

5-20-1985

Currents, Vol.3, No.17 (May 20, 1985)

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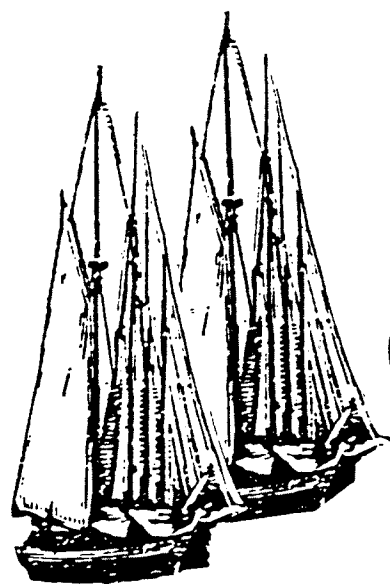
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Recommended Citation

Caswell, Robert S. and Kievitt, Karen A., "Currents, Vol.3, No.17 (May 20, 1985)" (1985). *Currents*. 207.
<https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/currents/207>

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University of Southern Maine CURRENTS

Volume 3, Number 17

May 20, 1985

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Portland, Me.
Permit No. 370

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A Unit of the University of Maine

Greenwood Appointment Approved

The University of Maine Board of Trustees today (Monday, May 20) approved the appointment of Helen L. Greenwood as provost of the University of Southern Maine. The board action followed a recommendation from a search committee that screened a nationwide pool of applicants, and President Robert L. Woodbury's own review of candidates.

"The job is an enormously demanding one," said Woodbury of the number two administrative position on campus. Greenwood, said Woodbury, "has an impressive record as a decision-maker and doer." During her tenure, he added, important issues have been addressed, new directions have been set and additional programs have been established.

"She understands the potential of this university and knows the institution better than anyone else," said Woodbury, noting that we "...will profit greatly from the knowledge and proven capabilities she brings to the position of provost."

Since joining our faculty in 1969, Greenwood has served as chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, as acting dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, director of the summer session and as special assistant to the provost for academic affairs. She was named acting provost in the fall of



Provost Greenwood (Trueworthy photo)

1982 following the departure of former provost Edward J. Kormondy. Greenwood accepted a two-year appointment as provost in April, 1983.

A graduate of Northeastern University and the University of New Hampshire, Greenwood earned a doctorate in developmental biology from the University of Connecticut. A director of the Foundation for Blood Research in Scarborough, Greenwood has taught biology, genetics and embryology at USM. For the past two academic years, she has volunteered her time as a genetics teacher in grades five through eight in Scarborough public schools.

Currents will be running an in-depth interview with the newly appointed provost in an early September issue.

Law Students to Graduate

A law professor well known for his work on behalf of international human rights and in the American civil rights movement will address graduates of the University of Maine School of Law next Sunday afternoon.

Abram Chayes, a Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, will speak at the ceremonies scheduled for 2:00 p.m., Sunday, May 26, in Portland City Hall Auditorium. Chayes was the attorney who argued on behalf of Nicaragua in the World Court case involving U.S. mining of Nicaraguan harbors.

Dean L. Kinvin Wroth and Registrar Frances M. Tucker will confer the degree of Juris Doctor on some 80 graduates. There will be a reception immediately following the ceremony in the foyer outside the auditorium.

Top NEI Staffers Depart

Two senior staff members with our New Enterprise Institute have left their posts to accept new positions, one in private industry and another in a university-based business service organization.

Jay C. Lacke, NEI director since the winter of 1983, is now manager of sales and marketing for the Chapman Corporation, a Portland manufacturer of electro-static control systems. Lacke will be responsible for directing campaigns to expand Chapman sales worldwide, especially in the European market.

Stephen P. Hyde, NEI associate director, has been named director of the State University of New York at Plattsburgh Technical Assistance Center. The center — like NEI — provides counseling services, training seminars and related services to business and industry. Hyde joined the NEI staff in the summer of 1977.

"Their efforts over recent years in support of USM's mission on behalf of entrepreneurs and small business in Maine have been greatly appreciated," said Robert J. Goettel, director of the Center for Research and Advanced Study. Richard J. Clarey, an NEI associate director, has been named acting director.

Spring Break Yields Valuable Lessons

While thousands of college students headed for the Florida sun during last semester's break, six USM students and a student group from the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, opted to spend 12-hour days in Washington D.C. analyzing international security policies with high-ranking officials, among them a Soviet diplomat, as part of the first North American Student Seminar.

Karen Erickson, USM associate professor of political science, organized the weeklong seminar to give American and Canadian students a chance to discuss international issues with "leading experts on subjects of critical importance." The opportunity to foster closer cooperation and understanding of these issues, says

Erickson, "is essential as we encounter an uncertain period of international tensions between East and West...and a period of uncertainty in U.S.-Canadian relations."

"North American Defense and Soviet Security Interests" was the theme of this spring's seminar. The American and Canadian students met with more than a dozen experts to discuss such topics as the Strategic Defense Initiative (the so-called Star Wars plan), the future of NATO and changes in Soviet military strategy. Each student has been busy since last February researching one topic so that he or she could lead the informal discussion period with that subject's expert.

(cont. on p.2)



This saltwater hay field is one of the many areas of Wolfe's Neck Farm to be included in regularly scheduled nature walks as part of USM's Summer Session. More about that on p.2. (Kievitt photo)

“Agricolaw:” Western Prof Visits Law School

He's got a laconic midwestern way of speaking, but if one listens carefully, a little bit of southern Pennsylvania slips out, too. That's because this attorney-farmer is a South Dakotan transplanted from the suburbs of Pittsburgh.

John Davidson — one of only 189 agricultural attorneys in the United States and a founding member of the Agricultural Law Association — has been visiting professor of law here this spring semester. His course in agricultural law (nicknamed “agricolaw” by the students) has attracted students “who are exceptional,” he says. “They are open-minded, eager to learn, well-trained, bright and curious.”

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Davidson has acted as liaison between the Law School and the Maine Department of Agriculture and has begun to lay the groundwork for lines of communication between UMO's agriculture department and the Law School.

Davidson, whose 160-acre farm is “tiny by midwestern standards,” came to the practice of agricultural law indirectly. After moving to South Dakota “to live in a less populous environment” — the entire state has only 640,000 people — he taught natural resources law at the University of South Dakota Law School at Vermillion. It was in that capacity that a group of about 900 farmers approached him to represent them in an environmental case involving water. “We fight over water in the West,” he ex-

plains. (The case was analogous in its gravity to the Big A Dam battle here but on a much larger scale.)

He found out in short order that the fact that his clients were farmers made the legal case different — because the laws are different for farmers.

Farming is the number one business enterprise in this nation, not just in terms of food and fiber production, but also in the tangential businesses such as processing and marketing that it supports. Agriculture is also the premier consumer of American steel products.

Farming is subject to the most complex federal regulation of any business endeavor. In addition, state and federal environmental legislation have changed the ways farmers can do business. American farmers over the past two decades have become more susceptible to the vagaries of international commodity and financial markets.

Consequently, agricultural lawyers need to be more aware of the critical role of land in the farming industry and the regulations which govern that enterprise and sometimes mitigate the harsh effects of competition. They must also learn the diverse ways in which agricultural regulation differs from that affecting other industries, often supporting collective action which is foreign to other bodies of American law. Finally, lawyers whose clients are farmers must have respect for the family nature of the industry.

Davidson reiterates this theme when he points out that the “job and the way

of life are one.” Out West there is a strong family commitment to farming; “marriage into farming is common practice.” That is the reason that the failure of the family farm gives rise to media representation of the weathered, tear-streaked face of a farmer, bereft at the forced sale of his property. Farming forms the souls of these people, and “that's why bankruptcy is so devastating,” says Davidson.

He does not, however, see the capitulation of family farming to major agricultural companies. “We are not facing agricultural collapse,” he says. In spite of the steady trickle of farm families to the cities of the Midwest and South, Davidson reports that most farm sales are to neighbors. Family farms are becoming larger, he observes.

In terms of New England agriculture, Davidson notes that the farms here are well-run and productive, more so than counterparts in other areas of the world, and “meager only when compared to the Midwest.” But, when he spoke at a meeting on the future of Northeastern farming, he was served Idaho potatoes. “I found it symbolic of the competitive challenges faced by New England agriculture,” he says.

Calling agriculture a “producing natural resource which should be sustained,” Davidson adds, “it makes America different from every other nation in the world.”

by Karen Kievitt

• Lessons (from p.1)

Sergey Rogov, a top military expert with the Soviet Embassy, Robert Osgood, a leading member of the five-panel council that directly advises Secretary of State George P. Shultz and John Matlock, one of President Reagan's national security advisors were among the experts who discussed issues with the students.

“Being at the very heart of the policy-making process was an incredible experience for a political science major who had never been to Washington before,” said USM student Donald W. Macomber. “My knowledge of foreign policy-making has vastly increased.”

Meeting leading policy makers in small groups also prompted students to challenge their own thinking on current foreign policy issues, and all the students are rethinking their attitudes toward Canada. “Even though Maine is on the border,” said student John S. Glover, “most of us [Americans] have little useful knowledge about Canada. Canadians want to be taken seriously.”

“The bottom line of the North American Student Seminar,” said student John C. Novick, “may have been in putting a human face on the bureaucracy and decision-making process.”

And that in itself, said students, can be a valuable lesson indeed.

by Robert Caswell



Varied Locations Add Zip to USM Summer Session



What do the Gorham countryside, coastal Portland, Wolfe's Neck Farm and Stonehenge have in common?

Summer Session at USM, that's what.

Camps, conferences, institutes, summer theatre, archaeological digs and developmental day care are among the events that will take place at these locales.

Gorham will host camps of all kinds from computer to field hockey, music to gymnastics. There will also be several institutes for teachers, among them one in gerontology, “The Aging Worker.” Others will be aimed at helping teachers incorporate economics and global issues in the public school curriculum, and the highly regarded “In Celebration of Children's Literature” is also scheduled.

The Russell Square Summer Theatre will present a full schedule of shows from late June through August. The season opens with “Cabaret,” June 25 to July 13, followed by “Man of LaMancha,” July 19 to August 17. “Relatively Speaking” will close the season with its August 20-31 run. For more information, call the Box Office in Gorham at 780-5463.

“Masters of Photography” is the first summer exhibition at the Art

Gallery. Works by Ben Shahn, Walker Evans and Todd Webb are on display now through June 13. The Maine Biennial Photography Show, an invitational exhibit for Maine photographers, will hang July 21 - August 29 in the Gallery which once served as Gorham's Town Hall. In addition, the Student Honors Exhibition will be on display in the Center Gallery, June 9 - August 15. Both galleries are open Sunday through Thursday, 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. all summer long.

For the fifth year, the highly acclaimed Stonecoast Writers Conference will take place in Gorham. Among the faculty is Carolyn Chute, a former Stonecoast student whose very successful first novel, “The Beans of Egypt, Maine,” was nurtured here. Joining her are two authors whose works were selected by John Updike for inclusion in “Best American Short Stories 1984.” They are USM assistant professor of English, Dianne Benedict, and Madison Smartt Bell.

Our Child Care Services will provide developmental camps for pre-schoolers and youth up to 14 years of age on both campuses. There will be field trips, art activities and athletic events, to name just a few. “Flex-Care” is also

available for children to participate as the family schedule allows. Call 780-4125 for more information.

Wolfe's Neck Farm, our 600-acre gift from Mrs. Eleanor Houston Smith, will be used on a regular basis for the first time this summer. Elderhostel participants will be among those to enjoy regularly scheduled nature walks on the coastal, Freeport property. Student geographers from UMO, UMF and USM will live at Recompense Camp Site while studying historical geography at nearby Pettingill Farm and agricultural land use at Wolfe's Neck Farm. Students will also investigate archaeology/geography on the off-shore islands and urban development in Freeport.

Elementary teachers of science and social studies will also use Wolfe's Neck Farm, Pettingill Farm and Mast Landing Sanctuary as a field site for enrichment ideas for their own classroom in the fall.

Coastal Portland will be the scene of many regular academic offerings including courses at the Law School and workshops for health professionals, along with an unusual course in sailing. Students in the Maine Sailing Adventure will live aboard private vessels for an intensive weeklong course in

seamanship and boat handling. Coast Guard-licensed captains Larry Wheeler and Tom Power (associate professor of theatre) will welcome students aboard their yachts Blackbird, a 55-foot schooner, and Nefertiti, a 36-foot clipper ketch, respectively. This course will be offered seven times throughout the summer.

The Portland campus' Southworth Planetarium will present shows each Friday and Sunday evening throughout the summer months. Call 780-4249 for specific shows and reservations.

Summer is also a great time to go abroad for study and fun. There are several programs in Great Britain for historians, geographers and teachers. King Alfred's College in Winchester, England and University College, Galway, Ireland, will offer credit courses in the English heritage, Irish studies and a seminar in educational excellence. Geographers will attend field school at Worthy Down, a rural English settlement site dating to the fourth century B.C. and visit several other sites including Stonehenge.

For information about specific courses or events, call the Summer Session Office at 780-4076.

105th Commencement



Members of the 50-year class gather outside Alumni House.

(Caswell photo)

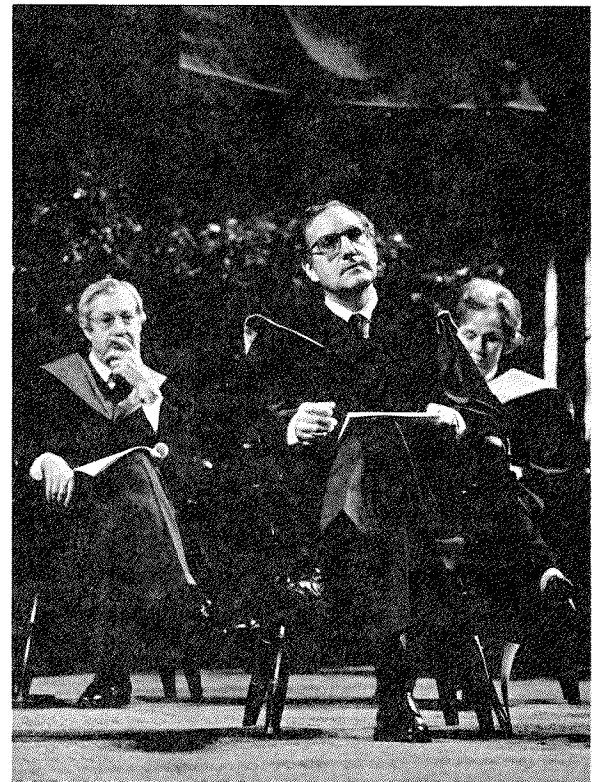
Commencement Day — May 11, 1985 — was a record breaker in a couple of ways. It was the hottest May 11 since 1959 with a temperature of 83-degrees. And, a record-breaking crowd of 5,800 people jammed the Cumberland County Civic Center to wish this year's 1,113 graduates well.

Commencement speakers were U.S. Senator George J. Mitchell and Jana G. Abner, a School of Nursing graduate. Both addressed the 1984-85 Convocation theme, "Peace and War in the Nuclear Age."

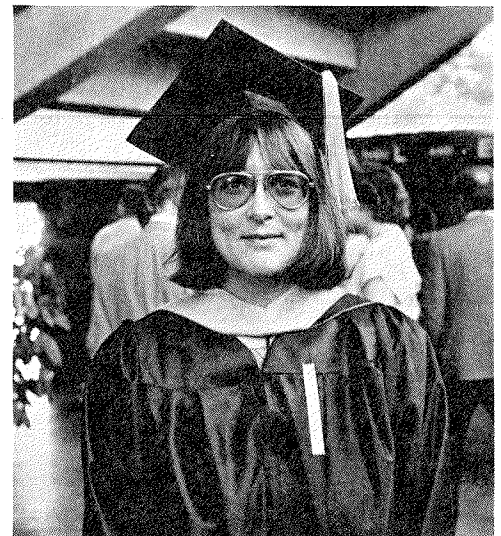
The Senator called on each member of the graduating class to "be a person of action, not apathy. Because if you do not try to shape events, events will shape your life." He also urged the graduates to commit themselves to active participation in influencing this nation's policy toward nuclear war, which he termed the overriding issue of your time." He reminded the class of '85 that real fulfillment comes only from wholeheartedly striving for a worthwhile goal, and closed with this wish, "I hope each of you is fortunate to find such an objective in your life."

Abner also spoke of nuclear holocaust as the most important issue she and her classmates face as they begin new careers. "The fear of being drafted has been replaced by the fear of being unemployed. But also, whether or not we are aware of it, there is an underlying fear of nuclear annihilation."

The knowledge gained at USM, she said, has given them the power to prevent attitudes that could lead to nuclear destruction. "We can take with us... not only our diplomas... but the knowledge and understanding we need to avoid senseless wars and find lasting peace."



Deans L. Kinvin Wroth (Law School) and Dorothy D. Moore (College of Education) flank Senator George J. Mitchell, commencement speaker.



Jana Abner, student commencement speaker, relaxes briefly before the ceremonies.



(Photos by Nance Trueworthy)



Two unidentified tots cool off with ice sculptures left to melt in the hot May sun after breakfast was served.

Duclos Wins Fulbright

After 31 years of teaching — 20 of them here at USM — Gloria S. Duclos, professor of classics, sensed a need to “recharge my batteries with a new experience.”

A serendipitous look through a Fulbright Fellowship information booklet brought about a senior lectureship for her in Africa. Duclos will spend academic year 1985-86 at the Chancellor College of the University of Malawi in Zomba.

Malawi, formerly Northern Rhodesia, has a large British and American expatriate community, but Duclos expects that many of her students will be Africans. The University of Malawi, small with only 800 students and a faculty of 72, is one of the few African universities with a classics department, according to Duclos.

She looks forward to life in a different culture south of the equator and teaching in what she expects to be a primarily British university system. While there she plans to do research in oral poetry to enrich her teaching of



Gloria Duclos

(Kievitt photo)

Homer. Daughter Becce, a 1985 graduate of Portland High School, will accompany her for the year.

The only other USM faculty to have been awarded a Fulbright senior lectureship is William H. Slavick, professor of English. He spent a year in Kassel, West Germany, in the early 1970s.

Out From Under the Rocks



(Caswell photo)

The Currents photo of the rock pile between the President's home and the tennis courts on the Gorham campus resulted in several interesting responses from our readers.

Some came over the phone, others via campus mail. The speculations ranged from the mundane: “when the north end of Corthell Hall was built, they just bulldozed the rocks and piled them there,” to the absurd: “ancient builders floated the rocks down the Presumpscot River, but judging them to be of poor quality opted for Stonehenge.”

An HSDI research associate who explores unexplained phenomena in his spare time wrote, “It looks like various megalithic structures I have studied. (One chapter of my new book is entitled ‘Strange Stone Forts.’)”

But the most interesting guess came from an associate professor of geology who stated, “My understanding is that this ancient Stonehenge-like site was used to sacrifice virgins during the early days of Gorham Normal School.”

The most frequent and most plausible explanation, though, was the Corthell Hall excavation theory. Perhaps, as one letter writer opined, “the rock pile might someday be part of a large rock garden to provide a spot for quiet contemplation, and a place where large samples of important Maine rocks could be gathered for study by students and the public.”

What We're Doing

CHARLES E. ARMENTROUT, associate professor of physics, was the organizer of the Annual Meeting of the Maine College Physics Teachers which was hosted by USM's Department of Physics.

KATHIE L. BENTON, director of the Office for Prior Learning Assessment and assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and LAWRENCE F. RAKOVAN, associate professor of art and member of the Prior Learning Assessment Committee, co-presented a seminar on “Assessment of Prior/Experiential Learning,” at the annual meeting of the Maine Association of Continuing Education in Castine.

E. MICHAEL BRADY, associate professor of adult education, was a panelist in a workshop on “Changing Education and Employment Patterns” at the Third Annual Spring Workshop for Public Administrators sponsored by the Maine and New Hampshire Chapters of the American Society for Public Administration. The program, “An Aging Population: Implications for Public Administrators,” was held at The Cliff House in Ogunquit.

CHARLES “KIM” COIT, director, Center for Real Estate Education and assistant professor of associate business administration, is co-author of a chapter in a new book on real estate published by Jossey-Bass of California. The chapter discusses the Maine Real Estate Licensing Examination, which he helped to develop, and its compatibility with the prelicensing curriculum developed by the Center for Real Estate Education. The second edition of Coit's book, “Introduction to Real Estate Law,” will be published this month by Real Estate Education Company, Inc., Chicago, Ill.

WILLIAM J. GAVIN, professor of philosophy, was guest speaker at Marist College in New York in April. His presentation, “American Philosophy: John Dewey and the Importance of Context,” was a version of his 1985 Russell Chair Lecture at USM.

KAREN A. KIEVITT, staff associate, Media Relations, recently presented a workshop, “Image-making From the Inside Out,” to top managers at People's Regional Opportunities Program on the role of an institution's values in internal and external communication.

CHARLES M. LYONS, associate professor and director of health professions education, spoke on the topic of “Ethical Issues in the Selective Non-Treatment of Handicapped Infants” to 60 Maine pediatricians at Maine Medical Center's Pediatric Grand Rounds this month.

RICHARD L. MCKEIL, professor of associate business and economics, recently participated in the National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D.C., with other members of the Gorham Town Council.

JULIE MURPHY, assistant professor of philosophy, gave a talk “Abortion Rights and Fetal Termination” at the Colby College Women's Studies Conference in April, and spoke on “Economic Rationality and the Law,” at the American Philosophical Association Western Meeting in Chicago. This month she will present a paper entitled “Phenomenology and the Moral Sense” to the World Institute for Advanced Phenomenological Research Meeting in Boston.

ROBERT F. SEIBEL, associate professor, School of Law, was a panelist in a workshop on “Reconstituting Housing” at the Third Annual Spring Workshop for Public Administrators sponsored by the Maine and New Hampshire Chapters of the American Society for Public Administration. The program, “An Aging Population: Implications for Public Administrators,” was held at The Cliff House in Ogunquit.

Currents, a newsletter for faculty and members of the professional and classified staffs, is published every other Monday by the Office of Media Relations, University of Southern Maine, 96 Falmouth Street, Portland, Me. 04103. Material should be submitted to 601 CRAS, Portland, no later than Thursday noon, 11 days prior to publication date. Robert S. Caswell and Karen A. Kievitt, editors. Albert D. Bean Jr., staff associate for sports information, and Marjorie E. Dittmer, administrative secretary, editorial assistance.

ROBERT A. WALKLING, associate professor of physics, spoke recently to a group of teachers at an in-service course on Music in Baroque Culture sponsored by the Maine Department of Educational and Cultural Services and the Maine Humanities Council. His topic was “Scientific Perspective in the Baroque Era.” He also made a contribution to a session entitled “Favorite Demonstrations” at the spring meeting of the New England Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers in Winooski, Vt.

MAUREEN MACDONALD WEBSTER, associate professor of public policy and management, chaired a symposium and gave a presentation on “Transition of Handicapped Youth from School to Work,” at the April 1985 New England Educational Research Organization Conference in Rockport.

Summer Currents

This is the last bi-weekly edition of Currents until early September. We will publish Currents monthly, or as the amount of information warrants during June, July and August.

Best wishes for a restful summer.

Bob Caswell and Karen Kievitt,
Editors

Marquee

**MONDAY, MAY 20 through
THURSDAY, JUNE 13**

ART, “Masters of Photography,” exhibit of works by Walker Evans, Ben Shahn, Todd Webb, 1 - 8 p.m., Sundays through Thursdays, Art Gallery, Gorham, free.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

FILM, “Queen Christina,” (1933), 7:30 p.m., 10 Bailey Hall, Gorham, free.

FRIDAY, MAY 24

SOUTHWORTH PLANETARIUM, “The Dawn of Astronomy,” 7:30 p.m., Science Building, Portland campus, \$2/\$1 ages 6-17, call 780-4249 for reservations.

SUNDAY, MAY 26

SOUTHWORTH PLANETARIUM, “Tour of the Solar System,” 7:30 p.m., Science Building, Portland campus, \$2/\$1 ages 6-17, call 780-4249 for reservations.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

FILM, “Adam's Rib,” (1949), 7:30 p.m., 10 Bailey Hall, Gorham, Free.

FRIDAY, MAY 31

SOUTHWORTH PLANETARIUM, “When You Spot a Flying Saucer,” 7:30 p.m., Science Building, Portland campus, \$2/\$1 ages 6-17, call 780-4249 for reservations.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

SOUTHWORTH PLANETARIUM, “The Dawn of Astronomy,” 7:30 p.m., Science Building, Portland campus, \$2/\$1 ages 6-17, call 780-4249 for reservations.

MONDAY, JUNE 3

BIRD WATCHING, “Birds of Maine,” walk led by Remo Ricuputi, associate professor of biology, USM, 6:30 a.m., leaving from in front of the library (Bailey Hall) on the Gorham campus, free and open to public.

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

NATURE HIKE, Tidebrook Conservation Trust and Recompense Camp Sites, South Freeport, \$15 includes lecture on marine life, transportation, bag lunch; limited to 15 participants, call Summer Session at 780-4076 for more information.

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

READING, 5:00 p.m., Art Gallery, Gorham, by novelist Carolyn Chute. Reception immediately following in the President's home. Free.