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## WHAT NOT SHOP DID YOU KNOW?

Our What-Not-Shop Thrift Store receives local donations every day from our generous community!

Every purchase you make helps make a difference, because all proceeds, beyond basic operating costs, go directly toward supporting the needs and activities of individuals supported by Hope Association. These are services and opportunities not covered by insurance but essential for enhancing quality of life.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support from our community and beyond. Your donations and purchases truly help us create meaningful impact!

"COMING SOON!"

Watch for the expanded donation area. We are expanding to better serve you.



### Western Maine Stroke and Brain Injury Support Group

Co-hosted by : Debra Hanmer and Cynthia Dawson

The meetings are held at 4pm, on the first Tuesday of each month, at Hope Association  
85 Lincoln Avenue, Rumford, Maine  
Please use the front door.

These meetings are free and open to individuals with brain injury, caregivers, or anyone interested in learning more about brain injury.

For more information, please contact our Receptionist at (207) 364-4561 or by email [recp@hopeassociation.org](mailto:recp@hopeassociation.org)



## THE What Not Shop - Thrift Store

### STORE HOURS

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY: **CLOSED**  
Monday thru Friday 9 am—4p

### DONATION HOURS

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY: **CLOSED**  
Monday thru Friday 8 am—3 pm

While we greatly appreciate donations, if you're donating something that you would **NOT** purchase for your son/daughter, mom/dad or loved one that is stained, soiled, chipped, dented, or damaged, then it isn't something we can sell in our store. Please keep this in mind as you decide what to donate, and what to throw away. Our manpower and time is limited, and a lot of effort goes into making sure the items we sell are of good quality. Also, as a reminder, **WE DO NOT ACCEPT** car seats, weapons, or knives. You must call Vickie Morton at 507-2041 to ensure we can take any furniture, large appliances, televisions or for any large donations and to schedule an appointment to drop off large donations. Thank you so much for your support.



### MONTHLY SPECIAL



The first full week of the month we will have a "Fill A Basket" sale \$12 all clothes  
**(Excludes—Jackets, Winter Apparel and Holiday attire)**  
Watch our Facebook page for pop up sales and specials.



THE What Not Shop - Thrift Store

207-364-2139



Jessica Hines  
Executive Director



Community Support Services



Community Case Management Services



Nursing Home Outreach Services



Shared Living



Brain Injury and Other Related Conditions



Home Supports



Residential Programs:

Fourth Street Horizons  
New Hope  
Kimball Ave  
Keep House



Please Call 364-4561 to connect with any of these services

[www.hopeassociation.org](http://www.hopeassociation.org)

# HOPE CONNECTION MAY 2026

## Hope Association People In Our Neighborhood



Meet our new  
Human Resource Assistant

Gail Zeringue

Gail Zeringue joined Hope Association in January 2026 and has been a remarkable addition to our organization from day one. She arrives each morning with a friendly smile and a genuine "good morning," no matter the circumstances. Gail is highly self-driven, exceptionally knowledgeable, and quick to learn and take on new tasks. She keeps our team grounded with her well-known reminder to "stay in your lane."

Gail brings with her an extensive legal and administrative background, including experience as an Executive Assistant, Executive Secretary, Legal Secretary, Transition Department Assistant, Office Manager, and Administrative Assistant, among many other roles. Her diverse skill set is matched by her military service, which she often describes as part of what makes her "seasoned." Beyond her professional expertise, Gail is kind, caring, and deeply understanding, qualities that have made her an invaluable asset to the Human Resources Department. Her dedication and work ethic greatly contributed to the mission of Hope Association.

Outside of work, Gail enjoys raising chickens and spending quality time with her family. A true "Peruvian" at heart, she followed life's journey away from the area for a time but has since returned with a family of her own. Her family has long been a meaningful part of this community, and that legacy continues today.

Thank you, Gail, for choosing to be part of our organization and for making a real difference in the work we do. We are grateful to have you on our team.



Our Monthly Recognition:  
Thank you to:

Town of Carthage

We appreciate your support!

### VISION STATEMENT:

Hope Association envisions a world where all people are treated with respect.

### MISSION STATEMENT:

As partners in our community, we will provide leadership, residential, case management, vocational and community support services to individuals and their families through programs that enhance independence, dignity, choice and individual well being.

### Board of Directors

**President**  
Richard Philbrick  
**Vice President**  
Dick Lovejoy  
**Treasurer**  
Cindrie Cormier  
**Secretary**  
Amber Durant  
**Members**  
Ellen Wainwright  
Jeff Sterling  
Catherine Ross  
Lynn Dickson  
David Laurinaitis  
Jerry Bourget  
Vanessa Child

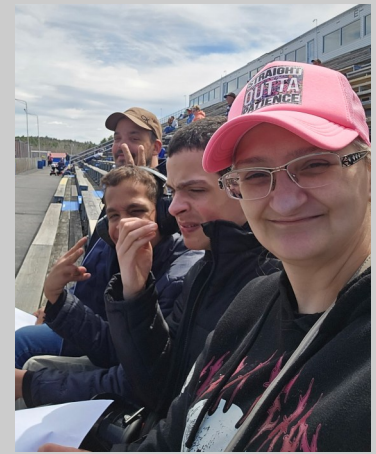
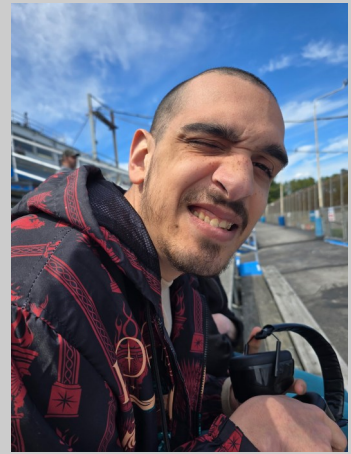
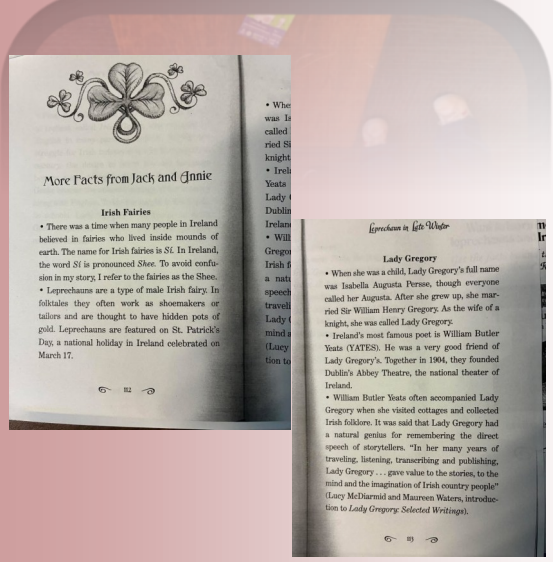


## Book Club Wrap-Up: From Page to Screen

This photo captures a special moment for the Friday Book Club, a small but dedicated group made up of Karen, Tanner, and Isaiah. The trio meet once a week to read, discuss, and reflect on their chosen book, diving deeply into the characters and the themes that shaped the story.

Throughout their meetings, each session featured short writeups highlighting key characters from the book. These reflections brought the story to life, allowing members to explore personalities, motivations, and meaningful moments that stood out during each chapter. Thoughtful conversations and shared insights made the weekly gatherings something everyone looked forward to.

Now, the group has officially completed their journey with this book. To celebrate, the Friday Book Club is taking the next step—from reading to watching—by viewing a movie set in Galloway, Ireland. The film focuses on Ireland's historic fairy mounds, ancient earthworks that many in Irish tradition believe are home to the fairies, or the “good folk.” These mystical sites are deeply rooted in Irish folklore and add a magical layer of history and imagination to the setting. As Karen, Tanner, and Isaiah transition from storytelling on the page to storytelling on the screen, their book club continues to be a place of learning, curiosity, and shared experience. This final gathering marks not an ending, but another memorable chapter in their ongoing love of stories, whether told through books or films.



## A Memorable First: Damian's Opening Day at Oxford Plains Speedway

Opening day at Oxford Plains Speedway is always an exciting event, but this year was an especially meaningful moment for Damian and his family. For the first time, Damian experienced the thrill of race day—an unforgettable milestone that brought joy, connection, and a sense of inclusion for everyone involved. Surrounded by the roar of engines and the energy of the crowd, Damian lit up with excitement as he took in the sights and sounds of the speedway. Sharing this experience with his family made the day even more special, creating lasting memories that will be cherished for years to come.

## Out in the Community

Beth and Jacob went to the Bryant Pond Telephone Company Sculpture, where they admired the unique artwork that celebrated the history of early communication in the region. They spent time reading the plaque and taking photos.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## JUNE 2026

- 6/2 @ 4pm Western Maine Brain Injury meeting.
- 6/18 Board of Directors meeting
- 6/5-6-7 Special Olympics States in Orono
- 6/19 Central Offices and Community Support Services will be closed for JUNETEENTH-WNS will be open

## Congratulations!

The following employees have added another year.

### May 2026

- Paul Cayer (19)
- Steven Hodgson (15)
- Sarah DeCourcy (9)
- John Ellis (7)
- Joy Pierce (2)
- Amanda Evans (2)

*Thank you for your dedication and hard work!!*

Jamie and Jimmy had the sweetest time at the Beacon House making their Mother's Day gift 🌸. Their hard work and creativity made it extra special and I'll treasure it always. Thank you, Beacon House, for helping them create such a meaningful surprise! 🌈

Sandee G. - DSP



On May 21, 2026 Thank you to Thibault Remembrance Center who presented a new flag to Hope Association. In photo: Richie -BOD President, Jessica- Executive Director, Catherine - BOD member, and David BOD member.