

THE MAGAZINE OF MAINE | SEPTEMBER 2026

Down East

Best

OF MAINE



50 YEARS
OF COMMON
GROUND

SPORTING
CAMPS

HITTING THE
ASTROSPHERE

Home & Garden



► York Corner Mercantile

Samantha Heitov didn't dive head first into the vintage-goods game when she started York Corner Mercantile. First, a few years ago, she got on eBay to sell a pair of figure skates. A side hustle grew. And now, she has built a business around the idea of redirecting things from the path to a landfill, with a vendor collective selling a wide range of lovely old objects as well as some new locally made things too. The shop might be new on the scene—it opened this past spring—but it clearly has a legion of fans already, considering this inaugural Best of Maine showing.

GARDEN CENTER/NURSERY

Winner

Longfellow's Greenhouses
Manchester

Finalists

Moose Crossing Garden Center
Waldoboro

Skillins Greenhouses
Brunswick, Cumberland,
Falmouth

Plants Unlimited
Rockport and Trenton

Seaside Landscaping & Garden Center
Gouldsboro

HARDWARE STORE

Winner

Ames True Value Hardware & Supply
Wiscasset

Finalists

Damariscotta Hardware
Damariscotta

Maine Hardware
Portland

E.L. Spear
Rockland

Grover's Hardware
Boothbay Harbor

Home Supply Center
Belfast

BUILDER

Winner

Knickerbocker Group
Boothbay and Portland

Finalists

Marden Builders
Boothbay Harbor

Woodhull
Portland

Stephen Oliver Custom Builder
Addison

O'Shea Builders
Windham

ANTIQUES STORE

Winner

Fairfield Antiques Mall
Fairfield

Finalists

The Rusticators Emporium
Hallowell

Moonstruck Mercantile
Bridgton

Half Moon Vintage Market
Wells

J.Plum Home
Freeport

York Corner Mercantile
York

FLORIST

Winner

The Robin's Nest
Waterville, Belgrade

Finalists

Shelley's Flowers & Gifts
Waldoboro

Berry & Berry Floral
Hallowell

Seasons Downeast Designs
Rockport

Holmes Greenhouse & Florist Shop
Belfast

Flowers by Hoboken
Rockland

DÉCOR SHOP

Winner

Happy Home
Eliot

Finalists

The Rusticators Emporium
Hallowell

J.Plum Home
Freeport

Knickerbocker Group Studio
Boothbay

Circa Home Living
York

FURNITURE STORE

Winner

Dow Furniture
Waldoboro

Finalists

Fortin's Home Furnishings
Winslow

J.Plum Home
Freeport

Circa Home Living
York

Hometown Furnishing Co.
Standish

FURNITURE MAKER

Winner

Thos. Moser
Freeport

Finalists

Windsor Chairmakers
Lincolnville

Lovejoy Rustic Furniture
Oakland

Owl Furniture
Stonington

Eben Blaney
Edgcomb

ARCHITECT

Winner

Knickerbocker Group
Portland, Boothbay

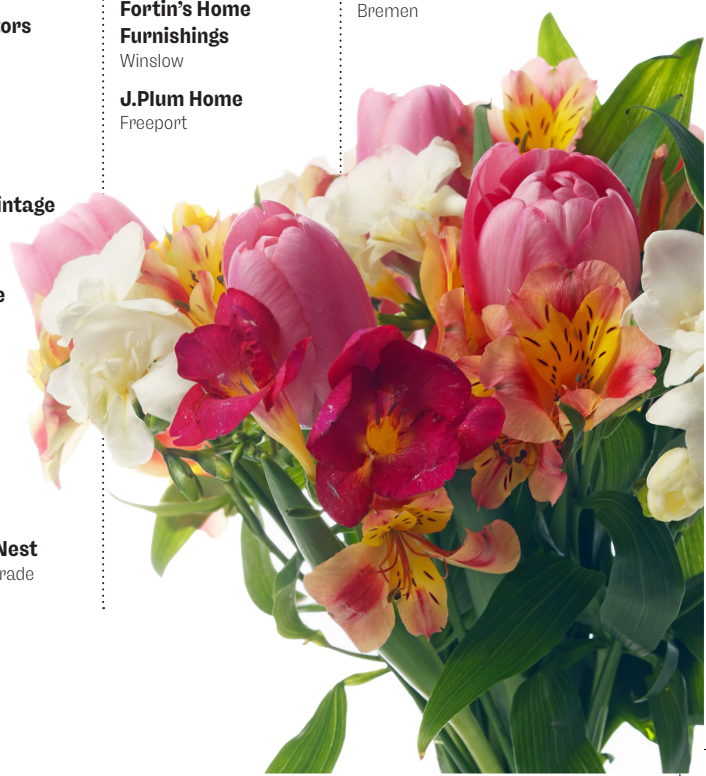
Finalists

2A Architects
Rockport

Woodhull
Portland

North Sky Seven Architects
Blue Hill

Precedent Designworks
Bremen



HEIDI KIRK (YORK CORNER MERCANTILE), SHUTTERSTOCK (FLOWERS)