

Maine delegation points fingers over shutdown

Rep. Chellie Pingree is the only one to support Democrats’ demands in the government funding fight. Political observers say current dynamics on Capitol Hill complicate the path toward a quick resolution.

By RANDY BILLINGS
Staff Writer

PORTLAND — Republicans and Democrats shifted their attention Wednesday to the court of public opinion as they seek to cast blame for the federal government shutdown. Nonessential functions of the federal government shut down at midnight Tuesday after the U.S. Senate failed to reach an agreement on a stopgap funding bill before the end of the fiscal year.

■ **NATIONAL IMPACT:** With no end in sight for the shutdown, mass layoffs loom / **A3**
■ **TOURISM:** What to expect at Acadia National Park during the government shutdown / **A5**
Both parties believe the other will be blamed, making it unlikely that either will agree to concessions to end the shutdown anytime soon.
Rep. Chellie Pingree, D-1st District,

held a news conference Wednesday at the Portland International Jetport after returning from Washington, D.C. She said Republicans own the shutdown because they control the White House and Congress and have refused to negotiate.
“It is important for us to fight back,” Pingree said, adding that Democrats’ demands for health care are needed now to help working families.

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Rep. Chellie Pingree D-1st District, speaks Wednesday about the shutdown during an event at the Portland International Jetport. (GREGORY REC/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

▶ **HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED** by the shutdown? We want to hear from you. Visit us at **centralmaine.com**

TODAY'S ALMANAC

October 2, 2025

Today is the 275th day of 2025. There are 90 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Oct. 2, 1967, Thurgood Marshall joined the U.S. Supreme Court as its first Black justice; he would serve on the bench for 24 years until his retirement in 1991.

Also on this date:

In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson had a serious stroke at the White House that left him paralyzed on his left side.

In 1944, German troops crushed the 2-month-old Warsaw Uprising, during which a quarter of a million people were killed.

In 1970, one of two chartered twin-engine planes flying the Wichita State University football team to Utah crashed into a mountain near Silver Plume, Colorado, killing 31 of the 40 people on board.

In 2018, U.S.-based journalist Jamal Khashoggi, a critic of Saudi Arabia's government, was killed by Saudi Arabian officials at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Turkey.



Steve Pelletier practices his javelin throwing at the Scarborough High School softball field on Tuesday. At 74, he still competes in the javelin at national meets. “This is a hobby,” the Scarborough athlete says. “A very serious hobby.” (PHOTOS BY GREGORY REC/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

At 74, javelin enthusiast is still throwing strong

Scarborough athlete Steve Pelletier finds comfort in competition, and while he admits he’s slowed down a bit, his passion for the sport endures.

SCARBOROUGH — Steve Pelletier’s muscle memory is intact. Each time his right hand grips a javelin, his body knows exactly what it’s supposed to do. It has done it hundreds of thousands of times. Knowing what to do and doing it, oh, those are altogether different things. That right arm Pelletier used to be able to stretch back behind his body like a kinetic energy trigger doesn’t always cooperate. A rotator cuff injury and a little arthritis fight back. The body remembers but doesn’t react the way it used to. “We all go through it. I’m going through it,” Pelletier, 74, said between practice throws on Scarborough High’s softball field on a sunny, summer-like late September afternoon. Pelletier’s mind and will are just fine. The passion is something that hasn’t faded since he picked up a javelin for the first time as an Edward Little High senior in 1969. He was the runner-up in the



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event at the Class A championship meet that year, then went on to throw at the University of Maine. He threw the javelin competitively for 20 years, then retired from competition

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Northern Light Health, Anthem agree to keep negotiating

Gov. Janet Mills said in a statement Wednesday that she got involved to help resolve the impasse.

By JOE LAWLOR
Staff Writer

Northern Light Health and Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield agreed Wednesday to resume contract talks and keep the insurer’s patients from being out-of-network for some health care services.

The two sides said they will resume negotiations for a contract that determines how much Anthem pays for Northern Light’s services.

Under the previous contract, Northern Light would have been out-of-network for physicians, specialists and walk-in clinics starting on Wednesday, and for hospital services starting on Dec. 31. After Wednesday’s deal, the contract for non-hospital services has been extended and now ends Oct. 31.

The agreement allows “both parties to continue working toward a long-term agreement that prioritizes affordability, patient access and quality of care,” according to a joint statement from the insurance carrier and hospital network.

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WHAT’S NEXT?

ANTHEM HAS ABOUT 30,000 patients in the Northern Light Health network, which includes Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor and Mercy Hospital in Portland. Under most insurance plans, patients pay higher out-of-pocket costs if services are out-of-network. **AFTER WEDNESDAY’S DEAL**, the contract for non-hospital services has been extended and now ends Oct. 31.

Company behind problematic community college software program has filed for bankruptcy



Young people navigate the campus of Southern Maine Community College in South Portland this month. (BRIANNA SOUKUP/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

Staff across Maine’s system have criticized the rollout of a new student information tool from Anthology.

By RILEY BOARD
Staff Writer

The company behind the student software program that has been criticized by staff and students at Maine’s community colleges because of persistent delays and technical issues has filed for bankruptcy.

Florida-based Anthology filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy this week, claiming more than \$1 billion in debt.

The company recently had struggled with a decline in new bookings and higher-than-expected customer attrition, Bloomberg reported Tuesday.

The Maine Community College System chose Anthology in 2022 to be its new student information platform following a competitive bidding process.

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JANE GOODALL DIES AT 91

A revered conservationist, her work revolutionized the study of primates. Read her obituary, **A4**

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