

MAINE ADVENTURES. NATURAL BEAUTY. LOCAL STORIES.

SALT & PINE

THE MAGAZINE FOR MAINE EXPLORERS

OCTOBER 2026

VOL 1 ISSUE 5

MAINE MAGIC

Why fall is the most
enchancing season
in the Pine Tree
State

SCENIC DRIVES

Leaf-peeping
routes that
take your
breath away

COASTAL CHARM

Quaint towns,
ocean views &
crisp autumn air

FESTIVALS & FUN

Pumpkins, harvests
& local traditions
worth celebrating



Local Stories.
**EPIC PLACES.
REAL MAINE.**



PLUS: HIKES, PHOTO SPOTS, COZY GETAWAYS & HIDDEN GEMS

SALTANDPINEMAG.COM

Editor's Note

From the Editor

October has a way of making even familiar places feel new.

The maples turn red and gold, pumpkins appear on porches, and the morning air carries that unmistakable hint of colder days ahead. It's the month when a simple drive along a back road can become an afternoon adventure, especially when there's a farm stand, corn maze or cider doughnut waiting around the next bend. This issue of Salt & Pine is filled with ways to enjoy the season. We visit some of Maine's best corn mazes, including Treworgy Family Orchards' award-winning Statue of Liberty design, created for America's 250th anniversary. You'll also find pumpkin patches, fall festivals, live music, community suppers and fundraisers that bring neighbors together.

Our Small Town Spotlight takes us to Brunswick, where Bowdoin College, the Androscoggin River, historic architecture and a lively downtown all share the same few streets. It's a town many of us know well, yet there is always another story, trail or corner worth discovering.

October is also a good month to take the long way home. Follow our Maine Oktoberfest Brewery Trail, wander through the Freeport Fall Festival or spend Indigenous Peoples' Day weekend in Damariscotta, where giant pumpkins become works of art, parade floats and even boats. There are concerts throughout the Midcoast, local causes to support and plenty of places to enjoy Maine before the leaves fall and the days grow short.

This is one of those months that never seems to last quite long enough. I hope these pages encourage you to pull on a sweater, head outside and make the most of it.

Keep exploring Maine,

Patti Irish
Editor & Publisher
Salt & Pine Magazine



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FAIRS &
FESTIVALS

Concerts- Music

A poster for "OCTOBER AT CADENZA" featuring a stage setup with a keyboard, guitar, drums, and a trumpet. The text "OCTOBER AT CADENZA" is prominently displayed at the top. Below it, four colored boxes list the events: OCT. 2 PAT COLWELL & THE SOUL SENSATIONS, OCT. 3 ALMOST OLIVE, OCT. 10 ONWARD, and OCT. 11 THE POTBOILERS. At the bottom, it says "5 DEPOT STREET • FREEPORT, MAINE" and "Tickets & details: cadenzafreeport.com".

OCTOBER AT CADENZA

OCT. 2 PAT COLWELL & THE SOUL SENSATIONS

OCT. 3 ALMOST OLIVE

OCT. 10 ONWARD

OCT. 11 THE POTBOILERS

— 5 DEPOT STREET • FREEPORT, MAINE —
Tickets & details: cadenzafreeport.com

Cadenza in Freeport kicks off October with four lively nights of music in its intimate listening-room setting.

Pat Colwell & the Soul Sensations bring their irresistible rhythm and soul on October 2, followed by Almost Olive on October 3, Onward on October 10 and The Potboilers on October 11. Located at 5 Depot Street, Cadenza is a welcoming place to experience talented musicians up close. Find tickets and details [HERE](http://cadenzafreeport.com).

October brings three terrific live-music events to the Chocolate Church Annex in Bath.

Enjoy the close harmonies and contemporary folk sound of the Oshima Brothers on October 3 at 7:30 p.m., followed by Kouchera's distinctive musical blend on October 8 at 7:30 p.m. Then, on October 10 at 4 p.m., musicians and fans can join the Grateful Dead Hootenanny with Dead to the Core—a free, participatory community jam session celebrating the timeless music of the Grateful Dead. Learn more at chocolatechurcharts.org.

A poster for "LIVE MUSIC at THE CHOCOLATE CHURCH". It features three event cards for October 3, 8, and 10. The October 3 card shows the Oshima Brothers. The October 8 card shows Kouchera. The October 10 card shows the Grateful Dead Hootenanny with Dead to the Core. The poster also mentions "GREAT MUSIC. HISTORIC VENUE. COMMUNITY SPIRIT." and "THE CHOCOLATE CHURCH ARTS CENTER 804 Washington Street, Bath, Maine". At the bottom, it says "CHOCOLATECHURCHARTS.ORG".

LIVE MUSIC 

at

THE CHOCOLATE CHURCH

GREAT MUSIC. HISTORIC VENUE. COMMUNITY SPIRIT.

OCT 03
7:30 PM

Chocolate Church Annex
OSHIMA BROTHERS

OCT 08
7:30 PM

Chocolate Church Annex
KOUCHERA

OCT 10
4:00 PM

Chocolate Church Annex
GRATEFUL DEAD HOOTENANNY
with Dead to the Core

THE CHOCOLATE CHURCH ARTS CENTER
804 Washington Street, Bath, Maine

CHOCOLATECHURCHARTS.ORG



Concerts-Music

October 16-23
Freeport

Cadenza brings three distinctive evenings of music to Freeport this October. On October 16, the Marc Chillemi Quintet celebrates the classic sound and spirit of Blue Note Records; on October 17, acclaimed Maine singer-songwriter Anni Clark takes the stage; and on October 23, David Watts presents Songs Without Words (and a Few With). Enjoy exceptional musicians in Cadenza's warm, intimate listening room at 5 Depot Street. Tickets and additional information are available [HERE](#)

A poster for Cadenza at Cadenza featuring a dark, moody image of a jazz club interior with a piano, double bass, trumpet, and guitar. The text is overlaid in a stylized font.

**OCTOBER
AT CADENZA**

OCT. 16 | **THE MARC CHILLEMI QUINTET**
BLUE NOTE RECORDS TRIBUTE

OCT. 17 | **ANNI CLARK**

OCT. 23 | **DAVID WATTS**
SONGS WITHOUT WORDS (AND A FEW WITH)

5 DEPOT STREET • FREEPORT, MAINE
Tickets & details: cadenzafreeport.com

Bath

Saturday, October 10 & 23

Get ready for a bold and unforgettable evening of music when Carsie Blanton takes the stage with special guest The Burning Hell at the Chocolate Church Arts Center in Bath. Known for her clever songwriting, infectious energy and fearless blend of folk, jazz and pop, Blanton promises a performance filled with humor, heart and irresistible spirit. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 24, at the Chocolate Church Main Stage, 804 Washington Street. Tickets and details are available at chocolatechurcharts.org.

A poster for the Chocolate Church Arts Center featuring three concert dates with photos of the performers.

LIVE MUSIC
at
THE CHOCOLATE CHURCH

→ GREAT MUSIC. HISTORIC VENUE. COMMUNITY SPIRIT. ←

OCT 10
7:30 PM
CHOCOLATE CHURCH ANNEX
DEAD TO THE CORE
AN ACOUSTIC CELEBRATION
OF THE GRATEFUL DEAD

OCT 24
7:30 PM
CHOCOLATE CHURCH MAIN STAGE
CARSIE BLANTON

NOV 06
7:30 PM
CHOCOLATE CHURCH MAIN STAGE
LEZ ZEPPELIN:
THE SONG REMAINS
THE SAME –
50TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

LIVE MUSIC. LOCAL LOVE.
Everyone Welcome!

THE CHOCOLATE CHURCH ARTS CENTER
804 Washington Street, Bath, Maine
CHOCOLATECHURCHARTS.ORG

CHOCOLATE
CHURCH
ARTS
CENTER

Concerts-Music



Cadenza closes October with three evenings of live music in its intimate Freeport listening room.

Maine singer-songwriter Carole Wise takes the stage on October 24, followed by award-winning folk artist Paddy Mills on October 30 and internationally acclaimed singer-songwriter and guitarist Sarah McQuaid on October 31.

Located at 5 Depot Street, Cadenza offers audiences the chance to experience exceptional musicians in a warm, up-close setting. Tickets and additional information are available at cadenzafreeport.com.

Brunswick October 24

Enjoy an evening of lively Maine-made music when Yard Sauce brings its spirited blend of old-time, bluegrass, country and folk to Brunswick on Saturday, October 24, from 7:30–9:30 p.m. Presented by Concerts for a Cause at the Unitarian Universalist Church, the performance will benefit the Midcoast New Mainers Group and Tedford Housing—proving that good music can help build kinder, brighter communities.

Tickets are available at ticketstripe.com/yardsauce.



Concerts-Music

Feel the rhythm at Rockland's Strand Theatre on October 24 when Bomba de Aquí takes the stage with Afro-Puerto Rican drumming and dance.

The group's performance draws on Puerto Rico's bomba tradition, bringing percussion, movement and cultural storytelling together in one lively show

During October, the Strand will also screen Metropolitan Opera productions of *Così fan tutte* and *Macbeth*. These are cinema broadcasts rather than live concerts. Details and tickets are available at rocklandstrand.com.



October brings three memorable evenings to the Opera House at Boothbay Harbor.

Garrison Starr opens the month on October 3 at 7:30 p.m. with guest Nini Camps.

On October 16 at 7 p.m., Halcyon Strings and Alisa Amador present *The Future Is Here*, a free community performance.

Acoustic guitarist Peppino D'Agostino closes the series on October 24 at 7:30 p.m. Concert details and tickets are available at boothbayoperahouse.com.



THE WALDO THEATRE

WALDOBORO

OCTOBER EVENTS

OCT. 1 • 7:30 P.M.

THE OCEAN HATES YOU!

Marine biologist & comedian Forrest Shaw

[Click Here](#)

OCT. 2 • 7:30 P.M.

A LOVE LETTER TO BONNIE RAITT

Katie Matzell & The Fundamental Things

[Click Here](#)

OCT. 4

SONGS FROM HERE

[Click Here](#)

OCT. 8 • 7:30 P.M.

THE GHOST OF PAUL REVERE: GHOSTS NEVER DIE

Documentary

[Click Here](#)

OCT. 18 • 4 P.M.

FENG E

Teen ukulele sensation from Taiwan

[Click Here](#)

CLICK ANY EVENT FOR DETAILS & TICKETS

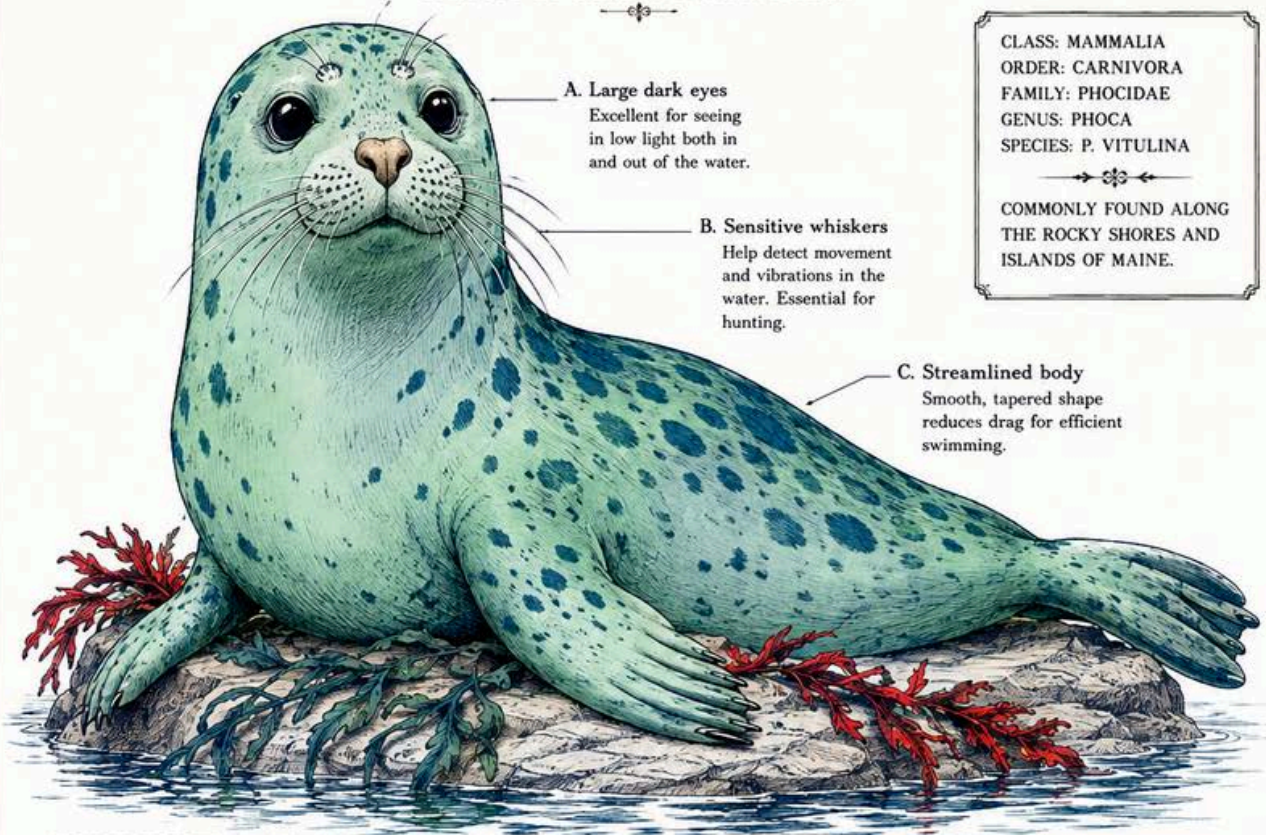
HARBOR SEAL

Phoca vitulina

A STUDY IN FORM AND ADAPTATION

CLASS: MAMMALIA
ORDER: CARNIVORA
FAMILY: PHOCIDAE
GENUS: PHOCA
SPECIES: P. VITULINA

COMMONLY FOUND ALONG
THE ROCKY SHORES AND
ISLANDS OF MAINE.



A. Large dark eyes
Excellent for seeing
in low light both in
and out of the water.

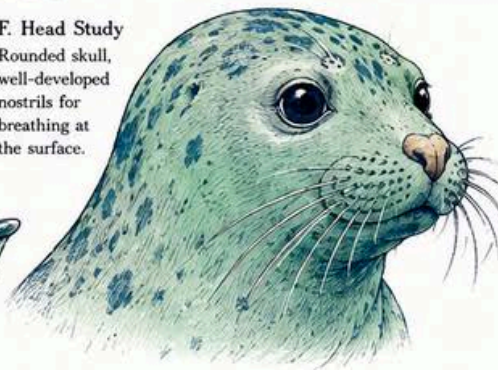
B. Sensitive whiskers
Help detect movement
and vibrations in the
water. Essential for
hunting.

C. Streamlined body
Smooth, tapered shape
reduces drag for efficient
swimming.

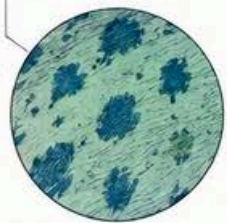
D. Front Flipper
Short and strong for
steering and stability
in the water.



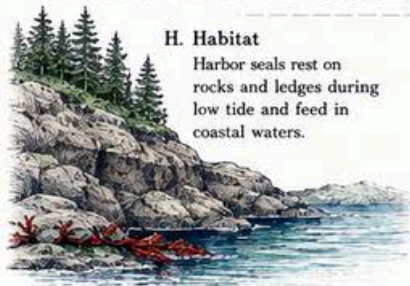
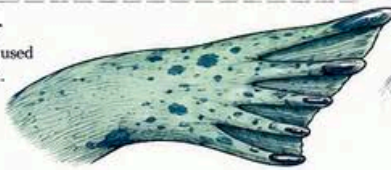
F. Head Study
Rounded skull,
well-developed
nostrils for
breathing at
the surface.



G. Fur & Spots
Short, dense fur traps
a layer of air close to
the skin for insulation.
Spot patterns vary
greatly among
individuals.

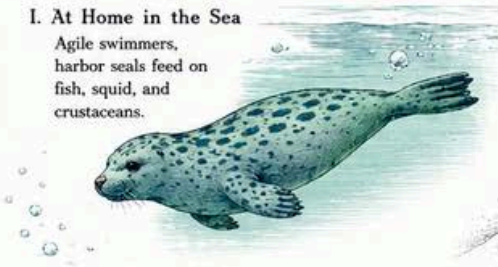


E. Rear Flipper
Powerful and used
for propulsion.

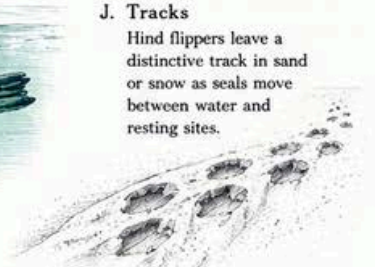


H. Habitat
Harbor seals rest on
rocks and ledges during
low tide and feed in
coastal waters.

I. At Home in the Sea
Agile swimmers,
harbor seals feed on
fish, squid, and
crustaceans.



J. Tracks
Hind flippers leave a
distinctive track in sand
or snow as seals move
between water and
resting sites.



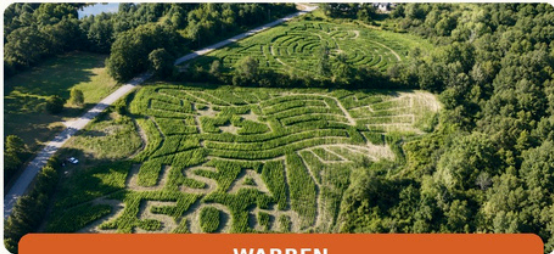
NATURAL HISTORY NOTES.

Harbor seals are found year-round along the coast of Maine. They are curious, adaptable, and excellent swimmers. Pups are born on remote islands in late spring and are weaned after about four weeks. They play an important role in the marine ecosystem and are a valued part of Maine's natural heritage.



MAINE CORN MAZES

Six Memorable Mazes to Explore in 2026



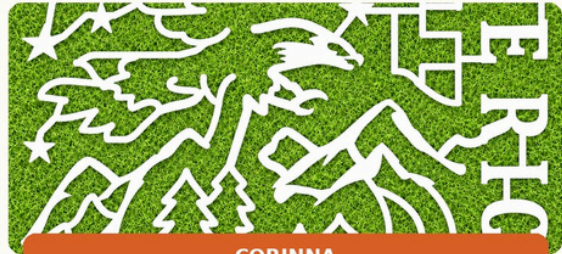
WARREN

Beth's Farm Market

A patriotic USA 250th maze surrounded by beautiful Midcoast farmland—the closest choice for many Salt & Pine readers.

bethsfarmmarket.com

CLICK HERE



CORINNA

Thunder Road Farm

A celebratory 250th-themed maze design filled with stars, an eagle, pine trees, mountains and classic Maine imagery.

thunderroadfarm.com/corn-maze

CLICK HERE



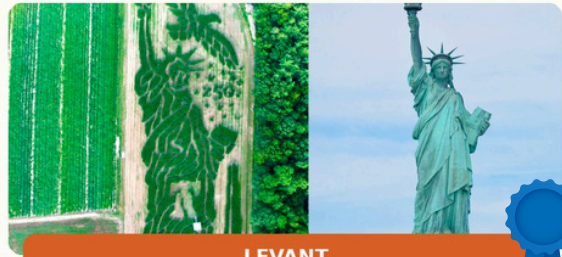
KENDUSKEAG

Davis Family Farm

A huge dinosaur-themed adventure with intricate paths, interactive stations and prehistoric fun for the whole family.

davisfarmcornmaze.com

CLICK HERE



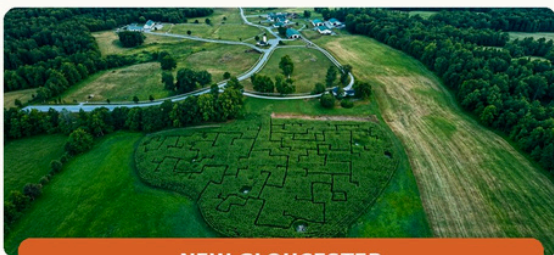
LEVANT

Treworgy Family Orchards

A Statue of Liberty maze celebrating America's 250th birthday, created from thousands of towering corn plants.

treworgyorchards.com/corn-maze

CLICK HERE



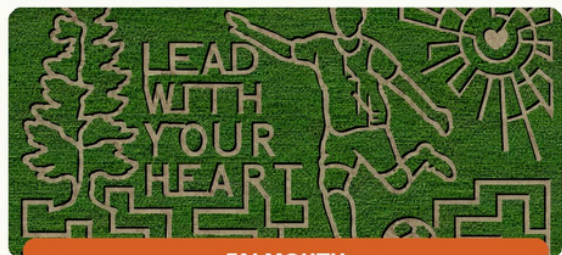
NEW GLOUCESTER

Pineland Farms

A scenic five-acre maze with twisting paths and trivia clues, set within Pineland's picturesque working farm.

pinelandfarms.org/corn-maze

CLICK HERE



FALMOUTH

Hurricane Meadows

A five-acre Portland Hearts of Pine soccer maze, accompanied by pumpkins, sunflowers, farm animals and fall activities.

hurricanemeadows.com

CLICK HERE

Check farm websites before traveling; schedules may change with weather.

SALT & PINE • 2026



Best Corn Mazes in the US for 5 Years

Treworgy Family Farm
from 2022-2026 in Levant, ME
Designed by Kat Jenkins

2022 — Winnie-the-Pooh

A celebration of friendship and simple pleasures

Treworgy began its five-year winning streak with a familiar old friend: Winnie-the-Pooh. The five-acre maze brought A. A. Milne's Hundred Acre Wood to a Maine cornfield, depicting Pooh and Piglet along with honeycombs, a honey pot, spoon and bee.

The choice went deeper than creating a recognizable picture. Co-owner Jonathan Kenerson explained that Pooh represented the qualities the Treworgy family wanted people to experience when visiting the farm—friendship, wonder and an appreciation.



2023 — Farming for Forty

Looking back at four decades on the farm

For 2023, Treworgy didn't need to look to a storybook for inspiration. The story was its own.

"Farming for Forty" celebrated the orchard's 40th anniversary, and Jenkins filled the design with images representing everyday life at Treworgy.

A farmer drives an enormous tractor through the center of the maze, surrounded by pumpkins, apple trees, a rooster and a goat. Even the tractor carried a bit of history: it recalled an earlier tractor maze created by the farm years before.



The approximately four-acre maze contained some 60,000 corn plants, with stalks growing as tall as 10 feet. From ground level, visitors wandered through what appeared to be endless corridors of corn. Only from above did the complete farm scene reveal itself.

2024 -Peter Rabbit

Where a classic garden tale meets a Maine farm
In 2024, Treworgy returned to classic children's literature with Beatrix Potter's Peter Rabbit.

It was a particularly natural match for a farm. Potter's mischievous rabbit famously finds himself in Mr. McGregor's garden, and Jenkins transformed the cornfield into an enormous garden-inspired scene featuring Peter along with details such as a carrot, sunflower and bird. The storytelling continued once visitors entered the corn. Stations along the pathways incorporated the Peter Rabbit story and trivia about Potter and her famous character.

Treworgy also introduced a 25-foot observation tower, allowing visitors to climb above the corn and get a rare glimpse of the enormous artwork they were walking through.

The theme reflected the charm and curiosity of Potter's stories while connecting naturally with Treworgy's agricultural setting.



2025 — Whale of a Tale

A tribute to Robert McCloskey—and to Maine
For its 25th corn maze, Treworgy chose perhaps its most distinctly Maine theme yet.

“Whale of a Tale” was inspired by Maine children's author Robert McCloskey and his 1989 book *Burt Dow, Deep-Water Man*. From above, the field became an enormous whale accompanied by imagery recalling Maine's working waterfront.

It wasn't the orchard's first tribute to McCloskey. In 2019, Treworgy created a Blueberries for Sal maze that finished second in the USA Today competition.

This time, however, the theme carried another layer of meaning.

“McCloskey's stories capture the heart of Maine life, and *Burt Dow, Deep-Water Man* celebrates the courage and determination of our commercial fishing industry,” Kenerson explained.

The maze brought together two industries that have shaped Maine for generations: farming and



fishing. Cornfields represent the agricultural heritage of inland Maine, while the whale and Burt Dow evoke the fishing communities along the coast.

Winner of 2026 Best Corn Maze in the USA



Lady Liberty Rises in a Maine Cornfield

Treworgy Family Orchards in Levant has turned four acres of corn into a tribute to America's 250th anniversary. The farm's 2026 maze depicts the Statue of Liberty holding her torch and tablet, with "USA" worked into her robe and the number "250" beside her crown.

Designed by Jonathan Kenerson, the maze contains about 60,000 corn plants, many growing as tall as 10 feet. Carefully carved paths create Lady Liberty's face, crown, torch and flowing robe while forming a challenging maze for visitors on the ground.

The project begins with a theme chosen by the Treworgy family. After the cornfield is planted, the paths are cut, visitor maps are prepared and riddle stations are placed throughout the maze. Guests search for the stations and work out the puzzle as they make their way toward the center, where they can add their names to the farm's Hall of Fame Board. Those who complete the challenge receive a free kiddie soft-serve cone at the café. Treworgy has created a different maze every year since 2001, making it Maine's longest continually running corn maze. At the end of the season, the stalks are tilled back into the soil to help nourish next year's field.

The Statue of Liberty design was voted No. 1 in the 2026 USA Today 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards, adding another national honor to this family farm's remarkable run of cornfield art.

MEET THE PUMPKINS *of Maine*

10 UNUSUAL VARIETIES YOU'LL LOVE



HOWDEN

The classic bright-orange pumpkin for Halloween jack-o'-lanterns.



NEW ENGLAND SUGAR PIE

Small, sweet and creamy – perfect for pies and baked treats.



LONG ISLAND CHEESE

Tan, flattened and shaped like a cheese wheel. Great for cooking and décor.



CASPER

Smooth, ghostly white skin—a favorite for decorating and carving.



BABY BEAR

Small, deep-orange and just the right size for kids and decorating.



JARRAHDALÉ

Striking blue-gray skin with deep ribs; beautiful for décor and delicious to eat.



CINDERELLA / ROUGE VIF D'ETAMPES

Deep red-orange and dramatically flattened—a showstopper!



GALEUX D'EYSINES

Pink skin covered with unique, peanut-like bumps. Eye-catching and tasty.



BLACK FUTSU

Dark green-black, deeply ribbed Japanese variety. Great for cooking and display.



ATLANTIC GIANT

The variety behind the record-breaking 1,000–2,000+ lb. pumpkins!



GROWN WITH CARE IN MAINE • ENJOYED ALL SEASON LONG

CARVE IT * COOK IT * DECORATE IT * LOVE IT

PUMPKIN PATCHES IN MAINE

2026 FALL GUIDE • PICK • PLAY • EXPLORE



PUMPKIN VALLEY FARM

DAYTON

Pick-your-own pumpkins, a five-acre corn maze, farm animals and play areas. Fall Festival weekends Sept. 26-Nov. 1.

VISIT pumpkinvalleyfarm.com

PINELAND FARMS

NEW GLOUCESTER

A classic pick-your-own patch paired with the farm's corn maze and autumn scenery. Pumpkin patch opens Sept. 26.

VISIT pinelandfarms.org

HURRICANE MEADOWS

FALMOUTH

Pick pumpkins and sunflowers, tackle a five-acre maze, meet farm animals and enjoy games, paintball and food.

VISIT hurricanemeadows.com

TREWORGY FAMILY ORCHARDS

LEVANT

Acres of pick-your-own pumpkins plus apples, an award-winning corn maze, hayrides, cafe treats and family activities.

VISIT treworgyorchards.com

THUNDER ROAD FARM

CORINNA

U-pick pumpkins and sunflowers with a family corn maze, a shorter children's route and acres of fall activities.

VISIT thunderroadfarm.com

DAVIS FAMILY FARM

KENDUSKEAG

Pick-your-own pumpkins, a dinosaur-themed maze, giant slide, hay maze, animals, accessible wagon rides and food trucks.

VISIT davisfarmcornmaze.com

COUNTY FAIR FARM

JEFFERSON

Pick-your-own pumpkins and apples, a corn maze, weekend wagon rides, seasonal produce and a welcoming farm market.

VISIT [County Fair Farm on Real Maine](#)

SCHOOL HOUSE FARM

WARREN

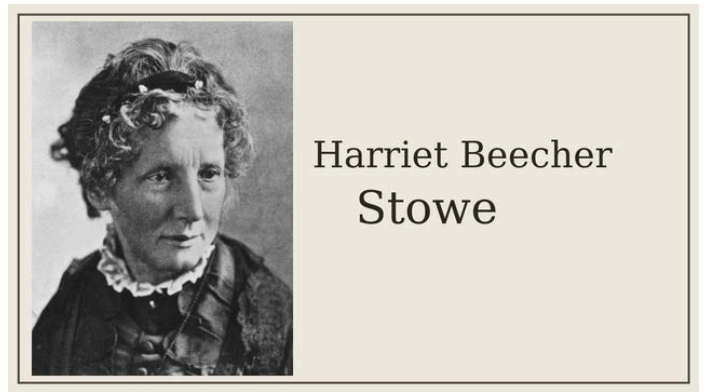
Pick sugar, white and Cinderella pumpkins along with gourds, Indian corn, winter squash, apples and other farm produce.

VISIT [School House Farm guide](#)

BEFORE YOU GO

SALT & PINE • MAINE

Hours, admission and crop availability may change. Check the farm website before traveling.



Harriet Beecher
Stowe

Small Town Spotlight: Brunswick

Brunswick: Where Maine's Past Meets the Present

Brunswick may look like a classic New England college town, with its broad Maine Street, village green and historic Bowdoin College campus. But behind this picturesque setting is a fascinating history shaped by Indigenous culture, writers, explorers, scientists and one of the Civil War's most celebrated heroes.

Long before European settlement, the area was part of the homeland of the Abenaki and other Wabanaki people. "Pejepscot," an Abenaki name meaning "the long, rocky rapids of the river," referred to the Androscoggin River and the Indigenous community that lived nearby. The river later powered sawmills, textile mills and paper mills, helping Brunswick grow into an important commercial center.

Bowdoin College and a Town of Ideas

Bowdoin College was chartered in 1794, when Maine was still part of Massachusetts, and welcomed its first students in 1802. Its graduates include President Franklin Pierce and writers Nathaniel Hawthorne and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, who were classmates in the Class of 1825.

Longfellow returned to Brunswick in 1829 to teach modern languages at Bowdoin. He and his first wife rented rooms in the house that later became the Joshua L. Chamberlain Museum.

Harriet Beecher Stowe

Harriet Beecher Stowe moved to Brunswick in 1850 when her husband, Calvin Stowe, became a Bowdoin professor. While attending a service at First Parish Church, Stowe reportedly envisioned an enslaved man being beaten to death—an image that helped inspire *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

She wrote much of the novel at the family's Federal Street home and in her husband's Bowdoin study. Published in 1852, the book became an international sensation and strengthened antislavery sentiment across the North. Stowe's former home is now owned by Bowdoin, and Harriet's Writing Room is open to visitors.

Joshua Chamberlain

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain graduated from Bowdoin in 1852 and later joined its faculty. Despite having no formal military training, he entered the Union Army and became famous for leading the 20th Maine Regiment's defense of Little Round Top during the Battle of Gettysburg.

Chamberlain later oversaw the formal surrender of Confederate infantry at Appomattox. After the war, he served four terms as governor of Maine and became president of Bowdoin College. His Brunswick home, where he lived for more than 50 years, is now the Joshua L. Chamberlain Museum.

This history inspired a memorable saying: "The Civil War began and ended in Brunswick." Stowe helped expose the brutality of slavery, while Chamberlain played an important role in the war's final days.

Explorers and Botanists

Robert E. Peary and Donald B. MacMillan

Arctic explorers Robert E. Peary and Donald B. MacMillan both graduated from Bowdoin. Their expeditions inspired the Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum, which explores Arctic cultures, environments and exploration.

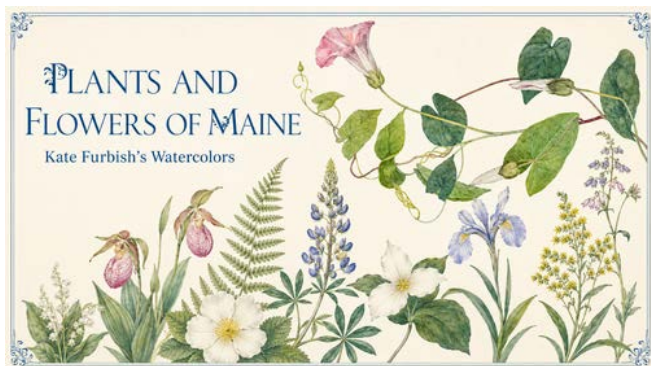
Kate Furbish

Another notable resident was botanist and artist Kate Furbish. She traveled throughout Maine by foot, boat, train and stagecoach, collecting and painting thousands of plants, fungi and wildflowers. Her detailed illustrations combined scientific accuracy with remarkable artistry. Brunswick's Kate Furbish Elementary School now honors her legacy.

Brunswick Today

Modern Brunswick combines its historic character with a lively arts, dining and outdoor scene. The Bowdoin College Museum of Art and Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum are both free to visit. During the summer, Maine State Music Theatre presents professional productions on the Bowdoin campus.

Downtown Maine Street is filled with independent shops, cafés, bakeries, restaurants and galleries. The Brunswick Mall—the town's long, tree-lined village green—hosts farmers' markets, concerts and community events.



Visitors can also walk beside the Androscoggin River, follow the Brunswick–Topsham Riverwalk or cross the historic Swinging Bridge, built in 1892 for mill workers. Nearby, Crystal Spring Farm and the Brunswick Town Commons offer peaceful trails through fields, forests and old-growth pine.

The former Brunswick Naval Air Station has also been transformed into Brunswick Landing, a growing community of businesses, housing, education and recreation—another example of Brunswick preserving its past while creating a new future.



Events and Fundraisers

**Celebrate Maine's creativity
during Maine Craft Weekend
October 3 & 4, 2026!**

Travel across the state to visit open studios, meet talented makers, watch demonstrations, explore exhibitions and shop for beautiful handcrafted work.

Plan your route at
MaineCraftWeekend.org/map



**October brings several ways to
support Maine neighbors and local
organizations.**

On October 3, join the Walk to End Alzheimer's in Brunswick or attend the Champions for Children Giraffe Awards Dinner in Freeport, honoring people who "stick their necks out" for Maine children and families. Then, on October 14, enjoy pizza, beer and good company at Maine Beer Company during a fundraiser for Golden Years Haven.

Three gatherings, three worthy causes
and plenty of opportunities to give back.



Events and Fundraisers



Bring your appetite and support a great local cause at the Pownal Fire & Rescue Bean Supper

on October 10 from 4:30–6:15 p.m.! Enjoy homemade beans, hot dogs, fresh breads, and delicious desserts while gathering with friends and neighbors. All proceeds benefit the Pownal Fire & Rescue Company, so come share a hearty meal and help support the dedicated volunteers who serve our community.

Three late-October fundraisers offer fun ways to support Midcoast Maine organizations.

Magic on Maine returns to Brunswick Golf Club on October 22 with food, an auction and the Whoopie Pie Bake-Off winners, benefiting Brunswick Downtown Association programs. On October 24, Bath's Halloween-themed Haunted Hustle 5K and Kids Fun Run raises money for the Bath Area Family YMCA. The month closes with the Thorne Head Trail Run on October 31, a Kennebec Estuary Land Trust fundraiser followed by a seasonal breakfast.



GOOD TIMES. GREAT CAUSES.

MIDCOAST MAINE

A simplified coastal guide

BELFAST

4

ROCKLAND

2

BATH

5

BRUNSWICK

1

3



OCTOBER FUNDRAISERS

1

OCT 3

Walk to End Alzheimer's
Brunswick | 9AM–noon

Supports: Care, support & research

EVENT WEBSITE brunswickdowntown.org

[Click Here](#)

2

OCT 10

Maine Lobster Ride

Rockland | 13 / 30 / 50 miles

Supports: Safer walking & biking

EVENT WEBSITE bikemaine.org/me-lobster-ride

[Click Here](#)

3

OCT 22

Magic on Maine

Brunswick | 5–9PM

Supports: Winter lights

EVENT WEBSITE brunswickdowntown.org

[Click Here](#)

4

OCT 24

Ghostly Gallop 5K

Belfast | 8:30AM

Supports: Belfast Lions community work

EVENT WEBSITE runsignup.com/GhostlyGallop

[Click Here](#)

5

OCT 31

Thorne Head Trail Run

Bath | 2.5 miles | 9AM

Supports: Conservation & local trails

EVENT WEBSITE kennebecestuary.org/thorneheadtrailrun

[Click Here](#)

MAKE A DAY OF DOING GOOD

Walk, ride, run or simply cheer them on.



saltandpinemag.com

Midcoast Food & Drink



History of Oktoberfest

Oktoberfest began with a royal wedding in Munich, Germany. On October 12, 1810, Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria married Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen. Munich's citizens were invited to join several days of public celebrations, which concluded with a horse race on October 17.

The festivities took place in a meadow outside the city gates. In honor of the bride, the site was named Theresienwiese, meaning "Therese's Meadow." Munich residents now commonly call the festival grounds—and Oktoberfest itself—"the Wiesn."

The celebration was so popular that the horse race was held again the following year. Agricultural exhibits were added, and in 1819 the city of Munich assumed responsibility for organizing the annual event. The original celebration had no large beer tents or carnival rides, but these attractions gradually became an important part of the festival.

By the late 1800s, breweries were building large temporary beer halls, while vendors offered roasted chicken, sausages and pretzels. Carousels, swings and other amusements transformed Oktoberfest into a major folk festival celebrating Bavarian food, music, clothing and hospitality.

Although its name refers to October, most of today's festival takes place in September, when Munich generally has warmer weather and longer days. It traditionally ends in early October. The official Munich Oktoberfest is now considered the world's largest folk festival and attracts millions of visitors each year.

SALT & PINE FALL ROAD TRIP

Maine Oktoberfest Brewery Trail

BRUNSWICK TO FRYEBURG | CRAFT BEER, LAKES & AUTUMN COLOR

WESTERN MAINE



DASHED LINE = LONGER FINAL LEG

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Flight Deck Brewing
Brunswick Androscoggin River path | 5 Lakes Region Brewing
Casco Rolfe Hill Preserve |
| 2 Goodfire Brewing
Freeport Wolfe's Neck Woods | 6 Fluvial Brewing
Harrison Long Lake & Crystal Lake |
| 3 Well & Good Brewing
North Yarmouth Royal River back roads | 7 Saco River Brewing
Fryeburg Jockey Cap & White Mountains |
| 4 Birchwood Brewing
Gray Maine Wildlife Park | |

PLAN IT AS A TWO-DAY OKTOBERFEST ADVENTURE

Midcoast Food & Drink

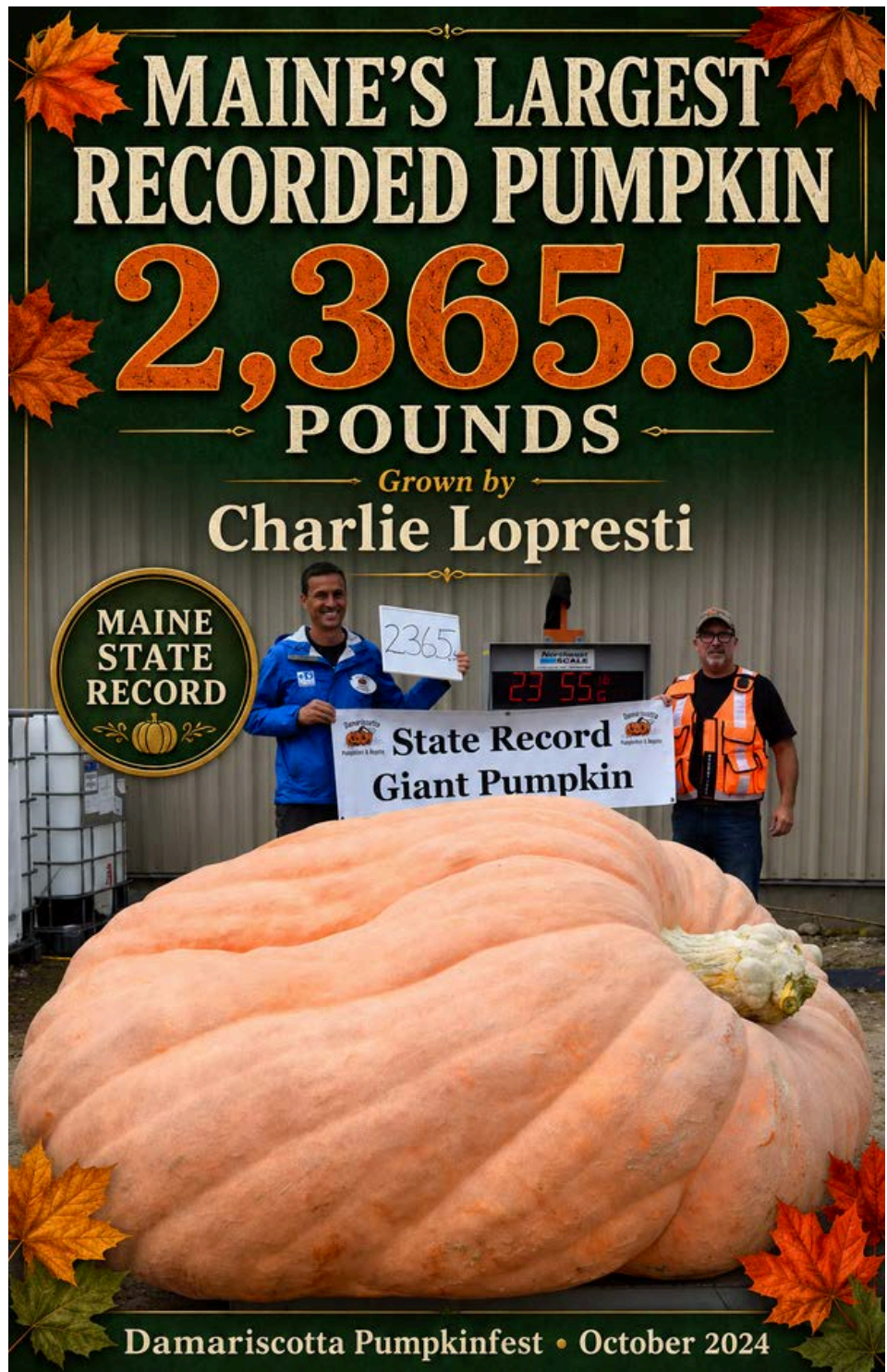
Largest Recorded Pumpkin in Maine

Maine's heavyweight champion!

Charlie Lopresti grew a massive pumpkin weighing 2,365.5 pounds, setting a new state record and achieving a personal best.

Lopresti grew the pumpkin from his own 2080 Lopresti 2022 seed, chosen for its proven giant-pumpkin genetics. He enriched the soil with manure and compost and carefully adjusted irrigation according to the weather—providing as much as 200 gallons of water per plant on especially dry days. At the height of the season, the pumpkin gained an astonishing 58 pounds per day.

The enormous pumpkin was officially weighed during the Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta weigh-off in October 2024. Lopresti credited the Maine Pumpkin Growers Organization, friends and neighbors who helped transport it, and especially his family for supporting the years of work and daily attention required to grow a record-breaking giant.



Will anyone break this record in 2026?

Midcoast Food & Drink

What to do with a Giant Champion Pumpkin?

From Prize Pumpkin to Giant Beer Fermenter

After Charlie Lopresti's 2,080-pound pumpkin won first place at the 2022 Damariscotta Pumpkinfest weigh-off, it received an unusual second life at Saco River Brewing in Fryeburg. The enormous pumpkin was hollowed out, its seeds, and the remaining shell was transformed into a natural fermentation vessel. The pulp was left intact to provide flavor and integrity to the pumpkin.

Saco River Brewing filled the giant gourd with a specially brewed dark amber ale called P-Funk. The finished beer featured flavors of malt, maple and fresh pumpkin. Rather than simply adding pumpkin flavoring, the brewery allowed the beer to ferment inside the pumpkin itself.



Only a small quantity was produced. P-Funk was released at the Fryeburg tasting room on December 3, 2022, and was available exclusively on draft. The experiment continued a collaboration between Lopresti and brewery owner Mason Irish, who had previously fermented a porter inside a smaller giant pumpkin in 2019.

Important distinction: This was Lopresti's 2,080-pound pumpkin from 2022, not the 2,365.5-pound Maine record pumpkin he grew in 2024. The record pumpkin was later donated to Saco River Brewing for another giant-pumpkin fermentation project.

Festivals

Celebrate autumn in downtown
Freeport at the 27th Annual
Freeport Fall Festival,
October 2–4!

Explore the work of more than 200 New England artists and makers, enjoy live music and local food, and bring the whole family for free activities throughout the weekend.

Admission is free!

Learn more at visitfreeport.com



The History of the Belfast Poetry Festival

October 15-18

The Belfast Poetry Festival began in 2004, founded by writers Annaliese Jakimides and Troy Casa with a visionary volunteer steering committee. Their goal was to create a community arts celebration in which poetry would be welcoming, accessible and connected to everyday life in Belfast. It has grown into one of the country's relatively few community-based, non-academic literary festivals. Most activities remain free or inexpensive. [More Info HERE](#)





Festivals

Get ready for a weekend that's completely out of this gourd!

The Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta returns October 9–12, 2026, bringing giant pumpkin art, pumpkin boat races, the pumpkin parade, pumpkin drop, derby, delicious food and family fun to Damariscotta and Newcastle.

Come celebrate fall on the beautiful Midcoast and see what happens when Maine creativity meets some truly enormous pumpkins!

🍂 Indigenous Peoples' Day Weekend
📍 Damariscotta & Newcastle, Maine
🌐 mainepumpkinfest.com

[Get Info HERE](#)

From One Pumpkin Boat to a Beloved Maine Tradition

The Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta began in 2005 with an idea that was as simple as it was unusual: turn a giant pumpkin into a boat. Local pumpkin grower Bill Clark provided a roughly 700-pound pumpkin, which Buzz Pinkham hollowed out, fitted with a motor and piloted into Damariscotta Harbor.

The experiment delighted onlookers and inspired the two friends to convince the town to turn their pumpkin adventure into an annual celebration. What started with one captain and one enormous gourd quickly grew into one of Maine's most imaginative fall traditions. Giant-pumpkin growers began supplying more pumpkins, artists transformed them into colorful sculptures along Main Street, and additional activities—including the parade, weigh-off, pumpkin drop, derby and pie-eating contest—joined the popular regatta.



Festivals

The All Roads Music Festival is a celebration of Maine's independent and emerging music scene.

Founded in Belfast in 2015, the festival brings musicians together for performances in genres ranging from indie rock and folk to pop, bluegrass, alternative country, punk and hip-hop.

Rather than taking place on one large outdoor stage, All Roads generally spreads performances among several venues, allowing visitors to walk through downtown while discovering new artists. The festival was paused during the pandemic but has since returned and expanded.

In 2026, All Roads added a spring festival in Portland and will return to Belfast for a two-day "Weekender" on October 16–17, 2026. The Belfast event is expected to feature more than 20 bands and approximately 100 Maine musicians.



[Tickets HERE](#)

