



# The Buzz

A Medium of Community

Issue 129, September 13, 2019, Rockland, Maine



On cable channel 1301,  
MaineCoast.tv & Roku.

*The Old School*  
Inc. 2012

## The Dance

by McCabe Coolidge

This white one story hall sits at a stone's throw from the curving, running Pemaquid River. Turn at Hannafords off of U.S. 1 in Waldoboro and take the next right, there you are at the Waldoboro VFW. We could hear the music as we walked across the road from the parking lot. Backlash, a four man band, were creating quite a stir playing some loud rock and roll.

Waldoboro Days, BYOB. VFW Hall. Karen and I had sold pottery at the Waldoboro Farmers Market earlier that day and were curious about how the folks at Waldoboro celebrated at night. As we walked in the door, I was asked to dance by a woman who reminded me of my daughter Molly, who likes to dance and it doesn't matter who she is dancing with. I handed Karen our brown paper sack containing a bottle of red wine.

There were 20 folding tables on the outskirts of the hall, ice chests everywhere and chips seemed to be the food of choice. The band stopped quickly and as I turned to thank my partner for the dance she had already left and so I sat with Karen and we sipped some wine, wishing we had brought some Fritos.

After a long break when members of the band, all male, strolled outside with their girlfriends and wives then returned smoking and energized, the singer and leader of the band announced: "We have just received a special request from the town manager and you know we seldom play a slow one, so this is for you Julie, here it is!"

"Yeah, Yeah, Yeah,!" "Oh my god!" Julie is leaping from her chair and is in the middle of the floor with a stunning black dress on, turns around and discovers her dance partner is still seated.

"Albert!" She screams and pushes the folding chairs out of the way and grabs him, shouldering him out on the floor. She places her right hand into his and her head against his chest. He apparently is not a dancer but does a nice job of shuffling. Julie could care less. I think her eyes are closed.

A few decades ago at the Bluebird Café In Nashville, singer songwriter Tony Arata was singing a song he had just written. A slow mournful song. Wesley, at the Federated Jam in Thomaston would have said this about that song: "Country music tells the truth."

A young man sitting near the back of the audience at the Bluebird, rushed up to Tony after listening, said how much he liked this song and could he sing it and possibly record it? Tony smiled, wondering just who this young man was. Later he agreed. The young man was Garth Brooks. The name of the song was "The Dance." It was on his debut album which hit the top of the charts.

Julie and Albert are barely moving now. Which is the pace of The Dance. Lost in each other's arms. The rest of us, like at a wedding when the bride has the first dance with her father, we gave those two a little time to be on the dance floor by themselves and then couple by couple we stood up slowly and joined them. For me this is also one on my favorite Garth Brooks' songs, right behind "Friends in Low Places."

My first love and I spent more time dancing slow than fast. As summer approached, I asked her "What is your favorite song? Mine is 'Put Your Head on my Shoulder' by Paul Anka." I was hoping we would choose the same song. I sure didn't know how soon we would be breaking up. Without taking a breath, she quickly replied: "It's All in the Game' by Tommy Edwards"

We went on to different partners. She passed on a while back. ALS. I can still see my sixteen-year-old self looking out the window of our dining room, at dusk, tears in my eyes, experiencing the emptiness of knowing it was over. All over. My stepmother came by me on her way to the kitchen and said, "Don't worry, there will be others. You are still young."

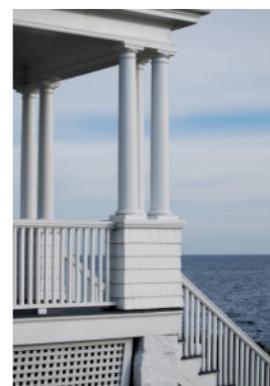
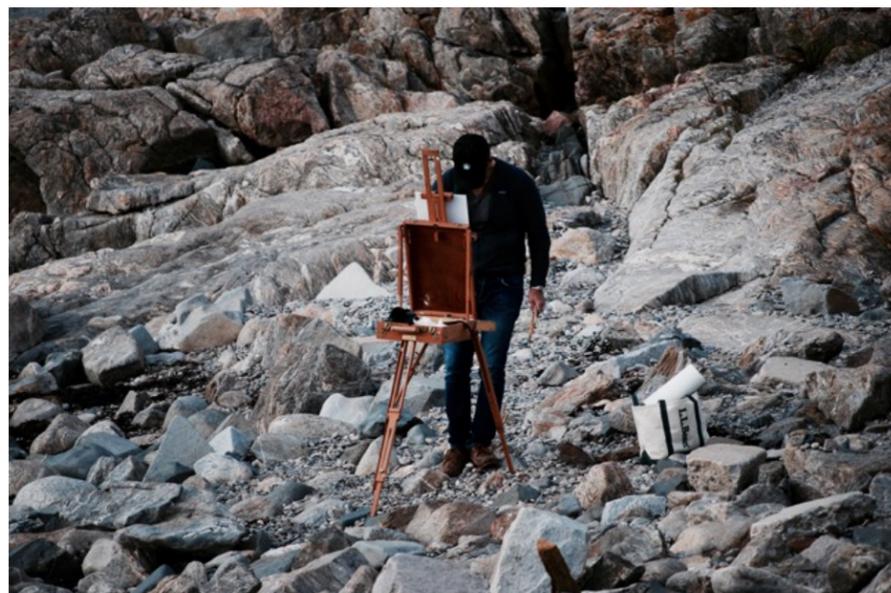
Thanks to Tony Arata and Garth Brooks for telling the truth. And for Julie and Albert for showing the rest of us the importance of The Dance.

Here are some of the lyrics of the Dance that continue to stay with me:

"I could have missed the pain but I'd have to miss the dance.

Holding you, I held everything

Yes, my life is better left to chance."



**Summer Fades**  
Photos by Ron Tesler

Farmers' Markets: Camden Saturday Market: 9 a.m. to noon at Tannery Park... Rockland Thursday Market: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Harbor Park... Union Friday Market: 3-6 p.m. on Union Common  
The musician on September 13 will be DW Gill.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13:**

- Tech Tools at Rockland Public Library: "Ins and Outs of Instagram," 10:30 a.m. Bring your smartphone or tablet. Call 594-0310 to sign up.
- "Coma," 6:30 p.m., Friday Night Film Series at Thomaston Public Library. September's films feature "Deceit at the Top." In this one, a Boston medical resident becomes suspicious when patients having routine surgery are left in comas in one of the hospital's operating rooms.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14:**

- Compass 5K Run/Walk and 10K Run, 8 a.m. at Eclipse Event Center, 2 Park Drive in Rockland, held by Oceanside Class of 2021 Parent Group. Details: runsignup.com.
- Rockland Classic Bicycle Ride, 9 a.m. at South School, 30 Broadway, Rockland. The scenic 50-mile course will travel along St. George peninsula to Marshall Point Lighthouse. All levels of bicyclists are invited to take part in the Rockland Bicycle Club ride. For more info: rstaschak@gmail.com, 691-7578.
- Maine Open Lighthouse Day 2019, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over two dozen historic Maine Lighthouses will open their doors to some 15,000 visitors. Learn more at LighthouseFoundation.org.
- Thomaston Open Studios, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sculptors, painters, ceramic artists and others invite the public to check out their work spaces. Participating artists include Nancy Baker, Susan Van Campen, Autumn Cipala, Cynthia McGuirl, James Murdock, Linden O'Ryan, Tim Van Campen, Amy Williams, Kevin Beers, Lorena Stackpole and Greta Van Campen. Details: ThomastonOpenStudios.com

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15:**

- Steelin' Thunder Concert and Picnic in Rockland, 3 to 6 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, off Route 17. The steel-drum band from Rockland will play toe-tapping tunes, and hamburgers, hot dogs and potato salad will be dished out along with soft drinks. A hat will be passed to support church missions. Bring a chair or blanket. • Harbor Concert Series at Rockport Harbor, 4 to 8 p.m. in Rockport. Bob Marley and the Wailers sax player Glen DaCosta opens for Portland rock-reggae band Royal Hammer. Bring a chair or blanket. Admission is by donation. Food and libations will be for sale.
- Whitehead/Dean Group at Fog Bar and Cafe, 328 Main Street, Rockland, 7 to 10 p.m. Jazzy, funky, soulful sounds from Mike Whitehead on trumpet and flugelhorn, Jason Dean on drums, Glen DuBose on bass and Mitch Markowitz on guitar.
- Sunday Jams in Rockland, Sail, Power, & Steam Museum, 75 Mechanic Street, 1:30 p.m.
- Free Adult Art Classes at Rockland Public Library, 11 a.m. Catinka Knoth leads the free Monday classes. All materials provided. "Scenes of September in Maine" will teach students to draw local buildings, a different one each week.
- Monday Jams at St. George Grange, at Wiley's Corner, 7 to 9 p.m. through October. Country, gospel, folk, bluegrass.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17:**

- "Poetry as Collaborative Expression," 1:30 p.m. at Camden Public Library, for ages 50-plus. Quarry Hill and the library host Robert Hake, who will share works that have sprung from "the life of love and art" that he shares with his wife. Registration is required: QHinfo@pbmc.org, 301-6116.
- Tuesday Jams in Thomaston, Federated Church, 8 Hyler Street, at 7 p.m. Folk, country, blues, gospel. FMI: 273-2914.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18:**

- "A Matter of Balance" at Rockland Public Library, Wednesdays, September 18 to November 6, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The free program is for adults age 60 and older to increase activity levels and reduce fear of falling.!
- Talk on China's One-Child Policy at Rockport Opera House, Wednesday, September 18, at 6:30 p.m. Learn how it came into being, how it was resisted in the country but accepted in cities, and about changes in China's birth control policy as it faces an aging population, skewed male-to-female ratio, and labor shortage. Talk by Colby College professor Hong Zhang.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19:**

- Baby Time at Rockland Public Library, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Thursdays for newborns to 2-year-olds, with older siblings welcome. Miss Katie will guide fun with rhymes, finger plays and stories.
- Thursday Jams in Warren, Saint George River Cafe, 310 Main Street, 6 p.m. and Friday Open Mics, second and fourth Fridays, at 6:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20:**

- "A Family for ME" Foster Care and Adoption Info Meetings, for people who have wondered about the process of becoming a licensed foster parent or adoptive parent. For the location and time of the next meeting: AFamilyForMEMaine.org or 615-6011.

**Around Town** is compiled each week by C.O.H.Gifford, Jr.  
Please submit calendar items to gowrfr@gmail.com  
Our thanks to The Free Press for sharing its calendar.

**WheReFoRe?**

## Help Wanted at WRFR

WRFR is an experiment in volunteer community media. We are a forum for the people of Rockland. Everyone is invited to host a radio show, and to say and play what they want. The resulting diversity of ideas and tastes helps our community understand who we are, and helps us learn to respect each other. The Buzz also is a volunteer effort, and everyone in our community is invited to contribute ideas, stories, and art.

Now eighteen years old, we have over thirty volunteers producing radio shows, with a wide range of music from many traditions, and a variety of talk shows. We also host a variety of open-to-everyone events, such as Rockland's annual community picnic, and this Saturday's Rockland Classic bicycle ride. And we are fortunate to have been supported by our local business sponsors.

In order to secure our future, however, and to be all we can be, we need your help. Especially, we need more help with the secretarial, administrative, and technical work necessary to keep the station going. We need help with maintaining and updating our website, with publicity and outreach, with responding to phone messages, with equipment maintenance, with updating our schedule with new shows, etc.

This **Wednesday, September 18 at 6:00 pm** at our studios at 20 Gay Street, we are having a meeting of station volunteers. If you think you might be able to help, you are invited too - and please do come. We would love to meet you.

### **WRFR and *The Buzz* are supported by our local business sponsors. Please give them your custom!**

Ada's Kitchen • American Legion Post 1 • Apache Boat Works • The Apprenticeshop • Astrology with Ananur • Bangor Savings Bank • Bar Harbour Bank & Trust • Barnswallow Books • Blues Festival • Brio Promotions • Brooks Trap Mill • Bufflehead Sailing Charters • Burpee, Carpenter & Hutchins Funeral Home • Cafe Miranda • Camden Conference • Camden Harbor Cruises • Camden National Bank • Camden Opera House • C'est la Vie Consignment • Chartrand Imports • Computer Solutions • Courier Publications • Curator • Dead River Company • Dowling Walsh Gallery • The Drouthy Bear • Eastern Tire • Eric Gabrielsen • First National Bank • For His Glory- Bible Baptist Church • fourTWELVE • Frantz Furniture • The Free Press • Genuine Automotive • Gilman Electrical Company • The Good Tern Co-op & Café • Guini Ridge Farm • Haskell Water Treatment • Home Kitchen Cafe • Jensen's Pharmacy • Jess's Market • K & P Speed Shop • Knox Village Soup • Lyman Morse • Maine Street Meats • Maine Coast TV • Main Street Market • Maritime Energy • Mountainside Services • Mid-Knight Auto • Monhegan Boat Line • David C. Olivas, DDS • Owls Head Transportation Museum • Peaceful Passage • Pen Bay Pilot • Pen Bay Medical Center • Red Bird Acupuncture • Rhumb Line Restaurant • The Ripple Initiative • Rockland Savings Bank • Rockport Charters • Sammy's Deluxe • Samoset Resort • Schooner Bay Printing • Scrimshaw Cannabis • Side Country Sports • Southend Grocery • State of Maine Cheese • Strand Theatre • Swan Restorations • Suzuki's Sushi Bar • Tea Printers • Timberhead Music • Toshie Ichiyanagi Tesler, CPA • Viking Lumber • Wayfinder School • Willow Bake Shop • The Zack Shack

**Get *The Buzz* at these Rockland locations:**

Dunkin Donuts \* Rock City Cafe \* Camden Nat'l Bank \* Main Street Market \* Jensen's Pharmacy \* Willow Bake Shoppe \* Offshore Restaurant \* Good Tern Coop \* Rockland Library \* City Hall \* Jess's Market \* Southend Grocery