

# Portland Press Herald

WEATHER:  
Partly  
cloudy  
High 61°  
Details, C8

\$3.25  
Thursday,  
May 21, 2026

pressherald.com



9 Maine art walks  
to stroll through  
this summer



## Step on it

These art walks will  
give you an eyeful  
**GO / B1-8**

## TODAY'S ALMANAC

May 21, 2026

Today is the 141st day of 2026. There are 224 days left in the year.

### Today in history:

On May 21, 1881, the American Red Cross was founded by nurse and educator Clara Barton in Washington, D.C.

### Also on this date:

In 1924, 14-year-old Bobby Franks was murdered in a "thrill killing" carried out by University of Chicago students Nathan Leopold Jr. and Richard Loeb (Bobby's distant cousin).

In 1927, Charles A. Lindbergh landed his Spirit of St. Louis monoplane near Paris, completing the first solo airplane flight across the Atlantic Ocean in 33½ hours.

In 1932, Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean as she landed in Northern Ireland, about 15 hours after leaving Newfoundland.

In 1955, Chuck Berry recorded his first single, "Maybellene," for Chess Records in Chicago.

**Today's Birthdays:** Baseball Hall of Fame manager Bobby Cox is 85. Singer Ronald Isley (The Isley Brothers) is 85. Singer Leo Sayer is 78. Actor Mr. T is 74. Actor Judge Reinhold is 69. Filmmaker Nick Cassavetes is 67. Actor Lisa Edelstein is 60. Comedian-TV presenter Noel Fielding is 53. Actor Fairuza Balk is 52. Actor Da'Vine Joy Randolph is 40. Country musician Cody Johnson is 39. Actor Hannah Einbinder is 31. NFL quarterback Josh Allen is 30.

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PPH DAILY



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# DHHS upholds its suspension of Medicaid payments to Gateway Community Services

The state has concluded that there are 'credible allegations of fraud' against the Portland-based agency, which provides services for people with disabilities.

By **JOE LAWLOR**  
Staff Writer

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services recently upheld its decision to suspend Medicaid payments to a Portland-based service provider that is facing fraud allegations.

DHHS suspended the pay-

ments to Gateway Community Services, which provides Medicaid services for people with disabilities, in December after it was accused of falsifying billing records. The state conducted an informal review of the suspension at Gateway's request, the first step in an ad-

ministrative appeal process.

In a May 12 letter to Gateway attorney Maureen Sturtevant, of Drummond Woodsum, DHHS upheld the payment suspension, saying evidence supported that there was a "credible allegation of fraud."

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**MAINE, LIKE MINNESOTA**, has been in the crosshairs of the Trump administration for Medicaid fraud investigations that top administration officials have highlighted as occurring in Somali communities. Both states were targeted for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement crackdowns this winter. Gateway has ties to the Somali community, and was founded by Abdullahi Ali, a Somali American.

## THE BEACH BOYS



Bates College sophomore Xander Theodos, left, and his twin brother, Austin Theodos, play Spikeball on the beach at Range Pond State Park in Poland on Wednesday. Austin, a student at the University of Colorado Boulder, is visiting his brother after finishing up his sophomore year. Temperatures will drop back down to seasonal levels Thursday after two days in the 90s. (DARYN SLOVER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

# Barney Frank, gay rights pioneer, dies at home in Maine

The longtime Democratic congressman from Massachusetts had moved with his husband to Ogunquit, where he entered hospice care last month.

By **BILLY KOBIN**  
Staff Writer

Barney Frank, the longtime Democratic lawmaker who was the first member of Congress to publicly and voluntarily come out as gay, died Tuesday at his home in Maine.

Frank, who represented the Boston suburbs in Congress for 32 years and

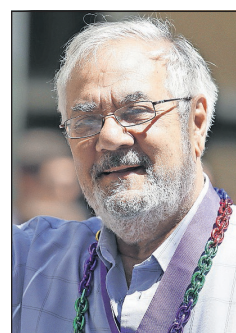
crafted the most significant reforms to the American financial system in a generation, had entered hospice care at his home in Ogunquit last month as he dealt with congestive heart failure.

The news of Frank's death came via The Associated Press, which cited Jim Segel, Frank's former

campaign manager and close friend. He was 86 and is survived by his husband, Jim Ready, and sister, the longtime Democratic strategist Ann Lewis.

Frank publicly came out as gay in 1987, the first member of Congress to do so voluntarily. (Others had

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Former Bay State Rep. Barney Frank was 86.

# City works on stadium deal to integrate women's soccer team

The Portland Hearts of Pine plan to launch a pre-professional women's team that would play in the USL W League next season.

By **ANDREW RICE**  
Staff Writer

A Portland Hearts of Pine women's team is inching closer to reality as city officials consider amending an agreement to expand its use of Fitzpatrick Stadium.

The Hearts of Pine would choose 33 dates to host games at the stadium — 25 for the men's team, and

eight for a new women's team that would play in the USL W League in 2027, according to a draft of the updated agreement.

The proposal states the organization would pay market rate for the additional games and practice times, which city staff said can be accommodated "without adversely affecting other customers."

The men's team, which had its debut season in 2025, does not pay rental

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# A family restaurant, years of service led to run for Congress



Joe Baldacci, a 2nd District candidate from Bangor, addresses the Maine Democratic Convention on May 2 in Portland. (SHAWN PATRICK OUELLETTE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

Sen. Joe Baldacci, D-Bangor, is pitching himself as a fighter in the 2nd District against both former Gov. Paul LePage and President Donald Trump.

By **BILLY KOBIN**  
Staff Writer

**BANGOR** — He's the grandson of immigrants, the brother of a former governor and the youngest child in a family that fed countless patrons at its namesake restaurant.

If you know Maine politics, if you're from Bangor, or both, you know the Baldacci name.

But in a midterm election year with high-profile races featuring several candidates from politically connected families, Joe Baldacci hopes his record in the city of Bangor and the Maine Legislature will matter more to voters in the 2nd Congress-

## Maine Matters 2026

■ **2ND DISTRICT DEMOCRATS** team up on Baldacci over PAC money / **C3**

sional District than any preconceptions they have of his family.

His brother, John, was governor. Like him, he's a Democrat. But Baldacci, now a state senator, believes he's the right fit for the conservative-leaning 2nd Congressional District as someone who has not been

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# DO THIS

Experience everything Maine has to offer.

This weekly newsletter features adventure, entertainment, and fun for each day of the week.

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