

In 1789, George Washington became the first president of the United States.

In 1812, Louisiana became the 18th state of the Union.

In 1947, President Truman officially confirmed the name of Hoover Dam.



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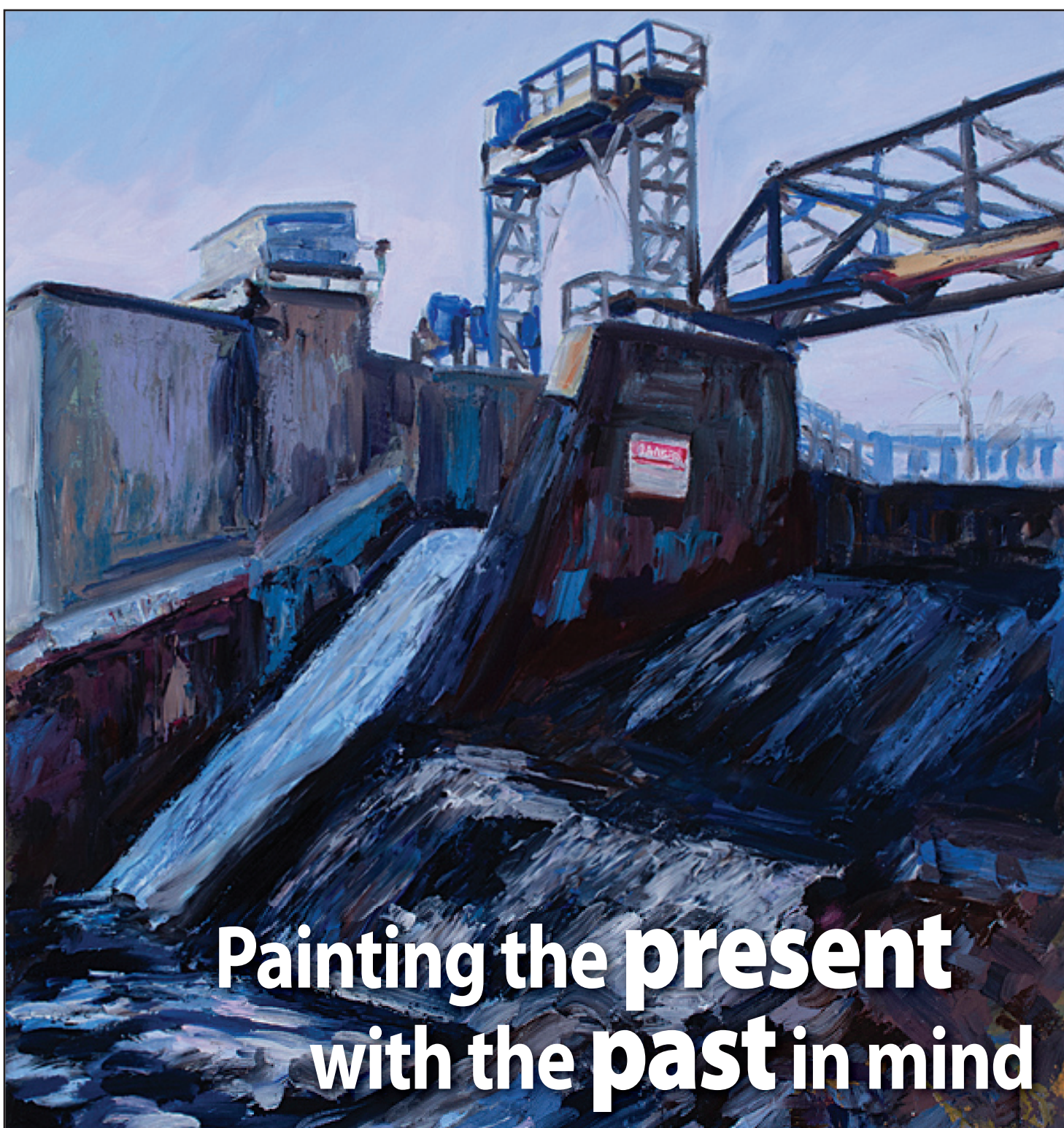
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VOL. 4, NO. 46



Painting the present with the past in mind

SUBMITTED PHOTO/Courtesy of University of New England

Cataract Falls on Saco Island come to life in Charles Matthew Thompson's artistic rendition of the iconic landscape, viewable at the University of New England's Art Gallery in Biddeford.

By ALAN BENNETT
Staff Writer

BIDDEFORD — A local artist and University of New England professor of art is taking inspiration from the past and painting what he sees in the present.

Charles Matthew Thompson, who is the founder of the university's Department of Fine Arts, has opened an exhibit of his latest work, "Lost Landscapes," in the university's art gallery in the Jack S. Ketchum Library.

The exhibit, which opened Wednesday and runs through Aug. 1, is a collection of paintings depicting locations in the Biddeford-Saco area as they are now, but based on old photographs of those places from long ago.

"I've lived in Saco for about 25 years and I noticed a lot of changes occurring over the years that we've lived here, in terms of building and so forth," Thompson said in an interview on April 21. "That was one motivation."

Thompson said he began looking at books in Saco's Dyer Library when he stumbled across one he couldn't put back on the shelf.

"(It) showed photographs

from the early 1900s of Saco Island and Bayview Beach and certain areas I had been frequently painting," he said. "I started putting two and two together ... all these changes kind of sparked the idea."

The result is a series of paintings completed in a style known as "en plein air," or completed "in open air."

It's a style popularized by French impressionist painters by the likes of Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro and Pierre-Auguste Renoir.

"All my paintings are done start-to-finish outside," Thompson said of his style, which uses bright pops of color and broad strokes to convey movement and contrast with the early black-and-white photographs upon which his work is based.

Featured in "Lost Landscapes" are seven locations — with corresponding black-and-white photos for reference — completed over the last several months, with the intent of providing a historical record of the original locations contrasted with how they now appear from an artist's perspective.

Thompson said the goal

The painting, "Bay View Beach," one of seven "Lost Landscapes" featured in Charles Matthew Thompson's exhibit.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/Courtesy of University of New England

is to start a dialogue about human impact on the environment.

"I hope (viewers) leave and think about (humans) and what we are doing to our environment and the importance of how we take care of our Earth and what we do to our Earth," he said. "One of the paintings I did still has the (Maine Energy Recovery Co. incinerator) site and I think those kinds of things are problematic, and I hope people start thinking about those things."

In addition, he said, he hopes the exhibit will instill within viewers a sense of environmental stewardship.

"One of the major aspects of it is the awareness of our footprint on Earth, what we're doing to our environment and what we're doing to our surroundings," he said.

"Lost Landscapes" will be on display at the UNE Art Gallery in the Jack S. Ketchum Library on UNE's Biddeford Campus, through Aug. 1. The gallery is free and open to the public.

Hours of operation: Sunday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. through May 1. Summer hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

— Staff Writer Alan Bennett can be contacted at 282-1535, ext. 329 or abennett@journaltribune.com.



COURTESY PHOTO/York Hospital

York Hospital has received a grant from the Maine Health Access Foundation that will help the facility increase medical training and begin offering medication-assisted treatment services to people who are struggling with opiate addiction.

Grant helps hospital offer addiction treatment

FROM STAFF REPORTS

YORK — A planning grant from the Maine Health Access Foundation will help York Hospital to increase medical training and build treatment capacity in order to begin offering medication-assisted treatment services to people who are struggling with opiate addiction, including medically underserved populations.

MeHAF grant funding, which totals \$100,000 over two years, will support the York Hospital Integrated Medication Assisted Treatment program in the Seacoast Area and southern York County.

Maine's opioid crisis claimed 378 lives last year. Among the counties with the highest number of opioid-related deaths, York County ranked second with 38 deaths and fourth in natal abstinence syndrome, with 86 births.

"Doctors have a mandate to alleviate pain and suffering, but also have a social responsibility to patients and their families," said York Hospital's Director of Emergency Services Dr. Robert Hulefeld. "I'd like to see prescription monitoring programs across state lines, more treatment options, and community resources."

Under the provisions of the grant, York Hospital will engage a broad-based network of partners, including primary care providers,

behavioral health specialists with expertise in substance use and addiction care, emergency medical services, law enforcement, and peer support and mutual aid groups, to ensure the necessary referral relationships and wrap-around services to support expanded access to MAT in primary care settings.

"York Hospital plans to design a new patient treatment and recovery program. Based upon our recent success with the Opioid Roundtable Community Group, a collaborative of hospital executives, clinicians, counselors and community partners to address the growing opioid epidemic in our area, we understand the important institutional role the hospital plays in southern Maine and will lead efforts to support successful recovery for our residents," said York Hospital President and CEO Jud Knox.

"We remember — these are our patients, our families, friends and neighbors," Knox said. "And we will not stand idly by while this epidemic grows in our community."

For more information about York Hospital services and providers, call York Hospital's Fundraising Office at 351-2385 or send an email to info@yorkhospital.com.

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Vendors sought for OOB crafters', farmers' market

By LIZ GOTTHELF
Staff Writer

OLD ORCHARD BEACH — The Ballpark is looking for interested vendors for its new

Maine Crafters' and Farmers' Market.

The Ballpark, located at 7 Ballpark Way, began a renaissance several years ago,

thanks to a large-scale community effort, after laying dormant for decades. The town-owned facility is now host to both collegiate and

professional baseball teams. Local school, youth and community teams play there as well, and The Ballpark has also served as a venue for festivals, concerts and other events.

Those involved with The Ballpark have been looking to increase the variety of events at the facility.

Ballpark Operations Manager Guy Fontaine said a farmers' market has been

talked about for several years, and after a flea market at the facility attracted a lot of people, he decided to pursue the idea.

Fontaine put out some See **Vendors Sought**, PAGE A3

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