

The Piscataquis Observer

Serving the interests of Piscataquis County

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DOVER-FOXCROFT, MAINE

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Tigers are too much for the Howlers



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Calendar of upcoming events

January

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Town maps and property information now online

By **Stuart Hedstrom**
Staff Writer

DOVER-FOXCROFT — To enable for easier access for those interested, the town of Dover-Foxcroft now has an online mapping program up and running through www.dover-foxcroft.org and the assessing and tax information link. "This is something we talked about doing during the budget," Town Manager Jack Clukey said during a Dec. 21 selectmen's meeting. He said Code Enforcement Officer Connie Sands worked hard to get a program — CAI Query Manager Online — that fell within the funding allocated, and "We have got something we need to get the word out about."

Sands gave a demonstration for town officials with her laptop screen projected on the wall. "You can find different properties, you can find by the owner, address or parcel," she said. Using the last name of Conroy, Sands typed in the surname as several Conroys popped up as results. "Each one of those pics shows where there's a Conroy," she said. She then clicked on one result, showing a map of the parcel which can be seen via an aerial view and then zoomed in or out on. Sands said the identity button shows adjacent properties.

She explained a property card feature contains information such as valuation and a sketch of the land as well as information on the parcel structures. Sands showed that parcels can also be checked to see where the land falls within the different land use zones and the shoreland zoning. "It's an amazing tool, well worth every penny from what we had to what we have here," she said, as anyone with Internet access can look the information up instead of needing to come to the Morton Avenue Municipal Building. Sands said the online mapping product should also save some time for town office employees. "One thing to keep in mind is we have all our information off the

deeds we have," Clukey said. He said if some information online varies from what property owners have then, "We just fix it on the strength of someone's deed that they bring in." In other business, Clukey reported on a number of different items. "Everybody's aware, I believe, that we have a tenant in Pine Crest," he said about the town building that was the former site of Creative Apparel. Clukey said for the next 24 months the facility is being leased to Puritan Medical Products, primarily to be used for storage.

The town manager reported that some erosion is taking place at the Brams Mill Dam. "It's not getting visibly worse, but it's one of those things that over time probably will," he said.

Clukey said the town has been in touch with the state dam inspector and steps are being taken to fix the

erosion, with the town likely needing to make some repairs next fall. At the recent annual meeting of the Municipal Review Committee (MRC), Clukey said the focus was on plans for waste disposal posted 2018 when the MRC is looking to utilize a view facility in Hampden operated by Fiberight. In the first half of 2016 MRC member towns are scheduled to vote on whether to join the future waste disposal arrangement.

When asked, Clukey said, "We ideally need to take action between now and May 1. The process for joining will be a legislative process, so we will need a town vote."

Select Vice Chair Cindy Freeman Cyr wondered if such a decision could be made on the same date as the annual town meeting on the last Saturday in April. "I think we could, either before or after that

annual town meeting where we are affirming the warrant," Clukey responded.

He said voting to join the MRC plans with Fiberight ensures these member communities of the lower rates for using the facility.

Clukey said he had "three very nice things to say about the last couple of weeks." The first is the town was selected by the Eastern Maine Development Corporation as its Community of the Year, being recognized as such the week before.

He said the Mill Project was selected by Maine Preservation as one of 16 projects across the state to win a 2015 Honor Award. He said the historic preservation of the site helped earn the honor, something that is not always able to be ac-

Please see Page 3, TOWN



Photo courtesy of Susan Killam

HONORED STUDENTS

Ridge View Community School seventh-graders were recognized in December for academic excellence, engaged learning and motivation to learn. Pictured at the school in Dexter are front, from left, Katlyn Gray, Madia Chesner, Olivia Peakes, Nathan Mower, Jaycee Cook and Justin Curtis. Back, Lilah McCormack, Avery Herrick, Peyton Grant, Jade Wintle, Issac Webber, Jacob Campbell, Kyle Larrabee and Issac Limoges.

The year in review: Part II

As the page on the calendar changes to the month of January and a new year, it marks the occasion where the newspaper staff reviews the past 52 editions and highlights the biggest news of 2015.

The review of January through June ran last week; here's the second half of the past year.

July

The Center Theatre reported a crowd of 8,000 attended the Maine Whoopie Pie Festival in Dover-Foxcroft which brought bakers from around the state together with artists, crafters, vendors and the public to celebrate the Pine Tree State's official treat.

Dexter entrepreneur Susan Nordman, owner of Erda Handbags, testified during a hearing hosted by the U.S. Senate Aging Committee to the value of older workers. Police were seeking the pub-

lic's help in their ongoing manhunt for murder suspect Robert Burton, who was believed to have killed his ex-girlfriend in Parkman several weeks earlier. Witness reports claimed to have spotted the subject on a snowmobile trail in Guilford and on Davis Pond in a stolen canoe/kayak.

A motorcycle procession in Monson kicked off the second annual 100-Mile Wilderness Walk for Warriors, an event that honors fallen members of the armed forces from Maine which in conjunction with the Summit Project raised money for various support programs for veterans and their families.

The tax rate in Milo was set at 28.7 mills, up from 21.3 in 2014.

In order for the Moosehead Lake region to attract new business and enhance its reputation as a prime tourist destination, Luke Muzzy, who chairs the

MLR Economic Development Corporation, told county commissioners they should look "back to the future" and beyond county borders.

The Dover-Foxcroft Selectmen approved a tax rate of \$18.60 per \$1,000 of assessed property for the 2015-16 fiscal year. The rate was up from the previous year mark of 18.25 mills.

Meanwhile, Brownville officials set their mill rate at 19.30, a .40 mill increase from 2014-15.

August

Efforts to revitalize the former Moosehead Manufacturing plant on the Piscataquis River in Dover-Foxcroft were rewarded as officials gathered to celebrate the opening of the Mill Inn & Cafe — part of a larger Riverfront Redevelopment Project encompassing apartments and retail space in the repurposed factory com-

plex.

With help and encouragement from her schoolmates, 6-year-old Lilly Burgess of Guilford surpassed her ambitious goal of raising \$6,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

For the second time in as many months, residents of School Administrative District 4 voted down a proposed \$7.2 million school budget. The vote was 259-216 to reject the spending package for Guilford area education.

The man who spurred the longest manhunt in modern state history surrendered peacefully at the Piscataquis County Jail after 68 days on the run. Robert Burton was charged with the June 5 murder of Stephanie Ginn Gebo, a single mother of two young children who lived in Parkman.

Please see Page 7, YEAR IN REVIEW

Fire damages trailer

By **Nick Sambides Jr.**
BDN Staff

MILO — A stove fire almost caused more damage to a trailer on Sanford Avenue before firefighters doused it on Saturday. No one was injured, Milo Fire Chief David Preble said.

Homeowner Jeff Larson was home cooking when the stove's contents caught fire at about 4:30 p.m. The fire was burning up a wall behind the stove when the first firefighters arrived and knocked it down. Firefighters had to cut into the ceiling to ensure that it didn't extend, Preble said.

"Three or four more minutes and it would have been up into the ceiling," Preble said.

About 25 firefighters responded, Preble said.

Shorey set to fight on nationally televised MMA card

DOVER-FOXCROFT — Derek "Shatterproof" Shorey wasn't sure how to react when he received a phone call recently offering him the chance to fight on a nationally televised mixed martial arts card.

"I didn't know whether to cry, shake, laugh uncontrollably or go to the gym, so I think I did all of it," said Shorey after accepting a bout against Kody Nordby on the main card of CES 32, an MMA show to be held Friday night at the Twin River Casino in Lincoln, Rhode Island, and broadcast live on AXS-TV.

The telecast is scheduled to begin at 9 p.m.

"It's incredibly humbling to get that call," he said, "and I'm ready to step up and prove what I'm capable of."

A 2000 Foxcroft Academy graduate who won a high school wrestling individual state championship for the Ponies in 1998, Shorey is 3-3 in the professional MMA ranks.

He learned about his latest opportunity in the cage from Matt Peterson, the co-owner and matchmaker of the Maine-based New England Fights promotion for which Shorey has fought most of his recent bouts.

"I said 'yes' immediately," said Shorey. "Matt said he thought it would be a great opportunity for me and it's also a great opportunity for people who normally don't get to

see me fight."

Shorey already was training at his Shatterproof Combat Club in Dexter for a scheduled NEF fight next month in Lewiston, so he was ready to step in as a late replacement for Friday's show after Nordby's first two scheduled opponents pulled out due to injury.

"I'm always training, always at the gym," Shorey said. Nordby, a left-hander who normally competes at 135 pounds, also agreed to fight Shorey at 145 to alleviate Shorey's need to drop weight on short notice.

Nordby is 5-3 and has scored all of his pro victories by rear-naked choke — a hold Shorey has struggled with throughout his years in the cage.

"He's a wrestler who wins by rear-naked choke," said Shorey. "Anyone who's followed my amateur career knows that's been my Achilles heel, so this is just a direct challenge that I need to overcome."

At 5-foot-10, the 33-year-old Shorey will enter the cage with a six-inch height advantage over his 22-year-old opponent.

"I've got the reach advantage, I'm a lot taller than he is, but that hasn't seemed to affect any of his past matches," said Shorey. "He's just a really good, game fighter and I'm excited for the challenge."

For Shorey, the chance to perform for a nationwide television audience will be a dream come true.



LMP Photos/New England

IN THE RING

Derek Shorey of Dover-Foxcroft lands a kick against John "First Class" Raio of Topsham during their 150-pound mixed martial arts bout as part of the NEF XVII show at Lewiston's Androscoggin Bank Coliseum on Saturday, April 11, 2015. Shorey won by a first-round technical knockout.

"Honestly it means I can quit fighting, because the only goal I had, as vain as it sounds, was to fight on TV," said the 33-year-old Shorey, whose comermen for the bout will include his brother Dustin.

Please see Page 6, SHOREY

UT residents petition state against wind development

By **Jason Agrell**

Residents of 13 unorganized townships and one plantation, delivered petitions to Augusta Monday asking that the Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC) remove them from Maine's Expedited Wind Zone.

This request comes as a result of two proposed industrial wind projects: a 24-turbine project on a ridge west of Big Indian Pond, proposed by EverPower, and a 26-turbine project proposed by SunEdison to be built on Misery Ridge, between Rockwood and Jackman.

Residents of Blanchard, Parlin Pond, Sandbar Tract, Sapling, Taunton and Raynham, Rockwood Strip, Moosehead Junction, Moxie Gore, Long Pond, The Forks, and West Forks townships, along with Dennistown Plantation, have signed petitions circulated in a petition drive, coordinated by the Moosehead Region Futures Committee.

Amy Lane, co-owner of Gray Ghost sporting camps in Rockwood, and manager of Squaw Mountain Ski Lodge near Greenville, is one of the petition organizers.

"I was overwhelmed when I saw the expedited wind map.

We'll all be affected by this. We're known for our tourism economy, especially the unspoiled, scenic views. If that is taken away from us, we won't have much left. The goal is not to prevent any development, but to at least be on an equal footing when it comes to zoning. The Land Use Commission gave us this opportunity where the expedited law didn't allow us a voice, so it's unfair for us not to take advantage of it," she said.

Until recently, Maine's Wind Energy Act of 2008, had effectively denied the residents of UT's any voice in the process of wind development permitting in their areas. In June of 2015 the Maine legislature passed LD 828, which allows UT residents to petition to "opt out" of the Expedited Wind Zone.

UT residents must gather signatures from 10 percent of those who were registered to vote in the last gubernatorial election, certify those signatures, and submit them to the LUPC between January 1st and June 30th 2015. Once these petitions are submitted, there is a 45-day period, in

Please see Page 8, UT RESIDENTS



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Cribbage tourney planned

MILO — A cribbage tournament is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 9, at 1 p.m. at the Kiwanis Headquarters in the Milo Business Park.

All cribbage lovers are welcome to join. The play of cards will commence at 1 p.m. sharp. The entrance donation is \$10; half will be divided between the first- and second-place winners and the other half will go towards worthwhile Kiwanis projects.

To participate, bring your favorite cribbage board and cards for an afternoon of fun. The address of the Kiwanis building is 24 Gerrish Road. It is a right turn off Rt. 11 just past JSI Manufacturing on the left.

For further information, contact Nancy Harrigan at 943-3677.

Town

Continued from Page 1

Completed when renovating such projects.

Resident Ralph "Eddie" Lewis was presented with the Piscataquis County Economic Development Council's Warren "Pete" Myrick Community Service Award the week before. Clukey said Lewis "is a community volunteer in really every way possible."

Freeman Cyr said earlier in the day she attended a meeting at Central Hall with the Maine Community Foundation and some of those involved in renovating the building. "I think it's another example of the great partnerships we have in this community," she said. "It makes me grateful for the volunteers we have working in our community."

David Dodson kicks off 2016 at ESG

EAST SANGERVILLE — The holidays might be over but the party will still be in swing when David Dodson and the Lowdown take the stage at the East Sangerville Grange Coffee House on Saturday, Jan. 9.

Dodson's unique talent and style has landed him on stage with music greats like kd lang, Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Bill Staines and Chicago. His light-hearted humor and knack for hilarious wordplay in tunes like "Get Out of Your Head" will have his audiences laughing out loud, while songs like "The Far-

thest Field" evoke a placid, spiritual calm. Together with the Lowdown, Dodson delivers a truly entertaining performance.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.; the show starts at 7 p.m. Come early so you don't miss out on our great desserts and coffee.

The evening will also feature door prizes and a 50/50 raffle.

For information about the band and how to get tickets, visit the East Sangerville Grange Website at www.grange.org/eastsangerville177, or call 564-8596.



Christmas Bird Count 2015 results

The 116th Audubon Bird Count was held in the Dover-Foxcroft area on Monday, Dec. 21. The sky was cloudy all day and there was a trace of an inch of snow on the ground. Streams were partially frozen. It was 27 degrees in the early morning, to 34 degrees at 4 p.m.

What was reported that day by the observers at the feeders and in the field was as follows:

Bald eagle 16, wild turkey 22, rock pigeon 47, mourning dove 80, pileated woodpecker 1, hairy woodpecker 11, downy woodpecker 5, blue jay 67, common raven 42, common crow 92, black capped chickadee 119, white breasted nuthatch 13, red breasted nuthatch 10, robin 2, starling 113, bohemian

waxwing 60, house sparrow 28, cardinal 7, american goldfinch 139, dark eyed junco 44, tree sparrow 2, snow bunting 7, and titmouse 7 for a total 934 and 23 species. The Dec. 30 count in 2014 reported 957 individual birds and 25 species.

Observers in the field were:

Charles and Mary Dorchester and Kate Weatherby. Feeder watchers were Eileen Hall and Jeannette Hughes.

Our thanks to those who helped watching the feeders and observing the count area, watching the fields, trees and sky.



Contributed photo

TROOPER PROMOTED — Maine State Trooper Adam Coover was promoted on Dec. 21 to the rank of Corporal. At the ceremony are Coover, center, with his daughters Aaliyah and Madison Coover, and Sen. Paul Davis (R-Piscataquis). Cpl. Coover, who is from Barnard Township, is a member of State Police Troop E. During the ceremony, Davis pinned the officer with the badge he himself wore as a corporal, and also presented Coover with a tie clip he received when he was a State Trooper in 1971.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE 14 M.R.S. § 6323

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated July 10, 2015 which judgment was entered on July 15, 2015, in the Maine District Court, District Thirteen, Location: Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, in an action brought by **Bangor Savings Bank** against **Wendy M. Westgate et al.**, Docket No. DOV-RE-2014-65, and wherein the Court adjudged a foreclosure of a Mortgage Deed granted by Camille Raymond dated November 4, 2011, and recorded in the Piscataquis County Registry of Deeds in Book 2136, Page 248, the period of redemption from said judgment having expired, all of the following described property will be sold at a public sale at 10:00 a.m. on January 25, 2016, at Eaton Peabody, 80 Exchange Street, Bangor, Maine 04401. The property to be sold is located generally at 45 Davis Street in Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis County, Maine, and is further described on the Town of Dover-Foxcroft's Tax Maps at Map 35, Lot 29, together with and subject to the rights, covenants, easements, and encumbrances affecting the property. Reference should be had to said mortgage deed for a more complete legal description of the property to be conveyed.

TERMS OF SALE
THE PROPERTY HEREIN-ABOVE DESCRIBED IS BEING SOLD ON AN "AS IS" "WHERE IS" BASIS, WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY WHATSOEVER AS TO THE CONDITION, FITNESS, SIZE, OR LOCATION OF THE PROPERTY OR THE STATE OF TITLE TO THE PROPERTY.

The bidder to whom the property is sold must, at the time and place of sale, make a deposit of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) by cash or certified check, and must sign a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Bangor Savings Bank, which agreement shall provide in part (i) that the purchaser will be responsible for all real estate and/or personal property taxes and other municipal charges attributable to the respective property unpaid and in arrears and for all subsequent tax years as assessed by the Town of Dover-Foxcroft, and (ii) that a closing of the sale shall be held within thirty (30) days of the public sale where the remaining balance of the purchase price will be paid in cash or certified funds. The conveyance will be by Release Deed. Bangor Savings Bank expressly reserves the right to bid, to modify the terms of the sale set forth above, to add additional terms as it so wishes, and to authorize the mortgagee to sell the property prior to the sale date. All other terms and conditions of sale, including any modification or additions to the terms set forth above, will be announced at the time of the sale.

For further information, contact Nikki Smith, Foreclosure Specialist of Bangor Savings Bank, at (207) 942-5211.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE 14 M.R.S. § 6323

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated September 10, 2015 which judgment was entered on September 11, 2015, in the Maine District Court, District Thirteen, Location: Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, in an action brought by **Bangor Savings Bank** against **Natalie L. Huseby**, Docket No. DOV-RE-2015-9, and wherein the Court adjudged a foreclosure of a Mortgage Deed granted by Natalie L. Huseby dated July 11, 2006, and recorded in the Piscataquis County Registry of Deeds in Book 1768, Page 141, the period of redemption from said judgment having expired, all of the following described property will be sold at a public sale at 10:30 a.m. on January 25, 2016, at Eaton Peabody, 80 Exchange Street, Bangor, Maine 04401. The property to be sold is located generally at 4 Crescent Street in Milo, Piscataquis County, Maine, and is further described on the Town of Milo's Tax Maps at Map 14, Lot 92, together with and subject to the rights, covenants, easements, and encumbrances affecting the property. Reference should be had to said mortgage deed for a more complete legal description of the property to be conveyed.

TERMS OF SALE
THE PROPERTY HEREIN-ABOVE DESCRIBED IS BEING SOLD ON AN "AS IS" "WHERE IS" BASIS, WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY WHATSOEVER AS TO THE CONDITION, FITNESS, SIZE, OR LOCATION OF THE PROPERTY OR THE STATE OF TITLE TO THE PROPERTY.

The bidder to whom the property is sold must, at the time and place of sale, make a deposit of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) by cash or certified check, and must sign a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Bangor Savings Bank, which agreement shall provide in part (i) that the purchaser will be responsible for all real estate and/or personal property taxes and other municipal charges attributable to the respective property unpaid and in arrears and for all subsequent tax years as assessed by the Town of Milo, and (ii) that a closing of the sale shall be held within thirty (30) days of the public sale where the remaining balance of the purchase price will be paid in cash or certified funds. The conveyance will be by Release Deed. Bangor Savings Bank expressly reserves the right to bid, to modify the terms of the sale set forth above, to add additional terms as it so wishes, and to authorize the mortgagee to sell the property prior to the sale date. All other terms and conditions of sale, including any modification or additions to the terms set forth above, will be announced at the time of the sale.

For further information, contact Nikki Smith, Foreclosure Specialist of Bangor Savings Bank, at (207) 942-5211.

Nutrition Program

Wednesday, Jan. 6 — Shepherd's pie, broccoli, wheat bread and dessert.

Thursday, Jan. 7 — Pasta primavera, green beans, wheat bread and dessert.

Friday, Jan. 8 — Pulled pork, mashed sweet potatoes, corn, wheat bread and dessert.

Monday, Jan. 11 — Chicken with red wine and herb sauce, lyonnaise potatoes, sliced zucchini, wheat bread and dessert.

Tuesday, Jan. 12 — Cheesy turkey and wild rice casserole, peas and baby carrots, wheat bread and dessert.

Wednesday, Jan. 13 — Cheese and beef macaroni, green beans, wheat bread and dessert.

Eastern Area Agency on Aging's nutrition program delivers noontime meals through Meals on Wheels to those who qualify and serves at Community Cafes

where all are welcome. Cost is \$4 (under age 60). Suggested donation of \$4 for seniors age 60 and older. Additional donations are greatly appreciated. For a reservation or more information, call 943-2488 or (800) 432-7812.

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NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered August 6, 2015 in the action entitled **(U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust v. Richard R. Pelletier, Jr. a/k/a Richard R. Pelletier a/k/a Richard Pelletier and Heather L. Pelletier a/k/a Heather Carey a/k/a Heather L. Carey et al.)** by the Maine District Court, Dover-Foxcroft, Docket No. DOVDC-RE-14-34, wherein the Court adjudged the foreclosure of a mortgage granted by Richard R. Pelletier Jr. and Heather L. Carey n/k/a Heather L. Pelletier to Household Finance Corporation II dated March 17, 2003 and recorded in the Piscataquis County Registry of Deeds in Book 1454, Page 15, the period of redemption having expired, a public sale of the property described in the mortgage will be conducted on **Thursday, January 28, 2016, commencing at 11:30AM, at the Law Office of Shapiro & Morley, LLC, 707 Sable Oaks Dr., Suite 250, South Portland, Maine 04106.** The property is located at 13 Daggett Street, Milo, Maine.

The sale will be by public auction. All bidders for the property will be required to make a deposit of \$5,000.00 in cash, certified or bank check at the time of the public sale made payable to Shapiro & Morley, LLC, which deposit is non-refundable as to the highest bidder. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the public sale. In the event a representative of the mortgagee is not present at the time and place stated in this notice, no sale shall be deemed to have occurred and all rights to reschedule a subsequent sale are reserved. Additional terms will be announced at the public sale.

Shapiro & Morley, LLC, 707 Sable Oaks Dr., Suite 250, South Portland, Maine 04106, (207) 775-6223.

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The Piscataquis Observer assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements but will reprint that part of any advertisement in which a typographical error occurs. Advertisers must notify the office prior to 2 p.m. the following Monday.

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Postmaster send address changes to: The Piscataquis Observer, P.O. Box 30, Dover-Foxcroft, Maine 04426.

(Updated: 06/15)

Pet of the Week

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The decline of the middle class

By Jan Dolcater

There is no doubt that this subject is reality. I intend to examine many of the root causes and also offer some avenues to change this trajectory.

Many families and individuals have become addicted to accumulating debt. We are consuming more wealth than we produce and have piled up the biggest amount of debt in the history of the world. Each of us has the responsibility to learn to live within our means and not be enticed into credit card irresponsibility.

In addition we continue electing politicians from both sides of the aisle that have had absolutely no concern for the long-term future for our country. To achieve a turnaround this must change and soon.

We are now faced with income inequality and this has been exacerbated since 2007 with many restraints on our economy and also excessive regulations put in place by the current administration. Since Obama became president household income has decreased by more than \$4,000.

Other negative facts are as follows: 1) For each of the past six years more businesses have closed in the U.S. than have opened. Prior to 2008 this has never happened before.

2) Home ownership has fallen eight years in a row.

3) Student loan debt is now larger than credit card and auto loan debt combined. 4) Twenty-five percent of millennials now live with their parents

5) In 2010 42 percent of single moms were on food stamps

6) Child homelessness has risen 33 percent since 2007.

7) Today one in six are now on Medicaid.

During this period Wall Street and other large business enterprises have benefited, but the worker has not. Major corporations definitely need to exercise understanding and compassion for their employees. The relationship between Wall Street and Washington has been far too cozy. Without significant change this situation unquestionably becomes worse.

Smaller businesses have also benefited but nearly at the rate of large enterprises.

It has been suggested that a raise in the minimum wage to \$ 15 per hour would be a significant benefit to help change this differential. However, consider that in 2014 77.2 million workers age 16 and older in the U.S. were paid in hourly rates representing 58.7 percent of all wage and salary workers. 1.3 million earned exactly the prevailing minimum wage.

In other words only 1.68 percent of the hourly paid workers were paid minimum wage. Such a

small percentage being paid such an increase would have minimum economic benefits but that increase is even far more than most small businesses in the country can deal without being forced into unprofitable situations. Perhaps an increase of a \$ 10 per hour would be a satisfactory compromise.

I would also offer the following for consideration to help in this situation. Over 50 years ago in a wholesale building supply business where I was a principal, we did not offer paid vacation pay, but rather double paid vacation pay. In other words the employee had the pay to cover his basic expenses and then they had pay to help pay for a vacation. We found by doing this that when the worker returned from vacation that they were more efficient than they would have been without this offering.

Good paying jobs are in short supply drowning the middle class in red ink and making many more and more dependent on government. Our country's rise to world preeminence and admiration stemmed from the fact that its prosperity was widely shared. In the first decades after World War II the percentage of households earning middle incomes doubled to 60 percent. It was no miracle, but a fundamental accomplishment of enlightened capitalism.

How our political leaders respond to this downward spiral of mobility will define the future of our nation. A pro-growth program could take several forms. We should encourage the growth of high wage blue collar industries in construction, energy as well as manufacturing with significant emphasis on our becoming energy independent. Reform our tax code for both individuals and employers to make us more competitive in world markets. It is also very important to encourage students to take full advantage of trade school skills.

I heard an interview recently with Tim Cook, CEO of Apple, who commented that the rise of the middle class in China was directly due to their major emphasis placed on increasing skilled workers. This makes sound judgment rather than imposing huge tuitions on students who may not finish with a degree that offers good employment opportunities.

It is critical that the benefits of capitalism need to be more widely shared for the middle class to once again rise rather than decline.

Jan Dolcater of Rockport is a member of a group of concerned Midcoast citizens who meet to discuss issues of public interest. Their weekly column "Another View" has been awarded by the Maine Press Association.

A Year in Review

By U.S. Sen. Susan Collins

As we turn the page on 2015 and look to the future, I welcome this opportunity to share some of the accomplishments of 2016. Although much work remains to be done, I was able to achieve progress on issues that matter to the people of Maine, whom I am honored to represent in the United States Senate.

Growing the economy by encouraging the creation of more jobs was and remains my top priority. The tax-relief bill passed by Congress late last year contains three key provisions I authored to help provide small businesses — the engine of our economy — with the certainty they need to plan for expansion, invest in equipment, and, most important, to hire new workers.

These tax provisions allow small businesses to immediately deduct the entire cost, up to \$500,000 of certain newly acquired assets that are purchased or financed during the tax year, and to more quickly recover the costs of equipment that wear out, or depreciates, with use. One provision of particular importance to Maine's tourism sector enables restaurants to depreciate the cost of renovations over 15 years, rather than the previous, unrealistic 39 years.

Maine's economy and traffic safety both got a boost with a permanent change in the federal law that previously had forced the heaviest trucks onto our country roads and downtown streets rather than allowing them to use Maine's federal Interstates. This permanent provision, which I included in the transportation provisions of the comprehensive funding bill, follows a successful pilot program I authored that has made Maine's secondary roads and downtown streets safer, saved Maine companies time and money, and reduced energy consumption and emissions.

Maine's economic future took a step forward last year with a significant additional funding I helped to secure for the Off-shore Wind Advanced Technology Demonstration initiative, which benefits the University of Maine's innovative deepwater offshore wind project. I am a strong advocate for this emerging alternative energy source that has the potential to create thousands of good jobs here in Maine and make our state the global leader in this promising new technology.

The people of Maine are proud of the historic role our state has played in our nation's defense, and as a senior member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, I work to ensure

that these contributions continue. In 2015, I secured \$1 billion toward an additional Naval destroyer, which likely would be built at Bath Iron Works. America's combatant commanders have outlined military requirements for a considerably larger Navy than we now have, and destroyers remain the workhorses of the fleet.

Modernization projects at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard I long have advocated for were completed. In addition, I helped to secure \$7.2 million for the Maine Air National Guard's 101st Air Refueling Wing to renovate the base fire and crash rescue station and celebrated the opening of the \$14.5 million Maine Army National Guard Readiness Center in Bangor on December 5th.

Victory over bureaucratic intransigence was finally achieved last year when the wholesome fresh potato was finally included in the federal nutrition program known as WIC. As directed in a law I wrote, the Institute of Medicine evaluated the nutritional value of potatoes, finding them to be a good source of vitamins, fiber, and potassium and further finding that there was no justification for the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to exclude this vegetable. The Department finally relented and now includes whole potatoes, which had been the only fresh vegetable or fruit excluded from the WIC program. I also secured funding and language on a range of issues important to Maine's farmers and growers, including potatoes, wild blueberries, and pollinating bees.

At the beginning of 2015, I became Chairman of the Senate Aging Committee, a position I sought for two reasons: Maine has the highest median age of any state, and the issues facing our nation due to its changing demographics as our population ages deserve more attention. The priorities we focused on were retirement security, fraud and financial abuses of our seniors, and the need for investing more funding in biomedical research, particularly for Alzheimer's Disease and diabetes.

I advocated strongly for the \$2 billion increase in funding approved for the National Institutes of Health, which is the largest increase to the agency's budget since 2003. This is an investment that will pay dividends, particularly when dealing with costly diseases like diabetes and Alzheimer's. As the Senate Co-Chair of the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's disease, I am all too aware of the tremendous personal and economic toll this devastating disease takes on more than five million Americans and their families. I co-authored the 2011 law creating the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and sponsored a resolution calling for Congress to devote at least \$2 billion per year to research as recommended by the expert federal advisory council established by this law. Last year, Congress approved a \$350 million increase for Alzheimer's disease research at the National Institute of Aging, bringing the total amount available for Alzheimer's disease research to \$936 million — a more than 50 percent increase and almost half-way to that \$2 billion a year goal.

As America ages, the need for care and support increases too. There are more than 40 million individuals in our nation who know all too well the compassion, commitment, and endurance that it takes to be a caregiver of a loved one. Family caregivers devote their time and

Please see Page 7, COLLINS

Looking for Mrs. Maine contestants

To the editor;

Hello! I am the contestant coordinator for the Mrs. Maine America Pageant. Our 2016 pageant will be held this May in South Portland and we are currently accepting contestants to compete for this prestigious title. Since we are based in southern Maine, we don't often have married women from Aroostook, Washington and Piscataquis counties enter.

We'd love to have a lucky lady be "Mrs. Piscataquis" or represent a town in your county.

Christie Cantara
Falmouth
www.mrsmaine.net

Nottingham returns

To the Editor;

It's perplexing, at best, to find that a villain so reviled and mocked throughout history has gained such an ardent admirer here in the State of Maine. The sheriff of Nottingham, fact or fiction, remains a source of some debate for those who wish to bother. Still the fact remains that the sheriff of Nottingham, fable or no, has long invoked metaphorical images of the pompous, indifferent politician who's every detached existence is made possible through taxes culled from the hard labors and bent backs of a people long siphoned and beaten beyond any hope of returned independence or prosperity. Yes, that is all one sentence and I'm sure I offended the syntax gods somewhere in there, but let's move on.

Last election cycle, Emily Cain and her running mate Blaine Richardson, were defeated by Bruce Poliquin. The new Representative Poliquin had just barely finished arranging the furniture in his office in

Washington D.C. when he was informed that Emily Cain had announced her candidacy for the office he had just finished dusting. (You do realize the office needed a lot of dusting, as Mike Michaud preferred to stay hidden in the closet and rarely used the desk for anything. Incidentally, Emily Cain has not announced whether she will allow Blaine Richardson to tag along as her running mate this time around ... we all wait with bated breath, but I digress...) There was much consternation and head scratching as to why Ms. Cain needed to announce immediately if not sooner her intention to run for office. It's really not that confusing.

Emily Cain was afforded a great opportunity after her defeat. She could have entered the private sector and got a job, establish some "street cred" if you will. She must have quickly realized that she was in the party of fat cats, trust fund brats, and all around tax sponges. The Democrat Party greatly discour-

ages their politicians against entering the private workforce and risking having candidates with dangerous amounts of commonsense accrued. So she's followed a time honored Democrat tradition, suckle up to the teat of public tax funds.

Yes, the Sheriff of Nottingham has been reincarnated in a much more likable, effusive, and feminine persona, but still demands your taxes to fund her very existence. Since graduating college, Emily Cain has not held one private sector job. Everything she has done, everything she has accomplished has been funded by tax dollars. When provided an opportunity to move into the world of the self-made, entrepreneurs, businesses, and the workforce, she chose to stay in her sheltered gilded world wrapped in walls built up to shield her from the very people whose hard earned dollars were taxed away to build

Please see Page 7, NOTTINGHAM

The First Amendment, our articles of peace

By Charles C. Haynes

In 2015, America's increasingly crowded public square was often filled with hostility, becoming an angry arena where people shout past one another across religious and ideological divides.

Incendiary rhetoric and personal attacks are now commonplace in culture war conflicts over everything from refugees and immigration to religious freedom and sexual identity.

Any notion of the "common good" gets lost in the crossfire of charge and counter-charge — and, on the fringes, wars of words escalate into outbursts of hate and intolerance.

Of course, some degree of incivility is the price of freedom. Free speech in a free society is, by definition, a messy proposition.

Each of us — whatever our religion, belief or political philosophy — is guaranteed under the First Amendment the right to express

our faith, values and convictions openly and freely without governmental interference.

The framers of the First Amendment understood that the only thing worse than a loud, sometimes offensive public square — which was often the case in 18th century America — is a public square where the government determines what is offensive and what is not.

At the same time, the framers worried out loud about the dangers to freedom when people exercised rights without responsibility. James Madison, the primary author of the First Amendment, framed the problem this way:

"Is there no virtue among us? If there be not, we are in a wretched situation. No theoretical checks — no form of government can render us secure. To suppose that any form of government will secure liberty or happiness without virtue in the people is a chimerical idea."

In other words, the Constitution

is necessary, but not sufficient to ensure freedom. Rights are best protected when citizens debate one another robustly, but civilly — and take responsibility to guard the rights of others, including those with whom they disagree.

The letter of the First Amendment guarantees religious freedom by mandating government neutrality among religions and between religion and non-religion and by protecting the right of every individual to follow the dictates of conscience.

But these guarantees require a critical mass of citizens to uphold the spirit of the First Amendment to counter social discrimination, hostile work environments and other forms of discrimination often experienced by religious minorities in daily life.

In the United States today, "religious minority" could describe people of any faith — from the Mormon in Mississippi to the Bap-

tist in Utah. And let's not overlook the social and political discrimination directed at atheists, humanists and others with no religious affiliation — a rapidly growing segment of the American population.

We are all members of a religious or ideological minority somewhere in America. How we treat "the other" in places where we are in the majority may well determine how we are treated in places where we are in the minority.

Litigation and legislation are sometimes needed to enforce the letter of the First Amendment, but litigation and legislation alone cannot end the social discrimination that chills free speech and limits religious freedom.

Only by agreeing, as a matter of civic duty, to engage one another with civility, and respect can we ensure a society committed to upholding the rights protected by the First Amendment.

The principles of rights, respon-

sibility and respect that flow from the First Amendment are not — as Catholic theologian and American public philosopher John Courtney Murray reminded us — our "articles of faith."

We each have religious and non-religious convictions that are often matters of conscience more deeply held than our civic commitments.

But, as Murray also reminded us, First Amendment principles provide our "articles of peace" — the civic framework and ground rules that enable Americans to live and work together as citizens of one nation of many faiths and beliefs.

Can we live with our deepest differences? Resolving in the New Year to reaffirm our articles of peace is a good place to start.

Charles C. Haynes is vice president of the Newseum Institute and founding director of the Religious Freedom Center.

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YOUR GUIDE TO THE PISCATAQUIS OBSERVER

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NEWSROOM

IF YOU HAVE A STORY IDEA OR AN EVENT TO BE COVERED, call Stuart Hedstrom in the News/Sports Department at 564-8355.

FOR CLARIFICATION OR CORRECTIONS, please notify the News Department. Corrections and clarifications appear on Page 2 or 3. THE MANAGING EDITOR is Mark Putnam.

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Updated: 07/16/15

Tigers ring in the New Year with win over Penobscot Valley

By **Stuart Hedstrom**
Staff Writer

DEXTER — The boys basketball teams from Dexter Regional High School and Penobscot Valley High School of Howland entered the Jan. 2 matinee contest — a game pushed back from the evening of Dec. 29 on account of a storm — with matching 4-2 records and holding consecutive ninth and 10th positions in the Class C North Heal Point Standings. Once the squads got on the court the parity ended.

The Tigers (who improved to 5-2 with the win and handed the

4-3 Howlers the team's third loss in a row) jumped out to a 14-3 lead at the end of the first quarter. The home team took advantage of about a dozen Penobscot Valley turnovers and held the opposition to only a trio of foul shots, building a double-digit lead the team would hold for nearly all of the remaining duration of play in the 49-28 victory.

Dexter, which features a roster devoid of any seniors, used a balanced scoring attack in the opening quarter as four of the five starters recorded points. Juniors Brayden Miller and Zachary White both

tallied five points in the first eight minutes — each had a pair of field goals and one free throw — to account for 10 of the 14 points. Miller finished with a game-high 15 points and White was not too far behind with 11 of his own.

While not an 11-point advantage, the third quarter saw the Tigers nearly double the output of the opposition at 15-8. Miller and White again led the way with six and four points respectively. Junior CJ Cooper connected from beyond the 3-point line in the session, for a portion of his 11 points to become the third Tiger to reach

double figures — in contrast to just one for Penobscot Valley as junior Levi Thompson recorded 10 points.

The 28 points for the Howlers — who are back up in Class C under the new five-class system — was the fewest for the team in 2015-16. In four of the five wins for the Tigers the team has held its opponent to 28 points or fewer with the other three totals being 27, 27 and 22.

Dexter is scheduled to close the regular season with a game at Howland on Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 6:30 p.m.



Observer photo/Stuart Hedstrom

UNDERNEATH THE BASKET — Junior CJ Cooper of Dexter scored back-to-back baskets early in the second quarter on Saturday afternoon. Cooper finished with 11 points to join a pair of teammates in reaching double-figures.



Observer photo/Stuart Hedstrom

COMING THROUGH! — Junior Zachary White splits the defense in the lane during Dexter's first game of the 2016 vs. Penobscot Valley. Looking on is sophomore Joshua Simcock.



Observer photo/Stuart Hedstrom

STARTING 2016 OFF STRONG — Dexter junior Brayden Miller goes up for two of his game-high 15 points at the conclusion of the third quarter during the Tigers' 49-28 victory vs. Penobscot Valley of Howland on Jan. 2. Miller has a clear path to the hoop over Howler junior Jaden Foster (30) and sophomore Jonathan Littlefield (21). Dexter improved to 5-2 with the win and gave Penobscot Valley (4-3) the team's third consecutive defeat.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Dexter 49, Penobscot 28

PEN 3 9 8 8 | 28 DEX 14 9 15 11 | 49

Dexter: Miller 15, White 11, Cooper 11, Bourdeau 3, Perkins 3, Campbell 2, Simcock 2 and Strauch 2.

Penobscot: Thompson 10, Spencer 9, Priest 3, Littlefield 2, Whitten 2 and Wood 2.

Records: Dexter 5-2, Penobscot 4-3.

High school roundup

Dec. 30: Foxcroft boys basketball won vs. Mattanawcook 85-75. Hunter Smith scored 25 points.

Penquis boys basketball lost vs. Schenck 59-51. Charles Artus recorded 20 points.

Foxcroft girls basketball lost vs. Mattanawcook 46-45. Abby Simpson tallied 14 points.

PCHS girls basketball won vs. Lee 53-23. Jordynne Littlefield and Haylee Patterson each had 14 points.

Penquis girls basketball lost at Schenck 52-34. Jordan Durant led with 11 points.

Jan. 2: Foxcroft boys basketball lost at Old Town 66-46. Hunter Smith scored 24 points.

Greenville boys basketball won vs. Deer Isle-Stonington 47-40. Nick Foley led with 14 points.

PCHS boys basketball lost at Lee 73-64. Ben Morrill recorded 39 points.

Penquis boys basketball won vs. Stearns 37-22. Devon Cuthbertson had eight points.

Greenville girls basketball lost vs. Deer Isle-Stonington 44-24. Emma Bilodeau and Shelby Ward scored six points apiece.

Road race news

BANGOR — Three runners from the region took part in the 10th annual EPIC Finale 5K on Dec. 27.

Peter Devine, 66 of Garland, covered the 3.1 miles in 24 min-

utes, 32 seconds to finish 49th in a field of 149. Gary Larson, 70 of Dover-Foxcroft, placed 52nd at 24:42. Gayle Peirce, 56 of Exeter, was 111th at 31:29.

The Sports Year in Review — Part II

What were the top sports stories of the region over the past year? Our staff reviewed the past 12 months as documented by the *Observer* and came up with the highlights from 2015. Last week focused on the first half of the year while this week covers the final six months.

July

Bruce Daley was the overall winner of the Slate Man Triathlon in Monson with a time of 25 minutes, 21 seconds while top female Trish Moulton covered the course in 36:39 minutes.

August

For the fourth time in a row, Graham Pearsall, a 2009 Foxcroft Academy graduate, won the FA Alumni Weekend Pony Pride 5K. He completed the 3.1-mile course in 16 minutes, 41 seconds.

Wayne Champeon, who led his Greenville High School basketball

team to a 1954 state championship and was named to the Class M all-tourney team, was inducted into the Maine Basketball Hall of Fame. Champeon's resume included a stellar playing career at the University of Maine as well as an incredible coaching run at Edward Little High School and Foxcroft Academy.

A pair of familiar faces would be in somewhat new places for the new school year as SAD 41 directors approved transferring Principal Julie Royal from Brownville to Milo Elementary School and filling the Brownville post with Carol Smith as teaching principal.

Foxcroft Academy's senior quarterback Hunter Smith was invited to take the field in the Blue-Grey North-South All-American Bowl, a high school all-star game to be played in January at the home stadium of the Tampa Bay

Buccaneers.

Brian Salisbury and Andrew Shorey were named as co-coaches of the Dexter Regional High School varsity football team. They replaced Kevin Armstrong, who stepped down after three seasons at the Tigers' helm citing increased job responsibilities.

September

The fall 2015 Foxcroft football season suffered a substantial setback during the preseason as senior Hunter Smith dislocated his hip in an exhibition game and junior halfback-linebacker Billy Brock broke a bone in his hand in the same contest.

October

Seniors Gabe Piquette and Jen Clawson of Foxcroft Academy and junior William Strauch of Dexter scored top-30 individual finishes in their respective races to advance to the state cross country meet in Cumberland.

November

Named as all-star selections by

the Maine Soccer Coaches organization were FA's Antonio Ayala, Logan Butera, Nathaniel Church and Tobias Hogfeldt in Boys Class B North; Penquis Valley's Clayton Preble and Bryce Gilbert of Piscataquis Community in Boys Class C North; and Greenville's Evan Bjork, Connor DiAngelo and Noah Pratt in Boys Class D South. Charlotte Aucoin and Shelby Ward were recognized in Girls Class D South.

Named to the Penobscot Valley Conference Soccer all-academic team were Antonio Ayala, Toan Bui, Nate Church, Harry Gong, Dylan Harmon-Weeks and Cooper Nelson, all of Foxcroft Academy; Ben Morrill and Christian Mummley of PCHS; and Josh Martin of Penquis. Girls' honorees include Stacey Allen and Jenna Crane of Dexter; Greenville's Shelby Ward; Courtney Deane, Cahrey Harris,

Please see Page 6 SPORTS REVIEW

Foxcroft wrestlers second at Nokomis meet

NEWPORT — The Foxcroft Academy wrestling team continued its string of strong performances at large early season meets Saturday with a second-place finish at the Nokomis Warrior Clash.

Coach Luis Ayala's Class B Ponies, despite fielding competitors in just nine of the 14 weight classes, advanced eight of those wrestlers to the championship finals en route to scoring 150 points.

That trailed only three-time defending Eastern Maine Class A champion Skowhegan, which crowned a meet-best six indi-

vidual champions and amassed 193.5 points.

Class B Dirigo of Dixfield was third with 136 points, followed by Class A schools Nokomis (112.5) and Oxford Hills of South Paris (71) among the 22 teams represented at the daylong meet.

Dexter finished ninth with 31 points. The Tigers were paced by Tyler Beem's third-place finish at 138 pounds and Jacob Hessel-tine's fourth at 170.

Foxcroft crowned two individual champions, with Zach Caron remaining undefeated this winter by pinning Quinton Richards of Nokomis at 2:45 of their 145-pound final.

The Ponies' Michael Penriss won the 220-pound crown by pinning Oxford Hills' Logan Truman at 1:08.

Six other Foxcroft wrestlers earned runner-up finishes in their weight classes — Brandon Weston (106 pounds), Antonio Ayala (126), R.J. Nelson (132), Billy Brock (182), Brandon Brock (195) and Connor Holmes (285).

Antonio Ayala, a senior, was competing with a face shield to protect a broken nose he suffered earlier this season.

The Ponies have one more major multi-school meet remaining, the Spartan Invitational next weekend in Sanford, before focusing on the Penobscot Valley Conference portion of their regular-season schedule.

Ponies third at Noble Invitational

Foxcroft Academy used six top-five finishes — including three individual champions — to

place a strong third in the team competition at the annual Noble Invitational wrestling tournament recently held at Noble High School in North Berwick.

Coach Luis Ayala's Class B squad finished with 162 points, trailing only defending Eastern Maine Class A champion Skowhegan (180.5) and perennial Class A power Noble (170).

It was the second-best finish for a Foxcroft team at the Noble meet during Ayala's coaching tenure. The Ponies finished second in 2003.

Four-time defending Class A state champion Marshwood of South Berwick was fourth (154), followed by Nokomis of Newport (124) and defending Class

Please see Page 6, WRESTLERS

Pony indoor track results

ORONO — The Foxcroft Academy indoor track and field team was in action at an Eastern Maine Indoor Track League/Penobscot Valley Conference meet on Jan. 2 at the University of Maine.

The Pony boys finished with a score of 53 points to place fourth out of seven schools.

Senior Cooper Nelson led the team by winning both the mile and two mile, with respective times of 4 minutes, 46.75 seconds and 11:10.69. Senior Gabe Piquette came in second at two miles with a

time of 11:33.76, and he was fourth in the mile at 5:08.82.

Senior Nathaniel Church was the meet runner-up in the 55 at 7.02 seconds, and he came in fifth in the long jump at a distance of 18 feet, 1.25 inches. Church anchored the third-place 4x200 relay squad with junior Evan Chadbourne, seniors Blaine Robinson and James Smith and Church combining for a time of 1:43.50.

Chadbourne was fifth in the 55 at 7.24 seconds and sixth in the 200 at 25.28 seconds. Senior Paul Birtwistle added

a fifth-place finish in the 400 with his time of 57.04 seconds.

The Foxcroft girls were seventh of seven schools with eight points.

Sophomore Virginia Macomber came in third in the two mile with a time of 16:59.99.

Senior Desirae Brawn placed sixth in the shot put with a top throw of 26-10.50. Junior Erika Chadbourne, sophomore Jordan Thomas, freshman Hannah Sprecher and Brawn were sixth in the 4x200 relay with a time of 2:11.21.

BASKETBALL

HEAL POINT STANDINGS through Jan. 4

Class B North boys

16. Foxcroft 2-7

Top 12 teams qualify for playoffs

Class C North boys

8. Dexter 5-2

12. PCHS 2-6

13. Penquis 2-7

Top 12 teams qualify for playoffs

Class D South boys

9. Greenville 4-2

Top nine teams qualify for playoffs

Class B North girls

10. Foxcroft 4-4

Top 12 teams qualify for playoffs

Class C North girls

1. Dexter 7-2

6. PCHS 5-2

16. Penquis 2-7

Top 12 teams qualify for playoffs

Class D South girls

9. Greenville 0-5

Top nine teams qualify for playoffs

Allagash Wilderness Waterway now complete

By Matthew LaRoche

Forty-nine years after being established by the Maine State Legislature, the Allagash Wilderness Waterway (AWW) is finally wholly owned by the State of Maine. The 40-acre Lock Dam lot, the last outlot on the 92-mile long waterway, was purchased from Katahdin Timberlands LLC on Sept. 30. The funds for the acquisition were provided by the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Foundation and Lock Dam Preservation Association.

Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Commissioner Walter Whitcomb and Marcia McKeague, president of Katahdin Timberlands signed the deed transferring ownership of the property at an informal ceremony at the department's headquarters in Augusta. Commissioner Whitcomb said, "Many have worked all these 50-plus years to complete public ownership of the chain of lakes and streams we call the Allagash Wil-

derness Waterway. Now supporters of this unique canoeing journey face the challenges of adapting to the changing interests of outdoor recreational enthusiasts."

The Lock and Telos Dam lots were formerly owned by the East Branch Improvement Company. The state was not allowed to acquire these two lots when the waterway was established in 1966. With a potentially expensive FERC license hanging over their head, East Branch Improvement turned over the two dams to Maine in the year 2000. Telos Dam was given to the AWW with the associated 40-acre lot that it was located on. However, the minority owner of East Branch Improvement retained ownership of the Lock Dam lot until the recently completed sale.

The Lock Dam lot is very strategic to the waterway. It is located on the primary route that paddlers use when portaging from Chamberlain to Eagle Lake. Three remote

campsites are situated on the lot, a snowmobile trail connecting the two lakes, and the one-room cabin that was once home to Dorothy and Milford Kidney sits pretty much as they left it. Dorothy Boone Kidney wrote two books about her life at Lock Dam, they are a very interesting read about their life at that remote outpost.

Formerly called Chamberlain Lake Dam, Lock Dam was first constructed in 1841. It, along with Telos Dam, changed the direction of water flowing from Chamberlain Lake from north into the St. John River to south down the East Branch of the Penobscot River. See the link located at www.maine.gov/allagash to read more about the history of Lock Dam.

The lot has water frontage on Chamberlain and Eagle Lakes, as well as several hundred feet of frontage on Martin Stream. It is abutted by existing Bureau of Public Lands property on all sides, and an ecological reserve is designated to the north all the way to the Tramway National Historic Site and beyond.

Katahdin Timberlands LLC should be praised for holding this important property as wild forest land, allowing traditional use of the property and working with the two nonprofit groups that made it available to the State of Maine at no cost.

The Allagash Wilderness Waterway is managed by the Depart-



Contributed photo

FORMERLY CALLED CHAMBERLAIN LAKE DAM – Lock Dam was first constructed in 1841. It, along with Telos Dam, changed the direction of water flowing from Chamberlain Lake from north into the St. John River to south down the East Branch of the Penobscot River. The parcel was recently purchased from Katahdin Timberlands LLC by the state to complete the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

ment of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's Bureau of Parks and Lands.

For an information packet or general information on the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, go to: www.maine.gov/allagash or call 207-941-4014; email heidij.johnson@maine.gov or write to the Bureau of Parks and Lands, 106 Hogan Road, Bangor, ME 04401.

Waterway notes

The winter campground registration will be held at the Chamberlain Bridge Ranger Station on Saturday, December 12 starting at 8:00 a.m. The 48 available sites will be allo-

cated on a first come — first serve basis. For information about the winter campground, give me a call at (207) 695-3721 x3 or send me an

email at: matt.laroche@maine.gov. *Matthew LaRoche is superintendent of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.*

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Sports Review

Continued from Page 5

Haylee Patterson and Lucinda Wingert of PCHS; and Alyssa Murano and Sha-Lynn Trafton of Penquis.

Earning PVC field hockey recognition were Katie Batron and Kolby Kain of Dexter, Allig Bourget, Avery Carroll and Madison Fadley of Foxcroft, and Alanna Page of PCHS, first team; Abby Webber of Dexter and Miriah Chapman and Jordynne Littlefield of PCHS, second team; and Emily Watson of Dexter, honorable mention. Named to the PVC all-academic field hockey team were Carroll and Fadley of FA, Batron, Cassidy Brown, Ciera Handy, Christie Nicholas, Kaitlyn Paquin

and Watson of Dexter, and Littlefield, Alexa Merrill, Alanna Page, Tiffany Porter and Rylea Roberts of PCHS.

Chosen by the Maine Field Hockey Association as top student-athletes were Dexter's Katie Batron, Foxcroft's Avery Carroll and Alanna Page of PCHS.

December

Football players Tanner Strout and Connor Holmes represented Foxcroft Academy on the Big 10 Conference first team while teammate Cody Strout received second team honors. James Smith and David Salley were selected as honorable mentions. Picked for the Big 10 all-academic team from FA were Nate Church, Abe Simpson, Hunter Smith and James Smith.

Shorey

Continued from Page 1

"Obviously I'm not going to [retire], but it's an incredible opportunity. I know the caliber of the fight is huge on top of the pressure of fighting on national TV. But I'm ready for it. This is all I've wanted and I'm going to be smiling through it all. Regardless of what happens I'm going to leave everything in the cage Friday night."

Shorey will be one of two area fighters on the AXS-TV card, joined by Etna native "The" Ryan Sanders, who will be part of the main event in a non-title bout against CES lightweight champion Luis "Rockstar" Felix of Cranston, Rhode Island.

Like Shorey, Sanders is a late replacement who will be competing on 10 days' notice against Felix. But because Sanders took the fight just last Monday as a replacement for injured challenger Waylon Lowe the bout will be held at a catchweight of 160 pounds.

"After I win on Friday it will look good," said Sanders, who trains at Young's MMA in Bangor. "I will have beaten Felix on short notice

and then he'll probably want a rematch and that one will be for the title and it will be really big."

The 28-year-old Sanders (9-7) has won three of his last four fights, including a five-round split-decision victory over Lucas Cruz on Oct. 3 in Portland to win the Toe 2 Toe Fights lightweight championship.

Felix (14-8) has won five of his last six bouts while ascending to the top of the CES ranks. A former high school and college wrestler, Felix also is well known for his striking skills.

"I feel like it's harder for guys coming out of Maine because we're a smaller state with smaller gyms, so it's good to get these chances," Sanders said. "I know Derek and I are both huge underdogs going into these fights but the way I look at it is we have nothing to lose because we're taking these fights on short notice."

"I honestly figure it's a win-win for us. We're just a couple of Maine boys people expect to get their heads knocked off and we get the chance to go in there and say, 'That's not happening.'"

Wrestlers

Continued from Page 5

B state champion Ellsworth (119.5) among the 21-school field that included entries from New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island.

Zach Caron at 145 pounds, Michael Pendriss at 220 and Connor Holmes at 285 were individual champions for the the Ponies, with Holmes winning his title by outlasting Hunter Glidden of Nokomis 3-1 in three overtimes.

Brandon Weston (106 pounds) and Brandon Brock (195) each placed third for Foxcroft while Billy Brock (182) finished fourth. The Ponies' Antonio Ayala finished fifth at 126 pounds while R.J. Nelson was fifth at 132.

Dexter wins Mid-Maine Tourney

Superior depth propelled the Dexter Tigers to victory at the

Please see Page 7, WRESTLERS

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

List your event in the Community Events Calendar. Mail to Calendar, The Piscataquis Observer, PO Box 30, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426 or email to observer@nepublish.com with event name, date, place, time and telephone number. Deadline for submissions is Friday at 4 p.m. For full calendar, please go to www.observer-me.com.

Thursday, Jan. 7
DOVER-FOXCROFT: The Piscataquis County Spelling Bee starts at 6 p.m. at SeDoMo-

Cha Middle School.
Friday, Jan. 8
DEXTER: The Skeleton Crew meets at noon at the Abbott Memorial Library with a program on "A Matter of Balance". FMI call 924-7292.
DOVER-FOXCROFT: The Dover Low Vision Group meets at 10 a.m. at the Thayer Parkway Community Room. FMI contact 270-2730 or nancy.matulis@yahoo.com.
Saturday, Jan. 9
CORINTH: The Corinth

United Methodist Church will hold a baked bean supper from 4:30-6 p.m. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors and \$3 for children under 12.
DOVER-FOXCROFT: The Center Coffee House presents Adult Improv Game Night at the Center Theatre at 7 p.m. FMI call 564-8943.
EAST SANGERVILLE: The East Sangerville Grange coffee house presents Dave Dodson & The Lowdown at 7 p.m. Tickets at the door, or call

564-8596.
GUILFORD: Pasta night at the Guilford United Methodist Church at 5 p.m.
MILO: A Three Rivers Kiwanis cribbage tourney starts at 1 p.m. at Kiwanis Headquarters (24 Gerrish Rd.). FMI call 943-3577 or 943-7377.
Monday, Jan. 11
DOVER-FOXCROFT: The Board of Supervisors of the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District will meet at 6 p.m. FMI: 564-2321 or

email info@piscataquisswd.org.
Tuesday, Jan. 12
MILO: The Milo Garden Club holds a "friendship" meeting at noon at the town hall with soup, biscuits and gravy.
Thursday, Jan. 14
DOVER-FOXCROFT: The

Widows and Widowers Group meets at the Nor'easter at 11:30 a.m. FMI call 924-5351.
GREENVILLE: A meeting for the Moosehead Sanitary District Trustees is scheduled at 8:30 a.m. at the plant office at 101 Spruce St.

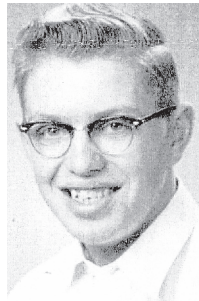
OBITUARIES

Obituary Notices

GOULD, Clarence A., 84, Sebec, December 28, 2015. A memorial gathering will be held from 1-3 p.m., Jan. 16, 2016, at the Chadbourne-Merrill American Legion Hall, Park Street, Dover-Foxcroft. Arrangements are in the care of the Lary Funeral Home, Dover-Foxcroft.
WESTON, Frank W., 77, Dover-Foxcroft, December 29, 2015. Spring burial will be in the family lot at Gray Cemetery in Dover-Foxcroft. Arrangements are in the care of the Lary Funeral Home, Dover-Foxcroft.

Frank W. Weston

DOVER-FOXCROFT - Frank W. Weston, 77, died December 29, 2015, at the Weston family farm, after a truly courageous battle with cancer. He was born on March 24, 1938, in Dover-Foxcroft, the youngest of four sons born to Malcolm and Calista (Bridges) Weston. The family moved to Fairfield where Frank attended public schools, graduating from Lawrence High School in 1955. He married the absolute love of his life, Lois Tanner of Canaan, ME, on March 8, 1957. They were inseparable for 55 years until her passing in 2012.



Frank's working career covered many jobs including the farm industry, Harris Baking and later he moved into building supplies. He worked for Wirthmore Stores in Pittsfield, as Executive Vice-President of Better Homes, Inc. in Bangor and retired as Store Manager of Agway in Detroit, ME, in 2000.

Frank's outside interests included first and foremost and until the moment he passed, his family. His ready smile and warm personality endeared him to all. As a talented woodworker, he made lovely furniture for his family.

He was also a proud member and past President of the Kennebec Valley Chordsmen, a chapter of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. He truly enjoyed barbershop singing and contributed both his beautiful voice and building talents for show props. He also joined two singing groups in Dover, The Yesteryear Music Makers and The High Hope Singers, performing at many nursing homes and churches. He made many cherished, life-long friends while singing. During hunting season, he could be found at the family's hunting camp in Buttermilk with his brothers, uncles, cousins and nephews. After retirement, he moved from the home he built in Canaan to return to the family

farm in Dover-Foxcroft. He volunteered at the Mayo Regional Hospital until his health declined, where he made many more friendships with coworkers and patients. His family extends heartfelt gratitude to Dave and Sue Leland for your many visits and loving support. Dr. Kenneth Baker and his office manager, Ginny, who make patients feel like family. Also to the Doctors and Staff at The Harold Alford Center for Cancer Care. Our thanks to Jasper Farrington and Gordon Kenyon and all the Kennebec Valley Chordsmen who visited and continued to keep a song in his heart. And last but not least, Pam, Jeanette, Laura and the caregivers at CHCS Home Health and Hospice Services who have helped Dad and his children deal with this final transition at home.

Frank is survived by his children, Sandra Corcoran, Cheryl Doyon and husband, Norman, and Bruce Weston and wife, Shelley; eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Frank's life was held 1 p.m., Saturday, January 2, 2016, at the Dover-Foxcroft Methodist Church with Pastor Mark Stevens. A gathering and refreshments followed in the church meeting room. Spring burial will be in the family lot at Gray Cemetery in Dover-Foxcroft. Arrangements are in the care of Lary Funeral Home, Dover-Foxcroft. Condolences may be expressed at www.laryfuneralhome.com.

Clarence A. Gould

SEBEC - Clarence A. Gould, Master Sergeant, Retired, 84, husband of Marilyn (Stone) Gould, passed away unexpectedly December 28, 2015, at his residence. He was born November 2, 1931, in Howland, the son of Charles and Julia (Drew) Gould.



Clarence served his country in the U.S. Air Force for 21 years, which included three tours in Southeast Asia. He retired in 1973 as a B52 Gunner, with over 100 missions.



He had a love for competition and especially enjoyed hunting, fishing, and shooting. His family was his whole life and he adored his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by two brothers, Charles Edwin Gould, and Leonard S. Gould; and three sisters, Leona Gould Crowell, Mildred Gould Spear, and Clara Gould Browne.

He is survived by his soulmate and the love of his life, Marilyn; three sons, Larry Gould and his wife, Katrina, Michael Gould and his wife, Deborah, and James Gould and his wife, Tracie; a daughter, Lisa Gould Royal and her husband, Kevan; eight grandchildren, Brianne Gould and her companion, Keith Partridge, Katalyn Soucy and

her husband, Sean, Adam Gould and his fiancée, Jessica Cushman, Ryan Royal, Jamie Royal, Christopher Royal, Lindsey Gould, and Samantha Brawn. He also leaves 14 great-grandchildren, Halle Royal, Damien Royal, Gabriel Royal, Nevaeh Royal, Kevan Royal, Kayden Royal, Mason and Aria Gould, Gavin and Brook Partridge, Ever Zamora, Austin Soucy, Grace Soucy, and Colton Soucy.

A memorial gathering will be held from 1-3 p.m., Jan. 16, 2016, at the Chadbourne-Merrill American Legion Hall, Park Street, Dover-Foxcroft. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Wounded Warrior Project at www.woundedwarriorproject.org or Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675. Arrangements are in the care of the Lary Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed at www.laryfuneralhome.com.

Nottingham

Continued from Page 4

them. While it's more than ironic that she wishes to represent a people whose lives she cannot comprehend or identify with, it's the hypocritical attacks on Rep. Poliquin that reek with the cloud of stupefaction that blankets the Democrat Party. Her claims that the self-made millionaire has somehow cheated the public would be laughable if they were bits in a cheap sitcom, but instead are a sad commentary on how completely detached from reality she is. Perhaps it is the term "self-made" that she cannot grasp. Along with her Party, Emily Cain has spent so much time living off the accomplishments of others that she cannot comprehend that anyone can create their own wealth by using their own talents, own initiative, and own hard-work to carve their own slice of the American

dream. Remember this is the Party that has told American innovators and business owners "they didn't build that." It's the stuff of socialism that says everything belongs to the collective and only the elite can live off it. Everything Emily Cain has is funded by taxes. All her salaries have come from the wallets of taxpayers. Her clothes, her food, her fancies, her empire, her very existence are all a product of tax dollars. It can't help but invoke images of the fabled Sheriff dining in opulence by the fire while his minions scour the shire of Nottingham pounding on battered hovel doors demanding new taxes to fund the sheriff's lifestyle whims. Perhaps Emily Cain should take an honest look at who she is instead of trying to smear her opponents with the very lifestyle she has embraced.

Andy Torbett
 Atkinson



Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Kiwanis

ENSURING A MERRY CHRISTMAS - The snow came too late for a white Christmas in 2015, but that didn't hamper Three Rivers Kiwanis Milo-Brownville's Secret Santa Chairman Bonnie Washburn. The Kiwanis' good elf was busy collecting and distributing gifts that will be enjoyed into 2016 by children in the Three Rivers/SAD 41 area. Washburn has chaired this important project for many years and is very much appreciated by the Three Rivers Kiwanis, the communities and the families she serves. Secret Santa is supported by Three Rivers Kiwanis, Toys for Tots, private and corporate donors and many volunteers. Those involved thank all who make Secret Santa possible and they look forward to serving area children in 2016.

Collins

Continued from Page 4

attention, and they frequently must make many personal and financial sacrifices to enable many of our nation's seniors to remain living in the safety and comfort of their own homes. I am pleased that the Senate last year passed the Raise Family Caregivers Act I introduced with Senator Tammy Baldwin to develop a national strategy to recognize and support family caregivers in the United States. The Aging Committee also continued to focus on the scams and frauds targeting our seniors. Our toll-free hotline (1-855-303-9470) makes it easier for senior citizens to report suspected fraud and receive assistance and has received more than a

thousand calls. Serving on the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, I was deeply involved in reforming the flawed No Child Left Behind Act as Congress passed the most significant education legislation in many years. The new law recognizes that we don't need a national school board at the Department of Education and empowers states and communities to make important education decisions. The education reform act also includes an extension of the Rural Education Achievement Program I co-authored that provides additional financial assistance to rural schools and districts. At least 120 Maine school districts have collectively received more than \$4 million

for the REAP program. The \$250 above-the-line deduction I authored in 2002 for teachers who spend their own money on classroom supplies, which has been extended several times, was made permanent last year. As Chairman of the Senate Transportation and Housing Appropriations Subcommittee, I have made combating veterans' homelessness a priority. This year's housing funding bill includes \$60 million for 8,000 new supportive housing vouchers for homeless veterans. Since this program began in 2008, the number of homeless veterans nationwide has dropped by one third. Maine has received nearly 200 vouchers to support homeless veterans.

A Maine value that always guides me is our unsurpassed work ethic. As 2015 ended, I continued my record of never missing a roll-call vote since my Senate service began in 1997, a tally that now stands at 6,072 consecutive votes. I am grateful for the opportunity to work on your behalf as your Senator, and I wish everyone a happy and healthy 2016.



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 Chris Maas 924-4553
 (OCA - English Services)

Year In Review

Continued from Page 1

September
 After being sent back to the drawing board two times and modestly trimmed from an original \$7.2 million to \$7.16 million, the 2015-16 SAD 4 education budget gained approval by just 23 votes.

Media/English teacher Mia Morrison, representing Foxcroft Academy, was named a finalist for Maine's Teacher of the Year and representing the best of Piscataquis County educators.

Hundreds of friends, family members, colleagues and complete strangers paid their final respects to a Dover-Foxcroft native and Dexter Regional High School graduate whose life-long passion for serving and protecting people was "part of his DNA." Corey Dodge, 40, was killed Aug. 22 in Kabul, Afghanistan, when a car bomb exploded during a terrorist attack on his convoy.

By a 4-3 vote, Dover-Foxcroft selectmen opted not to put a community bill of rights ordinance on the ballot, favoring instead to set a series of meetings with supporters of the measure to prohibit corporations and governments from engaging in acquisition of land for, or the siting of, private and public-private transportation and distribution corridors. The town had received a petition carrying over 300 signatures in favor of holding a secret ballot vote on the proposed ordinance.

Later in the month, the panel voted 4-2 to deny the request to put the CBR matter to a public vote.

October
 The town of Dover-Foxcroft

landed a \$240,000 state grant on behalf of GLOBEco Maine, a manufacturer of wood fiber cleaning cloths under the brand DuraFresh. The manufacturing facility, located in the front end of the Save-A-Lot supermarket on West Main Street, was expected to grow from a five- to a 40-worker company over the next year, according to business partners Phil Pastore and Mark Snyder.

Two Appalachian Trail thru-hikers, who had been stranded on a flooded section of trail in Blanchard, were airlifted to safety by a Maine Army National Guard UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter. Heavy rains had caused the east branch of the Piscataquis River to spill over its banks and make parts of the trail impassable.

During a presentation to the Greenville board of selectmen, a 43-point Moosehead Lake Region Branding, Development and Marketing Action Plan was outlined by Amanda Hunt, a member of the local economic development committee. The brand promise, she said, is "Moosehead Lake - America's Crown Jewel."

Maine Alternative Solutions in Milo, operated by Ron and Amy Demarais, was honored by the Piscataquis Chamber of Commerce as the 2015 Business of the Year. The company sells and services heat pumps and is expanding into solar power.

November
 Following up on an earlier meeting with Maine's Commissioner of Health and Human Services, proponents of improved access to DHHS services for Piscataquis County residents stepped up their

efforts to reopen an office in Dover-Foxcroft that was closed almost 10 years earlier.

Piscataquis County voters narrowly rejected a referendum question asking for permission to spend up to \$610,000 to construct a new Sheriff's Office building at the intersection of East Main and School streets in Dover-Foxcroft. The actual vote was 1,427-1,323 against the measure.

December
 Representing the committee that has been working on a community bill of rights for Dover-Foxcroft, Dr. Lesley Fernow addressed members of the town's board of selectmen during a special meeting on the ongoing citizen-driven initiative to place a CBR ordinance question on the ballot. "Our goal is still to put an ordinance before the citizens for a vote, we look at it as a community rights issue," she said regarding ongoing private efforts to build a transportation/communications corridor through the region.

Ralph "Eddie" Lewis was selected as the 2015 Warren "Pete" Myrick Community Service Award recipient during the annual meeting of the Piscataquis County Economic Development Council in Dover-Foxcroft. The town resident was honored for his efforts on behalf of the Kiwanis Club, D-F Fire Department and Piscataquis Valley Fair Association, among others.

County commissioners approved both the 2016-17 county budget at \$4,018,000 and the spending plan for the unorganized territories, at \$1,471,870, as well.

Wrestlers

Continued from Page 6

recent Mid-Maine Tourney hosted by Mount View of Thordmike. Dexter crowned just one individual champion, but six second-place finishes and two thirds from coach Bruce Salsbury's club helped the Class B Tigers

total 149 points to best runner-up Cony of Augusta, a Class A program that amassed 127 points. Oceanside of Rockland-Thomaston (118), Erskine Academy of South China (112.5) and Caribou (102.5) were next in the 11-school field. Dexter's Daniel Wallace won

the 182-pound individual championship while teammates Tyler Beem (138), Isaiah Hesselstine (145), Bryce Sweet (160), Jacob Hesselstine (170), David Kirshkain (220) and Tanner Hall (285) each placed second and Caleb Weeks (106) and Bryce Salsbury (152) scored third-place finishes.

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Center Theatre recruiting for committees

DOVER-FOXCROFT — The Center Theatre recently announced that it is looking for new members for several of its standing committees. “As we look to an exciting new year in 2016, we’d love to have new people in the community on our committees,” said Patrick Myers, the Center Theatre’s executive director. “Most committees only meet once a month for an hour, but they are very important to the smooth operation of the Theatre.”

Myers said the Center Theatre is particularly looking for people interested in joining the fundraising, facilities and programming committees. According to Myers, these committees have important work to do in 2016 that will help ensure the Theatre’s success for next year and into the

future. “2016 is our 10th anniversary year,” Myers said. “Because of this we’re looking back at what’s worked well over the past 10 years and what we need to do to make the next 10 years even more successful.” There are important decisions to be made about facility improvements, programming direction and making plans to celebrate the 10th anniversary itself and those decisions start in the Center Theatre’s committees.

Upcoming committee meetings are as follows: Facilities Committee Thursday the 7th at 5:45 p.m.; Fundraising Committee Wednesday the 13th at 5:30 p.m.; and Programming Committee Thursday the 14th at 5:30 p.m.

“We’re encouraging anyone

who is interested to drop in for the committee meeting — no RSVP required,” Myers said. “But if the meeting time isn’t good for you please call the Theatre at 564-8943 and let us know you’re interested. We can add you to the committee list to keep you updated on future meeting times.”

For more information on the committees or anything else going on at the Center Theatre, please email info@centertheatre.org, call the box office at 564-8943 or stop by t 20 East Main Street between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Center Theatre is a non-profit performing arts center dedicated to making the arts a part of life in the Maine Highlands and is celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2016.

PCES receives grant from author James Patterson

GUILFORD — Piscataquis Community Elementary School (PCES) received a grant from bestselling author James Patterson to support its school library. In addition, the Scholastic Reading Club will match each dollar of Patterson’s donation with “bonus points” that teachers can use to acquire books and other materials for their classrooms. PCES was selected from 27,924 applications for funding grants.

As part of an ongoing effort to keep books and reading a No. 1 priority in the U.S., Patterson, together with the Scholastic Reading Club, made a commitment to help save school libraries nationwide. With grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 allocated to each of the 467 selected schools.

Charlotte Violette, library ed tech for PCES, requested \$3,000 to purchase a new set of the Eye Witness Series books and a self scanner. “Just about every student in this school has used a book from this series at one time or another,” she said. “The set we had was falling apart and the cost was prohibitive to purchase a new set. This grant has enabled us to buy a new series and a scanner to help teachers easily access library resources when the library is not manned.”

“These grants are my humble acknowledgement of some of the terrific work taking place in libraries,” Patterson said. “Here’s to communities supporting school libraries. Here’s to a country that makes reading a priority. Here’s to flourishing libraries and a joyful holiday season.”

“It continues to be inspiring and motivating to work with James Patterson to support school libraries across the country,” said Judy Newman, president of the Scholastic Reading Club. “Jim’s unwavering commitment to helping children lead better lives rich with books is transformative. Scholastic is thrilled to be working in such an effective partnership.”

In the first-ever partnership of its kind, Patterson joined forces with the Scholastic Reading Club to administer funding applications to the network of 62,000 school and 800,000 teachers. Applicants were asked to fill out an online application posing the question, “What would your school library do with \$1,000 to \$10,000?”



Photo courtesy of PCES

LIBRARY ADDITIONS — Gavyn Gilbert, left, and Jaida Campbell show the new books purchased for the PCES school library with the monies received from a James Patterson grant. The bestselling author and Scholastic Reading Club both have provided funding for schools across the country, including PCES in Guilford.

The full list of grant recipients is at www.scholastic.com/patternsonpartnership. Any U.S. school was eligible to apply. Patterson hopes the high volume of requests will raise awareness for the problems facing school libraries. To learn more go to <http://mediaroom.scholastic.com/scholasticreadingclub> and follow #PattersonPledge on social media.



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UT Residents

Continued from Page 1

which the petitions may be challenged and subjected to a substantive review.

“The current petition process is our only means of exercising our right to protect our property and our economic future. It is clearly one-sided and favors the large wind developers and their partners over the residents in the UTs. But we’ll take any avenue we can to try and stop these projects. We know we are in for a long battle and this is only the beginning,” said John Willard, owner of the Birches Resort in Rockwood and president of Moosehead Region Futures committee.

“Having our local residents step-up and be counted means everything for saving our quality

of place and our economic future. This is a classic David and Goliath situation. Maine citizens with their hands tied behind their backs trying to fight large, out-of-state corporations and big-moned interests,” he added.

However, the final decision on whether or not the petitions stand lies with the LUPC. Though the rules and procedures for the substantive review process have not yet been established, it is likely that the review process will include public hearings considering the petitions and any potential challengers.

Now that petitions have been signed and delivered, the greatest concern among petitioners is the ability of their petitions to stand against the legal teams of the wind companies, construction interests, and large landowners.

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<p>2014 NISSAN JUKE AWD 4 CYL, AUTO, PW, PL, TILT, CRUISE. STK #P2641</p> <p>Varney Price \$15,995</p>	<p>2014 CHEVROLET CRUZE LT 4 CYL, AUTO, PW, PL, TILT, CRUISE. STK #P2652</p> <p>Varney Price \$13,995</p>	<p>2015 KIA SOUL 4 CYL, AUTO, PW, PL, TILT, CRUISE. STK #P2700</p> <p>Varney Price \$15,995</p>	<p>2011 FORD FUSION SE 4 CYL, AUTO, PW, PL, TILT, CRUISE, SUNROOF. STK #14138B</p> <p>Varney Price \$12,995</p>

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