Town of Searsport sets tree lighting and holiday festivities and historic tours

At 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 4 the Town of Searsport will light its enormous Christmas tree on the Crescent, inaugurating the holiday season with a weekend of community celebrations. From 4 to 6 p.m. the Penobscot Marine Museum Sea Captain's house will be open to the public, with each room decorated for a Victorian Christmas. The Museum Store will host six Maine authors and illustrators including Hampden novelist Ardeana Hamlin, Stockton Springs author and illustrator Douglas Coffin, Mac Smith, Mark Scott Ricketts, Mark Warner, and Russ Cox. The red velvet dress designed by Edith Head for Rosemary Clooney in the 1954 movie "White Christmas," and Victorian and nautical-themed Christmas Gingerbread scenes will be on display in the store as well. Refreshments will be served, and admission is free.

Then, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5,

St. John's Episcopal **Church Homes for the** Holidays house tour set for Dec. 5

On Saturday Dec. 5, from noon to 4 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church invites the public to enjoy its annual Homes for the Holidays Christmas house tour. This year the tour will include five historic, beautifully decorated homes all located on the East Side of Bangor.

A pamphlet will be available that describes the historic and architecturally significant details of each house. Seasonal refreshments will be available at each site. The Bangor Area Children's Choir and the St. John's Episcopal Church choir will visit each

the Sea Captain's House, as part of the Searsport Historical Society House Tour, will host live music performances, with Ralph Stanley's fiddle group at 10 a.m. and the Pen Bay Signers at 2 p.m. At 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., Carver Memorial Library librarian Katie Hassler will read 19th century Christmas stories, and the First Congregational Church will be open for tours of this historic building with spectacular stained glass windows and refreshments will be served. All

events are free. The Searsport Historical Society House Tour is set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, including eight 19th century Searsport homes, beautifully decorated for the holiday season. Refreshments will be served at Searsport Historical Society's Coleman House. Tickets are \$10, and are for sale now at Searsport Antique Mall and on the day of the tour at Searsport Historical Society's Coleman House.

For a complete schedule or for more information go to penobscotmarinemuseum.org or call the visitors center at 548-0334 or 548-2529.

home to sing seasonal carols. Tickets are \$25 each and are available at Chapel Hill Floral, Rebecca's, Sprague's Nursery, and St. John's Episcopal Church Office. For more information, please call the church office at 947-0156.



UMaine student named Glamour Magazine's **Maine Hometown Hero**

Sara Disselkamp, a social work student at the University of Maine, was chosen by Glamour Magazine as Maine's 2015 Hometown Hero. The magazine named one woman from "brave" each state that is making a difference in their com munity.

Disselkamp, a Milli-nocket native, is the founder of Something to Snuggle, a nonprofit that provides blankets for children in the Maine foster care system. In the last year Disselkamp, an adoptee herself, partnered with Girl Scout troops, college groups, and individuals across the country to help grow the operation; so far it has donated almost 500 blankets, according to the article.

"Ever since I was old enough to understand what being adopted meant (and recognize) the unconditional love adoptive parents have given me, I knew part of my purpose on Earth was to pay that love forward," she said.

Castine chef, EMMC grad, named Eater Maine's Chef of the Year

Kara van Emmerik, chef de cuisine of Dudley's Refresher in Castine, has been named Maine's Chef of the Year in the 2015 Eater Awards. Eater is a food and nightlife blog of digital media company Vox Media Inc.

Van Emmerik is a 2014 graduate of Eastern Maine Community College's Culinary Arts program, commuting two hours each day for two years from Sedgwick to attend classes.

"Without missing a beat, Kara van Emmerik transitioned from unlikely Mexican-style gem El El Frijoles to the owners' new takeout spot on the waterfront, Dudley's Refresher," Maine Eater stated. "In the process she helped elevate a seasonal classic — the seaside snack shack — to new heights of scratch-made greatness.'

Van Emmerik served as longtime sous chef of El El Frijoles until 2015, when she took the helm at Dudley's Refresher, owned by Michele Levesque and Michael Rossney.

"It was worth it," Van Emmerik said, reflecting on her time at EMCC. "The Blue Hill Peninsula is so important to me, and I wanted to work while

going to school. I can't imagine spending that much time and effort on anything other than expanding my culinary career. I want to bring good food to Maine.

In the off season, Van Emmerik is the sous chef and assistant instructor for EMCC's culinary arts program.

Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony set for Dec. 7

A ceremony to remember those who served and those who died during the attacks on Pearl Harbor 74 years ago will be held at noon Monday, Dec. 7, in downtown Bangor, on the Willard Carlton Orr bridge.

The pedestrian bridge, which spans Kenduskeag Stream between Exchange and Broad streets, was named in honor of Orr.

More than 2,400 Americans died and nearly 1,180 were injured when Japanese fighters bombed and sank 12 naval vessels and heavily damaged nine others in the 1941 attack. The events of that day launched the United States into World War II.

This year's ceremony has been organized by a new committee after longtime organizer Paul Colburn stepped away from the task in 2014. Plans are underway for a more extensive event in 2016 to recognize the 75th anniversary of the attacks.

Bangor Historical Society holiday fun planned

This December, the Bangor Historical Society is opening the doors to the Thomas A. Hill House Museum for a special celebration of the holiday season. The Hill House will be decorated in grand style for open house style events on Saturdays, December 5, 12 and 19 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for tea, treats and a glimpse into holidays past.

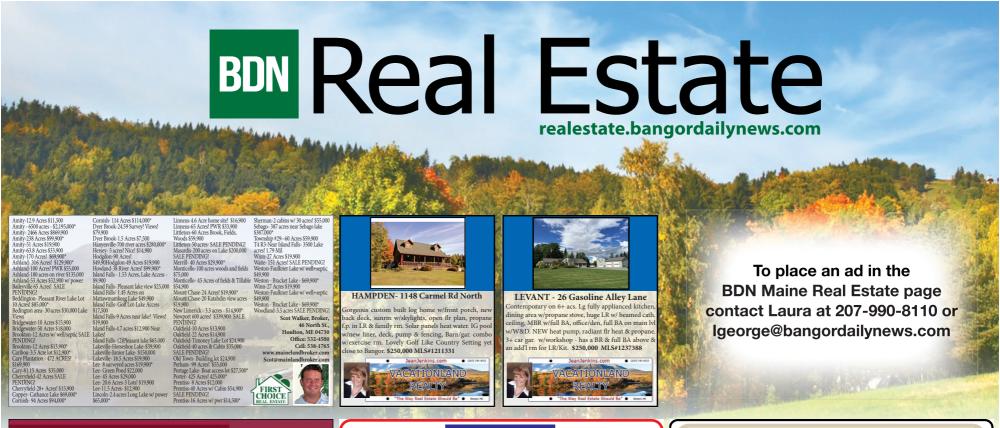
Holidays at Hill House admission is \$10 per person, \$5 for children 12 and under. All proceeds benefits the mission and programs of the Bangor Historical Society. Advance purchase tickets are recommended, and are available at bangorhistoricalsociety.org

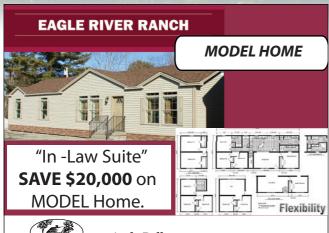
The Bangor Historical Society has been preserving the rich history of the Bangor Region since 1864. The BHS is based in the historic Thomas A. Hill House at on the corner of Union and High Streets in Bangor. It houses one of the nation's largest Civil War collections, a number of items from Bangor businesses and families as well as an extensive photo collection.





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