



New England News Compiled April 2024

CONNECTICUT

Major Renovations Complete at the Yale Peabody Museum, New Haven. The [Yale Peabody Museum](#) has reopened after a remarkable four-year renovation and expansion. The spacious and bright facility will exhibit 50% more of the museum's vast collection of 14 million objects than ever before. The museum's collection of natural history specimens ranges from enormous dinosaur bones to cultural artifacts from across the globe. One of the museum's central attractions is a forty-foot-long Tylosaurus fossil suspended from above in the main gallery. Free to the public.

Connecticut Accolades

- **DNE MEMBER PARTNER** [Bradley International Airport](#) has been selected as a Top 10 airport in the United States for seven consecutive years and placed #6 in 2023 according to Conde Nast.
- Winvian Farm voted Top 25 Resorts by US Conde Nast Traveler and was listed as the #1 Spa in the US by its readers.
- Ocean Beach Park named among the best 25 beaches in the US according to Travel + Leisure.
- Atlantic Brewing Ranked #13 in the Top 50 US breweries
- USA Today – Mystic Seaport Museum ranked #2 for best open-air museum in the US

MAINE

Wine Sails in Portland's Casco Bay. [Wine Wise](#) is adding more of their popular [Wine Sails](#) to their schedule. Enjoy sailing in Casco Bay while tasting some of the finest wines in the world. The additional sails mean more Wine Sails, Wine & Oysters Sails, and Chef Series Wine & Food Sails.

Renovation of the Dune's on the Waterfront, Ogunquit. After a \$10 million renovation, the [Dunes on the Waterfront](#) in Ogunquit will open their new cottages for the 2024 season. The property consists of 24 cottages on 12 acres of oceanfront lawns overlooking Ogunquit Beach. Hotelier and real estate developer Tim Harrington of [Atlantic Hospitality](#) acquired the property in 2023 and spent the off season renovating the interior, exterior, lobby, décor, grounds, and pool.

Maine Accolades

- Maine chosen as one of Outside Magazine top places to visit in 2024.

MASSACHUSETTS

The 250th Anniversary of the Revolution for the Independence of America. The journey to American independence started in **Massachusetts**. To celebrate, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is developing opportunities for statewide engagement around Revolutionary history. Statewide signature events are being planned for 2025 and 2026. The Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism is developing programs with schools and libraries across the Commonwealth themed around the Revolution. As well as working to uncover untold stories and stories of diversity, and identifying opportunities for individuals, municipalities, and other actors across the Commonwealth to participate in celebrations of the anniversary and recognize the history of their geographical areas.

250th Birthday of Johnny Appleseed, Leominster. John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed) was born in Leominster, Massachusetts on September 26, 1774. The **31st Annual Johnny Appleseed Arts and Cultural Festival** in Leominster, on Saturday 9/14/24, will honor the 250th Birthday of Johnny Appleseed and kick off a series of events and celebrations in the region, running from the Johnny Appleseed Fair on September 14 through mid-October.

Pilgrim Hall Museum, Plymouth. The historic landmark and popular tourist attraction in downtown Plymouth since 1824, kicked off its bicentennial year on March 1, 2024. The museum's mission is to "foster thoughtful understandings of the *Mayflower* Pilgrims, the Wampanoag people, and the complex evolution of Plymouth as an impactful narrative of America's history." Events are planned throughout the year in celebration of the anniversary.

300th anniversary of Holliston. December 3, 2024 will mark the 300th anniversary of Holliston incorporated as a town. They will be holding 300 celebrations throughout 2024. On May 11, there is a parade at the Celebrate Holliston festival, the Historical Society celebrates its 300th summer with a Strawberry Festival on June 23, and on July 4, there will be a Laser Show at the High School. The Mudville Baseball Club plays an Ole Time Baseball Tournament on July 13. Visit [Willowbrook Farm](#) to watch the talented equestrians and their horses on Sept. 8 and the town's Fall Festival is on Oct. 8. Shop, catch a trolley ride, and enjoy the Holiday Stroll on Nov. 30.

Oakwood Farm Christmas Barn, Spencer marks its 50th anniversary. The 165-year-old barn has a dazzling selection of Christmas trees, and features thousands of ornaments, nativities, Santas, and carolers. Also, the Annual Spencer Fair (over 130 years old) takes place on Labor Day Weekend. The Spencer Fair is an old time, traditional country fair including ox and horse pulls, cattle, rabbit and poultry shows, hall exhibits, midway and outdoor entertainment, and should be a great time for all who attend.

Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown. New exhibit *Emancipation*. Conceived as a commemoration of the 160th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, *Emancipation: The Unfinished Project of Liberation* visualizes what freedom looks like for Black Americans today and the legacy of the Civil War today and beyond. The seven installations span sculpture, photography, and paper and textile fabrications.

Coming to **Historic Deerfield's Flynt Center** in May, 2024 is the exhibition: **Unnamed Figures: Black Presence and Absence in the Early American North**. As a corrective to histories that define slavery and anti-Black racism as a largely Southern issue, this exhibition offers a new window onto Black representation in a region that is often overlooked in narratives of early African American history. Through 125 works including paintings, needlework, and photographs, this exhibition invites visitors to focus on figures who appear in—or are omitted from—early American images and will challenge conventional narratives that have minimized early Black histories in the North.

Adventure Park at Heritage Museums and Gardens, Sandwich. The park features ziplines, courses and climbing bridges throughout the great outdoors. The five aerial treetop-canopy trails will give you an all-new perspective of the Cape's scenic beauty.

Margaritaville Resort, Plymouth. The global lifestyle brand, has announced the debut of Margaritaville Resort Cape Cod, slated to welcome visitors in summer 2024. Following a \$30 million top-to-bottom reimagining, the resort, presently operating as the Cape Codder Resort & Spa, will feature 272 rooms and features and amenities for visitors of all ages. The design will seamlessly blend Margaritaville's casual luxury with the natural aesthetic of Hyannis and the beauty of the Cape Cod National Seashore.

VERMONT

Vermont State Parks 100th Anniversary is being celebrated this year marking a century of conserving and interpreting the state's natural, cultural and scenic heritage while providing recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

Hotel Champlain, Burlington. The Hilton Burlington Lake Champlain is becoming the "Hotel Champlain," joining the Curio Collection by Hilton. They will also be debuting a new restaurant, the Original Skiff Fish+Oyster.

The Weston, Weston. Formerly the Inn at Weston, the rebrand is an expression and celebration of the family's lifelong commitment to high-end hostelry and impeccably discreet service. In a style that blends New York's legendary Carlyle & Gramercy Park Hotels, owned & operated by the family for forty plus years, guests of The Weston will feel as if on holiday at a grand country home.

Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium, St. Johnsbury. This winter, the Fairbanks Museum opened the new Tang Science Annex. More than eight years in the making, the three-level, 6,000-square-foot science annex represents the largest expansion of the museum since its founding. The new space will highlight the two fields of science most closely associated with the Fairbanks Museum: meteorology and astronomy.

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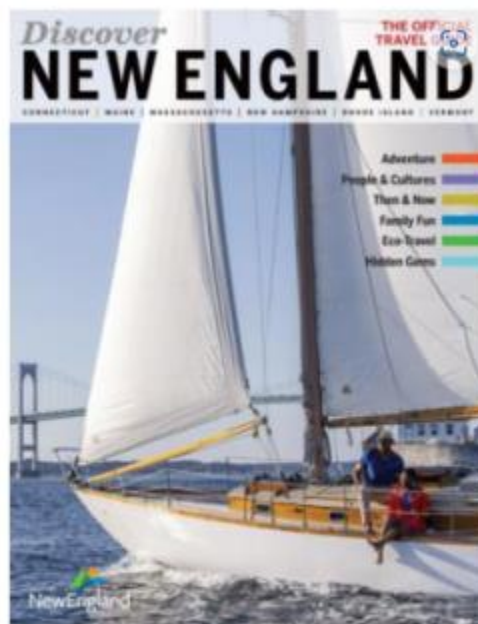
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