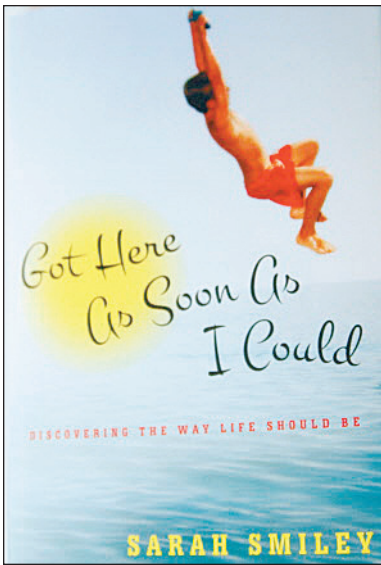


# A place for book lovers in Bangor

Magic exists in this world. It smells like the dog-eared pages of a well-loved paperback and sounds like the muffled quiet found between stacks of secondhand books. I can get lost in a bookshop, scanning titles and running my finger along the spines of wizened hardcovers. I'll sit on the floor between towers of stories, pulling one from the shelf and reading a few pages, only to tuck it under my arm for purchase and continue on to another.



**SHELBY HARTIN**  
Worlds exist within the words of a book, and a bookshop is something I actively seek out whenever I visit someplace new. As a newer resident of Bangor, a go-to bookshop was first on my agenda. Pro Libris, located at 10 Third St., stocks about 35,000 fiction and nonfiction titles in more than 30 categories. When I walked through its door on a snowy day in January, stacks of books enveloped me. I had entered a maze I had no desire to escape from. Bookshelves almost touched the ceilings and lined every wall. A radio murmured on in the background. I heard a slight cough and  
*See Pro Libris, Page B2*



## Smiley shares love of Maine in new book

**BY SARAH WALKER CARON**  
BDN STAFF  
Author and Bangor Daily News columnist Sarah Smiley has lived all over the United States. Her father was an admiral in the United States Navy, and her husband is a Navy commander. But it wasn't until she moved to Maine that she finally found "home." She has now lived in Maine for eight years: "Almost too long to say I'm still new here," Smiley laughed during a recent interview. And her family has no plans of leaving. Smiley has compiled a personal love letter to Maine in a collection of her newspaper columns called "Got Here as Soon as I Could." It includes columns from the last eight years since she moved to Maine and shows a progression in herself and her parenting style over the years. "I tried to select ones that reflected how Maine changed myself  
*See Smiley, Page C2*



GABOR DEGRE | BDN  
Roger Willis shapes semiprecious stones on a grinder at Willis' Rock Shop in Bar Harbor recently. The shop was started by his grandparents and has been family-owned since it opened in 1937.

# Special souvenirs

## Family shop in Bar Harbor crafting jewelry for Acadia's 100th anniversary



A pair of earrings made of Mount Desert Island pink granite and gold are shown at Willis' Rock Shop in Bar Harbor recently. The shop is making special pieces stamped "ANP16" to commemorate the 100th year of Acadia National Park.

**BY AISLINN SARNACKI**  
BDN STAFF  
If one rock was selected to represent Acadia National Park on Mount Desert Island, it would have to be pink granite. The rough, rosy stone is found throughout the park, from the pebbles at the bottom of Jordan Pond to the cobblestones of Seawall Beach to the top of Cadillac Mountain. That's why, years ago, the Willis family began creating fine jewelry from the pink stone, flecked with black and gray. "So many of our summer customers want the local stone," said Roger Willis of Willis' Rock Shop, a fixture on Main Street in Bar Harbor since 1937. Willis and his cousin Deanna "De-De" Willis are the third generation of their family to run the shop and craft fine jewelry out of local stone, as well as semiprecious gems such as tourmaline, amethyst, aquamarine, calcite and peridot.

MDI pink granite, tumbled smooth and polished until it shines, has been a top seller at the shop for decades. To many island visitors, the common igneous rock holds more value than any gem. It means taking a piece of the island home with them. So this year, in celebration of Acadia National Park's 100th anniversary, the Willis family has decided to offer their popular line of pink granite jewelry as "Acadia Centennial Merchandise." Each piece will be engraved with "ANP16," and the shop will donate 5 percent of sales to the nonprofit group Friends of Acadia to benefit the park. It's important to note that while the pink granite in the jewelry comes from MDI, it was not taken from Acadia National Park, where removing rocks is a federal offense. "I have a lot of pink granite on my property actually," said Roger Willis, 61, who lives in Bar Harbor with his wife, Cheryl

Prostak Willis. "And a long piece of granite goes a long way." Willis' Rock Shop is offering its traditional pink granite line in 14-karat gold, with earrings, pendants, bracelets and necklaces ranging in cost from \$175 to \$1,000. And for customers with lower budgets, the shop is working to produce less expensive pink granite beads with a silver core that range from \$38 to \$52 and fit on the popular slide bracelets such as the bracelets made by PANDORA and Trollbeads. All pieces will be in true Willis style, with classic metalwork showcasing large chunks of smoothed, rounded and polished stone. The design of the jewelry, all crafted in the back of the shop, has changed little over the years as the shop has been passed from one generation to the next. Willis' Rock Shop was established in 1937 by Roger and De-De Willis' grandparents, Malcolm and Thelma Willis. Both  
*See Acadia, Page C2*

# Artist hopes to recoup losses after fire



STEPHEN BETTS | BDN  
Daniel Corey is selling many of his paintings at discounted prices after a fire in the Rockland apartment building where he lives and paints.

## Midcoast man cuts prices on paintings

**BY STEPHEN BETTS**  
BDN STAFF  
ROCKLAND — Daniel Corey already was a struggling artist who recently had to sell his car to make a rent payment. Then, two weeks ago, a fire struck the apartment complex where he lives and paints, filling his residence with smoke and soot. Now, Corey is selling off many of his collections at a discounted price in a true fire sale. There was no fire damage to his apartment, but he had to clean off the oil-based paintings that number approximately 500. He has spent the past two weeks cleaning

his apartment and paintings, which has taken him away from his full-time profession. Corey, 40, said he has painted all his life, a talent he said he inherited from his grandmother. But until 2008, he always had a second job to help pay the bills. He was working as a dishwasher at Bintliff's Ocean Grill in Edgecomb, working 50 hours per week, when his then-wife encouraged him to give up the restaurant job and exclusively devote his time to painting. A year later, he was awarded the Monhegan Artists' Residency, which, according to its website, "provides free comfortable living  
*See Fire, Page C2*

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**207.616.0292**

Colby College Museum of Art • Maine Film Center  
Waterville Public Library • Common Street Arts  
Waterville Opera House • Waterville Main Street

March 22 – April 24 / a program of Waterville Main Street and Waterville Area Art Society  
**25th Annual Maine Open Juried Art Show @ Waterville Public Library**

April 8, 5:30 PM / Railroad Square Cinema  
**Art in the Lobby Opening: Fauna: Factual and Fancied, featuring the paintings of Toni Jo Coppa and Juliet Karelsen**

April 9, 7 PM / Hathaway Creative Center  
**PechaKucha Night Waterville – PK WTVL Vol. 20**

April 8, 9, 15, 16, 7:30 PM; April 10, 17, 2 PM / Waterville Opera House  
**Mary Poppins** (For tickets visit: [www.operahouse.org](http://www.operahouse.org))

April 8 – April 30 / **Common Street Arts**  
**Deadline, a poetry installation by Mexican poet Juan Manuel Portillo**  
(Reception: Friday, April 8, 5 – 7 PM)

**April 16, 10AM – 3PM**  
**Encaustics Workshop with Helene Farrar**

**Common Street Arts**  
\$85.00 includes all materials and instruction!