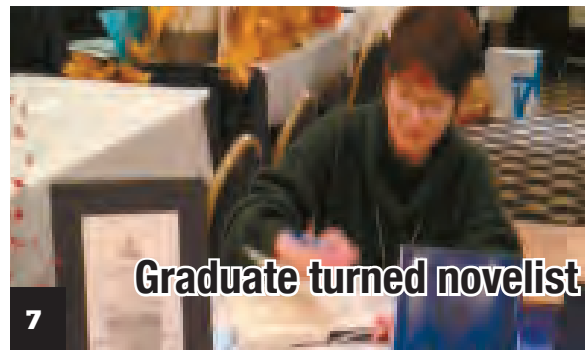




Three day snow break

3



Graduate turned novelist

7



Two man open mic show

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the free press

University of Southern Maine Student Newspaper

Vol. 46,
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Feb. 2, 2015

usmfreepress.org

Whiteout shuts down USM



Patrick Higgins / Free Press Staff

A student braves the storm and whiteout conditions on Tuesday and walks across the athletic field in Gorham.

For full story, see page 3

Library fines lock student accounts



Francis Flisiuk / Managing Editor

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

Students collectively owe the Glickman library in Portland an estimated amount of \$4,375 in overdue book charges, with 29 students blocked by student accounts because they owe more than \$100.

According to the director of libraries David Nutty, once a book is two weeks overdue, it's assumed lost and a "billed book policy" is started. The student is then charged \$45 for the book, plus a \$10 processing and billing fee. If the book is returned all the fees would be waived, if not the bill gets transferred to the student accounts office.

"Our goal is to get the book back, not to make money," said Nutty. "After two weeks, it becomes an issue with student accounts."

For 29 students, because of their overage charges, they remain blocked by the registrar, meaning they can't sign up for classes, get transcripts or even graduate until they settle their debt.

"They either need to pay off the bill, return the book, or speak to us, before they can do business with the university again," said Nutty. "Under some extenuating circumstances, we've let students off the hook in the past."

Nutty said that the reasons behind students not returning books on

time are as varied as the individuals themselves and that forgetfulness and neglect probably play a role.

"Some people frankly just come in and say they've lost the book, pay the fees and move on with their lives," said Nutty.

Another source of expenditure for the library is the occasional theft of property. According to Nutty, there's been an individual stealing books from the library on two separate occasions: once in January and then again back in July. Nutty said that based on the images captured by security camera footage, the two thefts were committed by the same person.

Earlier in January, the individual set off the alarm and ran from campus with about eight books. By the time the police got there, the individual was already gone.

There is no way to exit the library without passing through the security gate, which reads the magnetic strip embedded within books, in a similar fashion to the gates in retail stores.

"That was the only blatant theft we've had in recent times," said Nutty. "It's not really a big problem for us. We've had more cases of petty thefts like purses or bags missing than anything else."

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Presidential search committee announces three final candidates

Emma James
News Editor

Three finalists have been selected by the University of Southern Maine Presidential Search Committee and were announced last week. The candidates will be on all campuses at separate times throughout February.

The search committee included members of the board of trustees, students, staff, faculty, the community, board of visitors and a designee of the Chancellor. According to an email sent out by Chris Quint, executive director of public affairs, the committee began its national search last October. With 80 applicant responses, this presidential search is one of the largest in the last decade for any position within the university system.

Dr. Harvey Kesselman, who will be visiting USM on February 2 and 3, is currently the Provost and Executive Vice President at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

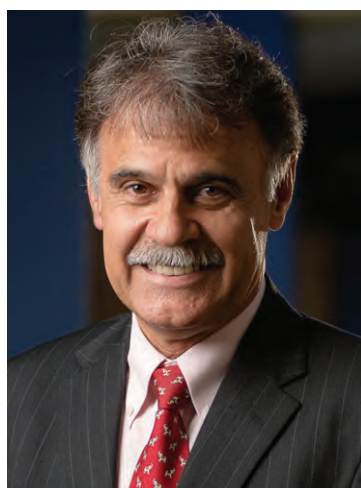
The second candidate, Dr. Jose Sartarelli, is the Chief Global Officer and Milan Puskar Dean of the College of Business and Economics at West Virginia University. He will be visiting USM on February 5 and 6.

The final second candidate, who will be visiting USM on February 9 and 10, is Dr. Glenn Cummings, who currently serves as the president of the University of Maine at Augusta.

Kesselman was nominated to the position and in his letter of intent, explained that the mission statement set forth by the search committee was one to be enthused about.

"[I] believe my leadership abilities, skills, proven expertise in higher education, professional qualifications and personal characteristics are consistent with those you seek in your next president," said Kesselman.

He went on to explain that in his current role, he is responsible for managing a \$75 million academic



Photos courtesy of
USM public affairs

Top to bottom: Harvey Kesselman,
Glenn Cummings, Jose Sartarelli

See **PRESIDENT** on page 3

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Patrick Higgins / Free Press Staff

Classes and events canceled for three days

Blizzard "Juno" results in a week of hazardous driving conditions

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

USM shut down its campuses, suspending classes and activities, three times last week, in response to a series of snowstorms that blanketed Portland with over two and a half feet of snow.

Bangor Daily News reported that the first storm, colloquially named "Juno" dumped two feet of snow in some Maine communities, while the second one left Portland with another six-to-eight inches of accumulation.

On top of the accumulation, wind gusts of over 45 mph resulted in snow drifting from the side of the roads, reducing visibility and making travel conditions very dangerous. Many students, like the student body president Kyle Frazier, believed that it was wise for USM's administration to heed the National Weather Services

predictions and close school, especially on its exclusively commuter Portland campus.

"The cancellations were a good move," said Frazier. "We have a high amount of commuter students and while attending class is important, it is also important that students are safe, especially when many of them travel a pretty far distance to attend class."

Students like Chelsea Bard, a sophomore communication and media studies major and her friend Nicole Downing, a sophomore art major, agreed and said that while education is important, it's not important enough to risk driving during a whiteout blizzard.

"It's too bad that some people got to miss out on their classes, but it's better than being in an accident," said Downing.

"People say 'oh you're from Maine, you're supposed to know how to drive in the snow,' but it

doesn't matter who you are, driving on snowy roads is sketchy, even for Mainers," said Bard.

Bard and Downing spent their time off in the same way that they believe most students did: relaxing and binge-watching some Netflix, while school work was put on the back burner.

"It was really nice to just have a couple days to chill," said Downing.

Downing said that after stocking up on snack food at Hannaford before the storm, she knitted a winter hat, and had a Netflix marathon with her sister, knocking down several episodes of "Psychopath," "Gossip Girl," and "Parts Unknown."

Bard, a resident in Gorham, spent one of her free days playing in the snow.

"I grabbed a sled and went out to the hill behind Robie Andrews," said Bard. "There were

people sledding, snowboarding and making snowmen."

While it was evident throughout social media that most students enjoyed having three snow days, there were, however, some gripes expressed about the storm.

Downing proudly proclaimed that she didn't fall down once last week, but she still cited under-plowed sidewalks as an annoying byproduct of the storm. A sidewalk in Gorham proved to be troublesome for Downing who said it was blocked off by a massive snowbank.

"I had to walk on the road for a bit and I kept hoping there would be no cars or buses coming down," said Downing.

Frazier said that parking was more of an issue for him and his friends than anything else. According to Frazier, cars in the garage were locked within from 10 p.m. Monday, to 4 p.m. Wednesday

day when USM resumed classes.

"I don't understand why the gates that let cars out one at a time could not have been functioning during the hours they normally do," said Frazier. "I understand not allowing cars in, but not letting them out seems odd to me."

However overall students applauded the efforts of USM public safety of keeping the snow clear in a timely manner.

"I think the clean up job was great," said Frazier. "I couldn't imagine it being any better considering the amount of snow we got."

According to the Bangor Daily News, along with USM, over 300 other businesses and events were canceled across the state because of last week's weather conditions.

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From **PRESIDENT** on page 1

budget, serves 8,600 students as well as 8,000 full and part-time faculty and staff, eight academic schools and several supporting divisions throughout the college.

"Working closely with the president and the board of trustees," he explained, "I have been a transformational leader of Stockton."

Dr. Jose Sartarelli, the second candidate to visit the university, expressed his interest in the position and explained that he was able to turn a "good college" into a "vibrant one" with the support of students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends.

"Together we have achieved all-time record fundraising, \$30 million in four years, reached all-time record enrollment, 2,709 students versus 1,452 in 2010 and strengthened the financials of the college significantly, with \$45 million in net assets versus \$29 million in 2010."

He went on to explain that they have expanded recruitment globally and now some particular programs have ranked globally.

In Dr. Glenn Cumming's letter of intent, he explained, "Plainly said, I see this position from a deep-seated and well-informed belief in the power, importance and enormous potential of the University of Southern Maine."

gles, he believes the university possesses all the assets necessary for a significant turnaround.

"My vision includes reshaping the University of Southern Maine into one of the most vibrant metropolitan universities in the country," said Cummings. "I believe this is a vision that faculty, staff, students and community members share already as stakeholder."

According to Cummings, with the right leadership, that vision is attainable.

In an email, Quint explained that following the campus visits the search committee will reconvene to consider community comments and finalize recommendations that will be forwarded to the University of Maine System Chancellor James Page. In the spring, the board of trustees will be asked to approve the Chancellor's selection. The new president is expected to take office early this summer.

On Feb. 2, Kesselman will be having an open meeting with faculty from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00, with students from 1:15 to 2:00 and with staff from 2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Glickman Library Events Room on the seventh floor.

emma@usmfreepress.org
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Urban skiers hit Maine streets during snowstorm

Aislinn Sarnacki
BDN Staff

Mainers watched from the warmth of their homes as snow piled up to their windows on Tuesday. Most Mainers, that is. A select group of adventurous people saw the snowstorm as an opportunity to get outdoors and ski places that are typically off limits.

In downtown Portland, dozens of people were skiing the streets, according to Portland police officer Alissa Poisson, and as far as she knew, the enthusiastic skiers weren't causing any problems.

"It's not against the law," said Poisson. "I have heard from the other officers out on the street right now that they have seen a bunch of cross-country skiers out there. Some are using skis to get to work. We prefer they did that over driving anyway."

Portland resident Annetta Weatherhead, 49, and her daughter Madeline Weatherhead, 20, were among the few who bundled up in layers and braved the storm to experience downtown Portland on skis. They skied from their home on Cumberland Avenue up Eastern Promenade to the ocean, then wandered the streets a bit before heading back home.

"It's wonderful to be able to ski

from my door to the ocean and go all around the city," said Annetta Weatherhead. "It's fun to see it all, you know, the winter wonderland."

It wasn't the first time the Weatherheads have skied the streets of their home city. In fact, it's a bit of a tradition.

"It started when my kids were young," Annetta Weatherhead said. "When snow came down, they'd want to get their skis on immediately and go out and enjoy it right then and there."

In December, USA Today named Portland one of the top 10 places for urban cross-country skiing. Portland made the list because its residents are often seen skiing along the city's Exchange Street after snowfall, as well as Eastern Promenade. And when it isn't storming, skiers still have the opportunity to cruise through the city on a number of trails. The nonprofit land trust Portland Trails alone maintains 14 cross-country ski trails in the Portland area, including Evergreen Cemetery, Stroudwater Trail, Baxter Woods and Riverton Rail Trail.

On Tuesday, the urban skiing trend seemed to be mostly isolated to Portland, though the Bangor Daily News also received reports of cross-country skiers gliding

through downtown Lewiston; and in Orono, police confronted some college students who were attempting to drag their friend down the sidewalk on short skis with their pickup truck.

"We just stopped and talked to them and asked them not to continue to ride down the side of the public way by being towed and skiing," said Sgt. Dan Merrill of the Orono Police Department. "They were fine with it. They'd had their fun."

The student on skis, who was wearing a helmet and goggles, had run into a snowbank just before being confronted by police, Merrill said.

Other than that one incident, police officers didn't report seeing any other skiers on Orono streets on Tuesday. Merrill suggested that the area has enough groomed trails that skiers don't feel compelled to hit the roads. Miles of trails connect the University of Maine campus to the towns of Old Town and Orono.

asarnacki@bangordailynews.com
@1MinHikeGirl



Troy R Bennett / BDN Staff

(Counter-clockwise from top left) Annetta Weatherhead of Portland skis up Congress Street on Tuesday. "It's the best," said Weatherhead of skiing in Portland during a snowstorm. "We always come out whenever it snows."; Annetta (left) and Madeleine Weatherhead of Portland ski by the Portland Observatory on Congress Street on Tuesday.; A skier crosses Park Avenue in Portland on Tuesday during the blizzard.

For more photos of skiers who took to Portland's snowy streets last week, check out the web version of the story on bangordailynews.com

No consequences set for 'mandatory' training

Zach Searles
Contributor

Consequences are yet to be set for the majority of students who haven't completed the mandatory sexual assault prevention training.

In the middle of November an email was sent out to students, paired with a message on MaineStreet, making students aware that the training must be completed. Originally, the training was supposed to be completed before the semester break, but due to lack of comple-

tion by a majority of students, no set deadline has been made at this time.

As of now, there are no repercussions for not completing the survey. However, Joy Pufhal, dean of students, believes that there will be consequences, which the board of trustees is currently trying to determine.

"This is the next piece on our agenda," Pufhal said.

Pufhal also believes that the consequences could be as severe as holds being placed on the student accounts that have failed to com-

plete the assessment, meaning that registering for classes would be impossible until the training is completed.

The amount of people participating in the training is much less than the USM administration hoped. Sarah Holmes, assistant director of student life and diversity, thinks this could be due to the fact that students are only being reached through email and MaineStreet.

"A lot of people don't pay attention to that stuff," said Holmes. "There has been a slight increase in

the number of students participating since the beginning of the spring semester."

Holmes also commented that there hasn't been a strong enough effort to get the word around.

"We need other methods of reaching people and letting them know how important this is," said Holmes.

According to Holmes, that includes putting a blurb in the News Flush, a poster campaign, or starting something on social media to reach more students.

Not only is the training mandatory, but Holmes believes that the training will educate those who may not have any idea that sexual assault and harassment can be a real concern in campus communities. Holmes also is hopeful that as more partake in the training, victims of sexual assault will be able to step forward and know who to turn to when they want to talk about what happened to them.

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In Brief...

Admins seeking recommendations for Metropolitan University leader

A plan for USM to begin its transformation into Maine’s premiere metropolitan university is set to begin and step one is to find someone to lead the charge.

“We are ready to take the next step to implement USM’s Metropolitan University identity, wrote President David Flanagan in an email to students, staff and faculty last week. “The first charge the report gave me was the recruitment and appointment of an Interim Metropolitan University senior leadership officer to begin the transition from report to action.”

This leadership position would serve as a direct line between the community and USM’s senior administration, working throughout the year to create community ties and advance the metropolitan university vision.

The Metropolitan Steering Group’s report suggests that the person to fill this interim position should have a terminal academic degree, experience in higher education administration and a record of scholarship of and commitment to community engagement.

According to Flanagan, the administration is looking to find a qualified faculty member to take on this new role. Flanagan wrote that he will appoint a member to this role before winter break begins just

two weeks from now.

“I would welcome your recommendations of who might lead this effort and fill this interim senior leadership role,” he wrote.

Recommendations can be emailed to Penny Glover, administrative assistant to the president, pglover@usm.maine.edu, by Wednesday, Feb. 4.

USM to host The Summit Project in early March

On March 6, USM will be hosting The Summit Project a nationally recognized living memorial which pays tribute to fallen service members from Maine who have died since 9/11/2001. The mission of The Summit Project is to honor Maine’s newest war casualties and the faithful spirit of all Mainers.

The names of each of these heroes have been engraved upon large stones which were given to us by their surviving family members and chosen from significant places within their lives. Members from within the community then carry forth not only these stones, but the memories of these great men and women from peak to peak, summit to summit across both trails and mountain ranges throughout the world.

Students and faculty members of USM will carry these stones from the Portland Waterfront to the USM Portland Campus before setting them within the honor display case inside Luther Bonney Hall. Upon completion of this march, the ribbon cutting ceremony will begin.

As the honor display case is brought to the Portland campus, we will host a ribbon cutting ceremony in Luther Bonney Hall. This static display contains different stones from The Summit Project and has been hosted by select organizations around the state.

USM is currently looking for

volunteers to assist in the events throughout the day and an application can be found online.

More information about these events can be found by visiting one of the links below or by contacting Gregory.R.Johnson@maine.edu

New option for CORE requirements

Beginning this semester, completing the requirements for USM’s CORE curriculum will be a little easier to navigate. Instead of having to complete one of the university’s “clusters” or add a minor to their studies, students have a third option: complete three upper-level courses outside of their major.

According to Susan McWilliams, the assistant provost of undergraduate programs, the change was made after a thorough review of the curriculum by an official committee, using responses from student surveys, direct student input from meetings with advisors, advice from faculty and hard data on upper level credit transfer requests.

“The results of this review revealed significant problems for students with completion of the requirement, especially for our large and diverse transfer student population,” wrote McWilliams in an email to the Free Press last week.

McWilliams said that the committee saw a need for a policy that was fair to students across the board, accommodating upper level transfer courses that are not accepted as equivalents by established majors or for which USM offers no corresponding degree program.

Students’ degree progress reports in MaineStreet have been changed to reflect the new policy. If a student was in the middle of completing a minor to satisfy the cluster requirement, but had already managed to take three upper level classes, it will now read as being satisfied.



Police Beat

Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety police log January 16 to 19

Friday, January 16

Them boys love them booze

9:11 p.m. - Summons issued to Brando O. Deas, 19, of Gorham for illegal transportation of alcohol by a minor.

Summons issued to Juliana H. White, 19 of Gorham for sale and use of drug paraphernalia.

University Way

Put down your phone and live!

4:38 p.m. - Warning to operator for texting while driving.

Bedford Street at Brighton Ave

Saturday, January 17

“It smells like Otto’s jacket.”

4:26 p.m. - Reported odor of marijuana. Nothing found.

Robie Andrews Hall, 39 University Way

The last people they wanted to call

6:02 p.m. - Assisted Gorham police with a call.

Moody’s Collision Center, Route 202

The world’s hottest shower; take that Earth!

10:08 p.m. - Fire alarm activation due to steam from shower.

Philippi Hall, 19 Campus Ave.

Sunday January 18

Lights go out and I’m looting

8:18 a.m. - Fire alarm activation due to power loss/

Ice Arena, 55 Campus Ave.

Classy poo-box rollin’ down street

12:03 p.m. - Motor vehicle stop. Summons for no proof of insurance and warning for failure to update address and expired registration to William R. Ellis Jr., 31, of Mexico, Maine.

Brighton Avenue at Woodmont street

Playing cops and robbers

1:28 p.m. - Motor vehicle accident, property damage.

Assisted Gorham Police with a call.

Route 25

Hockey fight goes too far

3:17 p.m. - Subject transported to hospital following medical emergency.

Ice Arena, 55 Campus Ave.

The oil burns for no man

7:25 p.m. - Fire alarm activation due to heating system malfunction.

Woodward Hall, 20 University Way

Monday, January 19

Gimmie that sticky-icky, oohh-wee!

9:15 p.m. - Report taken for odor of marijuana.

Upton Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Police logs are edited for grammar and style. They can be found at usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log.

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Arts & Culture

Faculty and alumni team up for joint exhibition

Gorham gallery highlights student-teacher bond

Dora Thompson
Free Press Staff

In past years, the work of faculty and alumni have been showcased separately, but this year's exhibit is a testament to the bonds that can form and survive between students and teachers.

USM's art gallery in Gorham held an opening reception for an exhibit that showed students the potential merits of actually listening to their professors in college.

The USM faculty and alumni invitational showcases the collaborative works of ten faculty members, who chose ten alumni to work with.

At the public opening reception several artists gave brief explanations about their work and how

embodied the idea of something you couldn't get into, but also something that was trying to escape. One of these vessels even incorporated pig intestines into the design. Hunter's work was similar in its loud and grandiose nature.

"In Maine we often get students that come from very rural places not the urban art environment," said Lisberger. "To watch them grow and learn about what the more contemporary art scene is like and how it applies to them is really exciting."

Another exhibit is "Imbolc Hut," by professor of sculpture Michael Shaughnessy and Aaron Frederick, a 1999 alumni. Frederick used a construction method for the hut's roof, that he first observed in action in Scotland. The hut is constructed out of 12 walls



“ This exhibit is the best public relations for showing that the students we have here are going places and doing things. ”

Lin Lisberger, USM Art Professor

they collaborated on their creative ideas. The exhibit included diverse mediums; everything from painting and sculptures to ceramic and digital works were on display.

The exhibit also featured a multi-media collaboration entitled "Ant Farm: at the nexus of art and science," which recently travelled from Lewiston-Auburn. The artists Dorothy Schwartz, Colleen Kinsella, Rebecca Goodale and Vivien Russe are all close friends and worked to bring an artistic representation of the social structure and life of the leaf cutter ant, by combining printmaking, drawing, book arts and music. These "ant girls" created their project in the same collaborative nature as their subject, the female dominant, synergistic leaf cutter ants.

Art professor Lin Lisberger paired with Kaitlyn Hunter, a 2013 alumni, for their collaborative project. Lisberger said that while Hunter was in school, she kept an eye on her because she was interested in her art.

"I've always felt like she [Hunter] had this real sense of where she should go with her art," said Lisberger.

Hunter was in grad school when the project started, so the two didn't really have a real chance to collaborate. Lisberger tried to channel Hunter's artistic style, which she described as a bit weird and grotesque. Lisberger created wooden "anxiety vessels," which

all held together by tension.

"I have always admired Aaron a great deal, as a student, as a friend and as an artist," said Shaughnessy.

Inside the hut the artists invited gallery goers to write down and share experiences that embody their own individual life journey.

"The hut was created with a notion of a safe container with the notion of energy and travel," explained Shaughnessy.

Jan Piribek, professor of digital art and foundations, and Kathleen Daniels, a 2012 alumni, have created an environmentally fueled exhibit titled, "New Life." The exhibit shows the potential for new life forms to arise after a catastrophic extinction.

"This exhibit is the best public relations for showing that the students we have here are going places and doing things," said Lisberger. "This is a really great art school and it's hard for people to see that. It's a showcase."

USM's Gorham art gallery will offer this rich and diverse display of campus community art until March. According to the organizers, this exhibit is a testament to the bond possible between students and teachers, as they come together as professionals to create beautiful work.

arts@usmfreepress.org
@USMFreePress



Katelyn Wiggins / Free Press Staff

(Top:) "Imbolc Hut," by professor of sculpture Michael Shaughnessy and USM graduate Aaron Frederick. The hut is constructed out of 12 walls all held together by tension.

(Center:) Jan Piribek, professor of digital art and foundations, worked with USM graduate Kathleen Daniels to create this artwork that they titled, "New Life." People gather around to ask the artist questions.

(Bottom:) People view the variety of faculty and alumni work on display at the opening reception.

A&C Listings

Monday, February 2

Dinosaurs at Dusk!
Southworth Planetarium
70 Falmouth St.
Starts: 1:00 p.m. / Ends: 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 3

Two Maine Artists Discussion
University of Southern Maine
7th Floor Glickman Library
Starts: 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 4

Ireland 101: The Irish Language
Maine Irish Heritage Center
Corner of State and Grey St.
Starts: 7:00 p.m.

2015 Short Film Festival
Space gallery
538 Congress St.
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

Blacklight Yoga
University of Southern Maine
Brooks Student Center
Starts: 7:00 p.m. / Ends: 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 5

Ray Chen Violin Master Class
University of Southern Maine
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham
Starts: 10:00 a.m. / Ends: 12:00 p.m.

Live Acoustic Music Nightly
Andy's Old Port Pub
94 Commercial St.
Starts: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 6

Opening of "Inside/Out" Art Exhibit
PhoPa Gallery
132 Washington Ave.
Starts: 5:00 p.m. / Ends: 7:00 p.m.

Leveret Album Release Show
Space Gallery
538 Congress St.
Starts: 9:00 p.m.

Portland Winter Reggae Splash
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Starts: 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 7

Maine Rollar Derby 2015
Happy Wheels
331 Warren Ave.
Starts: 5:00 p.m.

The Search for General Tso
Space Gallery
538 Congress St.
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

Southern Maine Orchestra Performance
University of Southern Maine
Corthell Music Hall, Gorham
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 8

An Evening with Christopher Durang
Studio Theater at Portland Stage
25A Forest Ave.
Starts: 7:30 p.m.

USM graduate writes a novel

Krysteana Scribner
Arts & Culture Editor

Every college student has an aspiration of pursuing a career in a field that they love. For Mary Lou Quinn, a USM history graduate, writing her first novel, *Lost and Found* was a dream come true.

Lost and Found is about the journey of Margaret Mary Murphy through her loss of family and self as she tries to come to terms with life's struggles.

Margaret is part of a multi-agency task force operation trying to handle the drug problem in Tyler County, where the small coastal town of Mundy Maine is located. The investigation sparks a series of deaths that ultimately threaten her own life based on a case of mistaken identity.

The novel itself takes many twists and turns in the plot, and the process of getting the book written, edited and published is similar in many ways. Her journey of success started during her years at USM, where she graduated with a bachelors degree in history in 1987.

Quinn went on to study in a fifth year program for secondary education which she completed in 1988. She got her first teaching job at New Gloucester High School and later went on to get a job at Thornton Academy in Saco, where she taught English and history.

"USM was a great experience for me. I was very involved with the history, geography and anthropology groups there," said Quinn.

When a permanent position at Thornton Academy didn't become available, Quinn started her own business when she moved to Lubec, called Beachworks, selling her work at a variety of craft shows.

"In between jobs, I decided to take the

time to take the time to do what I have always wanted to do, which was write," said Quinn. "I taught creative writing at one point, and I was inspired not only by the world around me, but by the creativity of my students."

While writing her novel, Quinn was faced with a variety of life changing scenarios that made pursuing her dream of publishing even more difficult.

"As the writing of my book progressed, I lost my father and that took the book in a different direction, said Quinn. "Then my husband had a heart attack so that became strenuous. There just wasn't time to start writing because life was becoming too busy for me."

Despite these events, Quinn wrote and edited her book in three years.

"In that time period, I was trying to run the gambit of finding agents. I couldn't help but think, 'now that my book is finished, what do I do from here?'," said Quinn. "I tried the traditional way of getting an agent who would get me a publisher, but I was trying to publish my book at a time when companies weren't extending money to unknown works."

Quinn was eager to share her story, so she decided to self publish, releasing it in hard cover, soft cover and as an Amazon e-book.

For Quinn, the finality of finishing her first book has inspired her to write a sequel to her first, which she is currently writing. Quinn said that during the process of writing, she ran into a lot of discouragement and naysayers, but that didn't stop her from writing.

"The greatest benefit of writing and being published is that you get to share your enjoyment with other people and that, is for me, the greatest thing that can ever hap-



Photo courtesy of Mary Lou Quinn

Mary Lou Quinn signs her self published book for people in line to purchase it.

pen after a book is finished," said Quinn.

For aspiring writers, Quinn believes it is important to remember to be motivated, be confident and be open to suggestions from the people you trust. Quinn said that while being open to criticism is important, following your own heart is integral to success.

"It isn't how many lives you can touch but just the fact that you can touch another life and bring enjoyment, hope and maybe even inspiration to another human being," said Quinn. "When you are ready to pursue your dream, and the time is right providence will provide."

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Arts & Culture Recommends: An evening with Christopher Durang at the Portland Stage

Kristen Ouellette
Contributor

With winter blues hitting us hard this semester, nothing warms the soul up like an evening of satire and a pistol packing nun. Come out to see "An Evening with Christopher Durang" presented by the USM Theatre Department. "For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls" and "Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You" will be acted out at the Portland Stage Studio Theatre on February 6-14th.

This will be the fourth season performing at the Portland Stage Studio Theater, and the USM Theatre Department has a longstanding tradition of putting on one production each season here in Portland.

"Christopher Durang writes stingingly funny plays that often parody or satirize American artistic, cultural and religious icons," said William Steele, production director and professor of theatre at USM.

"For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls" is a parody of Tennessee Williams' 1944 play, "The Glass Menagerie." You'll laugh heartily as you watch a defective clan struggle to connect with, succeed in and even survive in the outside world.

In this light-hearted one-act, Williams' Laura is replaced with Lawrence, a hypochondriac with a treasured collection of glass cocktail stirrers. Fading southern belle Amanda readies her son for "feminine caller" Ginny, while her son Tom takes in desolate sailors who need a place to sleep for the night.

Growing up, Durang attended Catholic schools and he is known for using satirical jokes to critique the culture of Catholicism. "Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You" is a play that features and uncompromising nun, whom addresses the audience



Photo courtesy of Erin Bartoletti

Mary Kate Ganza plays the role of Amanda and David Bliss plays the role of Lawrence in the play "For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls" by Chris Durang.

to indoctrinate them on the dangers of sin.

"Durang takes on Catholic teachings as doled out to students by a fanatical nun," said Steele. "The show offers today's audiences plenty of laughter, along with food for thought, at a time when cultures far and wide are suffering from religious extremism."

In this show, a prized pupil named Thomas chimes in periodically to recite the Ten Commandments in exchange for cookies. Halfway through the nun's discourse, a few of her former students arrive and weigh in with their own opinions about their religious upbringing and its inherent psychological trauma.

In addition to these comical acts, the

evening will also include an introductory speech by one of Durang's characters, Mrs. Sorken. She will be presenting her views about theater and what is in store for the audience.

Durang won a 2013 Tony Award for Best Play for "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike." He is a co-director of the Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program at The Juilliard School.

Come out to the Portland Stage Studio Theater on Forest Avenue and see this play for yourself. All performances are at 7:30 p.m.

arts@usmfreepress.org
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Want to submit an event?
arts@usmfreepress.org

Perspectives

Our Opinion

Prepare to play your part in choosing USM's new president

When the USM administration announced last week that they had narrowed the field of presidential candidates from 80 to just three and that each would soon be visiting campus, we almost let out a sigh of relief.

Over the past few years (the timeline changes depending on who you ask), USM has gone through monumental changes, a snappy change of leadership year after year and has lost a lot of qualified and well-loved faculty and staff members. Between lingering talks of system-level deficit projections, enrollment continuing to drop and administrators regularly referring to terrible state demographic projects, we know we're far from the end of this rough patch, but permanently filling the leadership role at the top will be a landmark.

Our previous and current president both came out of retirement to serve a role here, but it never felt like either felt at home or were fully accepted by the community. Neither came here to make the university their own.

Each candidate will soon be on campus and will be making themselves available to meet with the USM community and take questions on a variety of subjects. If USM wants to make this appointment a

serious change in our direction and culture, the entire community needs to be active and filling in the seats during each visit. Sometimes it seems like the community is stuck in a loop of being apathetic when it can be active, then being active when decisions have already been made and when nothing can be done. We're urging anyone who wants a say in what happens during the course of USM's next five to ten years to make the effort to go to these meetings and have questions prepared for the candidates.

While it's unclear what the format of these meetings will be or how much Q&A sessions could sway the final decision, it's a situation where the general community has some say on the ultimate decision. This is a situation where students, faculty and staff have an opportunity to speak openly with our potential next president. We know from experience that schedules are tight, there's always a meeting to attend and that facetime with administrators is limited, so don't miss out on the opportunity to hear from these candidates and use your voice as USM turns the corner to its, hopefully, brighter future.

Our Opinion is written and reviewed by the Free Press editorial board.

Pedestrians hate the snow too

Portland is regularly ranked as one of the nation's most walkable cities, but you wouldn't know it walking around any day when we get more than six inches of snow.

The day after winter storm Juno brought icy, high speed winds, waist-high drifts and essentially shut down all travel throughout New England, roadways were cleared and commuters were tentatively returned to their daily routines. Pedestrians didn't fare so well.

Sidewalks were last on the list of items to check in on once the storm subsided and in some areas of the city pathways are still caked with ice, blocked by snow banks or have sloppy slush ponds popping up along the way. If anything it seemed like plow drivers were purposefully piling up treacherous snow swamps on Portland's brick walkways, daring people to try to leave their homes for emergency supplies like board games, frozen pizza or more beer.

Okay, the city's winter storm workers probably aren't out to get us, but it's hard to shake the feeling that those of us without cars are reduced to second-class citizens and left to wade through the white stuff on our own all day.

Even on Friday when wave two of winter week hit Portland, delivering only a few inches, by mid-day the roads are neat as a pin while

non-drivers may as well be trudging through the Arctic tundra. Walkers have to get to work too and some of us don't have a pair of skis to use.

Roads are obviously the priority and a bigger safety hazard. We've never heard of a two-block pile-up of people happening because someone almost slipped before awkwardly steadying themselves or stopped for a minute because they got snow in their boots. The problem with commuters is that they're going to drive no matter what, even if they're unprepared or the road conditions are awful, so we get it, you've got to keep them safe. But we don't want to be barricaded inside our homes just because a handful of people didn't get the statewide memo on purchasing snow tires.

We're okay with shoveling out our driveways and porches, even taking pride in it if we get up early enough, but we're tired of walking in the street because some neighborhoods don't have enough businesses in them for adequate snow removal.

We don't expect dry, open sidewalks to skip along. It's the middle of a Maine winter. All we're asking for is a little help. Until then, the next time we see someone in a Prius, tires spinning, while we're tunneling our way through the city, we'll keep our heads down and keep on keeping on.

Have your own opinion?

The Free Press welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from the USM community. Letters to the editor may not exceed 400 words and op-eds may not exceed 700 words without prior approval from the Editor-in-Chief. Any content must be submitted electronically and must include the author's full name, school year or relationship to USM. We reserve the right to edit or refuse all materials submitted or solicited for publication. Columns do not reflect the opinions of The Free Press or its staff. We have a gender-neutral language policy. Deadline for submissions is the Wednesday before publication. Send submissions to editor@usmfreepress.org.



Simple Science

Does color even exist?

Donald Szlosek
Contributor

One of the most amazing things about light is that it has color. But before we get into how color works, let's talk about waves.

All waves, even light, have a frequency, which is the time it takes a wave to move through a whole cycle. For example, think of a cork bobbing in the ocean. The time it takes the cork to go up and down once (or bobble) is the frequency of the wave. It turns out that we have a name for the "bobbling" of light that our eyes detect and that is color. Color is no more than a measure of how quickly the light waves are waving.

If our eyes were fast enough, we might be able to observe the motion of light directly, like we can with a cork in the ocean. But the frequency of the light we see is so high, moving up and down at about 400 million times a second, that we cannot possibly see it as a wave. But we can tell by looking at colors what the frequency of light is, with lowest being red and the highest being purple, and in between all the other frequencies form a continuous band of color called the visible spectrum.

Now here is the crazy part. Color is an illusion. Color, as we know it, does not exist outside world beyond us, like gravity, or protons do. Our brain converts a certain range of the electromagnetic spectrum into color.

We can measure the wavelength of light, but we can't measure or observe the experience of a color inside your mind.

So, how do I know when you and me look at the USM logo, and in my brain, this perception is "gold and blue," but in your brain, a perception like "green and red," but you also learned to call green gold and blue red. We communicate the logo effectively as gold and blue...never knowing just how different each of our internal experiences really were.

Conceivably, though, there could be ways of seeing that we use that causes colors to look differently in different people's minds, without altering their performances on any tests we could come up with.

Of course if that were the case, wouldn't some people think other colors look better than others? Or that some colors look more complementary than others?

Well yeah, but doesn't that already happen?

This matters because this shows how fundamentally, in terms of our perceptions, that we are all alone in our minds. So the next time you're arguing with a friend over what shoes complement your clothes for a night out in the Old Port, just remember their perception is a little different than your own.

Donald Szlosek is a USM graduate who majored in human biology and a minor in physics.



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Sustainability and ME

Cold to the bone?

Weatherproof your home!

Caleb Cone-Coleman
Contributor

Getting tired of winter yet? Had enough of drafty windows, cold floors, and high heating bills? Well, tough luck, we're in Maine and we got at least a month of this crap left. Fortunately, in the meantime with a small time investment you can take steps to keep yourself a little warmer, reduce fossil fuel emissions, and potentially save yourself a good amount of money in the long run. How is this possible? With air sealing and insulation!

First off, it is important to understand that Maine happens to have one of the oldest housing stocks in the nation. Across the country, a significant amount of homes and apartments from the 19th and early 20th century have been replaced over the years, with better-constructed, more energy-efficient dwellings taking their place. However, Maine and the rest of the northeast still retain a large amount of housing that is old, poorly insulated, and terribly designed in terms of energy efficiency. Combined with our climate, this leads to most of us spending a significant amount of cash each year to keep our homes warm. In 2012, Mainers on average spent just over \$3800 per

person on energy bills, one of the highest in the nation (Maine.gov).

That said, the state of Maine isn't going to demolish and rebuild every poorly insulated house in the state anytime soon. Thankfully, there are steps we as individuals can take to reduce our energy consumption, slow down our rate of carbon emissions and save money on our heating bills all at once.

The simple use of caulking or weather stripping, which plugs gaps around windows and doors, can have tremendous benefit for the heat retention of a house or apartment. Closing these gaps eliminates drafts of cold air and keeps warm air inside. There is also plastic film available that can be applied across windowsills, creating a space of air between the window and the living space, which has been proven to nearly double that window's resistance to heat leakage. These products are extremely cheap at any local hardware store, and shouldn't cost more than \$20-40 for your entire home depending on how many windows there are. As soon as you receive your next heating bill, you will already have gotten your money back and then some.

Now I realize, you may be reading this and saying to yourself - "Well, those are nice ideas, and

I probably should do that to save money, but I just don't have the time right now". Well, the good news is that there are options available for the on-the-fly insulators, which take almost no time at all. A towel or blanket tucked at the bottom of a door will do wonders for reducing drafts. Furthermore, keeping shades or curtains open during a sunny day to bring in natural light and heat, then closing them at night to form an extra barrier of air and material will also reduce the amount of energy you burn.

With fuel prices falling, it may not seem as crucial right now to focus on energy-saving behaviors such as insulation. However, the reality is that it is more important than ever, with each barrel of oil burned further depleting our worldwide stock and releasing carbon into the atmosphere. Unfortunately, gas prices being under \$3 a gallon doesn't make climate change suddenly go away, and can in fact accelerate it due to increased consumption. So - do yourself and the environment a favor - take a few minutes to insulate a window.

Caleb Cone-Coleman is a member of EcoReps and Students of Economic Interest, and is in his senior year as an Economics Major at USM.



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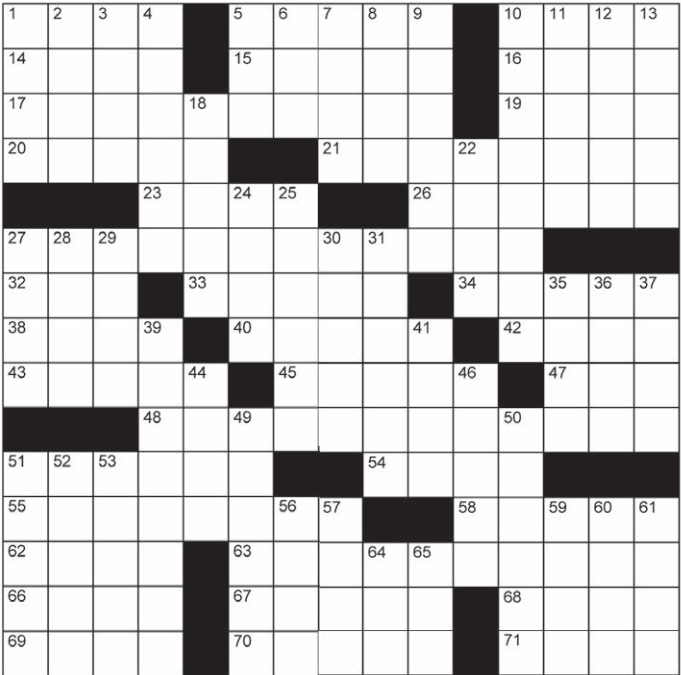
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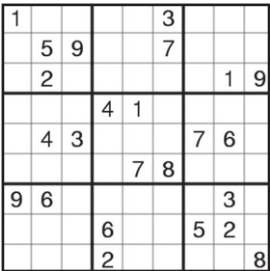
- Across
1. Indian beast of burden
5. Note in a soprano's range
10. Author Martin or Kingsley
14. Collar
15. Mosque god
16. Scandinavian goddess of fate
17. Warner's statement after the fact
19. Quiet exercise
20. Drum used to accompany a fife
21. Small floor covering
23. Small batteries
26. Where St. Paul preached
27. Not just a fib
32. __ pro nobis
35. Treasure chest
34. Squeeze with force
38. Trip to Mecca
40. Gets ready for surgery
42. Morales in movies
43. Like sunflowers
45. Farm plantings
47. Suffix with Gator
48. Unlikely Planned Parenthood member
51. Volleyball player
54. Cancel a correction
55. Practice Zen
58. IBM offerings of the '80s
62. Author/lecturer Wiesel
63. Jimmy Buffett fan
66. Signs of summer
67. Oscars' cousins
68. 'Orinoco Flow' singer
69. Latvian
70. Goldblume of "Hill Street Blues"
71. Regina's prov.



- Down
1. Time: Ger.
2. Old comic strip character Kett
3. Hardly a genius
4. Get rid of
5. Stable serving
6. UN workers' agcy.
7. Sati ate
8. Sauteed leftovers
9. Designed for group singing
10. All-inclusive location
11. Roger of "The Saint" TV series
12. Militant Zionist group in Palestine
13. Hosiery risks
18. "Rough" writing
22. Of hearing
24. Org. for senior citizens
25. Discolor by burning
27. Danish Nobelists Niels
28. Venezuelan copper center
29. 1975 hit by Styx
30. U.S. tennis great
31. Bus stations
35. Mil. branch
36. Popular Anglo-Nigerian singer
37. Yesterday, in Dijon
39. Most spasmodic
41. Flyspeck
44. Kind of soda
46. Dozed
49. Wine source
50. Needs scratching
51. Sense
52. West Indies volcano
53. Chucklehead
56. Make compact, as pipe tobacco
57. First name in wit
59. Actress Malone of "Stepmom"
60. Sun emanations
61. Pierre's state: Abbr.
64. Rembrandt van ____
65. Bear in Barcelona

Sudoku

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 x 9-square grid subdivided into nine 3 x 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 x 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.



Cryptogram

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

UM C XLUWM ALVRQS
SWAUOW XV XCJW C
TCXL, LW NVRQS ICQQ
MVO LUA OVTTWO
SRIJ.

And here is your hint:

I = C

The solution to last issue's crossword



Weekly Horoscope

- ★★★★★ great
★★★★ good
★★★ average
★★ alright
★ difficult

Aries
March 21-April 19

★★

Your mind is more disciplined than usual. You probably want everything in order before speaking. A good time to plan ahead.

Taurus
April 20-May 20

★★★

It is time to plan for your future. Work up an approximate budget for the next five years. Don't try to stick to it exactly, but use it to generate helpful ideas.

Gemini
May 21-June 20

★★★★★

Today your caring quotient is high. You can be extremely warm and nurturing, with a great capacity to love and be loved.

Cancer
June 21-July 22

★★★

A last-ditch effort by you brings better results than you had hoped. A partial reprieve occurs.

Leo
July 23-August 22

★★

Today you tend to see only what you want to see. A positive focus is fine, but remember reality too!

Virgo
August 23-September 22

★★★★★

You're inclined to take it a bit easy on the job today. Your good taste could be called upon, or diplomatic skills may be necessary.

Libra
September 23-October 22

★★★★★

Take note of vital details. You can pinpoint essential matters. Focus on the heart of the issue.

Scorpio
October 3-November 21

★★★★

Be sensitive in what you communicate. Some secrecy may be necessary. Think before sharing.

Sagittarius
November 22-December 21

★★★★

A partner is drawn toward grace, harmony and ease. Charm might be overdone. Share comforts AND tasks.

Capricorn
December 22-January 19

★

A sudden attraction flares. Your circumstances will dictate whether it is appropriate to act upon or not.

Aquarius
January 20-February 18

★★

Outdoor activities are a good bet for today. Go for a hike, visit the park, go walking around the neighborhood. Get out and be active.

Pisces
February 19-March 20

★★★★

Time for something new in your life. Seek out the original, creative or different. Look for laughs.

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USM COMMUNITY PAGE



Community Spotlight: Open Mic Night turned two-man show

David Sanok
Free Press Staff

Attendance was low at the Gorham Events Board open mic night last Friday with only 15 people gathered for an audience and only two musicians volunteering to perform, but the show went on and produced a successful jam session.

Strumming their guitars were musicians freshman Eza Krazich and sophomore Brian Wardwell, who despite a small crowd, were able to get a couple rounds of applause for each song they performed. The duo ended up performing a collection of covers, including acoustic-star Jack Johnson's hits "Better Together" and "Banana Pancakes," as well as showcasing some of their own original material.

Krazich and Wardwell first met each other last fall and bonded over their mutual interest and ability to play guitar.

"I was looking for someone I could perform on stage as a duo," said Krazich. "It was a difficult adjustment for the both of us because we're so used to performing solo and working as a duo makes it more difficult to stay in rhythm. But we got the hang of it and now we can perform easily without worry of falling out of rhythm."

The low-turnout did not bother either of the musicians and they attributed the low-turnout primarily due to the nervousness people have of getting up on stage and performing in front of an audience.

"It's nerve-racking getting up on stage in front of an audience," said Kraziach. "A lot of people are afraid of being



Patrick Higgins / Free Press Staff

Sophomore Brian Wardwell performs in the Brooks Student Center on Friday.

judged by their singing ability and as a result; I think people were less inclined to come tonight."

Wardwell shared Kraziach's sentiments and even performed a song he wrote titled "Lucid" which dealt with his personal struggles of overcoming stage fright.

"I used to get nervous about performing in front people which was primarily due to people telling me I wasn't good enough," said Wardwell. "The song Lucid is about how I didn't let the naysayers get to me and instead of giving up; kept persevering. I hope people will listen to the meaning of that song and use it as motivation to never give up."

To address the low-turnout problem, both singers suggested better advertising to make the open mic night event appear less like a competition and more like a party.

"I think the problem with how this event was advertised was how it was made to look like a talent show, which made it seem more like a competition," said Krazaich. "USM's open mic night needs to be advertised as a non-judgmental event more directly while still having the sign-up to keep people committed to joining."

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Featured Photo:



Patrick Higgings / Free Press Staff

A lone car sits in the parking lot behind Upperclass Hall during last week's blizzard. The storm dropped feet of snow in both Portland and Gorham and winds left waist-high drifts on both campuses while class was canceled for two days.



Campus Events

Monday, February 2

Dinosaurs at Dusk!
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM
Southworth Planetarium, Portland

Tuesday, February 3

Two Maine Artists: Arlene Morris and Deborah Klotz
7:00 PM
University Events Room, 7th Floor, Glickman Family Library, Portland

Wednesday, February 4

Blacklight yoga with USM yoga club & Stephanie Lynnette Norwood
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Brooks Student Center, Gorham

Thursday, February 5

Student Mental Health and College Success: What Faculty Need to Know
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Room 312, Faculty Commons, Glickman Library, Portland

Friday, February 6

Make your own Snow-Cones
8:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Brooks Student Center, Gorham

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

Local Events

Tuesday, February 3

Open Mic with Jake McCurdy
9:30 p.m.
375 Fore Street, Portland, (207) 773-7210

Wednesday, February 4

Fiddle Jam - Potato Pickers
12:00 p.m.
Local Sprouts Cooperative, 649 Congress Street, Portland, (207) 899-3529

Open Mic featuring Mikey Sweet
7:00 p.m.
The Dogfish Bar and Grille, 128 Free Street Portland, (207) 772-5483

"Very Tour! Much Comedy": Nick Thune featuring Ben Kronberg and Kate Berlant
8:00 p.m.
One Longfellow Square, 181 State Street #201, Portland, ME 04101
(207) 761-1757

Thursday, February 5

Karaoke
10:00 p.m.
Sea Dog Brewing, 125 Western Avenue, South Portland, (207) 871-7000

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Brooks Student Center at the
University of Southern Maine in Gorham!**



Join us for a Grand Opening Celebration on Thursday, January 22nd, from noon until 2 pm at the new Campus Branch in the Brooks Student Center!

Our Campus Branch in Gorham is open Monday through Friday, 10 am until 3 pm.
Not near the Gorham campus? Visit one of our other two branches in Portland:
391 Forest Avenue and 1071 Brighton Avenue.

**Become a member today
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