



# Acadia National Park Celebrates its Centennial

The 100th anniversary of the founding of Acadia National Park will officially be recognized on July 8, but throughout 2016, all who love Acadia will come together for a yearlong, community-based celebration.

Acadia National Park was first established as Sieur de Monts National Monument on July 8, 1916, by President Woodrow Wilson. But it was countless foresighted and stewardship-minded individuals at the turn of the 19th century that created the first eastern national park, recognizing its singular natural beauty and ecological value and the need to protect it in perpetuity.

At that time, the lands were owned by the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations, an organization with a Maine state charter to hold and protect property for the public benefit. George B. Dorr, now known as the “father of Acadia,” led the effort to gain federal protection for what is now Acadia National Park, worked tirelessly to secure additional tracts of land for the park, and served for 25 years as the park’s first superintendent. Also recognized

as park founders are Charles W. Eliot, the Harvard president who established the Trustees, and John D. Rockefeller Jr., who gave some 10,000 acres to Acadia and financed and directed the construction of the historic carriage roads, the Park Loop Road, and the

*Acadia’s centennial celebration embraces everyone, everywhere, who treasures this conserved landscape and feels or wishes to develop a bond with Acadia National Park.*

gatehouses and other iconic buildings. Equally important to the creation of Acadia National Park are countless individuals, some known and some lost to history, who constructed Acadia’s historic system of footpaths and hiking trails, who labored on the carriage roads, and who generously gave properties they had purchased or inherited so they might be protected and enjoyed by all for generations to come.

The first national park created entirely by private donations of land, Acadia National Park is closely intertwined with

the Maine coast communities that surround it and has always enjoyed strong support from private donors and volunteers who contribute their personal resources to improve and enhance it.

The celebration is the joint project of

hundreds of nonprofit organizations, businesses, and individuals — the Acadia Centennial Partners — each celebrating their own bond with Acadia through their own programs, projects, and products.

For complete event listings, the park’s history, limited centennial merchandise, and to plan your own trip to celebrate the park, visit [acadiacentennial2016.org](http://acadiacentennial2016.org).

MICKY BEDELL | BDN

Mairin York, 5, of Bangor cautiously wades into the chilly ocean waters of Lamoine Beach, on April 22.



*eat, drink & be messy.*

Enjoy the views at our working pier, and chow down on the freshest lobster you’ve ever had. Don’t worry, the napkins are on us!

Sit down or take out

**BealsLobster.com (207) 244-3202**

182 Clark Point Road • Southwest Harbor, ME

*In celebration of  
Acadia National Park’s  
Centennial...*

Reverse

Front



*Natural Maine Sea Glass  
featuring Mount Desert Island!*

**Handmade, hand signed/numbered limited edition pieces!**

*Celebrating 44 years at the  
jeweler’s bench and 12 years  
serving you in Ellsworth!*

**Striking Gold**  
JEWELERS, INC.

67 Pine Street, Ellsworth • 667-5855 • [strikinggoldjewelers.com](http://strikinggoldjewelers.com)