

[SUSAN]

WE'VE ENTERED THE HEART OF APPLE PICKING SEASON AT ORCHARDS ACROSS MAINE.

JOHNNY MAFFEI TAKES US TO SWEETSER'S IN CUMBERLAND TO FIND OUT WHY THIS YEAR'S HARVEST IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

[PKG]

[TIME CUE:// 1:10]

[SUPER: APPLE CROPS SEE A BOOST / STATEWIDE/

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[NAT OF APPLE BITE 7 GENERATIONS OF SWEETSERS HAVE BEEN RUNNING THIS ORCHARD FOR 211 YEARS IN CUMBERLAND NAT? BUT THIS SEASON... YOU NEED TO BE READY TO TAKE A BIGGER BITE]

[GREG WHY ARE THESE APPLES SO BIG THIS YEAR? WE'RE JUST GROWING APPLES BIGGER THAN PUMPKINS THIS YEAR]

[WE HAD A FREEZE ON MAY 19TH, KNOCKED SOME OF THE APPLES OFF THE TREE, SO THE APPLES THAT WERE LEFT, THE energy ALL WENT INTO THE FEWER APPLE ON THE TREE SO DEFINETLY AN INTERESTING BYPRODUCT OF THAT COLD NIGHT IN MAY.]

[THE STAFF CALLS THEM HULK APPLES. THE RAIN EARLIER IN THE SUMMER IMPACTED IRRIGATION TOO... THE SYSTEM WAS ONLY NEEDED IN MAY. TESTED IT, RAN IT FOR 2 DAYS, SHUT IT OFF, AND HAVENT RAN IT ALL SUMMER WHCIH IS SUPER UNUSUAL. THE 70 DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF APPLES DIDN'T MIND THE WET WEATHER.]

[YOU ALSO HAVE SOME OTHER TREATS AND STUFF TOO RIGHT? ONE OF OUR MOST POPULAR TREATS IS CIDER DONUTS. EVERY ORCHARD IS TALKING ABOUT DONUTS. I HAD DESSERT FIRST THIS MORNING ((SOT)) 06:39:48 WE'RE GONNA GET A GOOD CRUNCH OUT OF THAT I'LL TAKE ALL OF THESE. AND I'LL TAKE ALL OF THESE. THE APPLES LIKED THE RAIN ACROSS MAINE DURING GROWING SEASON ... WHICH MEANS NOW IS THE PRIME TIME TO HIT AN ORCHARD NEAR YOU.]

[SUSAN]

8 MILLION DOLLARS IS HEADED TO MAINE PRESCHOOLS SERVING LOW INCOME FAMILIES....

SENATORS SUSAN COLLINS AND ANGUS KING MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT THURSDAY.

THE MONEY IS COMING FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

IT WILL ALLOW THE STATE OF MAINE TO EXPAND ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY PRESCHOOL FOR CHILDREN FROM LOW INCOME FAMILIES.

[GFX]

IN A JOINT STATEMENT THE SENATORS SAID QUOTE " EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IS AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN.

THIS FUNDING WILL EXPAND ACCESS TO PRE-K AND HELP BUILD AN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR MAINE CHILDREN THAT WILL BENEFIT THEM FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES."

[DAVID]

AN ORGANIZATION KNOWN FOR HELPING THE HOMELESS IN BANGOR HAS FOUND ITSELF IN FINANCIAL TROUBLE AND IS NOW ASKING FOR SOME HELP TO KEEP THEIR PROGRAMS RUNNING.

OUR MATTHEW JARONCYK HAS THE STORY.

[PKG]

[TIME CUE:// 1:26]

[PENOBSCOT COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE IS LOOKING FOR A PARTNER TO HELP RUN THE OPERATIONS OF THE HOPE HOUSE EMERGENCY SHELTER.]

[SUPER: LORI DWYER / PRESIDENT & CEO, P.C.H.C.]

["IT'S BECOME VERY APPARENT TO THE ORGANIZATION THAT THIS IS NOT A SERVICE LINE WE CAN CONTINUE TO OPERATE SAFELY AND EFFICIENTLY."]

[THE ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN RUNNING THE SHELTER FOR NEARLY 13 YEARS SINCE TAKING IT OVER FROM ACADIA HOSPITAL IN 2011.]

[DWYER SAYS THE FUNDING TO KEEP THIS SHELTER OPERATING HAS SIMPLY NOT BEEN ATTAINABLE.]

[SUPER: LORI DWYER / PRESIDENT & CEO, P.C.H.C.]

["OVER THE PAST DECADE, IT'S BEEN A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR LOSS. OVER THE PAST THREE TO FIVE YEARS, THE LOSSES HAVE ACCELERATED. THIS YEAR WE'RE LOOKING AT APPROXIMATELY OVER \$600K LOSS THAT WE'RE PROJECTING BY YEAR END. NEXT YEAR WE'RE LOOKING AT ABOUT A \$800K LOSS LOSS IN THE SHELTER."]

[DWYER SAYS P.C.H.C. IS ACTIVELY TALKING TO POTENTIAL PARTERS, BUT SAYS WHOEVER COMES ON BOARD WILL NEED TO COME PREPARED.]

[SUPER: LORI DWYER / PRESIDENT & CEO, P.C.H.C.]

["PARTNERSHIP AND FUNDING ARE GOING TO HAVE GO HAND-IN-HAND. IT'S GOING TO BE HARD FOR SOMEONE TO ASSUME OWNERSHIP OF THE SHELTER AND JUST TAKE ON THE LOSES AS WELL. IT'S REALLY A TWO-PRONGED EFFORT."]

[THE ONCOMING PARTNER WOULD NEED TO DEAL WITH THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS OF THE HOPE HOUSE. P.C.H.C. WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE THE HOPE HOUSE CLINIC AND THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ON THE PROPERTY.]

[SUPER: MATTHEW JARONCYK //]

[WITH A NEED THIS GREAT, DWYER SAYS THE SOONER THEY CAN GET THE HELP, THE BETTER... MATTHEW JARONCYK, ABC 7 AND FOX 22 NEWS."]

[SUSAN]

MAINE'S OUTDOOR RECREATION INDUSTRY ACCOUNTS FOR 3 POINT 3 BILLION DOLLARS OF MAINE'S ECONOMY, OR NEARLY FOUR PERCENT OF THE STATE'S GDP, WHICH IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGES IN THE COUNTRY. OVER 100 MAINE BUSINESSES MADE THEIR WAY TO THE SAMOSET RESORT IN ROCKPORT TO NETWORK, AND SHARE INSIGHTS INTO EVERYTHING MAINE'S GREAT OUTDOORS HAS TO OFFER. OUR DOUG BANKS HAS THE STORY.

[PKG]

[TIME CUE:// 1:30]

[SUPER: 2ND ANNUAL MAINE OUTDOOR ECONOMY SUMMIT / ROCKPORT /]

[*NATS* DAY TWO OF A THREE DAY SUMMIT BROUGHT TOGETHER PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT BUSINESSES AND BACKGROUNDS, WITH A COLLECTIVE VISION IN MIND.]

["TO CONNECT WITH ONE ANOTHER, FOR PEOPLE TO MEET ONE ANOTHER AND SHARE IDEAS."]

[BREAKOUT PRESENTATIONS FEATURED TOPICS LIKE -- HOW INTELLIGENT IS AI, FROM RETAIL TO RESCUE, INCLUSIVE RECREATION IN MAINE, EMBRACING RECREATION BASED ECONOMIES.]

[SUPER: KRISTINA CANNON / PRESIDENT & CEO, MAINE STREET SKOWHEGAN /]

["WE ARE LEADING PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR THE SKOWHEGAN RIVER PARK. I THINK MAINE HAS THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME AN OUTDOOR RECREATION DESTINATION AND OUR RURAL COMMUNITIES ARE REALLY GOING TO BENEFIT FROM THAT."]
[THE SUMMIT GIVES PEOPLE WITHIN MAINE'S GROWING OUTDOOR RECREATION ECONOMY A CHANCE TO SHARE THEIR UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES.]

[SUPER: GARRETT VANATTA / DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, JOHNSON OUTDOORS, WATERCRAFT & CAMPING /]

["IT'S GOOD TO HEAR HOW PEOPLE ARE WORKING THROUGH TODAY'S ECONOMY AND ACROSS THOSE BROAD GROUPS."]
[FOR LIFE-FLIGHT, MAKING THOSE CONNECTIONS MEANS A SAFER MAINE FOR ALL..]

[SUPER: KATE O'HALLORAN / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LIFEFLIGHT FOUNDATION /]

["TO MAKE SURE MORE PEOPLE WHO COME TO MAINE UNDERSTAND WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE OUTSIDE IN MAINE. THE BEST RESCUE THAT HAPPENS IS THE ONE THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN."]
[ALTHOUGH THE DOORS WILL CLOSE ON THIS YEAR'S SUMMIT, MAINE'S OUTDOOR ECONOMY HAS NO SIGNS OF CLOSING ITS DOORS ANYTIME SOON.]

[SUPER: JENNY KORDICK / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MAINE OUTDOOR BRANDS /]

["PEOPLE THINK ABOUT COLORADO AND UTAH AND SOME OF THESE WESTERN STATES AS BEING OUTDOOR STATES BUT WE HAVE A HUGE

INDUSTRY HERE IN THE STATE OF MAINE AND IT'S SOMETHING TO BE REALLY
PROUD OF AND SOMETHING TO BE INVESTING IN FURTHER."]
[IN ROCKPORT DOUG BANKS ABC7 AND FOX22 NEWS]

[BETH]

A NEWLY FORMED MAINE PROGRAM TO HELP END HOMELESSNESS IS ALMOST READY FOR IT'S FIRST STEPS.

[VO]

'HOUSING FIRST' WAS ESTABLISHED BY GOVERNOR JANET MILLS IN THE 2023 BIENNIAL BUDGET IN JULY.

ADVOCATES SAY THE MODEL WILL FUND HOUSING FOR CHRONICALLY HOMELESS WITHOUT CERTAIN LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY LOW BARRIER SHELTERS... AND IS A CRUCIAL FIRST STEP TOWARD HELPING UNHOUSED PEOPLE GAIN STABILITY IN THEIR LIVES.

THE BUDGET SETS ASIDE BETWEEN \$7 MILLION AND \$8 MILLION IN FUNDING EACH YEAR FROM HALF OF THE STATE'S REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX REVENUES.

HOUSING FIRST PROPERTIES WOULD HAVE ON-SITE SOCIAL SERVICE WORKERS DEDICATED TO RESIDENTS.

HOUSING FIRST HAS AN INITIAL TIME LINE OF JANUARY 2024 TO HIRE IT'S FIRST STAFF WHICH WILL INCLUDE AN ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING.

THE SECOND POSITION WILL HELP WITH CONTRACTING AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE SURROUNDING FUNDING.

[SOT]

[TIME CUE:// 0:40]

[" THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING WILL HAVE DIRECT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR. THE HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM. ALONG WITH STAFF THAT ARE IN THE OFFICES THAT CURRENTLY EXIST IN THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. ALONG WITH THE ADDITIONAL STAFF PERSON THAT WAS PROVIDED THROUGH THIS LEGISLATION. SO IT WILL. IT WILL OVERSEE HOUSING FIRST AND ALSO SHELTER PLUS CARE. THE CONTINUUM OF CARE. GRANT THAT IS THROUGH THAT COMES THROUGH THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. AND IT WILL ALSO HAVE UNDER ITS WHEELHOUSE THE BRIDGING RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. OR BRAP"]

[VO]

HOUSING FIRST IS NOT EXPECTED TO BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED UNTIL 2025.