



# Susan Collins

United States Senator for Maine  
NEWSLETTER

E-NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 20, 2012

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## AVOIDING THE FISCAL CLIFF

In an [interview](#) on the Maine Public Broadcasting Network, Senator Collins expressed optimism that an agreement could be reached to prevent our economy from careening off the "fiscal cliff," a series of tax hikes and automatic spending cuts scheduled to take place at the beginning of next year.

"My disappointment is that we recessed late last night," she said after the Senate adjourned for the week of Thanksgiving. "We should be in Washington working on this right now. Instead, we're out the entire next week. I can tell you that there have been a number of discussions, both formal and informal, on how we can avert this catastrophe for our economy."

Click [here](#) to listen to the interview.

To read Senator Collins' recent column on our nation's fiscal crisis, "Congress Must Work to Get Our Nation's Fiscal House in Order," click [here](#).

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



(Click the picture to view a larger version)

At the second annual Maine Harvest Festival in Bangor, Senator Collins donned an apron with chef and Maine resident Dana Moos.

"We made a delicious sour cream blueberry coffee cake, which, of course, was made with wild Maine blueberries, the best kind for cooking, for eating, for snacking," Senator Collins said. "It was a lot of fun."

View more photos from the Harvest Festival [here](#).

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## SENATOR COLLINS WELCOMES MAINE'S NEW SENATOR-ELECT TO WASHINGTON

Senator Collins recently welcomed Angus King to Washington, D.C. during his first visit to the nation's capital as Maine's new senator-elect. The two met in Senator Collins' Capitol Hill office and discussed, among other topics, how they can best work together to represent Maine in the United States Senate.

"I am very much looking forward to working with Angus on the many important challenges facing our state of Maine and also our nation," Senator Collins said. "It's wonderful to welcome a fellow centrist to the Senate, and I'm sure we will be working very closely together."

"Senator Collins and I have been close, and six of the eight years that I was governor, she was a senator from Maine. We always worked very closely with the delegation," Senator-Elect King said. "Team Maine was what we called it. That's the way we've always done it, and we'll continue to do so."



(Click the above picture to view the video)

**LOCAL OFFICE HOURS IN RANGELEY**

A staff member from Senator Collins' Augusta office will be available on **Tuesday, November 27th** in Rangeley to provide assistance with federal issues and agencies such as the Social Security Administration, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Internal Revenue Service.

No appointment is necessary. All conversations are strictly confidential.

**Rangeley Town Office**  
15 School Street  
Rangeley, ME 04970  
1:30 - 3:00 PM



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**SWIFT CONFIRMATION OF WILLIAM KAYATTA REQUESTED**

In a letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, Senator Susan Collins urges that the Senate move expeditiously to a vote on the nomination of William Kayatta to be a Circuit Judge on the U.S. First Circuit Court of Appeals. In the letter, Senator Collins emphasizes the urgency of filling the vacancy on the First Circuit bench as well as Mr. Kayatta's indisputable qualifications to do so:

"The First Circuit bench is small – it has only six active judges – so any single vacancy hits it disproportionately hard. It now has the highest vacancy rate of any Circuit in the country," Senator Collins writes.

"Bill has a stellar record, the highest ABA rating, the full support of Maine's Republican Senate delegation, and was reported by the Judiciary Committee by a bipartisan voice vote. There should be no reason to delay a Senate vote on his nomination any further."

A copy of the letter can be viewed [here](#).

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**VETERANS HONORED WITH PARADE IN PORTLAND**

Hundreds of onlookers turned out last week to pay tribute to our state's heroic veterans as the annual Veterans Day parade channeled through the crowded streets of downtown Portland. Senator Collins marched alongside several veterans and delivered remarks afterward at a ceremony.

"It is the American character to answer the call of duty. It also is the American character to be



grateful to those who answer that call," Senator Collins said.

"It is because of our veterans and those who serve today that our country still stands, that our founding principles remain strong, and that people around the world who once knew tyranny now know the blessings of freedom. They have written the most glorious pages of our history."



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## A VISIT TO HOPE ELEMENTARY

Senator Collins traveled to Hope recently to congratulate Hope Elementary School for being one of two schools in Maine – and one of 269 nation wide – to receive the National Blue Ribbon

award.

After listening to a rendition of "I Love My Country" by first- and second-grade students, Senator Collins delivered a slideshow presentation entitled, "A Day in the Life of a Senator."



"It's a great honor to represent you in the U.S. Senate," Collins said, adding that, when she casts a vote, she always asks herself a question: "What will be the effect on the people of Maine and how will it affect this country?"



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