

EVENTS

Things to Do

ATKINSON — 29th annual quilt show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, July 16, Atkinson United Methodist Church. Luncheon, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Admission \$2. Linda Roebuck, 564-7060, or Martha Andrews, 564-2435.

BANGOR — River City Cinema presents “Summer of Love” outdoor summer movie series, sundown Fridays in July, Pickering Square: “The Princess Bride,” July 15; “Say Anything,” July 22; “You’ve Got Mail,” July 29; rain date Aug. 5. Free.

BANGOR — Downtown Bangor Partnership’s 11th annual Cool Sounds Summer Concert Series and Fresh Air Market presented by Emera Maine and Beal College, 5-8 p.m. Thursdays, July and August, West Market Square and along Merchants Plaza. Free. Trendy Robots, July 14; to be announced, July 21; William Joseph Jorndan, July 28; Broadway Rocks Bangor, Aug. 4; The Rotating Taps, Aug. 11; RetroRockerz, Aug. 18; Jon King, Aug. 25.

BANGOR — Penobscot Theatre Company Dramatic Academy youth production, “School of Rock,” 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, July 14-16; 2 p.m. Saturday, July 16; 3 p.m. Sunday, July 17, 131 Main St. 626-674-0942 or penobscot-theatre.org.

BANGOR — Bangor in World War II: A Lecture Series, Part Two: Miracle on Hammond Street presented by the Bangor Historical Society, noon Thursday, July 14, Isaac Farrar Mansion, 166 Union St. Author and historian David Bergquist talking about how major sections of Bangor’s new air base were completed in 92 days. Free.

BANGOR — Donation yard sale, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 15-16, 136 Union St., Shaw House, a homeless shelter for youth that provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, food, clothing, transportation and other services to youths up to age 20. Items will be accepted beginning July 11. No electronics. Pickup by calling Outreach Program at 941-2828.

BELFAST — Belfast Garden Club’s Open Garden Days series: Tour the Jones garden, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, July 15, 58 Cobb Road. Rain or shine. \$5 at the garden or eight tickets, \$30, Left Bank Books in Belfast. BelfastGardenClub.org or Martha Laitin, 323-2368.

BELFAST — Cold Comfort Theater production of Beth Henley’s “Crimes of the Heart,” 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 15-16, Wales Park, corner of Main Street and Lincolnville Avenue. \$15, \$10, \$5 children 12 and under, at the door. Seating provided or bring your own.

Refreshments available. 930-7244 or coldcomfort-theater@gmail.com.

BLUE HILL — Ground-breaking ceremony for new Bagaduce Music Lending Library, 4 p.m. Thursday, July 14, 49 South St. Music and fun. 374-5454 or bagaduce-music.org.

BREWER — Bangor Singles Club dances, 8 p.m.-midnight Fridays, Brewer Eagles Club, 22 Atlantic Ave.: Allison Ames, July 15; Bushwhack, July 22; New Society, July 29. Marilyn, 827-5751.

CAMDEN — “Peyton Place” revival with selection of images and scenes from the movie as filmed in Camden in 1957, 7-8 p.m. Thursday, July 14, Camden Public Library. Library staff offering remarks about the popularity and impact the book first had, followed by modern-time film clips featuring the movie locations. Share memories about the filming.

DEER ISLE — “Imaging the Sea” exhibit featuring photographs taken by members of Deer Isle’s fishing community, through July 17, Kingman Gallery, 117 Center District Crossroad. Benefits Island Fishermen’s Wives Association. Gallery hours, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday. 348-9333.

EASTPORT — The Eastport Moonlight Movies, 8 p.m. Fridays, Sutherland Amphitheater, 80 Water St.: “Edward Scissorhands,” July 15; “The Second Best Marigold Hotel,” July 22; “Frozen,” July 30. 214-0040 or lolly@sweetiesd-owneast.com.

EDDINGTON — Barbecue chicken supper, 5 and 6 p.m. Saturday, July 15, Comins Hall, 1387 Main Road. Barbecue chicken, bean-hole beans, pasta salads, carrot salad, rolls and biscuits, pies and cakes. \$8, \$3 children. josh@cominshall.org.

ELLSWORTH — Summer Waterfront Concert series, 6 p.m. Fridays: Ellacapella, July 15, Union River Harbor Park. Free.

MACHIAS — Machias Bay Chamber of Commerce offers free outdoor movies, sunset every other Saturday, box car next to Station 1898, across from Helen’s Restaurant. “HOME,” July 16; “Mr. Peabody and Sherman,” July 30; “Pan,” Aug. 13; “Zootopia,” Aug. 27. 255-4402.

MILO — Milo Historical Society’s third annual art show, 1-5 p.m. Saturday, July 16, Three Rivers Kiwanis Building, outer Park Street. Featuring more than 30 artists exhibiting their work. Visit the new Harrigan Learning Center next door for murals, fossils, gems, oddities and a guided tour.

MONMOUTH — “Puss in Boots,” 1 p.m. Saturday, July 16 and 23, Theater at Monmouth. Ticket information, 933-9999, boxoffice@theateratmonmouth.org or theateratmonmouth.org.

PITTSFIELD — 44nd Central Maine Egg Festival, through Saturday, July 16. Theme is “Egg”stra-Terrestrial.” Activities include street dance, Egglympics, window painting, art show, craft fair, parade, Kiwanis Karnival with rides and booths, early bird breakfast, food all day, Experimental Aircraft Association Fly-in and fireworks. pittsfield.org or centralmaineegg-festival.org.

PORTLAND — Guided tour of Portland’s oldest burial ground, 11 a.m.-noon Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays, through Oct. 16. Tours led by trained volunteers. Tickets \$10, \$5 students and seniors, free to children under 12, available at the gate, 224 Congress St., at time of tour, or in advance, spiritsalive.org or eventbrite.com.

PORTLAND — Circus on the Point Cabaret, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 15-16, Circus Maine, 4 Thompson’s Point. Suitable for all ages. Advance tickets \$12 youth age 14 and under, \$14 adults; \$16 at the door. Doors open 6:30 p.m. 536-0768 or info@circusmaine.org .

PORTLAND — Women Make Movies, with special guest Ariel Dougherty, director and Women Make Movies co-founder, 2-3:30 p.m. Friday, July 15, Maine College of Art, 522 Congress St. Historic, narrative shorts from the 1970s, “Domestic Tranquility” and “Sweet Bananas,” will be screened followed by a question-and-answer session with Dougherty. \$10, \$7 MECA faculty, \$5 MECA students. Part of the Bluestocking Film Series. Tickets, bluestockingfilms.com/tickets/.

RANGELEY — Stephen A. Bean Municipal Airport hosting Fly In, Airshow and Static Display, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, July 16. Aerobatics in the sky, jet car, helicopter rides, antique auto show, live band, vendors of all kinds, food and fun for the whole family. 670-5419 or treasurer@rangeleyme.org.

ROCKLAND — Knox Museum presenting noted decorator Thomas Jayne, speaking on “Decoration, Ancient and Modern: Jayne Design Studio’s Contemporary Interior Decoration,” 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 14, Strand Theater, 345 Main St. Tickets \$26, \$21 Knox Museum members, at the door. 354-8062.

For a complete listing of calendar items or to submit your event, visit www.bangordailynews.com.

Delivering tales of how post office made America

HOW THE POST OFFICE CREATED AMERICA: A HISTORY, by Winifred Gallagher; Penguin Press (336 pages, \$28).

NEITHER SNOW NOR RAIN: A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE, by Devin Leonard; Grove Press (288 pages, \$26)

BY CHRIS FORAN
MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL (TNS)

Of the marvels French philosopher Alexis de Tocqueville found in his tour of 1830s America, the postal service had them all beat.

It was “the great link between minds,” he wrote, one that bound the fledgling nation together by getting information crucial to maintaining a democracy to the tiniest hamlets.

“It’s difficult to imagine the incredible rapidity with which thought circulates in the midst of these deserts,” the author of “Democracy in America” said, as quoted in “Neither Snow Nor Rain,” one of two new histories of the U.S. Postal Service.

Like Winifred Gallagher’s “How the Post Office Created America,” Devin Leonard’s “Neither Snow Nor Rain” sets out to chart the history and impact of the mail service in America. Both books map the post office growth and role in the nation’s growth — the latter, oftentimes on the back of the former. And both show how, over the years, delivering the mail shaped everything from national transportation systems (from roads to airlines) to our national character, even as economic and political forces put its future in question.

The way each author gets there is a little different. Gallagher spends much of her story focusing on the important role that the founding fathers gave to the post office. “The importance,” George Washington wrote, “of the post office and post roads ... is increased by their instrumentality in diffusing a knowledge of the laws and proceedings of the Government.”

One way the new American government did that, Gallagher notes, was by authorizing mail service

for the entire country, not just for people with money or those living in the largest cities. Roads were built — although, as de Tocqueville wrote, they started out more as ruts than roadways — and post offices established around the country, creating pockets of connectedness in a spread-out nation.

For many Americans, Gallagher writes, from after the Revolution through World War I, the post office was their main link to the federal government.

As the post office continued to grow, it continued to foster innovation, using the expanding rail system to hasten delivery; setting up savings banks at post offices to encourage thrift; expanding home delivery to remote rural areas; and helping bankroll the nation’s nascent aviation industry.

While Gallagher concentrates on the foundations of U.S. postal history, Leonard, in “Neither Snow Nor Rain,” takes a more anecdotal approach, giving his narrative more room to tell about some of the post office’s more recent, and more revealing, dramas.

Like when, in 1966, the post office in Chicago — at the time, the world’s largest mail-processing facility — was shut down, after internal labor strife, racial conflict, outdated equipment and a last-minute explosion of pre-ZIP code bulk mail ground operations to a halt. To make sure the mail got through, truckloads were sent to post offices in Milwaukee, Nashville and Kansas City to be sorted and shipped.

Particularly compelling is Leonard’s chapter on “going postal,” recounting the incidents — relatively few in number, but big in psychological impact — in which postal

workers took deadly aim at supervisors and co-workers in the workplace. More than just recounting the horrors, Leonard puts them in context — in a postal service where workers faced increasing pressure to do more with less while managers’ ability to deal with problem employees was limited by strong unions and a hiring system that disproportionately favored veterans, even those with service records showing a history of violence.

Both Gallagher and Leonard celebrate some of the post office’s most important innovators, including John Wanamaker, the Philadelphia department store magnate who under President Benjamin Harrison launched Rural Free Delivery but had many of his other innovations short-circuited by Congress.

And both authors agree that politics, fed by an intractable labor environment, did more to put what is now the U.S. Postal Ser-

vice on the ropes than email or the internet ever did.

In fact, both relate, USPS launched its own version of digital delivery — called E-COM — in 1982, years before AOL was telling us cheerfully that we had mail. Not surprisingly, political obstacles to funding, coupled with yowls from companies hoping to get into the

business itself, forced changes in the USPS plan that made the system harder to use and more expensive. The postal service pulled the plug in 1985.

While both Gallagher and Leonard wrap up with a “can the post office survive?” feint, Leonard’s more anecdotal storytelling approach — bracketed

by the tale of a guy from Queens, New York, who’s trying to visit every post office in the United States — feels more hopeful because it underscores how inexorably our national character is linked to the institution.

Besides, as Leonard points out, how else are we going to get all that stuff we order online?

Thursday prime time

MOVIES

	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
BROADCAST	2 NBC 207 Inside Ed.	Spartan-Team Challenge	Spartan-Team Challenge	Aquarius (N) (HD)	News				
	4 CBC The Nature of Things	Keeping Canada Alive	The National (N)	CBC	Coronation	Stampede			
	5 CBS Big Bang	Broke Girl	Big Bang Life in	Big Brother (N)	(9:59) Code Black	News			
	52 CW Family Guy	Family Guy	DC's Legends	Beauty and the Beast	News	Seinfeld	Cougar		
	6 NBC 207 Inside Ed.	Spartan-Team Challenge	Spartan-Team Challenge	Aquarius (N) (HD)	News				
	7 ABC Wheel	Jeopardy!	The President-People	Greatest Hits (N) (HD)	Match Game	News			
	WAGM FOX The Insider	Ent. Tonight	Bones (N) (HDTV PA)	Home Free (N) (HD)	News	Big Bang	Big Bang		
	8 ABC Wheel	Jeopardy!	The President-People	Greatest Hits (N) (HD)	Match Game	News			
	MPBN PBS PBS NewsHour (N) (HD)	Doctor Blake Mysteries	Death in Paradise	You Can Do	Together	C. Rose			
	9 IND Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Bosch (N)	News-Lisa	CTV News	Daily Show		
KIDS	13 CBS Ent. Tonight	The Insider	Big Bang	Life in	Big Brother (N)	(9:59) Code Black	News		
	22 FOX Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Bones (N) (HDTV PA)	Home Free (N) (HD)	FOX 22 News at 10 (N)	Mentalist			
	33 IND M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Happy Days	Gilligan Isle	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
	38 IND Big Bang	Big Bang	The Mentalist (HD)	The Mentalist (HD)	WBZ News (N) (HD)	Seinfeld			
	NICK Crashletes	Thunder	*** The Parent Trap (1998, Comedy)	Lindsay Lohan, Dennis Quaid. (PG)	Friends				
	DISN (:15) Adventures in Babysitting (2016, Comedy)	(NR)	Walk the	Bizaardvark	Liv-Mad.	Bunk'd	Stuck		
	FREE Guilt	Guilt					700 Club		
	HIST Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Alone: A Deeper Cut (N)	Alone (N)	Alone (N)	(:03) Alone			
	DISC Naked and Afraid	Naked and Afraid	Naked and Afraid Pop-Up	Naked and Afraid Pop-Up	Naked and Afraid	American			
	TLC My 600-Lb. Life	My 600-Lb. Life	My 600-Lb. Life	My 600-Lb. Life	Skin Tight: Transformed	Fabulous			
LEARN	A&E The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48 (N)	(:01) 60 Days In (N)	Escaping			
	ANPL North Woods Law	North Woods Law: Hunt	(:01) North Woods Law	(:02) Lone Star Law (N)	North-Law				
	CSNE SportsNite	Early	Game 365	On, Water	Felger	Cannons	Sports	SportsNet	Sports
	ESPN The 2016 ESPYs				30 for 30 (N)		SportsCenter (N) (L)		
	ESPN2 Pat Summitt: Celebration of Life (N)		NBA Summer League Basketball Teams TBA. (N)		NBA Summer Basketball				
	NBCSP Building 43		2016 Tour de France Stage 12. From Montpellier to Mont Ventoux.		Motorcross				
	NESN Minor League Baseball Charlotte Knights at Pawtucket Red Sox. (N) (L)				Sports	Sports	Sports		
	CNBC Jay Leno's Garage	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	American Greed (N)	Greed			
	CNN Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	CNN Tonight	Tonight			
	FNC Greta Van Susteren	The O'Reilly Factor (N)	The Kelly File (N)	Hannity (N)	O'Reilly				
NEWS	NBCNC Hardball Chris Matthews		Rachel Maddow Show		The Last Word	All In With			
	AMC (6:00) *** Ghostbusters (1984) (PG)	** Ghostbusters II (1989, Comedy) (ESP)	Bill Murray. (PG)	Ghostbust					
	BRV Housewives/NYC	Flipping Out	Flipping Out (N)	Below Deck	Happens				
	CMT Last Man	Last Man	Still King	** Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (2005) (PG-13)					
	COM Futurama	Futurama	Tosh.0	(:23) Tosh.0	Tosh.0	(:29) Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Daily Show
	EI! News (N)	The Kardashians	The Kardashians	Famously Single	E! News				
	FOOD Chopped	Chopped	Chopped (Part 2 of 5)	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby			
	FX *** The Avengers (2012, Action)	Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans. (PG-13)		Sex &	Sex &	Sex &			
	GAC Lakefront	Lakefront	Lakefront	Lakefront	Lakefront	Lakefront			
	HALL 9 Lives-C'mas	Merry Matrimony (2015)	Jessica Lowndes. (NR)	The Middle	The Middle	Golden Girls			
VARIETY	HGTV Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Vintage	Hunters Int'l	Hunters
	LIFE My Crazy Ex	My Crazy Ex	My Crazy Ex	My Crazy Ex (N)	I Love You... But I Lied	Crazy Ex			
	MTV Ridiculous. (4:5)	Ridiculousness	Ridiculous. (4:5)	Ridiculous. (4:5)	Ridiculous. (4:5)	Ridiculous. (4:5)	Ladylike		
	OXY Top Model	** Enough (2002, Suspense)	Jennifer Lopez. (PG-13)	(:10) ** Enough (2002) (PG-13)					
	SPIKE Lip Sync	Lip Sync	Lip Sync	Lip Sync	Lip Sync	Lip Sync	Lip Sync	Lip Sync	Lip Sync
	SYFY Resident Evil: Apocalypse	** The Lone Ranger (2013, Western)	Johnny Depp, Armie Hammer. (PG-13)	Wrong Turn					
	TBN Drive	Potters	Blessing	Joel Osteen	Prince	Hillsong TV	Praise the Lord		
	TBS Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Big Bang	Big Bang	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Conan (N)
	TCM How to Stuff a Wild Bikini	*** Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore (1974) (PG)	*** The Stepford Wives (1975) (PG)						
	TMCM (6:05) The Imitation Game	*** Snow Day (2000) Chris Elliott. (PG)	* Bratz (2007) Nathalia Ramos. (PG)	Pink Pnthr					
PREMIUM	TNT Castle	** Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby	Anchorman: Legend of Ron						
	TRAVEL Mysteries at the Museum	Mysteries at the Museum	Mysteries at the Museum	Mysteries at the Museum	Mysteries at the Museum	Mysteries at the Museum	Mysteries at the Museum	Mysteries at the Museum	Mysteries at the Museum
	TRU Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers
	TVL Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	George	George	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King
	USA Mod Fam	Mod Fam	WWE SmackDown! (N)	Queen of the South (N)	Mr. Robot				
	VH1 Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta	*** Friday (1995, Comedy)	Ice Cube, Nia Long. (R)	*** Friday (1995) Ice Cube. (R)					
	WGN-A Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
	HBO National Treas- Any Given sure	Wednesday	*** Black Mass (2015) Johnny Depp, Irish gangster Whitey Bulger helps the FBI in 1970s Boston. (R)	(:05) The Night Of A student is arrested for murder. (ESP Part 1 of 8)					
	MAX (:15) *** Ghost Town (2008) Ricky Gervais. A dentist sees spirits after having a near-death experience.	Outcast Kyle pressures Allison for a meeting.		** Proof of Life (2000, Suspense) (ESP) Meg Ryan, David Morse. (R)					
	SHOW Ray Donovan An intruder breaks in.	** The Gift (2000) Cate Blanchett. A psychic attempts to solve a murder case in the Deep South. (R)		Roadies A music blogger posts about the band (ESP)	Gigolos (ESP)				
STZENC	(:15) *** The Night Before (2015, Comedy) (ESP) Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Seth Rogen, Anthony Mackie. (R)	** Blade II (2002) (ESP) Wesley Snipes. A vampire against a new threat. (R)		*** Blue Streak (ESP)					
	(6:30) ** Fletch Lives	(:07) Spartacus: Gods of the Planet (1989) Chevy Chase. (PG)	Arena (ESP)	Power Ghost works to do the right thing. (ESP)	Survivor's Remorse	Survivor's Remorse	Survivor's Remorse	Survivor's Remorse	Survivor's Remorse



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