



*Sunbeam V lowering down into Belfast harbor at Front Street Shipyard.*

## ***Sunbeam Back in the Water***

**BELFAST, ME** -- Monday, August 17, 2020 was a happy day at [Front Street Shipyard](#) in Belfast, ME. The Mission's iconic boat, *Sunbeam V*, was close to its refit finish line. It was time for the boat to return to water for final testing, sea trials, and then returning home to Northeast Harbor, ME.

The *Sunbeam* was moved outside in the shipyard weeks ago, resting on supports, cradled and hung from a giant lift. August 17, using a remote control much like your home tv remote, one workman raised the boat off its supports, guiding the monster lift tires to the water's edge. With the hanging *Sunbeam* cradled over the water between two piers, the workman guided the giant lift along to the piers' end.

Then slowly -- very slowly -- the *Sunbeam* went down into the water until floating

on its own. Capt. Mike Johnson and Engineer Storey King watch from the pier as Front Street workers checked the boat for leaks. There were none.

Capt. Mike and Storey took the *Sunbeam* out into Belfast Harbor for a quick spin, returned, and tied up the boat.

Mike Johnson went into some detail answering [Mainebiz's](#) "what next?" *Sunbeam* questions. Here's the gist of what he said: all of the unfinished interior work -- cabinet doors rehung, painting, drop cloths removed, etc. -- needs doing. During sea trials, the several *Sunbeam* systems need testing: water, electricity, heat, air. All computer "stuff" needs calibrating. Computers need to communicate with computers, satellite feeds need to work back and forth, radios need to broadcast and receive.

Once that is all done, the *Sunbeam* comes home to Northeast Harbor. We look forward to organizing a "boat parade" of accompaniment. Pencil in October 2<sup>nd</sup>! The crew is now mapping out their autumn work with the Maine island communities.

To catch all the *Sunbeam* updates, follow us on our social media pages and website [blog](#). To learn more about the *Sunbeam* and its crew's work -- click on the Learn More button.

[Learn More](#)

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## ***Pathways* Students Express Gratitude, Hope**

**BAR HARBOR, ME** -- Student *Pathways* includes Mission programs that provide mentoring and support for Downeast and island middle, high school and college students.

Through individual mentoring, group workshops, scholarships and enrichment opportunities, we work to help all students develop the confidence, insights and information they need to successfully navigate their transitions to and through high school and along their eventual college and/or career pathways.

As with school students everywhere, 2020 is a disruptive year. With that in mind, Christina Griffith, Director of Student *Pathways* said, "Amid the ongoing personal,

academic and social unsettledness our students face, we asked Pathways students to think about what they are grateful for or hopeful about and share these simple messages with us." [Clicking here](#) - or on the dog above - will take you to a short video of these students and their messages.

Also, our upcoming Presidents Scholarship Celebration, honoring 2020 Mission Scholars, is to be held (virtually) on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. We are very grateful to our two Lead sponsors for the event, First National Bank and Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, dedicated supporters of educational opportunities for Maine students.

[Learn More](#)

**Maine Seacoast Mission's**  
**16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**  
**OPEN TENNIS**  
**TOURNAMENT**  
**to benefit the EdGE Program**



**BAR HARBOR, ME** -- We are very excited to hold the 16th Annual [EdGE Tennis Tournament](#) on Saturday, September 26th (rain date September 27th) with the championship round to be held at the Bar Harbor Club. The format has been modified, in keeping with CDC guidelines, and will include mixed doubles teams and a clinic for EdGE students. We are grateful to our sponsors:

**Lead Sponsor** - Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

**Team Sponsors** - Dead River Company, John Williams Boat Company, R.H. Foster Energy, LLC, Small Animal Clinic, Machias Savings Bank

**Event Sponsors** - (*Platinum*) Bar Harbor Bank & Trust; (*Bronze*) Eaton Peabody, Billing's Diesel and Marine, Inc.; (*Copper*): Brookings-Smith Funeral Home, Deighan Wealth Advisors.

A special thank you to The Bar Harbor Club for welcoming the EdGE Tennis Tournament.

[Learn More](#)



## Enjoy *MissionTogether's* Virtual Tour

BAR HARBOR, ME -- Mission Communications Associate Hunter Billings led the production on our *MissionTogether* video shown during our virtual event on August 14th.

*MissionTogether* was a fundraiser to raise spirits and resources to enable the Mission to respond to community needs. We have adapted our service programs in response to Covid-19. In the same spirit we adapted our annual event format. This video is a virtual visit to and from many of the places the Mission works, and a meeting of some key Mission people.

The *MissionTogether* event is over, but we hope you'll enjoy this virtual tour and share it with your family and friends. To watch, click on the image above or click the button below.

The Mission is grateful to the many individuals and companies who supported *MissionTogether*, allowing the event to achieve - and exceed - its fundraising goal.

Thank you for supporting community!

Watch Video



## Mission Food Security Programs Update

**CHERRYFIELD, ME** -- The Mission is a key part of the food security system in Downeast Maine. Mission programs include the Weald Bethel Food Pantry, Backpack Program, Senior Commodities, and our Sunbeam Downeast home food delivery program - all wrapped into our Family Food Center which embraces all families and individuals seeking nourishment and connection! Services Program Director Wendy Harrington provided this snapshot of our food security program usage, pre-Covid and currently.

In February, we were providing food to about 400 individuals each month at the pantry. In addition, during the regular school year, 130 children received meals weekly through the Backpack Program. 125 seniors were provided with a 30-pound box of food each month through a government food commodities program. Our Sunbeam Downeast delivered food to about 40 homes monthly.

Then, enter Covid. In May, about 1,000 individuals received food at the pantry. With schools closed, providing food over summer months to students was essential. The Mission, as part of USDA Summer Meals program, delivered food to about 120

children's homes throughout the summer. Seniors (130) continued to receive their Commodity packages. Sunbeam on Wheels deliveries tripled to 120. August remained very busy with over 925 served. This includes 485 people through a partnership with Mano en Mano to serve guest workers employed in the blueberry industry.

The Mission was able to respond thanks to committed staff, generous donors, and meaningful partnerships with other nonprofits and companies, united in mission to keep our community strong.

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*Maine Seacoast Mission is committed to working with people's strengths and honoring the capacity of individuals to choose their own course in life.*