JULY 2023



Mission Stories of Outer Islands & Coastal Downeast Maine



Reserve your seat for the Sunbeam Award Gala

Join the Mission to honor Sharon Daley, R.N. and the Mission's Healthcare Partners during the *Sunbeam* Award Gala on Thursday, August 17 at the Bar Harbor Club. Reservations are available for both full tables and individual seats.

This year's *Sunbeam* awardees were chosen for their commitment to provide exceptional care to island residents served by the *Sunbeam*. "Sharon and our healthcare partners have created a unique and powerful network that has served the residents of Maine's outer islands for more than 20 years," says Mission President John Zavodny.

To make reservations, contact Development Operations Associate David Snyder by email or by phone at (207) 801-6010.





Sunbeam open houses welcome Coastal Maine communities in Falmouth and Boothbay Harbor regions

Step aboard the Maine Seacoast Mission's flagship vessel, the 74-foot *Sunbeam*, during two open houses in the Falmouth-Portland and Boothbay Harbor regions. Visitors can tour the boat and learn about the Mission's continued commitment to Maine's outer islands and the Downeast region. Both events are open to the public.

The first open house will be held Wednesday, July 26 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Portland Yacht Club in Falmouth. The second open house takes place Saturday, July 29 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Brown's Wharf in Boothbay Harbor.





Isle au Haut health fair offers resources for residents of unbridged islands

Join the Mission at the Isle au Haut Town Hall on Thursday, July 6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to chat with healthcare providers and social service organizations during a community health fair. Participating organizations work directly on Isle au Haut or provide services nearby, which allows island residents to continue to live and receive care.

Residents of Isle au Haut had expressed an interest to the Mission in finding out what locally available resources were available to them over the past year...





Sigma Kappa sisters lend the Mission a helping hand

In 1911, Sigma Kappa Sorority sisters at Colby College sent the Mission Christmas gifts to deliver to island children. Seven years later, the Sorority chose the Mission as one of the philanthropic organizations to lend their support. Now more than a century later, there are 119 Sigma Kappa chapters and the Sorority still actively supports the Mission through not only gifts but also through service.

During 2018, Sigma Kappa Foundation wanted to create an opportunity for sisters to participate in a concept already deeply embedded in the Sorority's values: service. A global pandemic later, this year marks the Sorority's inaugural immersion trip with Mission programming. Last year, when the Foundation announced a June 2023 trip, more than 100 sisters applied for 15 available spots. Each applicant had to explain why service is important to them as an individual and how they contribute to their community.

Flash forward to last week, when the Sigma Kappas from across the country made the trek to Cherryfield to spend time volunteering...





Register now for the EdGE Tennis Tournament

The ball is in your court! Teams and individual players 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 education 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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Mission selects Downeast high school seniors for Davis Maine Scholarship

Four high school students from Washington and Hancock Counties have been awarded the Davis Maine Scholarship from the Mission. Through a partnership with Andrew Davis and the Shelby Cullom Davis Charitable Fund, the Davis Maine Scholarship ensures first-generation, college-bound students living in the Downeast region of Maine can complete a four-year undergraduate degree without financial burden.

The Scholars receive consistent mentoring and support from Mission staff throughout their last year of high school and all four years of college as well as a fully funded, fouryear scholarship at one of three Davis Maine partner colleges...

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The Mission in the News

Here are a few of our favorite pieces!

- EdGE Primary Director Isaac Marnik shared how a bus driver shortage in Washington County is impacting after school programming for a story in *The Maine Monitor*.
- *News Center Maine* featured the Mission's food pantry in a story about how a reduction in SNAP benefits had resulted in an increase in pantry visits.
- A month later, *Bangor Daily News* interviewed Food Security Coordinator Megan Smith for a story about how Washington County food pantries were struggling to meet increased demand.
- Sigma Kappa Sorority published their history, highlighting the Mission's connection with the sisters starting in the early 1900s.
- *Maine Boats, Homes & Harbors* featured a story about retired Director of Island Health Sharon Daley, RN, and her work on *Sunbeam V.* (Page 40)
- *Mount Desert Islander* highlighted the release of the newest edition of *The Island Reader.*

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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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