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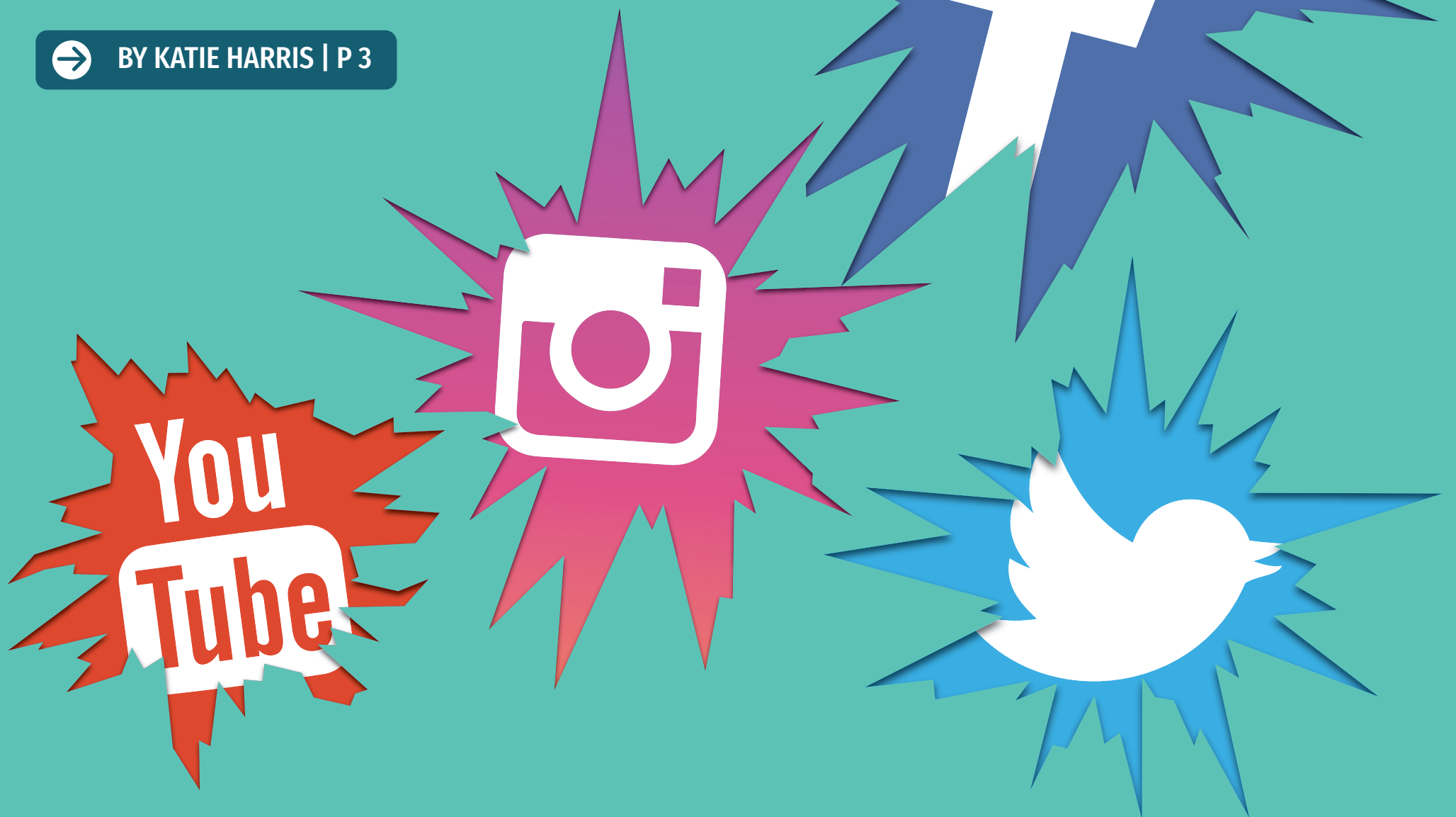
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DISCUSSIONS VIA SOCIAL MEDIA:

CONVOLUTED DIALOGUE OR CRITICALLY
IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS?



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Hannah Lyon / Design Director

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Krysteana Scribner
Editor-in-chief

Another week is upon us, and as the semester begins to seamlessly roll by I am trying to take notice of the trends in my every day. I'm not one to enjoy a constant routine, the same thing each and every day, but at this point in my life it's hard to escape. I'm taking five classes, working two part-time jobs and trying my best to still balance my hobbies - and my sanity - at the end of each evening.

This past week, we've decided to explore the convoluted discussion on social issues via social media. Recently, I've noticed a huge issue with the way in which people have discussions over social media, and the way others express their opinions. Having solid discussion with someone is one thing, but releasing an angry onslaught of swears and demoralizing another for their opinion. I've seen it before, again an

again, an observer from behind the screen from my own computer, and I never jump in. Unless I am going to be having a solid discussion with people that will not only enlighten me, but help me to grow and learn. We can all learn from each other.

The other day, I noticed that a local paper, The Portland Phoenix, published an article on Hippie Culture. The article, although a biased in the chosen interviewee's, made some good points, and discussed how Hippie Culture today doesn't quite encompass the culture of the 70's.

In an outrage of commentary, people flocked to the post, shared by a variety of individuals who attempted to offer feedback to the author. On the author's page, commenters wrote such as 'the Phoenix sucks' and 'oh, this isn't an Onion article?' Instead of offering positive feedback like a regular discussion would entail, people were quick to trash the con-

tent. What I found most disturbing were the Phoenix reviews that started to come in. "Almost used pages as toilet paper but then realized even my ass is better off," wrote Daman Noti, a Portland local, who reviewed the Portland Phoenix after reading the Hippie Article.

Everyone, of course, is entitled to their opinion, but when someone wants to make a change or have their voice heard, using appropriate discussion is the best way to go about it. This example of the Phoenix's page is nothing new, and comments like this can be found on threads across all social media platforms. On social media platforms for Hillary Clinton, much of the commentary is viewed by their page monitors before they allow it to be posted. This makes it so only intellectual and educated responses can come through, and anything involving distasteful language can be kept out of the conversation - but not all pages and platforms

have this option.

We see the posts that go viral every day, every hour, every second - opinionated posts about abortion, the LGBTQ community and so on. What good do people think will come out of negative commentary? Are people looking for a fight? Even on the Black Lives Matter Facebook page, people are making generalized and unhelpful statements, such as, "Pretty soon it's gonna be no lives matter." What a horrible thing for someone to write, knowing it won't bring anything positive to the table of discussion.

I'm outraged at the lack of respect people have, the lack of helpful commentary they produce, and I can't even begin to express my frustration for the way my local community handles these issues. We need to create space for more discussion to be had, and be open to other people's opinions without being so quick to dilute the conversation with petty arguments.

Social media and convoluted social discussions

Katie Harris
Free Press Intern

Social media has been the place where college students express their feelings on issues that have happened or are still happening today. Lately, social media has been the main platform where societal issues have been discussed, such as abortion, political standings, abuse and racism. Students have mixed reactions on some issues such as racism and politics. Most can inspire a positive or negative response from others.

The problem with posting on social media is it's never private. As a society, we question if social media is a healthy way to discuss specific issues such as these, and if it makes us safer than having a discussion face to face.

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are the most widely

used sites for social interaction. USM students are seen using these platforms on their phones, tablets or computers. They are either updating their statuses or posting a photo that can be seen by millions of people across the world. Lately, all Facebook users see trending societal issues that either have to do with political views or racism. That's something that many students do not want to see when they log onto their accounts.

USM Global Communications Professor John Muthyala, however, said that when students communicate and discuss societal issues, they create more awareness and public attention on social media platforms.

"It takes learning how to communicate and how to be more open," Muthyala said.

See **MEDIA** on page 5



Angelina Smith / Design Assistant

New administration brings back four retrenched faculty

Julie Pike
Staff Writer

USM has begun to work towards a better reputation with the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) by rehiring several employees who were retrenched back in 2014.

USM is currently under sanction by the AAUP due to an incident two years ago when 26 faculty members, including ones with tenure, were laid off. USM's administration at that time, under President Flanagan, claimed the layoffs were due to budgetary reasons. A few of those employees have been recently rehired, including Provost Jeannine Uzzi.

These changes have gotten attention from representatives of the AAUP, including Michael Bérubé, the head of the committee from

AAUP who investigated USM.

The AAUP is a national advocacy group for faculty members. They monitor schools and universities to ensure that faculty with tenure have job security. A sanction from the AAUP is essentially a hit to a school's reputation and credibility, with no monetary value.

"The AAUP sets the gold standard for what constitutes acceptable procedures in higher education," Bérubé stated.

When the AAUP investigated USM back in 2014, they declared a sanction on the university due to the way the administration handled the layoffs. They claimed that the university did not declare financial exigency, which would have permitted the termination of tenured faculty.

The representatives from the AAUP interviewed

several faculty and went through a multitude of pages of mail, memos and budgets to reach their conclusion.

The AAUP came to the decision that the instance at USM was an unjustifiable firing of employees.

"The USM investigation was unlike anything I've ever seen," Bérubé said.

After the AAUP released their findings in the investigation and issued the sanction on USM, David Flanagan, the former USM president, wrote a response to the AAUP. Flanagan felt their investigation was not done correctly and that their findings did not justify issuing the sanction.

"AAUP cannot refute the harsh reality that the University of Maine System and the University of Southern Maine, in particular, face enormous challenges as a result of demographics, competition, new technol-



Sam Hill / Contributor

Faculty, students and community members protest retrenchments of 24 faculty members in 2014.

ogy and costly old buildings," Flanagan stated.

Back in January of this year the Bangor Daily News

and the Portland Press Herald reported that an arbitrator determined that USM followed the contract during

the layoffs in 2014.

It was the Associated Faculties of the University of See **AAUP** on page 7

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From **MEDIA** on page 3

He also said that the emergence of social media allows students and younger generations to make themselves heard. Muthyala knows that when students have these discussions online, they have the option to say whatever they want on a platform such as Facebook. Once a student makes a post about an issue they feel strongly about, it can be seen by other users, who will then have the option to react to it or make a comment.

College students have different views on societal issues and how to express them on social media. One of the topics that is most talked about by college students on social media is the ongoing issue of NFL players taking a knee during the national an-

them, which was started by San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick. The action caused major outcry across the United States, as many people disagreed with his action. Other players from the NFL took notice and followed in his footsteps to send a message against systemic racism.

Connor Clement, a senior communications major, said he understands where Kaepernick is coming from. "He's trying to make a point about social injustice, which is what makes America great," Clement said. "You can have your own opinions, you can voice your concerns, you can stick to your own beliefs."

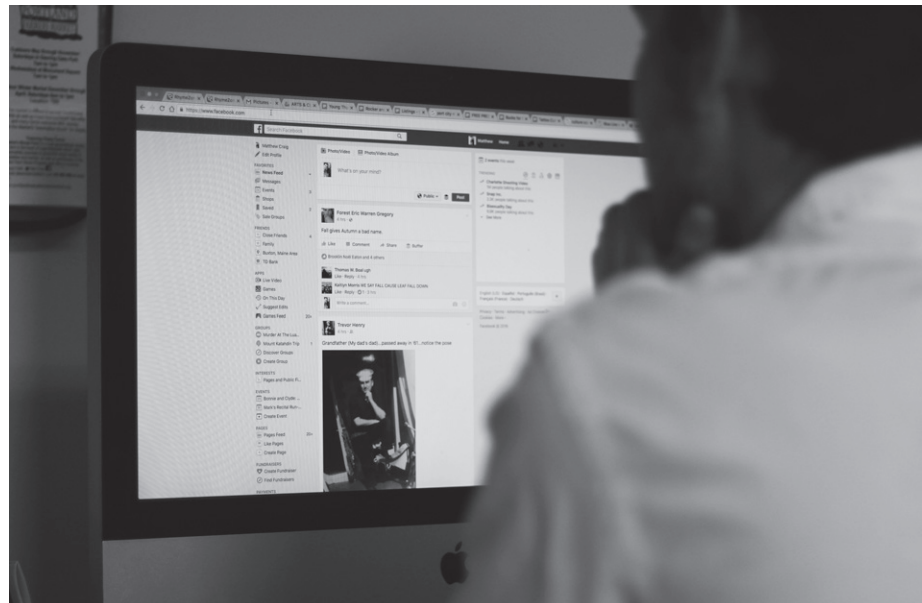
As a communications major, Clement said it's important for him to immerse him-

self in social media, because with this particular field of study, it's always a great idea to be in the know about what's going on in the world of social media.

Some students try to avoid some discussion of societal issues. But since our current culture relies on social media, it gives both young and older adults a voice to express their opinions and concerns despite the risks they are making when posting a comment on an issue that means a lot to them.

On the rise of social media, Clement said, "I think that's the culture we live in now, it's more behind the computer screen typing away than it is face to face."

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Krysteana Scribner / Editor-in-chief

Every day, students stream their Facebook page while they work on homework. Debating on social media can lead to convoluted discussion if individuals who participate are unwilling to offer positive feedback.

Resident assistants help foster community in dorms

Jack Hanh
Staff Writer

Possibly the most underappreciated people on campus, Resident Assistants (RAs) are an essential part of the college experience. From event planning to ensuring student safety, they are constantly at work to make residential life great for students.

The RA of Second Hastings-Wing, Justin Lapointe, a senior history major, described his role and how he contributes to the college community: "My duties are to ensure that my residents are connected with the school and have a great school year."

To apply for an RA position, students must have and maintain a GPA of 2.5 and in good standing with USM. They must also have two recommendations, one from their own RA and one from another RA.

It is essential that college students develop a bond to the campus community. Many students who do not develop that bond feel discouraged and are more likely to leave the school. It is one of the RAs main

functions to help residents develop these bonds. They will put together many fun events that anyone in the hall can attend. From game night, to arts and crafts, to pizza parties, these events help develop friendships and a sense of community within the dorms. Many residents also develop a bond with their RAs, just as you would to any other friend. They are always willing to talk with residents about issues they may be experiencing or just to hang out.

One student, Tracy Edwards, a first year health sciences major, had this to say about her interactions with the RA: "My experience with the RAs has been pretty good! They always say hello to me, and I say hi back. We always joke around. They're really friendly."

Another important aspect of the RA position is the enforcement of school safety, school rules and policies. These policies include the obvious, such as no underage drinking and no drugs, including marijuana. Smoking of any kind is not allowed on campus. In addition to these rules, there is

also a quiet time policy in place where residents must keep their volume to a minimum from 9:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, and from 12:00 midnight to 9:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

"I had to enforce our alcohol policy a lot last year, along with our marijuana policy and noise violations," Lapointe said.

To some it may seem that they are a sort of dorm secret police force, actively seeking to ruin someone's night. In reality, they are just like any other students, and what they want to is make sure no one gets hurt.

Nate Genrich, a junior theater major, enjoyed his sophomore year RA. "My floor RA last year was chill. He wasn't overbearing but he let us know that if we were doing stuff, but he was fair about it," he said, "If something got broke or something he'd call a meeting and say 'yeah, ok, we can't do this.'"

Once a week, all of the RAs in a dorm convene to discuss topics such as residents in need of attention, the planning of hall events and the general state of



Photo courtesy of USM Image Bank

Students relax in a dorm common area, where Resident Assistants are asked to monitor.

the building itself. Along with RAs, their bosses, the LRAs, or Lead Resident Assistants, and the hall's Residential Director also attend the meetings.

Lapointe described student confidentiality as one of the most important parts of his job. However, there are some instances where confidentiality would hurt the student more than not. In addition to their other duties, RAs are also "mandatory reporters."

Lapointe described what this means: "Being a mandatory reporter means we have certain things we must report no matter what, like sexual assault, suicide, and other major concerns."

With a stressful job like this comes some pretty impressive perks. As Lapointe put it, "It looks great on a resume, you get to work with an amazing team, you get leadership skills, a single plus room and board, you get connected on campus,

and you build great relationships with the residents".

So next time you see your RA walking down the hall, say hi and maybe ask how their day has been going, because you know that most of it has been spent worrying about you in one way or another.

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Students voice concerns over upcoming election

Johnna Ossie
News Editor

The upcoming presidential election has many young people concerned about the future, not just for our country but for the global community. For generations, college students have been known to be the ones rallied behind progressive candidates and to come together in protest against injustices.

Many in the Baby Boomer generation look at Millennials as lazy, apathetic and coddled compared to the supposed do-it-yourselfers that came before them. The Bernie Sanders campaign showed that a large portion America's youth is determined, vocal and desperate for systematic change.

With Bernie Sanders out of the race, and major criticism against both major party political candidates, how can students decide who to vote for, or whether to vote at all? What are the major concerns among students regarding the upcoming election, and the future of country?

Last week's visit to USM by Presidential Candidate Jill Stein was well attended, but many at the event were unsure if they would actually vote for Stein, and mainly seemed interested in hearing what she had to say. When Chair of the Maine Green Independent Party Asher Platts asked who would be voting Green in the upcoming election, only small number of audience members

stood up.

USM is a community of varied backgrounds, lifestyles and age groups. As a largely commuter school, many students are nontraditional, perhaps going back to school after a period off or to pursue a second degree. These students may all have different ideas about what is the most important topic in the upcoming election.

In a poll of 45 USM students of varying majors, ages and genders, 22 people reported that they plan to vote for Hillary Clinton, 4 for Donald Trump and 4 for the Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson. None reported that they planned to vote for Green Party candidate Jill Stein, despite her recent visit to campus, during which she focused on eliminating student debt.

The upcoming election could have major consequences for college students, especially Millennials, as they comprise the generation that will bear the future burden of any choices made by the next U.S. president.

Emma Donnelly, a sophomore majoring in women and gender studies and social work, said that one of her worries surrounding the election is that young people won't vote. In The Free Press' student survey, 9 out of 45 students polled said they don't plan to vote.

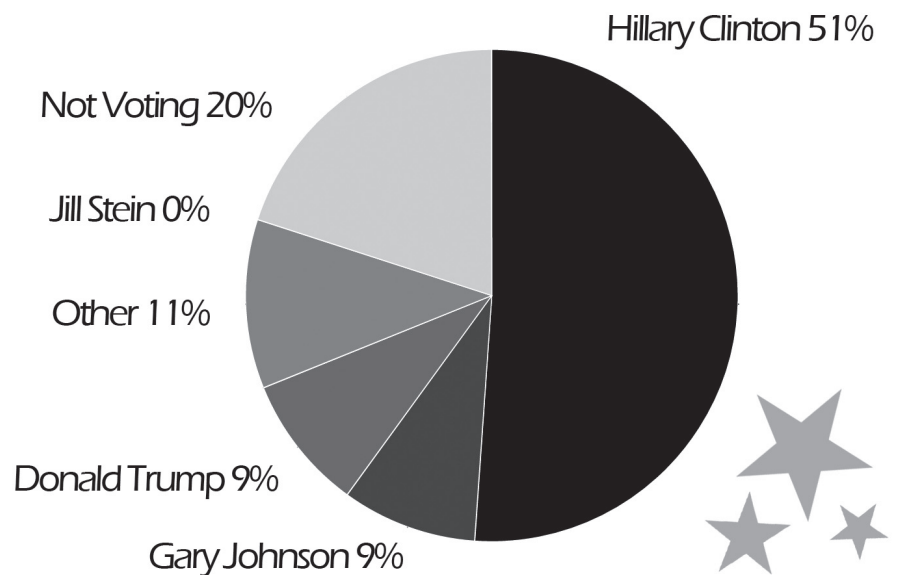
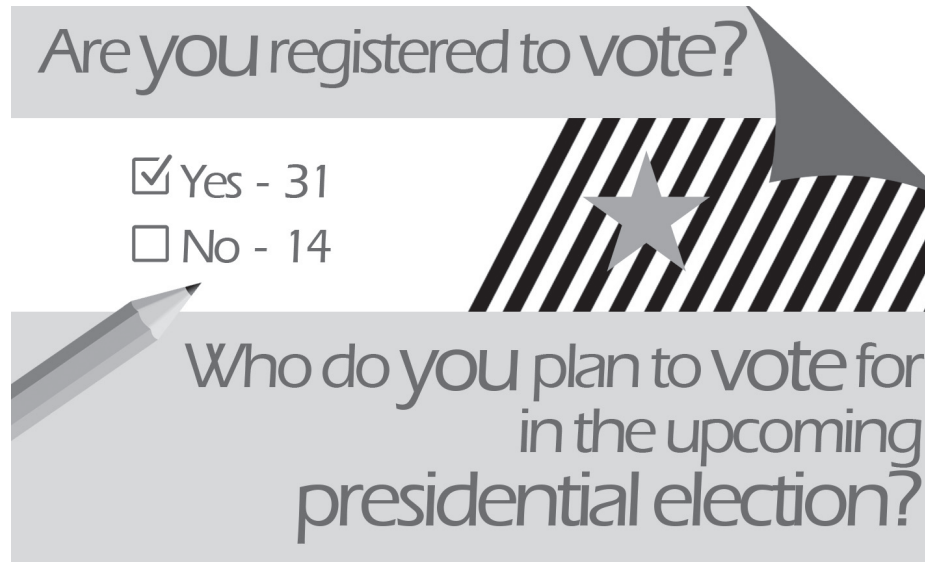
"One of my biggest concerns is that millennials will

not go out and vote," Donnelly said. "Many of us are very outspoken on social media about political issues, but rarely go out and vote. We have so much potential to really change the future of this country...our activism needs to extend beyond the long, passionate posts on Facebook."

It is true that young people, by numbers, could have a huge impact on the election. The U.S. Census Bureau reported in 2015 that the population of people born between 1982 and 2000 is 83.1 million, while Baby Boomers, those born between 1946 and 1964, have a population of 75.4 million. Millennials have the capacity to largely sway the election results.

"It is incredibly important for students to care about the election. Our age group has more power than many would believe," Donnelly said. "We make up a large chunk of the population, and if we make our voices heard we can really make a difference."

Pete Franzen of the USM Socialists is a graduate student in mental health counseling. He explained that one of the USM Socialists' major concerns is that people will feel stuck in voting for the "lesser of two evils," that is, that neither Trump nor Clinton appear to be viable candidates to many voters, but they choose to vote for whomever they feel to be not the best candidate, but the candidate



Angelina Smith / Design Assistant

who is not the worst.

"It is our opinion that lesser evil-ism leads to a situation where there is no genuine left alternative, and so that far right critiques are the only visible alternative the status quo," he said. "A lot of angry voters who don't feel heard gravitate towards the far right because there is no organized left."

The USM Socialists formally endorse Green Party candidate Dr. Jill Stein, and were seen tabling at her recent visit to USM, talking with students and audience members and handing out fliers explaining the concept of socialism to those unfamiliar or hoping to learn more. It is their hope that students and voters will look beyond a two party system for a third-party alternative.

"We do not think Stein will

win the election," Franzen said, "but we think support for Stein is valuable because it would increase the funding, visibility, and viability of an independent, anti-capitalist political party."

Some students and voters, however, worry that a vote for a third-party candidate is a vote for Donald Trump. This was also the concern in Maine's last two gubernatorial elections, where the Left vote was split between candidates Independent Eliot Cutler and Democrat Mike Michaud. In these two elections, the result was that Paul LePage was elected governor, despite only having 48.2 percent of the vote in 2014, and 37.6 percent of the vote in 2010. Bernie Sanders recently told his supporters, "Now is not the time for a protest vote."

No matter who students

plan to vote for, everyone should take the time to research the candidates, their platforms, and what's at stake.

Any student who wishes to register to vote can fill out a registration card in the Student Center on National Voter Registration Day, which is Sept. 27, at City Hall in Portland or at the Town Clerk's Office in Gorham (located at 75 South Street). Students who pay out-of-state tuition can register to vote in Maine using their campus address. The last day to fill out a mail-in ballot is Oct. 18. Students can also register at their polling place on Election Day.

"We are the future of this country," Donnelly said, "and we cannot remain quiet."

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From **AAUP** on page 4

Maine (AFUM) that initiated the investigation into the layoffs. A representative from AFUM, Mark Irvings, conducted the investigation.

Irvings found that only one employee, of the 26 who were laid off violated contract. His conclusions differed drastically from the findings of the AAUP.

Today USM is moving forward from the setback in 2014. The new president, Glenn Cummings, and Provost Jeannine Uzzi have already made a positive impact.

Uzzi and Cummings worked together over the summer to try and overturn some of the retrenchments, and several faculty were rehired. Not all of the employees were hired back into their old department, however, as five different programs were eliminated

"I believe that USM is on the right path to once again being a great University."

— Paul Johnson
Professor of Social Work

back in 2014 as well.

Of the 26 employees who were retrenched, not all of them will be returning to USM. Some decided to pursue jobs elsewhere, and others retired, but there were some that continued to want to return to USM.

Paul Johnson, a professor of social work and an AFUM representative, wrote a paper titled "To Hell and Back" that outlines the positive changes made by the new administration at USM.

"In the course of a year, I have witnessed a major transformation at USM.

There is now a sense of optimism that the administration, faculty, staff, and students are working together," Johnson stated. "I believe that USM is on the right path to once again being a great University."

"We're really glad, speaking as a representative from the AAUP, that the retrenched faculty are beginning to be brought back," Bèrubè said.

The next step for the sanction to be lifted will be discussed at the AAUP's next meeting in October.

"If the conditions that initially prompted the AAUP

investigation improve, then we will look into taking USM off the list," Bèrubè commented.

If all goes well, the AAUP would vote on the final decision of lifting the sanction in June.

USM's new administration, working together with AFUM, have made efforts to rehire as many retrenched employees as possible. Johnson stated that the present administration has done well when working with AFUM.

While Johnson indicated that it is unlikely that any other retrenched faculty can be rehired, USM seems to be on a trajectory to move forward in repairing some of the damage done by the cuts and layoffs made two years ago and in restoring USM's reputation.

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In Brief...



Local & State

36 birds found dead in Deering Oaks Park

WCSH6 News -- Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is asking the public to report any dead birds they may find in the Portland area.

They say over the past three weeks, 36 dead juvenile herring gulls have been found at Deering Oaks Park.

Three of these gulls were sent to be tested at the National Wildlife Disease Lab in Wisconsin and the results of these tests are expected in the next 7-10 days.

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife say herring gulls are the only type of dead birds found at the park even though there are many other species there.

Portland's Parks Director though says Deering Oaks is still a safe place to visit.

"As far as we know, there's no risk to humans or other wildlife," said Ethan Hipple, Portland's parks director.

"If we find that, we'll take immediate action, notify the public but we've not found that yet, and we're really depending on the science and the research that's being done right now to further advise us."

Inland fisheries and wildlife are asking people not handle dead birds. If you find one you are asked to call them at 207-592-0605.

National

Five people shot dead inside Washington mall

CNN - A man carrying a rifle entered a Macy's store at a mall in Washington state last Saturday, shot dead four women and a man, and vanished into the night, police said.

Authorities believe only one person fired the shots Friday night at Cascade Mall in Burlington, about an hour north of Seattle.

A search is underway for an armed man who headed toward Interstate 5 after the at-

tack, said Sgt. Mark Francis, a spokesman for the Washington State Patrol.

The names of the victims were not immediately released.

Protests continued Saturday marking 4th night of protesting

USA Today - Several hundred people carrying signs and chanting gathered under a hot afternoon sun Saturday in a park in central Charlotte in fifth day of demonstrations to demand the release of police video showing the fatal shooting of Keith Lamont Scott.

Some wore shirts that reading "Black Lives Matter" and "support the Charlotte movement" while others milled around a makeshift stage awaiting speakers. The crowd included people handing out bottles of water in the 91-degree temperature. Two women offered to register people to vote.

International

Ted Cruz announces support for Trump

New York Times - Senator

Ted Cruz said on Friday that he would vote for Donald J. Trump for president, two months after Mr. Cruz pointedly declined to endorse his former rival in a speech at the Republican National Convention.

"After many months of careful consideration, of prayer and searching my own conscience, I have decided that on Election Day, I will vote for the Republican nominee, Donald Trump," Mr. Cruz wrote in a statement on Facebook.

For Mr. Cruz, who has fashioned himself as the unbending conscience of modern conservatism, the decision to endorse Mr. Trump is the latest remarkable gamble in a career defined by them, placing him in the corner of an ideologically elastic candidate who savaged Mr. Cruz — and, often, the senator's family — at every turn during the nominating contest.

But Mr. Trump's rise in the polls, combined with a handful of political overtures from Mr. Trump and his team in recent days, left Mr. Cruz effectively boxed in, raising the possibility that a narrow Trump defeat could be laid at his feet.



Police Beat

*Selections from the
USM Department of
Public Safety police log
Sept. 6 to Sept. 8*

09/06/16

First, the suspect broke in...

Damage to University property, parking garage. Parking Office reports that an entrance gate has been damaged.

... and then, they drove away

Damage to University property, parking garage. An exit gate was damaged. Report taken.

09/07/16

Help! I've fallen and I can't get up

Medical Emergency, Russell Hall. Student fell and has pain in her hip. Rescue called and transported to Maine Medical Center. Report taken.

What if I say I'm color blind?

Motor Vehicle stop, Falmouth St, Portland. Warning given to Operator for red light violation.

Paper bag beer bottles

Liquor Law violation, Academy Building. Officer warned Subjects for drinking in Public.

What does this even mean?

Wellbeing check, Upton Hastings Hall. Officer out helping a student in Hastings Formal Lounge.

Everybody deserves love

Unwanted person, Glickman Library. Subject in lobby being disruptive. Officer advised the subject will be leaving for the day. Report taken.

09/08/16

Most detailed report, I wonder why...

Disturbance, Glickman Library. Subject in Library that was disturbing others by using racial language. Subject also threatened a University employee on campus. Individual was arrested shortly thereafter by USM Police for Criminal Threatening and transported to Cumberland County Jail.

Police Beats are edited for grammar and style

Arts & Culture

Blair Witch falls short / 10
Ambitious R&B, Young Thug / 10

Tattoos and troubadours: Capturing cultures of self-expression

Tattoos serve as symbolic reminders of life *Who's that man on the corner? Bucks for buskers?*

Mary-Ellen Aldrich
Free Press Staff

Regan Thibodeau, one of the few deaf professors here at USM, has several tattoos. Each one has meaning to her. Thibodeau and two of her deaf friends got a sun, moon and star tattoo trio upon conquering the idea of attending a hearing school, UVM. Another tattoo is a combination of twine and thorns on her wrist. This serves as a reminder to herself that all roses, herself, have their thorns, or negative things in life, that make us who we are. Her third and biggest tattoo is a phoenix feather on her ankle. Thibodeau's husband, a tattoo artist, has a phoenix on his arm representing how he rose from the ashes to become a better man. Thibodeau's phoenix feather shows how she is now with her husband and a part of him. Thibodeau's

fourth tattoo is a negative space tattoo of a snowy owl on her shoulder blade, using her freckles as the owl's spots. Thibodeau's CODA children use the "hoo-hoo" sound of an owl to get her attention, something of which she is quite fond.

Danielle Morin, a senior studying general biology, has a tattoo of a robin's nest and three eggs. Morin once rescued some robin's eggs from a fallen nest near her home. Incubating the eggs, she managed to hatch one. "The little robin hatching out of its egg, peeping," Morin said. "I wanted to remember that experience. It was really cool seeing it be born into this world."

Last autumn, Morin added a quote around the nest: "It's always darkest before the dawn", a quote from Florence + The Machine's Shake it Out. This was very encouraging to Morin dur-

ing a dark time in her life. Last spring, she got out of a three-year abusive relationship. During the time since then she's had good times and bad. Listening to music helped her get through those times. "It took so much healing," Morin said, "and even now after a year later I'm still healing from it." She got the quote added to remind herself that even if it's dark now, it will get better.

Around the same time she got out of the abusive relationship, Morin had to put down her cat, Poe. Poe was dear to Morin, and having him put down was both unexpected and difficult. Having to make that decision on her own was hard and not taken lightly. Morin got a tattoo of Poe in remembrance of the good he added to her life, and also to re-

See **TATTOO** on page 9



Mary-Ellen Aldrich / Community Editor

Danielle Morin reveals her robin's nest tattoo. Legends tell the tale of her rescuing fallen robin's eggs and even managing to hatch one.



Photo courtesy of Million Dollar Lounge

Million Dollar Lounge members pose on a couch, outside. This photo exemplifies the fact that the group brings refinement to the open air.

Dionne Smith
Contributor

Portland isn't as big as New York City or Boston, but Portland has talent too! There are a lot of buskers in Portland who like to just sit outside and play their instruments, and people who like the music will give the players money. I had the pleasure of interviewing a few people who feed into the flavor of Portland by busking.

The first person I had interviewed is someone in my own house! He describes me as his quasi-adopted big brother, and I see him as my older god brother (he's older than me by two months). His name is Ben Rooker. He's 18 and goes to SMCC. Ben is currently listening to alternative music, shoegazing and other kinds of out-there music. He says he has a very wide variety of what he listens to, just not

country music. In comparison to what he listens to, he plays alternative rock, indie rock and progressive music. Ben has been out busking a few times, and he says his motivation is that he enjoys performing for people and that's why he started going out and busking. He also likes the idea of joining a band just so people can hear his music, not so much as a get-rich plan. Ben also likes to go busking with people because there isn't a lot of pressure directly on him, and since he's only done it a handful of times it can give him support and be comforting. Ben has played at one open mic at Port Con and had done multiple performances at his high school. He says he intends to play in college the same way he played in high school. Ben believes that first-time buskers need to just go out and just do it but be courteous of other players. I went and busked with

Ben once about two years ago: He was on guitar and I was on drums and it was really fun seeing people turn their heads in their cars coming down Commercial Street, and getting money for it was satisfying.

My next interview was not with just one busker, it was an entire band of four. On a First Friday Art Walk, my family and I were walking around, and we saw one of Ben's friends playing. Later on I got in contact with him and was able to interview the whole band. The band's name is Million Dollar Lounge and consists of Calvin Stanley, who is 20, goes to USM and plays guitar and does vocals; Kyle Ross, who is 19, goes to MECA and plays bass; Vinny Amoroso, who is 19, went to NC state and transferred to SMCC and plays drums; and Ansel Hoecker, who is

See **BUSKER** on page 9

From **TATTOO**, page 8

mind herself that she could persevere through difficult things.

On Morin's right arm is a half-sleeve featuring a red-tailed hawk. It took four or five two-hour sessions to complete. Being Native American and French Indian, the red-tailed hawk is one of Morin's totem animals. One of the things that

red-tailed hawk reminds her she can always keep soaring.

Mariah Villalobos, a freshman art major, told of an experience one of her friends had. Her friend, a waitress, was discriminated against because of a full-sleeve tattoo she has. Two customers coming into the restaurant almost immediately requested a different waitress, claiming she would spit in their food and be rude. They

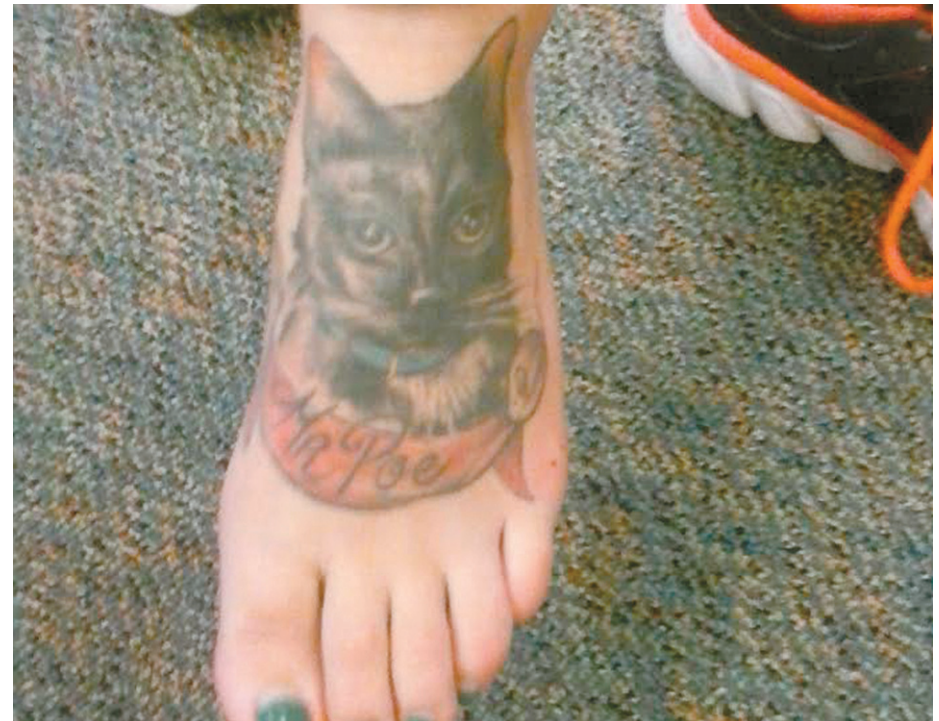
Respected her maybe?

Villalobos plans to get a tattoo within the next couple of months as a form of art and self-expression, saying, "I look at it as your body being a canvas." Her stepfather told her that people with tattoos are evil and she shouldn't get any. She is staying true to herself and will get a tattoo on Halloween.

In addition to those who have tattoos, some who don't yet have tattoos, or just simply don't plan on getting them, have some opinions on it as well.

Gretchen Wagner, a freshman biochemistry major, plans to get a tattoo within the next six months. Recently having to put her dog, Padfoot, down, she wants to get the tattoo in memory of him. Several people see tattoos as cool, as a form of art, a way of self-expression or just fun. Occasionally you'll still find people who think that tattoos are gross, irresponsible, unprofessional or even trashy. But as Wagner said: "Tattoos in modesty and moderation are fine".

Richard Stiffler, a sophomore English major, sees tattoos as a form of self-expression and art. While



Mary Ellen Aldrich / Community Editor

"The little robin hatching out of its egg, peeping... I wanted to remember that experience, It was really cool seeing it be born into this world."

-Danielle Morin
USM Biology Student

really hit home for Morin upon finding the red-tailed hawk to be her totem animal is the similarities between herself and the hawk. Songbirds will gang up on red-tailed hawks because they don't like them and try to bring them down from the sky. But red-tailed hawks are resilient and always find a way to keep soaring. Morin feels this is not dissimilar to her experience. Her half-sleeve featuring the

formed a false opinion about her simply because she had tattoos. One tattoo from her sleeve in particular has significant meaning to her. For much of her life she battled with self-harm. As a symbol of what she has beat, she got a dagger tattooed on her arm with the phrase fight off your demons. If the customers had known of the strength she has because of defeating that, would they have treated her differently?

Danielle Morin Shows off her tarsal tattoo, which is a portrait of her cat, Poe. Danielle chose to get this ink in response to her feline companion's untimely passing and it serves as a reminder of all the memories they made together.

not yet having tattoos of his own, mostly due to time and money constraints, he respects the decisions of others to get them.

Tattoos are a growing part of American culture, in both the hearing and deaf worlds.

Many people don't know the stories behind the tattoos by which they so readily judge people. Each tattoo has a story, which is fun, sad, inspiring, silly or crazy. Each tattoo is a piece of art, at least it is to the tattoo artist

and the person who is acting as the canvas. It's a bit of that person's story displayed in a creative and often beautiful manner.

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From **BUSKER** on page 8

17, goes to South Portland High School and plays guitar. Their band's name was put together because they were thinking of a name and Vinny suggested something with lounge to connect with the type of music they play, and when they were busking a homeless man who was speaking in Spanish thought they were millionaires because of all the money they had, so Million Dollar Lounge was created. Everyone but Kyle went to the same high school, and Calvin was into songwriting and making music, so Calvin and Vinny got together and started having jamming sessions, then Ansel joined later on. Kyle joined because Calvin worked with his girlfriend and Kyle's girlfriend told Calvin that Kyle plays

bass. First Friday on September 2nd 2016 was their first performance together as a band, but everyone else had busked before then. They play a form of indie-jazz pop. The jazz influences are from Calvin and Vinny, who were in a jazz band, and Calvin enjoys indie rock music such as Mild High Club. This band likes to be original. They enjoy watching people's reaction and want their music to be heard. Their goal however is to one day be good enough to make enough money to live off their music so they can focus on practicing and getting better.

My next interview was with someone who goes to USM as well. His name is Cody Mason, and he's 18 on Sept. 27th. He loves music so much that he is a music education major. He's been playing since sixth grade,



Dionne Smith / Free Press Staff

Ben Rooker, a Portland local, loves to play for people and busk on the street.

and he took such an interest in it back then that he taught his underclassmen music and

he loved it, so he decided to make that his career. Cody played the saxophone for

about eight years and the guitar for about two. He says he auditioned for the USM

School of Music by using his saxophone, but then re-auditioned with the guitar and got into the classical guitar major. He also likes to listen to any genre of music, but he mainly listens to things that are heavier, or that are classical guitar pieces, which is also the type of music that he plays. He hasn't gone out and busked in Portland yet, but he says that he plans to soon and is excited about doing it, and will be busking with his friend who plays the fiddle. Cody plans on donating the money he makes from busking to help fund a trip to Atlantic City for the music education majors next semester. He has no form of publicized music out, but he plans on having some out in the future.

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HEAVY ROTATION |

WHAT CAUGHT THE EYES AND EARS OF OUR STAFF THIS WEEK

Blair Witch remake falls short

John Rocker, *Staff*
Aaron Halls, *Staff*

Blair Witch is the direct sequel to the 1999 film The Blair Witch Project, and is directed by Adam Wingard. The movie follows James Donahue (James Allen McCune) whose sister Heather went missing years ago along with two others while investigating the myth of the Blair Witch in the woods of Maryland. Finding a video that could lead him to his sister, James and his friends head to the same woods where she disappeared, documenting what will begin a terrifying experience for them all.

What did we like?

J: I've only gotten into the horror genre recently, but the finale of this film was the first time in a theater this year that I've ever felt terrified. There was confusion, panic and horror. The way the film jumps back and forth between the characters' cameras as they were experiencing this scene was great. The credit has to go to director Adam Wingard for how he constructed the scene, and to the actors' performances which kept me immersed in the moment.

A: One of the aspects of the film that I enjoyed was the sound design. From the natural sounds of the forest to the mysterious, and terrifying, noises heard at night by the characters, everything enhances the film's intention of putting you as an audience member on edge. The performances by the main cast were all great and felt genuine, which I think is important in a found foot-



Joe Berlinger

age film since it needs to feel real.

What did we dislike?

J: As much as I liked the finale and how it executed pure terror, I felt the rest of the film had issues pulling this off. It would try to pull off cheap jump scares, and this is normally done by having a long period of silence followed by a burst of sound. Those moments had me frustrated, as those weren't actually scary moments. Also the majority of this film just isn't that interesting, as it's mostly a retread of the events that happened in The Blair Witch Project. A few new ideas are introduced, but much more could have been done.

A: A complaint I have is that some aspects of the movie feel too similar to the first film, especially in the final act. In some ways I feel the film has to have familiar beats to the original, since it has to reintroduce the Blair Witch mythology to a new audience, but overall I feel like it brings nothing new to the table.

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R&B: Ambitious and driven

Bradford Spurr
Staff Writer

On his most refined and provocative release Young Thug stands out from a crowded sea of Hip Hop and R&B artists. Young Thug is slim, tall, and only 25 years old, which makes him one of the youngest trendsetters in popular rap music today. But Young Thug is more than just his instantly recognizable ambiguous singing, or what I like to think of as the 'mumble' popularized by others like Future, Desiigner, and Fetty Wap. JEFFERY is important to more than simply the state of things in the current rap landscape, it also serves as a reinforcing visual declaration to Thugger's own outspoken views and ideas about gender roles, equality, and what exactly it means to be young, black, and popular. The cover art is simple, it is a tall and slender figure hidden under a large and almost umbrella-esque hat that matches the model's dress of ruffled purple/blue fabric. The model is Young Thug, something people probably wouldn't be able to tell unless they already knew. In an industry where Frank Ocean's bisexual identity caused the largest waves seen in the music business in recent years, it is odd, or rather refreshing, to see modern rap evolving into something greater than gangster grandstanding with largely misogynistic overtones (i.e. Taylor Swift would still like a word with Kanye West, phone call or not). I liked Young Thug before his latest album, his contributions to Travis Scott's incredible Birds in the Trap Sing McKnight, his early



300 Entertainment

2016 release Slime Season 3 marked a resurgence of a post-mixtape artist. Chance, The Rapper launched an astonishing independent rap career off of the backs of three mixtapes, mark my words Channo will win a Grammy this year for his efforts on Coloring Book.

Every song on the 10 track album is named after a person Young Thug recognizes to be influences ranging from Wyclef Jean, to Guwop (BRICK SQUAD!), to Kanye, and most importantly Harambe (rest in peace you beautiful gorilla). "Wyclef Jean" and "Floyd Mayweather" are definite highpoints for the album with "Kanye West" being a particular favorite of mine due to Thug's crooning and simple cries and voice samples in the background that create a complex and consuming sound palette to an otherwise tame and restricted song. What I think is most important about Young Thug, and note that this is plain and simple just an opinion, is his refusal to acknowledge industry standards by, say, wearing a dress on his album cover and by carving out his own unique and niche sound.

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A&C Listings

Monday, September 26

Wolves in the Throne Room with Feral Northern Curse
Space Gallery
538 Congress St.
Doors: 7:30 Starts: 8:00

Tuesday, September 27

Caroline Cotter and Mousa Blue
650 Congress St
From: 7:00 p.m. To: 11:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28

Mr. F and Skosh Empire
575 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00

Thursday, September 29

Rachael Yamagata
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Doors: 7:00 Starts: 8:00

Friday, September 30

An Evening with Kyle Lovett and Robert Earl Keen
Merrill Auditorium
20 Myrtle St.
Doors: 7:00 Starts: 8:00

Saturday, October 1

Comedian Juston McKinney
Port City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Doors: 6:30 Starts: 7:00

Sunday, October 2

An Evening with Graham Nash
State Theatre
609 Congress St.
Doors: 6:30 Starts: 7:30

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Perspectives

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Crossword and word search / 13

A Millennial's Conscience

Exploration of the common good

Bryer Sousa
Free Press Staff

The current concept of the common good is opposed to acting collectively by way of hyper-capitalism and hyper-individualism. Thus, we are subjected to a perverted view of solidarity and we are encouraged to ask ourselves “how am I doing (financially)?,” rather than asking ourselves “how are we doing?” and “how is the environment, our health-care system, and the public education system doing?”

Furthermore, it stands to reason that humans are not only social creatures but beings whose identity depends on their cultural, institutional, and social environments. Hence, we ought to inquire into the social arrangements that are favorable to people’s unalienable rights, as well as welfare, and to actualizing their justifiable yearnings — in other

words, the common good. However, before I begin to explore the common good, I ought to offer what seem to me to be moral truisms for perspective. Such moral truisms are related to a category of ethical principles that appear to be doubly universal (that is, they are almost always professed, and almost never employed by those who profess them).

The moral truisms that I am thinking of range from general and universal ethical principles to specific doctrines like that of a dedication to promoting democracy as well as human rights.

Conflicts between hyper-individualized conceptions of the common good and the actual common good go back to the beginning of the Industrial Revolution — a time when the working class and society were structured in an agrarian fashion. Interestingly, the working class then came to

condemn the working conditions brought about by the Industrial Revolution. They also condemned wage-labor slavery and the notion that workers should be organized by a boss, rather than the notion that the workers should organize themselves and select their own bosses, a notion that appears to have re-emerged in recent years and if abided by could help prevent environmental catastrophe as well.

Nonetheless, Scottish economist Adam Smith, posthumously considered the father of capitalism, in his magnum opus *The Wealth of Nations*, provided the business class with the necessary blueprint to uphold the so-called spirit of the industrial age, which remains ever more observable to date: “gain wealth, forgetting all but self...” Yet, Smith himself morally rejected free-market eco-

See **GOOD** on page 12

Our Opinion

We must stop overworking students

Editorial Staff
Free Press Staff

Almost a month has gone by since the Fall semester started. Four weeks spent forcing our lives to mold into the schedules that school has provided us. For some of us, that means full-time classes, a part-time job and perhaps even a second job to sustain our minimum wage income. As college students, we stretch ourselves thin, spending late hours in the evening cramming for exams and writing papers after a long day of in-person classes and 8

hour work shifts.

With all this buildup of stress, it’s no wonder why students experience a variety of issues during their college career. Drug and alcohol addictions, mental health issues and risky behavior of all kinds have often been linked to the stress that weighs on students during their college experience. Students will work until they can’t anymore, pushing themselves to the edge of their limits to achieve a status of perfection for their professors, bosses and peers.

Is it really possible to expect students to work balance every responsibility, especial-

ly during this developmental stage of their lives? Or are we preparing them for the real world?

Being a college kid is hard, especially if you’re a commuter student. Some students may have families of their own to care for, while trying to find a balance with their own hobbies and interests. Looking at the issue as a whole, who is to blame? The students who cannot find their balance in life, or the universities who overassign the work?

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Let’s Talk About It

Vulnerability as a radical act

Johnna Ossie
News Editor

I have often struggled in my life to be vulnerable with people, even my closest friends. There is something terrifying about opening up a part of ourselves that we think of as weak. The scary thing for me about being vulnerable is that when I share something vulnerable I feel exposed. It’s scary to admit that you feel as if you’re not good enough, or to share your grief, or your failures. To be vulnerable means to expose a part of ourselves that we keep hidden from the world.

Historically, I have responded to my own grief, sadness, or embarrassment by withdrawing from my close friends and hiding in my apartment, unwilling to expose myself as needing help. I watched my phone ring as friends and family called to check in, ignored texts and knocks on my front door. Eventually, when I felt better or at least able to fake it, I would emerge from my den of hiding and pretend I had just been busy, or brush it off as no big deal.

How did this serve me, or my friends? I was telling myself I didn’t deserve support or help, while simultaneously showing my friends I didn’t trust them to show up for me, or sit with me through my pain.

This last year I have made it a point to reach out to my friends in my darkest

moments, my loneliest and scariest and most vulnerable moments, and because of it I have formed strong and trusting relationships with my friends, and feel safe talking to them about anything I might be going through.

Often when I share something that I’ve been hiding, the person I’m sharing it with tells me they have felt the same way, or experienced the same thing, and in that moment, vulnerability turns into solidarity. Often times I convince myself that I’m the only person who has ever felt a certain way, or experienced shame or depression. When I reach out to someone, and they are able to show me empathy, I feel connected and not so alone anymore.

The dictionary definition of vulnerable is, in fact, “susceptible to physical or emotional attack or harm.” Being vulnerable appears to be literally putting ourselves in harm’s way. I’ve found, however, that some of my closest and most meaningful friendships are based on our ability to be vulnerable with each other.

Being vulnerable is an act of subversion against a society that has raised us to think independence and self-sufficiency should be some of our greatest values. Being vulnerable is an act of courage. Being vulnerable creates empathy, connection, and bonds between people. It takes bravery to be vulnerable. Anyone

will tell you that it is less scary to project an image of competence than admit that you’re scared and have no idea what you’re doing.

In spite of the fear that comes with vulnerability, letting yourself be truly seen by another person drives human connection. I think many people reserve vulnerability for romantic relationships, and because of that feel emotionally unfulfilled when they don’t have one. Friendships can be deeply vulnerable and fulfilling. We can open ourselves to our friends and let them hold us, show up for us, and be there for us. It’s true that at times your vulnerability may make others uncomfortable, because when you expose that part of yourself, they may have to relate to that part of themselves as well. It can feel overwhelming to relate to a part of yourself that is scared and tender.

A writer, social worker, and role model of mine, Brene Brown did an amazing Ted Talk called *The Power of Vulnerability*. She is also the author of a book titled *Daring Greatly*, which I would recommend to everyone (and have).

In *Daring Greatly*, Brown says, “Vulnerability sounds like truth and feels like courage. Truth and courage aren’t always comfortable, but they’re never weakness.”

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From **GOOD** on page 11

nomics, suggesting that the crafters of legal statutes and political policy in his day ensured that their selfish interests were “most peculiarly attended to [no matter how] grievous” the consequence experienced by others. Even though Smith was certainly unable to foresee the ways in which the capitalist pathology would contort classical liberalism, as understood by Enlightenment thinkers, by the time the Industrial Revolution was well underway, anarchist Rudolf Rocker inadvertently continued Smith’s central thesis of his 1759 “The Theory of Moral Sentiments,” through his writings and activism.

That is, as Noam Chomsky so keenly observed and discussed during a 2013 lecture at Columbia University, Rocker:

“Described what he calls ‘a definite trend in the historic development of man-

kind’ that strives for ‘the free unhindered unfolding of all the individual and social forces in life...’ Rocker was outlining an anarchist tradition culminating in anarcho-syndicalism — in European terms, a variety of ‘libertarian socialism...’ This brand of socialism, he held, doesn’t depict ‘a fixed, self-enclosed social system’ with a definite answer to all the multifarious questions and problems of human life, but rather a trend in human development that strives to attain Enlightenment ideals... So understood, anarchism is part of a broader range of libertarian socialist thought and action that includes the practical achievements of revolutionary Spain in 1936; reaches further to worker-owned enterprises spreading today in the American rust belt, in northern Mexico, in Egypt, and many other countries, most extensively in the Basque country in Spain; and encompasses the many

cooperative movements around the world and a good part of feminist and civil and human rights initiatives... This broad tendency in human development seeks to identify structures of hierarchy, authority and domination that constrain human development, and then subject them to a very reasonable challenge: Justify yourself...”

Hence, to discuss contending conceptions concerning “the common good,” we mustn’t only identify the moral truisms that ought to underpin a society concerned with the actual common good. Instead, we must tend to the social institutions that will foster Rocker’s “definite trend in the historic development of mankind” as well as overthrow those corrosive forms of “authority and domination that constrain human development.”

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Advising Advice

How does advising mix with diversity and inclusion

Janis Albright
Contributor

Please welcome the new USM Assistant Dean of Students for Diversity and Inclusion. Her name is Mariana M. Cruz, she has been featured online through the USM Office of Public Affairs and has been spotted all over campus from the Husky Fest to the Professional Senate. She is vibrant, intelligent and really good at what she does.

But what does Diversity and Inclusion mean? What are her plans for USM? And how does this relate to Advising? As a faculty advisor or professional academic advisor, this article is for you!

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, “diversity” is the quality or state of having many different forms, types, ideas, etc. However, after speaking with Dean Cruz, she explained that “diversity” is a representational term used to describe the composition of groups or identities.” When we think about the University of Southern Maine, we see diversity in Portland, Gorham and LAC campuses. We see diversity among students, staff and faculty. It’s all over the place. Inclusion on the other hand is the actual affect of diversity and how we account for and engage people

in our various campus communities. Inclusion is “how we value, honor, and validate different identities represented” Cruz said.

In a nutshell, “Diversity is representational and Inclusion is affective.” Dean Cruz explained her goals and initiatives in three steps. First, bring the Multicultural Centers to the next level in terms of mission, vision, support. Second, develop a series of on-going dialogues related to race, class, gender, sexuality, religion, etc. Third, continue to deliver cultural competency workshops and trainings for students, faculty, and staff at USM.

Overall, Dean Cruz wants to support and recruit diversity at USM. Her goal is to support all of us and to work with community partners so that we can do this work together. Her main focus is to “build a strong institutional foundation so that we may continue to grow, flourish and thrive.”

How does Diversity and Inclusion relate to Advising?

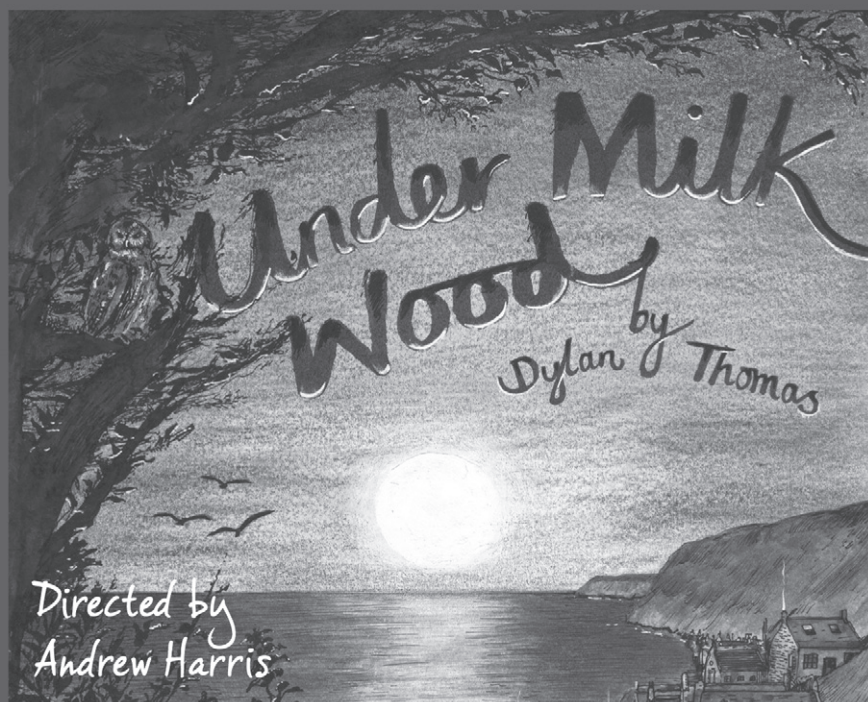
Advising can be a resource-rich opportunity for students. Advisors offer students’ knowledge about USM and can empower students to make informed decisions. Advisors must listen to the student’s needs and understand that students have multiple identities (not just a student of color, not

just a member of the LG-BTQA identity). Advisors must acknowledge all of their identities and spend time learning and researching these identities as part of their professional development. When you work specifically with underrepresented populations (race, class, sexual orientation, etc.) it will require a little bit of education. This is competency-building and it takes time to learn, so when you don’t know, ask questions. Acknowledge that you don’t know and learn.

As Faculty Advisors, you can weave this information into your departmental meetings. As Professional Advisors, you can use it as professional development or talk about it during staff meetings. Remember to be fully aware and start with yourself. Think about your professional networks. Think about who supported you along the way. Think about the experience you’ve had and how it can connect to students. Remember to always ask questions and explore. All of this informs the way in which we advise students and this work is important.

For general
information:

Portland Offices
(207) 780-4040



Friday, September 30 to Sunday, October 9, 2016
Main Stage, Russell Hall, USM Gorham Campus

Friday, September 30 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 1 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, October 2 at 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 5 at 5:00 p.m. - All tickets \$5

Thursday, October 6 at 7:30 p.m.
Friday, October 7 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 8 at 7:30 p.m.
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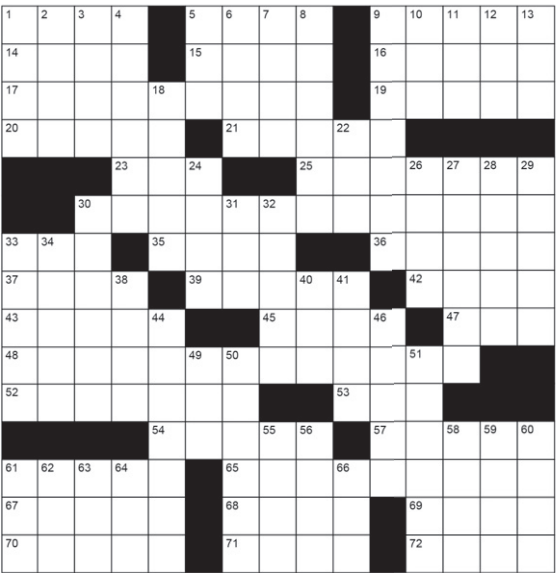
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Crossword

Across

1. De ____ (excessive)
5. FBI guy
9. Home on the Black Sea
14. Bring on board
15. Exhaust
16. ____ Island (neighbor of the Statue of Liberty)
17. Words after wipe or fall
19. Ecstasy
20. Drop in hot oil again
21. "___ Male War Bride"
23. Coin-____
25. Toulouse-____
30. A truly hot seat
33. High ranking mil. officers
35. Wily subterfuge
36. Swarm
37. Musical gp.
39. Not good grade
42. Hunger for
43. Made dove sounds
45. Omar of film
47. '60s do
48. "When ____" (1989 film)
52. "Mary, Queen of Scots" biographer Fraser
53. Spanish aunt
54. Largest artery in the body
57. Ancient kingdom on the Nile
61. What Old MacDonald had
65. Certain dimension
67. Pie chart dividers
68. Parsley, sage, rosemary or thyme
69. Paw part
70. Rodeo critter
71. Triumphant cries
72. Despise



Down

1. Author Heyerdahl
2. Filled (with)
3. "Carmina Burana" composer Carl
4. Gas, in Greenwich
5. Telecommunications giant, once
6. Puccini heroine
7. Got ____ deal (was shafted)
8. Katmandu resident
9. Corrupt morally
10. Everyone
11. 151, to Cato
12. Greetings
13. Nitwit
18. Too high-strung
22. Pouch
24. Missile type
26. Ending with tele-
27. Become thinner, as air
28. Kind of down
29. Something to believe in
30. Chaperone
31. Kitchen meas.
32. Find new tenants
33. Coffeehouse order
34. React to a pain or pun
38. Sub sandwich
40. Good times
41. Minor dustup
44. Animated
46. Skulk
49. My, in Milan
50. Like the smell of soil
51. Set in motion
55. "Take ____ Train" (Duke Ellington hit)
56. Free and easy
58. Martin's "Ed Wood" role
59. "The hour ____ hand!"
60. "It's the End of the World ____ Know It" (R.E.M. tune)
61. Wall St. figure
62. Way out there
63. Bother
64. Start of a dog star's name
66. Walter Cronkite's network

Cryptogram

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

PG XFB APJQNAX QPN IFCWFRW WAIW'I
UDN, DR DOJBCWRN CPJQN INDON GOFC
IUODNUQ.

And here is your hint: J = G

The solution to last issue's crossword



Word Search

Theme: Positivity

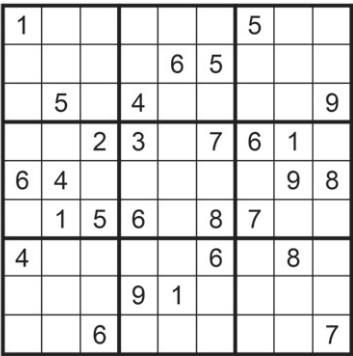
Z S M D W O V H I R E N E H Y K F B B O
H Z X E A O V K L O C A T L D N U S Y C
H V L T X T K U K N A G N D T T N Q X H
A A F A Q C T S E V E S E B Y G D U K U
X N J L K O I B P V P L T N D F P H S B
T Y O E M S U T U W F K N F G Q H A I F
C H E E R Y V J E O U K O T G V I P E G
I P R P H J Q L U D Y H C C L R Z P U D
Y M O E M Z C Y W A G A Q M B Z I I T Q
F I Q C E O E I B Q N W N B W L T N L A
R A J G M Z N T Z C Z T V T W U E E Z M
R L E E E P O H E U V F H V U M N S S H
R N U G O M H G S P M P C S I U Z S F H
D J H F Q A C I V B G P Q R B C P A U Q
Q L O V E N N L N E W N R C M Z Y N U Y
V R R H M T J E V A T E I P P Y B H T S
P P O K K W A D K T M Z S S O J H W L C
N S R J Z D D R Y J G U N J U X R Q J W
Q J K G O G Y G G O T N N E W M T I T H
K E L I M S L G K Y O F T J N R A M M Q

amusing
buoyant
cheery
content
delight
elated
excited
fun
grateful
grin
happiness
hope
joy
love
merriment
peace
smile
sunny
upbeat
welcome

Sudoku

Level of difficulty: Medium

The object of a sudoku 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.



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USM Community Page



People of USM

Russ Peckham, University piano tuner

Cooper Krause
Contributor

What with all the computerized beats, synthesizers and electric pianos these days, many readers may not be aware that USM and Bowdoin College have a piano tuner, Russ Peckham. The job is actually a very important one. An average piano has eighty-eight separate keys; these keys activate a hammer which strikes a string, or a series of strings, which sound a note. As some keys strike several strings to sound one note, there can be upwards of a couple hundred strings in an average piano, each one potentially needing to be tampered with. Even then, it's not quite that simple. Each piano is an individual and experiences its own unique conditions, from angry musicians spilling coffee everywhere to dry winter breezes. The malleable materials that compose a piano are affected, and a piano can never be tuned perfectly. At USM it's Russ' job to tune pianos, where the goal is to achieve the most evenly tuned piano by compromising the perfect intonation of individual notes. Oh, and the school of music keeps upwards of 39 pianos in stock. You do the math.

Besides the inherent difficulty/specialization of the job, piano tuners are important for other reasons. As the portability and efficiency of tools are becoming valued more and more, as we are relying more and more on automation to do the job for us, beginner pianists might be more inclined to go out and buy small electric pianos. Advanced pianists might be tempted by the legions of effects which electric pianos

can employ. In the words of Russ, however, "99% of the time electric pianos just don't capture the touch. The warmth of the wood, and dynamic strike of the hammer are lost." In the past, pieces, such as Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata," were written for particular pianos, tuned in particular ways, to obtain particular sound qualities.

Now that we all know that piano tuners exist and have jobs, one might expect the person to be, well, older, tall and lanky, wearing glasses—a sort of librarian esque figure. Not Russ. One of Russ' favorite things to do is go to the gym, and it shows. It looks like he could beat up just about anyone on campus, even with his permanent limp, the result of impaling his leg on a rototiller. If Russ sounds intimidating, however, rest assured, he's actually very nice. Despite his wonderful experiences working with famous acts like B.B King, Richard Marks and Wynton Marsalis, Russ relishes the rewarding sensation of finishing any piano, up on a concert stage or in a practice room. If anything, Russ would actually like to be working on USM's pianos more. Apparently the music school is a little overstocked with quirky pianos that could actually be taken apart and completely refurbished.

You may be wondering, "How did such a character arrive here at USM?" Russ was born in 1963 and grew up on the coast in Rye, N.H. As a little kid, Russ always enjoyed his grandmother's piano, and looked forward to inheriting it someday. That didn't happen, as his grandmother lived to be over 100 years old. Russ



bought his first piano after graduating high school, and showed as much interest in refurbishing the piano as playing it. After paying to get the piano tuned, Russ' mother suggested he learn to tune the piano himself. The idea slowly caught on. Russ ended up attending North Bennett Street School, a famous piano trade school in Boston, for two years. He spent his first year learning how to tune pianos, and in his second year he focused on rebuilding pianos. Russ learned woodworking skills at school that would continue to help him in a variety of areas in his life. After graduating, Russ worked a variety of jobs, including construction, until he met a piano technician and worked under him for six years. This piano technician introduced Russ to Bowdoin college and ultimately introduced him to the college piano-tuning circuit. Piano-tuning has been his career ever since.

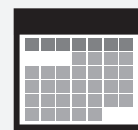
Some other interesting

Cooper Krause / Contributor

facts about Russ: He has owned and maintained a horse farm for the last thirty years. He has three cows, seven horses and many chickens. He supplies the music school faculty with fresh eggs. Russ has been with the same partner for about thirty years, but just got married four years ago when same-sex marriage was legalized in Maine.

If you happen to run into Russ on campus, he's always ready to share the facts about pianos that even lots of professional piano players may not know. He's also willing to recommend brands for pianists of all levels. Don't tell him this joke: "I heard you can tune a piano, but I bet you can't tuna fish." He's heard it before. You can, however, bug him about how he spends more time weekly on the Bowdoin campus than the USM campus.

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Community Events

Monday, September 26

Arctic Event: Lightning Workshop
8:00 AM to 12:15 PM
Brooks Center, Gorham Campus

Tuesday, September 27

IBEX Full Dome Show
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM
Southworth Planetarium

Wednesday, September 28

Two Small Pieces of Glass:
The Amazing Telescope
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM
Southworth Planetarium

Thursday, September 29

Industry Spotlight: Tyler Technologies
Learn tips and trick for resume building, interviews and more
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
242 John Mitchell Center, Gorham Campus

Friday, September 30

Under Milk Milkwood, Directed by Andrew Harris
7:30pm
Main-stage Russell Hall, Gorham Campus
\$15 general public; \$11 Seniors/USM Employees/Alumni; \$8 Students

Saturday, October 1

Old Fashioned Outdoor Band Concert and BBQ
12:00 PM - BBQ opens
1:00 PM - Concert begins
Concert is free, BBQ is cash purchase only

Sunday, October 2

The Art Group
On display 7:45 AM to 11:00 PM
7th Floor Great Reading Room
Glickman Library

Want us to include your event?
maryellen@usmfreepress.org

Sports

Tuesday

Women's Tennis
vs. UMass Boston
3:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Women's Soccer
vs. Colby
4:00 p.m.

Thursday

Volleyball
vs. St. Joseph's
7:00 p.m.

Friday

Golf
So. Maine Cup
12:00 p.m.

Saturday

Men's Soccer
vs. UMass Boston
2:30 p.m.

Meet the Huskies: Travis Grant

Erin Brown
Sports Editor

Gorham native Travis Grant chose USM for a number of reasons: "It made the most sense economically and it allowed me to continue playing soccer with a lot of friends all while being close to home." Travis has played soccer for the Huskies since he came to University of Southern Maine three years ago.

Soccer is a newer sport for him, as he only started playing his junior year of high school. Track was originally Travis's main sport throughout his time at Gorham High School. In fact, he spent his sophomore year as a dual athlete when he participated in track and field during the spring months. As his workload picked up, he found it difficult to juggle being a two-sport athlete and decided just to focus on soccer. He says he decided to choose soccer over track and field because it was more enjoyable for him.

On the field, Travis sees his speed as one of his strengths athletically. The junior midfielder has appeared in all seven of the Huskies games so far in the 2016 season.



Carly Coombs / Free Press Staff

Huskies midfielder Travis Grant kicks off his third season playing for the Huskies.

When asked what he thinks he brings to the field other than athletics, Travis said, "I guess I consider myself dedicated and really committed to my teammates." Friends and teammates of Travis all describe him as hardworking, which goes for his actions both on and off the field.

His hard work was used on a different field as well, as Travis spent the past summer working on his family's farm, Findview Farm, located right in Gorham. Additionally, to work towards his degree in athletic training he began logging in clinical hours last semester starting with the

Portland High School athletic department, and this year has started with the Windham High School football team.

He says he picked his major of athletic training because of his love of sports and wanting to stay involved: "I played sports my whole life and I just thought it would be a good way to give back to sports." Travis and the Huskies are eager to notch their first win of the season in the upcoming weeks. Men's soccer will be home again Saturday, Oct. 1 at 2:30 p.m.

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@eriinbroowwnnn

Women's Tennis

September 19

Final
USM 1
Plymouth St. 8

Mackenzie Colby and Courtney Jordan notch Huskies single point at first doubles spot Tuesday against Plymouth State University.

Read River's Reviews Online
usmfreepress.org



Photo courtesy of USM Athletics

Sophomore Joanna Scheidegger takes a serves for the Huskies Tuesday afternoon.

Lower center of gravity key to climbing?

Illuminating the woman's rock climbing perspective

Katie L. Malia
Staff Writer

First off, there is indoor rock climbing and there is outdoor rock climbing, this will focus on indoor rock climbing. One element that makes a rock gym different from other gyms is the mental aspect. It's not just a workout, it's a puzzle you have to figure out. If you were to venture into a rock gym, either Evo in Portland or Salt Pump in Scarborough then you would have quite an experience.

At first the smell of sweat and chalk will greet you, then a check in desk and an employee behind it. The employee will probably have a warm and welcoming smile on their face. If you had never climbed before, they will give you a tour and help you rent any gear you will need for your climbing session, such as shoes and/or a harness. On all of the walls in the gym, you will find routes and these routes are graded using a system. The system is now called The Yosemite Decimal Rating System. The YDRS breaks climbing down into classes and grades. Class 5 is technically where rock climbing begins. Climbs are rated by the hardest move on the route.

It is a versatile, fun and challenging sport. It's a community sport. Other climbers will cheer you on or help you laugh at yourself or tell you that you'll get it next time. Everyone is supportive of one another. Some routes have different styles than others and will be easier for you to get than others. It is an empowering place. It's just



Katie L. Malia / Staff Writer

Portland local showcases her strength and dedication on the wall at Salt Pump in Scarborough.

between you and the wall, no one else.

It's also a sport where women are on a level playing field with men. Some say women's lower center of gravity makes them better rock climbers than men. It is definitely a hardcore sport regardless and can be intimidating, everyone at the rock gym seems miraculously strong and graceful on the wall. As a beginner, going with a friend helps ease nervousness, even as a female. Eventually though you realize as a woman it's awesome and okay to be strong.

There is no greater feeling than when you're on the rock wall and you're exhausted, sweaty and you have hair frizzies in your face but your belay partner yells at you, "You're so

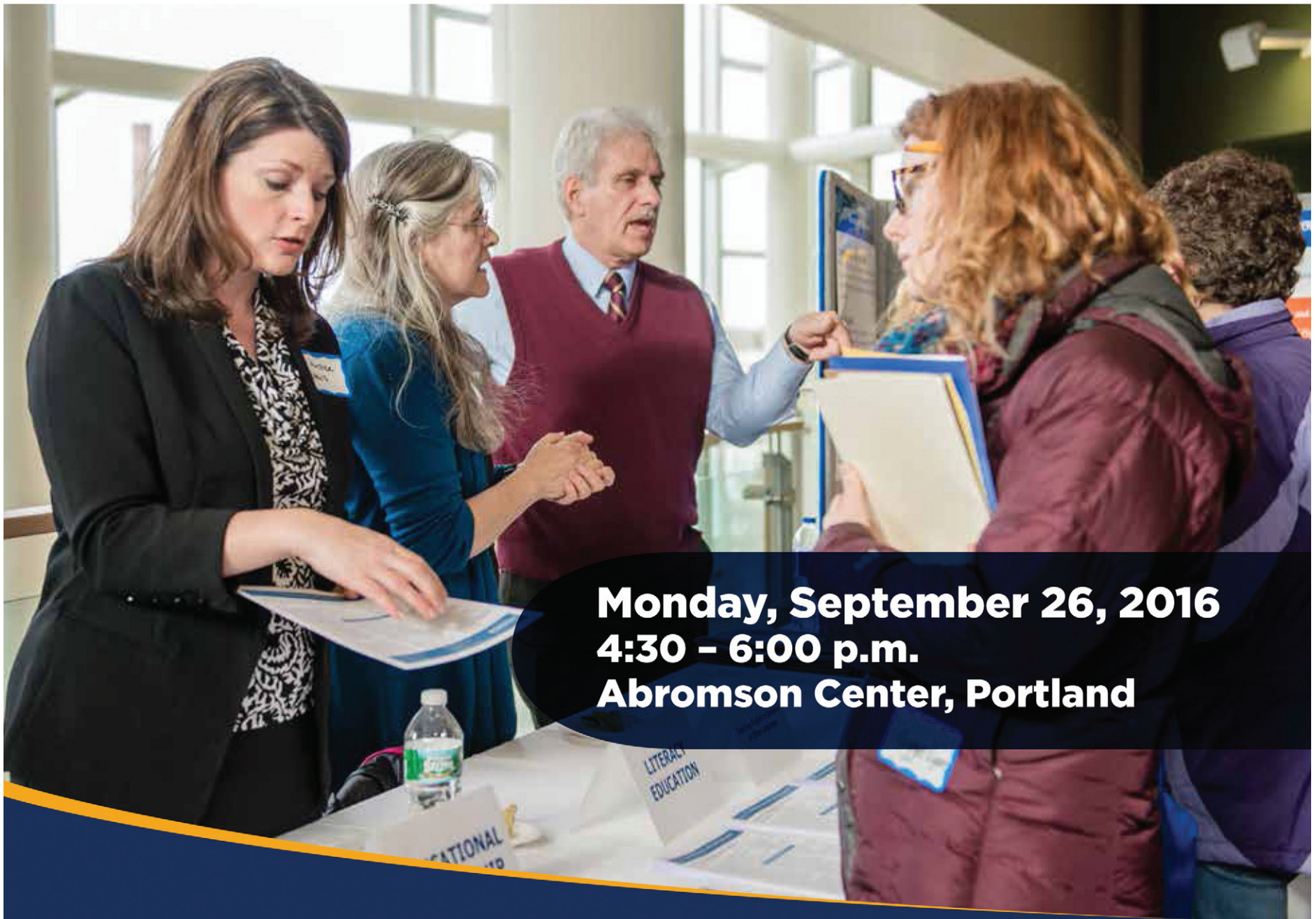
close, you're almost there," so you breathe in and out, try to shake out your arms out and only two holds (what the routes are made out of) stand between you and the top of the wall.

You go on because they're yelling at you, you breathe in and push, you got it. Then you do it again, breathe in and push. So close, they yell at you once more, "C'mon you got this!" So you reach one last time from energy you didn't know you had and you push and open your hand and grab with your fingers the top! Then you breathe and you get to take a break, swelling with pride, you feel invincible and exhausted.

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Graduate Studies Open House



**Monday, September 26, 2016
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Abromson Center, Portland**

Considering graduate study? USM offers 50+ programs at the master's, doctoral and certificate levels, including programs in Business, Education, Leadership, Creative Writing, Music, Policy, Planning and Management – as well as Public Health, Social Work, Counseling, Biology, Nursing and Occupational Therapy, among many others.

Register at: usm.maine.edu/gradopenhouse



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