



**JULY 2020**

Mission Stories of Outer Islands  
& Coastal Downeast Maine Towns



## ***MissionTogether* Virtual Event - August 14, 2020 @ 5:30 p.m.**

**BAR HARBOR, ME** -- *MissionTogether* is a fundraiser to raise spirits and resources that allow the Maine Seacoast Mission to respond to community needs. As we have adapted our service programs to effectively embrace public health needs - by creating a drive-thru food pantry, online educational programming, and virtual outreach services to strengthen community - we are also adapting our event format this year to offer an opportunity to be together, apart. Our mission has always addressed the conditions of isolation experienced by downeast coastal and island communities. Our event will do no less! [More information about tickets and sponsorship opportunities here.](#)

*We are very grateful for our corporate sponsors.*

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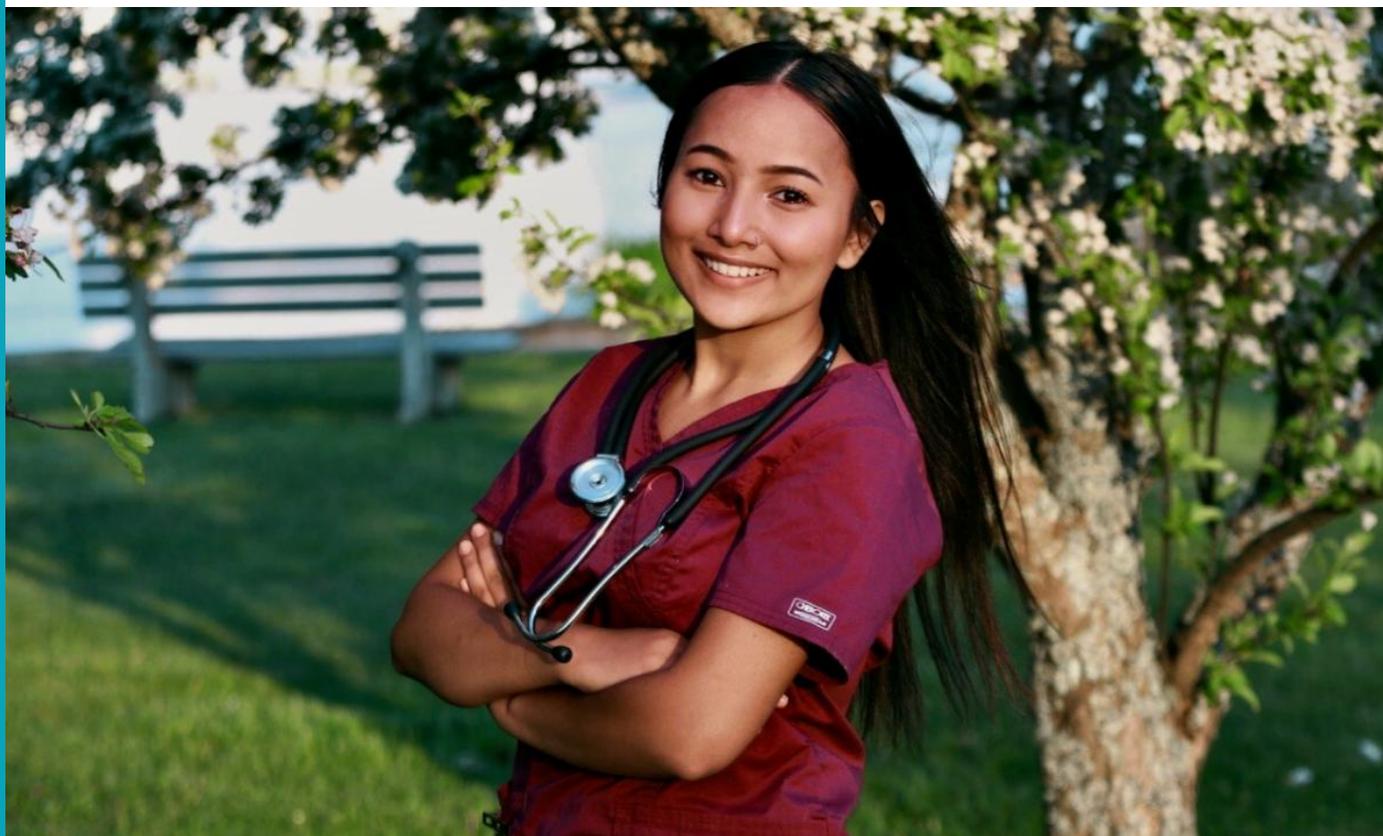
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Please contact us with any questions. Call 207-801-6011 or [email Anna Silver](#).

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*Bishmita Dahal from Washington Academy is one of 20 new Mission Scholarship recipients this year.*

## **\$171K in Mission Scholarships Awarded in 2020**

**BAR HARBOR, ME** -- We welcome 20 new Mission Scholars this year! "The scholarship amounts range from \$1,500 to \$5,000, totaling \$67,000 in new scholarships, and \$104,000 in renewed scholarships to Hancock and Washington County students," said Mission Scholarships Director Terri Rodick.

This year's application season saw many changes as we adjusted the program to adapt to Covid-19 restrictions.

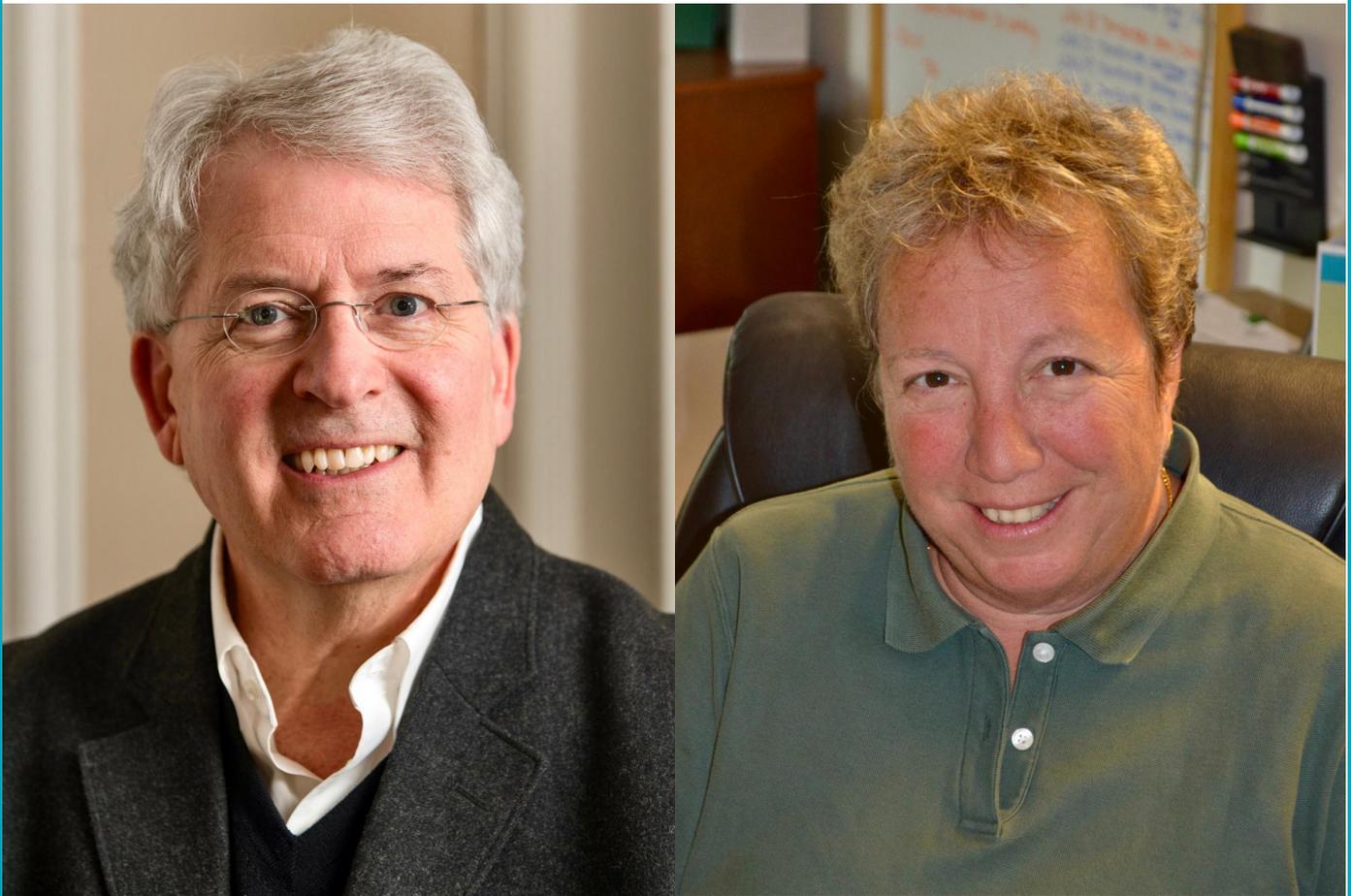
"This year we did all our interviews on Zoom," Terri explained. Even though there

were some issues with internet connectivity, still, she said, "I felt Zoom was a great way to meet the applicants. It allowed our sheltering at home Board of Directors and Scholarship Committee to participate in a meaningful, thoughtful way. The student applicants were already studying online this spring. Their availability and flexibility made scheduling time to meet with them much easier," Terri said.

Also, because the Class of 2020 missed out on their normal graduation ceremonies, for each Mission Scholarship recipient Terri put together a "Graduation in a Box." Scholarship grads within driving distance were treated to Terri (standing in their driveways, wearing a mask at a safe distance!) presenting them each with a congratulatory box of surprises and accolades. Boxes were mailed to 2020 grads outside Terri's driving range.

Congratulations to all! They join a 100+ year Mission scholarship tradition.

[Learn More](#)



*L-R - New Board members Diehl Snyder, MD and Ms. Joanne Harris*

## **Mission Board - Changing of the Guard**

**BAR HARBOR, ME** -- At its June meeting, the Mission Board honored directors whose terms were expiring and approved new members, an experience that always happens with mixed emotions. Two incoming members, Diehl Snyder, MD and Joanne Harris will join the Board.

Dr. Snyder recently retired as director of MDI Hospital Behavioral Health Center which he was instrumental in founding. For many years, Dr. Snyder has assisted the Mission and Sunbeam crew with telemedicine psychiatric services. He was a Sunbeam Award recipient in 2019. Dr. Snyder is a graduate of the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Joanne Harris served as Human Resources Director of The Jackson Laboratory for almost 3 decades, followed by 10 years at MDI Hospital. She also served on the Maine State Workforce Development Council, helping shape job opportunities for Maine citizens. Retired in 2017, Joanne has worked with small businesses in a consulting role. She graduated Florida State University, Tallahassee, with a baccalaureate degree in Political Science.

Stacey Smith of Bar Harbor, elected to the board in 2011, is passing the torch as President to Dan McKay, of Northeast Harbor. Linda Lewis of Bar Harbor started as a board member in 2014, serving on the Island Services Committee and Downeast Campus Committee. Jim Geary of Southwest Harbor, elected to the Board in 2011, served on the EdGE Committee, as Board Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee, and as an Audit Committee member. They have helped steward the Mission through strategic planning, major capital campaigns, leadership transition, and a public health crisis.

We offer a heartfelt welcome to new Mission directors and the community's utmost gratitude to those who answered the Mission's call of compassionate service.

[Learn More](#)

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## Meet Maine Poet Ralph "Skip" Stevens

NORTHEAST HARBOR, ME -- Meet Maine poet Ralph "Skip" Stevens in *The Island Reader*. Here he tells how he is inspired to write while walking on a Maine island. Order or download your copy of *The Island Reader* today. Hard copies and downloadable PDF copies are free. Donations, which help fund our Island Services program, are always most welcome.

[Order 'The Island Reader'](#)

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## *Sunbeam* Hull Prepared for Paint

**BELFAST, ME** -- This picture was sent from Front Street Shipyard where our mighty boat is nearing the end of her refit. There is light at the end of the *Sunbeam* refit tunnel. We are so excited and looking forward to sharing more news.

[Learn More About the 'Sunbeam'](#)

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*Hanging sheetrock inside the Downeast Maine Tiny House.*

## Downeast ME Tiny House Project Back on Track

**CHERRYFIELD, ME** -- The Downeast Maine Tiny House Project, after a several month hiatus due to Covid-19 restrictions, is back on track.

The house, which will be owned by a disabled military Veteran, was in its first phase of construction at Assabet Valley Regional High School in Massachusetts. After students under the direction of Lead Teacher of House Carpentry Bill Italiano made the tiny house ready to travel, the next step was to drive the house to its lot in Milbridge, set the house on its foundation, and finish the home for occupancy.

Enter Covid-19. Assabet Valley Regional HS was closed, students were sent home, then the school year ended. Months passed. Finally, Bill Italiano was given permission to re-enter the school. Using his own vacation time, Bill started completing the work necessary for the tiny house to travel to Maine. He was later joined by former student James Watkins, and Bill's friend, Jack O'Brien. Lee Watrous, a wonderful Housing Rehabilitation Program volunteer, is now also on site at the HS finishing up the interior sheet-rocking.

The goal is to have the home in Milbridge by late July. A million thanks to Bill Italiano, Lee Watrous, and all of the volunteers who put this very worthwhile project back on track. The Downeast Maine Tiny House Project is a joint effort by CF Adams Foundation, Maine Seacoast Mission, Downeast Community Partners, and

volunteers. News updates to be added to the [Downeast Maine Tiny House Project blog](#).

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