

I adopted a garden and you should too

Living on the second floor of a four-unit apartment building isn't exactly conducive to gardening.

I attempted planting vegetables in planters on my tiny deck last summer. They were mildly successful — if you consider two tomatoes, a green pepper and a handful of herbs mildly successful.

I've always loved gardens. I regularly day-dream about my future home and the myriad flowers, plants and vegetables I'll have. The sights and scents that accompany a kempt flower garden remind me of my grandmother Elaine Hartin, who passed many years ago. She adored flowers and passed that love onto my father, who passed it to my sister and I by letting us plant whatever we could get our hands on.

There is the teardrop shaped flower patch around the big spruce in the front yard of my parents' home, the flower patch encircling an enormous rock in the backyard and the massive garden my father helped us plant, to name just a few. He cultivated a love of gardening in both of us, and I've desperately tried to keep that love alive, despite my less than desirable gardening arrangements.

As a new resident of Bangor without the space for something of my own, I set out on a mission to find something to satisfy my desire for a small flower garden. Luckily for me, I found an opportunity in the Queen City.

I learned about Bangor's Adopt A Garden program last year, but I wasn't sure how it worked. I found its Facebook page and a recent post with the ominous words

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New books on Roosevelt, in the wilderness and at war

"The Naturalist: Theodore Roosevelt, A Lifetime of Exploration, and the Triumph of American Natural History" by Darrin Lunde; Crown (334 pages, \$28)

"Rough Riders: Theodore Roosevelt, His Cowboy Regiment, and the Immortal Charge Up San Juan Hill" by Mark Lee Gardner; William Morrow (336 pages, \$26.99)

BY MATTHEW PRICE
NEWSDAY

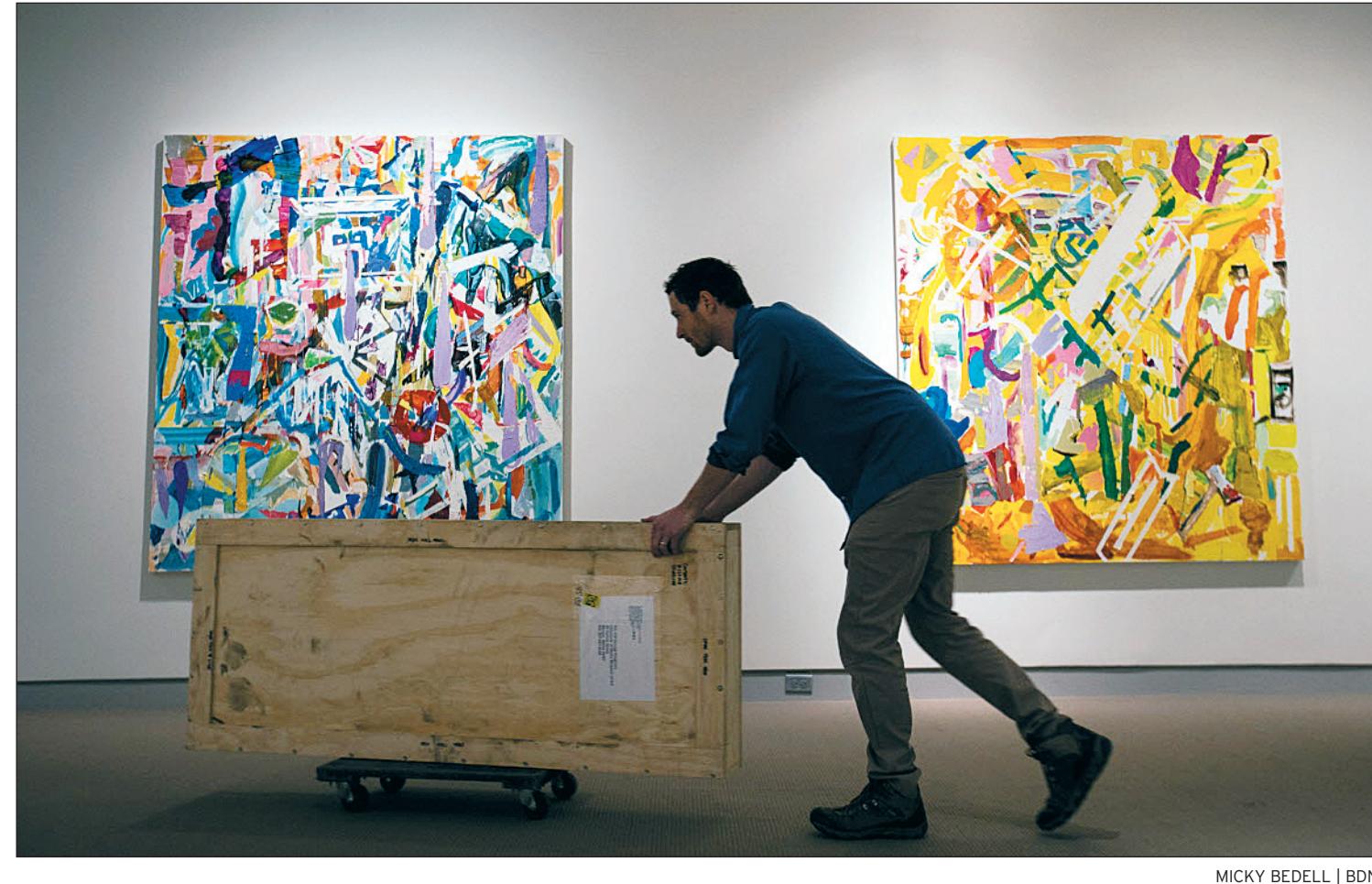
How do you like your Teddy Roosevelt — sliced and diced, or the whole megillah? If big books about America's larger-than-life 26th president are your thing, there are plenty of door-stopping bios to suit your fancy. But Roosevelt's multifarious life — he was by turns a politician, writer, hunter, soldier, explorer and amateur scientist — is suitable for a thematic closeup, as displayed in the books under review here.

Darrin Lunde's "The Naturalist: Theodore Roosevelt, A Lifetime of Exploration, and the Triumph of American Natural History" (Crown, 334 pages, \$28) shows how an "asthmatic city slicker" became a driving force in the study of American wildlife and

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SHELBY HARTIN



MICKY BEDELL | BDN

UMaine Museum of Art registrar Shawn Lefevre pushes a shipment of artist Alisa Henriquez's work past recently installed paintings by Thomas Berding on Tuesday at the museum. Both artists are part of the museum's summer exhibition.

Partners in life and art

Couple to exhibit work at University of Maine museum

BY SHELBY HARTIN

BDN STAFF

Artists Alisa Henriquez and Thomas Berding have shown their work in the same galleries and museums before.

At places such as Gallery 406 at Elon University in North Carolina and the Emison Art Center at DePauw University in Indiana, exhibitions have highlighted the two artists — each with different methodologies who shared a commitment to art. In addition to this shared commitment, the two are married and have been for more than 25 years. Despite their interconnected lives, their art shows distinct differences, in both form and content.

Starting May 13, The University of Maine Museum of Art at 40 Harlow St. in downtown Bangor will open two new solo exhibitions featuring these artists, which will run through Sept. 10.

"Remnant States," a solo exhibition of paintings by Ber-

ding, is composed of more than 40 abstract paintings ranging from large canvases to a variety of smaller compositions, each with vibrant color and visible movement.

"I'm a person who came up through a working-class family, and to me, as an artist, making art is an ultimate act of imagination. It's a way of combining one's physical world and one's interiority," Berding said.

Berding's work was made in response to the post-industrial landscape he's familiar with in his hometown of East Lansing, Michigan.

"We're surrounded by the remnants and structures that represent a huge industrial build up. At one point, industry was a point of adulation in our country," Berding said.

His artist's statement reads as follows: "Ultimately it is my hope that, like the urban landscapes they ruminate on, the paintings team with a sort of double consciousness, a prevailing sense of both, the future-present and the ever present — past."



MICKY BEDELL | BDN

A closeup of a painting by Thomas Berding hanging as part of the UMaine Museum of Art summer exhibition on Tuesday at the museum.

Berding's work will be featured in the Main Gallery of UMMA. Featured in the Leonard Gallery will be Henriquez's exhibition, titled "The Constructed Body."

Her artwork acts as commentary, addressing socially constructed ideals of beauty while exploring history, belief and notions of self.

"I'm borrowing from popular culture and taking things from contemporary women's magazines — magazines geared to-

wards women — and appropriating images from those magazines. I'm really interested in challenging those notions of representation through appropriating them," Henriquez said.

Glossy lips and blackened eyelashes live together in her works with images of art history figures, including Adam and Eve. Beauty ideals of hundreds of years ago coexist with those of today in her assemblages.

And although they are distinct — See Art, Page C3

Couples get into swing of ballroom dancing

BY JULIA BAYLY
BDN STAFF

NEW SWEDEN — When it comes to the waltz there are no mistakes.

Instead, according to dance instructor Christina Theriault, there are only opportunities for couples to think on their feet in one-two-three time.

Watch the video
bangordailynews.com

"I believe the people [in Aroostook County] were starved for ballroom dancing," Theriault said Saturday night as 11 couples prepared to trip the light fantastic at the New Sweden Consolidated School gymnasium as part of her Ballroom in the Valley series. "It's a great way for couples to connect and for people to get to know each other."

Theriault began teaching ballroom dancing in the St. John Valley after moving north from Boston — where she taught dance for a number of years — with her husband and dance partner, Jake Theriault, two-and-a-half years ago.

"Ballroom dancing did not exist up here," she said. "I asked people where the closest ballroom dancing would be, and they would say, 'Portland,' so I said to myself, 'I guess I'll start teaching again.'"

Theriault first approached the SAD 27 adult education office, which said she was welcome to offer a ballroom dance class, as long as she got at least 10 participants to sign up.

"I thought, 'No way am I going to get that many,'" she said. "But that first night, 16 people showed up, and it's been growing ever since."

Theriault offers eight-week ses-



JULIA BAYLY | BDN
Jake Theriault (left) and his wife, Christina Theriault, demonstrate basic waltz steps during a recent ballroom dance class in New Sweden.

sions and usually teaches out of the New Canada town office. She moved this past weekend to New Sweden for a change of scenery and to provide a more central location for people south of The Valley.

Saturday night's focus was on the waltz, a dance style Theriault said is among the most romantic.

"Ballroom dance is any partner

dance," she said. "I know 18 different styles but routinely teach six of them."

Among those are the tango, rumba, swing, fox trot and cha-cha. One of her favorites is West Coast Swing, a style she said differs from other dances in that both men and women trade off taking the lead.

"In the other dances, the man — See Ballroom, Page C2



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