



MAY 2023

Mission Stories of Outer Islands
& Coastal Downeast Maine



Save the date

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023

Sunbeam awardees named for 2023

President John Zavodny has announced the two recipients for the Sunbeam Award in 2023: retired Director of Island Health Sharon Daley, RN, and the Mission's healthcare partners! This year's awardees were chosen for their unwavering commitment to providing exceptional care to island residents served by the Sunbeam.

Both awardees will be recognized at this year's Sunbeam Award Gala. The Gala is the Mission's annual opportunity to celebrate those who embody the ideals of the

community and whose work has made a lasting impact. The 2023 event will take place on Thursday, August 17 at the Bar Harbor Club...

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Register for the 2023 EdGE Tennis Tournament

The ball is in your court! Individuals and teams can now register to compete in the **19th EDGE Tennis Tournament** on Saturday, September 9 at the Northeast Harbor Tennis Club. The tournament benefits the Mission's EdGE program.

Composed of men's doubles and women's doubles playing at advanced and intermediate levels, eight-player teams compete throughout the day. The Tournament will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with breakfast and lunch provided...

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More play for Downeast children

Stop by any of the seven EdGE afterschool programs and one finds Downeast elementary students busily learning and playing. EdGE kids routinely engage in STEM, arts and crafts, and physical activities, and play is crucial to EdGE afterschool too.

An important part of a healthy and active childhood, structured and unstructured play fosters imagination, cognitive growth, emotional growth, literacy, independence, and physical fitness. Since its founding in 2002, the Mission's EdGE program has prioritized recreation to reinforce and complement classroom curricula...

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A month aboard the *Sunbeam*

In her first month at the Mission, Sunbeam nurse Simone Babineaux is getting her metaphorical sea legs. She has traveled to Great Cranberry Island, Islesford, Frenchboro, Isle au Haut, and Matinicus. Along the way she has met with community members, and learnt more about the islands and the people that call them home. As the nurse, she has made home visits, scheduled appointments, and coordinated care for those who need it.

While Simone has been working in healthcare for more than 25 years in far-flung regions on two different continents, her time as the Sunbeam nurse has been unique.

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Where do we get our food?

Every month, the Mission's food pantry welcomes hundreds of people through its doors and volunteers and staff make deliveries to seniors and others who cannot come to the pantry. In 2022, the Mission provided more than 200,000 pounds of food to people living in Washington County. But where does all that food come from? Around 90% of the food comes from Good Shepherd Food Bank Good Shepherd works with the national organization Feeding America to provide food to pantries, like the Mission's food pantry.

Though the food the Mission receives differs from week to week, Downeast Director Jenny Jones says. "The Mission tries hard to have the basics for households as much as we can: some fruit, veggies, milk, eggs, meat, and other protein sources. We also try to order the products from Good Shepherd that our customers like and request..."

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Get an EdGE on your summer plans

Kids in EdGE summer camps create art, explore science, learn skills, get their energy out playing games, make friends, and have fun. Registration is now open for students in kindergarten through eighth grade in Washington county for five, week-long camps running from Monday, June 26 until Friday, July 28.

This year's three summer camp locations are:

- D.W. Merritt Elementary for students who live in Addison, Beals, Columbia, Columbia Falls, Harrington, and Jonesport,
- Milbridge Elementary for students who live in Beddington, Cherryfield, Deblois, and Milbridge, and
- Rose M. Gaffney Elementary for students who attend Rose M. Gaffney...

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Rooted in a history of compassionate service and mutual trust, the Mission seeks to strengthen coastal and island communities by educating youth, supporting families, and promoting good health.

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