🍂 *Mid-October 2026 Community Newsletter*

Bringing our community together through outdoor fun, the arts, and food!

🤝 Join Us This Month

Next Collaborative Meeting
📅 Wednesday, October 28
⏰ 6:00 PM
📍 Coworking Space behind Town Hall
💻 Join virtually!

Do you appreciate the newsletter? Have you enjoyed the New Year's Day Celebrations? Know someone who has participated in the annual Business Expo and perhaps received a grant to further their business? The Monson Collaborative has worked to bring these to Monson.

But…we need more community involvement to continue. In short – we need help! We're currently looking for a new **Chair** and new **Secretary** to help support the Collaborative. If you're organized, community-minded, and up for a meaningful role in keeping things running smoothly, we'd love to hear from you.

To learn more, please join us at our next meeting. Can't make the meeting? Please email **monsoncollaborative@gmail.com**

🏙️ About the Monson Collaborative

Our Mission
To bring the Monson community together by collaborating with local businesses and organizations in support of outdoor recreation, the arts, and food tourism.

Our Vision
Monson is at the frontier of the North Woods, known for its natural beauty, outdoor recreation, food, and arts. We promote a welcoming, family-friendly community that nurtures cultural heritage while preserving small-town charm.

Who We Are
An umbrella organization including representatives from town government, local businesses, and committees— encouraging residents to stay engaged and connected.

📧 Stay Connected

Got an event or business update?
📝 Share your event here.
📬 Or email: **monsoncollaborative@gmail.com**

🌟 Monthly Local Business Highlight

With the Grain 🪵

📍 29 North Guilford Road, Monson

⏰ When the Open flag is up (most days 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM).

Ed Hoovler's beautiful bowls are in great demand. He enjoys having visitors stop by to see how the bowls are made and to chat.

📞(907) 997-3687

📅 October Happenings

🎨 Collaborative Painting

📅 **Wednesday, October 21**
⏰ **5:00–7:00 PM**
📍 **Moore Studio Building - 3 Tenney Hill Road**

Community members are welcome to work with Joe on his current painting. A seasoned teacher and enthusiastic promoter of creativity at any level, Joe encourages collaborative work as way to connect and remove the fear of the blank canvas! All ages and abilities welcome for an informal evening of shared expression with a renowned narrative artist.

Joe will also share insights on his creative process and recent gallery show in Venice. "Joe Diggs in Venice", explores the theme of the 61st Venice Biennale, "In Minor Keys". Long known

for his figurative paintings about his family and African-American community, Joe Diggs now delves into visual abstractions that merge into a spiritual memory of traditional woven surfaces. He is represented by Berta Walker gallery on Cape Cod.

https://www.facebook.com/share/1GUGycTSNc/

📚 Celebrating Nonsense in Kid's Books

📅 **Thursday, October 22**
⏰ **4:00–5:00 PM**
📍 **Monson Public Library - 35 Greenville Road**

Illustration Institute in Monson

Scott Nash: Celebrating Nonsense in Kids' Books

Executive Director of the Illustration Institute, renowned illustrator of kid favorites Saturday Night at the Dinosaur Stomp, Flat Stanley and author/illustrator of The High Skies Adventures of Blue Jay the Pirate and designer of Nickelodeon and Cartoon Network logos will share his unique perspective on the creative process.

All ages welcome!

https://www.facebook.com/share/1Je7K9566j/

👨‍🎨 Artist Meet and Greet!

📍 **Turning Page Farm - 842 North Guilford Rd**
🗓️ **October 30**
⏰ **4:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

Welcome our final group of artists to town at Turning Page Farm. Appetizers will be provided! Enjoying good conversation at one of our finest establishments.

https://www.facebook.com/share/1HDHDZ7xeZ/

🧠🍺 Trivia Time!

Date & time change for fall!
🗓️ **Saturday, October 31 | ⏰ 2-4 PM**
📍 **Turning Page Farm - 842 North Guilford Rd**

Bring your brainpower (or just your sense of humor). Costumes are encouraged! Come solo or with a team—either way, it's guaranteed fun.

🎶 Open Mic Night
🗓️ **Thursdays | ⏰ 5:00–8:00 PM**
📍 **Lakeshore House - 9 Tenney Hill Rd**

Come participate or just listen!

📣 Business Announcements

📌 Bulletin Board Advertising (Free!)
In conjunction with the Business Map, we're refreshing the bulletin board.
Submit a 4" x 6" ad to be posted in the outdoor case by the post office—prime summer reading real estate. Refresh happening now!

📧 Send digital versions to Chantal: cefharris@gmail.com

🌲 Outdoor Recreation

October is still a great time to get outside in Monson. The days are getting cooler and evening arrives sooner, but it's still pleasant most days.

Take advantage of the changing season with a walk, a hike, a paddle, or simply an evening stroll around town. It's the perfect time to slow down, enjoy the North Woods, and watch summer gradually give way to fall.

And don't forget those after-school walks! 🍂

🏘️ Community Corner

🙌 Get Involved

Interested in getting more involved? Join one of our local volunteer committees:

Beautification Committee

📧 sandranhus@gmail.com

Library Board

📧 monsonmelibrary@gmail.com

Rec Committee

📧 daina.markella@gmail.com
📧 emilyeer@gmail.com

Monson Collaborative

📧 monsoncollaborative@gmail.com

Having trouble connecting? Reach out—we'll point you in the right direction.

🌲 Wood Bank (Coming Soon!)

We're starting a Monson Wood Bank and could use a few extra hands! Fully volunteer-run—cutting and splitting wood for those in need. Serving Monson, Blanchard, and surrounding communities.

👉 **Volunteers needed!** Reach out to get involved and help keep neighbors warm. Contact John Wentworth at: johnewentworth@gmail.com

---

🛌 Places to Stay

Hosting friends or family? Check out:

🏡 Lakeshore House
https://thelakeshorehouse.com/lodging-rates/

🏡 Next Chapter Cabins
https://www.nextchaptercabins.com/

🏡A Very Pleasant Oasis
Pleasant House

🏡Shaw's Hiker Hostel
http://www.shawshikerhostel.com/

Want your place to stay listed? Reach out to monsoncollaborative@gmail.com

---

🏛️ Local Government

Election

🗓️ Tuesday, November 3
⏰ 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
📍 Monson Gym

Selectboard Meeting

🗓️ Thursday, November 12
⏰ 6:00 PM
📍 Coworking Space
Selectboard Minutes:
https://www.monsonmaine.org/select-board-meeting-minutes

Town Office Closed

🗓️ Tuesday, November 10 for Veterans Day
🗓️ Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27 for Thanksgiving

📖 Book Club

📚 *Theo of Golden* by Alan Levi
🗓️ October 22 (4th Thursday of the month)
⏰ **4:00 PM**
📍 Monson Public Library
Come join us for a thoughtful, relaxed discussion — all readers welcome, even if you didn't quite finish the book!

View more about Book Club here

🏞️ Rep Monson!

Show your local pride!
🧥 Sweatshirts – $30
👕 T-shirts – $20
📍 Town Office / Historical Society
10 Tenney Hill Road, Monson ME

Office Hours:
Tue 8–4 | Thu 8–6 | Fri 7:30–3:30

🏗️ Help Raise the Roof!

We're almost there with the drive to raise funds to replace the town gym roof and work is starting. Over $193,000 has been raised – very close to the $200,000 needed. Every contribution helps close the gap to keep this space alive for future generations.

Learn more or contribute here: https://www.monsonmaine.org/gym-roof-fundraiser

---

🗓️✨ SAVE THE DATE

Fall is just getting started, and there are already some fun things on the horizon!

🥫Annual Monson Food Drive

📍 **Monson Town Office**
10 Tenney Hill Road, Monson ME
Office Hours:
Tue 8–4 | Thu 8–6 | Fri 7:30–3:30

🗓️ November 3-13

Drop off non-perishable items at the Monson Town Office. All donations (cash is welcome) go to support local food banks.

🐐 Mexican Dinner/Gym Roof Fundraiser

📍 **Monson Gym**
🗓️ **Friday, November 13**
🕘 **5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Friday Nov. 13th Simi will be making a Mexican dinner, Barbocoa Taco's with beans and rice, Pico de Gallo & chips with dessert and beverages included. $20 tickets available for purchase at the General Store and also at the door The dinner will be at the Monson Community Gym.

🐐Rabies Clinic

📍 **Monson Gym**
🗓️ **Sat, November 14**
🕛 **12:00 PM - 1:00 PM**

Dogs $20, Cats $40 for 1 year, $100 for 3 years

🎅 **Kris Kringle Market**

📍 **Monson Gym**
🗓️ **Sat, December 5th**
🕛 **9:00 AM -3:00 PM**

Crafts, music & more. Contact Annalee Libby libby04406@gmail.com to reserve space or for more information.

🔄 Monthly & Weekly Ongoing Events

Find the full calendar here:
👉 monsonmaine.org/event

🍁 Until Next Month…

October and its colors are with us now, but only for a little while. Enjoy the season while it's here!

There's plenty happening in town. We hope you'll get out, get involved, and enjoy fall.

Before you know it, we'll be talking turkey and all the fixings!

🍎🍂

See you around town,
The Monson Collaborative